

Action by Canadian Government. - 3.

Press Statement - Oct. 29 (Cont'd.) (3)

As regards the means to the advancement of these ends, successive Canadian Governments have opposed the view that the League's central purpose should be to guarantee the territorial status quo and to rely upon force for the maintenance of peace. In the proposals for the repeal or revision of Article X, in the rejection of the Geneva Protocol because of "its rigid provisions for the application of economic and military sanctions in practically every future war", in the discussions preceding the adoption of the Briand-Kellogg Pact, this position was taken repeatedly and publicly, without dissent from any appreciable section of parliamentary or public opinion. The absence of three great powers from the League, the failure of the repeated efforts to secure the disarmament contemplated in the Covenant, and the unwillingness of League members to enforce sanctions in the case of countries distant from the European scene, have increased the difficulty of making general commitments in advance to apply either economic or military sanctions.

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