ed until now. The president has demanded legi-

mous in this direction from the next con-
gress and has ordered a committee to draw up
a program to be presented at the coming ses-

The ideal of equalizing the burdens of war
government as a whole and its constituent
 ideals. However, it appears that this one will

sufficiently tempered by the realizing that future

execution to suit the most powerful of the

KING COTTON THREATENED

ed in our time. Indeed, it will affect the

to all such ideals as abolishing poverty through

Source N. Cuban, chairman of the com-

mittee of the senate investigating munitions,

excerpts his recommendation at this action of

the administration, as have other members of

this committee, declaring that departments of

the government are co-dependants with the

munitions makers. And the policy and aims of

the members of this committee were called into

consultation by the president at a meeting of

"experts" on this problem and he indicates

that the matter has not been considered from

all angles.

The only way to make war undesirable for

those elements that have become familiar with

it is to remove the profit which they have

herefore derived. Whether anything sub-

stances of the entire move will depend

on how well the commission is able to elimi-

nate the influence of the powerful munitions

interests and produce plans for impartial, cur-

seous legislation.

KING COTTON THREATENED

DANGER FOR THE SOUTH

KING cotton, for whom the Civil War

threatened to bear our country another

day, may soon be going the way of so many of

his predecessors. So says our ambassador to

Czechoslovakia Long, who has brought back a

synthetic product from the mills of Milan.

This new material, prepared from wood

is claimed to be capable of replacing 80%

of Italy's real cotton consumption.

If the Germans and Italians, who are de-

veloping this synthetic cotton, succeed, the

future of the cotton producing regions looks

very uncertain. The technical processes

developed in European laboratories in times of

need may become so efficient as to hasten

the natural product in the open market.

As scientists and engineers we should look

with pride upon a synthetic product that

can afford a job that has been wasted laboriously

from nature. But as practical economists, we

should consider our southern states, Egypt,

India, and Russia, all mining cotton. Here,

to-day, "surplus" cotton is being gleaned under

and paid for from the public treasury. What

would happen, if the percentage of cotton

now being used were to be replaced by another

product? How could the industrial structure

of the south be modified to rest upon

some other base? What new turn would the

problem take?

The answers to these questions would be

even more difficult to find than those which

have troubled the south since the Civil War.

Recognizing the possibility of such a problem,

President Roosevelt has sent the fabricated

material, this synthetic cotton, to the

world for testing laboriously from nature. But

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