

PREPAREDNESS

Mr. Guy Sheppard is, I am sorry to see, rapidly graduating into the class of the professional politician.

Instead of meeting facts with facts, he dodges facts by asking counter questions and repeating a wild fandango of words to prove his case. I have admitted that his description of the horrors of war are correct but I do not admit that these horrors can be averted by silly talk.

On this continent last year, about 30,000 people were killed by motor cars, - 6000 of these were children. I can imagine nothing more horrible than killing a child, mostly for the lust of pleasure. Shall we all start a crusade to stop building cars?

Switzerland has enjoyed peace for years because she has been sensible enough to keep a well-armed army to protect her against trouble. Shall we insist that she abandon well tried principles for the hair-brained theories of the modern politician?

Mr. Sheppard says that war proves nothing. I beg to differ. The late war proved the utter futility of Mr. Sheppard's pet argument, that "The pen is mightier than the sword", a platitude too childish to even be considered among thinking men. The pacifists love to repeat it, even when the Japanese are walking through Manchuria, with the sword; and the clerical gentlemen at Geneva are wearing out their pens in their endeavours to stop them.