

to make war, it is training them to crime, and that the crime of wholesale murder, for some ulterior purpose.

It cannot be denied that the spirit of crime has its lowering effects upon men and nations. Ideals which make men and nations are broken down and regarded as valueless.

War's subtle evils affect practically all the nation. The soldiers themselves are trained to a dulness of sensibility to wrongdoing. Their very wills are slavishly made the wills of the King or General, for "their's not to make reply, their's not to reason why, their's but to do or die,"—commit, at another's order, a crime which they would never have committed but for the training the nation has given them.

But war has also its evil effects on other classes. The morale of the nation is behind the army, and we were told during the Great War, that only that made victory a possibility. In other words, unless a nation is trained to a kind of patriotism that glories in the death of countless numbers of the enemy nation, unless that sympathy is practically nationwide and characteristic of all classes, success in war would be impossible. Statesmen dedicate their great powers of mind and soul to war, rather than to the development of their own people. The skill of scientists and inventors is devoted to the base aim of slaughter, and men are knighted for high degrees of fiendish inventiveness. The common day-school of the land is made a breeding place of evil, until the child who sings the national anthem is, in a nation devoted to war, taught to hiss the hymn of hate. Gentle women, because of their mighty love for the soldier whom the king has ordered to the front, are brought to exultation in the undoing of fellow beings, whose undoing brings untold woe to other women. Can anything prevent in times of war, or even in times of preparation for war, the subtle and inexpressible demoralization of the rank and file of the nation everywhere? Other evils are more or less sectional, as for instances liquor, which injures morally those who use it to excess, but war blights all the nation, regardless of sex or age, class or profession.

War's mere accompanying evils are beyond calculation. There is a natural abandonment, on the part of multitudes of men engaged in war, of those high claims of God which have