Poland and Russia

(Written for The Ontario by Chas. M. Bice, Lawyer, Denver, Colorado.)

It would be a peculiar twist of circumstances if the greatest of historical wars, which has already resulted in the overthrow of one Emperor and created popular unrest of various degrees in almost every country involved, should result in the final establishment of romantic Poland as a nation.

That such an outcome is possible was shown at the recent interallied war council at Versailles, in which the British, French and Italian premiers declared for the creation of a "united and independent Poland."

The result would be more startling in view of the fact that Poland, in spite of its glorious history, has never been a nation established on a firm foundation. The fact that the ancient kings of Poland, like the Roman Emperors, were not hereditary rulers, contributed to rebellions and civil wars through the middle ages. What Gibbon said of Rome, is true of Poland: "The throne that none could demand through right of birth, each felt able to aspire to through merit." The kings of Poland, as one of the greatest of them declared, were simply "the first among equals," and the jealousy and power of the great nobles made it impossible for the monarch to make his rule or power felt.

In spite of their internecine warfare, the Poles, countless times, proved themselves ready to defend the liberties of Europe.

Under their famous King John Sobieski, they effectually stemmed the tide of the Turkish invasion of Austria, which threatened to spread Mohammedan rule over all Europe. But as soon as the common enemy had been defeated, the Poles fell to fighting among themselves, unable to achieve national unity. The fact that none of the family of the great Sobieski was able to achieve the throne, shows what a slight hold the monarch had on the loyalty of his followers.

Many times the jealousy of the Polish nobles was such that they were unable to select a king from among their own number, and selected a foreign ruler as a compromise.

That son of Marie de Medici who afterwards became Henry III. of France, the last of the Valois, was one of those imported rulers, and after three days in the Polish capital of Cracow, he returned to Paris, carrying the crown jewels with him. The Prince of Conti, a relative of Louis XIV. was elected king in the declining years of his cousin, but, frightened by the approach of a rival he, too, fled from Poland with all he had been able to find of the royal treasury.

The inability of the Poles to form an established government formed one of the excuses for the partition of the kingdom among Frederick, the Great of Prussia, Catherine the Great of Russia, and Marie Theressa of Austria.

The German proposal of a bogus monarchy would be even worse than a return to the old days of anarchy and revolution; it would be slavery instead of disorder. It is hoped that under the guiding hand of the entente, the Poles, given new ideals through the sufferings of the past at the hands of Prussia and Russia, and during the present war, will take their place among the great and stable democratic nations of the earth

GERMANY

Telegraphic despatches from Moscow, Stockholm and Switzerland, bring assurances of an awakening, day by day, of the great Masses of the Russian people to the menace of Bolshevism. The story comes in many different features, one an attempted assassination of the red premier, Lenine, another, starvation, famine, plots of revolt, etc. The confessed weakness of the government is based by the manner in which the leaders bow their shoulders to the dictation of Germany.

It has been inconceivable from the first that the Slav should for any great length of time, allow such a chaotic condition of government to exist. The Russians are law-abiding peaceful citizens as a whole.

In the first bloody days of the revolution, released after centuries of oppresion, it was but natural that excesses should have been committed. It was so in the red days of the French revolution, yet France recovered and it will be the same with Russia.

The fever of radical Socialism is being dispelled before common sense.

Read the Bolshevike admission: "We are already a corpse, but there is no one to bury us!"

That a new revolt will result is certain. Even now it may be in progress, though unknown to the world by reason of the rigid censorship of the press despatches.

This people have seen their nation plundered, they have suffered the advance of German armies through thousands of square miles of her fertile lands because there was no organized resistance; they have seen the vaunted Bolshevik peace treaty with the Hun regarded by him as another "scrap of paper", until the very existence of the Slavic nation is horribly threatened. Russia must soon make the decision which will render it in years to come either an independent nation—a world power—or be content to submit to a semi-vassalic control by the rapacious Hun—the scourge of mankind Within the last week it has been given out that the Lenine-Trotzky government has turned over to the Germans what remains of the Russian fleet, and through Finland, has given over to German uses exclusively the single ice-free port in the Russian Empire.

The Lenine-Trotzky outfit have issued a manifesto, urging their followers to arms to chop off the heads of their enemies among their own people. But not a word is said about the German occupants of their territory, who are conscripting the food for German armies to prolong the struggle against Russia's former allies.

Lenine and Trotzky are the hirelings of Germany. They came into control by force, intrigue and fraud, while the soldiers who were disbanded and quit fighting are back terrorizing their country. This state of affairs is deliberately brought about to drive all the anarchists and highwaymen into the arms of Germany for protection. The civil war that is threatening between the two forces of revolutionists, would be grist to the German mill—better even Hun rule than no rule, is the plea of the Russian middle class.

We must intervene now, if we expect to save Russia, and help the allies on the western front.

With Russia under the economic and military dictation of Germany, we would have a new problem to face in France.

Americans should unite with the Japanese forces, and the two armies penetrate Russia, and guarantee the people against the present anarchy and permanent German control. The Lenine-Trotzky outfit have forfeited any consideration from the allies. "Watchful Waiting" must end or we will have to pay a second penalty for national delay.

Tariff is the Great Issue

MANUFACTURERS READY TO CONFER WITH THE FARMERS

BOTH SIDES ARE FRANK

Convention Vigorously Applauds the Proposal for a Trade Board

Montreal, June 17.—Tariff was written in large letters across the forty-seventh convention of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

It loomed up even before President S. R. Parsons delivered his address, but the short debate that did take place when the representative of the Canadian farming interests was invited to take the floor was characterized by a readiness and willingness to give the other side the benefit of its own viewpoint. While the utmost candor prevailed, both sides insisting on sticking to their point, it was unanimously stated that great good would result from a round table conference of all parties concerned. This was spontaneously suggested by Messrs. Mackenzie and Parsons, and Senator Nicholls, and it will no doubt take place.

An unusually large crowd attended the afternoon session to hear Sir John Willison, President of the Canadian Industrial Reconstruction Association, and President S. R. Parsons deliver their addresses.

Mr. Mackenzie Appreciates

The unexpected diversion from the set program took place in the afternoon, when Mr. Roderick Mackenzie, Secretary of the National Council of Agriculture, of Winnipeg, was called to the platform by the President. He was given a big reception. Mr. Mackenzie declared that many people believe that the C. M.A. exists for little else but for bolstering the tariff, but he was very glad to hear the other valuable reports covering such a wide variety of interests.

"We have here a great country with vast possibilities", he said, "and we must all do our united best for the proper development of the country." (Cheers) "We cannot do without manufacturers neither can we do without the farmers; a diversity of interests and business is necessary for the proper development of this country and the proper relationship must be maintained. These cannot be maintained if one industrial interest thinks that it is made to suffer and is suffering by privileges being bestowed on the other industrial interest. If such is so, then development is being impaired and retarded. The future development of this country depends upon the further utilization of fertile lands, and this must go on."

"Let Us Discuss It Out"

He then spoke of the gradual depopulation of the rural communities and the increase of the urban population, "which is imposing still heavier burdens on the farmer. Naturally, we cannot get along without manufacturers," he continued, "but we have got to be shown where the industries need protection, and we have got to be also shown that we cannot do without an industry that needs protection. (Laughter). What we want is a conference of the representatives of farmers and manufacturers with all the cards on the table and let us discuss it out, not fight it out—(laughter)—and great good will result." (Loud cheers.)

No Hell Too Hot For Divider

Moving a resolution of thanks to Mr. Mackenzie for his speech, G. E. Henderson of Windsor, Ont., declared that there should be no division between the farming community and the manufacturing community, and "woe betide the man who creates a division," he said. "There is no hell too hot for such a man or men—(laughter and cheers)—but we must bear one another's burdens."

Must Tell the Farmers Manufacturers' Side

Senator Frederick Nicholls of Toronto, seconding the resolution said: "Let us be quite fair and frank on this question, and if the farmers have not been educated up to our need of protection, then it is our duty to do everything to produce the facts and state our proper argument, and tell these people our side of the case." He pointed out conditions in the West, and stated that the farmers are making not less than 200 to 300 per cent. profit on wheat alone. "I venture to say that there is not a manufacturer in Canada who is making such a profit. We do not grudge them one iota, but we must live and let live. There were never so many autos in the West as at present, but let them have them, and more if they need them; but we must progress, and only a common understanding will create a contented people." (Cheers).

Interesting Letter From a Prisoner of War

The Quinte Chapter, I.O.D.E., recently received the following letter from a prisoner of war, recently interned in Holland, who has been assisted by the Chapter. This letter will, no doubt, be of great interest to all readers, but particularly to all who contribute to the monthly collection, for Prisoners of War, which is used for sending food parcels into Germany.

27 Van Beveringle Straat,
The Hague, Holland.

Dear Friends,—

I hope you will excuse me as I have not written to you before while in Germany, as our correspondence there was very limited. You will no doubt be pleased to hear that I am one of the lucky ones interned in Holland. It is a day that will ever remain in my memory, the day we crossed the German Holland frontier.

Today is also the anniversary of our engagement and capture at Langemarche three years ago.

I am afraid I shall never forgive the Germans. I wish you now to please accept my most sincere thanks to you all for the great things you have done for me by the sending of the food parcels into Germany by the Red Cross. I cannot express my deep gratitude to you for your kindness to me by writing, but will you please accept this letter as a token of my most sincere and hearty thanks. I remain.

Yours Sincerely,
9679. Cpl. J. J. German,
3rd Battalion Canadians,
Group III.

Anyone wishing to help in this good work may do so by sending to Mrs. J. F. Dolan, Treasurer, Prisoners of War Fund, 17 Victoria Ave.

Reports are made of a rich gold deposit discovered near Gouldreau, 117 miles north of Sault Ste. Marie, on the Algoma Central Railway.

Assembly to Meet Every Third Year

RADICAL CHANGE APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT IN SESSION AT LONDON

An Executive Board to Consist of Seventy-Six Members to Act During the Intervening Two Years

London, June 17.—The Presbyterian General Assembly in its final stages concluded that it is a Christian obligaion to pray for the Germans, deputed committees to give further consideration to a couple of matters of contentious character, passed a loyal address to the King, praised the reporters and adjourned to meet next year in Hamilton.

Rev. James Taylor of Braeside, during consideration of the appointment of a national day of prayer, urged that supplications be sent heavenward in behalf of the Huns.

"This suggestion is not pro-German," he said. "I do not wish to be misunderstood. It is pro-humanity. Its content is that of the altar of Calvary; it's a touch of the blood of Christ."

Rev. Mr. Taylor made his suggestion a motion that the church remind her people of the obligation to pray for enemies, and he found a seconder in Rev. Dr. Robert Campbell of Montreal, who stated that in praying on this subject he always safeguarded his patriotism by injecting the proviso that "He be brought to a proper frame of mind."

The adoption by the assembly of the motion without dissent, was followed by a further suggestion from Mr. Taylor that fasting should be resorted to as a means of invoking God's aid. Fasting, he said, had cast out a devil, according to the Bible, and he felt that there is now a devil to be cast out.

National Service Commission

Several strong men were selected to represent the Presbyterian Church on the new national service commission to which the government will entrust consideration of problems relating to the returned soldiers and the after-war period.

Some Radical Changes

The proposals of the synod of Montreal and Ottawa, referred by the assembly of 1917 to a special committee, were reported upon by the convener, Dr. George Bryce of Winnipeg. They include a number of radical suggestions.

The report, which was adopted, states that for several years past presbyteries and synods have made requests to have meetings of the general assembly less frequently than every year, for convenience and economy sake, placing a greater amount of the work of the church in the hands of the synods and presbyteries. The following recommendations were approved:

The general assembly shall meet in every third year on the basis of the constitution at present in operation, and shall choose its own place of meeting.

There shall be selected yearly in the intervening two years an assembly's executive board, which shall consist of 76 ministers and elders, to be selected by the synods, giving each presbytery one minister or elder, as the synod may see fit. The assembly's executive board is to meet in Toronto.

The control of Sunday School work shall be under the direction of the synod of the bounds.

The recommendations, being adopted, shall be sent down to presbyteries under the barrier act during the present year, and reported on to the general assembly's executive board for ratification.

Shanghai's Bamboo Organ

After 50 years of service the bamboo organ in the Church of St. Francis Xavier, Tungkadoo, Shanghai, is still in fairly good condition. It is stated that there is one other bamboo organ in the Orient, but it is not possible at this time to secure any definite information relative to its whereabouts or condition. As metal pipes are to replace the bamboo in the Shanghai organ, that noted instrument will lose much of its public interest.

In a recent issue of the North China Daily News (British) of Shanghai the following comment appears regarding the tone of the historic bamboo organ:

It would be better if it were completely in tune, for a long wave heat, similar to the short one which gives the beauty of the tremulous vox coelestis, betrays the fact that it is not. Possibly it never was, for bamboo does seem refractory stuff for organ building. Despite this, however, the tone is sweet, if somewhat "woolly," and the whole instrument speaks volumes for the skill of those men who, using only materials immediately to hand, were able to devise an organ pleasing to the ear and able to defy the severest test—that of time.

How They Got Herr Bolo Pasha

American sympathizers with the Sinn Feiners have been deprived of a weapon they intended to wield with great vigor by the official announcement that O'Leary, Ryan, and other Irish-Americans under indictment for conspiracy with Germany were run down as a result of American investigations and that no foreign government was concerned in preparing the evidence used against them. It has been an old pretence among a certain class of Americans who hate England more than they love the United States that in entering the war the United States has been used by Great Britain, that President Wilson was, to use the words frequently printed in the Hearst papers, "playing England's game." These men if they are caught will not be accused of conspiring against Great Britain; they will be accused of treason to the United States and if convicted are likely to be shot or hanged. We regret to report that at the present time they are in hiding, probably in Mexico.

New York's Good Law

While the United States is entitled to the credit for having unearthed the conspiracy, is seems reasonable to suppose, since the conspirators were indicted in the State of New York, that the State deserves particular credit. It is just now being realized in New York State that there are some remarkably stern laws in force there, which were quietly passed by the Albany Legislatures as war measures, and which nobody paid much attention to at the time of their enactment. One of them is a "peace and safety law", which puts into the hands of the Governor of the State and the Attorney-General almost unlimited power. The Legislature voted a considerable sum which was to be spent by them jointly in the investigation of any crimes committed within the state which had for their object the hampering of the war energies of the country or any of its Allies. There was to be no auditing of the account. It was to be spent in secret. Agents for protecting the State were appointed in secret. Nobody would know anything about them but the governor and the attorney-general, and these agents were given such powers as are only deposited in state commissions as a rule. They could examine witnesses under oath. They could send to jail witnesses who refused to answer questions. In time of peace the passing of such a law, the giving of such authority to unknown agents, would be unheard of.

THEY Got French Traitor

It worked to good advantage in the case of Bolo Pasha, who was shot a few weeks ago as a traitor. The most important evidence against him was secured in New York by agent of Governor Whitman and Attorney-General Lewis. Last Fall the governor was appealed to by the French Consul General in New York, on behalf of Ambassador Jusserand, who said that the French Government had suspicions about Bolo, but had no evidence upon which to act. The Government, it appeared, was prodding the ambassador over the cable every day, but the American Federal laws appeared not to cover the case. The New York State law, however, seems to have been designed for just such an emergency, since the transaction which it was desired to investigate had occurred in the state. So the dogs of war were loosed and it was not long before the necessary evidence was accumulated.

Camouflaged With Canada

On a previous visit to the United States Bolo had borne unimpeachable letters of introduction. He had appeared as a distinguished Frenchman with equally unimpeachable American affiliations. For instance, Morgan was his banker, and the Royal Bank of Canada did business with him. The right to walk into a bank, demand an inspection of all accounts and correspondence was one of the teeth in the Act of the New York State Legislature. Thus the American investigators were able to track Bolo. He had come to the United States for the purpose of getting $2,000,000 from Bernstorff to buy the Paris Journal, and he got the money. It was necessary, of course, that there should be the utmost pains to conceal the origin of the cash, and therefore some complicated banking tricks were adopted. Nevertheless because of the loyalty of New York State and the energy of its agents a correct account was presented, and the evidence sent to M. Jusserand. He was dumbfounded at the implications, but told the American investigators that nothing was to be concealed. He cabled to France and the next day Bolo was arrested.

Be Just To Bolo

Reviewing the evidence as mentioned in the New York Times, it is not plain whether Bolo wanted Germany to win the war or whether he wanted to make a fortune for himself. To be charitable, we ought to admit the possibility that he had both ends in view. From Senator Humbert he had an option on the Journal. He came to the United States and sought an interview with a known German and pro-German. To him he confided his enterprise and said that he wanted the loan of $2,000,000, without interest for the period of the war. He was told that this was not a banking proposition, and that there was only one man in the United States who would consider it. That man was Bernstorff. Bolo professed indifference as to who might produce the money, and eventually he got it from Bernstorff. His execution followed.

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Pope Complains he is Misjudged

ASSERTS ENEMIES OF RELIGION ARE MAKING CALUMNIOUS ATTACKS ON HIM

Rome, June 16.—The Osservatore Romano, the Vatican organ, publishes a Papal autograph sent in answer to an address received by the Pontiff from the Episcopacy of Lombardy.

The Pope complains of the sad period the world is going through, and also of attacks from "the enemies of religion to the supremest authority, Jesus Christ." He adds that he is greatly afflicted "not only by the indescribable horrors of this war which, without parallel in the history of the world, threatens to drag poor Europe to the bottom of an abyss, but also by an insidious and skilful campaign of calumnies and hatred against the person of the Pontiff and his work."

The Pope in a recapitulation of his action since the beginning of the war, says that his efforts to bring about peace have been misjudged and misinterpreted; even his silence about this or that crime being calumniously interpreted, his critics not admitting that "in the present uncertainty of this blaze of passions, it is impossible to inflict condemnation for each crime, while all are included in a condemnation pronounced according to the general principle."

The Pontiff regrets that such a campaign has been conducted also against the clergy and Catholics, thus spreading the seeds of discord among various classes. The autograph ends with protest denouncing the campaign, not only to the faithful, but all honest people, wherever they happen to be, and a reaffirmation that it is the Pope's duty to defend the sanctity and honor of the Church.

Not Wanting in Courtesy

London June 17.—(Through Reuter's Agency.)—Lord Stanmore, replying to a question in the House of Lords said that there was evidently some idea that the Government had been wanting in respect and courtesy in the matter of the Pope's note of peace.

Nothing could have been farther from the thoughts of the Government, he declared. The note was received early in August, and a few days later a reply was sent to the effect that the Government had received the proposals of His Holiness with the most sincere appreciation of the benevolent intentions which animated it. A few days later President Wilson sent a detailed answer to the note. The British Government, he said, associated themselves with this answer, and it was decided that there was nothing they could usefully add to it. This was made public at the time.

Regarding the clause in the secret treaty with France, Russia and Italy, excluding the Pope from being represented at the Peace Conference, Lord Stanmore declared that that was a perfectly reasonable course to take. The Pope was in the same position as the Sovereign of a neutral country, whose representative would in no case be admitted to the Peace Conference without the general consent of all the belligerents.

The Channel Tunnel is a Certainty

ITS CONSTRUCTION WILL BE EARLIEST OF ALL WORKS OF PEACE

London June 16.—Sir Arthur Fell chairman of the House of Commons Channel Tunnel Committee, said that the future of London and of the whole country depended upon the construction between England and France of a submarine railway. He was confident that its construction would be the earliest and greatest of all works of peace, which would be begun immediately the war was over, as the first monument to the enduring friendship with the immortal nation which for four years has been fighting by our side for the liberty of the world. London had not yet appreciated what the tunnel would mean for it, nor how much its future as the greatest city of the old world would depend upon the completion of the work. If England's isolation continued after the war some other capital would have to be found for the new era to which we look forward. It might be Paris Vienna, or even Berlin or Brussels, but it must be the railway centre, to and from which would run the great world expressed. To reach such railway centre. Passengers from the United States, Brazil, Argentina and other wealthy South American states would go direct to Cherburg, Rotterdam or Hamburg. London, without a tunnel, would thus be side tracked because of its insular isolation

The captured German officer who assisted in the bombing of the helpless British hospital in France gave as an excuse that it was too near the railroad. Likely it was bombarded again on Sudnay because it was not moved according to his suggestion.—Brockville Reader