FROM WAR TO PEACE; A PLEA FOR THE DEFINITE POLICY OF RECONSTRUCTION

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From war to peace; a plea for the definite policy of reconstruction by Herbert Quick

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HERBERT QUICK

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FROM WAR TO PEACE

A Plea for a Definite Policy
of Reconstruction

By

HERBERT QUICK

AUTHOR OF

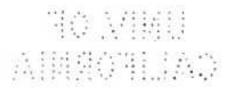
On Board the Good Ship Earth, The Brown Mouse, The Fairview Idea, Etc.

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FOREWORD

During the time which has elapsed between the writing of the first chapter of this book and the last, events
have been moving with bewildering rapidity. This tremendous rate of evolution in the great drama of world
events will go on between the time of writing this preface and the placing of the book before the public. It is
hoped that the reader will take these facts into consideration.

The development of events justifies already the apprehension as to the future expressed by the writer in the carlier chapters. Unemployment has already become a very serious factor in our national life. There are in all probability at this writing a million unemployed men in the United States.

The mania for the destruction of institutions has taken hold of many of the peoples of the earth, and under its title of Bolshevism has struck the world with terror and apprehension; yet nothing really worth mentioning has been done by the American Congress to put out any backfire against the spread of this conflagration in America. A Republican Senator introduced a bill providing for important reconstruction measures—and the bill slumbers in committee. A few days after, a Democratic Senator introduced a similar bill—and that

FOREWORD

bill also slumbers in committee. The Land Settlement Policy of the Department of the Interior moves slowly, and even if rapidly successful, could not be sufficient. The only measure which seems to have any chance to get through Congress at this session is one which provides for the appropriation of \$100,000,000 for reconstruction purposes, and it may fail.

As I have just stated, events move with bewildering rapidity; but we have the right to expect that they will produce some effect other than bewilderment. I hope that this plea for a vigorous and correlated national policy on reconstruction will not be considered untimely. It is an unfortunate fact that such books as this are not already obsolete; nevertheless, it is a fact, one which the writer sincerely deplores.

H. Q.

Washington, D. C., January 28, 1919.

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From War To Peace

CALIFORNIA

I

OUR RIDDLE OF THE SPHINX

S this is written the world is filled with the A clamors and shaken by the concussions of the mightiest events of all human history. The old-world order has exploded like a bomb. Wrenching pangs of agony run through that body we call civilization. Is it death? Or is it the travail of some great new birth? The least of these immeasurable phenomena are seen in the fact that empires are dissolving, crowns are rolling in the bloody dust, new kingdoms and strange anomalous republics are blossoming like new nocturnal flowers, old peoples are rising from the cerements in which history has wrapped them and stepping forth to walk again among the living, monarchs lately exiled are returning to their capitals, victorious hosts are revenging themselves upon their insulters, might is shifting from hand to hand, kingdoms and fair realms of olden story lie in