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**COST OF A STRIKES** are expensive luxuries. In estimating the cost of the Welsh STRIKE, colliery strike, it is hard to know where to stop. It cost the South Wales Miners' Federation \$750,000 in strike pay, and the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, \$360,000. The South Wales coal owners paid the Cambrian Combine \$1,400,000 indemnity. The County of Glamorgan paid \$250,000 for police. The loss in output was \$9,000,000, which loss was shared by the men in loss of wages. The railway companies lost \$1,200,000 to \$1,500,000 in freights, the middlemen \$400,000 in profits, the ship-owners \$850,000 in freights, the shop keepers an amount impossible to estimate, and no doubt, the indirect losses of "innocent bystanders" were incalculable. Nobody seems to have made any money or gained any substantial advantage in return for all this waste.

## WAR WITHOUT FIGHTING.

THERE is an uneasy feeling abroad that the Kaiser's ministers are crying "Peace, peace, when there is no peace" with the object of healing, be it ever so slightly, the financial hurt of Germany. According to Rear-Admiral Mahan, there is such a thing as war without fighting. He says: "War in modern conception and practice is business, not fighting. It is carrying a point through the opponent's sense of inability to resist. The less the fighting the better the business; just as in a campaign of actual war the maneuvering which attains a result without fighting, by strategic dispositions placing a superior force in a point of decisive advantage, is more creditable than the bloodiest of head-on victories. Two hundred years ago a great French admiral said: 'The best victories are those which cost least in blood, hemp, and iron'—in life and in material."

From this point of view Germany is already at war and so are France and England. France is unostentatiously transferring her troops to various points nearer the Meuse and Moselle lines of fortresses, which, when completely manned and equipped, make the Franco-German frontier practically impassable. The French Government has seriously debated the question whether it is wise to allow the two years' service men whose term of service with the colours expires on September 24th, 25th and 26th, to leave until the crisis is over, and it is understood that the ministers decided to keep

the men with the colours, unless Germany releases her two year men, whose terms expire from September 24th to September 27th. Germany, on its side, has the biggest army in the field that it has ever turned out for autumn manoeuvres, and is frankly carrying on a sham war based upon the supposition that the British Army is trying to capture Berlin. England has a big fleet on the east coast of Scotland, and is rushing coal from Wales to ports in the north in trucks labelled "On His Majesty's Service—Urgent."

None of these things necessarily imply that there is imminent danger of fighting, but they certainly involve Admiral Mahan's idea of war. Germany is not maintaining an army at a direct cost of \$203,382,000 a year, and a navy at a direct cost of \$110,838,700 simply for the fun that can be got out of the Autumn manoeuvres. Herr Bebel, the Socialist leader in the Reichstag, is naturally making the most capital he can out of the situation and he predicts a greater navy bill than ever. The Socialists interpret the Kaiser's Hamburg speech to mean "Arm on sea and land." The Vorwarts, the socialistic organ, says that the speech indisputably contains the sketch of a new programme, and implies that the supposed high-water mark is to be still further exceeded. "Any one," says that journal, "inside or outside the frontiers of Germany, who has hitherto still rendered homage to the deceptive idea that with the expiration of the Navy law, Germany's naval armaments would have reached their highest point, so that a pause would follow in her arming, involving with it a pause in the competition in armaments among the nations, will now learn better." It then goes on to remark that it is impossible for the peaceful tendencies of England to develop if England is forced by German armaments to add to her own armaments, the cost of which seems to her to be already intolerable.

The German Socialists evidently recognise that the pace in naval development is being set by Germany and that Great Britain will make any sacrifice rather than abandon the primacy in sea-power. The sovereignty of the sea is necessary to the very existence of the British Empire, and any further extension of Germany's naval programme on the lines followed in recent years, would be nothing less than an act of war, which would probably lead to fighting. German diplomacy has been at fault in the Moroccan matter, chiefly in that it failed to appreciate the solidity of the Anglo-French entente.