

provisions of the Constitution of the United States, at once became the supreme law of the land, and every violation of it or any attempt or preparation to violate it became an act of lawlessness. The names of Briand and Stresemann were names to conjure with. Under their kindly and understanding guidance, public opinion not only in France and in Germany, but throughout the world, was being led toward the vision of the new day when the time-old suspicion and antagonism between the two great peoples on either side of the Rhine would disappear before new understanding and a new spirit of helpful coöperation. All these things had been done, and the future seemed full of promise.

Then reaction began, at first slowly and sporadically, then more generally and more widely diffused. There were outbreaks and manifestations, now here, now there, of the old nationalistic spirit, miscalled patriotism, and every such outburst in one land stimulated outbursts of like-minded reactionaries in other lands. That the world has been slipping backward since the Pact of Paris was signed can not be doubted. Hostilities have broken out again, not on an eastern front nor on a western front, but, unhappily, in the hearts and minds of great numbers of human beings for whom there has been no effective armistice. At a time when trade barriers should everywhere be lowered in order that trade itself may be stimulated and employment given to the millions who are now seeking gainful occupation, those barriers have almost everywhere been either raised or made stouter. At a time when there should be complete international coöperation in examining the foundations of the present economic and financial crisis and in proposing and making effective policies for relief from it, that coöperation is resisted, first and chiefly in this land and sometimes but less stoutly in other lands, on the plausible but wholly misleading plea that we must look after our own and leave the rest of the world to see what it can do for itself. The trouble is that there is only one way adequately and suffi-