

she has done. In the other states the chemical laboratories were busily working, naturally not to destroy this weapon, but to improve it to the very utmost. From time to time and with absolute full publicity the world was given amazing information as to the successful invention of a new and still deadlier gas, as well of new shells and bombs.

Submarines: Here also Germany has fulfilled her obligations under the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles in order to render possible international disarmament. Anything that even looked like a submarine was completely destroyed by the acetylene burners, dismantled and scrapped.

The rest of the world has, however, not only failed to follow this example, but it has not even retained its war stock at the same figure—on the contrary, it has continually supplemented, improved and increased it. The increase in displacement finally reached the 3000-ton U-boat, and the increase in armament up to 20 cm. guns. The number of torpedo tubes per U-boat was increased, as well as their calibre, and the torpedoes themselves given an increased range and explosive effect. The radius of action of these submarines increased enormously in comparison to that reached during the War. They can now dive deeper, and their periscopes have been improved in an ingenious manner.

This was the contribution to the problem of disarmament on the part of the states which under the Treaty of Versailles had undertaken to follow the example of Germany and destroy their submarine weapon. These are only single facts. They can be supplemented and completed at will in every direction. Taken together, they are a proof, which can be supported by documentary evidence at any time, that contrary to the obligations imposed by the Treaty of Versailles, not only was the disarmament policy ignored by the signatories, but a constant increase and improvement of high-class weapons of war was undertaken.

So they did what was absolutely contrary not only to President Wilson's intentions, but also—in the opinion of the

most prominent representatives of the other side—contrary to the obligations to which they had subscribed in the Treaty of Versailles.

If that is not a glaring example of breach of the Treaty and indeed one-sided breach of the Treaty, after the other partner had completely fulfilled his obligations, it will be difficult to see what is the use of signing treaties in future at all.

No There is no excuse and no glossing over that fact. For Germany in her completely defenceless and unarmed state was really anything but a danger for the other states.

In spite of years of waiting in vain for the fulfilment of the Treaty by the other side, Germany was still prepared not to refuse to take part in a plan for genuine collective co-operation. The British Lord Privy Seal, Mr. Eden, says that readiness to arrive at parity in the quantitative determination of defensive strengths was to be met with everywhere. If that is so it is all the more to be regretted that no practical steps were taken as a consequence. It was not Germany that wrecked the plan for an army of 200 000 men for all European states, but the other states which did not wish to disarm. And finally it was also not Germany that rejected the British proposal for mediation in the spring of 1934, but the French Government, which broke off the negotiations on the subject on the 17th of March, 1934.

The hope is now frequently expressed that Germany might herself come forward with a constructive plan. I have made such proposals not once but several times. If my constructive plan for an army of 300,000 men had been adopted, then perhaps many a care would have been less and many a burden lighter to-day. But it is almost useless to present constructive plans when their rejection can be regarded as certain from the start. Nevertheless, I propose once more to give a short survey of our views. This is done solely from the feeling that it is our duty to leave no stone unturned in order to restore the necessary internal security

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