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THE TRUTH ABOUT BOLSHEVISM.

Bolshevism is a Jewish speculation on the intellectual inferiority of the uneducated classes of Russia, in order to raise the outcast and downtrodden of the past to power and wealth, unscrupulously, by all measures and means—money, military force, theft, massacre and corruption.

A dislike between the peasants and the Jews has always been one of the characteristic points of Russian national life. It is necessary, in order to become acquainted with at least some of the most important and the most elementary premises of Bolshevism, to try and get a clear impression of the Jews in Southern Russia from the breakdown of the old regime up to the present date. The situation of the South Russian Jew was politically very unfavourable, very hard and very unjust. He had only half-political rights. From most public offices in the Army and in the bureaucracy he was excluded. Commercially, however, and in the way of business and enterprise—buying, selling and speculating with goods, bonds, stocks and foreign values—as well as in advancing money to those who were in need of cash, he was less handicapped, and he soon succeeded in rising to unheard-of success in all financial transactions.

To a great extent his subtle mind, his greater experience of business, his thorough knowledge of the market and the low intellectual level of the peasantry accounted for this success, which split the Jews into fractions—the successful and those who failed—the "nouveau riches", the Jewish proletarians, and those who are endeavouring to rise by intellectual means.

The number of these latter has become very great since the Russian Revolution, few Jewish students having been admitted to Russian universities before that time. Immediately after the Russian Revolution they began to study more especially the social sciences, probably because their acute instinct showed them the coming of a new phase in history, which they hoped would readily bear along to success, power and riches the outcast and down-trodden of former years. They looked for information and light to the West. The theories of Stuart Mill, of the French Socialists, and the German Communism of Marx and Engel were transplanted by them on the soil

of Russia, without judgment and distinction, simply because it meant something new and opposed to the old regime.

That the most radical theory, now known as Bolshevism, finally, after a long and violent struggle, became perverted into the actual practice of the Governments of Moscow, Kieff and Odessa—the ruling power of a great part of Russia—is very natural, if we try to get acquainted with the reasons that made such an excessive reaction possible. The abuses of the old regime, the language spoken by a great part of the Russian Jews which is a German slang mixed with Hebrew words, together with the great influence of the German element in Russia, made the propaganda work that ended by the establishment of the rule of Trotsky and Lenin easy.

In fact, we can see that especially in Odessa all official power is now in the hands of Jews. Very often young students who have not even finished the university are made ministers, generals and officials of high rank, simply because they happen to know a few Communistic theories, taken from foreign literature and perverted into Russian Bolshevism. A young Jewish student 21 years old was recently made Minister of Public Instruction in Odessa with the right of arresting any professor or teacher of the university or the public schools who in his lectures dared to criticise Bolshevism and its institutions and methods.

Once an official of high rank in Odessa was asked how he could reconcile his Jewish national policy with Socialistic internationalism, and he replied: "It is very simple. We must either be ruled and treated unjustly, or we must ourselves endeavour to dominate, which is very easy, as we are the only intellectuals in Southern Russia and as the broad masses of the population are so grossly ignorant".

That is the secret of Bolshevism.

Count Hessenstein.

Prince Max of Baden intends to issue a fresh statement describing events connected with the abdication of the ex-Kaiser.

THE WEEK'S NEWS.

The Lettish Press is in favour of accepting the peace proposed by the Soviet Government provided the Bolsheviks evacuate Lettland and make an official offer of peace to Lithuania.

600 war prisoners, mostly Austrians, have arrived at Stettin after having escaped from Siberia.

Production in the coal district of Upper Silesia is continually increasing.

The Belgian Ambassador in the Hague and the Dutch Ambassador in Brussels have resigned.

D'Annunzio continues to hold Fiume but a threatening move against the town is being made by Jugo-Slavs.

Serbs are massing troops along the Italian armistice frontier.

The destroyer Stoeco which brought Admiral Casanova to Fiume has joined the rebellions Fiume fleet and refuses to return. When D'Annunzio first entered Fiume it was predicted that within a few days 8,000 Jugo-Slavs would attack the city.

Next month there will be 20 new Italian schools in Albania, also two high schools and an academy.

German travellers for all kinds of goods are arriving daily in Italy and are spreading all over the Near East.

The Supreme Council has agreed to recognise Herr Fredrick as in command of the Hungarian Govt. and is prepared to hand him the Hungarian treaty in the near future.

The Supreme Council discussed the question of the evacuation by the Germans of the Baltic provinces from which Von der Goltz's army, now numbering 100,000 refuses to withdraw.

Meanwhile, according to messages from Finland, peace negotiations between the Russian Bolsheviks and the Baltic States have been broken off.

On Sunday, September 28, Etienne Poulet, the French Aviator, will set out on an attempted flight of 14,000 miles to Australia via Rome, Salonika, Constantinople, Baghdad, Bushire, Karachi, Bombay, Calcutta, Bangkok, Singapore, Batavia to Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

PASTIMES AT COLOGNE.

Gaiety in Occupied Rhineland.

Cologne, Aug. 1.—The First American Division Circus celebrated its opening day in Cologne by a ride through the chief streets of the city, quite in the old approved circus fashion.

It must have been one of the most remarkable spectacles ever witnessed by Rhinelanders. There were clowns in plenty, one riding on an elephant, menagerie cages, one containing a really magnificent tiger, Red Indians and cowboys in profusion, and on or two female impersonators, fearfully and wonderfully bedizened for the occasion.

The show had been well advertised beforehand, and the crowd assembled along the line of route was the largest seen there for some time.

There is plenty of gaiety in Cologne at the moment, and dances are very much to the fore. Yesterday the semi-finals of the Polo Tournament were played off, while to-day the Horse Show and Athletic Sports take place on the racecourse. Next week will be fully occupied with various races, the second day of the Horse Show, and the polo finals.

There are all sorts of minor events being carried through on the outskirts of the British zone. A series of golfing competitions has been arranged for mid August, and the number of new concert parties invading the town seems to grow every day.

Some of this gaiety may possibly be due to the new order which is responsible for the presence of officers' wives in the occupied area.

British or American Cars.

Major Goddard, of the British Board of Trade, after a thorough inquiry, is confident of a big future for British motor-cars in Australia, and also of the tremendous opportunities for commercial vehicles and tractors. He believes it will be possible to manufacture cars in India and land them in Australia at a cost of L300, and others in England and land them at a cost of L450, which will advantageously compete with the most popular American cars. Major Goddard is convinced that it would be possible to supply the whole of the Dominions, India, and the West Indies. The Federal Government is being asked to give British cars at least 25 per cent. preference over foreigners.



EDITORIAL.

The British in Batoum.

The British are remaining indefinitely in Batoum. That is the most important news of the week. We are particularly glad to be able to publish this news, because in spite of all the rumours and gossip of the past few months the British have not really gone after all. The evacuation of Trans-Caucasia has not taken place.

Recreation and Regrets.

Meanwhile, we hear on the best authority that General Beach bathes three times daily in the Black Sea. After all, it is only as it should be that we find the general by the sea-side. (We resist a very strong temptation to make a wretched joke about the general's name). But we also hear that every British officer is expressing his regret that he has left Tiflis. Indeed, one British officer who went to Constantinople startled the British authorities there by telling them that the 27th Division was sorry to leave Tiflis. The idea apparently was that everyone would be glad to get out of an "uncivilised town" and away from a "savage people."

Postal Arrangements.

After having been cut off from the outer world for a matter of years, Georgia is again in communication with other countries. Postal bags containing foreign correspondence have arrived in Tiflis, and six postal bags containing mails from Georgia for abroad have left Batoum. Presently a regular mail service will be established. Telegrams, moreover, may now be sent through the Indo-European Telegraph Company to London and other towns abroad without interruption. The 27th Division in Batoum have sent special lamps to Tiflis for the Georgian wireless station so that a better news service may now be obtained.

Georgian Appointments.

A British major has been appointed as chief of all mechanical transport in the Georgian Republic. This officer has had a very wide experience and his services should be of great value. Fifteen first-class British mechanics will shortly arrive in Tiflis to be employed by the Georgian Government.

Bolsheviks and Brigands.

Since the bomb outrage against General Baratov (who, we are glad to state, is rapidly recovering from his wounds) the Georgian Government has arrested no fewer than eight hundred Bolsheviks in Georgia. In connection with the

first train robbery, forty of the brigands who took part in it have been arrested. Of these, fifteen have been shot and the others condemned to hard labour for life. Thirty of the brigands who robbed the train in the Batoum district have also been arrested—and of these eight, at least, have been shot. As we announced last week, the reign of terror which the Bolsheviks established has proved to be a reign of terror for themselves.

The Georgian University.

The new session of the Georgian University has started. The chief three faculties are Medical, Historical and Philological, and that of Natural Science. The attendance of students is quite unprecedented, and the session shows every sign of being very successful.

Georgian County Councils.

A general meeting of all Georgian County Councils recently took place. Far-reaching schemes were adopted for the improving of the roads and canals, for the building and establishing of new schools, and for the buying of agricultural instruments, etc. Improvements on such a grand scale as is necessary can only be done little by little. The work of organising all this great business can not be done in a day. But Georgia is getting her house in order and one can be sanguine as to the future.

Mr. Sabaktarashvili.

Mr. Constantine Sabaktarashvili, the under-secretary for Foreign Affairs, has been appointed head of a special mission which is going to visit Italy. Mr. Sabaktarashvili has been one of the tireless workers of the Georgian Government in the Foreign office where his wonderful tact in dealing with the many foreign missions and the many distinguished foreign visitors has made him exceptionally popular. Mr. Sabaktarashvili is equally popular with his staff whom, we hear, he guides in quite a fatherly way and who have nothing but praise for his just treatment.

His Career.

Mr. Sabaktarashvili studied law in Switzerland where he was known as a diligent student always ready to help his needy colleagues. A Moderate Socialist in politics, Mr. Sabaktarashvili is naturally opposed to all such extremists as the Bolsheviks have proved themselves to be. But there is no moderation about his work—especially now when his chief, Mr. Gegetchkori, is taking

a well-earned holiday at his estate near Senaki on the Poti railway. At the present time he is weighed down by heavy work and great responsibility. It is Mr. Sabaktarashvili's intention to proceed from Rome to Paris where he will certainly infuse new life and enthusiasm into the Georgian Mission there.

A Hun Mission.

The Germans are making desperate efforts to send a mission to Tiflis. The Hun commercial man will probably take part. He was a good spy before the war: he is certain to carry on his old work again. Meanwhile the German government (we do not know exactly what their present government is) is making tempting offers to local Georgian representatives to send three hundred Georgian boys to Germany to be educated at the German expense. This sounds all very well, but what is the Hun going to ask in exchange? At the present time when the Hun is in so much need of charity in his own home, he is not to be expected to go doing it out abroad without some *arrière pensée*. Of course, we see what he will gain in the future, but he probably wants some profit in the present as well.

Strange Customs.

The Admirable Crichton of Georgia, Mr. Ghambashidze, went on a recent visit to Batoum. On his return he got out at Notanebi station to participate in the customs examination. Apparently he had a glorious time. The attempts to smuggle goods into Georgia were numerous and very varied. For instance—let us tell you some of the particulars. As we are not quite sure of the law of libel here and as we are taking no chances, we have altered the names of the countries etc, in question. Otherwise the facts are as we give them.

Agent Diplomatique.

First there was the gentleman who declared himself to be a diplomatic agent from Ruritania. He had six large packs of luggage with him and he claimed that they be left un-examined, otherwise the Ruritanian king would certainly be offended. The six packs, he declared, held his own personal belongings and clothes and his secret Ruritanian papers. "Open the bags", said Mr. Ghambashidze. This was done—and the diplomatic papers and gentleman's underwear turned out to be ladies' silk stockings in fat bundles, eau de Cologne and other perfumes, and even lingerie in large quantities. The goods were confiscated and the Ruritanian diplomat went back to Batoum.

A Consul From Latonia.

This man was asked for his papers. He declared that he was the vice consul of the Latonian republic *en route* for Baku. His passport, however, showed his real nationality. (No prizes offered for the answer. It is too easy). He was locked in his *coupé* until his luggage and "official papers" were examined. They turned out to be chemical dyes. So Batoum is richer by another un-wanted consul.

A French Professor.

A third gentleman declared himself a professor of the French University of Napoo. "What faculty?" asked Mr. Ghambashidze. "Botany", said the professor—at a venture. "And what is your object in coming to Georgia?" "To study botany", said the professor. It seemed to Mr. Ghambashidze that the month of September was not the right time to come to study botany and there was something in the professor's appearance which stated him to be—well, frankly, a liar. He had a black coat and a pair of white linen trousers and a pre-war straw hat, which is not the usual garb of a French University professor. So his baggage, which contained (according to his own word) his instruments, microscopes, etc., was also opened. Instead of botanical goods and implements, the officials found a very nice lot of ladies' veils of all colours and of all patterns. So back to Batoum to study the botany on the shore...

Ten Russian Officers.

Another batch of travellers was ten Russian officers whose chief papers were the calling-up notices they had received from General Denikin. They were avoiding the summons by attempting to reach Tiflis. They were told they would have to return as they were in the wrong train. The train for them was the one going to Ekaterinodar. "But why are you supporting Denikin?" they demanded of Mr. Ghambashidze. "I am not supporting Denikin", was the reply, "but I am supporting something very much greater. In short, I am supporting 'the Law'. And then there was nothing more to be said."

"Copy"

As soon as we can get away for a few days' holiday we mean to go to Notanebi to see the Customs examination. We shall certainly get some ideas. We see, alas! that in the matter of story-telling we are mere infants compared to the men of Ruritania and of other parts who have their goods to smuggle through.

S. L.



PEASANT "NOBLES".

A GOVERNOR AT HOME.

(From the "Times" special correspondent.)

FIUME.

The history and present status of the "noble commune of Touropolye" (so it is officially styled), a rural commune near Zagreb, are curious and little known. Containing 24 big villages, this district is probably the sole instance of an entire community of such dimensions being endowed with what must be termed a collective patent of nobility. Every man, woman, and child of its thirty odd thousand inhabitants is a nobleman or noblewoman by birth, with the right to display armorial bearings. Very ancient is their title, older even than that of the late Austrian dynasty. To be exact, it dates from the year 1430—40 years before the first Hapsburg began to figure in the annals of his country. It was conferred on their humble ancestors *en bloc* by King Bela IV, of Hungary, in recognition of some conspicuous deed of arms performed in one of his wars.

The commune formerly had by its constitution the right of electing its own 24 Judges, who in their turn elected the *Zhupan*, or Governor. But this ancient privilege was abrogated by the dominant Magyars some 40 years ago, when the duly elected Judges and Governor were succeeded by others chosen—without the consent of the people—by the Hungarian Government from among its out-and-out partisans. This arbitrary act must have rankled in the minds of the peasant "nobles", for their first proceeding, after the Croatian revolution of last autumn, was to depose the nominees of the Magyar Government and elect a new set of men in their place.

The Tyrants Portrait.

It was on the new *Zhupan* that we called on arriving at Koritzza. The capital of the Government House in which he received us was a shield emblazoned with the people's ancient escutcheon. The walls of the council chamber were decorated with oil portraits of many former *Zhupans*, each in the gorgeous full-dress costume of his time. But the portrait of his immediate predecessor was missing. He explained that he had removed and hidden it, fearing lest the people should destroy it; for the previous *Zhupan*, relying on his Magyar protectors, was a tyrant, as we could easily believe when our host showed his hard and stern features in the lumber room to which the portrait had been consigned.

Before his election, the present *Zhupan* was a teacher of music at Zagreb. His previous experience of poverty made it easy for him to win immediate popularity by cutting down his own salary of 60,000 crowns (nominally L2,500) to 30,000.

The *Zhupan* took us in his motor-car to Lukovatz to visit an old castle that had been garrisoned by the men of Touropolye during the Turkish invasions of the 16th century. There, too, over the entrance, was engraved the escutcheon of the "noble commune". Of most interest here was a dark "witch's cell", half underground, its one heavily barred peep-hole opening on the main stairway, and the banquetting hall, now fitted up as a schoolroom, in which a score of the young nobles of the village were learning their letters.

A Wedding Feast.

In the village itself we happened on the conclusion of a wedding feast, and, invited to partake of the leavings, were generously plied with wine and succulent lumps of roast goose and pork and fancy bread that seemed to contain as much opium-poppy seed as flour. The other guests had already had their fill, and we could see some of them stretched on huge oaken trestlebeds in the adjoining room, snoring off their carouse. The bridegroom's father boasted of the number of gallons of wine he had broached for the occasion.

For all the ancient lineage on which they pride themselves, the people of Touropolye, both in physique and mental culture, must rank low in the scale of European humanity. Ungainly, boorish, and coarse-featured, they strike one as being of a decidedly inferior breed to the handsome and stalwart peasants one sees everywhere else in Croatia. With deplorably bad taste, they have enhanced the contrast by discarding the national garb of red and white cloth, which gives such a smart and picturesque appearance to their untitled neighbours, and adopting the drab and vulgar attire and head-gear common to the townsfolk of modern Europe. But they look down on the wearers of the Croatian dress, and refuse to intermarry with them. Continuous inbreeding for many generations may account for their apparent degeneracy.

The *Zhupan* and his wife, a tiny Montenegrin lady with curly hair and musical tastes, regaled us with a dinner of many courses on our return from Lukovatz. In accordance with a national custom, our host waited upon us himself during part of the repast, and, before sitting down to table, presented us with a silver platter, on which around a decanter of wine were placed, beside the bread and salt of old-time welcome, half an onion and a small brass key. The last object, he explained to us, was the latchkey of his house, which a Croatian host offers to such guests as he wishes particularly to honour, the meaning thus conveyed being that the guest shall consider the house as his own.

WIPED OUT BY INFLUENZA.

Labrador Coast Left Desolate.

The Rev. W. W. Perrett, superintendent of the Moravian Mission in Labrador, who has returned from that country to his home at Malmesbury, tells a moving story of harrowing experiences during the influenza epidemic on the Labrador coast.

At Hebron, the northernmost village, out of a population of 220 there are but 70 survivors. At Okak, 50 miles south, only 59 were left out of 266. All these deaths were due to influenza, but at Nain and Hopedale, Mr. Perrett's station, smallpox and measles accounted for 48 more. The influenza was brought to Labrador by a sailor on board the mission steamer *Harmony*, which left about the middle of October. Later the Rev. S. M. Stewart, of the Colonial and Continental Mission, was travelling northward by dog-sledge, and on arriving at a sealing place near Okak was surprised at seeing no signs of human life. He looked through the window of a house, and was horrified to see it full of dead Eskimos. The next day he went on to Okak, and found practically the same thing—nearly all the inhabitants dead. The mortuary was filled with bodies, and then Eskimo houses were used in which to put the dead.

Dogs—half wolves, savage brutes when hungry—ran wild, their owners being incapacitated, and began to tear down doors to get in the houses of the dead. For a time they were kept off, but the missionaries were unable to cope with the starving animals. The corpses were mutilated and eaten by the dogs. The Rev. Mr. Asbee and Mr. Ward (the storekeeper) took rifles and shot the dogs as fast as they could.

Now and again an Eskimo came from the sealing stations to tell of awful happenings—whole families out there had died with none near to help. The collection of bodies at the sealing stations was a terrible experience, many of the bodies had been consumed by dogs. All that was left in some places was a skull or a leg bone of a human being.

On a small island, cut off by storms, a family of five was known to be stricken with the influenza. When the island was reached a terrible sight was found in the house. Ravenous dogs were clawing at and chewing the corpses. The missionaries began to shoot the dogs when a human cry was heard. It then was found that a little girl aged eight years was alive. In the intense cold, the warmth of the dogs had, no doubt, kept her alive.

At Hebron Bishop Martin heroically braved the plague, and it was due to him and Mrs. Martin that the remnant of 70 survived.

Eventually the whole of the places were cleaned up, but the coast of Labrador is left desolate; so many of its fine, hard-working men having been lost in the terrible scourge.

Latest information is that the attempted landing by Slav Volunteers on the Dalmatian coast on Sunday night, September 21, failed.

The British Evacuation General Cory's Letter to Georgian President.

The President of the Georgian Republic has received the following letter from the Commander of the British forces in Trans-Caucasia:

"Your Excellency,

"The evacuation of the British troops from Georgia and Azerbaijan is terminated. The last military train left Tiflis on September 9.

"The evacuation has been carried out punctually in three weeks. Every train has left according to plan and the whole operation has been concluded without any interruption. I regard that this has been done thanks to the help and assistance of the Georgian Government. It raises the highest confidence in the policy and energy of the administration and of the officials of the Georgian railways.

"I ask your Excellency to accept my sincere gratitude for the help which your government has given to General Brough during the evacuation and to express my thanks to the officials and staff of the Georgian railways for their activity during this period of our coordinated work.

G. N. Cory, Major-General.

Commander of the British troops in Trans-Caucasia".

The Georgian Railways. Martial Law Declared.

The following order of the Governor-General of the railway zone in Georgia concerning the safe-guarding of passenger trains has been issued:

"According to orders issued by the government of the Georgian democratic republic, martial law has been proclaimed on the territory of all Georgian railroads from September 18, 1919, and I am appointed governor general. This measure has been taken in consequence of events that took place recently on the railroads. I am charged to liquidate as soon as possible all attacks of robbers on trains and definitely abolish all misdeeds. The Government has taken measures in order to secure the running of the trains without hindrance along the line and has given me full power as well as enough troops. I will abolish all attempts to destroy the road. Nobody will be spared. My success will depend on the railway officials.

"The villages along the railway line within the zone of expropriation are to be notified of the responsibility resting with them in case of robberies.

"Give assistance to the armed guard in order not to let evil-minded people approach the railway buildings.

"Let your ranks be closer. The republic is awaiting your help. The way is to be secure in any case. This is your task which has been trusted to me and which I expect to realise with your help.

Governor-General V. Sulakvelidze."

YUDENITCH AND HIS MEN.

A LEADER OF IRON WILL.

(From a "Times" correspondent).

General Yudenitch, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian force which hopes to take Petrograd from the Bolsheviks, is one of the most remarkable personalities in the Russian Army, and the news that he has left Helsingfors for the front leads to expectations of interesting developments. A strategist of the first order, Yudenitch is a brilliant and fearless leader, whose great qualities are most in evidence when he is fighting a forlorn hope.

Yudenitch established his reputation in the Russo-Japanese War, and he has given evidence of masterly fighting ability ever since. His last command was that of the troops on the Caucasian front. About 50 years of age, he is tall, strongly built, and of athletic appearance. His steel-grey, penetrating eyes may be compared with those of Marshal Foch. He is endowed with tremendous strength of character, and has a will of iron.

In military operations Yudenitch is methodical and persistent. His talents of organization, his self-control and perfect calm in the midst of difficult fighting conditions are remarkable. An episode in the Caucasian campaign speaks for itself.

In 1914 the situation at one moment was regarded as hopeless. The front was broken and the troops, demoralized, were in full retreat. Enver Pasha with superior forces advanced towards Sarakamish; other enemy forces threatened; the Kurds revolted in all the Kars region. Tiflis was evacuated. At this critical moment General Yudenitch, with small forces, fought his way to the Sarakamish bridge, where he stopped a Cossack Regiment and a reserve battalion, and at the head of these forces got hold of the bridge. With the help of a thousand Cossacks during a whole day he stemmed the flood of Enver Pasha's Corps. On the following day General Prjevalsky came to his assistance with Cossack troops, and the battle ended in the complete defeat of the advanced Turkish forces.

In the hotel at Helsingfors which he used as Headquarters, sitting at his little table in his little room, General Yudenitch spoke of a recent tour of inspection at the front. The General has changed but little; still the same keen, searching eyes, the same jolly smile that flashes out and lights up his whole face. In this polyglot hotel with not a few spies and agents of Germans and Bolsheviks his aide-de-camp in the next room has to be constantly on the look-out to head off stray callers, or the possibility of greater danger. But General Yudenitch, in a loose suit of sober black, is genial and patient.

"Yes", he says, "it is a difficult life"; then, with a hearty laugh, he puts annoyances behind him.

"There is", he goes on, "a remarkably high spirit among the men, and quite exceptionally good relations between them and the officers. During my recent tour they received me very well". General Yudenitch, when he says that he was well received, describes what a less habitually modest man would speak of as a tremendous ovation. "What is particularly gratifying is the popularity of the Army with the civil population. I found evidence of it wherever I went".

"Our food? Yes, we are all right for food now, thanks to the efforts of the Allies; and the American officers are supervising the distribution of food to the civil population. With military supplies it is unfortunately a different story and I cannot say the position in this respect is satisfactory. The Bolsheviks on the contrary are extremely well supplied with shells and use them lavishly, most lavishly. They are still drawing upon the old stores, for at the beginning of 1917 an enormous reserve of shells had been created and the Army was splendidly provided. Besides, up till recently the war factories were going on working and had an estimated capacity of output of 25 million shells a month.

"My pleasantest recollection is perhaps of the Sunday that I spent at Pskoff—it is a pretty town and has a fine ancient church. My staff and I went to church, and there was such a crowd to welcome us that we could hardly get through, they all pressed round us so, wanting to thank us and touch us. There were one or two who were actually squeezed out! Yes, that was real Russia".

A tall, bright young man entered the room with a knock. "Your Excellency, Professor Kerfosher asks if he can speak to you on the telephone". "Put him through". The young man vanishes, and the General extends a hand, solid and strong like himself. He probably does not think of it, but Yudenitch himself is a bit of Russia—of the real Russia.

M. Serge Maslof, a former Minister of Agriculture of Kerensky's Government, is reported by the Bolsheviks to have been arrested in Zlatoust.

A German aeroplane which flew from Kamenetz-Podolsk (Ukraine) to an aerodrome near Vienna, carrying 22 persons, was seized on arrival by the Allied military authorities.

The Future of Constantinople.

The *Morning Post*, in a leading article dealing with "The Future of Constantinople", takes up the view that England alone of the nations is suited to have the mandate for the present capital of the Turkish Empire. America, it says, has not the genius for the administration of an Asiatic country, and Greece does not yet command sufficient respect and popularity among the Turks:—

For it must be remembered that Constantinople cannot well be divided from Turkey. They who hold the city must rule the Empire. Both France and Italy are no doubt restrained by the consciousness of this fact from pressing claims which their resources could hardly support. Yet it is obvious that the Allied Powers require one of their members to do this necessary work of administering Constantinople and the Turkish Empire. Otherwise we shall be having the Bolsheviks using Constantinople as the centre and focus for their sinister plans in the Near East—plans which are closely related to German designs in those regions. Why should not England undertake it? We understand that our Government would fain pass the cup. They fear the burden of a new responsibility. They think the British Empire already overloaded, and they point to our recent great additions of territory in Asia Minor. But it seems to us that these additions are the best reason for adding to them. We had Egypt; we have now Palestine and Mesopotamia. Can we rest in those regions in peace if Constantinople is in alien and almost inevitably hostile hands? For if we do not accept it, let us be sure that it will pass under the influence of the Bolsheviks or the Germans. On the other hand, if we accept it, we simplify our problems in Egypt, in Palestine, in Mesopotamia, and in India. For in the immediate past Constantinople has been the radiating centre of trouble in all those regions. It is the key of the whole position. If we have not Constantinople we shall always find it difficult to hold most of the others. But if we govern Constantinople the rest become easy and obedient provinces.

There is another reason. We suppose that if we undertake this great work we shall be forced to undertake it as a mandatory of the other Powers—calling themselves, in our new phraseology, a League of Nations. That being so, let us be quite in the fashion and claim—as we may truthfully—the Turkish Empire, on the principle of self-determination. We have excellent authority for saying that the Turks desire England to intervene. They have suffered such terrible things from the Committee of Union and Progress and from the Germans, they see so little chance of re-establishing a solvent and acceptable native rule, that in despair they cry out for England.

They have heard from Egypt and from India that England is easy, fair, generous, broad-minded, and tolerant; that she does not exploit and dragoon her subject races unmercifully, but grants them all reasonable franchises and liberties. Therefore the Turks desire to see England in Constantinople. Does anyone object? The Bolsheviks will object, naturally, but we do not value their objections. The Germans will object. But we pay no attention to them. Who else? The French are not likely to object, for they must desire a safe and friendly neighbour at the back of Syria. The Americans will not object, for they have ample experience of the fairness and hospitality of our rule in Asia. The Italians will not object, for they would prefer to see us there than certain other nations it might be invidious to mention. And the Greeks would not object for much the same reason. Therefore, upon the whole it is an acceptable solution—that England should occupy Constantinople and administer Turkey in Asia. It is a great responsibility, but in the past we have faced greater without flinching. We were then but a little group of islands; we have now a great Empire to assist in the work. And it is a work worth doing.

SHANTUNG SETTLEMENT LIKELY.

Japanese Overtures.

A settlement of the Shantung issue satisfactory to the contending parties is very likely in the near future. The Tokyo Government will soon open negotiations with Peking; meanwhile Mr. Obata in Peking is arranging terms, and Mr. Debuchi, Chargé d'Affaires in Washington, is sounding American opinion.

Extreme American views are regularly transmitted to the Tokyo Press, and while the newspapers here have not hesitated to retort in a like spirit, the impairment of American friendship is the last thing that is desired in Tokyo; hence the tendency is to make every effort at conciliation. Attention has also been attracted by the tone of *The Times* articles advising Japan to seek a *modus vivendi* with China.

The Japanese colonies in China are not pleased with the compromising spirit evident in Tokyo, and a meeting of citizens at Tsingtau will urge the Government to remain firm and not to make any display of weakness.