

F.I.

The only other commentary of which I think I need take note this morning was one passed by Lord Robert Cecil upon the Neglect by the Council of taking any active steps to bring peace in the Near East and to prevent the horrors of war of which for months and years past we have now been the helpless spectators. I feel so strongly upon the horror of the existing situation that I am disinclined to criticise in any vehement fashion those who think the League of Nations ought to have intervened. But we cannot forget that the League of Nations is not in this case assisted by Treaties, is not in this case face to face with two Members of the League bound by solemn pledges to carry out its objects. We have to remember that the League has neither money nor ships nor men. What it has got in, I believe, increasing amount is moral influence, but the method of using this moral influence to bring peace in these particular areas and in the face of Kemalist action is surely a rather forlorn hope.

Remember that the founders of the League conceived that they were setting up a machinery to preserve a peace which the founders of the League imagined they had established. They thought - and when I say "they", in a humble capacity I was one of them myself - we thought, let me say, that we were engaged in the task of removing the debris of a great war, of re-arranging the map of Europe more in conformity with the wishes of its population and of laying down the solid foundations of a peace which, with a little goodwill, with help from the League of Nations by the operations of moral forces, might be eternal. And I do not say that that dream, as it was then, is not going to turn out to be a solid reality in

- 13 -

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers  
Memoranda & Notes

**PUBLIC ARCHIVES**  
**ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES**  
**CANADA**