

are prepared to write off their losses and go ahead with the war. They know that peace by victory in 1919, or even later, will be better and more enduring than peace by negotiation now. And they know that if Germany does not lose the war she wins it.

BOMBAST AND BLASPHEMY The German Emperor has once again been testifying to the efficient work of his senior partner,—the good old German god. He says that in recent events he “admires the hand of God in history.” This is the hand, we suppose, that has stayed in the meantime the conversion of the German people to democracy, that has brought even Christian Socialists into line with the Junkers, and that will prevent guilty Belgium (save the mark!) from allowing herself to be used again as a “jumping-off ground for the enemies of Germany.” One rather damning fact has emerged within the last few weeks. It has transpired that in the end of July, 1914, the German Government calmly formulated a demand that France should hand over to it the fortresses of Toul and Verdun as a guarantee that she would stay quiet in the war that was being trumped up with Russia over the Balkan question. It is being laboriously explained in Berlin that this demand was never presented by the German representative in Paris, and that it could not, therefore, have influenced the subsequent course of events. But that it should ever have been thought of, and actually put in writing, is a sufficient revelation of the bullying spirit that brought on the war. The still more recent publication of the private memorandum compiled by Prince Lichnowsky in August, 1916, for the edification of a few personal friends, is another most damning document. The Prince was German Ambassador in London at the outbreak of the war, and tried for a time to counter the manoeuvres of the war-lords at Berlin, who were set on provoking it on any pretext. He is now in disgrace for having told the truth to his own people. The Junkers were too many for him. And was braggadocio ever more fittingly joined together with blasphemy than