Why gripe and grumble childishly
at what Geneva’s proffered?
Even onions make a feast
when nothing else is offered.

With water – and a pinch of salt –
you’ll feast on onion stew;
and even diplomats succeed,
at times, in what they do.

The very fact that they agree
should fill us all with wonder.
Praise them now before somebody,
somehow, makes another blunder.

What a nice pre-Christmas gesture:
yet another time, once more,
with ceremony, pomp and grandeur
diplomats denounce all war.

They say it’s possible to live
in peace; they’ll offer evidence
as soon as Germany acquires
fair shares of armaments.

The other nations have, of course,
the next and obvious step in mind:
from pure necessity they must
increase their armaments in kind.
Still later, seated at the table
in Geneva, will these men
with yet more ritualistic pomp
disarm the nations once again.

(To make a joke of this, my friends, was never my intent;
in deadly seriousness it’s called: the road to world disarmament.)