

them up again; none but man himself can forge the cannon into pruning shears, such is the LAW.

Providence being beneficent allows us to reap what we have sown; it is so in our individual lives; there is no other way to learn truth.

Would that we could see ourselves.



"Terrible, appalling, horrible," can be heard every day, anywhere as voicing the speaker's idea of this great war; yet we are in the throes of an industrial conflict equally as barbaric, where greater numbers perish and many more are wounded every year.

But Europe's war is spectacular and sudden, and destruction is swift; ours is a slow grinding process that knows no day of rest; it never stops; lives innumerable are blasted slowly by days and years, then snuffed out.

Blasting lives is our business, but being blind egotists we do not see.

We produce all the staple foods and fibers; and in such prodigal quantity that 'tis said we feed the world.

Nature has blessed us with mineral deposits in keeping with our food supply, until by her gifts we are the United States of abundance.

In the face of these gifts and the presence of the Giver we employ nearly two million children in the factories of our "big interests," at the same time that hosts of able bodied men are idle and in want.

Glutted with abundance we destroy this multitude of little children—for of such is the profit of Mammon; indeed, we have closed our eyes and stopped our ears, and have not seen their distress nor heard their cry.

Poverty we have everywhere in the midst of this plenty. Why?

Of property we make a fetish, every mother's son of us from the garbage man to the Kaiser wants property; we talk, think and have our being in property; merchandise is our God, to sell it is man's noblest work; this may not be our ideal, but it is our practical everyday life.

Property is necessary; proprietorship in the earth is vital to our existence, but if we admit the principle of private ownership in land and its monopoly, then, indeed, do we become slaves to the cunning few who, while we work, plan and scheme and pass laws for our despoliation.

Monopoly is the mother of all wars; even religious wars are the fruit of that desire, the religious combatants desiring a monopoly of adherents to their creed.

Let us pray to our Creator that war in Europe may cease, but let us also work with our Creator that industrial war in these United States may be ended.

W. E. GORDON.

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## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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### WAR CONDITIONS IN AUSTRALIA.

Bendigo, Victoria, Aug. 22, 1914.

War has been declared between England and Germany and we have settled down to believe that it was inevitable. A few in Australia have misgivings, but the general tone is one of confidence in the British fleet and the non-miraculousness of the German army. At first there was a disposition to lay in domestic stocks of groceries and to encourage a big jump in prices, but, no terrific disaster having made itself immediately felt, people have settled down to buying and selling and marrying and giving in marriage. Great enthusiasm is being manifested in volunteering for service and the Commonwealth's contribution of 20,000 men will be furnished easily. On the whole the personal quality is very high, very few scallawags, and most actuated by a deep and quietly expressed sense of duty. Everywhere the German communities are by resolution in public meeting assembled declaring their loyalty to their adopted country—sincerely I think, for they know they have nothing to fear, the word having been passed round to give them the most sympathetic respect, and the State school teachers having exhorted British children to be kind to German children.

CYRIL F. JAMES.



### WAR CONDITIONS IN AUSTRIA.

Budapest, Hungary, August 18, 1914.

To be free and yet a prisoner in a land far from home is the condition of many thousands of Americans who came to Europe for a rest. They will need a very good rest after they get back to the United States. It is doubtful if many of them will ever come to Europe again for a vacation. They will spend their money "at home" in the future. In southern Europe there are no trains and one cannot get to a seaport, and no steamers are sailing anyway to any part of the world.

Money orders and letters of credit are just so much useless paper and rich men borrow for their breakfast and board. Cablegrams are accepted but not forwarded and letters rarely leave the postoffice or even the letter box. The Consul says, "I have no money myself for office expenses, as the banks do no business," and thus European civilization is at a standstill.

Not only are we helpless but some of us are in real terror. In Austria, Hungary and Germany they hate the sight of an Englishman. "English Park," a place of amusement in Budapest, has changed its name. "English Tailor" has changed its name to "German Tailor." "Five o'clock tea," "English styles," and English expressions have ceased entirely. English exports, marmalades, foods, leather, cloth ma-