

ferences result merely from our efforts to represent the bark in terms of human speech.

But man has this same sign language. The English strive to restrain themselves in its use, but in periods of excitement it is sure to come to expression. And we all know how the French, Italians and other Europeans gesticulate while they talk. Indeed, some scientists see in this sign-language the origin of human speech. But the great gulf between the two has never been satisfactorily bridged, and speech still remains the striking distinction between man and brute, no matter how low in the scale man may be or how high the brute.

#### **THE "BOW-WOW" THEORY**

How speech first began is unknown. We have a great number of words in our language, and similar words are to be found in all languages, which are *imitative* of sounds such as *bow-wow*, *moo*, *baa*, etc. But the theory of *onomatopœia* does not explain the words *dog*, *cow*, *sheep*, or the large majority of those we use. Therefore this theory has been nicknamed the "bow-wow" theory.

#### **THE "DING-DONG" THEORY**

A second theory is that there is in human nature the tendency to answer spontaneously to