

the mentalities of different lands and a more realistic understanding of the difficulties and differences that must be faced and overcome. In bringing together periodically the representatives of half a hundred states, the League builds up barriers against war by developing a spirit of conciliation, an acceptance of publicity in international affairs, a habit of co-operation to common ends, and a permanently available machinery for the adjustment of differences, and for the cultivation of an informed world opinion. If the League did not exist, some such world organization would have to be invented. But there is today also a widespread conviction, born of experience, that at this stage in the evolution of the League, emphasis should be placed upon conciliation rather than upon coercion. There is a general unwillingness of peoples to incur obligations which they realize they may not be able in time of crisis to fulfil, obligations to use force and to use it at any place, any time, in circumstances unforeseen, and in disputes over whose origin or whose development they have had little or no control. This difficulty of automatic intervention

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