

## RAW MATERIALS VITAL GERMAN NEED FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Determination to Obtain Manufacturing Supplies is the First Aim of Teutonic Statesmen and Business Men in Reconstruction Preparations

(From the British Board of Trade Journal.)

An economic recovery after the war can only be effected, in the opinion of German statesmen and business men, by the rapid acquisition by Germany of essential raw materials. Access to the raw materials of the world is, therefore, the first and most determined aim of Germany's present reconstruction preparations. The grouping, amalgamation and consolidation of the greater industries under a central control and the foundation of import and export companies are being undertaken in the first instance in order to speed up and facilitate the buying of raw materials, and, ultimately, to provide an organization for mass and, wherever possible, standardized production.

Whatever can be done by internal organization is consequently being done at the present time in Germany. It is, however, generally acknowledged that the extent to which Germany will succeed in acquiring raw materials cannot be known until the conditions of peace are known. An interesting summary of the German attitude toward the economic problem is contained in a recent issue of Der Weltanschauer, which gives the following view expressed by the business community of Bremen:

After the war Germany would need first and foremost, material for spinning, hides and skins, high-grade ores, rubber, timber for shipbuilding and furniture making, oil-producing plants, animal fats, fodder, fertilizers, coffee, cocoa, tea, tobacco and precious metals. While before the war these things were in part drawn from Germany's African and South Sea colonies, the country's supply of staple articles, which must be regarded as serving to regulate exchange, came from sources now hostile, e. g., cotton and tobacco from Brazil, wool from Australia and British South Africa, and oil-producing kernels from England and French West African colonies.

Commerce, imports, manufacturing industries, exports, shipping, banks and insurance companies all depend on the possibilities afforded to German enterprise by the peace conditions, and every effort is being made to determine in the widest sense of the term, and should the peace not be such as Germany desires Germany will have to export men instead of goods, as it did a few decades ago. It is therefore necessary that a proportion of raw materials corresponding to the importance of its industries should be secured, and for it must not be forgotten that since the outbreak of war Germany has been forced to disperse with thousands of articles, which it drew from overseas.

That Germany has the means of forcing its opponents to grant it equality of economic rights is obvious when it is remembered that America requires German phosphates for its agriculture, German chemicals and dyes, medicines, organic and surgical instruments, German steel, etc., all of which, however, are not really an equivalent for cotton, wool, copper and the like.

It is natural, therefore, that of all the problems which have been set before the government department dealing with reconstruction under the newly created imperial department of economics, that of raw materials is by far the largest and most important. Of the nine separate sections belonging to the new department no fewer than six are concerned with the study of raw materials, and analysis of them shows what materials and groups of commodities had come within their scope up to the end of March.

Section III. Iron ores, manganese ores,

## LEDEBOUR IGNORED BY GERMAN PAPERS

Few Printed Speech in Which Socialist Deputy Called For Revolt

Military Clique Attacked — Reichstag Heard Chancellor Labeled Mere Tool of C-marrilla, Planning World Domination

German newspapers just received show that very little publicity was given in the German press to the declaration made in the Reichstag on July 8 by George Ledebour, an Independent Socialist deputy, to the effect that it was the duty of the German proletariat to call for a revolution everywhere. As briefly reported in the cable account of the debate on the Rumanian "peace" treaty, Ledebour was called to order by the president of the chamber, and there the incident rested.

Practically the entire German press, with the exception of the Socialist organs and the semi-official Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, contented itself with merely mentioning that Herr Ledebour also spoke and that he was called to order. Even among the few papers that pretended to quote Ledebour in full there were marked discrepancies which seemed to indicate either that the semi-official Wolff Telegraph Bureau had not made an effort to send out a complete report, or that the German editors had preferred to leave their readers in the dark as to the circumstances of the incident. Ledebour's justification for his bold declaration.

As reported in the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung of July 4, Deputy Ledebour, who spoke immediately after Philipp Scheidemann, the pro-Government Socialist leader, had made his dramatic announcement that he would vote the budget for this government.

"I don't consider it our task to give the government the means for obtaining the domination of this world. Herr Scheidemann displays a remarkably short memory when he asserts that he and his friends have adopted a complete report, or that the German editors had preferred to leave their readers in the dark as to the circumstances of the incident. Ledebour's justification for his bold declaration.

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