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that the machinery of the last con-
ference has proved dilatory and con-
fusing. A number of questions still
await solution, as, for instance, the
right of delegates to take up the time
of the conference; the right of a ma-
jority over a minority in the absence
of unanimity; the power of a chair-
man to confine the discussion within
certain limits. All this should be
settled before another meeting can
prove satisfactory.

The danger to the effectiveness of
The Hague conference, which these
words disclose, should be carefully
avoided. Here is another thing:
The fourth of the opinions expressed
by the conference reads as follows:
"The conference expresses the
opinion that the preparation of regu-
lations relative to the laws and cus-
toms of naval war should figure in
the programme of the next con-
ference, and that in any case the
powers may apply, as far as possible,
to war by sea the principles of the
convention relative to the laws and
customs of war on land."

The possibilities which lie in this
important opinion serve to enforce
the anxiety felt by those who are
awaiting an announcement by the
government that these preliminary
matters are under discussion.

Official documents establish the
fact that the last Hague conference
contemplated the appointment of a
provisional committee to arrange the
work of the next meeting. Until this
is done the summoning of the con-
ference, which is due next year, is
rather problematical.—Washington
(D. C.) Herald.

A BRAVE MAN'S DEATH

A story of a brave man's death is
told in the following dispatch printed
in the St. Louis Times: Macon, Ga.,
May 22.—Death came to B. Sanders
Walker early today, ending a fight
against the inevitable with few
equals for cold nerve.

Last Thursday the young banker
awoke with a headache and took a
bichloride of mercury tablet by mis-
take for an asperin tablet. The mis-
take was not noted until Walker de-
veloped the familiar symptoms of
mercurial poisoning, and then it was
too late for physicians to stop the
deadly drug paralyzing his kidneys
and destroying his tissues.

For two days by sheer will power
he wound up his business affairs,
bade his friends good-by and then
took to bed to die. There were
times during his six-day battle with
death that the patient indomitably
refused to accept his doctors' diag-
nosis and insisted he intended to
live. But the anguish of stoppage of
his digestive organs and the constant
suffering he was forced to undergo
as physicians endeavored to sweat
the poison out of his system and
flood his stomach with olive oil,
broke his determination.

The end came peacefully, the vic-
tim lapsing into unconsciousness and
passing away as his wife held his
hand.

Mrs. Walker, who indirectly
caused the young financier's death by
inadvertently placing the mercury
tablets in the asperin box, collapsed
in sheer exhaustion.

The physicians now fear her health
may be permanently impaired by the
terrific mental strain incident to her
constant vigil at the bedside.

A characteristic utterance made
just before he went into a state of
partial coma late yesterday illus-
trates the remarkable composure
with which he has faced his death.

"If I am dying," he said, "then the
sensation is not as it is generally pic-
tured. If this be dying, then none
need fear its terrors."

When the banker felt a nausea
several hours after swallowing the
tablet he called physicians and was
informed that there was no hope for

him. Treatment was administered
and the banker was told to prepare
for death.

Instead of staying at home, Mr.
Walker attired in full dress and with
his beautiful wife went to a ban-
quet of the Georgia state convention
of bankers.

"Doctors have told me that the
end is near," he told the bankers,
smilingly. "I might as well make
the best of it."

Later the banker held a reception
at his home, telling the scores of
guests he wanted to meet death with-
out "making a great fuss about it."

Walker never lost his nerve; he
never feared the death that his phy-
sicians were certain could not be
fought off. He kept track of the
baseball scores; he urged friends to
visit at his bedside, and until yester-
day was confident of beating the
Grim Destroyer.

Despite the pain he suffered,
Walker frequently chided his physi-
cians for their air of hopelessness,
joking with them over what he said
was the "third degree" treatment
when they wrapped his weakened
body in blankets and sought to force
the pores of his skin to carry off the
poison.

Walker was the son of a prominent
banker of Monroe, Ga. His brother
is solicitor general for the western
circuit court of the state. The dead
banker made an independent fortune
in real estate, and was prominent in
banking circles. He was thirty-two
years old.

The publicity given the case re-
sulted in scores of suggestions from
physicians and nurses. It is very
rare for the victim of bichloride poi-
soning to survive more than 48 hours,
but there have been a few instances
where, as in Walker's case, the drug
did not take its full course for a
week.

It was on advice of a nurse in Bal-
timore that Walker's physicians un-
dertook the sweating process and the
feeding of olive oil. The suggestion
that an attempt be made in his case
to transplant by the Carroll process
the kidney of another man, dead
from other than kidney disease, into
Walker's body, came too late, as the
banker rapidly grew weaker and
weaker.

Macon authorities were forced to
detail a police guard at the banker's
home, so great was the city's interest
in his condition.

In the household the banker had
one staunch partisan in his belief
that he would defeat the insidious
poison. His wife, although she
would see no one, maintained with
equal confidence that he would re-
cover.

When the news of the banker's
death was given to the crowd wait-
ing outside the house many men who
knew the banker intimately wept.

Several citizens who had gathered
on the lawn knelt in prayer.

Bells early were tolled and prepa-
rations made to drape business build-
ings and hoist flags at half mast.

THE PROCESS

A revival was being held at a
small colored Baptist church in
southern Georgia. At one of the
meetings the evangelist, after an
earnest but fruitless exhortation, re-
quested all of the congregation who
wanted their souls washed white as
snow to stand up. One old darkey
remained sitting.

"Don' yo' want y' soul washed
w'ite as snow, Brudder Jones?"

"Mah soul done been washed w'ite
as snow, pahson."

"Whah wuz yo' soul washed w'ite
as snow, Brudder Jones?"

"Over yander to de Methodist'
chuh' across de railroad."

"Lawd God, Brudder Jones, yo'
soul wa'nt washed—h'it were dry-
cleaned!"

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