

*that its horizons are ultimate.* The world may never fill them out; there may be follies and weaknesses among those who mean to do well, and there will be abundance of treacheries and persistent sinister combinations of interests, intent on serving themselves at humanity's expense. But the ideal has been declared once for all.

It is perhaps to say the same thing in another way if we claim as a moral support of the League of Nations a quickened belief among us that there is behind the world a real meaning—a Purpose with power.

Without referring again to the German contrast, we may do well to remind ourselves that the international sphere has been, especially in our later knowledge of it, the region in which it was hardest to see more than the tangle of forces, the pulls and counter-pulls of a thousand powers, national, fiscal, commercial, of revenges and resentments and antipathies.

Across all this the crisis of the great War and the great Victory has cut like a flash of blinding revelation. It did matter, then, what the standards of diplomacy were! A condition in which states were assumed to act like the economic men of the old Political Economy, by the one motive of self-interest or self-protection, proved a rotten condition! You arrived that way at a terrific crisis which every one feared but no one could avert. The whole system shared responsibility for the result which its most