

After the lion and the bear had exhausted themselves the wily fox appeared on the scene and carried off the disputed carcass, we are taught by wise old Aesop.

In the circumstances in which the warring nations found themselves after exhaustion of soul and body was the pen of the propagandist to prove more mighty than the sword of the soldier? It is comparatively easy to kill men, but it is exceedingly hard to kill insidious lies and false doctrines of government and of industrial economy.

If there is one thing our race should be profoundly thankful for it is sanity. This after all rare quality has saved us from the fate of poor, mystical, poetical, misled Russia, whose performances in the great world war at one period were unguiltless.

With her morale lowered at home, by the sale of her soul by traitors within and purchase by conspirators without, by the pernicious preaching and the insidious whisperings of unbalanced men, Russia fell into the pit and had almost dragged the whole world with her.

Yes, sanity saved our race too after the French Revolution of the 18th century.

It ought to be understood by us all that general unrest, social strife, sometimes even revolution follow periods of prolonged war.

With the best fighters weakened by sustained effort and awful deprivation, is there anything to greatly wonder at that the social shucker, the harebrained reconstructor, the wily demagogue and the enemy to all industry and thrift, and good government, come out of their hiding and ply their craft with an energy worthy a better cause.

There will always be those in fair number willing and anxious to get something for nothing. Indeed, the indifference or weakness, or blindness of otherwise excellent citizens has been a bigger contribution to the progress of false ideas of government and untrue social relation than the audacity of the cranks themselves.

Charles Rollin, the gifted Principal of the University of Paris two centuries ago, said of Solon the lawgiver to the Republic of Athens some 2,500 years ago, and whose laws obtained for a full five hundred years in that state:

"Those persons, who, in public differences and dissensions, did not declare themselves of one party or the other, but waited to see how things would go before they determined, were declared infamous, condemned to perpetual banishment, and to have their estates confiscated.

"Solon had learned from long experience and deep reflection that the rich, the powerful, and even the wise and virtuous, are usually the most backward to expose themselves to the inconveniences which public dissensions and troubles pro-