

tain the virility of the race; nothing less than the shock of arms will stir man's nature to its depths, and bring to the surface the heroic and chivalric qualities so much prized by poets and women. Yet what have the Balkan shambles to show in the way of heroism, as compared with the every day acts of self-sacrifice made by the members of any city fire department? And not all the wars of Christendom can show finer chivalry than that of the men on the Titanic, who, looking death in the face, said, "Women first." Heroism and chivalry of war! Away with such sophistry! Men are not heroes when killing, but when serving their fellowmen.

s. c.



Calling the Hague Peace Conference.

The cynics and pessimists will say the President's call for the assembling of the nations of the world at The Hague in 1915, while so many wars are under way, savors of the grotesque. But let them have their grouchy say. Let them make the most of the Balkan atrocities, the Chinese revolution, the Mexican war, and the various uprisings in Venezuela, Haiti, and Peru, not to mention South Africa, Colorado, and Ulster; still, and notwithstanding all this, the peace conferences at The Hague are the greatest international events that have taken place in generations. There will doubtless be more wars among the backward nations; there may even be a war among the most advanced nations; yet so rapidly is the peace sentiment growing that every year adds to the horror of the idea of a resort to arms. What if militarists do laugh at The Hague Peace Court, and say that nothing comes of it all but talk? Men do not fight so long as they talk. Dogs, lacking the power of speech, can do nothing but fight when they fall upon the same bone. Men, too, fought when words were few, and speech was strange; but now that language is copious, and generally understood, they will talk until the original bone of contention has been forgotten.



The growth of peace sentiment during the past ten years can be marked not only by the fact that in spite of two Balkan wars the great nations of Europe kept out of the struggle, but that our own country is now negotiating private settlements to avoid being dragged into the Peace Court. Colombia, which was so wantonly outraged by this country under a former administration, is now on the point of agreement with us as to the amount of damage done her at the time of the Panama "Revolution." We are also about to rectify the

mistake made in exempting our shipping from Panama tolls, in defiance of a treaty of our own making. Thus are we building impregnable defenses. For no fortification can give such security to a nation as a reputation for fair dealing. A nation that acts on the policy, "Can we put this deal through?" must have a great armament; and she compels the arming of her neighbors. But when it asks, "Does this square with international polity?" a great step has been taken in the interests of peace.



It is significant that this call for the next Peace Conference comes from the United States, in compliance with the wishes of Queen Wilhelmina, at whose Court Henry Van Dyke is the American Minister. Russia, having called the first and second Peace Conferences, was looked to again. But, owing to international complications in the Balkans and neighboring countries, the Muscovite now has other interests at stake. Germany, for similar reasons, would not take the initiative. And there was fear that the Peace Conference for 1915 might not be called. It requires no great stretch of the imagination, however, to see the author of "The Other Wise Man," backed by a willing President and Secretary of State, exerting his utmost influence upon the Court to which he is accredited. And, since the preliminary arrangements for the Peace Conference are to be made by the Ministers to The Hague, it is most fitting that America should be represented by such a man as Henry Van Dyke.

s. c.



Democracy in South Carolina.

In a partisan sense the South Carolina legislature is unanimously Democratic. But in principle the lower house at least is overwhelmingly anti-democratic. Within a week it has demanded repeal of the Fifteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, and has rejected a woman suffrage amendment. Evidently the South Carolina definition of a Democrat is one who favors government of all the people by less than one-fourth of the number.

s. d.



Dodging.

President Wilson will not take a stand on the suffrage question because the party has not spoken. Congress cannot take cognizance because it is a State question. The States—well, the women of nine States—are going to vote for the next President and Congressmen.

s. c.