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of the master. The conditions should have prevented him from taking the slightest risk. Safety lay to the south, and it is impossible to perceive why the captain did not keep on that course until he had ascertained beyond all doubt that the Cape Race lighthouse was far astern.

There is another contingency, however, which has not been mentioned, which would absolve the commander from blame. It is possible that his compass had gone wrong. Such mishaps have been known to occur, and a misleading magnetic needle in a blinding snowstorm may have made his apparent course south when he was really running westward on to the rocks.

The Florizel and her sister ship the Stephano, which was torpedoed by the Germans off Nantucket, were as familiar as household words to the people of Newfoundland. They were likewise well and favorably known in this country to hundreds of our people who had made excursions on them to Halifax and St. John's, living on board throughout the round trip. Before the war this was one of the most enjoyable summer vacations available to New Yorkers, and many took advantage of it. All who remember the pleasure and apparent safety of the trip will wonder how it could happen that one of these staunch steamers should be allowed to run ashore only a few hours after leaving port, at the very foot of the best known lighthouse and signal station on the coast of North America.

There is one satisfaction, however, concerning such a disaster. The British maritime authorities may always be relied upon to investigate the wreck of a British vessel with rigorous impartiality and to place the blame, if there is any, where it justly belongs. Hundreds of Americans will watch with great interest for their verdict in the case of the Florizel.

Was Russia Sold Out? The collapse of Russia is so complete and her withdrawal from all participation in the war so abrupt that it is impossible to consider her present situation, her loss of national honor and her desertion of the cause which her people had earlier espoused with every evidence of enthusiasm without looking for other reasons than the success of German diplomacy and the fear of German arms. The early suspicions that this great nation was practically sold out and that it was treacherously delivered over to Germany is finding strong confirmation in the accumulation of facts regarding the course of those who were responsible for its humiliating surrender and the prearrangement of a succession of events that made the debacle inevitable.

The world does not and never will accept TROTSKY and LENINE at the rating which they have seemed to desire. They are not simple dreamers of a Utopia. They are not of the same stuff as the men and women who worked at the risk of lives and homes for the overthrow of an autocratic Russia and the substitution thereof of a Russia in which the people would have a part and a voice in the Government. They are thoroughly men of the world, to whom socialism was a doctrine preached more from personal than altruistic reasons. Their course of action has shown that they saw in the overthrow of the Czar an opportunity, and that trusting in the ignorance of the great Russian masses and calculating upon the oft-repeated dictum, "Russia is a land without a national conscience," they had acted in the rôle of opportunists.

From the time that they took the reins of the Petrograd Government from KRENKOV they began a course that left no doubt of its ultimate outcome. It was so defiantly anti-Allies as to call forth an investigation into their acts prior to their return to Russia. It was shown that TROTSKY's chief associates while in this city were German Socialists, and, furthermore, that the funds for the payment of the passage of himself and party were furnished by Germans who posed as Socialists. Revelations in France showed that both he and LENINE had acted as paid agents of Germany in the disruption of the Russian army and in fomenting troubles in other allied or neutral nations. There was positive proof of the opening of an account in a German bank "for Comrade TROTSKY's enterprise" and of the payment to LENINE of sums varying from \$37,500 to \$75,000. The correspondence seized, which included official German documents, disclosed the two men as working even before the war began in the interests of Germany.

It was only to be expected that, following the Russian collapse and the passing into the German clutch of Russian territories vaster in extent than Germany itself, Berlin should put on a fair mask of conciliation and more or less sweet reasonableness. The tone assumed by the Imperial German Chancellor in commenting before the Reichstag on President Wilson's recent address to Congress is in strict accord with the probabilities.

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