

No. 20.

Note to United States Chargé d'Affaires in London of 18th July, 1928.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 18th July, 1928.

In the note which you were so good as to address to me on the 23rd June last you stated that the Government of the United States would be glad to be informed whether His Majesty's Government in the Union of South Africa were willing to join with the United States and other similarly disposed Governments in signing a definitive treaty for the renunciation of war in the form of the draft treaty enclosed in your note.

2. I now beg leave to inform you that the following message has been received by telegraph from General Hertzog, Minister of External Affairs of the Union of South Africa, for communication to you:—

“On behalf of His Majesty's Government in the Union of South Africa I have the honour to inform you that my Government have given their most serious consideration to the new draft treaty for the renunciation of war, submitted in your note of the 23rd June, and to the observations accompanying it.

“My Government note with great satisfaction (a) that it is common cause that the right of legitimate self-defence is not affected by the terms of the new draft; (b) that, according to the preamble, any signatory who shall seek to promote its national interests by resort to war shall forfeit the benefits of the treaty; and (c) that the treaty is open to accession by all Powers of the world.

“My Government have further examined the question whether the provisions of the present draft are inconsistent with the terms of the Covenant of the League of Nations by which they are bound, and have come to the conclusion that this is not the case, and that the objects which the League of Nations was constituted to serve can but be promoted by members of the League of Nations participating in the proposed treaty.

“His Majesty's Government in the Union of South Africa have, therefore, very great pleasure in expressing their willingness to sign, together with all other Powers which might be similarly inclined, the treaty in the form proposed in your note under reference.”

I have, &c.,

AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 21.

Note to United States Chargé d'Affaires in London of 18th July, 1928.

SIR,

Foreign Office, 18th July, 1928.

In the note which you were so good as to address to me on the 23rd June last you stated that the Government of the United States would be glad to be informed whether the Government of India were willing to join with the United States and other similarly disposed Governments in signing a definitive treaty for the renunciation of war in the form of the draft treaty enclosed in your note.

2. I now beg leave to inform you that the Government of India associate themselves wholeheartedly and most gladly with the terms of the note which I have had the honour to address to you to-day notifying you of the willingness of His Majesty's Government in Great Britain to sign a multi-lateral treaty for the renunciation of war as proposed by the Government of the United States.

I have, &c.,

AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN.

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