

lines, the Defence Committee might really be regarded as a General Staff, and as supplying an invaluable safeguard against neglect of precautions and misunderstanding of the needs of the Services.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman relies on the self-sufficiency of the politician to evolve a naval and military policy which will be popular in any case and specious enough to impose on those who have no expert knowledge; he sets at naught the counsels of his expert advisers on the most important, the governing, points of Imperial Defence, and uses his professional colleagues as mere subordinates who are to explain, without criticism, how the untutored but dominant conceptions of the Government can be carried out. In his hands the Defence Committee is more than useless; it gives to the public a false sense of security, and the soldiers and sailors who serve on it are merely unwilling parties to the deception.

W. EVANS-GORDON.