The following books (*After-War Problems*. By the Earl of CROMER, Viscount HALDANE, the Bishop of EXETER, Professor ALFRED MARSHALL, and Others. Edited by WILLIAM HARBUTT DAWSON. London: George Allen and Unwin, Limited. 1917. Pp. 366. 7s. 6d. net.—*Proposals for the Prevention of Future Wars*. By Viscount BRYCE and Others. London: George Allen and Unwin, Limited. 1s. net. Pp. 53.—*The Choice Before Us*. By G. LOWES DICKINSON. London: George Allen and Unwin. Pp. 274. 6s.—*The Perils of Peace*. By CECIL CHESTERTON. With an Introduction by HILAIRE BELLOC. London: T. Werner Laurie. Pp. 239. 2s. net) deal with the purposes, necessities, and perils of militarism and also show the dangers underlying the policy of peace at any price, and they do these things from many different points of view. As the title-page shows, the book written by Lord Cromer and his fellow-workers is the product of some of our foremost intelligences focussed on the solution of the large problems which the cessation of hostilities will reveal. The editor foresees that the new England, whatever it becomes, will be the result of long and painful effort, of sacrifice and renunciation. Gambetta's watchword is his also: "Le travail, encore le travail, et toujours le travail." Education, the relation of capital and labour, the land question, the economic future of women, are some of the general subjects debated with freshness and suggestiveness by the writers. In the section of Social Reform two more directly medical topics, National Health and the Care of Child Life, are handled by Dr. James Kerr and Miss Margaret MacMillan respectively. Dr. Kerr sees great possibilities of improved national health if the conditions are squarely faced and dealt with on an honest and just basis. He deprecates the tinkering with superficial symptoms, and finds that the chief national concern should be healthy maternity and good nursing. All services and commodities, he concludes, necessary for public health should be completely controlled by the community in its own interests and for the benefit of all its members. Miss MacMillan's plea for the open-air nursery school will be read with interest in connexion with Mr. Fisher's recent proposals. All who wish to help in the solution of the after-war problems should study this book.

Lord Bryce and his collaborators suggest a treaty to be established between the great Powers of Europe, the United States, and Japan, agreeing to refer to the existing permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, or to the Court of Arbitral Justice proposed at the second Hague Conference—if such a Court is established—or to some other arbitral tribunal, all disputes of a justiciable character, and which the Powers concerned have failed to settle by diplomatic methods. Matters of national honour, it is suggested, would also be submitted to arbitrament. The prefatory note is dated February, 1915, although publication did not take place till more than two years later. The project is a well-thought-out one, and quotations from leading statesmen on the subject of international relationships after the war show that the views of the projectors are shared by leading and responsible persons. It has become abundantly clear, however, to everybody who thinks, that proposals for the reform of international relations can have no substantial basis until Germany has been punished for the repudiation of her undertakings—to put her offences against the world at their lowest estimate.

Mr. Lowes Dickinson in a plea for internationalism as against militarism would probably not agree that punishment of Germany was necessary, and this, it seems to us, is a weak spot in the policy which he advocates, for we have never been able to convince ourselves that punishment is not a deterrent of crime. He thinks that all the world may be unfavourably affected by militarism, but he admits that Germany is the leading case. Readers are certain to differ according to their estimates of moral values from some of the conclusions of the author, while they are equally certain to agree with others; the paradoxical position of those who attribute the necessity of war to any one cause, such as economic competition or growth of population, is neatly exposed.

It is stated on the cover of Mr. Cecil Chesterton's book that it shows conclusively "that any peace which leaves the present German Empire in existence with its centre in Berlin would be a mere truce." The book fails to do anything of the sort, but there is sense in some of what the author says.

New Inventions.

A DOUBLE-BARRELLED SYRINGE.

THE double-barrelled syringe shown in the illustration is made in two sizes—one to hold 2 cubic centimetres and the other to hold 20 cubic centimetres. The object of the smaller syringe is to inject a little saline from one barrel after the drug has been injected intramuscularly from the other barrel, thus preventing a track being made during the withdrawal of the needle. The mercury, or whatever drug is being injected, is thus prevented from getting into the subcutaneous tissue and producing an abscess or an indurated lump. A local anæsthetic can be given before the drug is injected intramuscularly, without having to make two pricks. The larger syringe is for intravenous or for intraspinal work.

If the left-hand barrel, to which the needle is attached, is filled with the solution to be injected, after inserting the needle into the vein, as much blood may be withdrawn into the right-hand barrel, emptied into a receptacle, and refilled as often as desired, before or after the drug is injected. When injecting colloids it is a good plan to let the blood mix well with the colloidal suspension before it is injected, a manoeuvre which can be well carried out with this double-barrelled syringe. As the right-hand barrel can always be filled and refilled with a solution from a receptacle underneath, and the contents discharged into the left-hand barrel, a dilute as well as a concentrated intravenous injection may be given. Another advantage is, that the right-hand barrel may be filled with a calcium chloride, glucose, and gelatin mixture, which can be injected through the same needle before the contents of the left-hand barrel are discharged, to prevent shock; or after, should symptoms of shock threaten.

They are made by Messrs. Allen and Hanburys, Limited, 48, Wigmore-street, London, W. 1.

Wimpole-street, W.

J. E. R. McDONAGH, F.R.C.S.

A NEW FRACTURE SUSPENSION APPARATUS.

WE examined recently a new method of slinging fractured limbs at the McCaul Hospital for Officers, 52, Welbeck-street, W. The apparatus, the "Hammock Suspension for Fractures," was devised by Miss Gasetti, a Frenchwoman.

The apparatus is simple and inexpensive. Essentially it consists of a frame made of wood, which can be bolted to any bed, becoming thus more widely useful than those forms of apparatus which need a special bedstead. The frame is quadrilateral and is held above the bed some four or five feet, and to this rectangular horizontal frame are fastened pulleys through which run cords from which the injured limb is suspended; these cords are attached also to carefully adjusted counterweights which just counterbalance the weight of the injured limb and splints, so that when the patient wishes to move the broken limb the cords give to very slight force and the limb has the minimum of disturbance. The apparatus also provides for extension, and this can be so adjusted as not to interfere with the position and movements of the limb. The apparatus allows also for abduction of the limb, a matter sometimes of great importance in fractures at the upper end of the femur. This is effected by means of a transverse bar reaching outwards for a foot or two beyond the end of the bed; the pulley over which the extension cord works is fastened to this transverse rod as far as is necessary from the middle line, according to the amount of abduction needed. The apparatus struck us as admirably adapted for its purpose.