

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE NURSING RECORD

EDITED BY MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK, REGISTERED NURSE.

No. 1,922.

SEPTEMBER, 1928

Vol. LXXXVI

EDITORIAL.

THE PEACE PACT OF PARIS.

"For the Healing of the Nations."

Whatever may be the ultimate result of the Peace Pact of Paris, whether or not it fulfils all the hopes of the participant Nations, as we pray that it may, one fact has been blazoned throughout the world, that the Pact for the renunciation of war solemnly signed by the plenipotentiaries of the High Contracting Parties condemns recourse to war for the solution of international controversies, and demonstrates that the desire for peace cherished in the hearts of men, and by the Governments of the nations of the world, is sincere and deep, and is the best guarantee of their determination that the carnage of war shall cease.

The Text of the Treaty.

The Text of the Treaty is as follows :—

"The President of the United States of America, the President of the French Republic, his Majesty the King of the Belgians, the President of the Czechoslovak Republic, his Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British Dominions beyond the seas, Emperor of India, the President of the German Reich, his Majesty the King of Italy, his Majesty the Emperor of Japan, the President of the Republic of Poland.

"Deeply sensible of their solemn duty to promote the welfare of mankind; persuaded that the time has come when a frank renunciation of war as an instrument of national policy should be made, to the end that the peaceful and friendly relations now existing between their peoples may be perpetuated;

"Convinced that all changes in their relations with one another should be sought only by pacific means and be the result of a peaceful and orderly process, and that any signatory Power which shall hereafter seek to promote its national interests by resort to war should be denied the benefits furnished by this Treaty;

"Hopeful that, encouraged by their example, all the other nations of the world will join in this humane endeavour and, by adhering to the present Treaty as soon as it comes into force, bring their peoples within the scope of its beneficent provisions, thus uniting the civilized nations of the world in a common renunciation of war as an instrument of their national policy;

"Have decided to conclude a treaty, and for that purpose have appointed as their respective plenipotentiaries: . . . Who, having communicated to one

another their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles :—

ARTICLE I.

"The High Contracting Parties solemnly declare, in the names of their respective peoples, that they condemn recourse to war for the solution of international controversies, and renounce it as an instrument of national policy in their relations with one another.

ARTICLE II.

"The High Contracting Parties agree that the settlement or solution of all disputes or conflicts, of whatever nature or of whatever origin they may be, which may arise among them, shall never be sought except by pacific means.

ARTICLE III.

"The present Treaty shall be ratified by the High Contracting Parties named in the preamble in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements, and shall take effect as between them as soon as all their several instruments of ratification shall have been deposited at . . ."

This Treaty shall, when it has come into effect as prescribed in the preceding paragraph, remain open as long as may be necessary for adherence by all the other Powers of the world. Every instrument evidencing the adherence of a Power shall be deposited at . . . and the Treaty shall, immediately upon such deposit, become effective as between the Power thus adhering and the other Powers parties thereto."

The remainder of this Article prescribes the administration of the Treaty."

It was inevitable that sooner or later such a Treaty should be made, for chivalry and fair play in the organization of war are now things of the past, nor is there any fair fight between man and man, with victory to the best. Poison gas, and air raids with death-dealing bombs, resulting in the wholesale murder of innocent civilians, men, women and little children—are recognized methods of warfare at the present day, there is no romance of war any more. Thus further savagery must be prevented, and reason be called upon to prevent a return to barbarism.

The Peace Pact has brought us within sight of the time

"When the war drum throbs no longer, and the battle-flags are furled
In the Parliament of Man, the Federation of the world."

For this reason members of the Nursing Profession who come into such intimate contact with the horrors of war, and its aftermath, will rejoice at the signing of the Peace Pact.

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