

pelled the 200,000 miners to go back to work if they had determined not to do so; the compelling force was the vision of the men in the trenches and the sailors on the sea, who would have been betrayed if the miners had proved recalcitrant."

There was another small strike shortly afterwards, involving some 25,000 men, the matter in dispute being the interpretation of the terms of the settlement; but this was confined to one district, and was soon settled more or less satisfactorily. It cannot, however, be felt that all is well in the mining districts. There is still a good deal of unrest, and even threatenings of further strikes. The miners have been stirred to the depths of their very souls, and temporary agreements are no palliatives to the feeling that here and now must the battle against the masters be fought and won, or for ever lost.¹¹

Labour in Germany.

As to what has happened in Germany, it is very hard to say; it is well known, however, that labour troubles have taken place, but all news regarding them has been so sedulously suppressed, or their seriousness so minimized, that it is impossible to speak with any assurance. It seems, however, that the reported strike at Essen never took place, and was a figment of journalistic imagination, and on the whole we may safely say that no such troubles as have vexed Great Britain have taken place in Germany, in spite of the protests of the *Vorwaerts* in the intervals between its many suppressions. Indeed, so much has been claimed for the industrial mobilization of the Central Empires, that it may be as well to inquire a little more closely into the working of this systematizing of the forces governing the industrial life of the nation.

The Organization of Germany.

Much has been written of the wonderful organization of the German people. At a word from the High Command the nation has fallen into line, and impelled by one thought and animated by one spirit, has marched forward like a well-trained army. One pictures a place for each man, woman and child, and each in his place, a perfect synthesis of disciplined thought and action. Herr Rathenau, the inspired organizer of the nation's energies, led the industrial armies of the Empire as the great General Staff led her fighting men. The

¹¹There were other strikes, notably a quite serious one among the cotton operatives in June, 1915, which was settled in favour of the men, but they are not of sufficient importance to mention more particularly.