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BAD MONEY IN BERLIN.

In the course of a letter to the London Times the writer describes life in Berlin in a manner that should interest readers. He says—"Let me first endeavor to describe life here in Berlin. Externally it does not greatly differ from Berlin life in 1913. Life generally has the appearance of normality. The shops are open, the trams run. The electric light operates. There is always hot water for the bath. Restaurants, dancing, and gambling saloons are open all night long. Yet several times in the course of a week one pauses to remark that machine guns can be heard in outlying parts. If one motors about at night the car is likely to be halted by soldiers and searched for hidden arms. On Sundays and Holidays temporary barricades appear in Unter den Linden. Barbed wire is stretched across streets that form strategic positions of defence for the Wilhelmstrasse, and the government headquarters. Thus we have the hint of trouble that brews beneath this outward calm. By following several twisting paths I have been able to come face to face with some of it in the making.

There are today about 25,000 Russians in Berlin—agents of Lenine and Trotzky. With or without the connivance of the present German Government, but certainly with its knowledge, the heads of this army of trouble makers conduct a daily courier service through the German lines from Berlin to Moscow. As a result, printing presses were first established in Munich, but are now running in Berlin, engaged in carrying out the ablest and most brilliant idea that the brain of Len-

ine has yet conceived—namely, the destruction of currency. I mean that Germany is now flooded with millions of counterfeit mark notes that are as excellent in quality as those turned out by the government. There is so much of this money that the banks dare not refuse it so it is current everywhere and good. The Deutsche Bank no longer knows whether it is solvent. This same admission has been made to me by the head of another great banking institution, who by way of illustrating the situation, suddenly asked me how much German money I then had in my pocket. I produced about 1,000 marks, and the banker showed me that 300 of them, in 50-mark notes were bad. I had obtained them in exchange for British sterling, this morning, at one of the best known bureaux de change in Berlin.

But this is not all or the worst of this phrase of the situation. Today they are printing £5 notes in Berlin—these Lenine presses; also 100 franc notes of the Banque de France. Quite good imitations, although not so good as the German notes, because of the greater difficulty in matching the paper. What will be done with them? I can only surmise by showing the use to which the bad money is put in Berlin. The present government paid 12 marks a day to every unemployed workman. It now pays 15 marks a day, despite the fact that its capital is exhausted. The new army, organized by Gustav Noske, the Minister of Defense, gets five marks a man a day, and the best food that the entente has sent in. This outlay, in addition to the upkeep of the Hindenburg Army on the Polish frontier and the von der Goltz troops in Courland, about 250,000 in all, makes the pay sheet of the War Office about the same as in the days when the real German Army was fighting the Allies. Noske would like to cut his rate of pay to three marks a day, but dares not do it. It is only the strength of his personality that holds things together at five marks—and the chances here are strongly against his ability to do it long. Why? Because any unemployed German—or any soldier—can get 50 marks a day in bad money.—*Barbados Globe.*

\$25,000,000 TO AID SOLDIERS.

Washington, July 15.—The sum of \$25,000,000 will be needed this year for rehabilitating and educating wounded

soldiers, sailors and marines, James P. Munroe, Vice president of the Federal Board for Vocational Education told the House Appropriations committee yesterday.—*Ibid.*

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