

FIGHTING FOR PEACE

Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., to the German Minister for Foreign Affairs, June 9, 1915.)

“If a belligerent cannot retaliate against an enemy without injuring the lives of neutrals as well as their property, humanity, as well as justice and a due regard for the dignity of neutral powers, should dictate that the practice be discontinued. If persisted in it would in such circumstances constitute an unpardonable offense against the sovereignty of the neutral nation affected. . . . The rights of neutrals in time of war are based upon principle, not upon expediency, and the principles are immutable. It is the duty and obligation of belligerents to find a way to adapt the new circumstances to them.” (The Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., to the German Minister for Foreign Affairs, July 21, 1915.)

“The law of nations in these matters, upon which the Government of the United States based that protest” (*i. e.*, against the German declaration of February, 1915, declar-