

not let them have any of our food, for to do so would mean that we ourselves would have to bear a part of the war burdens in the higher prices of our food. Hence, we should prohibit the exportation of food stuffs, thus keeping down the price and saving us from any economic disturbance. As we have abnormal crops this year it is conceivable that such an embargo would give us cheaper food than in times of peace.



It may be asked, however, why the farmer should be signalled out to bear the burden of this war? Food is not the only thing that is going up. A demand greater than the supply sends up the price of any kind of goods. The people of Europe have ceased other activities besides farming. All manner of wealth production has been interrupted, and the customers of Europe are turning to this country for the goods they formerly got there. This will cause at least a temporary advance in all manner of prices. For the government to step in between the farmer and his customers, and at the same time permit the manufacturer to take advantage of this opportunity would be the grossest kind of partiality. It would be to subject the farmer to the same disadvantages that the protective tariff has laid upon him. The farmer has borne the ups and downs of seasons and markets, plus a high tariff, with stoical fortitude, why step in now, and deprive him of his gain? If the people of the country wish to starve the warring nations into peace, and can do it, let them; but let them at the same time make up to the food producers what they would have received for their labor had not the Government interfered. s. c.



Interrupting Good Work.

Immediately before the breaking out of the present war Prussia had set about adding another contribution toward Germany's new land policy. Aside from the various ventures of German cities in the direction of raising local revenue by taxing land values, there has been apparent a movement to differentiate between land and other kinds of property. Indeed, the very purpose of the bills introduced into the Prussian diet was to destroy the idea that land should be treated as if "it were tea, lumber or coal." The Government objected to the policy adopted by owners who looked upon their land as goods to be parceled out as they saw fit, without regard to the rights of the public. It was therefore proposed that the right of entail be limited, that all sales of land be submitted for approval to a public commissioner, and that the state have the right to acquire land. The Prussian

land bill was but a timid step; yet it was a step. The discussion of the question, as well as the adoption of the law, would present the land question in a new guise, and would tend to familiarize people with the true relations between land and man.



What a pity that Prussian men should have been taken from discussing policies that lead to a restoration of the land of a country to the people of that country, and set to killing Frenchmen, Russians, Belgians and Englishmen who are in the same predicament! The militarist has more to answer for than making orphans and widows.

s. c.



A Measure of the War Madness.

It has been said that this is not a people's war, but a dynastic war, that if the people could have had their voice there would have been no war. That may have been true at the beginning of the trouble, but it may be questioned if it is now true. If the reports that are now coming from the countries involved can be depended upon, the great masses of the people are almost as much obsessed by the idea that "foreigner" is synonymous with "enemy" as at any time in the past. The autocrats doubtless started the war, but their appeals to their people have met with a quick response. The German accepts the story that the other nations of Europe are jealous of Germany's progress, and have seized upon this opportunity to destroy her. And the Frenchman has been convinced that Germany is drunk with power, and is seeking world dominion. Each is fighting not only for his country but for liberty, civilization and progress.



That there was still enough of blind patriotism left to make a considerable response to the call to arms was expected by all peace men; and it was admitted that there would be enough men coerced into joining the ranks to make a formidable war; but there was a feeling that a great many men would not respond, or that they would come to the colors half heartedly, and would seize the first opportunity to desert or surrender. This idea seemed to be borne out by the Austrians who, if reports received may be relied upon, have made a poor showing as soldiers. But this is far from true of the French and Germans. There is no doubt of the efficiency of the German army, and there has been no word received to indicate that the men are fighting with less spirit today than they did in 1870. Nor do the French, who seem