

which seem to us most unsound are his light-hearted identification of "the Germans" with the Hohenzollern regime, and his failure to recognize the fact that the Hapsburg system exists for the benefit of a small, highly selfish caste of reactionaries. To Mr. Brailsford, the reigning Emperor seems "about the sanest man in his dominions," and with this phrase he lightly skims over the abominations of Hapsburg method and tradition, which disclosed themselves as badly in the Friedjung trial as in the days when Lombardy and Milan were subject to Vienna; and which have assumed the most sinister of all in the wholesale hangings and shootings whereby alone, since the beginning of the present war, the Hapsburg type of Government has been preserved in the Slavonic portions of the Dual Monarchy. Mr. Brailsford does not coin a happy phrase when he refers to "the little wrangling states of dismembered Austria;" nor is he at all convinced when he says: "No race deserves more sympathy than the Czechs; but were its sufferings a good school for power?" The only inference to be derived from this last saying is that it would be better to let a Czech population of 65 per cent. be dominated by a German minority of 35 per cent. rather than to turn the tables—even accepting Mr. Brailsford's statistics at face value. It is very easy indeed to write against the dismemberment of Austria on the ground that were the Dual Monarchy down there would be nothing but chaos in its place, and to emphasize in that connection the probable sufferings of German and Magyar minorities. The weakness of such forensics lies in the fact that the actual majorities are entitled to a chance to show whether or not they can govern the minorities more or less unjustly than they themselves have been governed by those minorities. Furthermore, Mr. Brailsford's whole argument on this vital subject seems to us vitiated by his failure to recognize that the Hapsburg tradition is thoroughly vicious in itself, and yet, while moribund, is sufficiently strong to prevent any given Hapsburg ruler from working out a federal solution in good faith.