

sponge and wiping off the slate all the atrocities committed by Germany. We were to forget those atrocities; we were to forget the abominations; we were to forget the "scrap of paper"; we were to forget the prosecutions that were going to take place of those who had been guilty of the worst crimes civilization ever knew, and we were to take to our arms our former enemies, those who had disregarded treaties and trampled over Belgium when they had sworn to protect her. Everything was to be forgotten, and Germany and the others were to be taken into the League of Nations. More than that, Germany was to be admitted on special terms. We were to forget also the sinking of the Lusitania, when innocent people went down to their deaths within a few miles of the shore of England.

That was Locarno. Well, honourable gentlemen, some of you may think much of Locarno, but I for one must say—I know I am in the minority in this House—that I do not think any more of Locarno than I do of the League of Nations. Of course, I am not going to speak of the League of Nations to-night, because I have already spoken about it in this House on more than one occasion. If anyone is anxious to know what I think, all he has to do is to look up Hansard. I have said repeatedly that the League of Nations is a splendid thing, a beautiful dream; but it is too good for mortals: it was made for angels. I would like to hear from the honourable gentleman as to what will be our position in future. If Germany comes into the League of Nations conditions will be absolutely changed. Formerly France and England were the mirror of the League of Nations: what they decided went. But when a new element is introduced, an element that was opposed to us and that wants to get into the League of Nations in order to destroy the Treaty of Versailles, in order to get colonies again, and mandates, I would like to hear from the honourable gentleman—and I am not speaking only for myself, but for very many other people who are very much concerned—as to where we are drifting in our connection with the League of Nations, and as a favour I would ask the honourable the Leader of the Government to explain just what he has been doing lately at Geneva.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Honourable gentlemen, if the honourable gentleman from De Lanaudière (Hon. Mr. Casgrain) had limited his inquiry to his last phrase, I perhaps would have been justified in telling him summarily what the Assembly had been called for; but as he has roamed all over the actions

of the Allies who met at Versailles to sign a treaty of peace, and has discussed subsequent events which have flowed from that Treaty, I do not feel that at this moment I should be called upon to cover so much ground.

The Senate of Canada has expressed more than once its faith in the League of Nations. More than once it has declared that this was an experiment that should be tried for the maintenance of peace among the peoples of the world. We were without that instrument until 1919. There was no such organization in July 1914, and it seems to me that it should suffice for my honourable friend (Hon. Mr. Casgrain) to have the declaration of Lord Grey, then Sir Edward Grey, that if in July, 1914, he could have appealed to such an association of nations the Great War would probably have been prevented. This expression of opinion from a man of the standing of Lord Grey, who played so admirable a part as peacemaker at that time, is worth something. I ask my honourable friend, as I have asked him before, if he would deprive humanity of that ray of hope which has appeared from these meetings of the nations. As my honourable friend well knows, suspicion and prejudice arise from ignorance, whereas co-operation brings about amity. For the first time in the history of the world we have amity amongst the nations: we have co-operation amongst them once a year. But we have more: we have the League Council, containing the great powers, who henceforth will have the responsibility of maintaining peace in the world. Four times a year they must meet, and they can be convened once a month, or once a week, if necessary. They are close at hand, and if any dark cloud appears on the horizon they are called to examine the situation, endeavour to find a solution, and preach peace and arbitration. That is the new instrument, and I am surprised that a man who has lived through the horrors of the last war cannot see that there is something new in the world in the annual meeting of the nations, and in the meeting of the great powers every three months, or oftener if necessary, to settle those difficulties which, if they are not settled, grow into irritating problems from which emerges war. Yes, there may be other wars; yes, it is possible that that instrument may not be found sufficient for all cases; but surely, when the nations are clasping each other by the hand, there is something new in this world which should be welcomed by all men of good will.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 3 p.m.