

Germany the number of workmen is more than double that of the farmers. Some millions of them are receiving unemployment wages; and a very considerable proportion are infected with the Bolshevist propaganda. Even a manufacturer on a large scale might reach the conclusion that while he would at present lose everything by such a policy, yet Germany's future would be endowed with such wonderful possibilities by an economic and military alliance with Russia that he would be prepared to accept for the moment the principles of Bolshevism, which Germany could greatly modify, and through which she would obtain an absolute domination of Russia's enormous resources. The Germans may imagine with some reason that in carrying out such a policy they can snatch out of defeat a greater victory than they ever anticipated. In other words they may hope to exploit and develop Bolshevism to their own vast advantage, to the ruin of other countries and to the accomplishment of their ideal of world domination. The Allies of course have great odds in their favour for defeating any such policy; but those odds are by no means so great as they were four months ago and probably they are growing less every day.

10. Sir Robert Borden recently discussed conditions in Russia and Poland with Mr. Paderewski,<sup>1</sup> who impressed him as a really able man with a wide outlook. Paderewski describes the conditions in Russia as terrible and he believes that Europe is only at the beginning of its troubles. One startling statement which he made related to the probability that Europe would be scourged by epidemics of terrible diseases. He asserts with great positiveness that the disease of glanders has broken out among human beings in Russia upon a considerable scale; and he attributes this to the consumption of the flesh of horses afflicted with the disease. According to his statement the Russians shoot all persons in whom the disease manifests itself. Mr. Paderewski believes that this course is quite justifiable as every case is absolutely hopeless and the danger of infection can only be removed in that way. He states that in a Polish Legion which has been fighting in Lithuania two officers, personal friends of the commandant, contracted the disease and were immediately shot by his orders. Spotted Typhus is ravaging the population of Poland at present.

### *Number 17*

Paris, April 19, 1919

1. This memorandum covers the period from Saturday evening, 12th April, to Saturday evening, 19th April.

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4. The articles recommended by the Commission on the International Regime of Ports, Waterways and Railways, and by the Inter-Allied Economic Commission were considered by the British Empire Delegations on Tues-

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<sup>1</sup>Ignace Paderewski, pianist and composer; led in organizing the Polish Republic, 1918-1919; Premier of Poland, 1919, Plenipotentiary of Poland at the Peace Conference.