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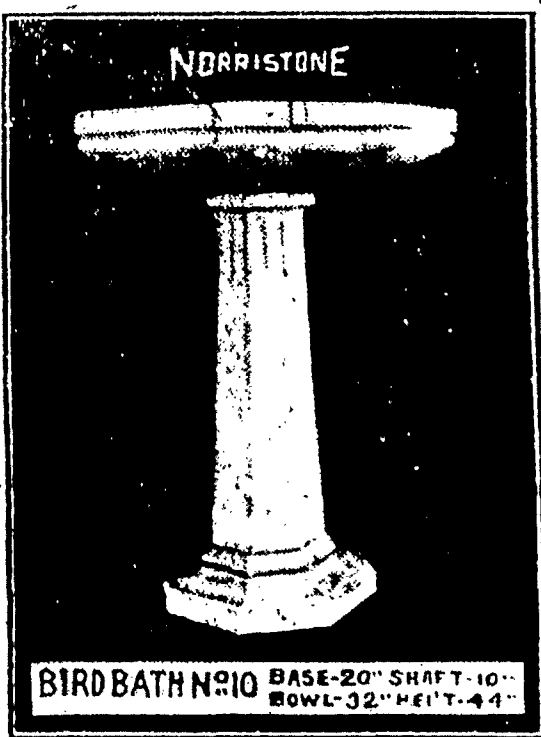
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## PROBLEMS FACING STRICKEN WORLD

Shall Chaos or Reconstruction in  
Europe Follow the Great  
World War?

### DANGER IN GERMAN AMBITION

Teuton Idea Is to Exploit Russia  
While the People Fear the Allies  
Seek Return of the Old  
Regime.

By FRANK COMERFORD.

By their policy of intermeddling, the Allies have lost the confidence and good will of the Russian people; I do not mean the bolshevik government, I mean the great mass of the Russians. They have resented strangers in their land; outside interference has been unwelcome. It has strengthened the bolshevik power and created distrust of the Allies in the minds of the people of Russia. Our soldiers in Siberia were constantly being asked "Why are you here?" It was the one question they could not answer.

The Russians look upon Germany as their only friend. German penetration is going on. Before Czar Nicholas' regime ended it was estimated that over half the industries of Russia were owned or managed by Germans.

Since the war the Germans have doubled their efforts to Prussianize Russia. They have assiduously cultivated the good will of the people. German commercial agents speak the Russian language. They are in touch with Russian needs. They are not interfering with the Russian problem. They are selling to Russia and giving long time credit. The Russians look upon them as friends and on the Allies with suspicion. The consensus of opinion in Russia is that the Allies are bent upon exploiting Russia and delivering her to the old regime.

### Prussian Officers in Soviet Army.

Under secretary of state for foreign affairs of the Polish government, Slrzymski, told me of a document in his possession which showed that Gen. von der Goltz, of the Prussian army offered to furnish "inter" officers for the soviet army at a wage of 23 marks a day, with the further understanding that the bolshevik government would give these officers a bonus of 3,000 marks each at the end of their first year of service. There is much evidence that the bolsheviks accepted the proposal and that the "Red" army is being Prussianized. The under secretary of state added that he was convinced a treaty existed between the soviet government and the Prussian minister of war.

In October of 1919, the following dispatch to the Daily Mail of London was printed:

"The 'Freihof' says that the soviet government has asked the German government to send 800,000 workmen to Russia to aid in the revival of Russian industries. These workmen will be under the order of engineers and managers from German factories, and Russia will thus be peacefully invaded by the Germans at the express desire of the soviets."

I was in Warsaw at the time, and I sought confirmation of this dispatch. From many responsible officials I learned that this dispatch was true and that the invasion has already begun. During this time Germany had intact an army of over 100,000 veteran Prussian troops under Gen. Von der Goltz. While Germany had an alleged republican form of government, with Doctor Ebert as president, no steps were taken to demobilize this powerful Prussian military force. The peace table sitting in Paris recognized the menace to the security of Europe presented by the Von der Goltz army. There was much ado about it. Ebert was summoned to conference. The result was the demand made through General Ebert that Von der Goltz be stripped of command. This was complied with, but the Prussian army was undisturbed. Von der Goltz continued to be the commander of this force, notwithstanding his formal resignation of the command.

### Germany Still Powerful

Let there be no doubt in any one's mind that Germany is coming back. In fact she has come back. Germany has never felt that she was defeated. She will win, to conquer, still lives. She is preparing for the crisis, and when it comes the Allies will find her as economically prepared as she was ready in a military sense in 1914. Germany was not devastated by the war. None of the fighting was done on German soil. Germany looted and pillaged Russia, Belgium and France, taking raw materials, timber, coal and machinery. The trains bringing food and soldiers to the fronts did not return empty. They carried back to Germany household goods, live stock, minerals, timber, machinery. This went on for four years. Germany took millions of men and women from Russia, Belgium and France, prisoners and civilians. She used their labor power to keep up her economic life.

For the benefit of those who doubt Germany's present economic preparedness I want to give a bit of evidence I gathered at the Polish-German front in Upper Silesia. I talked to the commander of the Polish military police in charge of this frontier. He had

been a vice consul of the Austrian government in Chicago. In October, 1919, he had charge of the 60 military stations of the Polish-German front. Poland alone of all the countries in Europe, refuses to deal with Germany. You cannot bring German goods into Poland. German commerce is shut out by law. The frontiers are closed against her goods. This is the substance of what the commander of the Polish-German frontier said to me: "Germany is offering to sell goods to Poland at prices from 20 to 25 per cent cheaper than England and France. We intercept daily these proposals on the frontier. Germany offers to give longer time to pay for the goods. I should say on the average she offers to give credit for twice the period offered by France or England." Could one wish better evidence that Germany is coming back? What two tests more clearly show the commercial strength of an individual or a people than the ability to undersell one's competitors and give longer time credit?

Japan is penetrating Siberia. Siberia is rich in gold, platinum, timber, furs, bitles, coal and salt. Generals Rozoroff, Semionoff and Kalmimoff, the leaders of the Kolchak government, have been betraying and peddling their country to the yellow masters of the Far East. The Japanese are today working concessions in the Ural mountains. They are overrunning Siberia. The Paris conference decreed that 8,000 American soldiers and an equal number of Japanese soldiers should enter Siberia for the purpose of saving the trans-Siberian railway. These armies were not given a license to loot. When Major General Graves led the American expeditionary force into Siberia it numbered less than the quota authorized by Paris. General Graves found the Japanese army there in great numbers. Instead of the 8,000 soldiers authorized by the Paris conference Japan has almost 70,000 soldiers in Siberia. It was understood that the use of the railroads by the American and Japanese military should be for military purposes only. The truth is that the Japanese government has used the railroads to carry out rich spoils.

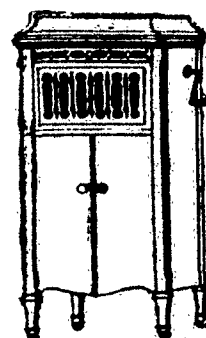
### Economic Exhaustion in Russia.

Notwithstanding the successes of the "Red" army, successes easily accounted for, partly due to the reorganization of the army by German "inter officers," partly due to the fact that the majority of the people, although opposed to soviet rule, are more opposed to the Yudenich, Petlura, Denikine and Kolchak armies, movements suspected of seeking to re-establish the old order in Russia, Russia is fast succumbing to economic exhaustion. The world faces two great dangers if something is not done. One is the conquest of Siberia by the "yellow peril"; the other, the complete Prussianizing of Russia. Japan's greed, boldness and ambition is known. The Allies gave courage to her frontier when they turned Shantung and 40,000,000 Chinese over to Japan. Shantung is the heart of China; it is, as well, its soul. It is the cradle of her great prophet Confucius. Ex-Emperor William, through a fraudulent compact with Czar Nicholas, seized rights in Shantung. When the war came on Japan sat on the fence. France and England urged her to come in with the Allies. She did, but only after she got her price. By private engagements with France and England, German "rights" (truth would have written them German "wrong") in Shantung were to be turned over to Japan if she joined the Allies. America was kept in the dark as to this secret arrangement. Vivand and Balfour came to America and told us many things, but nothing about this secret compact. We were induced to urge China to cast her lot with the Allies. She did. All China asked was that, when Germany was conquered, she be given her own, Shantung. After the war was over President Wilson in Paris sought to restore Shantung to China. Japan objected and presented her claim. She based it on the secret agreement with England and France. For the first time we learned of this secret agreement. Finally we consented to give Japan the determination of Shantung. We struck the word "and" out of the phrase self-determination. I am not a prophet, but if I would look for the next outbreak of bolshevism in Asia, it will be in China. Shantung will be the reason, the course of the Allies the cause.

If the Allies do not adopt a common sense policy toward Russia, European Russia will fall under the power of Germany. The people of Russia look upon Germany as more of a friend than the Allies. The blockade of the Allies brought starvation to the very people in Russia, who are opposed to the soviet scheme. Meddling in the Russian problem by the Allies has caused suspicion, aid given to Yudenich, Petlura, Denikine and Kolchak has made the Russians fear that the object of the Allies is to put the Russians back under the old yoke. The peace table has been without a north star. It has steered without a definite objective. In fact, it has not steered at all; it has been at sea-adrift so far as a policy toward Russia is concerned. Bolshevism may break through, capture and consolidate Germany, or Prussia may seize upon weakening Russia and become her ally. Either event promises trouble; the peace of the world is in danger.

Before we can hope for industrial peace, before we can cure unrest and get back to normal, the Russian problem must be settled. This is a problem for statesmanship; expediency, intrigue and vaillation must give way before world patriotism. This is the problem; the world awaits a plan. (Copyright, 1920, Western Newspaper Union)

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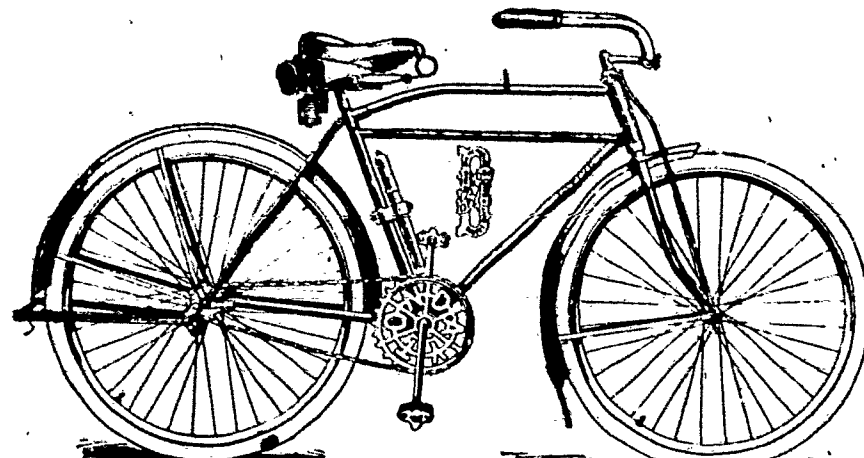
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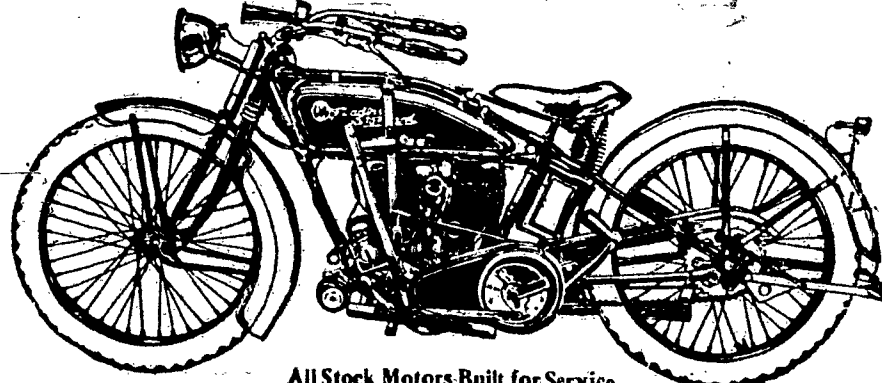


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