line. I recall no great composition by him, and yet every canvas has agreeable arrangement.

Chase produced many admirable portraits, but perhaps he was not, in the strictest sense, a portrait-painter. He carried his picture-making into his portraiture. portrait has every right to be decorative and cannot be too well painted, but the rendering of character is admittedly its chief mission. Chase has drawn high praise on many occasions for the accomplishment of this very end, but it is not the chief feature in his portraits. He always saw the possible picture in his subject and placed that before the portrayal of character. He did not attempt to fathom the sitter. His aim in portraiture, as in all else, was the triumph of paint. He delighted so much in the external aspect of things and in the skill of craftsmanship that he let all else go, and so he does not greatly awaken our interest in the individuality of his subject, but he does call forth our enjoyment in the things which he enjoyed-play of light, material surfaces, richness, voluptuous, even barbaric color coupled with exquisite refinement of tone-all rendered with wonderful skill and appropriate handling. In the portrait of Miss M., for example, we enjoy the pose, the foreshortened arm, the Watteau pleat, and the lace collar with its contrast to the dark dress. These are what Chase delighted in, and it was for the sake of these rather than the face of the lady that he painted the picture.

Under present standards Chase will be classed by many as academic. Would we had more of his kind! How willingly we would give some of the late and noisy comers in exchange for gifted and educated painters of the Chase type! Technic has its own value in art, and Chase had the true spirit of the technical craftsman. It will never rank as high as poetic imagination or idealism, and those who twenty years ago looked for Chase to develop into a great idealistic interpreter must naturally be disappointed. This is their fault—not Chase's. That was not his goal, but his line was none the less one of great value in which he was supremely efficient. He had a rare intimacy with nature, a masterful power of expression, and to American art few men have rendered greater service.

HOWARD RUSSELL BUTLER.

CHASE-THE TEACHER

T is now some sixteen years since I left Mr. Chase, after a period of eight years under his instruction. The incidents of those years, the faces of the hundreds of students, have for the most part passed from my memory, but I have never forgotten his teaching and the inspiration derived therefrom.

He was a master of painting and, to my mind, one of the great American masters. I remember the magic of his brush. To see him paint was a revelation. It was like listening to some great orator who held you enthralled by the power of his eloquence. I never thought of the brushes or paint, because the contact between his hand and brain was so direct that conscious effort was eliminated.

The great teacher in any art is apt to be either a small producer or a poor performer, and the opposite is also true. The great painter seldom knows how to pass his knowledge on to others. Although, when he paints, all his faculties co-ordinate to produce the work of art, yet when confronted with the smaller and oftentimes tedious problems of dealing with individuals as a teacher he becomes discursive and produces an unsatisfactory result. But Mr. Chase was an example of a great painter being a great teacher, and his teaching has had a tremendous influence on American art. His classes were always very large, and when a man teaches for thirty years, always giving the best that is in him, having a vision and trying to impart it to others, the result is cumulative. The students in many cases become teachers. The influence ramifies and becomes a power for good in the land.

Mr. Chase took pains to know his pupils, and in classes of a hundred or more he would remember the names of nearly all. In cases where he forgot he would say, "Oh, yes, you are the lady from Ohio"—or something of that sort.

I call to mind some of his favorite expressions. When a student was somewhat timid about painting he would say: "Never be sparing in the use of paint; always paint with a full brush"; or if a student was prone to work the life out of a canvas, his comment would be: "It takes two to paint a picture, one to do the painting and the other to stand by with an axe to stop it at the right moment." On one occasion a

Western art instructor brought him a large number of water-colors to criticise. They were the output of a dozen years, done in various countries. After looking them all over carefully, Chase said: "My dear sir, I advise you to put all these in a drawer, lock the drawer, and then lose the key." This was caustic, to say the least, but he knew his man. It acted as a stimulus to the art professor, and that summer he turned out splendid work. Chase was not fond of making such remarks, but in individual cases they were sometimes needed to produce the desired effect. One of the truest things he ever said was: "There is nothing so rare in art as the artistic."

His dress was always immaculate. I have seen him paint many times in a white flannel suit, holding a palette and brushes, without getting a spot on his clothes. This was a part of his teaching, because he was fond of teaching by example. He hated slovenly technic and sloppy students. He was one of the men to dignify the profession of painting in this country, and saw no connection between great art and a velvet coat, tam-o'-shanter, long hair, and other paraphernalia of the proverbial artist. With him the artist emerged from that particular phase and took on the appearance of other men. His dress was a part of his art psychology. As students it made us respect him the more and, in turn, respect our-

Chase's old 10th Street studio was probably the most remarkable studio in the country, full of most interesting objects. The visitor was astonished to see a diminutive human head hanging by long black hair, the head belonging to a member of some South American tribe. One of the customs of this tribe was to take the head of the dead, shrink it by the use of hot stones, and then to sew up the mouth with gut so that no secrets could be told after death. This and other things unique and beautiful were there. In the large central studio the ceiling was lofty, and dust had been allowed to accumulate on all objects on the side walls and those suspended from the ceilings, such as hanging-lamps, etc., so that the local color on the bottoms of these objects melted gradually into the dust collected on their tops. In contrast to this the floor was highly polished, and all around the studio to

a height of about seven feet were numerous articles of glistening brass, copper pots with outsides of dead black and insides of flaming brilliance, Spanish furniture, superb hangings, and on one wall a huge white swan suspended on a piece of maroon-colored velvet. (It was under this swan that Carmencita danced.) The effect was beautiful and extraordinary. There was a gradual transition from the richness and brilliance near the floor up the side wall into the quiet gray atmosphere of the ceiling.

The dominant note of his life was service to the world of art. By teaching, lecturing, buying pictures, and helping poor students, he did an enormous amount of good. The introspective type of artist spends much time when not actively painting in apparent inaction. His inactivity is a means of storing energy for his working hours. He believes that ideas germinate when the mind has lain fallow for a period. Great things are sometimes born in this way. There is another type of artist who finds diversion in changing his kind of work, who believes that one class of endeavor augments the other. The many-sided man who must have the energy of a Cellini. I place Mr. Chase under this type. His greatness came from the sheer fulness of his nature; what he did he did with all his might, his store of energy enabled him to vary his interest, and most of his work was done for the profession of painting.

We must remember that Chase, when he returned from Munich, was an absolute rebel. He helped to scatter the cohorts of the Düsseldorf and other schools of doubtful taste. He called attention to great painting as he knew it, constantly and consistently until the end.

In later years he saw people worshipping strange gods, and was criticised for not changing his point of view, but, unaffected, he held on to his own ideals. His passing was a great loss to art, and men of his quality are scarce in these days of large profession and little faith. New art movements come and go, each decade heralds a new artistic god, but the generations give their big men to the great tradition of painting. When the story of American art is finally told, Chase's name will be high on the list of the great.

GIFFORD BEAL.



THE OVERTURES FOR PEACE

BY ALEXANDER DANA NOYES

Financial Editor of the New York Evening Post

the European war, at the opening of They suggested curtailed profits for last month, are familiar to every one. The rapid sweep of events—beginning ing for public securities of the belwith Germany's proposal of December ligerent states and improving valua-12 for a peace conference; followed on December 10 by the British Premier's demand that the Allies first know Germany's terms, and his own stipulation that Germany must offer "complete restitution, full reparation, and effectual guarantees"; with President Wilson's note to the belligerents on December 20, the next occurrence, suggesting "an avowal of their respective views as to the terms on which the war might be concluded"—had simply a bewildering effect on financial judgment. Necessarily, it brought into the foreground, more sharply than at any previous time, the question of the economic aftermath of war.

'HE markets spoke somewhat emphatically. Prices on the Stock Exchange declined 15 to 20 per cent in the fortnight during which these events occurred; shares of the "warorder companies" falling with the

greatest violence. At the The Great same time, however, prices December for such bonds of the allied Decline powers as were dealt in on

our stock exchanges recovered sharply, and the foreign exchanges moved German Government and its allies in Europe's favor; rates on Berlin ad- were urgently desirous of vancing more than any. The wheat peace, and had gone almost Germany's Desire for market broke, whereas cotton ad- to the limit of diplomatic Peace vanced on the news of Germany's procedure in their effort to These movements were a secure it. This one unquestionable proposals. logical enough expression of the spec- fact brought into immediate discus-

THE new political aspects which ulative market's view as to probable suddenly presented themselves in economic results of sudden peace. manufacturing concerns, better standtion of their currencies, release of large supplies of wheat from blockaded Europe, and reopening of markets closed for two years against our cotton.

Yet the question how far the movement was a trustworthy forecast, either of the probable ultimate outcome of the peace proposals or of actual financial results of such negotiations, was by no means clear. stock market and the wheat market had been subject to extravagant speculation for the rise. In both, prices had begun to fall, even before Berlin had issued its appeal for peace. In both, a tightening money market had made some such reaction inevitable, quite irrespective of the war. To a very considerable extent, the violent decline on the stock market and the grain market was a response to present conditions rather than future possibilities.

TROM the cloud of uncertainty and confusion which surrounded the whole episode of the German note and its sequel, one fact emerged with unmistakable clearness.

sion the question what were the mo- which has for several generations tives—military, political, or economic preached the beneficent influence of —which had inspired this urgent appeal from the Central Powers. It was evident that the answer to this question would have much to do with the terms of peace, the probability of a settlement, and conditions afterward. For every one knew that whereas Germany's peace proposal of last month was only the spectacular culmination of a series of roundabout overtures, during a year or more, none of Germany's antagonists had at any time expressed a similar urgent wish to terminate the war, and that the present proposal was being publicly rebuffed by them at the outset.

Now it is possible—nothing is impossible, Macaulay used to say, which does not involve a contradiction—to construct a theory that Germany, alone of all the fifteen belligerent states, had become convinced of the innumanity of war in general and of this war in particular, and had persuaded her own allies to join in an urgent plea to end the conflict, solely in the interests of civilization. It is also possible, in line with the assertion of Bethmann Hollweg in his speech to the Reichstag and of the Kaiser in his speech to the soldiers (both on the peace proposals), to assume that the German Government, after the victory over Rumania, was convinced that Germany had proved herself unconquerable, and was therefore willing magnanimously to stay her hand and give her enemies the benefit of peace, because Germany herself had no further ambitions. But either hypothesis must be judged, if we are to look at the matter from the unbiassed point of view of history, in the light of present-day events, characteristics, and tendencies.

mind is that Germany is the nation cially." The third, considerably more

war in itself. It was the What Has German Frederick who de-Changed Her Attitude?

clared that "war opens the most fruitful field to all the virtues"; the German Treitschke who explained that "war recurs as a medicine for the human race," to whose beneficent results "God sees," and that "wars save the state from social petrifaction and stagnation"; German Bernhardi who argued that in Prussian history "war showed its creative power," and that "if we learn the lesson of history, we shall see the same result again and again." When, therefore, the reflective man familiar with these facts reads in the German Government's note of December 12 that this war is "a catastrophe which injures the most precious achievements of humanity," and that it is a calamity whereby "the spiritual and material progress which were the pride of Europe at the beginning of the twentieth century are threatened with ruin," and when he further is informed that it is "to make amends for the atrocities of war" that Germany and her allies "propose to enter forthwith into peace negotiations"—after reading this in the light of the classic passages previously cited, he will quite inevitably ask exactly what has happened to Germany.

The same Bernhardi whom I have already quoted has had a few other impressive things to say, in his various brochures, concerning the results of war. One was, that "an unfortunate war must entail far more disastrous economic consequences than ever before, and may lead to complete economic ruin." The second was that, where a European campaign shall have ended in deadlock and the spirit and moral energy on both sides are equal, 'HUS regarded, the first comment "success will ultimately fall . . . to which will naturally occur to him who can hold out longest finan-

(Continued on page 52, following)

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Lackawanna Co., Pa.	3.10%	3.82%
Baltimore, Md.	3.35%	3.90%
Hudson County, N. J.	3.25%	3.85%
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(Continued from page 260)

specific, is that while Germany "need not recoil before the numerical superiority of her enemies," nevertheless "she can rely on being successful only if she is resolutely determined to break the superiority of her enemies by a victory over one or the other of them before their total strength can come into action."

CO far as her really formidable an-

tagonists are concerned, the lastnamed sine qua non has certainly not been achieved. There has existed on the really important battle-front, for two full years, an admitted deadlock, and the German Economic Government may have its Condition of secret ideas as to which side Powers? can hold out longest financially. Whether, in the same connection, the thought of Bernhardi's "complete economic ruin" may have intruded into the mind of the Wilhelmstrasse is a matter of conjecture. But what, so far as we know it, was the real financial and economic condition of the Central Powers when

they asked for peace in December? This question is curiously difficult to answer from convincing testimony. The whole world has been hearing of the short rations on which the blockaded central peoples have been put. There are occasional though not altogether well-confirmed reports of "bread riots" in Germany, and less frequent but much better authenticated private information of extreme distress in the outlying parts of the empire. On the best authority, some of us have learned that in Austria, where enforcement of food curtailment is more lax, money will buy as much as ever, but that, for precisely that reason, destitution and famine are far more formidable among the poorer classes.

(Continued on page 54)

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What resources of food these countries actually have, we do not surely know. A statement by the Grand Admiral, describing Germany's condition of starvation in order to justify his submarine performances, would be followed next day by a statement from the Minister of Agriculture, describing Germany's abundant supplies of food in order to refute the argument that the nation would be defeated because of physical exhaustion. Even the estimates of German crop production have been open to great suspicion. The motive coloring them caused much the same reception of them, by the outside world, as the grave argument on the unlawfulness and inhumanity of such a blockade—an argument advanced by the government whose armies very literally starved the population of Paris in 1871.

VET it has not been widely believed that Germany was being reduced to actual extremity by starvation. Even if this had been believed, the resultant selection, as the time to ask for peace, of the very moment when Rumania had been captured—with her grain crop half as large as Germany's own, and her Indian-corn crop larger still-would have been a little singular. But if Germany had not become acutely apprehensive over food supplies, then what other circumstances should have led her ministers to believe that it was time to sue for peace? The answer made by the majority of careful economic observers points in two directions—to the foreign trade of the German nation and to the financial condition of all the Teutonic allies.

The driving of Germany's merchant marine from the seas, the almost complete destruction of her business with

(Continued on page 56)

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foreign nations, were accomplished so instantaneously by the British fleet that the achievement has not im-

pressed the imagination of the outside world as it Germany Completely would have done had such a Driven condition ensued only after Seas a long and spectacular strug-

from the

gle. This is perhaps the reason why so little attention has been called to the quite indisputable fact that the blow which thereby fell on Germany was something wholly without precedent in the history of civilization. England blockaded France and France blockaded England in the Napoleonic wars of a century ago; but the French blockade did not prevent England from pursuing her ocean trade with Russia, Asia, and the Americas, and the English blockade left France free to do business throughout Napoleon's immense Continental empire. With Germany, neither opportunity has existed since the outbreak of this war. The trade of Napoleonic France with northern Germany, with the Netherlands, with Italy, and with Spain was as unimpeded between 1803 and 1815 as the trade between Germany and Austria between 1914 and 1917.

OR does this contrast tell the. Whole of the story. The foreign commerce of blockaded France a century ago was an unimportant trifle when measured against the foreign

trade of twentieth-century Germany—a trade which, Contrast just before the war, with amounted to \$5,000,000,000 and France per annum, of which nearly

Striking

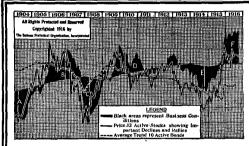
half was exports. The outward shipments of Germany's merchandise to England, France, Russia, Italy, the American, Asiatic, and Australian continents—markets from access to which Germany has for two years been

absolutely cut off-footed up in peace times more than \$1,000,000,000 per annum. As against this enormous shrinkage. Great Britain's export trade in 1015 was only 31 per cent less than in the last preceding full year of peace. and its imports (exclusive of war material) so large that the total trade of 1915 was only \$332,000,000 less than that of 1913; while the total foreign trade of France, in the later of these two years, was reduced only 38 per cent from the earlier year, despite the loss in productive power through the German army's occupation of the north.

Exactly what this destruction of Germany's foreign trade has meant to the economic structure of the empire. it is difficult to say exactly. We have no trustworthy data, even as to the present financial condition of shipping enterprises such as the Hamburg and North German Lloyd companies, whose fleets have for two-and-a-half vears been lying idle, either in home harbors or at the docks of a score of foreign ports. We know, however. that these two typical maritime companies earned between them \$27,500,-000 gross profits during 1013, that heavy annual charges are still running against them, that they have earned virtually nothing since July, 1914, and that they are only a part of Germany's mercantile marine. It is a matter of conjecture precisely what has been the actual resultant situation, in regard either to the status of the maritime companies themselves or to the fortunes of such shipping ports as Bremen and Hamburg.

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(Continued on page 58)



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after 1807. But this was a trifling matter compared with what commercial Germany must have suffered in the two and a half past years. There can be no reasonable doubt that a great part of such pressure

The Voice of Commercial Interests

as may have been applied to the civil government at Berlin, for securing an early peace, has come from the great commercial interests whose voice had been almost dominant, during many years before the war, in the councils of the Kaiser. Their urgency would certainly not be less, from the fact that possible losses which the industry is facing are not only present but prospective.

Even the most far-sighted expert cannot surely say how much of the overseas market for Germany's commerce will have fallen during the war into other hands capable of retaining it, and what will be the post-bellum status of trade with Germany's present antagonists, if peace and reconciliation do not presently return. Nor can it be overlooked that the economic pressure from this condition of foreign trade is cumulative and increasingly disturbing in its influence; and, what is even more to the point, that this is an influence which bears on the blockaded Central Powers as it does not on their antagonists. But when we undertake to inquire how far the home economic situation of the Teutonic countries was a governing motive in their appeal for peace, the facts of the situation are not so clearly evident.

THAT the financial situation of Germany's allies has become very grave is a supposition that will hardly be disputed. Turkey was a bankrupt state when she entered the war. The advances of Bulgaria, credit which had enabled and Turkey in Financial Straits peace expenditure—not to mention her outlay for the Balkan war of 1912 and 1913—were provided

largely from France and England. Her vastly larger financial requirements for this war could have come only from Germany. Bulgaria, just emerging, when she joined in this conflict, from the exhausting strain of the same Balkan war, can scarcely have been in any very different case.

That Austria's position was severely strained was a matter of common talk in financial Europe, even during 1013. The impression was rather general. in the money markets of western Europe, that the attack on Servia in 1014 was made possible very largely by the fact that the powerful financial interests of the empire, shaken by the reaction from the extravagant overspeculation of the two or three preceding years, were willing to assent to any new experiment which would postpone the economic reckoning. Not a single statement from the Austrian National Bank of its cash reserve. its liabilities, or its outstanding notes has been made public since July of 1914; and, since this is the reverse of the policy pursued, even in the face of the formidable war strain, by the state banks of Germany, France, England, and Russia, the fact has very real significance. It reasonably warrants a presumption that the Austrian national finances and the Austrian currency are by this time in the most serious disorder, and that the country's outlook for readjustment after war, whether political and economic, is far from reassuring.

N the face of things, the case of Germany herself is very different. One of the economic marvels of this war has been the manner in which Germany's great war loans have been subscribed at Germany's War Loans home. The loan of last Subscribed October was commonly beat Home lieved in Europe to be confronted with serious difficulties. Personal appeals to the people, made in the most urgent language during the period of subscription by public

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men and popular generals, seemed to confirm that belief. It was frankly stated in the German newspapers that subscriptions by the public at large, the smaller investors, had fallen far short of what they were in previous loans. The Kölnische Zeitung, a newspaper usually under government influence, went so far as to declare that the German farmers had ceased subscribing, through fear of imperial

bankruptcy.

Yet the actual applications for the loan footed up \$2,674,000,000—nearly as much as was taken of the war loan of March, 1916, or that of September. 1915 (which amounted respectively to \$2,678,000,000 and \$3,025,000,000), and much more than was subscribed to the loans of February, 1915, or of September, 1914. Taking all five war loans together, and excluding such temporary issues as Treasury notes, the German Government has raised \$10,000,000,000 thus far in the war; whereas England has thus far raised at home, on funded loans, only \$4,500,000,000, and France only \$5,625,000,000. This would certainly seem to be evidence of an economic and financial strength, among the German people, unsuspected by the world at large.

HERE is, however, another side to this very achievement. One reason why these funded war loans should in Germany have run so immensely beyond the similar loans of France is that Germany has undoubtedly had on her shoulders the financing of the military needs of Bulgaria and Turkey and presumably to a great extent of Austria. reason why they should have exceeded the similar loans of England is that the English people have provided an additional yearly \$1,500,-000,000 from taxes, whereas Germany has from the start rejected this recourse almost absolutely. The burden of supporting her allies presses even

Continued on page 62)

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more heavily on England than on Germany, but by her hugely increased revenue from taxation, England has far more than provided for interest and sinking fund on the war debt already incurred; whereas Germany is compelled to use a steadily increasing portion of the proceeds of a new subscription of the kind to pay interest on previous issues. At the interest rate of 5 per cent, more than one-fifth of the money raised by the German loan of last October would be needed to pay one year's interest on that and the preceding war loans.

LEARLY enough, deduction I from the proceeds of the empire's borrowings, for this purpose alone, will increase progressively as the war continues. But that is by

no means all the story. One may be sure that statesmen and bankers throughout Germany have been asking what situation will

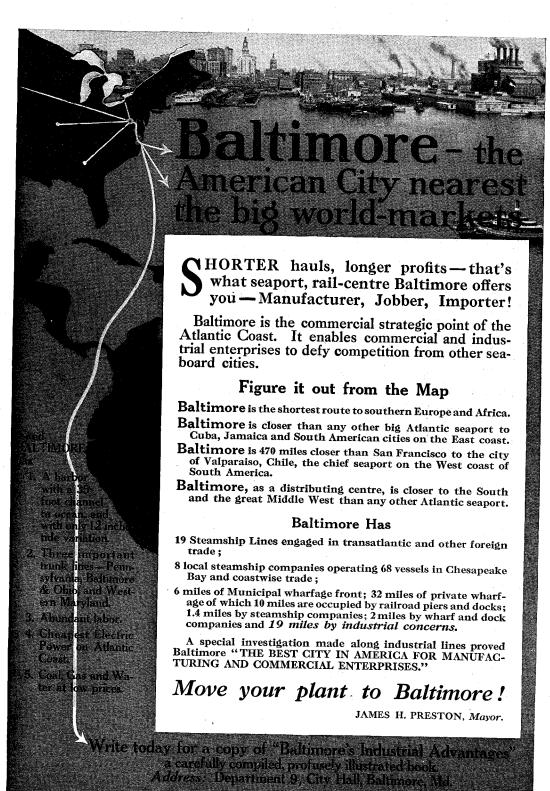
German Finance When the War Is

be created by this process when the war is over. Whether because of initial confidence in victory and an enormous cash indemnity, or because of fear of straining taxpayers' resources, or through misgiving as to the political effect of increased taxes during war, Germany's adoption of this unsound practice has merely served to put off the evil day.

In the fiscal year ending with March, 1014, the total imperial revenue was \$894,000,000, of which \$260,000,000 was derived from government railways, post-offices, and telegraphs. But if interest on the war loans is hereafter to be paid from taxes, that peace revenue must somehow be increased by \$545,000,000 per annum (on the basis of the present debt), or by as much larger a sum as service of future war loans should require. This would apparently mean something close to a doubling of the taxes.

Now England, as we have seen, has

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already added nearly three times that sum to her annual revenue from taxation; but that achievement was made possible as much by the patriotic enthusiasm of war time as by the great wealth of the country. Berlin will confront the problem when the war is over, perhaps when failure of its purposes has been confessed, and when patriotic excitement will have been followed by the severe industrial reaction, despondency, and poverty which are the inevitable sequel. is not greatly to be wondered at if German statesmen should look forward with great uneasiness to this rapidly accumulating liability—which, indeed, is political quite as much as financial, since even the German imperial authorities cannot surely know to-day just how such fresh burden of taxation, imposed under such circumstances and after a manifestly unsuccessful war, will affect the attitude of the electorate.

HAVE set forth, in this review, only the condition of the Teutonic Allies. Nobody will deny that the financial situation of France and Russia, for instance, presents similar and sufficiently formidable difficulties; or, indeed, that England's posi-Superior tion is not surrounded with Economic many troublesome econom-

Power of the Allies

ic embarrassments. Still, whatever may be argued as to the military prospects of Germany's antagonists, compared with those of her and her allies, there cannot be the slightest doubt, in the light of what we have reviewed, as to which side holds the superior economic power. phase of the situation, Germany is unquestionably conscious. Her statesmen, economists, and bankers are aware, more than the outside world, of exactly what a very much longer continuance of the strain under such conditions will signify.

But the outside financial world also seems to be alive to these considerations; otherwise, it would not be easy to explain the fall of New York exchange rates on Berlin from the already abnormally low level of 71½ cents to 65% (parity being 95¼) during the very period when Mackensen and Falkenhayn were advancing triumphantly on Bucharest, or the simultaneous decline in Austrian exchange from 123/8 cents to less than 11 in the week of Rumanian defeat, par being 201/3. With that precise moment of the European campaign selected for a break in the outside world's measurement of German currency's value to by far the lowest figure of the war, and for depreciation in exchange on Austria below even the discount on the Russian currency, it may at least be said that the only one of the financial markets of the day which expresses unfettered judgment on the economic position of the several belligerents had spoken.

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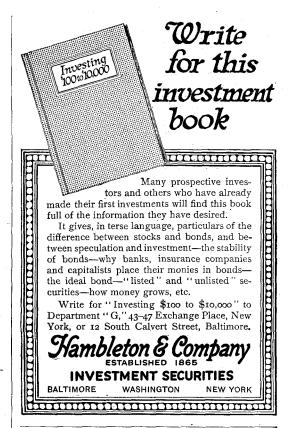
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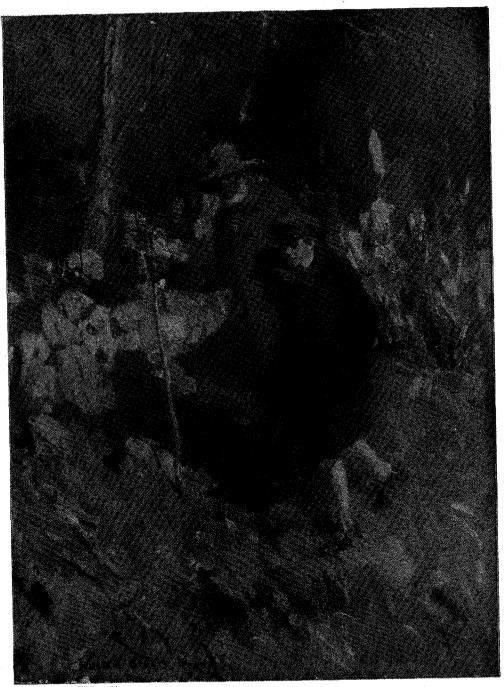
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