

set for him in 1912, and if Britain had given in advance an assurance of unconditional neutrality in the event of war being so "forced," the German programme for 1914 would have come off without a single hitch.

A CONTRAST The true reason of German hate against England is that she would not accept the rôle which German diplomacy had assigned to her, and that she refused to give the Teuton aggressors a free hand in Europe. How different was the attitude of Berlin and London at the outbreak of the war! From the English point of view, too much attention cannot be directed to what one of the Cabinet Ministers (Rt. Hon. C. G. Masterman) has put on record in connection with the crisis. Speaking of the Cabinet conferences which were held continuously during the twelve days that preceded the war, he says, "It is breaking no Cabinet secret to assert that all the thought and passionate effort in the mind of every member was the preservation of European peace." And yet there are some individual Americans, with English (or Scottish!) names, who still insist on trying to "dance on the tight-rope." Take Mr. G. B. McLellan, for instance, of Princeton University. What he says is this: "whether one side or the other is right in this unfortunate war is, as far as we Americans are concerned, purely a matter of opinion." And Mr. McLellan is now a Professor, whatever may have been his previous history: he is a Professor who professes not to know!

NEUTRAL RIGHTS AT SEA The torpedoing of the S.S. Ancona, and the fire in the Bethlehem Steel Works came opportunely to distract American attention from the Washington note on neutral rights. At the best it would have excited only a languid interest, though in British circles its contents will be discussed with courtesy and calmness. We know that any genuine hardship inflicted on neutral peoples by our naval policy will be adjusted without unnecessary difficulty or delay. True,