

PREFACE

THE conduct of modern warfare demands the co-operation of practically every science. Engineering, chemistry, bacteriology and agriculture are all needed. Even the sanctity of home is invaded, and domestic economy regulated. But behind all the sciences stands the human factor, infinitely the most important of all. On the behaviour of the private in the trenches, the officer in his dug-out, the mechanic at his lathe, and the woman in the kitchen depends the victory. What science can explain how and why they act, or in what way their mental attitudes are altered? Again, before hostilities emerge, something must happen; no meteorological or terrestrial event can cause war, it must be a change in the mind of man. Are the forces which make war and decide its issue to lie uninvestigated? Is mankind going to accept this staggering burden, or attempt solution of its problem merely by wishing for peace?

There is a science ambitious enough to hope for an answer to each of these questions. Unfortunately psychology is young amongst the sciences,