

firmed by agreement concluded between Danzig and Poland. The action taken by the Danzig authorities and the Reichstag yesterday is the final step in the unilateral repudiation of these international instruments which could only be modified by negotiation. His Majesty's Government do not therefore recognize either the validity of the grounds on which the action of the Danzig authorities was based, the validity of this action itself, or of the effect given to it by the German Government."

XVIII

The communication handed to the German Minister for Foreign Affairs by His Majesty's Ambassador at 9.00 a.m. on the 3rd of September, 1939.

"Sir,—

In the communication which I had the honour to make to you on 1st September, I informed you, on the instructions of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that unless the German Government were prepared to give His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom satisfactory assurances that the German Government had suspended all aggressive action against Poland and were prepared promptly to withdraw their forces from Polish territory His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom would without hesitation fulfil their obligations towards Poland. Although this communication was made more than twenty-four hours ago no reply has been received and the German attacks upon Poland have been continued and intensified. I have accordingly the honour to inform you that unless not later than 11 a.m. British summer time to-day, September 3rd, satisfactory assurances to the above effect have been given by the German Government and have reached His Majesty's Government in London a state of war will exist between the two countries as from that hour."

XIX

The statement of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom delivered in the House of Commons on the 3rd of September, 1939.

"When I spoke last night to the House I could not but be aware that in some parts of the House there were doubts and some bewilderment as to whether there had been any weakening hesitation or vacillation on the part of His Majesty's Government. In the circumstances I make no reproach, for if I had been in the same position as Honourable Members not sitting on this bench and not in possession of all the information which