

pain ceases, the swelling subsides, and the flesh regains its normal color.



Such has been the history of the world. The poison of injustice flows through the veins of society. Men are denied their natural rights; and when the oppression becomes unendurable, their oppressors make all manner of excuses. The affliction is due, they say, to the wrath of God, to the niggardliness of nature, or to the encroachments of foreign nations. Ah, the encroachments of foreign nations! When all other excuses fail, there is this to fall back upon; and each ruling class of oppressors holds its victims in subjection by charging the trouble to the others.



War is not due to the will of monarchs, generals, and parliaments, but to the oppression of the people, and their belief that the oppression comes from abroad. And foreign wars will continue as long as the poison of injustice flows through the body politic. When citizens have been freed from oppression at home—and know why and how they are free—they will have no desire to oppress others abroad. But so long as men are the victims of injustice, and have no part in the advantages of science and learning—remaining as it were in the station of their ancestors from time immemorial, at the point of bare subsistence—they will be the playthings of fortune. Having little to lose by war, and their despoilers little to gain by peace, wars will be inevitable.



But the people are awakening. A few already see their real oppressors. It is for each who sees the truth to tell his fellow, and that fellow his fellow, until presently all will know the truth, and the truth shall make them free; free from industrial tyranny at home, and free from military tyranny from abroad. The work of the peace advocate is not negative. It is not enough for him to cry peace, peace! He must first lay the foundation for peace. To cry peace while the people writhe under injustice is like trying to heal the carbuncle without cleansing the blood. All things have their natural order, and there will be war among them so long as they are not in that order. Man's sympathies grow broader, his understanding deeper, and he is close upon the discovery of that magic talisman that will bring peace, Justice. s. c.



Economic Aspects of War.

The first thought of those who are seeking to

bring about a more equable distribution of wealth is that war will entail a serious loss through the distraction of the minds of those who are now considering fundamental principles. This, doubtless, is true in the main, but there is another phase. Were the plans confined to mere palliatives, as they have hitherto been, any proposition that was growing in popular favor would stand to lose from a military outbreak; but with the question of scientific taxation under consideration the result is likely to be different. Modern war must, from its very nature, be short and expensive. The briefer hostilities tend to distract the people's minds from their habitual thoughts; but the necessity of making good the losses of the war compels the consideration of questions of taxation. It is doubtful if the British Parliament would have accepted Lloyd George's Budget, with its tax upon ground rent, but for the extremity into which British finances had been thrown by the Boer War. More revenue was necessary, and ground rent was the only thing adequate remaining untaxed. This is not to condone the loss of life, the maiming of men, and all the horrors that accompany collective murder, but to help men to stand firm in the faith, and to press unceasingly toward the goal. The world at large, like England in 1909, has all but reached the limit of taxes on industry. The next step must be a tax on privilege, and no other economic privilege is equal to that of landlordism. To pile up more war debts seems madness. Yet war debts are better than landlords, economically considered, for war debts can be paid off, but landlords exact toll forever.

s. c.



No Need To Go.

"His Majesty the German Emperor has ordered mobilization of the German army and navy. All persons abroad belonging to the army and naval reserves must return to Germany without delay and without further notice." So says a proclamation issued by the administrator of the German consulate in Chicago. Probably other representatives of warring European nations in the United States have issued similar notices. Since many immigrants, especially unnaturalized ones, are under the erroneous impression that they are not safe from conscription while in this country, proclamations so worded may tend, in many cases, to confirm that impression. Thus many Austrians, Germans, Servians and Russians may go back unwillingly to fight, ignorantly believing that they have no choice. To combat such a false impression is one service in behalf of humanity possible to the

press, to peace societies and the churches. Every means of publicity should be used, not only to reassure these immigrants that they need not return, but to urge against doing so those who may feel inclined to go.

S. D.

Blasphemy!

Millions of Christian brethren, setting out to kill each other, pray for success to the All-Father, in the name of the Prince of Peace! Do they think there is no sense of humor in Heaven? Or have they simply gone mad?

S. C.

Prayers for Peace.

It is very well to pray for peace, but it is very important to strike at the cause of war. Prayers for peace will bring a favorable response if those who do the praying will do their duty as citizens. To pray for peace shows little respect for God when the one who prays is still willing to uphold a standing army and navy, is in favor of a tariff wall, and supports predatory interests in other ways, in whose behalf all wars are waged. Faith without works is dead.

S. D.

Europe's Apostles of Peace.

All honor to the Socialists of Europe! They constitute the one group urging the workers to refrain from killing each other. "Murder is murder", say they. Commands of superior officers and approval of the government do not make the shooting of a man—even though he be a foreigner—any less a violation of moral law than an illegal murder committed in time of peace. They are preaching obedience to the commandment "Thou shalt not kill", and are insisting that this commandment deserves obedience before the orders of emperors, kings or czars. What a pity that in this grand humane and religious work these Socialists have not the co-operation of the churches! What a pity that, instead of praying for victory and blessing the prospective murderers, the clergy do not see how their duty requires them to urge instead adherence to the Golden Rule! How sad it is that men should march forth to kill without so much as a reproof from those who should be the first to see wherein their conduct transgresses all principles of religion and morality. The war might have been prevented had there been from the churches of all the nations engaged as strong and emphatic a protest as is now being made by the Socialists, the only group in Europe, of considerable size, to preach, when most needed, the Gospel of Peace.

S. D.

A Hero of Peace.

"A war of aggression is not a war in which it is a proud thing to die," said President Wilson, "but a war of service is one in which it is a proud thing to die." The glory of dying in such a war belongs to Jean Leon Jaures, Socialist leader of France. He fell in a war of service, a war against war. He lost his life in attempting to save from the consequences of war thousands of such deluded fanatics as the one who turned upon and slew him. It would not be right to say that Jaures was the victim of an individual. His slayer was but the instrument of a murderous superstition, sustained and fostered by selfish interests. Jaures fell because there prevails in France, as elsewhere, the notion that superstitious chauvinism is patriotism. In trying to show the folly of that superstition, in endeavoring to make clear the wickedness of such doctrines as "my country, right or wrong," in the midst of an effort to save his country he was struck down. Peace has her martyrs and heroes as well as her glorious victories. A place among these martyr heroes belongs to Jean Leon Jaures.

S. D.

Pity Poor Carson.

Let no one forget to drop a tear for the doughty Ulsterman. But yesterday a hero, the political marplot, the Tory's hope, and the Liberal's despair, the overthrower of parties, and the disrupter of an empire; today, where is he? When Czars, Kaisers, and Holy Monarchs, full armed, stalk across the stage, who has an eye for little blustering Sir Edward? And are his fighting minions, raised to thwart their country's will, destined to lay their bones on foreign fields in behalf of that self-same country? Such is the irony of fate. Lord Macaulay long ago noted the fact that England could not be menaced by a civil and a foreign war at the same time; and the united front of the British nation demonstrates the truth of his statement. At one moment the Nationalists and the Ulstermen were ready to fly at each other's throats; the next moment they were pledging themselves in defense of their common country. Living side by side in Ireland they remained strangers; fighting shoulder to shoulder on the battlefields of Europe, they will be brothers. A strange creature, indeed, is man.

S. C.

Reviving the American Merchant Marine.

For fifty years the blight of a protective tariff has rested upon American shipping; and during that half century the American flag, once the