

Russia's "Freedom" Made in Germany Many Years ago

Revolution Prepared by Berlin Long Before the War, Dr. Vesnitch Says--Reveals Historic Episode--What Was Told Russian Ambassador in 1914

D. Milenko R. Vesnitch, Chief of the Serbian War Mission of the United States, asserted his belief recently in an interview that the Bolsheviki regime in Russia was German-made and that it was through sinister German influence that Lenin and Trotsky were raised to the present positions of prominence in Petrograd.

Dr. Vesnitch was careful to explain that he neither suggested nor admitted that Lenin and Trotsky were traitors to Russia, but he did not hesitate in stating his belief that since the beginning of the war they have been simply tools in the hands of the diplomacy of the Central Powers. The so-called "peace negotiations" at Brest-Litovsk were characterized by Dr. Vesnitch as not partaking of the character of peace negotiations, but rather of "German business arrangements."

With the entrance of the United States into the war Dr. Vesnitch believes it should be possible for the Entente to choose the military and political initiative. He asserted that ever since the war began the Central Powers of Europe had taken the initiative in military and political action, and that the Entente Allies had rather followed a defense policy, but that, in his judgment, the tactics must be changed.

"Since the first beginnings of this tremendous war," said Vesnitch, "the German propaganda has started. Russia in a revolu-

tionary sense, but I can give you an historical episode from which you will see that this propaganda was very active even before the war began. You remember that after the Serajevo murder the Austro-German press tried to lull the public opinion and the diplomacy of Europe, and that many of the diplomats at Vienna thought themselves justified in going on leave, among them the Russian ambassador himself.

"When the ultimatum to Serbia, unprecedented in history, had been delivered at Belgrade, M. S. Zouff, the Russian foreign minister, invited his ambassador to the Austrian court to return immediately to his post. Arriving in Vienna on the 30th of July, M. Shebiko presented himself at 11 in the morning at Balpaz, and passing in the ante-room the German ambassador, he engaged in a very serious conversation with him. He insisted to Count Berchtold upon the gravity of the situation, on the necessity of arranging matters without running the risk of a great European and perhaps even a world war.

"Count Berchtold listened to his declarations with an unusual and rather artificial quietness, and, on repeated insistence of the Russian ambassador the public opinion in Russia being extremely excited on account of the brutality of the Austro-Hungarian ultimatum to Serbia, his Government would very probably be obliged to mobi-

lized that the ambassador's preoccupation was certainly exaggerated and that there was no danger at all of a European war, not even of a Russian mobilization, and as his interview looked at him somewhat surprised at this declaration added. "Coming to me, you probably passed your German colleague, Mr. Tschirsky has just read to me a despatch from his colleague in St. Petersburg," and added, rather smilingly, "And you know Count P. Curtze is a rather well-informed diplomatist. In a report he assures us that on the very day of the order of your mobilization a revolution will take place in Russia. So you see we have every reason to believe that there will be no European war, your Government having its first interest in keeping peace at home before running to help Serbia.

"The German ambassador at St. Petersburg was perhaps in error about the time of the revolution, but he was sure of its eventuality occurrence. Now, I ask you, how could he and his Government be so sure in this way if they did not prepare this eventually a long time ago. Do I need to add that the pro-German spirit of the revolution from its first day shows evidently that it has been 'made in Germany'.

"As it has been 'made in Germany,' the leading principle of its actual chiefs, 'No annexations, no indemnities,' was 'made in Germany' also.

"I represent a relatively very small country and my diplomatic experiences do not authorize me to take the liberty of giving counsels to our great allies. I am sure that men such as President Wilson, Lloyd George, Clemenceau and others will consider the situation created by the actual peace propaganda with grave seriousness, which it demands. I feel very strongly that the supreme moment has arrived in which we do not dare to allow ourselves to and the direction of war and peace work to our enemies, but take them resolutely and strongly in our own hands.

"With the entering of the United States in this world struggle and with the material and moral forces which you put in the balance, we are in the position to accomplish what our duty and our interests require of us.

"The Germans have destroyed Belgium, Serbia, Roumania, a great part of Russia, of Italy and of France. Millions and millions of men born to engage in the service of their countries and of general progress have been killed on the battlefield; our fathers have been cynically hanged, our daughters, sisters, even our great-grandmothers have been violated; our fields have been desolated; our homes burned. The Teutonic blow, which has passed over the civilized world has been such a fatal one that history does not record its like, and even human imagination has not been able to conceive it.

"This comes from the fact that Germany premeditated this war and methodically prepared for it in every way for many years and every one of the Allies was rather taken by surprise. We do not dare to allow ourselves to be surprised in the future.

"If this cataclysm in Europe should be consecrated by a peace, even the best one, in 50 years the rest of the world would have to pass

through the same trial. Who is the man that would dare to take upon himself the responsibility for such a human tragedy? Who is the simple citizen in the remotest corner of any one of the Allied states that would accept the responsibility of these evils for our future generations?

"So as you will see, in my profound conviction, we are not allowed to speak—I should even say we are not allowed even to read—about a peace which in the present situation could be only a German peace. In all the Allied countries we must, on the contrary, get nearer and closer to each other, look only at the one objective before our eyes—victory.

"When we have once got it, everybody knows that it will not mean the enslaving of any nation, nor the persecution of any religion, but equal rights, justice and liberty for all."

German Papers On Lloyd George

Amsterdam, Jan. 7.—Discussing the statement of war aims made on Saturday by Premier Lloyd George, the Rhenische Westfälische Zeitung, of Essen, says: "When Lloyd George and British labor demand Alsace for France and the German colonies, Arabia, Syria and Palestine for England and speak of the war indemnity we will have to pay the answer in view of the actual war situation is, 'it is too much!' The newspaper thinks, however, that the calmer tone in which Lloyd George spoke is worth noting, and adds: 'Well, Lloyd George, too, will one day become reasonable. Until then the U-boat and Hindenburg's sword will help.'

The Frankfurter Zeitung, says: "Only a defeated Germany could think of negotiating on the terms laid down by Lloyd George. It is a new war speech and a way to terminate the war will only be open when the movement which has begun in England and other Entente countries is strong enough to replace Lloyd George, Clemenceau and Baron Sonnino by men who recognize the impossible nature of such speeches and draw new consequences from such recognition. How far we are from that time, it is hard to say."

The Nachrichten, of Dessau, says: "The main point of the speech is that Lloyd George binds Great Britain to fight to the last breath for Alsace-Lorraine. We do not believe, however, that the British people will fight to the last breath for the war aim. There is no Alsace-Lorraine question for us and the speech, therefore does not aim at promoting peace with us. It was intended to throw suspicion on the negotiations at Brest-Litovsk. The sword alone can convince the enemy and make him ready for peace."

The Berliner Tageblatt and the Morgen Post also comment on the same speech.

Amsterdam, Jan. 8.—King Ludwig of Bavaria is quoted in a Munich despatch as having said yesterday, at a reception on his birthday that the terms of Germany's enemies were exorbitant.

"Not an inch of German territory will be given up," he declared. "We must try to safeguard our frontier."

Asserting that Bavaria, like the other German states, were everywhere, the king added, "May we succeed also in defeating our latest enemies, the Americans."

Do Your Hens Pay?

A convenient and simple form (to help test whether the flock is paying or not) has been worked out by the Poultry Division, Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

This form, which may be hung up in the poultry house or the kitchen, provides space for marking down each day, the number of eggs laid. It also indicates space for recording the number of eggs and poultry sold or eaten, also space to note the feed bought or taken from the farm, and columns for entering each receipts, expenditures and balances.

The form is a convenient place to keep your poultry account each month, and may be had on application to the Poultry Division, Experimental Farm, Ottawa, free of cost, providing a duplicate copy is sent to the Poultry Division each month.

If you want to know what your hens are doing, write for them.

Economy Plans To Trim Peacocks

Washington, Jan. 4.—Three shades of suits for men and one grade of silk for women.

The Council of National Defense has declared itself in favor of such an arrangement as a measure of wartime economy.

Due to the scarcity of cloth and leather, the commercial economy section has recommended most severe fashions for 1918. Shoes and boot makers will be asked to limit the production to one shade of black and two shades of tan shoes that will reach just above the ankle. For summer wear only low cut oxfords are recommended.

Shorter skirts have been recommended for women but unless some measure of restraint is exercised it is feared the women will lengthen their shoe tops accordingly. The commercial economy section is in favor of more silk hosiery and less shoe leather. In England there are just three kinds of suits available for business men and men of fashion. They cost about \$12 a suit and differ principally in color.

The Council of National Defense is working on standard shoes and suits. The men's suits will be in three shades, gray, black and indigo blue. Manufacturers in this country don't promise they will ever get men's suits down to \$12 during the war.

Is This The Aim Of The Kaiser

London, Jan. 4.—Germany's manoeuvres at the negotiations with Russia are interpreted by the London Times as indicating the Kaiser's aim is not only to accomplish the political conquest of West Russia, but to bind the pan-Turkian movement which had for its object the linking up of the 16,000,000 Turkish speaking people in Russia into a line of Mohammedan states stretching from Kizil through Bokhara to Chinese Turkestan and from the Oxus river to Siberia. The Germans hope Turkey will dominate all these states, says the writer, and Turkish domination will mean German domination. Thus, by control of Western Russia and Middle Asia, Germany will have secured a position incomparably more commanding than that of any other power in the old world.

Stockholm, Jan. 4.—A Haparanda despatch says that the munitions depot on the Russian southwestern front was blown up recently and that all buildings within a radius of two kilometres were destroyed. Two trains loaded with munitions on the way to the Dan district were wrecked, causing the death of two thousand men.

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TO RENT—Till May 1st the ten roomed house on Council St. used formerly as the Military Hospital. Apply to T. C. L. Ketchum

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