

Conference for the Reduction of Armaments, open to all states, is to be held in Geneva on June 15, 1925; unless a plan for reduction is accepted by this Conference and carried into effect, the Protocol is to cease to bind the signatories.

The general position taken by the Canadian delegation, in agreeing, in common with all other delegations present, to submit this plan for earnest consideration, is indicated in the following statement to the Assembly by Mr. Dandurand, on October 2:—

The PRESIDENT.

*Interpretation:* I now call upon Mr. Dandurand, the First Delegate of Canada, to address the Assembly.

MR. DANDURAND (Canada): I do not take this platform to make any criticism, however slight, of the achievement of our committee, which it may well be will stand forth a red letter day in the annals of humanity.

I rise simply to explain to you, in a few words, how, up to this time, Canada has regarded the problems whose solution we have been seeking here, and to state to you the ground of her preoccupations in face of the obligations which she may be called upon to carry out.

I must first pay my tribute of admiration to the chief builders of the fine structure which has been presented to us, to the presidents of the two committees who guided our labours with tact and firmness, to the architects who prepared the plans, MM. Benes and Politis, as well as to their brilliant fellow-workers.

The three chief pillars upon which this structure has been erected, arbitration, security and disarmament, have long been accepted and applied in my country. It may be worth while to refer to the fruits which they have yielded us, for they are the results that you are seeking here. Not only have we had a hundred years of peace on our borders, but we think in terms of peace while Europe, an armed camp, thinks in terms of war.

As to arbitration, we have put it into practice in every field, including our rights to territory. In agreement with the United States we have set up a permanent International Joint Commission, composed of three Canadian and three United States members, who are charged with the duty of regulating every difference which may arise on our frontiers, and particularly on the great lakes and rivers which constitute our border-line for many hundred miles. During the past twelve years, more than a score of questions have been settled in this friendly manner between our two countries.

In the last few days, our first Committee found itself unable to conclude its labours because the question of national sovereignty and the repercussion, beyond one's own borders, of the exercise of rights of domestic jurisdiction, had suddenly been raised. That committee concluded that in the interest of world peace the League of Nations could not wholly stand aside from such problems. Toward the solution of similar difficulties, may I bring to your attention the views of a statesman of the United States, Mr. Charles E. Hughes, Secretary of State.

In an address which he delivered in Montreal, on the 4th of September, last year, at the annual meeting of the Canadian Bar Association, Mr. Hughes expressed his appreciation of the work of our International Joint Commission, and he added the following suggestion, as an expression of his