

up its armaments, both military and naval, because of the standing army maintained by Germany. Peace would have brooded over practically the whole of Europe had it not been for this military machine of Germany, which threatened in season and out of season to crush the nations of civilization. True, we did not apprehend, to the extent we should have done, its danger, its possibilities, and the fact that Germany had fully intended to enter upon a campaign of world power. When we look back upon those days and think of the fool's paradise in which the nations of Europe lived, particularly Great Britain, and to a lesser extent France, without making that preparation which was necessary to meet the vast preparations which were made in Germany and which were not in any way concealed, one is amazed, one is astounded, at the credulity of those nations in their lack of preparation and equipment for the vast struggle the signs of which then appeared upon the horizon. However, it is a matter of profound satisfaction, honourable gentlemen, and one of the greatest guarantees of peace that we can possibly have for the present generation, that we find within the four corners of this Treaty a provision—which has not only been imposed by the Peace Conference but which has been accepted by Germany herself—that her army shall be reduced to 100,000 men. More than that, we find under article 168 that the manufacture of arms, munitions or any war material shall only be carried on in factories or works the location of which shall be communicated to and approved by the Governments of the Principal Allied and Associated Powers, and the number of which they retain the right to restrict. When we think of those enormous industries, covering hundreds of thousands of acres in different parts of Germany, by which armaments were being made for the deliberate destruction of our fellow-men, it is a matter, I say, of the profoundest satisfaction to find that under article 168 those great industries of destruction have been wiped out by one stroke of the pen of this Conference whose Treaty we are considering to-day.

On page 83, under article 180, we find a very important condition that has been forced upon Germany:

All fortified works, fortresses and field works situated in German territory to the west of a line drawn 50 kilometres to the east of the Rhine shall be disarmed and dismantled.

No longer will those forts that threatened destruction and devastation to the people

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED.

of France lift their heads, menacing the life of the fair land of France.

Next, we come to the naval clauses. Under article 181 we find that

After the expiration of a period of two months from the coming into force of the present Treaty the German naval forces in commission must not exceed 6 battleships, 6 light cruisers, 12 destroyers, and 12 torpedo boats.

Under article 183—

The total personnel of the Germany navy, including the manning of the fleet, coast defences, signal stations, administration and other land services, must not exceed 15,000, including officers, and men of all grades and corps.

Look back a few years, honourable gentlemen, to the time when we perused the news from Germany of the growth of the German navy and of the policy which was laid down for the building up of a navy that would be second to none that sailed the seas. We can very well recall the apprehension with which we regarded the dread news which from time to time came from Germany as to the upbuilding of that navy. It inspired our own efforts to strengthen our own naval defences. We know the apprehension which, I might say, continually racked Great Britain herself, notwithstanding the fact that she had an incomparable navy, superior to anything that sailed the seas.

There was no subject discussed in the House of Commons with so much tremor, so much fear of possibilities, as the building of the German navy. Now, honourable gentlemen, we have the satisfaction of knowing that that navy has disappeared; it has vanished into the oblivion of the sea's depth, sunk by the Germans themselves, and their navy for years to come must not exceed a personnel of 15,000 men.

There is another matter which gives us satisfaction: that is, the provisions in Articles 227 and 228 regarding the trial of the Kaiser and those associated with him, who are responsible for the greatest crime of the ages. It is to be hoped, honourable gentlemen, that all the provisions of this Treaty in regard to the trial of the ex-Emperor of Germany and those associated with him will be prosecuted to the fullest extent, because, if there has been an arch-criminal of the ages, it is the man who to-day is a fugitive from his native country, and over whose head hangs a trial by the Allies, a trial which I hope will be carried out, so that he shall not go unpunished for the colossal crime of which he is the guilty head.

Another matter provided for in the Treaty, in Article 380, is that—