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parliamentary precedents that characterized the long debate over votes and procedures in the first weeks of the Conference in Paris. One can take the cynical view of the importance of this long discussion which, after all, only turned on the method by which recommendations from the Conference to the four Great Powers were to be framed, or one can regard it as significant of the first stage of shaping a real political community, a nucleus of the world or of the United Nations assembled in Paris. For only within some such organized political community can decisions be taken by majority vote, whether that majority be a simple one as we know it or by a two-thirds majority, upon which some countries, for understandable reasons, have insisted. But this is a speculative question which only history can answer.

There are one or two other general observations which perhaps can be made at this time without doing any disservice to the efforts of the peace makers in Paris. From time to time there is a good deal said within the Conference itself, and perhaps even more by the commentators who covered its proceedings, about the division revealed in the Conference between the Great and the small, or should we say between the Great and Middle Powers. I think this emphasis has been largely misplaced and the resulting ^{picture of the} processes of