SECRETARY KNOX ON DIPLOMACY

Delivers 154th Commencement Address at University of Pennsylvania.

PREDICTS END OF WARFARE

Advanced Countries Should Help Others—A Time Approaching Millennium Near at Hand.

Philadelphia, June 15.—Secretary of State Philander C. Knox was the orator at the 154th commencement of the University of Pennsylvania, held to-day in the Academy of Music. Half an hour before the beginning of the exercises the graduating class, numbering 763, the faculty and the alumni assembled in a hall near the Academy of Music and, garbed in the conventional cape and gown, marched to the academy.

Dr. Ethelbert Dudley Warfield, president of Lafayette College, was the recipient of the only honorary degree conferred by the university this year. He was given the degree of doctor of laws.

Secretary Knox was introduced to the students and the guests of the university, who crowded the academy to its capacity, by Provost C. C. Harrison. Taking for his topic "The Spirit and Purpose of American Diplomacy," Secretary Knox said, in part:

"If this government can help to upbuild its neighbors and promote the thought that the capital of the more advanced nations of the world would be better employed in assisting the peaceful development of those more backward than in financing wars, it is such a deviation from traditions as the American people will appprove."

Beginning with John Jay's treaty of 1794 with Great Britain for the peaceful settlement of boundary disputes, which he declared ushered in the modern era arbitration, Secretary Knox declared that American diplomacy had been a diplomacy of real and definite direction and spirit, not based on expediency, nor driven by the variable winds of opportunism, and one which had in its justice, candor, moderation and generosity reflected the becoming attributes of a great people.

The place which this nation has taken in the promotion of arbitration Mr. Knox commended highly, paying a generous tribute to his predecessors for their part of the work, and referring only modestly to his own work of promoting an international prize court with the functions of a court of arbitral justice.

The United States, Mr. Knox declared, had taken the advanced ground that arbitration is a judicial more than a diplomatic procedure, and the decision of such a court must conform to the principles of law and equity involved and controlling. The initiative of the United States in promoting such a court he said he believed would lead to the early establishment at The Hague of a permanent court of arbitration.

The Hague Tribunal.

Referring to the Hague tribunal, Mr. Knox said:

"Not only has the United States sought to settle its own difficulties by the implements of peace rather than by those of war, but it has assiduously exerted all proper pressure to induce the world to adopt the principle of arbitration as a means of settlement of international disputes. Passing with a mere allusion the various American peace societies and able and distinguished American scholars, philanthropists and statesmen who have worked with ardor, ability and success not only in the United States but in all parts of the civilized world for the establishment of peace and the pacific settlement of international disputes, I beg to direct your attention to the fact that in his instructions to the American representatives of the first official world's peace conference of 1899 Secretary Hay, after commenting upon the various features of the suggested programme, declared:

'The eighth article, which proposes the wider extension of good offices, mediation and arbitration, seems likely to open the most fruitful field for discussion and future action. The duty of sovereign states to promote international justice by all wise and effective means is only secondary to the fundamental necessity of preserving their own existence. Next in importance to their independence is the great fact of their interdependence.

'Nothing can secure for human government and for the authority of law which it represents so deep a respect and so firm a loyalty as the spectacle of a civilized and independent states, whose duty it is to prescribe the rules of justice and impose penalties upon the lawless, bowing with reverence before the august supremacy of those principles of right which give to law its eternal foundation.

'The Secretary accompanied his instructions by a short but broad and comprehensive plan for an international court of arbitration, which should 'be of a permanent character and shall be always open' for the consideration of cases which might be reported to it. The conference was not, however, at the time, of a temper to recommend so complete a judicial plan as that proposed by Mr. Hay and presented by the American delegation, and there was accordingly (largely as the result of the indefatigable labors of the delegation of this government) drawn up and approved by the conference, and later ratified by various powers, a convention for the pacific settlement of international disputes, which, however, lacked 'the fundamental idea of the American plan [which] was a court which should not only be permanent, but continuous in its functions.' The convention adopted was, however, a long stride in the direction of the peaceful settlement of international disputes, and not a few of its provisions, particularly regarding mediation between powers about to engage or already engaged in war, were actually proposed by members of the American delegation.

'Under and pursuant to the provisions of this convention this government has already negotiated and concluded some ninety general treaties, which, with several others in process of negotiation, provide that national differences which may arise of a legal nature or relating to the interpretation of treaties existing between the two contracting parties, and which it may not have been possible to settle by diplomacy, shall be submitted to arbitration for determination and settlement, provided such questions do not affect the vital interests, the independence or the honor of the two contracting states and do not concern the interests of the third parties. It is firmly believed that these conventions postpone to the remotest possibility the likelihood of failure amicably to adjust with the other contracting parties all questions national in their character which affect the international relations and intercourse of the contracting states as such.

Court of Arbitration.

"The efforts of the American delegation at the Second Hague Conference resulted in the readoption in an extended and amended form of the convention for the pacific settlement of international disputes, as well as the framing and adoption of a convention for an international court of prize. But the conference also went considerably further and recommended to the nations of the world the establishment of a court of arbitration in accordance with the fundamental idea of the plan submitted to the first conference at the instance of Secretary Hay—that the court should be 'always open'—'a court which should not only be permanent, but continuous in its functions.'

Beginning with Commodore Perry's visit to Japan and Caleb Cushing's treaty with China in 1844, Mr. Knox devoted much time to discussing the State Department's course in the Far East. He commended it warmly, referring to John Hay's "open door" policy in China as an achievement of which it was impossible to fail to refer when speaking of American diplomacy.

"The same just, friendly and generous American spirit is conspicuously shown in our diplomatic and other efforts in the interest of particular nations at critical times or in respect to matters of great consequence affecting the welfare of other nations," said Mr. Knox.

The part which the United States took in the Boxer troubles and its subsequent action was taken, he declared, to safeguard the principle of the preservation of Chinese territorial and administrative entity and equality of commercial opportunity. Mr. Knox reviewed this government's participation in the Congo negotiations, its progressive policy in Liberia and its part in terminating the war between Russia and Japan.

The most active sphere of American diplomacy, however, Mr. Knox declared, was in the relations of the United States with the twenty other republics of the Western Hemisphere. Most of them are passing through an evolution similar to that of the United States, he said, and the influence of the diplomacy of the United States could be traced to the development and welding of the Pan-American family of nations.

Latin-American Development.

The financial difficulties of the Latin-American republics Mr. Knox compared in a measure to those of Santo Domingo, and he warmly defended the United States for its course in the case of the latter. Negotiations for the funding of the national debt of Honduras, now under way, he said, would doubtless receive the approval of this goverament. The Panama Canal and the Pan-American Railway, Mr. Knox declared, would both be great factors in the peaceful development of Latin-America.

On these phases of our diplomacy the Secretary said:

"I now turn to what is by far the most active sphere of American diplomacy, namely, that of our relations with the twenty other republics of the Western Hemisphere. Most of these republics are passing through an evolution similar to our own—that of the peopling and developing of vast areas and the attempt to perfect republican government under similar institutions.

"From the time the United States became an independent nation this government, while respecting its obligations to European powers, has frankly and consistently wrought for the establishment and maintenance of a popular, free and independent form of government for the countries which share with us this hemisphere. Just emerged from our own war of independence, the struggle of the southern republics awoke a responsive chord in the heart of the American people, and in 1823 this government hastened to recognize as sovereign states the republics of Spanish South America, and named ministers to represent it at their capitals.

"Turning to modern examples, by the Spanish-American treaty, signed at Paris in 1898, and its accompanying documents, this government, to the surprise of the world, spontaneously, and by action for which history scarcely affords a precedent, recognized the independence of Cuba. . . .

Castro and Zelaya.

"The invariable fervid and inherent sentiment for self-government has had a large part in this government's sympathy with the recent eviction by their own long suffering fellow countrymen of such tyrants as Castro, whose regime has given way to better things, and Zelaya, whose cruel misgovernment it is hoped will soon be succeeded by a government really responsible and republican.

"By such advances the less fortunate republics tend gradually to a stature of equality as real as the equality of their sovereignty, and to the high level of stability, justice, moderation and mutual responsibility which characterizes their more fortunate sisters.

"One of the aims of the diplomacy of the United States has been to contribute as much as possible in helpfulness to these ends. True stability is best established not by military, but by economic and social forces. A certain area of Central America has been notoriously racked by revolution and, by a sad history of turbulence and instability, had been robbed of that flourishing prosperity which should be its natural heritage."

When Wars Shall Cease.

In conclusion Mr. Knox said:

"We have indeed, as is right, firmly maintained our national sovereignty and dignity and the rights of our citizens, and we have not avoided war when honor and duty have invoked that stern arbitrament. Nevertheless, we have loyally submitted ourselves to the control of the ideals of peace and to the principles of international comity and good will, and we have exerted our influence and good offices to guide and aid others along that path. We have not, indeed, stood alone in that attitude, but have acted in concert with other powers who recognize the same high call and seek the same great ends.

"We have reached a point when it is evident that the future holds in store a time when wars shall cease; when the nations of the world shall realize a federation as real and vital as that now subsisting between the component parts of a single state; when by deliberate international conjunction the strong shall universally help the weak, and when the corporate righteousness of the world shall compel unrighteousness to disappear, and shall destroy the habitations of cruelty still lingering in the dark places of the earth. This is 'the spirit of the wide world brooding on things to come.' That day will be the millennium, of course, but in some sense and degree it will surely be realized in this dispensation of mortal time.

"It is for this country always to maintain its historic policy and attitude, to be true to this greatest duty of a nation, which is entirely consistent with all its internal duties, to advance that time which the whole course of history and all divine prophecies and revelations alike presage."

It was announced during the exercises in the Academy of Music that the sum of $10,000 had been raised by four classes of the university to cover the cost of the erection of a bronze statue of Provost Harrison.

It was also announced that Mayor Reyburn had signed the ordinance of councils granting to the university fifty acres of land in exchange for seventy-five free scholarships.

400-YEAR TAX LEASE RECORDED.

Among the transfers recorded yesterday was one relating to a tax lease. It read: 165th street, north side, between Audubon and Amsterdam avenues, lot 12, block 2123 on tax map. The city of New York to S. Wohlfeil, tax lease, 400 years, $260 83.

European Visitors will find the European Columns of the New-York Tribune a reliable guide to the best shops, hotels and resorts. Consult These Columns Before Sailing and much valuable time will be saved for sightseeing.

WOMAN HELPS HAMILTON

Miss Todd Gives Him a Propeller for His New York Flight.

MAY TRY IT TO-MORROW

While Dozens Wait with Offers, Aviator Slips Away and Buys an Automobile.

The first time in the history of the world that a woman has come to the assistance of an aviator, except by her confidence and sympathy, was yesterday, when Miss E. L. Todd lent her eight-foot propeller to Charles K. Hamilton at Garden City, Long Island. Hamilton expects to show in flights from Governor's Island to-day that a woman's propeller is the equal of those made by men. If he does, a new argument for the suffragists will be one result and an early flight to Grant's Tomb will probably be another.

The trip up the river and return will, it is promised, take place in a day or two. If the weather is all right, it may take place to-morrow.

Glenn H. Curtiss left the city yesterday for Louisville, accompanied by a press representative, three private secretaries, two mechanicians and a heap of unanswered mail. He was quietly elated over the court's decision vacating the temporary injunctions brought by the Wrights. He said he intended to manufacture aeroplanes on a large scale.

"This decision of the courts will result in wonderful activity in aeronautics and a resulting practical advance," said Mr. Curtiss. "Many backyard aspirants for aeronautic rewards have been kept in their back yards through fear of what the Wrights might do to them if they flew over the fence. Of course, the Wrights can keep on asking for injunctions if they care to go to the expense and trouble, but I hardly think it likely now. They were the first to fly and they are entitled to the rewards of their invention. The trouble is, I think, that they have tried to make their patents cover too many things. And when the court pronounced against them they fell back on the plea of lo, the poor inventor."

Hamilton changed yesterday from the skyway in his biplane to the highway in a newly purchased automobile. He has long wished to own an automobile. The purchase was made in a Hamiltonian way. He did not tell his wife where he was going yesterday afternoon nor did he inform his harried press representative. Before 2 o'clock he left his hotel and was gone for hours. Men from distant cities called with propositions, each mail brought letters offering attractive sums for aeroplane flights, but P. L. Young, the aviator's representative, had to recite to himself classics upon the virtue of patience. He said last night that $25,000 worth of flying contracts might easily have been signed if Hamilton had been present to operate the pen. But Hamilton was away from all of these things, and when he had secured Miss Todd's propeller, he telephoned to Mrs. Hamilton to be ready for an automobile ride to Coney Island, and they spent the evening there.

Hamilton is due at Nashville, Tenn., next Monday, and some delegates from New Britain, Conn., his birthplace, are urging him to spend a day there, and promises of the Hudson River flight are also being made. Hamilton is harder to "manage" than a French aviator, and those who have longest endeavored to keep him to a given course of action have learned when speaking of the future to emphasize "he may."

The aviation committee, composed of Clifford B. Harmon, Walter L. Fairchild, Captain T. S. Baldwin, Joseph Seymour and Frank Van Anden, with the consent of the executive committee of the Nassau Hospital Association, will give a "tag day" on Saturday afternoon at 5 o'clock on the aviation field at Garden City. "Tags" will be sold for 25 cents, or as much as may be offered. Fifty per cent of the proceeds will go to the hospital and the rest will be used to improve the aviation field.

An interesting programme has been arranged, consisting of races, speed tests, endurance tests and tryouts of new machines. One of the events will be a race between Captain Baldwin and "Joe" Seymour.

BIG CONVENTION PUT OFF

Republican League Agrees to Meet Wishes of President.

At the request of President Taft, Vice-President Sherman and other Republicans in official life in Washington, the eleventh biennial convention of the National Republican League has been postponed until fall. The plan was to hold it on June 24 and 25, with a dinner on the latter evening. President Taft, the Vice-President and others are anxious to attend the dinner, but felt it would be impossible to do so, as Congress will not adjourn before the date set. President Taft expressed his wishes in a long distance telephone conversation with John Hays Hammond, president of the league, on Tuesday. Mr. Hammond communicated with D. B. Atherton, the temporary secretary, who had already opened headquarters at the Hotel Astor, and the latter began to send out telegrams announcing the change in plans.

As planned now the convention will open either on September 27 or 25. At the same time a mass meeting will be held in Carnegie Hall, which will in a sense be considered the opening gun of the Republican fall campaign. It is expected that the President and Vice-President will be at the mass meeting as well as at the dinner.

The time of the convention for June was set in April with no reference to the return of Colonel Roosevelt, but when it was learned that he would have returned on the date set for the dinner a cable message inviting him to speak at the dinner was forwarded. In reply Colonel Roosevelt said it would be impossible for him to accept the invitation, as he could make no speeches so soon after his return to this country. He must have time, he said, to familiarize himself with present conditions before attempting to make any public comment upon them.

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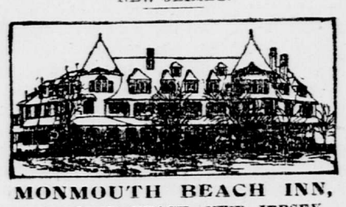

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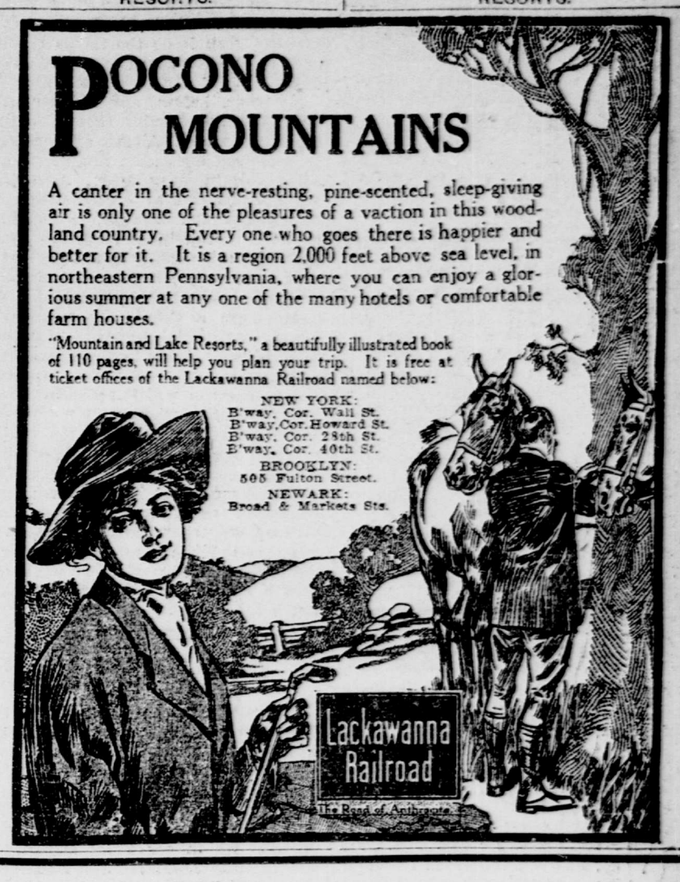

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