

them, the difference between peace and war is that in peace they use slaughter-prices; in war, slaughter-weapons. As soon as the present warfare ceases they will have recourse to the other form.

### **Austrian and German Union.**

The Austro-Hungarian Empire, or what remains of it, will be forced into an "economic union" with Germany. There will be a sort of "pooling" of resources for the cause of "Germany's Historical Mission." It will, indeed, be an uphill task, for Germany and Austria-Hungary will be saddled not only with indemnities, but also with the interest of war loans. But Germany will still be under Prussian leadership and control, and the spirit of Prussia is dogged as well as ferocious. History shows that nations can live for revenge, even if it does not show that such living bears fruit in success.

As soon as possible after the restoration of peace the Germans will make assiduous and adroit attempts not only to resuscitate, but even to increase and extend their trade activities in every country where openings, however narrow, can be found. And among the British nations there will be found advocates of the resumption of trade relations with Germany. We shall be told that unless the Germans are allowed to trade within our borders they will never collect the wherewithal to pay the indemnities imposed upon them. As the German prices will be of the lowest possible figure, we shall be told that the opening of our markets to Germans will be in the interest of the consumer, and all are consumers.

### **Help to Pay Their Debts?**

But trading with Germans in order to enable the German state to pay its debts will only mean that we shall be paying those debts, in part, at least, and at the same time helping on German preparations for the postponed day of German world-control. If there are any stalls in our markets which our own people cannot occupy, let them be reserved for traders from the nations in alliance with whom we have fought and suffered. The interests of the consumer are not well served by furthering the designs of those by whom he is to be consumed. In the years of "tightness" and im-