

THE LITERARY DIGEST

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THE BOLSHEVIK-GERMAN PARTNERS



THE POISONED NEEDLE.

GERMAN FRITZ—"While France is so intent on execution of the Peace Treaty, I'll inject this serum supplied by the firm of Lenine, Protzky & Co."

—Mucha (Warsaw).

COMMUNIST UPRISINGS IN GERMANY are blamed on Moscow by a practically unanimous Berlin press, and some newspapers flatly accuse the Russian official representative in Berlin, a Mr. Kopp, and his staff, of being the instigators of these disturbances, and so demand their expulsion. But this seems to the French press very much like Satan rebuking sin, for they believe that the Germans started Bolshevism in Russia, kept it going with German gold, and are at this moment trying to spread the infection in Allied lands in order to weaken them. Thus the *Paris Matin* relates that a secret war has been conducted from Berlin by the Pan-Germans ever since the armistice, and the two great weapons employed are the furtherance of Bolshevism in foreign countries and the special financial organization of Germany. The German propaganda service, which was so active during the war, was thoroughly reorganized at the cessation of hostilities, we are now told, and has had enormous financial resources at its disposal. The methods of procedure are various, but all are aimed to realize definite German objectives, and *Le Matin* tells us that when the day comes on which we understand the profounder meaning of the word Bolshevism, we shall find that on the original Russian stock were artificially grafted certain pro-German methods of action which soon became the animating purpose of Bolshevism. Then it will be admitted that Bolshevism propaganda in the Entente countries was the camouflage of Pan-German activities adapted first to meet the armistice conditions, and then the "dear, delightful peace of the Treaty of Versailles." We read then:

"But even now things have gone far enough so that we can see how Bolshevism activities in the west have served Pan-German interests without bringing the slightest benefit to the Russian people. It is now quite clear that the Bolshevism propaganda unleashed in England and in France directly after the armistice was a weighty factor in preventing the intervention of the Allies in Germany when Berlin first neglected to meet her engagements. Intervention at that time would have been justified, necessary, and easy, and would have saved us from our present difficulties."

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THE BOLSHEVIKS

An additional pro-German purpose of Bolshevik propoganda, we read, was to set Germany on a higher economic level than other countries by artificially causing a systematic increase in salaries in the Entente countries so that the greater number of these now find themselves in a condition which makes production much more costly than in Germany. This fact contributes not a little to the present business crisis of which workmen in Allied countries were the first victims, and *Le Matin* proceeds:

"Our British friends especially will find themselves more and more forced by events to recognize that one of the causes of their great industrial crisis lies in the fact that British salaries have risen so much higher than German salaries. The result is that in the upset conditions of British manufacture German manufacture is by comparison in a much more favorable state. This upset is in large measure the consequence of Bolshevik activities in Great Britain which were stimulated by the negotiations of Mr. Krassin in London."

As to the influence of German gold in Bolshevik movements, *Le Matin* tells us that Edward Bernstein, the German Social-Democrat leader, who is a sincere opponent of Prussian militarism, recently declared that he had positive information that in 1917 the German General Staff furnished Lenine—one of the few real Russians who are at the head of the Bolsheviki—with at least 50,000,000 gold marks. Advices from all sources, moreover, enable us to realize that in the highly active branches of Bolshevik organization the members are almost exclusively pro-German or actually German masquerading under Russian cognomens. Of the financial weapon used by the Pan-Germans in their "invisible war" we are told:

"For a long time, it has sustained a system of credit that gives remarkable elasticity to German trade and finance. This banking organization has a special characteristic in that it was conceived not solely to reap financial benefit, but also to foster the realization of the Pan-German policy. It is of high importance to recognize that Germany is still, now and to-day, the one Power which has at its command throughout the world a financial organization working systematically toward the consummation of a concrete political program long ago formulated. When this fact is realized it will be easy to understand how some dozens of men through their monopoly of action can exercise in the financial world—particularly in the field of exchange—a genuinely universal influence. The Deutsche Bank is the base of this formidable organization, and a proof of its Pan-German power is afforded in the business of the Bagdad railway, which it carried on as long ago as 1888."

"The German bank organization is the more influential because in all cities of the world, especially in London and New York, it has the support of big financiers who, tho born German, have been naturalized as English or American citizens, but who work hand in glove with the directing powers of Berlin. It is well known to the initiate that the New York group strongly encouraged Mr. Wilson's inclination to impose an armistice before the complete military defeat of Germany, despite the will of the American people formally manifested in the general elections of November, 1918."



GERMANY AND HER RUSSIAN BEAR.

"If you insist too strongly on reparations, I'll set this bear on you."

—*La Democratie Nouvelle* (Paris).