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MR. GALLAGHER (speaking in Spanish; English version as delivered by Mr. Luis Alzamora follows):

At the moment when the League of Nations was constituted, history had shown that the periods of peace were equivalent to the time that the vanquished needed to recuperate its strength or to the period within which antagonistic interests could be regrouped in order to seek predominance through violence. Years after the peace of Versailles, events demonstrated that the League of Nations lacked effectiveness; and war reappeared in the world, sowing seeds of destruction and death. The vanquished nations took advantage of the good faith of the victors, and of their rivalries, in order to create a formidable aggressive force which they launched on an almost defenseless Europe, before the astonishment of the other continents.

We all recall those bitter moments when it appeared that Europe was going to be barbarously conquered in its entirety, and we also remember the unanimous reaction of the American continent before the sneaking attack of an ambitious and unscrupulous Asiatic power.

But those who wanted the domination of the world through force, forgot that the spiritual values of nations conscious of their dignity are capable of achieving prodigies to surpass mechanical inventions. England endured the most devastating assault, but the enemy never imagined the indomitable bravery of the British peoples, who with the full knowledge of their capacity, determined to die for their country rather than surrender it to foreign slavery. The aggressors also forgot that in the new continent there was a nation full of life and ideals, that was willing to defend human liberty, and that entered the struggle without waiting for its metropolitan soil to be trampled, achieving the miracle of moving men and machines across the seas in quantities never before dreamt of, to fight in various simultaneous fronts. And at the same time that on each of those fronts it resisted an aggressor that had prepared its action during several years, it created and stimulated at home an intense war preparation in order to lend aid and cooperation to those who fought for the same cause. It gave of its blood and its wealth without restraint or measure; and it formed armies which demonstrated that it was possible to improvise military units with a magnificent capacity for war when the country needs it, units which soon rivaled those of the greatest fame. The aggressors also erred when, believing that on the Eastern front they could find an enemy to vanquish, they

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launched their armies over the Russian plains and imagined that by occupying its rich land they had obtained victory. But soon the Soviet Republics gave the answer, for after resisting heroically, and within the same period in which it might have been imagined that its defeat would be completed, they reacted magnificently, cleansing their soil of invaders, and carrying their triumphal impetus to enemy territory. And then, to the effort of these three great powers, the British Empire, the United States, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, was united that of legendary China, which had been defending its soil within a gigantic blaze of sacrifice, and which, starting at that moment, became a part of the resistance of the world against barbarism. And, in spite of her initial collapse, the United Nations also had on their side the gallantry of the spirit of France, champion of the Latin race, cradle of civilization and of culture, whose courage was turned into a silent and stubborn obsession until it had reduced the invader to impotence and pushed him to flight.

The nations of this American continent must render homage to those peoples who have directly defended them from the grave danger of finding themselves converted into simple elements of production, had the thesis of violence won out for the misfortune of humanity.

And thus, the League of Nations having failed, we now seek in San Francisco a more secure road toward peace. It is necessary to reform and improve the organization of Geneva. I do not aim to advance a survey of the new association of nations, nor to affirm which would be the best system to establish, but I do believe that the new association should create, as is already planned, a juridical organism to whom, through international agreement, all differences between states ought to be submitted; that it should also study the causes of war in order to seek their elimination, and moreover, that it should try to attain a universal atmosphere of morality and of culture which will make war impossible as a solution of conflicts.

The Peruvian Delegation considers that, in establishing the norms which must guide the purpose of the International Organization it is necessary to introduce not precisely modifications but rather amplifications. Peru has already submitted certain suggestions to the Conference of Mexico, which it will also present in San Francisco, and which refer to principles adopted by the Inter-American Conference in the Declaration of Lima. The Delegation of Peru is of the opinion that there is no reason whatsoever for objecting to the regional pacts contemplated by the Dumbarton Oaks plan.

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