

WHAT SHALL BE DONE ABOUT

Germany?

From the *Christian Science Monitor*

ONE of the most arresting questions before the world—daily becoming less premature—is, "What Shall Be Done With Germany After the War?" In conversation, one already hears the question dismissed in a phrase, ranging all the way from "no punishment" to "complete annihilation." But these answers leave the complications unconsidered, untouched.

The Council of Democracy has sent to national leaders a questionnaire on the subject of Germany. At a later date collated returns will be available.

But meanwhile the reader can see, by trying to answer for himself the following carefully contrived questions, that the problem will require the most earnest study of statesmen and citizens alike. We present these questions, with a prefatory note, as a sort of intellectual exercise to illustrate the difficulties of post-war planning.

In order to keep the discussion within bounds and to confine it to the one question, "What shall be done with Germany after the War?" various related problems, important though they may be, have been eliminated, viz. :—

(a) The effect of public discussion of the peace terms on the actual military conduct of the war. Such discussion

necessarily enters the sphere of strategy in so far as it provides propaganda for use by us, or by the Germans, to weaken or strengthen their will to resist.

(b) How large a share the United States will actually have in determining the conditions imposed on Germany, in view of possible conflicting desires of Russia, Great Britain, &c.

(c) Questions of World Federation, treatment of other countries, &c.

FOREWORD

For practical purposes the question, "What Shall Be Done With Germany After the War?" has been subdivided into the following specific topics:—

1. Punishment.
2. Reparations.
3. Form of government.
4. Disarmament.
5. Re-education.
6. Relationship to rest of world.