

cano, sitting on top of the ammunition, there can be no peace. No, my friends; nineteen hundred years after the coming of the Prince of Peace we are still at war. It is but nonsense to talk of this or that peoples as 'peace-loving.' There is no peace; you cannot love a negation. You yourselves are spending \$2,000,000 a day on war, and no nation has made greater progress since 1918 in promoting the strength and effectiveness of its military power. The mere fact that the guns are not being fired at this moment does not alter the situation — the hideous fact is that mankind is still at war.

"Since the war certain steps have been taken, certain agreements made which it was fondly hoped would lessen the possibility of hostilities. A League of Nations was created and machinery for its functioning established. It lacked certain elements of strength from its beginning; your great nation stood out, and Russia was not admitted. Furthermore, in a world which still thinks in terms of force it lacked the means to enforce its wishes and decisions. That positive weakness has been woefully apparent in recent months and confidence in the League rudely shaken. Then we have relied on Washington Pacts — and I'll not be thought rude if I intimate that we've been disappointed. And last we had the Kellogg-Briand treaty which registered the determination of over 60 countries, including yours and mine.

"that they condemned recourse to war . . . and renounced it as an instrument of national policy in their relations with one another; and that the settlement or solution of all disputes or conflicts of whatever nature . . . should never be sought except by pacific means."

"Could anything be more explicit? But how honest were the countries that signed? Let us be honest. If we are not going to use war as an instrument of national policy, surely we do not require the great armaments of today. As for the Kellogg-Briand treaty, it has had its test in the past months in the Orient, that new centre of world politics, and there is only one thing to be said of the result: the Kellogg-Briand treaty has failed, if words mean anything whatever excuses may be offered. These who will fearlessly face facts will see that all these treaties, peace pacts, promises, cannot save us, as long as the whole world is bent on piling up the guns and ammunition, one nation against another.

"It would, however, be poor policy at the present time to advocate anything like total disarmament. Hu-

manity has travelled too far along the path of international bitterness and hate this last half century and especially since that darkest day that ever dawned in human history, the morning of the fourth of August, 1914. It is futile, therefore, to expect that we can retrace the whole distance we have covered during this time in the twinkling of an eye. All that we can do, it seems to me, is to unitedly set our faces in the opposite direction, and to do every practical thing we can from now on to remove all existing causes of international mistrust and fear.

"NOT A PHANTOM."

"We are sometimes told that to talk about disarmament is merely to waste our time. But our discussion cannot be futile. Disarmament is not a phantom. It is the first definite step towards the goal for which we are all striving, the goal that is now clouded in the mists of selfishness and prejudice and tradition, but which in due time will be attained. Peace is the most practical subject to talk about in the modern world. Unless it permeates the thought of the world until war becomes unthinkable, the world is doomed to destruction. Its salvation is disarmament. Today the nations live in an atmosphere of fear, in a shadowy haze of insecurity. They are suspicious, one of the other. They seem ever to be on the alert, to be 'standing to,' as it were, each watchful of the other, as if expectant of a treacherous move. This attitude of fear must disappear, and its disappearance will be hastened by disarmament. Because that cannot be immediate and complete does not mean that it can never come, or that we should not strive for its achievement.

"Notwithstanding the views of pessimists and cynics, this world of ours is a world of progress. It is a better and greater world than the world of our fathers. With the years it has moved upward from the jungle, slowly perhaps at times, but nevertheless surely. Our task in this country is plain—it is to accelerate the world's progress towards peace, until the code of the tiger is a code of the past and harmony rules the hearts of men and nations.

"I am here today, and you are here, because we believe that disarmament is the greatest factor in bringing in that dreamed era of universal peace,—an era in which brotherly love and the spirit of neighborliness take the place of hate, an era in which the absence of arms eliminates fear and suspicion, an era in which the honors of the field of slaughter and

the cruel and grievous aftermath of battle will be unknown, an era in which,—as it was hoped more than 300 years ago,—'each man will sit secure under his own fig tree and sing the merry song of peace to all his neighbors.' That is the task of the twentieth century. That must be our greatest contribution to the progress of the world. And that, gentlemen, is not an idle dream. It is a fact which can be realized by the nations of the world, working in harmony and in mutual regard and faith."

war. There may be peace here, or peace there, temporarily; but man is essentially and forever at war. The volume may burst out in one place

or another, the eruption may kill millions or only thousands, but until the peoples of the world refuse to go on living on the slopes of the vol-