

tries of the continent over all Spanish America until they and their children become the most potent factors in the forward march of those states? This is the kind of conquest that our educators should be planning. At home will the same work be going on until on the same area now being cultivated twice as much of food and textiles will be raised as are raised now? Will our merchant flags by that time become known on the sea? Will Mexico grow quiet through exhaustion by that time and thus make further watchful waiting unnecessary?

Will our coast shipping be still paying tolls when they pass through the Panama canal?

Will the world be bristling with arms on sea and land, or will the reign of peace have been ushered in?

Will passenger trains have disappeared from the railroads and all the traveling be in the air, every man having his own aeroplane? Will the advertisement read: "The airships of the world round navigation company leave New York City every morning at 9 a. m., touching at London, Paris, Berlin, Constantinople, Calcutta, Shanghai, Yokohama, San Francisco and Chicago, making the journey in five days and seven hours. For freight and passage apply, etc.?" Will Europe have recovered from the present war? Will her thrones all have melted and will she be a mighty confederacy of free states?

Will the horse have disappeared? Will the churches have all come together and only the love of God be preached?

Will the long distance wireless be extended and will men here be talking as face to face with the residents in Mars and Mercury and the cold-blooded old chaps in Saturn and Jupiter?

Will the worship of the golden calf have finally closed, and God's own working agent, electricity, be doubling the products of the soil, cooking the food and warming the homes of men? And will man, with more intelligence be repeating:

"What am I then? Naught,

Naught, but the effluence of thy light divine,
Pervading worlds, has reached my spirit, too,
And thy spirit, in my spirit shines,
As shines the sunbeam in a drop of dew."

What Will Stop the War

WITH ten millions of trained soldiers fighting each other, when will the war stop? That is a question that thousands of people all around the world are asking.

The most reasonable answer, as it looks now, is when starvation and the pestilence enter the field in force and begin their assaults. The mighty hourly cost of the war has been computed and published, and as the world had been taught to believe that factor would soon be a controlling one, but when we reflect that so enraged and involved are the combatants that they have ceased to regard the number of their soldiers that are being slain, no regard for money or property can be expected. But men cannot live without food, they cannot march and fight when desperately ill.

To us the most significant feature of the declaration of war by Italy, is not that it adds another great army and navy to the nations at war against the Teutons, but it closes many sources through which heretofore the Germans obtained food supplies.

Reducing the food supply is, likewise, making the spread of disease more rapid, for hungry and faint men are much more susceptible to sickness than strong and well-fed men.

Already in the track of the armies the people by tens of thousands are suffering for food, clothing and places of shelter. This includes the women, the aged men and little children.

They already make a spectacle to shock an astonished world—astonished to realize that after all civilization is but a thin veneer, easily scraped

off—but after a little more, what is a dull ache now will become acute agony that should stop the frenzy and cause the lunatics to become sane.

Overlooking It

THE effort to boom President Wilson for a second term, which was conspicuous in the long screed put out in last Sunday's dispatches, which in substance was a political biography of the president, which began when he was but a boy, making him different from all other boys, which has marked his career as one devoted almost exclusively to the science of perfect government; which pictured him as absorbed almost to apparent coldness by the profoundness of his thoughts and his love of country; his iron will when he once makes up his mind; his agitation when he received the news of the sinking of Lusitania; his shutting himself up to meditate and prepare his note to Germany; the masterfulness of the offspring he produced when the labor pains finally ceased and the mighty parturition was accomplished; could never have been put out, except that the president and his friend had decided, that the majority of the American people are easily caught gudgeons.

To begin with, the letter to the German government demanding such indemnity as could be made, and insisting that no more such atrocities should be committed, was a masterful paper, perfect in conception, splendid in tone and most elegant in diction. The nation accepted it as such and without distinction of party the people of the United States fully approved of it. It was different from any other state paper the president has ever put out since he has been chief magistrate; in the ledgers of the memories of his fellow countrymen it is engrossed a double entry.

Standing by itself it would have been the biggest kind of a card to boost his second nomination.

But to follow it immediately by a two-column press agent's fulsome and obsequious panegyric which painted the president as a robust but radiant angel in disguise come down to save the great republic, causes people to stop and think.

Some years ago a rebellion broke out in Chili; the president of that republic was overthrown and made a prisoner and the usurping government demanded recognition from the United States. At that time the United States had only a small navy of wooden ships, while Chile had the nucleus of an iron-clad navy and one most formidable iron-clad. When the usurpers in Chile demanded recognition, one Benjamin Harrison was President of the United States and one James G. Blaine was secretary of state. A correspondence with Chile was opened by Mr. Blaine and carried on for some days, Chile all the time growing more and more insistent and hinting at the possible necessity of sending her big ironclad up to bombard San Francisco. Mr. Blaine, who had been drooping for some time was suddenly prostrated with what was the beginning of his final illness. When the last half-threatening note came from Chile, Mr. Blaine was too ill to attend to business. President Harrison did not lock himself in his room for ten days; sent to no learned professors to obtain information on international law; did not keep the nation and the world in trembling expectancy of what was to come, but sat down and thoughtfully penned a note to the impetuous, bull-doing company under the Andes, and they, when they read it, became quiet as quickly as did the winds and the waves under the command of the Master. We refer to that merely to show the difference between a matter-of-fact and a spectacular president.

Again, while people are thinking, they cannot help but revolve in thought, how different our president is in the handling of affairs with foreign countries.

If Nicaragua, for instance, starts a rebellion, a

warship is sent there at once to tell the rebels to hush up. In Mexico the president refused to ever learn the real facts, but read of the outrages going on there for months, all the time proclaiming the doctrine of "Watchful Waiting" until just before election last summer a few vagabond Mexican wharf-rats insulted some American sailors who were sent from a warship in a rowboat ashore at Tampico to get the ship's mails. Then the president at once became furious and demanded that a man in the city of Mexico whom he had always refused to recognize should order a salute to the American flag to be fired, at the same time sending the whole Atlantic fleet to Vera Cruz, at the same time explaining that he loved the Mexican people, but wanted to force a president whom he had always refused to recognize, to recognize our flag. He placed himself in a position at once comical, but so dangerous that a war would surely have been necessary, had not the ambassadors from Brazil, Argentine and Chile tendered their services to restore quiet.

The outrages and spoliation, perpetrated on Americans in Mexico have never brought anything from our president except the advice to them to get out of that country, but when an assassin of the sea destroyed a great foreign ship on which were some Americans, he shut himself up, wired learned experts on international law for advice and for ten days was dead to all the world save his physician, to prepare a paper, and three days later had a sycophant wire a two-column dispatch to the world, telling how our country was honored and saved in advance, when our president was born. Vive la bagatelle!

What the Matter Is

SOME of the great metropolitan journals once a week publish the views of prominent merchants, manufacturers and leading men in finances on the business conditions of the country. The struggle seems to be to impress the masses that times are either good or are just going to be, but the statements as a rule are filled with ifs and buts and whereases.

There is no use to disguise the truth or to try to deceive ourselves.

The fact that there is such a struggle to make a good showing is proof that the showing is not good.

This is so apparent that we are prompted to say something.

If a farmer with his year's crop of grain on hand was obliged to measure it all in a single bushel measure made of red cedar, it would be slow work.

If cedar was hard to obtain, but white ash was plenty and it should be decreed that white ash measures would answer all purposes the same as red cedar, the farmer's work would be greatly quickened, and he would doubtless engage his next neighbor who needed work to help him.

Now if congress on meeting would order 2,000,000 ounces of silver to be purchased monthly and include in the bill a clause that should the price advance to one dollar per ounce, then silver should be monetized at that ratio and have equal recognition with gold, within sixty days after the measure took effect, what is now a commodity would become a measure of values and our trade would be unrestricted with all Spanish-America and the Orient from which our products are now indirectly excluded through the foolish and wicked legislation of 1893, and business would have such a thrill as it has not felt for twenty years.

Again, if a farmer had a superb harvest ripening and the poor, hungry stock of his neighbor was gathered lowing outside his fences and the farmer's employees should go out and tear down his fences and let into his field the herd, the verdict would be that those employees had gone daft.