

The present situation in China should teach us the folly of trying to upset and change natural laws by silly talk. "Self preservation is the first law of nature" for man, or nation, and no nation can afford to neglect her defences and trust for her salvation to the promises of a few windy politicians who argue that to be defenceless will stop war.

Belgium and Luxembourg, being defenceless and non-aggressive during the late war, did not save them from being trampled under foot by Germany. China is not an aggressive country but all the treaties she has ever signed are not as much good to her today as one Division of well-armed trained soldiery.

The late war should show the most ignorant pacifist how little the teaching of many years of Christianity has affected the fundamental principle of human nature. The present disarmament crusade is largely political. "I didn't raise my boy to be a soldier" is one of the finest vote catchers ever invented. Lloyd George used it in 1912-13 and his reduction of the Army and Navy was one of the causes of the Great War, for Germany would have backed down if we had been prepared.

The Pacifists, like the Prohibitionists, have not the backing of any deep thinkers, outside of politicians or someone with an axe to grind.

Speak softly, but carry a big stick, is a sounder motto than all the columns of nonsense written or preached by Pacifists and their followers.

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