

**THE RECONSTRUCTION OF
POLAND AND
THE NEAR EAST;
PROBLEMS OF PEACE**

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The reconstruction of Poland and the Near East; problems of peace by Herbert Adams Gibbons

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PROBLEMS OF PEACE

BY

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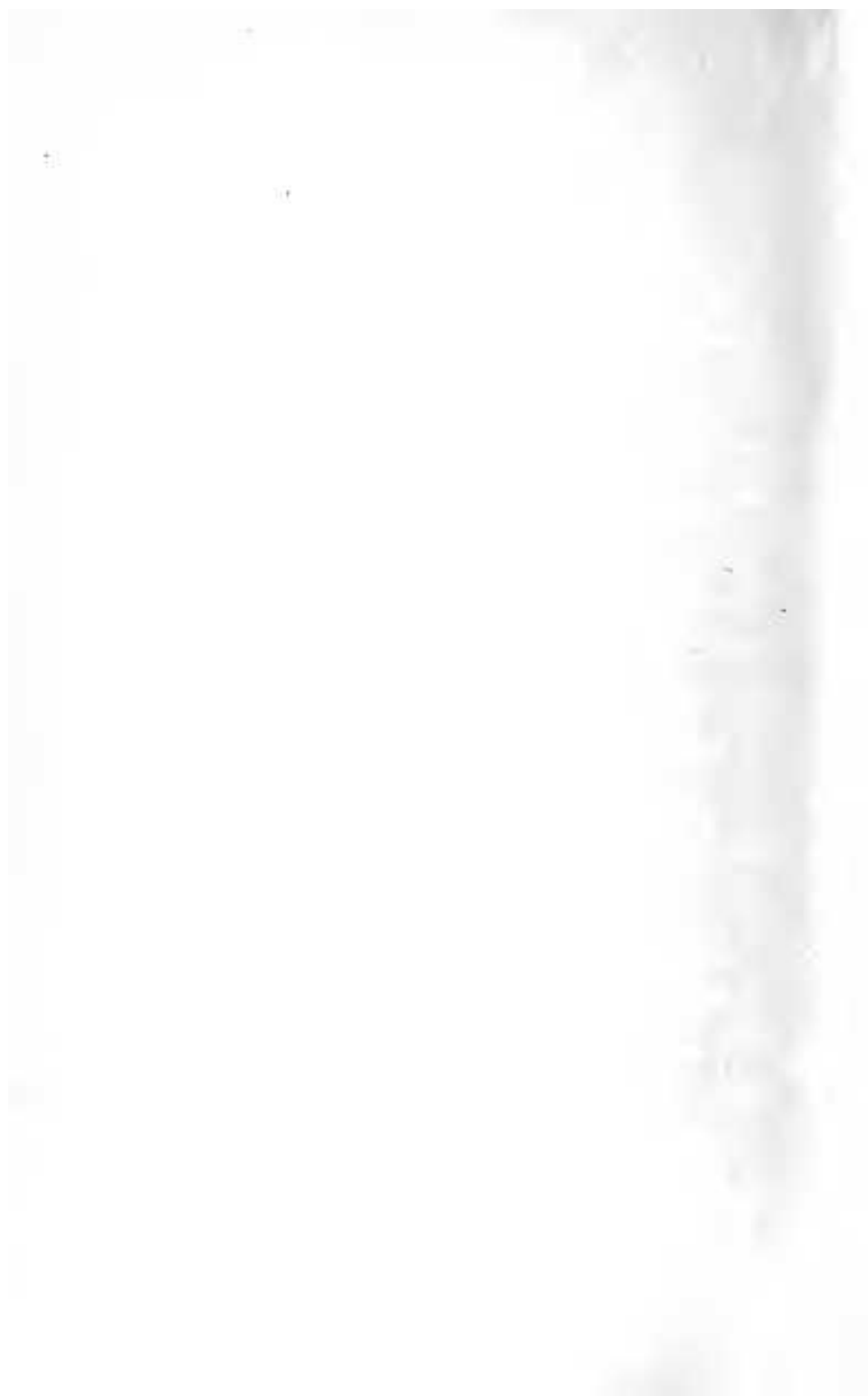
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TO
MY MOTHER
INDEFATIGABLE TRAVELER
WHO LOVES THE LANDS AND RACES
OF
THE NEAR EAST



FOREWORD

The chapters of this book were written as a series of articles for the "Century Magazine." At the time of the Russian Revolution and the intervention of the United States, the chapters on Poland and Constantinople had already been published and the others were in print.

The Russian Revolution has not changed the general aspect of the problems of reconstruction in the Near East. The principle of independent Poland still needs to be insisted upon, and the plea for the Balkan nationalities and the races of the Near East still needs to be advanced. The contest in Petrograd over changing Russia's objects in the war nearly led to the disruption of the Provisional Govern-

FOREWORD

ment. The resistance of the Cadets and Octobrists to the new policy of "no annexations, no indemnities," culminating in M. Miliukoff's effort to rob the Revolution of its significance in so far as Russian foreign policy was concerned, shows that Russian imperialism was not destroyed in March. The reactionaries will not fail to try to overthrow the new régime. They will look to imperialistic aspirations again, as in the past, to win outside support: and they know from the past that not a single European power has ever hesitated to sell out liberalism and democracy in Russia to secure the diplomatic support of the occult powers. Only when secret diplomacy is abandoned in Europe will democracy be safe in Russia, and only then will the Poles and the Near Eastern races be free to work out their own destinies.

The problems of the reconstruction of