

while combating their faults ; hating their failings, but not necessarily hating their people. Any nation can only secure "the moral compensation of war" by advancing after war into a new kind of life, in the new light of this international morality. If war simply rouses the mutual hatred and hostile feelings of nations, and does not lead them to deep heart-searchings, it can have no other effect than sowing seed for another war ; it can never lift the world to a higher plane.

STRAWS IN THE WIND.

BY THE EDITOR.

VARIOUS communications have been received at this office which are straws in the wind indicating the various sentiments that prevail in the United States concerning the war. The pro-British are mostly hysterical and their opinions are based on the assumption that the reports of the German atrocities are true and that the Germans are barbarians who take a special delight in murdering women and children. The Kaiser is represented just as Lincoln was years ago by Great Britain when she sympathized with the South against the North in the hope of having the United States split into two hostile countries. The pro-German views are better grounded, and it is noteworthy that German sympathizers are gaining in numbers. The time will come when the utterances of the pro-British Americans will only be quoted as curious aberrations.

There is one queer communication which we received bearing the title : "George Washington and German Americans," which reads thus :

"I abhor the thought of independence," was the declaration of George Washington previous to the Revolutionary War. To sever connections with his beloved fatherland, England, was a thought intolerable, but when forced by the repeated crimes of the British to seize defensive arms, Washington, under the guidance of God, became the mighty liberator of America.

"Even so the German citizens of the United States, shocked by the iniquities of the Imperial Government, will stand united against a land that has systematically destroyed all the ties of affection that bound them to its shores.

"America has quelled a great civil war ; she can prevent all

internal insubordination. Treason dare not manifest itself beneath the stars and stripes.

“C. ALLISON, Richmond, Indiana.”

If Washington were living to-day, he would most certainly insist on the right of the United States to continue trading with all nations in every commodity, in food-stuffs as well as cotton, with the sole exception of war materials. But our administration at Washington favors exportation of contraband of war to the Allies and tolerates the demand of Great Britain to discontinue our legitimate trade with England's enemies. Thus our attitude is hostile to Germany and submissive to Great Britain. We are not truly neutral, and there is great danger that we are drifting into war with Germany, which of course would please the English diplomats. Nothing would be more foolish on our part than to make demands of Germany which must be absolutely unacceptable because they are calculated to cripple her self-defense. On the other hand our present attitude in assisting Germany's enemies does her more harm than actual war. How many German soldiers have been killed by American ammunition! There are many German mothers who bewail their sad fate because they have lost their sons in battle, and they say: “Our sons have been slain by bullets manufactured by the people beyond the ocean who officially pray for peace and yet gain riches by selling ammunition to our enemies.”

How are the Germans to defend themselves against us? We are an enemy shooting arrows from ambush. If there should be war between Germany and the United States, the Germans will be at liberty to sink American as well as English ships without discrimination; it will simplify matters for Germany and we shall probably need our ammunition ourselves.

Our fellow citizens of German birth or German descent naturally resent the policy of this country, and it is difficult to foresee what would be the final outcome of a war with Germany. So far the German-Americans have made no threat of a rebellion; on the contrary they have always proved most loyal citizens. The accusation of “treason” made by Mr. C. Allison is certainly misapplied. If there is treason it is committed by him who would make of this country a catspaw of Great Britain, or, still worse, support a policy of war in her interest.

Mr. Allison brands Germany's self-defense as iniquitous. Does self-defense become iniquitous as soon as it is efficient? Are English

passenger ships to be immune even when they carry 5471 cases of ammunition? It is true that there were passengers on board of the *Lusitania*, among them over a hundred Americans, but why did they not heed the solemn warning of the German government? Is it really inhuman on the part of Germany to protect her soldiers against bullets and shells manufactured by us, and is our claim justified that to furnish ammunition is our good right as a neutral nation? The Germans stopped their export of ammunition for Spain to use against us; but we claim that our neutrality imposes upon us the duty of letting the Allies have the death-dealing means of warfare actually used to kill German soldiers.

Our president is a university professor but his logic is somehow twisted and in the name of humanity he demands of Germany that she shall abandon her barbarous warfare.

There are some people who are curious to know what the human warfare President Wilson hints at would be like, and I have come to the conclusion that he will probably propose to replace the Big Berthas and other cannons by pop-guns and use sugar-plums for projectiles. That would be a merry war indeed, but so long as humaneness is to be imposed upon Germany only, while American manufacturers continue to furnish shrapnel for the Allies, we fear that the proposition will remain unacceptable to the Huns.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"BRITISH FAILURE."

BY THE EDITOR.

Under the heading "British Failure" the *New York Tribune* of May 1, 1916, published an editorial which pro-British interests of this country have endeavored to eliminate by buying up the whole edition and thus keeping it out of the market; but the article was reprinted in the *Milwaukee Free Press* of May 19, and so is still obtainable. Its arguments are pretty vigorous, but not in the least exaggerated. On the contrary they could have been much more vigorous if all the failures in both British diplomacy and British strategy had been pointed out; for instance the British fiasco at the Dardanelles is not set forth in detail, nor in its dreadful seriousness. But the remarkable thing is that this article appeared in a paper that is commonly regarded as pro-British. If the *New York Times* is aware of "British Failure" there can no longer be any doubt of the fact.

The *Tribune* says:

"The Germans are mistaken when they say that the effect of this defeat