

**CHIVALRY
AND
HUNNISH-
NESS**

In one of his recent addresses, Mr. Fisher, the English Minister of Education, told a highly illuminating story of what once happened in an Oxford picture palace. It was only a month or two before the war broke out, and the theatre was crowded with undergraduates. On the film appeared the portrait of the German Emperor, whereupon one of their number emitted an insulting observation. Immediately in front of him there happened to be sitting a German student—probably one of those Rhodes scholars, nominated by the All-Highest himself, who are now conspicuous by their absence from Oxford; and this young Teuton promptly turned in his seat and boxed the ears of the offender. Instantly the whole theatre burst into applause! Commenting afterwards upon the incident, another German is reported to have said, "You English are a wonderful people; such chivalry as that would have been quite incomprehensible in my country!" The incident just narrated occurred in time of peace, but we have had innumerable instances of how the Germans contrast their methods with ours also in time of war. Take the following expression of surprise which forms part of a letter found on a German prisoner: "Our stretcher-bearers carry a Red-cross flag and can go up to the front line unmolested. The English even let ambulances drive up without firing!" And contrast with that the experience of a Toronto Highlander, who spent eighteen months in a prisoners' camp in Germany: "When you asked the guard for a cup of water, a German Red-cross nurse would knock it out of your hand and throw the cup to the ground." By their war-methods the Germans are certainly multiplying their opportunities of seeing themselves as others see them. The Coroner who held the inquest on the bodies of fourteen victims of one of the recent Zeppelin raids on London (including seven members of one family) expressed himself in the following terms of burning indignation: "If this sacrifice of innocent life leads the English people hereafter to determine that they will have no truck, as the saying is, commercially, politically, socially and economically with the German beast