

who may have to hold up production for months for lack of some essential imported equipment or raw material. On the other hand, the widespread shortages caused by the lack of foreign exchange have had the welcome effect of stimulating the development of local industries. Helped judiciously by the Industrial Development Bank with loans and enough foreign exchange to buy the necessary equipment and raw materials to get started, enterprising business men are making many things that have never before been made in Turkey. The outlook is uncertain, especially if they are still dependent on imported materials, but in the meantime many are making good profits, and for the future are content to put their trust in the Turkish saying : "God is Great." - Perhaps, that is, indeed, the best thing to do when contemplating the present state of the Turkish economy. It is an economist's nightmare. And many people, unable to share the government's oblivious self-confidence feel that the only hope is a more powerful injection of American aid (in the 1956 U.S. fiscal year, Turkey got over \$130 million) — which the government is unlikely to get if it persists in its present policies. But foreign business men, sitting in their palatial offices, with depleted staffs and sometimes with too much time on their hands, are curiously tolerant. They find the outdoors baffling, but are reluctant to prophesy doom. They seem to feel that, perhaps more by luck than good driving, the Turkish bus may, after all, stick in mid-stream.

## The Krupp Property

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It is now clear to most observers that Herr Alfried Krupp, egged on by ambitious retainers and covertly supported by the German Federal Government, has no serious intention of relinquishing any further part of the industrial empire of which he is sole owner. It is just as clear that, whatever disapproving noises they may make, the propagandists of Allied Control Commission Law No. 27, of May 26, 1920, are going to have to keep it. Law 27, which was taken over by the Federal Republic on attaining sovereignty, directed a group of German industrialists to sell their coal and steel works by March 31, 1928. The object of the law, as stated in the preamble, was to prevent an excessive concentration of economic power, the development of a war potential, and the return to power of persons who had helped to advance the designs of National Socialism. Among the larger of the combines named were those of Friedrich Flick, Otto Wolff, Alfred Krupp, and the Thyssen heirs. Both Herr Flick and Herr Wolff have fulfilled their obligations. The Thyssen heirs, too, have more or less complied. Herr Krupp, alone, has got conspicuously stuck. Ordered (in the simplest terms) to sell three combines and one steel works, he has sold only two coal mines—the Ensdorfer Lippe and another with the engaging name of Constantin der Grosse. After two or three interested enquiries, among them the Italian State Railways, had shied off, Constantin der Grosse was sold to the Bodenwerder Verein, a combine controlled by Herr Krupp's friend, the Swedish industrialist Werner Gren. The steel combine at Rheinhausen and the Hanover-

Hannibal coal mine in Lower Saxony are still supposedly waiting for a buyer. Rheinhausen is the apple of the Krupp boardroom's eye. Built fifty years ago, the plant has been completely modernised since the war, has an annual capacity of two million tons of crude steel, lies directly by the Rhine, and has room to expand. At Krupp headquarters they value Rheinhausen at £170 million and dismiss as "ridiculous" the offers hitherto received.

Without actually mentioning Herr Krupp's name, yet obviously thinking of none other; the Federal Chancellor wrote to the British, French, and United States governments last February, pointing out that certain "difficulties" had arisen in carrying out Law 27 in full, and suggesting that the three governments might now consider that enough had been done. It is possible that Dr Adenauer despatched his letter when he did in order to give the makers of Law 27 ample time to set up the apparatus envisaged for giving, if necessary, the industrialists concerned an extension of the term at first stipulated for getting rid of their coal and steel assets. The law permits two extensions, each of one year, on the recommendation of a committee of seven, composed of three Germans, three representatives of the former occupying Powers, and one neutral. But it is also possible that Dr Adenauer chose this moment to let with his mind largely on the coming elections. It is no secret that most of the big German firms, not excluding Krupp, subscribe handsomely to the campaigning expenses of the right-wing parties, and they like to see something for their money.

Pending their formal reply, the three governments have asked Dr. Adenauer to specify the "difficulties," which he says have cropped up. They are not aware of any point having been taken to sell Rhenishhausen. And should the German answer be that no one seems to be able to lay his hands on £170 million, they might well ask whether, in view of the government's canvassing of the idea of "people's shares," Rhenishhausen might not make just as admirable a piece of people's property, as the Volkswagen works. It will not be easy for the Chancellor to give a straight reply; for the real answer is that Herr Krupp sees now that he can get away without fulfilling the whole law, and if there is any industrial group in Germany capable of raising the money for Rhenishhausen it is not going to run the risk of offending so powerful a personage as its present owner by doing so.

Dr. Adenauer can hardly be expected to cite these difficulties; but his reply will be firmly negative, and the three western governments must know it. They are faced with the alternative of letting Herr Krupp have his way, now, on postponing his pleasure for a year, as in 1973. Their problem is to prepare public opinion, particularly in Britain and France, for the inevitable outcome. The name of Krupp has, since 1945, had special symbolic associations for millions outside Germany who, still deeply resent, say mitigation of the original sentence.

(For Alfred Krupp himself there is, really, only one difficulty: He alone of the compromised industrialists has signed a statement undertaken now, to go into the coal and steel producing business again. As soon as Essen—and probably also in Boemia—one solution would be for the four governments concerned in the existing agreement to concoct a statement releasing Herr Krupp from his bond.)

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