

that this line was not pursued by the principal speakers. The chairman emphatically laid down the position that "We have no hostile feeling against Germany. The last thing we wish to do is to provoke demonstrations upon Germany's part by offering what might appear to be demonstrations on our part. We wish to be in friendly relation with everybody as far as possible, but we do desire most emphatically to maintain command of the ocean." Mr. Wilkinson spoke of the awakening effect upon us of the increase in the German navy, but he treated it as an addition not to the strength of an individual enemy, but broadly to the non-English naval forces of the world, with any combination of which we must be able to deal. Our business in short is with security, not with enmities. We welcome the call to be "armed, stationed, and alert," and are cheered, if a little surprised, to hear it sounded by the stirring voice of one whom we have long delighted to listen to in a different sphere. But, frankly, we regret the mention of Pan-Germanism: if the Austrians believe it, as our readers this month and last may see that they believe it, to be an unreal thing, the madness of a few irresponsible fanatics, surely we may dispense with it even as a national stimulant. It is true that a more highly placed authority has announced that Germany's future lies upon the water; but even if a definite meaning must be given to those words—and one would think the general meaning a fit enough description of the needs of a rapidly growing inland population—there is good reason to believe, as Mr. Duffield shows on a later page, that it is America with her Monroe Doctrine that is the real obstacle to be cleared away from before the advance of German world-power. At any rate, we have nothing to do with threats or panic: "the realm of England is not so easy to be won." Let us build doggedly and train determinedly; but let us not speak with our enemies until we speak with them in the gate.