

supplemented them later. The essential ideas laid down in them to prevent a similar catastrophe happening again to mankind were as follows: —

The Peace should not be a Peace of unilateral rights but of general equality and henceforth of universal justice. It should be a peace of reconciliation, of general disarmament, and thereby of general security. From this resulted as crowning achievement the idea of international collective collaboration of all states and nations within a League of Nations.

I should like at this juncture to reaffirm that no nation greeted these ideas more eagerly at the end of the War than Germany. Her sufferings and sacrifices were far more severe than those of any other nation which had taken part in the War. It was in reliance upon these promises that the German soldiers laid down their arms.

When in 1919 the Peace of Versailles was dictated to the German people death sentence was thereby pronounced upon collective collaboration of the nations. For where there should have been equality there was division into victors and vanquished. Instead of equal rights there was discrimination between those with rights and those without. Instead of general reconciliation there was punishment of the defeated. Instead of international disarmament, the disarmament of the vanquished. Instead of general security there was security for the victors.

Yet even in the dictated Peace of Versailles it was expressly provided that the disarmament of Germany should only be carried out first to enable the others to disarm also. Here we are afforded an instance of the extent to which the idea of collective collaboration has been violated by those who are to-day its loudest protagonists.

Germany has fulfilled almost fanatically the requirements imposed upon her by the Peace Treaty, financially to the utter derangement of her finances, economically to the total destruction of her economic life, and in national defence to

the point of absolute defencelessness. I reiterate here in broad outline the indisputable facts of Germany's fulfilment of the Treaties.

The following armament was destroyed:—

Pertaining to the Army:

1. 59.000 Guns and Gun tubes
2. 130.000 Machine-guns
3. 31.000 Trench Mortars and tubes
4. 6.007.000 Rifles and Carbines
5. 243.000 Machine-gun tubes
6. 28.000 Gun Chassis
7. 4.390 Trench Mortar Stands
8. 38.750.000 Projectiles
9. 16.550.000 Hand and Machine bombs
10. 60.400.000 Priming caps
11. 491.000.000 Rifle projectiles
12. 335.000 (tons) Cartridge cases
13. 23.515 (tons) Cartridge and Shell cases
14. 37.600 Tons of Powder
15. 79.000 Mmunition Gauges
16. 212.000 Telephones
17. 1.072 Flame-throwers etc., etc.

In addition to this were destroyed: sledges, portable workshops, anti-aircraft guns, armoured cars, amunition chests, helmets, gasmasks, machines belonging to the old war industries, gun tubes etc:

Pertaining to the Air Force

- 15.714 Chasers and Bombing planes
- 27.757 Aeroplane motors

Pertaining to the Fleet

- 26 Battleships
- 4 Armed ships for Coastal Defence
- 4 Light Cruisers
- 19 Small Cruisers
- 21 Training and Special Ships
- 83 Torpedo Boats
- 315 Submarines

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