

to see that German cunning and German state subsidised trade do not again swamp the world's markets to the detriment of the native traders.

In combatting this peace offensive we shall, as before, be in contact with the unscrupulous German "Hidden Hand", and one of our greatest dangers will be the weakness of our own people. We shall have to guard against those who pride themselves on their forgiving natures. This class will only be too ready to extend the hand of friendship to the Hun, and to let bye-gones be bye-gones, more especially if such friendship is of material advantage to them, and the Hun will see that it is so.

Another danger will be man's cupidity and natural disinclination to be bothered with those matters that do not closely concern him. He will say, "Oh well, I know that these things should not be, but after all it is none of my business, the Government should see to it". But it is his business, it is everybody's business who is a citizen of any of the Entente Allied Nations. It is our business to see that our Governments protect us and our trade from the tenacles of German state subsidised trade which is bent on grasping by any means, fair or foul, all that it can reach.

That the German will make the most of this weakness in our midst is undoubted, and that this weakness will, if unchecked, be a valuable ally is certain. For the German is essentially cunning. He knows only too well the temptation of easy-money to the "Get-rich-quick" type of trader and will fully exploit it. Others, of possibly a more patriotic nature, seeing the rapid success of their neighbours, will, if unsupported by their Governments, follow in their foot-steps, for they will say "Why should so-and-so succeed while I, who am patriotic *cease to exist*, simply because I am unsupported by my Government.

It should, therefore, be the business of the Governments of the Entente Allies to combat this insidious attack with every means in their power and to defeat the German with his own weapon by State Assistance to their vital trades. Nay more. It should be made an offence against the law of the land to trade with the German for a period of years until our trade is so firmly established that it cannot be shaken by the underhand methods of the Hun, and until he has made good the devastated trades of France and Belgium. Thus will the unscrupulous Entente traders be kept in check and the honest ones encouraged and protected.

There are those who will say that this statement is chimerical. Let them look at trade in the prewar days when we blindly allowed the German to rob us while we slept on our previous successes. Look at the way he wormed himself into every trade and by hook or by crook acquired its secrets and then undersold us. Remember he is wonderfully patient, methodical and plodding. He will work for a wage, and live as no other man will, to attain his object. No means are too underhand to obtain his ends; and lastly, behind him will be a paternal Government which will watch and aid his struggles through its secret agents.

Germany knowing that she has lost the War is determined to win the Peace, and will leave no means untried to accomplish her purpose.

We must therefore prepare for this Peace offensive by guarding against the danger in our midst, the weakness of our own people, and the Huns who live and thrive on our tolerance.

Our traders must be protected, and our enemies deported.