THE SECOND YEAR OF THE LEAGUE; A STUDY OF THE SECOND ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

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The second year of the League; a study of the second Assembly of the League of nations by Harold W. V. Temperley

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HAROLD W. V. TEMPERLEY

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THE SECOND YEAR OF THE LEAGUE

MAP ILLUSTRATING UPPER SILESIAN AWARD.



THE SECOND YEAR OF THE LEAGUE

A Study of the Second Assembly of the League of Nations

BY

HAROLD W. V. TEMPERLEY

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"The scene entirely changed and I saw a large and magnificent Hall, resembling the Great Divan or Council of the Nation[s]. At the Upper end of it, under a Canopy, I beheld the Sacred Covenant, shining as the Sun. . . . They prostrated themselves before it and they sung an Hymn . . . May the Light of the Covenant be a Lanthorn to the Feet of the Judges, for by this shall they separate Truth from Falsehood! O Innocence rejoyce for by this Light shalt thou walk in Safety; nor shall the Oppressor take hold on Thee! O Justice be exceeding glad for by this Light all thy Judgments shall be decreed with Wisdom! Nor shall any man say thou hast erred! Let the Hearts of all the People[s] be glad!' . . . Then all the Rulers took a solemn oath to preserve it inviolate and unchanged, and to sacrifice their Lives and Fortunes, rather than suffer themselves and their children to be deprived of so invaluable a Blessing."-BOLINGBROKE, The Craftsman. No. 16.

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PREFACE

THE League is an international organism, which is incessantly developing and changing its colour and shape. It is no longer the same conception as that which saw the light at Paris in 1919; it is no longer the same body as that which sat at Geneva in 1920. In 1922 it will exhibit some characteristics different from those which it possessed in 1921.

The difficulty of obtaining information about the League and its works is that accounts of it are usually too general or too particular. Its records are enormous, and they comprise speeches, discussions and reports by some of the acutest lawyers, the most eloquent orators and profoundest statesmen in Europe. This book is written to eall attention to this goldmine of political, economic and legal information and, if possible, to reveal some of its brightest treasures to the public.

A personal view of the activities of the Second Assembly of the League is necessarily a limited one, but it at least gives an intelligible principle of selection. There is little here about the organisation of intellectual work, of international statistics, of motions of sympathy with Armenia or East Galicia, of disarmament and of blockade, even of

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Russian relief and humanitarian work. It did not seem to me that it was by these activities, though important, that the Second Assembly would be remembered. There is much, however, about the admission of new states, about mandates and minorities, about governing territories, Courts of Justice and constitution-making, about settling disputes in Albania and Upper Silesia. For it is by these things that the League lives and will be judged.

HAROLD TEMPERLEY.

January, 1922.

A SHORT BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

A STUDY of the League must begin with that of the German Treaty.

For a very short course the following may be recommended: The German Treaty, edited, with brief commentary, by Harold Temperley (Hodder & Stoughton, 5s.). Handbook to the League of Nations, Sir Geoffrey Butler (Longmans, 5s.). Two small but excellent books are What They Did at Geneva (1920) and Geneva (1921), by H. Wilson Harris, published by the Daily News, 6d. each.

For a fuller course:

History of the Peace Conference of Paris, ed. H. W. V. Temperley, in 6 vols. (5 vols. published) (Hodder & Stoughton).

The Truth about the Treaty. A. Tardicu (Hodder & Stoughton).

The Peace Negotiations: A Personal Narrative. R. Lansing (Constable & Co.).

The League of Nations. L. Oppenheim (Longmans, 6s.).

The League of Nations Starts: An Outline by its Organisers (Macmillan, 10s. 6d.).

The First Assembly of the League, ed. O. S. Brett (Macmillan & Co., 3s. 6d.).