

advantage. This proposition is a plain statement of the position of the organized farmers of the West. And yet the West continues to be regarded in certain quarters as cherishing hostility to the development of manufacturing industry in Canada.

The spokesman of the Canadian Industrial Reconstruction Association has returned to Toronto after his speaking tour through the West, without having made in any of his public addresses any direct disclosure of his sentiments or opinions in regard to fiscal policy. So adroit is Sir John Willison in dwelling on the importance of Canadian manufacturing industry that it may well be doubted whether any listener who has followed any one of his addresses has been able to gather from his actual words any definite idea of what he was advocating. But no listener to any of his addresses (even one who was not aware that the Canadian Industrial Reconstruction Association is an array of the men who are the head and front of high protectionism in Canada) can have failed to have had left upon his mind the impression that Sir John Willison regards the West as a region in which there is a large amount of hostility to the development of Canadian manufacturing, and that Sir John is deeply grieved that this should be the case. But the truth is that this is not the case at all.

All the West wants is a rightly and justly proportioned development of all possible industries in Canada, with equal rights to all, and special privileges for none. The only policy to which the West is hostile is the policy of protectionism for certain industries at the expense mainly of the country's most important industry, which is of greater value to Canada than all the other industries combined—the policy of taking money out of the pockets of the many Canadians engaged in that industry and putting it into the pockets of the relatively few who reap the profits of tariff protectionism.

### Bulgaria and Turkey

With Bulgaria beaten down and out as a factor in the war, and with Turkey staggering under the blows of the Allied forces and nearing collapse, the whole Teutonic dream of "Mittel Europa" and an Eastern Empire has gone glimmering. The Pan-German vision of Hohenzollernism supreme from the North Sea to Constantinople, with a vast area of Asia, in addition, brought under German domination, the whole to be protected by tariffs and other restrictions after the war and made a preserve for German trade, has faded away into nothingness for ever. The whole gorgeous fabric of that vision of a far-flung, world-mighty German Empire has vanished.

All the plans for "Mittel Europa" were made with great carefulness at Berlin long ago; and last year the German Industrial and Commercial Council for "Mittel Europa," with Herr Ballin at its head, was established to deal with "the perfecting of the commercial relations between Germany and Austria-Hungary, Poland, Rumania, Roumania, Serbia, Bulgaria and Turkey." Before the war, Germany's exports to the east and south-east were only 32 per cent. of the total of German exports; it was planned to have the triumph of the "Mittel Europa" policy result in their being more than doubled in the years after the war, when Germany would be working to recover its lost western trade.

Both Bulgaria and Turkey were nominally allies of Germany, but in reality little better than vassal states. In one respect only have they stood on an equal footing with Germany; the records of the Bulgarian atrocities against the Serbs and of the Turkish atrocities against the Armenians will hold an enduring infamy side by side on the pages of history with the records of the German atrocities in Belgium and in France and elsewhere on land, as well as at sea.

### Transparent Trickery

With the Allied armies pressing forward victoriously on all fronts, the masters of the Teutonic alliance, reading the plain handwriting on the wall and finding themselves in desperate straits because of the crushing blows which have been falling upon the morale of the German people, have crowned the climax of their diplomatic duplicities by launching a peace offensive hoping to realize something out of it by means of cunning falsehood hypocrisy and craft in negotiation. But the knowledge of the minds and the methods of the rulers of Germany, which the free peoples of the world have learned at so great a cost, has made them wary. The latest German peace offensive has thus proved to be a still-born device of Berlin duplicity.

The very terms of the message itself, in which the new Imperial German Chancellor, Prince Maximilian, launched this piece of trickery, contains its own reply. That message to President Wilson proclaims that the German government "accepted the problem set forth by the President" as "a basis for peace negotiations." But President Wilson made it plain beyond possibility of misunderstanding that, as he sees it—and both the peoples and the governments of all the Allied nations are of the one mind in this—there can be no peace by bargain or compromise with the war lords of the Teutonic alliance, who, as President Wilson has expressed it, "observe no covenants."

The whole situation is summed up by President Wilson in these words, which are given in their context in another column of this issue of *The Guide*: "We cannot 'come to terms' with them. They have made it impossible." And yet, with effrontery equal to their duplicity, they announce to the man who thus characterized them that they accept his characterization of them as "a basis for peace negotiations"! Not with them can the only peace which will end this war be negotiated.



HIS MAD DRIVE FOR WORLD DOMINION



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