

Article I

The drafting of this article has been altered to nearly the words you proposed. I agree that the word "executive" would be better left out, but on this point—which after all is not a substantive one—it was necessary to give way. Perhaps we may yet do something about it.

Article II

On the whole I venture to think that the drafting of this Article is satisfactory as it stands.

Article III

The most important amendment which you propose, namely avoidance of the inappropriate word "binding", has been carried. You will note other important amendments in this article.

Article VII

This Article has been redrafted but I am afraid that the alteration does not meet your objection. The prescription, however, of armaments, etc., was purposely left to "the League" in order to leave a free hand to both the Executive Council and the Body of Delegates to express their views.

Article VIII

This Article has been redrafted and your criticisms (*a*) to (*e*) inclusive are I think met thereby.

I agree that paragraphs 2 and 3 are somewhat weak, but they were as far as it was possible to induce *all* the States represented on the Commission and our Admiralty to go.

Article IX

I venture to think that it is better not to define the powers and duties of this Commission.

Article X

I am not quite happy about this Article, but I was unable to persuade my colleagues on the Commission to agree to its alteration.

Articles XII, XIII, XV, XVI, and XVII

I am fully aware of the difficulties involved in all this part of the Covenant, and have tried very hard to find whether amendments could not be made which would have met some of the very serious questions to which you draw attention. Particularly paragraphs 4 and 7 have exercised me, but I fear that there is nothing to be done. It was impossible to sacrifice the principle of unanimity in this the greatest of all the functions of the Executive Council, and yet the events of 1914 in particular add special force to the case you put. I am afraid that the real fact is that, when a situation like that arises again—if it ever does—no paper provisions can be wholly satisfactory.