

THE BOOKSHELFCONDITIONS OF PEACE: E. H. Carr (MacMillan, New York, 282 pp., \$3.00)

This book by the Professor of International Politics at the University College of Wales, is by far the best discussion of the post-war world that has yet been published. Mr. Carr begins with the important recognition that the current war is an episode in a world revolution against three predominant ideas of the 19th century: liberal democracy, national self-determination, and laissez-faire economics. He discusses the breakdown in the application of these three conceptions, and the moral crisis which underlies the failure of our political, social and economic conceptions. He also makes it clear that there can be no returning to these 19th century ideas; that would be both futile and disastrous. We need a revolutionary policy to meet a revolutionary situation; we must re-define and re-interpret democracy in a new and revolutionary sense. Democracy must be carried into the economic and social spheres, and the holders of economic power must take their orders from and be responsible to the community.

The second part of the book discusses tentatively some outlines of policy for the immediate future. The starting point of domestic policy must be planned consumption to provide a minimum standard for all in the essentials of life. Abroad, Britain must lead the way to the European economic unity which is imperative. Out of relief administration after the war and the organs of economic reconstruction must come an European Planning Authority, the only alternative to disastrous economic nationalism.

Above all, a punitive peace, and an attempt to keep Germany permanently submissive means chaos. "Victorious peoples will be called in the postwar period to make a fateful and irrevocable choice between the immediate pleasures of indulging in vengeance and the more remote but more lasting benefits of future peace."

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AFTER THE WAR? by Maxwell Stewart (Public Affairs Committee, New York, 32 pp., 10¢).

Another excellent Public Affairs Pamphlet, this one raising all the important questions about planning for the maintenance of peace and planning for world economic well-being.

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TYPICAL PLANS FOR POST WAR WORLD PEACE:

O. T. Mallery (International Conciliation, New York, 23 pp., 5¢)

Brief descriptions of six kinds of plans advocated by various groups and individuals, and a comparative analysis of the various plans. They are all moving towards the same destination, the author says.

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N.B. A complete index of the subjects of articles appearing in "News Comment" in the last six months of 1942, will be included in the January fifteenth issue

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