

than one critic of the Pact, is in itself a danger, as tending to divide Europe into two opposing camps, and to perpetuate the principle of the Balance of Power—a principle more likely than anything else to bring about another war; it was indeed one of the main causes of the war in 1914, and would almost inevitably result in another similar catastrophe, if allowed to become again the basis of European politics. A pact of Peace, to be effective, must include all nations likely to be in any way affected by it.

But a still more serious defect, to the minds of those who are working for peace, is the fact that it rests ultimately on the sanctions of force. It is true that it recognises disarmament as a goal to be worked for, and to be attained sometime in the future; but, for the present, armaments, though possibly reduced and limited, remain as the final safeguard and the basis of security. The League of Nations cannot rise beyond the point reached by the nations which compose it; and very few of these, if any, have yet recognised that the only firm basis of security is Disarmament. The nation that is disarmed is safe from attack; because it can never become an aggressor; and also because the very fact of its disarmament proves that its policy is founded on justice and peace and not upon force. The idea that peace can be maintained by military guarantees is doomed to disappointment. If we want peace, it must be gained, not by insuring against war, but by building up the conception of a constructive peace. To quote from "No More War" for November, 1925:—"The whole hope of the future of the League of Nations lies in its becoming, not the protector of the existing treaties and frontiers and of the present civilisation, but the organ of new treaties and frontiers, representing the changing need of the world, and the moulding of a new civilisation, in which internationalism, rather than nationalism, is the sovereign principle. The League is now regarded as a means of preventing war. We must think of a League to create Peace—a League which organises the world's economic resources for the good of the world, which faces the problem of racial distinction in an international spirit, which creates

an internationally-minded civil service to assist the growth of the subject peoples to a status of self-government, without thought of exploitation, in a word, which deals with the problems of the world from the point of view of the world. If we give our minds to the making of the new International Civilisation in this way, we shall find not only that the old civilisation has passed away, but that, with it, the danger of war has passed away as well." So far as the Locarno Pact can help in the carrying out of this ideal, we may indeed welcome it as a Pact of Peace. It is not indeed the final word, but it is a step on the way, towards the dawn of that new era, in which wars will cease and the reign of Universal Peace will begin.

NO MORE WAR!

PROTECTING THE WEAK.

"The old appeals for war in the name of a good cause fall coldly now on the instructed ear and cease to carry conviction to thoughtful minds." 'Would you not go to war to protect the weak?' men ask. The answer seems obvious.

A modern war to protect the weak—that is a grim jest.

See how modern war protects the weak. 10,000,000 known dead soldiers; 3,000,000 returned dead soldiers; 13,000,000 dead civilians; 20,000,000 wounded; 3,000,000 prisoners; 9,000,000 war orphans; 5,000,000 war widows; 10,000,000 refugees. What can we mean—modern war protecting the weak? The conviction grows clear in increasing multitudes of minds that modern war is not the way to protect the weak.

A World Court would protect the weak. A League of Nations would protect the weak. An international mind, backed by a Christian conscience, that would stop the race for armaments, provide co-operative substitutes for violence, forbid the nations to resort to force, and finally outlaw war altogether—that would protect the weak.

But this is clear: war will not do it. **It is the weak by millions who perish in every modern war.**

Dr. Fosdick (preaching in the Geneva Cathedral during the Sixth Assembly of the League of Nations). —From "Brotherhood."

STRANGERS AND SOJOURNERS.

During part of election year, I was away from my home town, in a considerably larger place, where the coming and going of a stranger is an unnoticeably small matter.

Promptly, on my first visit at church, I was made welcome by several members of the Union, invited to their homes, urged to attend the meetings, and to take part in an enterprise they keep going regularly. Several other members who noticed my badge as we passed in the street spoke to me on its introduction. The President came to see me in the rooms another member had helped me to find.

It hardly sounds like a stranger and sojourner, does it?

All the same, I was a stranger, and there only a short time, and perhaps remember more of their welcome because of other sojourners in places where things did not happen so.

Are there any chance strangers in your neighbourhood just now?

If there are, have any of you, not necessarily as a body, but just as individual members, the chance to make them welcome?

If so, make a grab at your good luck.

It may mean a new member, one very glad to have been helped over that 'Israelitish in Egypt' feeling of loneliness. Or it may mean a passer-by taking things away with her, sure to be repaid some day, a grateful memory, a pleasant association with our badge. If the stranger is mere man, he has, or some day will have, a vote. Even if he should miss that, the practice of welcome, that we may give him, is safe to enrich us, both individually and as a Union.

So, — is there any stranger passing by?

Don't let her go as a stranger. We can't afford it. She may be just the one who needs your touch of influence to transform her into a missionary. Or she may need just your welcome to encourage her over a steep bit of the way. Or she may be just one of the everyday sort, like ourselves, just the one your Union so needs.

Don't let her pass, still a stranger.

KATHERINE MERCER.