

The League provides the machinery, the law and institutions which are required. All that is needed is the leadership of some great Power to ensure that the machinery is used. And there is no greater power in all the world than the British Commonwealth of Nations. If we chose to lead, if we chose to tell the world that our six peoples were henceforward heart and body and soul behind the League of Nations; if we told them that our peoples were determined to uphold the Covenant and the Kellogg Pact; if we told them that British arms would never be used again except in their support, but that any aggressor nation would have to reckon that we should call upon mankind to stop their aggression - if we said all this I am confident, for my part, that the next war would never come. The peoples of the world would fall in behind us in some programme of peace measures like that Brussels programme of which I spoke - real disarmament right down to the Getman level, including if it is above all important, the abolition of the aggressive weapons - the monster ships and submarines, the tanks and heavy guns, the military and navel aircraft - which Germany in 1919 was forbidden to have; and real security by the organization through the League of Nations of stringent international armament inspection, of economic financial boycott of any state that might start aggressions by the internationalization of civil aviation and, even in Europe if need be, by the creation of an International Aerial Police.

Such a programme put forward by the British peoples would in my profound conviction soon bring the Disarmament Conference to success. Governments would accept it as the spokesman of the public opinion accepted it at the Brussels Congress. The success of the Disarmament Conference would revitalize the League of