

I am sure that, at one time or another, each one of you has stood at the edge of a pond, and has enjoyed throwing pebbles into its still waters, and watching the ripples widen in a series of expanding circles. You have noticed how the circles continue to expand until, one after the other, they touch the opposite shore, or are lost beyond the range of sight.

No illustration could better serve as an image of the working of influences which control the destinies of nations. In this image, you may find a true picture of how wars originate and spread. Wars do not originate because men and women want to kill and be killed. Wars come about because some evil thought, some false idea, some suspicion or hate, cast into the mind of a people is allowed to spread its influence in ever widening circles. When the impression thus created is deep enough, and the range of its influence has become wide enough, acts of hatred and violence burst forth, which, sooner or later, usher in war. One has only to look at the lives of some of the dictators of our own day to see how enmities and hatreds early engendered have helped to breed the most terrible of wars.

Fortunately for all of us, the image of the expanding circles affords an equally true picture of how wars may be prevented. A good thought, a true idea, cast