

## CHAPTER XI

**C**OUPLED with Soviet Russia's political designs on China and then all of Asia has been the Bolshevik's all, but subtle grab of something like a million and a half square miles in that country. Nothing has been said about this, however, in the Courts of the World. The Soviet has spurned imperial and expansionist ambitions—outwardly, but it has been busy nibbling at China just the same. Moscow joined China against Japan, but when she did it she was eating into her very heart. Outer Mongolia and Chinese Turkestan have been gobbled up by The Bear in a manner that makes some of the other "takes" in international politics look like child's play. And the Chinese themselves have had little to say about it and can't afford to say anything.

The Russian bite into China began in Czarist days when the Russians dominated Outer Mongolia. Later the Bolsheviks pretended they did not like this idea after all and made an empty gesture of giving the steal back, but quickly they moved to not only take Outer Mongolia under their influence, but to gobble Chinese Turkestan as well. Outer Mongolia has a million square mile area and

Chinese Turkestan something like 500,000 square miles. Lump them together and they are half as big as the United States. The two meet at the Manchurian border. They are rich in gold and minerals, a nice prize.

In the old days of her empire, China maintained these two blocks of territory as a bulwark against Russia. They are really the Soviet's now. Moscow did its work through agitation of propagandists and her secret police in a stealthy reign of terror that eliminated priests and princes and the old order of things.

State control of foreign trade that barred all but the Russians, state ownership of mines and forests and even industries, the formation of a Mongolian army under command of Stalin's officers, and the trick was done. The League of Nations so far hasn't peeped about it although it has had plenty of time to condemn others. Soviet Russia, pretending to be virtuous, got away with the biggest grab in the history of modern times. When there is talk of puppet states the world might well turn its eyes on this Soviet seized territory in China where the Mongolian officials dance at the ends of strings controlled in Moscow. The time will come when Chinese Turkestan, or Sinkiang as the Chinese are pleased to call it, will be annexed to Soviet Russia if the Soviet lasts long enough to do it as many believe she will not. With an eye to business and to gold deposits the Bolsheviks compelled the pup-

pet officials of these vast domains to sign over everything to Moscow. The people in that territory had nothing to say about it. If they opposed it they died. And many are said to have died in a manner the Bolshevik metes out to its enemies.

What Soviet Russia did in Outer Mongolia and in Chinese Turkestan she planned to do in China proper and Japan alone has stopped her. The rest of the world, the so called Allies, among them England, which does not look with favor on this Russian aggression, but has said nothing for publication, has been too busy with its troubles in Europe to offend Moscow openly. The ironic part of it is, though, that no protest has been made to Russia over her taking over huge slices of China, but Japan has been condemned roundly for taking Manchuria out of the hands of war lord-bandit chieftains and making a happy country of her and for stepping into China and stopping Russia from Sovietizing her.

Russia was in the act of doing in China what she did in Outer Mongolia and Chinese Turkestan, not by open invasion of an outward army of soldiers, but by propagandists and terrorist societies, first winning the control, if not the favor, of the central government and then switching that central government into a Soviet. Annexation would have ultimately followed. It would have given the Soviet unbounded control of Asia, locked the doors

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of trade in Asia to the outside world and destroyed the national life of Japan as well as China.

The bluff of Russia has been called. She must now show her hand. Japan, fighting alone, has stopped the Soviet on the brink of world power, has paved the way for her eventual downfall, has taken China and shaken her from the lethargy that would have preceded her death.

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