

(\$60,000) worth of truck. This report shows 8,590 persons employed for the season at a cost of \$9,234—say \$1.10 per person. We had to discontinue similar work in New York because we could not get the use of even one acre of land, yet there are three vacant lots on Fifth avenue between 37th street and 47th street. And yet in all these valuable books I have been able to find only one little paragraph, sneeringly dismissing the whole thing from consideration; dismissing that practical form of relief which in various cities employs more people than all your charity devices, laundries, leather work, wood yards and so on, put together.

But I have yet to hear of a committee of charity folks appointed to inquire why we cannot get the use of the land; or to investigate the relation to unemployment of speculative holdings of coal and oil and farming lands as well as suburban and city lands.

There is no reason on earth why every one who wants work in New York should not be employed upon the lands that are now vacant and unused in and immediately around the city of New York itself: there is no reason, except that we "have added field to field until there is no room on the face of the earth" for the worker.

Why is this land question ignored? This is a question I mean to have answered, and I know how to force the discussion—I mean to have it answered by the charity people. And pending a reply I am sorry to have to think that the question of "the people back to the land" is too near to the question of the land back to the people to be comfortable for those who, through monopoly and the consequent legal power of godless extortion, are able to grind the faces of the poor while they sop their consciences by contributing to charities which they know to be ineffective.

Now I have a "constructive program": but it is not new, nor does it appeal to charity people; nor have I time to state it here.



THE COST OF WAR.

By Harry Kemp.

I sing the song of the great clean guns that belch forth death at will.

Ah, but the wailing mothers, the lifeless forms and still!

I sing the song of the billowing flags,
The bugles that cry before.

Ah, but the skeletons flapping rags, the lips that speak no more!

I sing the clash of bayonets, of sabers that flash and cleave.

And wilt thou sing the maimed ones, too, that go with pinned-up sleeve?

I sing acclaimed generals that bring the victory home.

Ah, but the broken bodies that drip like honeycomb!

I sing of hosts triumphant, long ranks of marching men.

And wilt thou sing the shadowy hosts that never march again?

BOOKS

GERMANY'S PREPARATIONS.

Pan-Germanism: A Critical Study of the German Schemes for the Conquest of the World. By Roland G. Usher. Houghton, Mifflin Co. Boston. 1914.

Much light will be thrown on the present European situation for him who reads Dr. Usher's pages. And it will be a light that is hardly favorable to—Germany, we were about to say, but the German autocracy would be the more correct expression. The very opening of the book is illuminating:

"For some years those at all familiar with current international affairs have known that it was the custom in the German navy to drink a toast 'To the day.' Many people have hugged to themselves with glee the 'secret' information that the officers were drinking to the day when war should be declared against England, but few, indeed, seem to have realized the splendor of the vision now before German eyes, or the ideas of the international situation which makes victory seem so near as to send German blood coursing swiftly in the anticipation of triumph."

Germany wishes to dominate the world, according to this book, and she does not rely for that domination on her own strength entirely, but on the weakness of others. In the eyes of Bismarck England was not decadent, but simply never had been as strong as was the general opinion. A contest with an approximately as great power, would be, Bismarck thought—and he thought English statesmen knew this—England's own undoing. France, on the other hand, Germany considers "a strong man who has run his race," and is now decadent, while Russia is a giant, as yet unconscious of his strength and therefore incapable of using it.

Meanwhile both of these nations press on Germany in a very uncomfortable and menacing way, being able only, as they are, to expand at her expense. So the actual situation is such as to fan Germany's self-confidence into the determination to have what she wants at all costs.

And her self-confidence is not in her physical strength alone. She has already gone into the fight, but silently, with money as weapon instead of bullets:

"Germany freely admits the great economic strength of England and France, so long as peace

prevails. Once war breaks out, their economic strength will become weakness and the position, which they depend upon to secure them control of the world, will in very fact bankrupt them." For these nations have invested millions abroad, much of it in Germany—and as has already happened in the case of Russian funds—Germany can seize the real money or the real property which the money represents, and the other nations will be left with only their promises to pay. And these promises to pay will be worth just as much or just as little as Germany determines.

And what would Germany's success—Pan-Germanism—involve? Dr. Usher, dismissing all theoretical morality, all argument that war is destructive—who, he says, would claim that it was otherwise—sees what justification there is for Pan-Germanism in that it means "a national determination to preserve and strengthen the corporate life of a great people. . . . Pan-Germanism is merely self-preservation." For Germany to do anything within her power to achieve this, irrespective of theoretical ethics, is, says the author, for her to do precisely what all other nations have done in similar circumstances. With an enormously expanding population within and without her borders, Germany has no more arable land than she had in 1815. In this situation Germany is tired of her long economic struggle with the Triple Entente and wishes to fight with physical weapons. The Triple Entente having the economic advantage, the room for expansion, all that war would hurt most, wishes to avoid any but economic war.

What would be the complexion of the war which was to follow so soon Dr. Usher's discussion of its possibility, forms one of the most interesting parts of his book. On the whole, he thinks that the fighting would not be quite what the Germans imagined. Their sizing up of the English strength he judges to be faulty. Not tactics—in which he points out Wellington was hopelessly defeated at Waterloo—but certain of those psychological qualities which enabled Wellington's redcoats to do the theoretically impossible, have to be reckoned with, and such reckonings cannot be made in advance on paper.

The war is yet in its early stages, and so the questions which Dr. Usher raises as to the supposed ability of the Germans to fight along their intended lines, and the possibilities of their enemies checkmating them, have not yet been decided. Certainly his supposition will give the reader the best viewpoint from which to watch the struggle.

Of the effect of that struggle not on national expansion, but on the expansion of democracy Dr. Usher has little to say. To him the nation rather than the individual is the unit. But it may well be that the real outcome of the present struggle will be that neither Germany nor England,

France and Russia may win, but that the classes who are providing the food for the powder of those powers may learn the folly of their position—a folly which radical preaching has, after all, done but little to uproot. Perhaps war will succeed where the agitator has failed; but before banking too heavily on that, we should remember the relatively greater strength of that blind emotion which militarists can arouse and name patriotism, and which by its very antiquity and blindness, can drive reason quite out of the human breast.

LLEWELLYN JONES.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—Blue Book of the State of Illinois, 1913-14. Compiled and Published by Harry Woods, Secretary of State, Springfield, Ill.

—Jewish Immigration to the United States from 1881 to 1910. By Samuel Joseph, Columbia University Studies in History, Economics and Public Law. Whole Number 145. Longmans, Green & Co., Agents, New York. 1914. Price, \$1.50 net.

—Labor News of the United States, with Decisions of Courts Relating Thereto. In two parts. Part I, Alabama-Missouri. Whole Number 148, Bulletin of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor. Printed at the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. April 10, 1914.



Little Bobby—"Papa, did you ever see a cyclone carrying houses up in the air, and cows and horses and wagons upside down?"

Papa—"No, my son."

Little Bobby—"Did you ever see a sea serpent?"

Papa—"No, my son."

Little Bobby—"I should think it 'ud be tiresome to live to your age and never see anything."—Sacred Heart Review.



"Do you like Beethoven's works?" she asked.

"I never visited them," he replied, with a show of interest. "What does he manufacture?"—Sacred Heart Review.



"Why, Willie," said the teacher in a pained voice, "have you been fighting again? Didn't you learn that when you are struck on one cheek you ought to turn the other one to the striker?"

"Yes'm," agreed Willie, "but he hit me on the nose and I've only got one."—Sacred Heart Review.



James started his third helping of pudding with delight.

"Once upon a time, James," admonished his mother, "there was a little boy who ate too much pudding, and he burst!"

James considered. "There ain't such a thing as too much pudding," he decided.