

# WAR TO BENEFIT JEWS IN RUSSIA

Rev. Dr. Mendel Silber Says  
This Upon His Return From  
New York, Where He Was  
In Close Touch With Promi-  
nent Men.

Indications Are, He Adds,  
That the Crushing Defeat of  
Czar's Forces Will Lead to  
Revolution In Nicholas'  
Domain.

Rev. Dr. Mendel Silber, rabbi of Temple Emanu-El, who has just returned to Duluth from New York, where he was in close touch with prominent men of his race, is of the opinion that there is little danger of a repetition of Jewish massacres upon the return to Russia of the defeated troops. He believes that an effort to turn the discontent of the troops against the Jews will be made by the government upon one pretext or another, but says:

"I scarcely believe when these soldiers find while they have been suffering defeat through the blunders of incompetent generals this government, for which they have been fighting, has devoted its time to the slaughter of their defenseless families, they will be over-willing to be further guided against a race the representatives of which have succored them in the field. The peasantry will have a grievance, which will not be against the Jews, when they miss their loved ones from the ranks of the returning troops.

"The crushing defeat of Russia may lead to a revolution now or it may be deferred, but it is bound to come. Even now there is a strong and growing belief among the members of the financial world of New York that there is something behind the seeming diplomatic defeat of Japan at Portsmouth. They believe, and the opinion is gaining general credence, that the peace pact which is known is not the real one, but that Russia has probably entered into an agreement to pay an indemnity, but it has secured from Japan the concession that it be privately paid.

"Russia would not dare to tell her returning troops that beside the sufferings which they have endured they will be taxed to meet the cost of their defeat. She would also lose in prestige before the eyes of the world.

"The Japanese would be but carrying out a precedent were they content to win in silence. They are a patient little people who care little for appearances, but much for principle.

"However this may be, and I cannot but think that what I have spoken of is the true solution of the sudden and almost miraculous signing of the peace treaty, the Jews in Russia are bound to benefit by the war. I think also that the day of their emancipation will not be long on the way.

"No revolution can be started except with the idea of equality. Should such an upheaval triumph in Russia, only good can come to the Jews.

Dr. Silber was in New York arranging for the publication of his book, "The Renaissance" which will be on sale in a month. This book, which is the only work on the subject in English, deals exhaustively with the subject. He has been appointed consulting editor of the Jewish magazine, "The Maccabean."

DR. MENDEL SILBER.



Rabbi of Temple Emanuel, Duluth.