

as to threaten external war) will be followed by a corresponding acceptance of cultural toleration, and peace at last will be secured.

All this may seem a remote Utopia, especially at the present moment. It may indeed be unrealizable for three reasons. We may fail to construct the economic and political structure which will enable us to translate increased productive capacity into equivalent consuming capacity. In that case slumps will again alternate with booms, and perhaps be increasingly frequent and severe. If so the social structure will be strained beyond endurance; we shall have successive revolutions which will postpone progress indefinitely. Or secondly, we may fail to complete and strengthen our collective system against war and to establish a basis of agreement on economic policy which will save that system from a strain to which it will be inadequate; and a universal war may destroy the whole fabric of our civilization. Or, thirdly, population may in time so increase that, in spite of greater resources and knowledge, it may again press against the margin of possible subsistence, destroy any realized plenty or superfluity, and again make the struggle for existence, and the most intense and unregulated competition, the first factor in our lives. Modern mechanization increases