

LEAGUE OR WAR SAYS HITCHCOCK

Nebraska Senator States Alternative Now Before the World.

ADDRESSES THE SENATE ON PEACE LEAGUE

Says League Will Render War as Nearly Impossible as Any Agency.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Peace with the league of nations, or war and preparations for war without it, the internationalism of peace and justice or the internationalism of "the Socialist, the anarchist and the Bolshevik" are the alternatives before the world, declared Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, in an address late today to the senate.

The proposed league, Senator Hitchcock asserted, "would render war between members as nearly impossible as human agencies can devise." He spoke of the growth of Socialism and the popular demand for relief from war and its sacrifices and said peoples throughout the world, if denied measures for peace, would violently protest and seize power.

Senators who have opposed the league draft, the Nebraska member asserted, would be opposed to any league. He charged that in their attacks those senators had magnified its dangers and that they "quibbled and split hairs."

Replying to a reference that Americanism is opposed to internationalism in a recent speech of Senator Borah, of Idaho, who quoted Col. Roosevelt, Senator Hitchcock said the former president had created a league of nations to enforce peace, not only by moral force but by military strength, and expressed the belief that if he were alive Col. Roosevelt would be found supporting the league as ardently as President Wilson.

Suggestions that Mexico might join in imposing conditions on this country were ridiculed by the senator who said Mexico was not eligible for membership because she could not give the requisite guarantees of her intention and her ability to comply with international obligations.

Senator Hitchcock answered in detail the recent criticisms of Senators Borah and Cummins, of Iowa, Republicans, and Reed, of Missouri, Democrat. Some of their contentions he characterized as "ridiculous and absurd." He said it was not true the league plan would destroy the Monroe doctrine or depart from Washington's foreign policy, and, like President Wilson, he took the position that the world powers would add to the Monroe doctrine's guarantee.

Pointing out that the league charter was tentative and still subject to amendment, Mr. Hitchcock, praised the plan for an executive council conferring permanent powers upon the five principal nations.

In the attacks on the league he said opponents apparently had considered every suggestion of its control except that "it might be controlled by the great self-governing democracies of the world that establishes it."

"To my mind," he said, "the executive council is an ingenious, just and effective method of placing control in the five great nations which have successfully fought this war, the permanent direction of the league."

The disarmament provision, Senator Hitchcock said, did not arbitrarily fix the limit of armaments, but was merely advisory. The argument that nations agreeing to disarm, submit "their national life" to the league, he declared, was absurd when the league guaranteed political independence and territorial integrity to every member.

In discussing the Monroe doctrine, Senator Hitchcock said:

"Instead of being compelled to defend the Western Hemisphere alone, we would have the sympathy and help of the league of nations in carrying out the spirit of its organization."

"We have been told that this is one of those entangling alliances against which Washington warned us. I deny it."

He pictured Washington writing his farewell address by candlelight and added:

"If Washington were living today, he would press an electric button summon a stenographer, and in the blaze of electric lights, dictate a message urging the American people to unite with other great nations . . . to end wars and establish a perpetual peace of justice and good will. He would adapt himself to new conditions."

To the suggestion that Japan might impose the immigration question to America, the senator said Japanese efforts for race equality, declarations at Paris already had failed, and that confronted in the league by seven great Caucasian races, Japan could not even get a hearing if she attempted to bring up the immigration question.

"Our experiences in the war from which we are just emerging," said the senator in his argument upon the necessity for a league have convinced us that we are a part of the world and that whenever the world becomes convulsed with war in the future we are likely to become involved in it."

Citing enormous losses and cost of the present war, he said:

"The confidence of men in government has been shaken and will never be restored until governments devise some way to end these wars . . . If we fail to adopt an internationalism of governments, that will unite to end wars we shall be face to face with

GILLETT NAMED FOR SPEAKERSHIP

Vote of Republican Conference is Made Unanimous—Mann Ran Second.

OLD GUARD IS IN THE CONTROL OF PARTY

The Nomination is Regarded by Republicans as Equivalent to Election.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Representative Frederick H. Gillett, of Massachusetts, was nominated on the first ballot tonight by the Republican conference as the party candidate for speaker in the next house of representatives.

Representative James R. Mann, of Illinois, ran second with Representative Phillip Campbell, of Kansas, who entered the race a few days ago after Representative Simon D. Fess, Ohio, had withdrawn, far behind. As the Republicans will have a majority in the next house, nomination was regarded by them as equivalent to election.

The official vote as announced by Representative Horace M. Tower, of Iowa, chairman of the conference, follows:

Gillett, 138; Mann, 69; Campbell, 13.

Scattering, 5; 4 for Representative John J. Esch, of Wisconsin, and 1 for Representative Frank W. Mondell, of Wyoming.

Immediately after the ballot was announced, the nomination of Mr. Gillett was made unanimous on motion of Mr. Mann.

After a brief address by the successful candidate the conference proceeded with the nomination of other candidates for office in the House. W. Tyler Page, of Montgomery county, Md., was nominated clerk by acclamation, and Jos. Rogers, of Philadelphia, now a house employee, was nominated for sergeant at arms over representative Wm. J. Cary, of Wisconsin, whose term expires March 4.

The Legislature To-Day

The Compulsory Education Bill Passes House—All Between 8 and 14 Years Must Attend School.

Special to The Daily Item. Columbia, Feb. 28.—The house of representatives today agreed to the senate amendments to the compulsory education bill and it will become law as soon as signed by the governor. The act provides that all children in the State between the ages of eight and 14 years must attend school for not less than four consecutive months each session.

The senate today sent to the house the bill providing for a one mill levy and an auto tax for the construction of permanent highways. A big fight is expected in the house. The bill will come up this afternoon.

The senate spent most of the morning discussing a bill to take the teachers' bureau from the control of Superintendent of Education Swearingen and place it with the Board of Education. Senator Clifton of Sumner spoke in favor of the bill. Debate was adjourned until tonight. The house meets again at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Merrimac Engineer Is Dead

Was Confederate Veteran Who Took Part in Famous Battle.

Portsmouth, Va., Feb. 28.—Captain Elsbury White, assistant engineer of the Confederate Ironclad Merrimac when she fought the Monitor, died here today.

He internationalism of the individual.

Referring to the trend to Socialist leaders and ideas, Senator Hitchcock said Russia was communistic and that France and Italy were dominated by the Socialist leaders, and Socialist principles were growing in England and Germany.

"War and the preparations for war, the burdens of war and the horrors of war are largely responsible for this development in every nation of Europe or the Socialist idea," he said. "If war and the preparations for war are to continue the chief business of national governments we can expect a development of Socialism and Bolshevism in the United States. . . . It will seize political power in this country as it has in other countries."

Analyzing the proposed league constitution, Senator Hitchcock said its agreements for postponement of war while the executive council proceeds with examination of disputes would insure "a cooling off time" and of itself be a tremendous safeguard against war.

Dismissing from his prepared text, Senator Hitchcock declared that if the senate attempted to amend the proposed constitution the league would be wrecked. He accused senators who opposed the league plan before the proposed constitution was announced with trumping up charges against it.

"They still continue conjuring up a scare crowd," he declared.

The Japanese question was characterized as a lugaboo and one of the "false fronts" brought as an argument against the league.

Senator Hitchcock spoke before crowded galleries, but there was no demonstration. A noisy crowd of demonstrators and spectators had been warned against applauding.

COTTON STILL UNDER EMBARGO

Southern Senators Fail in Effort to Open Markets to Cotton.

TWO ATTEMPTS ARE MADE IN CONGRESS

Moves at White House and in the Senate — Smith Gets One Amendment In.

Washington, Feb. 27.—After President Wilson today refused requests of a congressional delegation from Southern cotton growing States to remove export embargo restriction on cotton, they endeavored in the senate late tonight to add a rider to the billion dollar wheat guarantee bill to repeal laws authorizing the embargo. The amendment, however, was rejected, 38 to 23.

The president took the position in which he was supported in the senate discussion tonight by Minority Leader Lodge and others, that a change in the embargo situation would violate the armistice terms and that the status quo of the enemy countries must be maintained until the peace treaty is signed.

Senators from the Southern States, however, contended that the embargo seriously injures American trade in cotton and that the British embargo on cotton would maintain the armistice conditions.

The senate adopted, however, by a viva voce vote an amendment presented by Senator Smith of South Carolina prohibiting the delivery or contracts of unmerchantable grades of cotton. In explaining the amendment, Senator Smith said that owing to the practice of such grades being delivered on contracts cotton exchanges had become gambling places.

Introduction of the Kirby amendment resulted in protracted debate on the part of the Democratic senators from the cotton States. In urging adoption of the amendment Senator Gore declared he thought congress should repeal the law permitting restrictions against the exportation of cotton to permit international commerce.

Senator Pollock of South Carolina declared the amendment was a matter of common justice to Southern farmers who desire an open market for their cotton. The amendment was termed a "half baked" proposition by Senator Jones of New Mexico, a Democrat, who urged careful consideration before such an amendment was adopted, adding the president already has authority to remove the restrictions.

Among the opponents to the amendment was Senator Norris of Nebraska, Republican, who declared it not only endangered the whole guarantee bill, but the president informed senators today he did not intend removing the embargo.

"I don't know his reasons," Senator Norris said, "but at least he is convinced that it should not be done."

The amendment was also opposed by Minority Leader Lodge, who said in the armistice the United States agreed to maintain a status quo, but if this amendment was enacted it would mean a violation of the armistice. He said he did not think a fitting preface for the league of nations to begin by breaking an agreement, adding he could not see how the president could sign a bill containing such a provision.

Exception to this view was taken by Senator Smith of Georgia, who said he did not believe it interfered with the status quo, asserting the president recently took barley off the embargo list.

Steamship Line Is Suspended

Baltimore & Carolina Co., Withdraws After Present Trip to Georgetown and Charleston.

Baltimore, Feb. 27.—Mason L. W. Williams, president of the Baltimore & Carolina Steamship Company, announced today that on the return of the steamer Matilda Weems from her present trip from this port to Georgetown and Charleston, S. C., the line will withdraw from business.

Mr. Williams said the decision was forced upon the company as it was on the Merchants & Miners' Company by the ruling of the railroad administration prohibiting transfer of freight between the steamers and the railroads now administered by the government. Mr. Williams added that the amount of port to port freight would not be enough to enable his line to meet expenses.

Secretary Tumulty Issues Denial

President Wilson Misquoted on Irish Question.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Secretary Tumulty today issued a statement denying formally on behalf of President Wilson that the president had told members of congress, foreign affairs committee, Wednesday night that the Irish question was a matter between Ireland and England and that Ireland would have no voice in the peace conference at present.

Add Washington ahenger elia A statement to this effect was made by at least one committee-man after the White House conference, and characterized as a "deliberate falsehood." Secretary Tumulty refused to discuss what President Wilson did say about the Irish question.

POLITICS RULE IN THE SENATE

Republicans Fighting Everything That is Regarded as An Administration Measure

EFFORT TO BLOCK THE VICTORY LOAN BILL

Purpose is Evidently to Force the Calling of An Extra Session of Congress.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Differences between Democratic and Republican leaders over the legislative situation, echoes from which have been heard daily since President Wilson made known his determination not to call an extra session of the new congress until his return from France, may be forced to an issue tomorrow in the senate with the calling up of the "Victory Loan" bill.

Democratic senators have told the president that in their efforts to force an extra session the Republicans would undertake to defeat this measure, which provides the means of financing the government during the remainder of this fiscal year. This information did not change the president's determination and tonight the Democratic leaders decided to call up the bill tomorrow so that they might determine with reasonable certainty just what were the prospects for rushing necessary legislation through before adjournment next Tuesday.

It was said tonight that the Republican leaders' course would await further conferences early tomorrow and for negotiations with the Democrats and the sounding of Republican senators' sentiments. Democratic leaders said notice had been given that the loan bill would be held continuously before the senate until disposed of by unbroken sessions, day and night, if necessary, until adjournment. On account of its importance to the nation's finances they should give it precedence over all appropriation or other measures.

Whether the desire for an immediate early session should be sacrificed to the question of expediency of defeating the loan measure was vigorously debated among the Republican senators, several of whom were said to have disapproved opposition to the bill. Democratic leaders tonight expressed belief that the Republicans would not defeat the bill by a filibuster, but they admitted that several important appropriation bills undoubtedly would fail.

Although much time was spent in the senate today in discussion of the league of nations and other subjects considerable progress was made there. The house passed and sent to the senate the \$26,000,000 general deficiency bill and senate appropriation committee members planned tonight to report the bill tomorrow adding as a rider the house bill appropriating \$750,000,000 for the railroad administration.

Other progress included: Formal presentation of the "Victory Loan" bill to the senate; adoption by the house of the conference report on the long delayed water power development bill, conference agreement on hospital construction appropriations and negotiations expected to attain prompt enactment of the \$1,000,000,000 wheat guarantee measure.

At late night sessions tonight the house worked on its last appropriation bill, the sundry civil measure, while the senate considered the conference report on the bill authorizing the 1920 census, the oil and coal leasing bill and minor appropriation measures.

Many minor bills were passed today by the senate, in what members expected was a final reading of the agenda for unobjected measures. Objection to consideration of many measures was regarded as insuring their failure for the present session.

Chairman Jones of the senate woman suffrage committee announced today that equal suffrage advocates would make a final effort for action on a compromise constitutional amendment designed to meet objections of Southern senators who opposed the Susan B. Anthony draft, recently defeated. The committee will meet tomorrow to report out the resolution.

Discussion of the legislative situation and the question of an extra session cropped out in tonight's senate debate. Senator France of Maryland, Republican, urging his resolution for an extra session beginning March 1 and characterizing as "vicious and un-American" the practice of rushing bills through at the session's close.

Senator France spoke for more than four hours and stopped only when he was promised adoption of the conference report on the 1920 census bill. He charged Democrats with obstructing legislation and said that by decree and decision of the majority leaders it was proposed to kill legislation which the country needs with adjournment of congress, and delay of an extra session. He said he was "willing to stand until he dropped dead" in an effort to secure an extra session on March 5.

Rioting in Madrid

Martial Law Declared and Order Finally Restored.

Madrid, Friday, Feb. 27.—Martial law was declared in Madrid and troops were patrolling the streets. This action was the result of rioting against profiteers, mobs attacking the provision and butcher shops. Order has been restored.

Washington, March 1.—The demobilization of the army up to yesterday had reached more than one million three hundred thousand men. Gen. March announced today. The demobilization orders total more than a million and a-half.

BUILD RIGHT WHEN YOU BUILD. The intending home-builder is, for the most part, like a traveler in strange and foreign lands. He is not sure of his bearings; he is confused by conflicting claims; he is uncertain of the best routes, and in doubt as to the real values. He eagerly avails himself of the services of a reliable guide, as to where to go, what to look at, and what to buy. If you are in this position and desire our services, it will be a pleasure to assist you. BOOTH & McLEOD, Inc., THE HOME OF HOME-BUILDING MATERIALS. PHONES 10 & 631 SUMTER, S. C.

LODGE ATTACKS PEACE LEAGUE

Assault on Constitution of Proposed League is Partisan Attack on Wilson.

SAFETY OF THE WORLD SUBORDINATE TO PARTY

Massachusetts Senator Makes Argument in Support of Republican Claims That Monroe Doctrine is in Danger.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Republican senators today returned to their assault on the constitution of the league of nations as proposed to the peace conference at Paris with Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, who will be chairman of the powerful foreign relations committee in the new senate, making his first pronouncement since the document became public.

Criticism by the Republicans did not pass unchallenged. Chairman Hitchcock for the foreign relations committee, took sharp issue with the Massachusetts senator, denouncing as preposterous his suggestion that the league would take from America its right of self defense.

Delivering before a crowded floor and galleries an address he had prepared before attending the White House dinner conference last Wednesday night, Senator Lodge warned the American people to consider well before departing from policies from Washington. Late in the day Senators Lenroot of Wisconsin and Frelinghuysen of New Jersey made additional demands for amendment of the charter.

Senator Lodge, speaking before an audience which included diplomatic representatives of several foreign nations, deplored proposals to give powers to the league which he said would cause the Monroe doctrine to "disappear" would abridge American sovereignty and in the end promote misunderstandings and war instead of the peace which the world so much desired.

The Massachusetts senator assailed especially the provisions for territorial guarantee mandates and disarmament. Besides demanding revisions of these clauses the senator declared that domestic questions such as immigration should be definitely placed beyond the authority of the league. He said the entire constitution was too loosely drawn, admitting of too wide interpretation.

He told the senate that for Lincoln's government of a people, by the people and for the people, the United States was now asked to substitute on many vital points, government of, for and by other people and declared the nation should pause and consider well before taking "this fateful step."

"We are asked," said the senator "to move away from George Washington toward the other end of the line at which stands the sinister figure of Trotsky, the champion of internationalism. We must build no bridges across the chasm which now separates American freedom and order from Russian anarchy and destruction."

Like Senator Lodge, Senator Lenroot and Senator Frelinghuysen warned against acceptance of the league constitution without careful deliberation and without fundamental revision. While favoring a league that would not conflict with American principles and sovereignty, Senator Lenroot urged that as the project is an experiment its life be limited to ten years with provision for renewal if it proves successful.

Senator Frelinghuysen disputed any assumption that President Wilson represented public sentiment in proposing participation of America in the league and demanded that the country be fully informed on all phases of the question before the senate is asked to consider it as a part of the peace treaty.

Quits Railroads For Movies

Assistant Director General Price Resigns Position.

Washington, March 1.—Oscar Price, assistant director general of railroads, has resigned to become president of a new film distributing corporation.

Franklin, Mass., March 1.—The bodies of three unidentified men were found today at a short distance from the scene of the mysterious explosion that damaged the mill of the American Woolen Company and fifty dwellings yesterday. The bodies were badly mutilated.

FARMERS UNITE FOR BATTLE

The Cotton Acreage Reduction Movement Has Solid Support of Producers.

CAMPAIGN IS ON FROM MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA

Largely Attended Meetings Held in All Counties of State—The Pledges Signed by Thousands.

Columbia, March 1.—Reports of the county meetings held yesterday in every section of the State indicate that the farmers of South Carolina have gotten squarely behind the cotton acreage reduction plan, will hold the remainder of the 1913 crop of cotton for higher prices and make some reduction in the amount of fertilizer used. At the meetings yesterday, speakers explained the acreage reduction plan and correlated undertakings to audiences composed of farmers and business men. The prepared pledge was freely signed and in practically all counties district committees were appointed at the county meetings to secure in their respective territories signatures of farmers to the pledge.

At a number of the meetings, negro farmers present manifested interest in the plan. In at least two counties, Georgetown and Jasper, the meeting raised a sum of money by subscription for financing the acreage reduction plan through the State central committee.

As far as available reports show, there was no opposition to the plans put forward by the New Orleans convention. Resolutions adopted by many of the meetings provide specifically for the payment of one-third of croppers' rent in other farm products besides cotton. In Anderson, the farmers at the meeting decided to let reduction in the use of fertilizers take care of itself.

J. Skottowe Wannamaker, chairman of the State central committee, spoke at the meeting of farmers in Calhoun his home county, with Thos. G. McLeod of Bishopville, former lieutenant governor. Both of them also addressed the meeting at Orangeburg.

"The farmers in the counties have endorsed the proposition to cut the acreage 33 1-3 per cent, and have signed the pledge in large numbers. The persons present have taken pledges home to be signed by their neighbors. The campaign did not end with today's meetings, but has just begun," says J. Skottowe Wannamaker, State chairman. "The meetings today were successful not under the spur of oratory or excitement, but by force of the logic of the situation and the farmer's belief that he has not had a square deal."

"In some of the counties there was discussion of the relation of tenants and landlords to this question. The State central committee at its meeting next Tuesday noon in this city will be asked to determine a fair basis of exchange upon which other commodities can be given to landlords in place of rental cotton. It is stated that the landlords in many counties will be patriotic enough to charge their contracts and get out of the all cotton rental plan."

"Richland county passed resolutions declaring that if cotton farmers are to be represented abroad by one of their number, E. D. Smith is the man who should go."

Search for Weapons

Berlin Government Take Steps to Forestall Threatened Outbreak of Spartacans.

Berlin, Friday, Feb. 27.—The minister of the interior has ordered a house to house search in Berlin for hidden weapons and munitions. Spartacans are reported to be planning another outbreak for March 5th, when the newly elected Prussian diet meets.

More Than Seven Million Killed

Statistics of Death in Battles During War Made Public.

Washington, March 1.—The battle deaths during the war as far as statistics were available, were announced by Gen. March today as seven million, three hundred and fifty-four thousand, representing only men killed in action or died of wounds.

Paris, March 1.—The soldiers and workmen's congress at Munich has declared martial law throughout Bavaria, according to a Zurich dispatch to The Matin.