

ing Events of 1932

Conference g Feature Of mpire Nations

lain President



President Doumer who met his
at the hands of an assassin.

War Debts and Disarmaments

Conferences on war debts, reparations and disarmament have been held almost continuously throughout the year. The conference on disarmament met on February 2nd, adjourned over Easter to re-assemble on April 2. While it is impossible the thousand and one phases which these discussions have started, three schools of thought have emerged as follows:

Quantitative disarmament which would limit man power, material and expenditure in certain fixed ratios.

Qualitative disarmament which would limit power by reducing the most dangerous weapons of warfare, and

Thirdly the plan favoured by the French which would give the League of Nations a police course which would be international and could be called upon to check aggression whenever it was displayed

Moratorium on war debts expired on July 1st, and Britain gave no notice that she would ask for an extension or other concessions. No provision however for payment was made in the British budget. During the United States election campaign Britain remained silent on the question of war debts. The day after polling negotiations were entered into by which Britain expected some concessions. United States remained adamant, refusing to grant an extension on the Moratorium or even to regard the payment due as a provisional payment to be apportioned later if debt reduction were brought about. Great Britain paid her full amount of \$95,000,000 on December 15th, and only about \$10,000,000 owing by the smaller nations were in default. The conference of Lucerne in June proved abortive. Germany throughout the year demanded "equality of status." Early in November Macdonald tried to arrange a four-power conference but Germany unexpectedly refused

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