

less he and the sixty-four priests in Arizona would be compelled to move from the State, abandoning their churches and people, and, further, that all devout believers in the Faith would of necessity have to journey outside the State at frequent intervals to attend Mass, or, if they were not situated so that that were possible, they would have to move to some other State to reside. Commenting on this situation, our esteemed contemporary, the *Ave Maria*, remarks: 'It is difficult to believe that the legislators of any portion of this country are so destitute of ordinary common-sense as not to bring about a modification of the law in question; but if the Arizona legislators are so unreasonable, their State is evidently no place for Catholics—or other sane people.' That is all very well; but the point is that no section of the community has the right to drive Catholics out of the State of Arizona by such an invasion of their religious freedom. Of course some relief will be found; but this is one of the cases in which prevention is better than cure. Eternal vigilance is still the price of liberty.

The Call for Ammunition

Some time ago General French was reported as having said that if the men and munitions asked for were forthcoming the Allies would achieve some measure of definite and final success after three months' fighting. It is quite possible that Sir John French never made any such statement; but if he did, it was certainly for the purpose of impressing upon the British armament workers the life and death necessity for an adequate supply of war material. It is the one insistent cry from each of the Allies. American factories are sending thousands of tons of arms across the ocean to England in a continuous stream, yet this amounts to only a small portion of Britain's need. Not only England, but France and Russia also, are pleading desperately with American manufacturers for war supplies, and are offering almost unheard-of prices, yet the quantities obtainable still fall very far short of the demand. According to New York papers, every ammunition factory, every harness factory, and every vehicle factory is sold out for the next three months or more. The acuteness of the position may be gauged by a recital of some of the tempting orders which have had to be 'turned down.' The United States Steel Corporation has been forced to refuse an order for 100,000 tons of barbed wire because its wire mills are working to their full capacity. The Union Metallic Cartridge Company has been compelled to turn back a possible £1,000,000 order. An American manufacturer's agent gives us some further particulars. He has returned from Europe because there is no further use for him there, his company being unable to even begin to fill the orders that are coming to it unsought. 'Every factory in England,' he says, 'that can be turned into a factory for the production of munitions of war is now busy turning out things for the army on the Continent. And still the demand far exceeds the supply. Orders are going begging that are staggering to one who is not on the inside of the situation. For instance, there is an order waiting for £2,000,000 worth of shells. It has been suggested that some American manufacturer in some other line who is not crowded with orders could make an immense profit on this if he would make a few changes in his works so that he could produce shells. Should this be done he would be given a guarantee that would cover the cost of changes and make him a fortune. Another order that is going begging is for 250,000,000 cartridges for machine guns, which means more than £1,000,000, and this order would be increased to 800,000,000 if it were even remotely possible to guarantee delivery within the next three to six months. But every factory is now running up to the limit, and there is scarcely any use even talking about it in the United States. Then there is the demand for vehicles and harness. One American concern got into this end of the game early, and acted as agent for the British Government. It put out orders enough to keep the harness makers busy for months, and incidentally at a price that is making a fortune for the

agents. The amount of the orders runs into the millions, and the price was away up. Horses are another big demand. The French Government has asked the United States to supply £5,000,000 worth, and if there were many times as many in the country as there are now they would find a ready sale if they came within striking distance of the specification for cavalry or artillery animals. A horse isn't good for much more than a month under present war conditions, and the armies have to keep the supplies hurrying in to take the places of the dead and disabled.' All this referred to a period prior to February. In view of the near approach of really serious and extensive operations, the need will be greater and graver than ever; and it is humiliating to think that one of the causes of shortage should be the moral laxity and lack of patriotism of a section of the British workers.

Germany and America

Some time ago, when commenting on President Wilson's threat of 'serious complications' if Germany persisted in her naval war zone policy, we ventured the very safe prediction that the German War Lords were not likely to become at all nervous at the prospect, and that there would be no abandonment of the programme which formed the subject of President Wilson's protest. That has notoriously been the case. Not only so, but a section of the German press have expressed frank and flat and almost contemptuous defiance of the American declaration. 'When something does not suit the Yankees,' says *The Post*, 'they are accustomed to adopt as threatening and as frightful a sabre-rattling tone as possible. They reckon that the person thus treated will let himself be frightened and give in. If this does not come to pass, however, if the person thus treated and threatened with the strongest expressions pays no attention and shows that he is not scared and will not let himself be driven into a state of funk, the staggering Yankees calm themselves and soon quiet down.' The *Vossische Zeitung* says that while the searching of ships for contraband previously has been the acknowledged procedure, the entry of the submarine denotes a new factor in naval warfare. 'The submarine,' says this newspaper, 'runs a risk against armed merchantmen. England has both armed its merchantmen and advised them to carry false flags. Shall Germany, in the face of such treacherous measures, throw down her arms because an American ship might possibly be wrongly torpedoed? The American note demands nothing else.' The *Hamburger Nachrichten*, discussing the note, says that nobody can demand that German warships expose themselves to destruction through consideration for neutrals. 'American merchantmen,' the *Nachrichten* continues, 'retain their right to sail in the specified waters or to avoid them. If Washington assumed that the Admiralty's declaration will not be executed unsparingly it fundamentally deceives itself. The threatening sentences in the American note are quite unimpressive.' And Count Ernest Reventlow, the naval expert, in the concluding sentences of an article in the *Tages Zeitung*, administers the snub direct to President Wilson. He declares that the request of the United States that ships be searched before further action is taken against them shows 'that the people in Washington do not or will not comprehend the meaning of the German measure.' 'We have so often demonstrated,' Count Reventlow continues, 'the impossibility of search, that we can merely refer to our earlier remarks. Washington must know this and therefore the demand of the note for a search and the establishment of the identity of the neutral merchant amounts *de facto* to non-recognition of the German declaration respecting war territory.' Count Reventlow repeats the German order, the declaration of which he asserts is a considerable warning, and adds: 'Whether it is regarded or protested against is of secondary importance. If its consequences are depicted as "inexcusable" we may believe that the United States Government misjudges its ground. The same can be said of the remarkable phrase in the note that the United States Government will see itself impelled to hold the German Imperial