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CANADA'S POSITION IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

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IN the crisis of July, 1914, there was no existing international organization or tribunal competent to take into consideration the grave issues then raised, and there is no finer or more pathetic incident in modern history than the heroic, persistent, but vain endeavour of Sir Edward Grey to secure an agreement of the nations to some conference or consultation before the world should be plunged into the war from which it has so grievously suffered.

The League of Nations is the logical and should be the inevitable development from these conditions and from the loss and suffering the world has sustained through the war. Its great function is to promote international co-operation and to set up such machinery and create such tribunals for the investigation and, if possible, adjustment of international disputes as

will render impossible a repetition of the conditions which existed in July, 1914, and as should render impossible a repetition of this world war. The League expresses the new spirit in international relations.

Participation in the League means a changed attitude on the part of each nation to all others. In the past each nation has regarded all others as potential enemies and that the only course of wisdom and safety was to provide against aggressive attack by defensive armaments to the limit of the nation's ability and to protect against combinations of other powers by similar combinations of at least equal strength. In the League of Nations, each nation is bound to look upon the other as a potential, if not a real, friend, for each is committed to the protection of the other so long as the covenants of the League are duly performed and provision is made for common and united action