

beasts, bound by admirable limitations, thrice happy in the things they do not have to know, and feel, and be. "The Spectator" in a hospitable mood once invited its readers to send them anecdotes of their dogs. The invitation was, as might be imagined, cordially and widely accepted. Mr. Strachey subsequently published a collection of these stories in a volume which had all the vraisemblance of Hans Anderson and *The Arabian Nights*. Reading it, one could but wonder and regret that the tribe of man had risen to unmerited supremacy. "The Spectator" dogs could have run the world, the war, and the Versailles Conference without our lumbering interference.

AFTER READING "SONNETS OF THE CROSS"

(To Thomas S. Jones, Jr.)

NORREYS JEPHSON O'CONOR

*You brought them back to me from long ago,
Those splendid spirits of an earlier time
Who loved the simple things of God: the chime
Of tide about worn rocks; the gentle low
Of cattle; sheep that wandered to and fro
On windy headlands; sweet-toned bells at prime,
Tierce, nones, and vespers, with the gift sublime
Of Christ Himself beneath the candles' glow.*

*Patrick and Bridget and the glorious band
Of saints who make of every hill and dell
In Erin bright bastions of God's citadel,
Guard you and keep you, give you strength of hand
To ease a woe-struck world, and, singing, tell
The ancient grace it will not understand!*

THE RED ARMY TODAY

ALEXANDER LUKOMSKY

OVER the heads of the Bolshevik army there hangs a sword of Damocles which ought to reassure nations made nervous by the reported strength of the Red forces. A General of the old Imperial army describes the desperate problem Trotsky has to face in instilling the Communist ideal into the wierdly diverse elements that constitute his military organization. More than any other factors, the lack of technical equipment and transport facilities still keep the Red Army ineffectual.

THE red shadow which arose with the Bolshevik coup of 1917, like a lurid storm-cloud gathered in the East and overhanging the European horizon, has been reflected in various degrees of apprehension and suspense in the capitals of the world. Speculation has been rife as to whether the Soviet Government is preparing the way for the appearance of a Red Bonaparte, or whether it will perhaps evolve a

powerfully organized militaristic state equally menacing to the stability of Europe. The secret military pact between Russia and Germany has indeed lent an air of probability to these fears, and contributed largely to the alarm of France and the states on the border-line,—Roumania, Poland, Czechoslovakia,—which look to the larger powers for their national security.

The general apprehension among the Western powers has been emphasized in the policies of France, and to some measure, of England. Monsieur Briand, at the Washington Disarmament Conference, pointed out that the possibility of a Russian army of many millions, secretly strengthened with the vindictive co-operation of German organizing genius, would alone be ample justification for France's advocacy of a strong policy of preparation. Mr. Lloyd George, on the other hand, maintained throughout his premiership that the trend of affairs in Russia pointed to the evolution of a democratic State, yet he did not succeed in allaying his country's attitude of caution.

That the Russian dictatorship is fully alive to the significance of a huge Red military organization is evident from the candid utterances of its leaders. While the Washington Conference was in progress, Radek was declaring the value of Russia's position