

BOLSHEVISM HAS NO PLACE IN CANADA

BOLSHEVIKI doctrines have brought Russia down from one of the greatest food producing countries on the globe to a condition of starvation. Drunk with liberty, which they did not understand, filled with idealistic notions about the equality of man, and lacking individual initiative, production in Russia has practically ceased, according to the evidences reaching the outside world. Transportation and distribution is so disorganized that even were the peasants of the land producing their usual amount of foodstuffs, the people in the manufacturing population would still be without the necessary food supplies to sustain them in safety and comfort. Unless the people of Russia steady down and organize themselves or allow other authorities to organize them, there is the possibility of one of the most stupendous disasters to a nation and a great people that every occurred in history. Without authority for whom they have fear and respect, the Russian peasant seems to be without motive or initiative. We read of peasants in their anger against the property holding class of the late aristocrat regime, destroying not only the personal effects of the nobility and the owning class, but the very crops which they had themselves under the former social organization produced for the nation at large. In their reaction against property owning, they have destroyed the goose that laid the golden eggs. We read of peasants in certain villages having gone to such extremes as to seize the cattle of the local land owner, now deposed, flay them alive and turn them loose. Without the old motive of compulsion to cultivate the land for the land owner, now that the land has reverted to the peasants and they themselves are the owners, they have neglected work and to produce the necessaries of life. To such a pass is the nation drifting that recent dispatches have reported that the so-called Government of present-day Russia is sending plenipotentiaries to China, the formerly despised and so-called decadent neighbor to the east, to make arrangements for provisions to tide them over next winter. It is difficult to imagine China, one of the most densely populated areas in the world, living largely on rice and very meagre fare, having sufficient surplus to feed 150,000,000 people in starving Russia.

Bolshevism is sometimes quoted in this country as an ideal, worthy of imitation. The pass to which Russia has drifted is a warning that Bolshevism and insanity are not very far apart. The nation that will weather the storm of this war the best, is the nation that organizes most efficiently and disciplines itself most strictly. Production must be carried on to a limit of our power. Destructive criticism and petty fault-finding are weaknesses and dangers. Unity of purpose and constituted leadership is essential. It is a case of a strong pull, a long pull and a pull altogether. Men must be found for the army, for munition making and for food production. Non-essential industries must provide men for essential industries. Women in this country must take the places of men to the limit of their power when called upon. Farmers must recognize the necessities of war and the public in general must unite to save the harvest of 1918.