

opportunity for pressing that advance in the face of the concentrated force which now opposes it?

It is clear that for a considerable time, owing to the financial and physical drain of the late war, as well as the grave domestic problems which beset her immediate future, Russia cannot hope to confront the Asiatic Alliance alone. Under these circumstances two courses lie open to her: First, to counterbalance the force which opposes her with force that shall free her for further efforts in pursuance of her objects and desires; and, secondly, to join her outstretched arms, in peace and amity, with her great Asiatic neighbours to use them henceforth for barter—not for battle—and, with them, to help in shutting the doors of Asia against all plunderers and disturbers of peace. As to the first of these alternatives—that of counteracting force, with force—its possibility wholly depends upon the existence of another Power which might be able and willing to throw its weight, together with Russia, into the scales against Great Britain and Japan. This, again, depends upon another Power being so circumstanced, at the present time, that compensative advantages might accrue to it through the disturbance of the world's peace by a frightful and stupendous war with both Britain and Japan. There is only one Power in the world so circumstanced—namely, Germany. In the same way that a national necessity primarily inspires the Imperial policy of Russia, so national necessities also inspire and shape the Imperial policy of modern Germany. Germany has been born to national unity of existence too late. She has contracted world-relations at a time when the condition of survival in the human struggle for existence is rapidly passing from success in international conflicts to success in inter-racial conflicts—or conflicts between nations federated in groups—just as long ago the human life-struggle passed from inter-tribal to international conflicts. In every age only men federated into the greater groups acquire power and survive. Therefore, at the present time, the first conditions of success and ultimate survival for a nation are, first, the acquisition