

tary cordon across eastern Poland, and typhus was stopped in its tracks. Not a single case seeped through the line. And why? Because behind that line you had the brains and resources, not of one nation, or of three or four nations, but of fifty-five nations.

If I had the time—which very obviously I have not this evening—I could tell you of the other cooperative activities of the League of Nations, activities which represent the attempt to handle problems that overflow geographical boundary lines. I could tell you, for example, of the work that the League is doing through its Opium Section. I could tell you of what is being done in the field of Finance and Communications. I could describe the activities of the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation. One has only to walk through the League's headquarters at Geneva to see this new technique in action—a score of committees working on a host of problems in which every nation has everything to win and nothing to lose.

This is what is happening at Geneva: fifty-five nations are sitting around a table. They are learning the practice of teamwork. They are learning the habit of common counsel and common action. They are learning what it is to play ball together. And the hope of the situation lies precisely at this point: that with this habit a little more thoroughly understood, with this technique a little more completely grasped, perhaps when the next great test comes, and another 1914 hurls down its challenge to mankind, there will be a better chance for sanity and self-control.

The Manchurian Situation

Perhaps you are saying that the great test is before us at the present moment. What about Manchuria? Here we have the spectacle of the League of Nations issuing its feeble orders and Japan stubbornly refusing to obey. Indeed from many quarters today come gloomy forebodings about the early demise of the League. They are saying that this rebuff which the League has experienced with relation to Manchuria spells suicide, and that once more the world is back at 1914 where it started.

In looking at this Manchurian incident, we need a sense of perspective. Precisely one hundred years ago, in 1831, the Cherokee cases came up before the United States Supreme Court. They