

rise to much speculation as to how long Germany and Austria with outside communication cut off can feed themselves. Apparently in anticipation of this question Nat C. Murray and Frank Andrews of the United States Agriculture Department give in Farmers' Bulletin number 641 a statement of the food production and requirements of the various countries. According to this report England produces 53 per cent of her food requirements; Belgium, 57; Germany, 88; France, 92; Austria-Hungary, 98; Russia, 110. Canada produces 24 per cent more food than she consumes; Argentina, 48; and the United States just about balances her exports and imports of food-stuffs. It may be seen from this that if the war can be kept out of Germany a little care in the use of food and a great deal of labor of women and children in the fields will enable that country to support itself indefinitely; and the siege would have rather the effect that the wars of Spain had upon that nation, the wearing down of its physical manhood.

S. C.



Lo, the Poor Indian.

In nothing has the white race shown its moral limitations more clearly than in its treatment of the American Indian. A few, like the Quakers, by treating them in good faith, won good faith in return. The mass of whites, however, treated them unjustly, and reaped what they had sown. Whether it was Pizarro butchering the Peruvians, Cortez slaughtering the Aztecs, or the French and English pitting the tribes against each other in North America, the story varies only in detail; the substance is the same. Nowhere had the natives of the country any rights that the invaders were bound to respect. One of the evidences offered to prove that Mexico is barbarous was its treatment of the Yaqui Indians. And what defense could Mexico offer? What defense can any nation claiming to be civilized offer for a betrayal of its wards?



And now comes Miss Kate Barnard, Oklahoma's commissioner of charities, whose position makes her the official protector of the Indians in her State, charging that a clique of grafters in Oklahoma and Washington are about to filch from the Indians \$200,000,000. Miss Barnard's exposure and opposition has led to various attempts to keep her quiet while the robbing is going on, even to withholding the appropriation by the legislature for her department. But this commissioner is not one of the perfunctory sort. She is supporting the

Department of Charities by means of contributions from philanthropists and humanitarians, and declares she is in the "fight to a finish."



This all comes of putting a woman in office. What if the State probate courts do permit the selling of an Indian minor's land in such a manner that the minor gets but twenty per cent of it? What if one of the principal newspapers of the State does sell worthless stock to minors? Why make a fuss because one man is guardian for fifty-one Indian children—heirs to valuable lands—for whom he charges most liberal amounts for "schooling" and "general care," when he does not even know where some of them are, and when three are found sleeping in a hollow tree and eating at farm houses? Men have held such places without having trouble with those who seek to separate the Indian from his money. Besides, how are we to point at barbarous Mexico, if Miss Barnard stirs up such things in Oklahoma? Had Miss Barnard remained in the home, where the politicians say woman belongs, we should have been spared this humiliating demonstration of civic unfitness. What shall we expect from the women who are going on the police force, and into the various departments of civil government? Is the grafter to have no field he can call his own? Fie, fie, woman! Have a heart.

S. C.



Colorado's Inconsistent Mine Owners.

Colorado's mine owners are still sending out literature to show how unjust and unreasonable were the demands of the United Mine Workers. This makes one wonder why a group so sure of being able to prove itself in the right should so strenuously object to arbitration. There would be more cause for confidence in arguments submitted so liberally to the press if those submitting them would be willing to abide by the decision thereon of an impartial tribunal.

S. D.



Unsafe to Trust Franchise Corporations.

The "mere scrap of paper" argument is being used by the Illinois Telegraph and Telephone Company concerning its contract with the city. This contract binds it to forfeit its automatic telephone plant and franchise whenever it serves less than 20,000 bona fide subscribers. It admits that it is serving less than that number but holds that its contract does not mean what it says, although if it does not the city must have been tricked when