"America Can Be the World's Peacemaker."

A Talk with Baroness von Suttner, One of the World's Most Wonderful Women.

This is America's opportunity to become the world's great peacemaker. This is the Americanization of the world for which she should strive.

The speaker was the Baroness von Suttner, one of the most powerful among the leaders of the arbitration movement. As a delegate from Austria to the International Peace Congress she had been addressing meetings in Boston and this city, pleading the causes of peace and fraternity among nations, the arbitration of Justice instead of the arbitrament of the sword.

Baroness von Suttner is sixty-one years old, but does not look it by fifteen years. She has a strong, compact, noble face with a most engaging smile, in reality above the medium stature, plump rather than stately, her face framed in rings of black hair turning gray, as she sat in the parlor of the Park Avenue Hotel talking with a representative of The World. She punctuated her remarks with flashes of her large brown eyes and expressive gestures of her small, plump hands, undamaged, save for the plain gold ring which the Baron Gundazar von Suttner placed upon her finger when he eloped with her many years ago. It was the ring against poverty, which resulted from this romantic marriage, that started the Baroness to writing as the progress of the movement of which she has long been the apostate.

"It is making great strides," replied the Baroness, "especially in France, England and America. Our meetings in Boston were so crowded that we had to turn out thousands away. The Industrial Union's resolution calling upon President Roosevelt to summon a conference of all nations for the arbitration of all questions that are interests of arbitration is another triumph for the cause. In France the leading statesmen are heartily with us."

"In England the cause is led by King Edward, who has justly been called the 'peacemaker.'" It was no easy achievement for one man to bring about arbitration treaties with France and Germany within a few months of each other as the king did.

Rattler Exits War's Glory.

"And how about the military nations of Germany and Austria?" asked The World reporter.

"Militaryism is not a part of national life in those countries, where every man must be a soldier and where war's glory is exalted by the rulers themselves, whom every one seeks to please, the seed takes longer to grow and bear fruit than in lands where no man need be a soldier unless he wants to be. Conscription is the name of Europe, and I am unable to see that it is seriously talked of by British statesmen."

"The German Emperor is a stumbling block, is the nitty."

The Baroness smiled and considered a moment before answering: "Down the unexpected that we must look for from Kaiser Wilhelm, and should not become convinced that war is not the rational and civilized way for nations to settle their difficulties, he would take up the cause of arbitration with the vitality and energy which he devotes to everything in which he is interested and would proceed rapidly to success."

"Do you not look for difficulties with the bantams, the fighting-nation nations of Central America and South America?" asked The World reporter.

"Argentina and Chile have made an arbitration treaty and agreed to keep their armaments," replied the Baroness, "and on last week the newspaper published an account of a meeting of the Presidents of the Central American Republics at which it was agreed to leave all future disputes to the Hague tribunal. These are all that the Baroness Suttner所述。
The Baroness smiled and considered a moment before answering: "It is always the unexpected which I look for from Kaiser Wilhelm, and he should be convinced that war is neither the rational nor the civilized way for nations to settle their difficulties, he would take up the case of arbitration, and thus conserve the vital and energy which he devotes to everything in which he is interested and would push it rapidly to success.

"Do you not look for difficulties with the bantams, the fighting-cock nations of Central and South America?" asked The World reporter.

"Argentina and Chili have made an arbitration treaty and agreed to keep down their armaments," repeated the Baroness, and only last week the newspapers published an account of the meeting of the Presidents of the Central American Republics at which it was agreed to leave all future disputes to The Hague tribunal. These are a bright dawn for the day of peace in Latin America.

"It is just such agreements as those that we urge upon all nations, agreements to submit all their disputes to this tribunal which they have established for this very purpose.

"We have civic police to keep order among individuals. Why not have international police to maintain order among nations?"

"Is that practicable?"

"Anything is practicable when it is necessary," flashed the emphatic reply. "When the nations of the world once agree that such an international police is a necessity, they will soon find a way of establishing it."

"And what is the role that the United States is to play in this great movement?"

"America, by reason of her independent situation, without entangling alliances, without causes of friction with other nations, with freedom and equity as her traditions, with no ideal of militarism, can be, if she will, the great peacemaker of the world. This is how she should try to Americanize the world. It is a splendid and noble role, and if instead of increasing her armament she would reduce it and stand beside the world as she used to stand, as she ever stood until the war with Spain raised a certain militant spirit, the great examples of justice and righteousness, unarmed; if, I say, she will resume this heroic attitude, if she will make treaties of arbitration with all other nations in order that war may be for her out of the question forever, the world will have one less nation that never respected a nation before; her power for good will be felt all over the earth, and the other nations will soon follow her example."

"The doctrine that the best way to insure peace is to be prepared for war is an exploded fallacy. Great armies and powerful fleets are a constant threat. They imply distrust and suspicion of other nations and reliance upon brute strength rather than upon justice. The sensible polkoman keeps his club in his pocket and goes about with a smile. The brandishing of big clubs and mailed fists means for war; it stimulates militarism at home and arouses animosity, suspicion, jealousy, and distrust abroad."

"Up in the Berkshire Hills I noticed a feature of your American life—beautiful houses, each in its own garden, and no fences between the gardens. I suppose it would be in the world—nations living side by side, such in its own garden, with no fences between. Armament leads to counter-armament and to a desire to use the arms; the military spirit is instilled into the people from childhood, and the heroes of the nations are the men who have led them to battle. I believe the day has come when no nation will ever again make a hero of a man whose greatness lies in his ability as a slaughterer of his fellow-men.""