mercial and financial community will take fright. The credit of the state is all the time being impaired. In the first instance, perhaps, it promises to set aside a revenue of £20,000,000, to pay the interest on the new debt, then £50,000,000, then £100,000,000, and so on until investors see the spectre of repudiation and confiscation drawing unpleasantly near. Then must come a collapse, and the artificial fabric which has been created by a forced liquidation of securities and a so-called mobilisation of fixed property will crumble, and the credit of the state will be lost.

What will be the condition of Europe, when peace comes through exhaustion, after the continental states have used up all their credit and borrowed all that can be borrowed, may be left to the imagination of those who can see further than the writer through the gathering gloom. How commerce will be financed, how manufactures will be revived, how banking will be carried on, how public bankruptcies on an unheard-of scale are to be avoided—these are questions which defy experience and baffle even the wisest heads.