

chance for a quick end of the battle. Meanwhile the Germans had occupied Antwerp and overran the whole of Belgium.

**Battle of Ypres** But they could not drive out a British army from a place called Ypres inspite of repeated assaults. The resolute resistance and heroism of the British army in the face of heavy odds are highly commendable.

Russia had in the meantime mobilised her army and attacked East Prussia. They secured some success against

**War in the Eastern Front** the Austrians but were severely defeated in the battle of Tannenberg at the hands of the German General Hindenberg and was compelled to fall back.

### The Wars of 1915

In this year Italy joined the Allies and Turkey joined the side of Germany and Austria. So both sides secured allies. Though Italy was a member of the Triple Alliance, still the bonds of union had become weak and Italy and Austria were not on amicable terms. Turkey closed the

**Battle of Dardenelles and Gallipoli** strait of Dardenelles and the combined Anglo-French army suffered a crushing defeat when they attacked the Dardenelles. An attack on Gallipoli also ended miserably for

the Allies. In Central Asia, the English were defeated in the battle of Kut-el Amara. But they could recover some of their prestige by capturing the town of Bagdad soon after.

The combined Austro German armies attacked Serbia and completely occupied her. From the beginning of the war, the British navy became supreme in water. The British

**War on sea** navy won handsomely in two small naval encounters with the German navy. But Germany, in order to destroy the merchant shipping of

England followed a systematic course of destroying British commercial fleet.

### The Wars of 1916

The year 1916 was marked by two great offensive, one at Verdun by the German army and the other at Somme by the Anglo-French combined army. The German army made a great offensive at Verdun to overcome French resistance.

Battle of Verdun  
by the Germans

The losses on both sides were enormous but the French stuck to their position with great bravery against the fierce attack of the enemy. In the second war, the Anglo-French combined army lodged a strong attack but could not drive

Battle of Somme  
by the Allies

the Germans from their position. The losses, here also as in the case of Verdun, were heavy on both sides. But the battle of Somme had important result. Though the

Germans could not be driven, the great pressure which had been put by the Germans at Verdun over the French was lessened to some extent. In the eastern front, Russia gained some

success against Austria but when German forces helped Austria, Russia was again defeated. In this year, Roumania joined the Allied Powers against Germany. A combined Austro-German army defeated the Roumanian army and

captured their capital, Bukharest.

As in the previous year, the British navy maintained their supremacy on sea. The British navy maintained the blockade of Germany. A great naval battle

Naval battle of  
Zutland

was fought—this was the Battle of Zutland. Both sides suffered great losses and considering this aspect of the battle, it was a drawn

encounter. But whatever the result had been, the German navy never ventured to come to the open sea again. No other big naval war took place throughout the war. The British and German navy were concerned in several small encounters off the coast of Chille but there too, the British maintained their supremacy. In this war, the supremacy of British navy enormously helped the Allies. On one hand, it supplied timely help to the allied forces in many a point of crisis and cut off the supplies of Germany on the other. Germany tried to starve Britain by destroying her commerce but this was not possible on account of British supremacy at sea.

### The Wars of 1917

The most important events of the war in 1917 were the withdrawal of Russia from the war and the joining of United States of America in the war against Germany. A Revolution took place in Russia and the Tsardom came to an end. Bolshevik Government was established in Russia as a result of this Revolution. An unsettled state of affair in Russian political and administrative affairs forced her to conclude with Germany the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk and to withdraw from the war. By the terms of the treaty, Russia was forced to cede Poland and all her Baltic possessions to Germany. But the withdrawal of Russia was more than made up by the joining of the United States of America (U. S. A.) in the war. As a protest against Germany's policy to destroy merchant and passenger shipping of the neutral states, U. S. A. joined

Supremacy of  
British navy  
enormously  
helped the Allies

Withdrawal  
of Russia—the  
Russian Revolution

Entry of U.S.A.  
saved the allies  
from a very  
critical situation

the war. When the U. S. A. joined the war with all her resources and with all her man-power, the aspects of the war became radically changed. The Allied Powers were saved from an extremely critical position.

When Russia withdrew from the war, Germany was able to bring her army from the Eastern Front to the Western Front. In the war of 1917, none of the parties could make any headway. Germany withdrew a little and went behind the strongly fortified Hindenberg Line.

### The Wars of 1918

At the beginning of the year 1918, Germany began a vigorous offensive. She pressed very hard on the Allied armies and the British forces sustained heavy losses. In

the battles of Amiens and Ypres, Germany secured some amount of success. The French forces were driven beyond the river Marne. The German army came within forty miles of Paris and began to cannonade the city by means of long distance artillery pieces. The position of the Allied army became highly critical.

During this time, Marshall Foch was appointed the Commander-in-Chief over all the allied forces stationed in Europe. He planned to attack German forces

simultaneously at many places and over extensive areas. This plan was carried into work and German forces were attacked at many places simultaneously. The German army was defeated and driven from the region of the Marne. In

other places also she sustained defeats. The allies of Germany were also defeated. Turkey was defeated in the battle and Austria was occupied.

Strong German  
offensive

Marshall Foch  
became the  
Commander-in-  
Chief

Defeat of Germany

Germany and her allies were thus continually defeated. Having sustained repeated defeats, Germany began negotiations for an armistice. As a result of these negotiations the First World War came to a close. Germany, as a condition of the armistice, was to deliver major portion of her arms, ammunitions and the navy to the hand of the Allied Powers and that German forces were to withdraw from all places she had occupied during the war. After long four years of bloody wars, the war came to a close on the 11th November, 1918. There was a popular rising in Germany and the German Emperor Kaiser was forced to abdicate. He left Germany and took shelter in Holland.

### The Paris Peace Conference, 1919

After the cessation of the war, a conference was held in Paris. This conference is known as the Paris Peace Conference. The diplomats and statesmen of the world attended this conference in great number. The task before the conference was to restore order in a disturbed world—a world devastated by the ravages of war, and to settle the terms of peace with the defeated powers. The principal figures of the conference were Lloyd George of England, Clemenceau of France, Orlando of Italy and President Wilson of the United States of America. These four personalities were among the greatest diplomats of the age. These statesmen cherished widely different opinion. President Wilson, as for example, was a man of liberal principles and he was an idealist. His idea was to save the future world from ravages of any more war and he insisted on founding a world order

Armistice and  
conclusion of war

Task before the  
Paris Conference

Representatives of  
different countries  
and their different  
attitude

based on his Fourteen Points and to found an international institution for the preservation of peace. The French representative Clemenceau was known as 'tiger'. He was a man of resolute character and never forgot his aims. He had two-fold aims—a terrible revenge upon Germany and adequate safeguards for France. Lloyd George was a great statesman. He advocated moderation and tried to hold the balance between the two.

The statesmen that joined the Paris Peace Conference had very different attitude towards the defeated Germany. There was President Wilson with his humanitarian outlook. But his proposals to save the future generations from war did

not become very effective. Other statesmen that joined the Peace Conference were not guided by this humanitarian outlook. Their attitude towards Germany was that Germany was responsible for the war and that she was to be punished in such a way as to break her backbone and to make her cripple up for all times to come. The victorious powers wanted to use to their advantage this psychology that Germany was responsible for the war. This revengeful attitude dominated. The spirit of vengeance overpowered the more liberal spirit.

In the Paris Peace Conference, five separate treaties were concluded with the defeated powers. The Treaty of

Versailles was concluded with Germany, the Treaty of St. Germain with Austria, the Treaty of Trianon with Hungary, the Treaty of Neuilly with Bulgaria and the Treaty of Sevres with Turkey. The highly interesting thing is that Austria and Hungary were separated and

Different attitude  
of different  
statesmen

Five separate  
treaties were  
concluded with  
the defeated  
powers

separate treaties were concluded with them. Each of these treaties had a common feature—they displayed the same spirit of vengeance in every case.

### Treaty of Versailles

Peace with Germany was concluded by the Treaty of Versailles. The German delegates were not consulted and they were only shown the document of the treaty to sign it. That is why it has been called a 'Dictated Peace'.

Main provisions  
of the Treaty of  
Versailles

By the provisions of the treaty, Germany restored Alsace and Lorraine to France, had to cede certain territories to Belgium and Poland, gave up her African colonies and trade and commercial interests in Asia and Africa; the arms and ammunitions and the numerical strength of German army were reduced; a crushing amount of money was demanded from Germany as war indemnity; the Saar region with rich mineral deposits was given to France for fifteen years as a compensation for the loss suffered by France and a large international army was placed in Germany to see that the provisions of the Treaty were carried out.

The Treaty of Versailles contained very severe terms for Germany. The victorious powers sought to cripple up her military powers. The number of her army was drastically reduced and her navy was destroyed. Germany had also to submit to the clause by which most of her ammunition factories were to be destroyed.

Very severe terms  
for Germany

Thus, it was endeavoured to destroy Germany's military power. Secondly, a crushing burden of war indemnity was forced on Germany because she was made responsible for the war. While hes

was asked to pay this huge amount, her economy was totally ruined. Her colonies were taken away from her, the Saar area which was rich in mineral deposits was taken away by France for fifteen years, her commercial and economic rights in Asia and Africa were taken away, her navy was destroyed or taken away by England. Her industries were also destroyed. Such was the miserable condition of her economy. Yet she was required to pay a crushing amount and an Allied army of occupation was to be maintained at her cost. By subjecting Germany to such extremely heavy terms, effort was made to destroy the backbone of her power and to make it impossible for her to rise again. This dual mentality—to ruin her economically and to break her backbone—was clearly visible in between the lines of the Versailles Treaty.

This attitude of revenge can be easily found in Versailles Treaty and all other treaties concluded with the defeated powers. But it must be remembered that good behaviour with the defeated enemy is advisable not only on the humanitarian ground but also from the standpoint of political sides. Moderate and liberal terms take off much of the pains of the defeat and help the defeated foe to be reconciled with the defeat. But instead of doing so, the victorious powers tried to cripple up Germany for all times to come. The German nation could not swallow this pill of insult. The German people sincerely believed that Germans are a great nation in this world and so they could not believe that their superiority have been put to an end. Germany had been a powerful

The miserable condition to which Germany was reduced

It was politically inexpedient

The German nation was not reconciled to defeat



state before she was defeated. So, the action of the victorious powers could not be accepted by the German nation. The effort to destroy them only evoked keen resentment and hatred on the part of German people for the Allied powers.

The Versailles contained seeds for a future war

This resentment and hatred of the German people for the victorious powers caused another war, *i.e.*, the Second World War. That is why it has been said that the Treaty of Versailles contained within it the seeds for the Second World War.

### The Treaty of St. Germain

One of the associates of Germany in the First World War was Austria. A separate treaty was concluded with her and that was the Treaty of St. Germain. By this treaty, Hungary was separated from Austria. A new state named Czechoslovakia was formed with some portions of Silesia, Moravia and Bohemia. Bosnia and Herzegovina which had been annexed by Austria were ceded to Serbia. The enlarged Serbia was given the new name of Yugoslavia. Some Polish territory included in the Austrian Empire was restored to Poland. Thus Poland got back her old boundary after a very long time. Trieste and Trentino for which Italian nationalists were clamouring were given to Italy. Moreover, Austrian colonial and trading interests were taken away. The army strength of Austria was reduced and she was required to pay a large sum as war indemnity.

Main provisions of the Treaty of St. Germain

The Treaty of St. Germain treated Austria with same severity as the Versailles Treaty had done to Germany. The same attitude of vengeance was visible in this treaty. By this treaty,

Austrian Empire was dissolved

Austrian Empire was dismembered and it became a thing of the past. All the defects of the Treaty of Versailles were visible in the treaty with Austria.

### The Treaties of Neuilly and Trianon

By the Treaty of Neuilly, peace was concluded with Bulgaria by the victorious powers. By this treaty, Bulgaria was forced to cede some portions of her territory to the newly created Yugoslavia. Her military strength was reduced and she was required to pay a huge war indemnity. This treaty made Bulgaria extremely weak. By the Treaty of Trianon, peace was concluded separately with Hungary. She was made a separate country. Some portion of her territory was distributed among the neighbouring states and like the treaties of Versailles, St. Germain and Neuilly, her army was reduced and she was required to pay a huge war indemnity, and in both these treaties, the same severity and the same attitude of inflicting punishment for war offence were visible.

### The Treaty of Sevres with Turkey

Turkey, it may be remembered, joined the side of the Axis powers. A separate treaty was concluded with the Sultan at the Paris Conference. By the Treaty of Sevres, Turkey had to give up all her claims over Egypt, Sudan, Syria, Cyprus, Morocco, Arabia, Palestine, Mesopotamia, etc. Greece secured some slice of territory from Turkey. The straits of Bosphorous and Dardenelles were declared International Waterways. By the Treaty of Sevres, the Turkish Empire

Provisions of the  
Treaties of  
Neuilly and  
Trianon

Provisions of the  
Treaty of Sevres

was virtually dissolved and the dominion of Turkey was limited to the mountainous region of Anatolia and Constantinople only. But the Turkish people refused to accept the treaty as it was. They rose against the Sultan and an opposition movement grew up under Mustapha Kemal to organise resistance. Turkey was at last able to secure some modifications of the provisions of Sevres. A new treaty was subsequently concluded with her giving her back some of her old possessions. The new treaty is known as the Treaty of Laussane, 1923.

The First World War is an event of extraordinary importance in the history of the world. In this war, more soldiers participated than had done ever before. In this war, science had helped the warring states. Submarines, long distance cannons, flying balloons, zeppelins etc. gave new aspect to the war. The area of the war was very wide. The determined fighting and the cruelty were without precedent and the number of soldiers killed and wounded were simply staggering. The First World War was a dangerous device for man-slaughter and devastation.

But however destructive its character might have been, the war was not without good effects. This great war caused the old order to be completely demolished and the new order in state and society and new outlook came into vogue. The principle of nationalism and democracy were recognised. The League of Nations was set up according to the idea of President Wilson and it tried to maintain peace in the international field.

Empire of Turkey  
dissolved

Treaty of  
Laussane

New weapons of  
warfare

Conclusion

## Questions

1. Discuss the causes of the First World War.

(Indirect causes : Responsibility of Germany—drive for Colonies and Empire—search for market—race for armaments—created tense situation ; responsibility of Vienna Congress ; anti-German feelings in France for the loss of Alsace and Lorraine—aspiration of the Italian nationalists—cries of Unredeemed Italy : Balkan conditions—a powder magazine—bitter relation between different European states—rivalry and clashes of interest—Europe divided into two rival camps—lack of sincerity for peace—secret diplomacy and distrust and suspicion for each other—all these causes prepared grounds for a great war.

Direct Causes : The murder—Serajevo—Austria emboldened by the assurances from Germany—issued an ultimatum on Serbia—war broke out between Austria and Serbia—Russia declared war in favour of Serbia—Germany joined Austria ; France joined Russia and Serbia—violation by Germany of the neutrality of Belgium—England joined the war—became a world war.)

2. Discuss the courses of the First World War.

3. What was the characteristic features of the war ?

4. Discuss the peace treaties that were concluded with the defeated powers with special reference to the Treaty of Versailles.

(Extremely severe terms of Treaty of Versailles—German colonies taken away—her empire in Europe distributed—her army reduced—Alsace and Lorraine restored to France—her navy handed over to Britain—Saar region leased to France—a crushing amount of war indemnity—army of occupation—criticism—Germany was not reconciled to the defeat—spirit of vengeance—dictated peace—politically unwise—became cause for another war ; other treaties—Treaty of St. Germain with Austria ; Treaty of Neuilly with Bulgaria—Treaty of Trianon with Hungary—Treaty of Sevres with Turkey—revision of the Treaty of Sevres and the new Treaty of Laussane—general remarks regarding the treaties.)

5. Critically discuss the attitude displayed by different statesmen in the Paris Peace Conference, 1919.

6. How far is it correct to say that the Treaty of Versailles contained within it the seeds of the Second World War ? Give reasons for your answer.

# CHAPTER X

## HISTORY OF EUROPE BETWEEN THE TWO WARS

### Introduction

After four years of fierce warfare, Europe got back peace. This peace was lost and won and the price for winning it back had been appalling. The victors and the defeated alike were very much exhausted. They were severely depleted in men and money. The powers tried to recover their lost strength as much as possible. But before they could completely recover, another war, more devastating and more extensive than the previous one, was forced upon Europe and the world. The period between these two wars was barely twenty years. These years were the years of disorder and confusion. The First World War was followed by a period of economic depression throughout the world causing unemployment, bank failures etc. During this period was also seen an organised attempt on the part of powers to maintain peace in the international area through the international institution known as the League of Nations. During this period was also seen an attempt on the part of several states to recover from the wounds of the First World War and the attempt of several other states to wipe out the humiliation of the defeat. There were thus conflicting tendencies and amidst this complexities, a Revolution occurred in Russia. The Revolution had broken out when

Exhaustion due  
to the war

Trend of events—  
the complicated  
nature of events.

the First World War was in progress. A new state was founded there on a new ideal and with a new principle.

### Turkey under Kemal Pasha

Turkey had joined the side of Germany in the First World War. A very severe treaty was forced on her after the end of the war. This treaty is known as the Treaty of Sevres. By the provisions of the treaty, the Empire of Turkey was practically dissolved and her possessions were very much limited. There were serious opposition against the imposition of these terms and the people of Turkey organised a great opposition under a young leader named Mustapha Kemal. On account of the activities of this man, the Treaty of Sevres could not be forced upon Turkey.

Greece had secured a portion of the Turkish Empire according to the terms of Sevres. Under the leadership of Mustapha Kemal, Turkey tried to secure some modification of the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. But Greece did not consent to it. A war broke out between Turkey and Greece and in this war Turkey became victorious. After the defeat of Greece, a new treaty was concluded with Turkey and this new treaty is known as the Treaty of Laussane (1923). By the terms of this treaty, Turkey recovered much of her empire that she had lost by the Treaty of Sevres. Due to the inspired leadership of Mustapha Kemal, the Turkish Empire was saved from immediate dissolution.

Mustapha Kemal was born in a good middle class family. After his primary education, he received his military education in Constantinople, the capital of Turkey. His original

name was Mustapha and for his great skill in Mathematics, he secured the title of Kemal from his teacher. While a cadet in the military school of Constantinople, he came in touch with the revolutionary ideas. When the Young Turk Movement became very strong, he joined it and forced the Sultan of Turkey to make some administrative reforms. But, as we have seen, the Young Turk Movement soon lost its progressive character. The leaders of the movement aimed at tightening Turkey's grip on the subject nations by a policy of repression and severity. When the Young Turk Movement assumed this character, Kemal was disgusted and he cut off all connections with politics. After this, he went to Paris for higher military education. His visit to France gave him a new lesson. He could realise how backward Turkey was. He realised that in education, civilization and culture Turkey was far behind the Christian countries of Europe. During the Balkan wars, he made his name as a good general. Due to his brilliant generalship, the combined Anglo-French army was defeated in the battle of Gallipoli. For these victories, he secured much popularity. In 1919, after the war his Nationalist Party secured majority seats in the Turkish Parliament and assumed the powers of the government. This Parliament after many a fluctuation of fortune became able to secure modification of the terms of the Treaty of Sevres. When the Turkish Parliament declared Turkey a Republic, Kemal became the first President of the Turkish Republic.

Early career of  
Mustapha Kemal

Rise of Mustapha  
Kemal

### Reforms of Mustapha Kemal

When Mustapha Kemal secured highest powers in the

state, he determined to reconstruct Turkey. During his stay in France, he had seen how backward the people of Turkey were in education, social standards, in civilisation and culture and the economic fields. He wanted to build the social, political and economic set up of Turkey anew and to bring it on the same footing as the rest of Europe. With this determination, he conducted an elaborate programme of reform covering all aspects of social and political life.

Kemal wanted reforms in various aspects

Though Sultanate had been abolished and a republic had been established at Turkey, the Sultan was still the Caliph or the leader of the Mohammedans all over the world. In 1924, this was abolished and in 1928, Turkey was declared a secular state. The legal system of Turkey was abolished and a new legal system very like that of the progressive countries of Europe was introduced. The existing calendar was changed and the Gregorian calendar was introduced. The Roman alphabet, the metric system of measurement etc. were introduced.

Abolition of the Caliphate and other reforms

The condition of women had been very bad. Mustapha Kemal conducted reforms to improve the condition of women. The marriage law was changed and wearing of veils no longer remained compulsory. The women were granted the right of franchise and they were allowed to receive highest education. The system of education was itself reformed. Steps were taken to spread education in an extensive scale. Great efforts were taken to abolish illiteracy and Roman script was introduced in lieu of Arabian.

Improvement of the condition of women and education



Special steps were taken to improve agriculture. Uptil now, the Turkish people had no eagerness for trade and commerce. By his reforms and other incentives, Kemal succeeded in creating enthusiasm for trade and commerce. The financial system was reorganised and the government banks etc. were established.

Turkey was created anew by these reforms in every aspects of social, economic and political life. Turkey was rapidly westernised and the way by which Turkey was changed is only comparable to the transformation of Japan by the Revolution of 1867. Mustapha Kemal had all the credit for transforming Turkey. The keynote of his success was that he took up one reform at a time. The Turkish Parliament honoured him by bestowing upon him the title of Ataturk (The Father of Turkish Nation). Kemal fully deserved this honour. He was a great leader of men and a great patriot. He died in 1938.

**Agriculture, trade and commerce**

**Kemal was honoured by the title of Ataturk**

### The League of Nations

The Paris Peace Conference struck a new note of hope and aspiration. Many a high-sounding statements were made in the Paris Peace Conference about the future of the world. Woodrow Wilson, the idealist President of U.S.A. laid down a programme for a lasting peace. In his famous Fourteen Points, President Wilson proposed to establish an institution of international character to preserve peace in the world. With sincere good-wishes for the war-afflicted people of the world President Wilson planned to save the world from any

future devastating war by establishing such an institution.

The Fourteen  
Points of President  
Wilson contained  
the seeds of the  
future League  
of Nations

Woodrow Wilson was an idealist. He represented the spirit of moderation in the Paris Peace Conference. He tried his best to secure moderate terms for the defeated Germany. But his effort to save

Germany from severe reprisal measures were abortive. In diplomacy, he was easily defeated by Lloyd George, Clemenceau etc. But the League of Nations was set up on the basis of the programme which he had drawn. In the appendix of the Treaty of Versailles, provision was made for the erection of the structure of the League of Nations.

The League of Nations was set up to secure the fulfilment of two very pious hopes—(1) To preserve peace in the international sphere and (2) to take collective action against an aggressor state. Thus the chief aims of the League

The aims of  
the League

were to preserve peace and an atmosphere of co-operation, to ask the states to abstain from war, to maintain and pay adequate regard to the treaty terms, to control the activities of the nations according to the International Law and in case of breach of peace, to punish the offending state by means of collective measures. The collective actions included economic boycott, threat of use of force and collective armed action if necessary. This meant that

To preserve peace

The Collective  
Security measures

the League of Nations would act as the guardian of international peace. The member states would help the League with arms and ammunition and army as would be necessary in such action of the

League. Maintenance of peace by collective means has been named as Collective Security measures.

According to the constitution of the League of Nations, there was to be an Assembly and a Council. The Council would be represented by the principal powers. The League was to have a secretariate and the city of Geneva became its headquarter. The constitution of the League provided for an International Court of Justice to judge disputes of an international character. The International Court of Justice was to sit at Hague. An International Labour Organisation was also provided for in the League constitution. The constitution of the League of Nations is also known as the Covenant, *i. e.*, Sacred Provisions.

The League maintained and preserved peace in the international sphere for some time. But the national states created by the Paris Peace Conference after the First World War were imbued with the spirit of militant nationalism

They made the atmosphere of the world quite hot. In this hot atmosphere, the League successfully mediated in the disputes between Greece and Albania and between Poland and Lithuania. The League also became successful in preserving peace by means of mediation and amicable negotiations and thus saved the world from immediate breach of peace. The International Court of Justice had no small credit in this respect. To lessen tension and to solve disputes, some international agreements were concluded under the auspices of the League. The unratified Geneva Protocol of 1924, the Locarno Pact of 1925 which was signed by about sixty-four states from different parts of the

Constitution of the  
League of Nations

The role of the  
League in  
maintaining peace

world and the Briand-Kellog Pact of 1928 are important in this respect.

But along with the success of the League, its failures must be mentioned. The League could not do anything when Japan attacked China and Italy attacked Abyssinia. The League could not do anything more than vague protests. The failure of the League to preserve peace caused the decline of the institution of the League of Nations and allowed the Second World War to spread its unholy wings over the world.

Failure of the League

### Causes of the Failure of the League

The failure of the League was not without some very grave reasons. The League structure had become weak from the very outset. The United States of America was one of the pioneers in the establishment of the League of Nations but due to a decision of her Senate, the U.S.A. did not become a member of the League. Besides U.S.A., Russia, the vast country of Europe was not a member. So, with such states as U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. remaining outside the League naturally became very weak. Secondly, the Covenant of the League had a very serious defect. According to the Covenant, unanimity of the members was necessary to arrive at a resolution. Since, in every matters that came before the League, one or the other state was sure to be interested, arriving at an unanimity was very difficult even in very urgent cases. Thirdly, the League of Nations was powerless to do anything in the cases of all undeclared warfares and the League had nothing to do with the non-members. These grave defects crippled the power

Some big states remained outside

The unanimity provision