

for freedom, more were ready to take their places and "carry on"; and this marvelous work of the defence of the Empire still continues and will continue as long as the need lasts.

The history of the response of all the Entente nations is similar. Great Britain herself, invincible at sea, had but a handful of men ready to fight on land. But the genius of the race responded to the call. Kitchener and his aides transformed a mob of artisans and clerks into a splendid fighting machine, and the rush of the conquest-mad Teutons was stopped. So it was with Australia, with New Zealand, with India, with France, and with Russia. Each has astonished the world by the facility with which it buttressed itself to meet the crisis.

But only when the crisis arose. Before that all, so far as military power was concerned, were fat and weak, blind to their danger and deaf to warning. Their opsonic indices were low. Their blood cells were undeveloped.

And even then there had to be a sacrifice. The German bacillus, fully developed, had almost its own way with noble Belgium and brave Serbia, as it might have had with the larger nations had it not been for these "buffer states." It was no attack by dead cells that these heroic countries had to face. They were practically wiped out as nations in standing against the first crash of the invader. Since then, the resisting power of all the Allies has grown with every fresh encounter, until now the defenders have taken the offensive and are well on the road to exterminating the disease of Prussian militarism and restoring to health and strength the weaker states.

But how about Germany? It may be said: Was she not prepared? Clearly she was. But she never in modern times had been anything else. In 1870, or only a little more than forty years before she wrecked Belgium, she was fighting France. Since that time she has never slipped back from her militaristic standard. If not actually engaged in war she has maintained her war machine and improved it, benefiting by the study of other nations' conflicts; and some of the very