LODGE URGES PEACE NOW, TROOPS HOME, THEN A LESS MENACING LEAGUE

SENATOR WOULD LET LEAGUE PACT WAIT

Continued from First Page.

plicit that no man can misunderstand them.

Likely to Cause Quarrels.

"In this draft prepared for a constitution of a League of Nations which is now before the world there is hardly a clause about the interpretation of which men do not already differ. As it stands there is serious danger that the very nations which sign the constitution of the league will quarrel about the meaning of the various articles before a twelvemonth has passed. It seems to have been very hastily drafted, and the result is crudeness and looseness of expression, unintentional I hope.

"The suggestion that we can safely sign because we can always violate or abrogate is fatal not only to any league but to peace itself. You cannot found world peace upon the cynical 'scrap of paper' doctrine so dear to Germany. To whatever instrument the United States sets hand it must carry out the provisions of that instrument to the last jot and title, fulfil it absolutely both in letter and in spirit. If this is not done the instrument will become a source of controversy instead of agreement, of dissension instead of harmony. This is all the more essential because it is evident, although not expressly stated, that this league is intended to be indissoluble, for there is no provision for its termination or for the withdrawal of any signatory.

"We are left to infer that any nation withdrawing from the league exposes itself to penalties, and probably to war. Therefore before we ratify the terms and the language in which the terms are stated must be as exact and as precise, as free from any possibility of conflicting interpretations, as it is possible to make them. The explanation or interpretation of any of these doubtful passages is not sufficient if made by one man, whether that man be the President of the United States or a Senator or any one else. These questions and doubts must be answered and removed by the instrument itself.

Washington's Policy Abandoned.

"We abandon entirely by the proposed constitution the policy laid down by Washington in his Farewell Address and the Monroe Doctrine. It is worse than idle, it is not honest, to evade or deny this fact, and every fair minded supporter of this draft plan for a league admits it.

"I know that some of the ardent advocates of the plan submitted to us regard any suggestion of the importance of the Washington policy as foolish and irrelevant. Perhaps it is. Perhaps the time has come when the policies of Washington should be abandoned; but if we are to cast them aside I think that at least it should be done respectfully and with a sense of gratitude to the great man who formulated them. For nearly a century and a quarter the policies laid down in the Farewell Address have been followed and adhered to by the Government of the United States and by the American people. I doubt if any purely political declaration has ever been observed by any people for so long a time.

"The principles of the Farewell Address in regard to our foreign relations have been sustained and acted upon by the American people down to the present moment. Washington declared against permanent alliances. He did not close the door on temporary alliances for particular purposes. Our entry into the great war just closed was entirely in accord with and violated in no respect the policy laid down by Washington. When we went to war with Germany we made no treaties with the nations engaged in the war against the German Government.

"The President was so careful in this direction that he did permit himself ever to refer to the nations by whose side we fought as 'allies,' but always as 'nations associated with us in the war.' The attitude recommended by Washington was scrupulously maintained even under the pressure of the great conflict. Now, in the twinkling of an eye, while passion and emotion reign, the Washington policy is to be entirely laid aside and we are to enter upon a permanent and indissoluble alliance. That which we refuse to do in war we are to do in peace deliberately, coolly and with no war exigency. Let us not overlook the profound gravity of this step.

Must Follow Monroe Doctrine.

"But if we put aside forever the Washington policy in regard to our foreign relations, we must always remember that it carries with it the corollary known as the Monroe Doctrine. Under the terms of this league draft reported by the committee to the Peace Conference the Monroe Doctrine disappears. It has been our cherished guide and guard for nearly a century. The Monroe Doctrine is based on the principle of self-preservation. It involves but one essential proposition—that the Americas should be separated from the interference of Europe and that American questions in all parts of this hemisphere should be settled by Americans alone. I have seen it said that the Monroe Doctrine is preserved under Article 10; that we do not abandon the Monroe Doctrine, we merely extend it to all the world. How any one can say this passes my comprehension.

"The Monroe Doctrine exists solely for the protection of the American hemisphere, and to that hemisphere it was limited. If you extend it to all the world it ceases to exist, because it rests on nothing but the differentiation of the American hemisphere from the rest of the world. Under this draft of the statutes of the League of Nations American questions and European questions and Asian and African questions are all alike put within the control and jurisdiction of the league.

"Europe will have the right to take part in the settlement of all American questions, and we of course shall have the right to take part in the settlement of all questions in Europe and Asia and Africa. Europe and Asia are to take part in policing the American continent and the Panama Canal, and in return we are to have by way of compensation the right to police the Balkans and Asia Minor when we are asked to do so.

"Perhaps the time has come when it is necessary to do this, but it is a very grave step, and I wish now merely to point out that the American people ought never to abandon the Washington policy and the Monroe Doctrine without being perfectly certain that they earnestly wish to do so. Standing always firmly by these great policies, we have thriven and prospered and have done more to preserve the world's peace than any nation, league or alliance that ever existed.

"Very complete proof must be offered of the superiority of any new system before we reject the policies of Washington and Monroe, which have been in all foreign relations the palladium of the republic. Within the memory of those to whom I now speak the Monroe Doctrine stopped the incursions of England upon the territory of Venezuela and settled the boundary question finally by arbitration. Under the Monroe Doctrine we arrested the attempt of Germany to take Venezuelan territory on another occasion.

"In these two instances the doctrine was enforced, by a Democratic President and by a Republican President, and they were supported in so doing by all the people of the United States without regard to party. I mention these cases merely to show that we are not cutting away from the body politic dead limbs, but that we are abandoning two cardinal principles of American government, which, until the presentation of this draft for the constitution of the League of Nations, were as vital as on the day when Washington addressed the people of the United States for the last time or when President Monroe announced his policy to the world. What has happened since November 11, 1918, to make them so suddenly valueless, to cause them to be regarded as injurious obstacles to be cast out upon the dust heaps of history?

"Two other general propositions and I shall proceed to examine these league articles in detail. In article 10 we, in common, of course, with the other signatories and members of the projected league, guarantee the territorial integrity and the political independence of every member of the league. That means that we ultimately guarantee the independence and the boundaries, as now settled or as they may be settled by the treaty with Germany, of every nation on earth. If the United States agrees to guaranties of that sort we must maintain them. The word of the United States, her promise to guarantee the independence and the boundaries of any country, is just as sacred as her honor—far more important than the maintenance of every financial pledge, which the people of this country would never consent to break.

No Limit to the Possibilities.

"I do not now say this time has not come when, in the interest of future peace, the American people may not decide that we ought to guarantee the territorial integrity of the far flung British Empire, including her self-governing dominions and colonies, of the Balkan States, of China, or Japan, or of the French, Italian, and Portuguese colonies in Africa; but I do suggest that it is a very grave, a very perilous promise to make, because there is but one way by which such guarantees, if ever invoked, can be maintained, and that way is the way of force—whether military or economic force it matters not.

"If we guarantee any country on the earth, no matter how small or how large, in its independence or its boundaries, that guarantee we must maintain at any cost when our word is once given, and we must be in constant possession of fleets and armies capable of enforcing these guarantees at a moment's notice.

"There is no need of arguing whether there is to be compulsive force behind this league. It is there in Article X. absolutely and entirely by the mere fact of these guarantees. The ranks of the armies and the fleets of the navy made necessary by such pledges are to be filled and manned by the sons, husbands and brothers of the people of America.

"I wish them carefully to consider, therefore, whether they are willing to have the youth of America ordered to war by other nations without regard to what they or their representatives desire. I would have them determine after much reflection whether they are willing to have the United States forced into war by other nations against her own will.

"I hope they will take time to consider this promise before they make it—because when it is once made it cannot be broken—and ask themselves whether that is the best way of assuring perfect peace throughout the future years. A world's peace which requires at the outset preparations for war—for war, either economic or military—in order to maintain that peace presents questions and awakens thoughts which certainly ought to be soberly and discreetly considered.

Immigration Question Involved.

"The second general proposition to which I would call attention is this: We now in this draft bind ourselves to submit every possible international dispute or difference either to the league court or to the control of the executive council of the league. That includes immigration, a very live question. Are we ready to give to other nations the power to say who shall come into the United States and become citizens of the Republic? If we are ready to do this, we are prepared to part with the most precious of sovereign rights, that which guards our existence and our character as a nation.

"Are we ready to leave it to other nations to determine whether we shall admit to the United States a flood of Japanese, Chinese and Hindu labor? If we accept this plan for a league this is precisely what we promise to do. Are we prepared to have a League of Nations, in which the United States has only one vote, open our doors if they see fit to any and all immigration from all parts of the world?

"Mr. Taft has announced that the question of immigration will go before the international tribunal, and says now that all organized labor is for the league. If American labor favors putting the restriction of immigration in the control of other nations they must have radically changed their minds and abandoned their most cherished policy.

"We are asked also to give up in part our sovereignty and our independence and subject our own will to the will of other nations, if there is a majority against our desires. We are asked, therefore, in a large and important degree to substitute internationalism for nationalism and an international state for pure Americanism. Certainly such things as these deserve reflection, discussion and earnest thought."

Clauses Reviewed in Detail.

Turning to the question whether the proposed draft would really produce harmony or controversy, Senator Lodge examined the articles one by one. He said:

"Nothing so far as the creation of offices is concerned is omitted in Article I., but nothing is said about how the delegates shall be chosen. This is left to each nation to determine, but I venture with all respect to suggest the delegates representing the United States ought to be selected by the people of the United States or appointed as Ambassadors and Consuls are appointed. They should never be allowed to be irresponsible personal agents.

"Article III. provides that each high contracting party will have one vote. On the well settled principle of international law that national sovereignty is equal to every other national sovereignty the United States will have one vote and so will Siam. Article III. is of the greatest possible importance, for it deals with the executive council, which shall consist of the United States, British Empire, France, Italy and Japan, together with the representatives of four other member States. What other States shall be selected has not yet been disclosed.

"I assume and I think I have the right to assume on the best authority that there is no intention of making Germany one of the four additional members. I think it is probable Germany will have a period of probation before she is even admitted to the league, and that seems to me to be eminently wise.

"The provision that invitations shall be sent to every Power to attend the meetings at which matters affecting its interest are discussed and that no decision will be taken unless such Powers are invited, looks to having the executive council consider the affairs of every country in the world, whether league members or not."

Gives England Five Votes.

Senator Lodge surveyed the fourth, fifth and sixth articles of the covenant in brief and then turned to Article VII. He said:

"Under Article 7, covering admission to the league, the assent of not less than two-thirds of the States represented in the body of delegates is necessary, and the membership is limited to 'fully self-governing countries, including dominions and colonies.' The inclusion of dominions and colonies, of course, covers the four great self-governing dominions of Great Britain. I have no fault to find with the arrangement. Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and Australia are far more worthy and more valuable members of a League of Nations than some which I think will find their way into the body. But the fact remains that in the body of delegates England has five votes to one vote of any other country.

"The next paragraph says that no state should be admitted to the league unless it is able to give 'effective guarantees of its sincere intention to observe its international obligations.' I do not want to seem hypercritical, but I think that in a document of this kind we should know a little better what an effective guarantee of its sincere intention is. I merely throw this out as one of the points which it seems to me ought to be made clear. Let us know what it means. How are we to test the sincerity of the intention? How are we to get a guarantee for the sincerity of the intention in advance?

"We now come to Article VIII., which refers to disarmament, one of the most important questions in the constitution, with the purpose of which everybody must be in keenest sympathy.

"It's very importance makes it necessary in my opinion to express what is to be done with the utmost clearness. It must be consistent with the 'enforcement by common action of international obligation.'

"There is an absolutely binding provision in the words, and these limits when adopted shall not be exceeded without the permission of the executive council. Adopted by whom? The natural inference is, adopted by the several Governments, if you trace it back through the wording of the previous paragraphs.

Should Be Drafted Clearly.

"Ought not an instrument of this vital character to be drafted with the ordinary care which a clerk gives in drafting a clause for a Senate committee? Ought it not to be stated clearly thus, 'adopted by the several Governments,' and then there can be no question that each Government can decide upon the programme itself and its own share before it is put in a position where it can never exceed that programme without the permission of the executive council, I assume, without the majority of the executive council. That is another thing which apparently it has not been thought worth while to state, but I do not think that you can be too clear when you are exacting from nations these great promises and laying upon them these heavy burdens.

"The clause in the constitution having reference to private enterprises engaging in the production of war munitions is mere advice to be laid before the body of delegates, but it is not explained how far the advice goes.

"'The high contracting parties,' the last paragraph says, 'undertake in no way to conceal from each other the condition of such of their industries as are capable of being adapted to warlike purposes or the scale of their armaments.'

"An admirable proposition. There seems to be no method expressed here by which they can be compelled to give that information except by saying that if they do not do it they fail in a moral obligation.

"Article IX. says: 'A permanent commission shall be constituted to advise the league on the execution of the provisions of Article VIII. and on military and naval questions generally.' A very useful body, but constituted by whom? There is not one syllable to show. When you get into the misty region of inferences by individuals you must have some tribunal established, like our Supreme Court, which can declare whether the inference is correct or not.

Guarantees Must Be Fulfilled.

"When one nation guarantees the political independence and the territorial integrity of another you must maintain that guarantee in the last resort by the exercise of the force of the nation. If we were to guarantee the political independence and territorial integrity of Mexico or Guatemala or any of those states we should have to stand behind them with our armies and our fleets when the guarantee was invoked, and there is no escape from that obligation. These plain words demand it.

"I am not now arguing whether we should or should not give the guarantee, but I beg my fellow countrymen to consider well before they give this promise which extends to every state on the face of the earth.

"It is no reply to the point about immigration to say that if you follow it through all the windings of the provisions here you will find it reaches a point where the league could do nothing about immigration into the United States unless it was unanimous, and it is very unlikely they would ever be unanimous. Granted. But the possibility is there.

"I do not think we should leave to the league any question as to immigration, because immigration lies at the very root of national character and economy. We do not want a narrow alley of escape from the jurisdiction of the league. We want to prevent another jurisdiction whatever."

Senator Lodge discussed the provision preventing war for three months after the decision of the executive council, pointing out that it was not binding upon nations not members of the league. He continued:

"Suppose we had a Mexican raid across our border and Mexico does not happen to be a member of the league? That I think would be a little hard on the people who live on the border. I do not think even being a member of the league is going to alter the Mexican character materially, although it may.

"I do not think it is hypercriticism to suggest that when a mandatory is to be elected to take charge of the fortunes of another state there should be some provision for the selection of the mandatory and it should be made clear whether the nation so selected is bound.

"Finally the Senate will observe that there is no provision for withdrawal, and an indissoluble treaty without the right of withdrawal is very unusual. If you leave a country—I am not speaking merely of the United States—tied hard and fast so that they cannot get out of this league without tearing everything to pieces by denouncing it or by abrogating it, you create a situation which in my mind does not promote the peace of nations but the very reverse.

"When the United States enters into an indissoluble permanent alliance there ought to be, as I have said, no uncertainties in the terms of the agreement. I earnestly desire to do everything that can be done to secure the peace of the world, but these articles as they stand in this proposed constitution seem to give a rich promise of being fertile in producing controversies and misunderstandings. They also make some demands which I do not believe any nation would submit to in a time of stress.

"Therefore this machinery would not promote the peace of the world, but would have a directly opposite effect. It would tend to increase the subjects of misunderstanding and dispute among the nations. Is it not possible to draft a better, more explicit, less dangerous scheme than the one here and now presented? Surely we are not to be shut up to this as the last and only word to take or leave.

Can Save Monroe Doctrine.

"If it is said that you can preserve the Monroe Doctrine by extending it, which appears to me clearly to mean its destruction and to be a contradiction in terms, then let us put three lines into the draft for the league which will preserve the Monroe Doctrine beyond any possibility of doubt or question. It is easily done. Let us also have, if we enter the league, a complete exclusion from the league's jurisdiction of such questions as are involved in immigration and the right of each country to say who shall come within its borders and become citizens. This and certain other questions vital to national existence ought to be exempted from any control by the league or its officials by a very few words, such as can be found in the arbitration treaties of 1907.

"There should be some definite provision for peaceful withdrawal from the league of any nation which desires to withdraw.

"Lastly, let us have a definite statement in the constitution of the league as to whether the league is to have an international force of its own or is to have the power to summon the armed forces of the different members of the league. Let it be stated in plain language whether the 'measures,' the 'recommendations,' or the suggestions of the executive council are to be binding upon the members of the league and are to compel them to do what the league delegates and the executive council determines to be necessary.

"On the question of the use of force we should not proceed in the dark. If those who support the league decline to make such simple statements as these, it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that they are seeking to do by indirection and the use of nebulous phrases what they are not willing to do directly, and nothing could be more fatal to the preservation of the world's peace than this, for every exercise of power by the executive council which the signatories to the league might fairly consider to be doubtful would lead to very perilous controversies and to menacing dissensions.

Might Be Better Constitution.

"Unless some better constitution for a league than this can be drawn it seems to me, after such examination as I have been able to give, that the world's peace would be much better, much more surely promoted, by allowing the United States to go on under the Monroe Doctrine, responsible for the peace of this hemisphere without any danger of collision with Europe as to questions among the various American States, and if a league is desired it might be made up by the European nations whose interests are chiefly concerned and with which the United States could cooperate fully and at any time whenever cooperaton was needed.

"I suppose I shall make myself the subject of derision for quoting from the Farewell Address, but it states a momentous truth so admirably that I cannot refrain from quoting it, for I think it ought to be borne in mind. Washington says:

"'Europe has a set of primary interests which to us have none or a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies the causes of which are essentially foreign to our concerns. Hence, therefore, it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves by artificial ties in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities.'

"It also must be remembered that if the United States enters any league of nations it does so for the benefit of the world at large and not for its own benefit. The people of the United States are a peace loving people. We have no boundaries to rectify, no schemes, and no desires for the acquisition or conquest of territory. We have in the main kept the peace in the American hemisphere. The States of South America have grown constantly more stable and revolutions have well nigh disappeared in the States south of those bordering on the Caribbean.

"No one questions that the United States is able to prevent any conflicts in the American hemisphere which would involve the world in any way or be more than passing difficulties which in most cases could be settled by arbitration. If we join a league, therefore, it must be with a view to maintaining peace in Europe, where all the greatest wars have originated and where there is always danger of war, and in Asia, where serious conflicts may arise at any moment.

Wholly for Benefit of Others.

"If we join a league, of course we have in mind the danger of European conflicts springing up in such a way as to involve us in the defence of civilization, as has just happened in the war with Germany. But such wars as that are, fortunately, rare; so rare that one has never before occurred, and when the time came we took our part; but in the main our share in any league must be almost wholly for the benefit of others.

"We have the right, therefore, to demand that there shall be nothing in any agreement for the maintenance of the world's peace which is likely to produce new causes or difference and dissension, or which is calculated to injure the United States or compel from us undue sacrifice or put us in a position where we may be forced to serve the ambitions of others.

"There is no gain for peace in the Americas to be found by annexing the Americas to the European system. Whatever we do there we do from almost purely altruistic motives, and therefore we are entitled to consider every proposition made with the utmost care in order to make sure that it does not do us injustice or render future conditions worse instead of better than they are at present.

"To me the whole subject is one of enormous difficulties. We are all striving for a similar result; but to make any real advances toward the future preservation of the world's peace will take time, care and long consideration. We cannot reach our objects by something hastily constructed in a few weeks in Paris, in the midst of the excitement of a war not yet ended. The one thing to do, as I said in the Senate some time ago, and that which I now wish above all others, is to make the peace with Germany—to make a peace which by its terms will prevent her from breaking out again upon the world."

Indemnities for France.

Senator Lodge summarized the terms as previously advocated by him in the Senate, emphasizing the need of complete indemnities to France. He went on:

"We ought then to make this peace with Germany and make it at once. Much time has been wasted. The delays have bred restlessness and confusion everywhere. Germany is lifting her head again. The whining after defeat is changing to threats. She is seeking to annex nine millions of Germans in German Austria. She is reaching out in Russia and reviving her financial and commercial penetration everywhere. Her fields have not been desolated nor her factories destroyed.

"Germany is again threatening and the only source of a great war is to be found for the future as for the past in Germany. She should be chained and fettered now and this menace to the world's peace should be removed at once. Whatever else we fought for certainly our first and paramount purpose was to defeat Germany. The victory over Germany is not yet complete. Let it be made so without delay.

"That which I desire above everything else, that which is nearest to my heart, is to bring our soldiers home. The making of a League of Nations will not do that. We can only bring our soldiers home, entirely and completely, when the peace with Germany is made and proclaimed. Let that peace be made and I can assure the world that when the treaty of peace with Germany comes to this chamber there will be no delay in the Senate of the United States.

"We must bring our men back from France—the men who fought the war, the men who made the personal sacrifice. Let us get them back at once, and to that end let us have peace made with Germany, made now, and not delay it until the complicated questions of the League of Nations can be settled, with the care and consideration which they demand. What is it that delays the peace with Germany? Discussions over the League of Nations; nothing else.

"Let us have peace now, in this year of grace 1919. That is the first step to the future peace of the world. The next step will be to make sure if we can that the world shall have peace in the year 1950 or 2000. Let us have the peace with Germany and bring our boys home.

"This is the immediate thing to do toward the establishment of the world's peace, but there is an issue involved in the league constitution presented to us which far overshadows all others. We are asked to depart now for the first time from the foreign policies of Washington. We are invited 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.

U. S. Rampart Against Anarchy.

"We have in this country a Government of the people, for the people and by the people, the freest and best government in the world, and we are the great rampart to-day against the anarchy and disorder which have taken possession of Russia and are trying to invade every peaceful country in the world. For Lincoln's Government of the people, for the people, and by the people we are asked to substitute in the United States on many vital points government of, for, and by other people. Pause and consider well before you take this fateful step.

"I do not say that agreements may not be made among the nations which stand for ordered freedom and civilization, which will do much to secure and preserve the peace of the world; but no such agreement has yet been presented to us. We must beware of the dangers which beset our path. We must not lose by an improvident attempt to reach eternal peace all that we have won by war and sacrifice.

"We must build no bridges across the chasm which now separates American freedom and order from Russian anarchy and destruction. We must see to it that the democracy of the United States, which has prospered so mightily in the past, is not drawn by any hasty error or by any glittering delusions, through specious devices of supernational government, within the toils of international socialism and anarchy.

"I wish nothing but good to all the races of men. I hope and pray that peace, unbroken peace, may reign everywhere on earth. But America and the American people are first in my heart now and always. I can never assent to any scheme no matter how fair its outward seeming which is not for the welfare and for the highest and best interest of my own beloved people of whom I am one—the American people—the people of the United States.

Road Supervisors Ask $50,000,000.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

ALBANY, Feb. 28.—The State Supervisors Association unanimously adopted resolutions to-day calling upon the Legislature to take steps for the appropriation of another $50,000,000 bond issue to pay for widening and strengthening State highways to meet the after the war needs of business and pleasure cars.

Col. Hayward Discharged.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

CAMP UPTON, Feb. 28.—Col. William Hayward of the old Fifteenth was mustered out of the service to-day and started for New York. His plans are to establish a law business. Virtually all the field officers and most of the men of the 369th have been discharged and are back in their homes.

FACTS IS DEMAND OF FRELINGHUYSEN

New Jersey Senator Disputes That Wilson Represents Public Sentiment.

SCEPTICAL ABOUT PEACE

Role of Arbiter in World Affairs Said to Be a Dangerous One.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—Disputing any assumption that President Wilson represents public sentiment in proposing America's participation in the League of Nations, Senator Frelinghuysen (N. J.), speaking to-day in the Senate, demanded that the country be fully informed and allowed to express its decision before the Senate is called upon to ratify the peace treaty.

"The President is the chosen leader of the United States," Senator Frelinghuysen said. "Any proposal which he makes will naturally carry with it great weight. If he proposes in behalf of the United States the use of the army and navy to preserve the peace of the world what position will the Senate be in should such a proposal be adopted? Constitutionally we will be free to reject any treaty which the Executive may negotiate. We will not, however, be free from embarrassment should other nations say to us 'Your Chief Executive spoke in behalf of the American public and supposedly voiced their views.'

Senator Frelinghuysen said that notwithstanding the fact that the President gave assurances that the conclusion of peace was of "transcendent" importance "spring has almost come and the President has returned without any treaty of peace." He added that the President had never communicated, as he had promised, any information to Congress during his twelve weeks in Europe.

"The world longs for peace," the Senator said, "but I cannot believe that universal peace will come through any plan which its authors refuse to have the public carefully study, criticise and understand before giving approval."

Disputing the contention of former President Taft that it is the duty of critics of the league to suggest a better plan, the Senator said "the burden of proof" was upon the shoulders of the league advocates.

"Criticism does not necessarily mean hostility," the speaker said. "If it is possible to have a league which will substitute the pen for the sword we most certainly want it."

The conclusion to be derived from the President's Boston speech, the New Jersey Senator said, was that "Europe today is a seething cauldron and that nations will be at each other's throats within a generation unless we prevent it, and that none of the nations of Europe trust each other, but that all trust us."

"Are we to join such a partnership?" the Senator asked. The role of peacemaker in such a combination is one to be seriously considered."

EDGE TAKES MIDDLE COURSE ON LEAGUE

New Jersey's Governor Wants U. S. Sovereignty Guaranteed by Pact.

NEWTON, N. J., Feb. 28.—Gov. Walter E. Edge, New Jersey's new Senator in the next Congress, in a speech before the Men's Brotherhood of the Presbyterian Church last night took what might be termed a middle ground in a discussion of the League of Nations project. He said:

"Eliminate from the constitution of the League of Nations those provisions which would give foreign Powers authority to assist in determining the status, sovereignty, trade relations and political quarrels of nations on the American continent; in a word, stipulate plainly that the Monroe Doctrine remains intact and that nothing in the treaty shall be construed as a relinquishment by the United States of its traditional attitude toward purely American questions.

"It would seem to me that this may be done without devitalizing the international combination to enforce peace, which, of course, is of the essence of duty number one, and in my judgment not open to question.

"Membership of the United States in a League of Nations will be a potent influence toward peace if this powerful nation covenants only to contribute her share of the expense necessary to maintain an international force sufficient to compel peace anywhere, along any border new or old of Europe or Asia. This I believe we should covenant to do, abiding by the judgment of the league as to the occasion and the extent. But nothing more.

"Unless I mistake their sentiment, I don't believe the people of the United States want foreign nations by majority vote of their representatives in a league, to say when this country shall send her boys into combat on European battlefields, and how many; nor to dictate by such a vote trade embargoes or commercial or industrial restrictions of any sort. On the other hand, neither do they ask that we evade consistent responsibility."

The Governor concluded by expressing the opinion that the American people were not ready as yet to substitute an untried internationalism for a tried and proved nationalism. His speech was heartily approved by the brotherhood.

AGED BRIDEGROOM DIES.

J. R. Everitt, Who Wedded Nurse, Is Victim of Apoplexy.

John Rogers Everitt, a wealthy undertaker of Jamaica, Queens, who married Miss Florence Cooke, a nurse, three months ago after she had started a breach of promise suit for $100,000, died yesterday of apoplexy at St. Petersburg, Fla., according to word received at Jamaica. Everitt was 73 years old and his bride 40. They went to Florida immediately after the wedding, announcing that they would not return until summer.

Because of the difference in their ages, opposition to the wedding developed from members of the First Presbyterian Church of Jamaica, of which Everitt had been treasurer for many years, and from his children by his first wife. Everitt filed an answer to Miss Cooke's breach of promise suit in which he said he still loved her and that ill health had caused him to postpone the ceremony.

ORLANDO PLEDGES ITALY FOR COVENANT

Premier Cables Wilson His Nation's Cooperation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—Premier Orlando cabled a personal message to President Wilson to-day. It is as follows:

"In Paris, the heart of heroic France, through the high and persevering desire of a great leader of a great people, the nations who have fought together for the liberty and justice of the world have also determined together in the sanctity of a solemn covenant and in the name of liberty and justice of all peoples to establish a peace which shall reign supreme over the future destinies of the world.

"To this covenant, which shall be the intangible charter of humanity, Italy, who in the past and in the present has always championed the cause of right and proclaimed and consecrated it with her laws and with her blood, brings the contribution of her assent with fervid expression and deep conviction.

"Our hearts, with sincere faith, celebrate this event which is and will remain one of the most memorable in human history; and it is fitting that the whole Italian people comprehend and acclaim with joy its high value and its everlasting significance."

30,000 WOULD HEAR WILSON AND TAFT

Only 4,000 Can Get Seats for League of Nations Opera House Meeting Tuesday.

About 30,000 applications for tickets of admission to the Metropolitan Opera House on Tuesday evening, when President Wilson and ex-President Taft will speak on the League of Nations, have been received at 111 Broadway, according to George R. Van Namee, Gov. Smith's secretary, who also is secretary of the committee on arrangements.

The number of persons who can be seated in the opera house, including the stage, is 3,460. About 500 will be allowed to stand, so the audience that will hear the President on the eve of his return to Paris will be about 4,000. The committee expects to mail tickets to the fortunate minority on Sunday, the idea being that they will be received on Monday. As it is hoped that the whole State will be represented in the gathering, a special invitation has been sent to several hundred New Yorkers outside of the city, including editors and judges.

Tickets will be held for this group until 1 P. M. on Tuesday, and those not taken will be allotted to other applicants. Most of the applications received yesterday at the office of the vice-chairman, Abram I. Elkus, 111 Broadway, came by mail or telegraph, as requested, but so many persons called in person that two men in military uniform had to assist a staff of clerks in receiving them. All were told that requests not in writing could not be considered.

Gov. Smith will preside at the meeting. Mr. Taft, accepting an invitation to speak sent by Herbert S. Houston of the League to Enforce Peace, telegraphed that he desired to do everything possible "to clear to the country the non-partisan character of the League of Nations." He was in Atlanta yesterday attending a Southern conference on the league.

The personnel of the committee in charge of the meeting at the Metropolitan will be announced to-day.

WANT WILSON NAME FORGER.

Ohio Authorities Will Get O'Brien Extradited From Jersey.

TRENTON, Feb. 28.—A requisition from the authorities of Ohio for John Thomas O'Brien, wanted in Columbus for the alleged forgery of the name of Woodrow Wilson to a $100 check, was honored to-day by Gov. Edge. O'Brien, who is known also by the names of J. A. Giles and J. E. Sawey, will be paroled from the State prison to-morrow.

He was convicted early last year of false representation after his arrest in Hackensack, and was sentenced to from one to three years in prison. This will be the second time that O'Brien has been extradited to Ohio. He was requisitioned at the conclusion of a previous term here for forgery.

HAVANA GOVERNOR OPPOSED.

Barrera's Right to Office Denied by Acting Incumbent.

HAVANA, Feb. 28.—Alberto Barrera, Liberal, who was elected Governor of Havana province late in 1916, but who never took office because of his arrest at the outbreak of the revolution in February, 1917, took the oath of office to-day before the Provincial Council.

Four Conservative members of the council abandoned the council hall in protest, asserting that Barrera was unqualified because of his alleged acceptance of salary as a Representative in Congress after the date of the beginning of the Gubernatorial term.

Acting Governor Batzan has refused to vacate the Governor's chair pending a decision by the courts.

LENROOT ATTACKS LEAGUE EQUALITY

U. S. Must Not Be Placed on Same Basis as Mexico, He Tells Senate.

FOR FREEDOM OF ACTION

He Declares for Its Preservation to Carry Out Ideals of America.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—Senator Lenroot (Wis.) addressed the Senate to-day in condemnation of the League of Nations constitution, but asserted that he was not opposed to the general movement toward international peace, through a firm agreement against war, to be entered into by the nations of the earth.

"The time for discussion is now," said Senator Lenroot, coupling this statement with the remark that no more important question, not even excepting the Federal Constitution itself, has ever confronted the American people.

Senator Lenroot held up to criticism the suggestion embodied in the framework of the league constitution that the votes of all nations in the league were of equivalent value.

Distinctly Disadvantageous.

He thought this was distinctly disadvantageous to the right solution of many of the vaster problems of the rule of the world. He continued:

"If the league isto have any powers beyond moral force the United States should not be placed on an equality with Mexico in determining the liberties of the world and the future of mankind. President Wilson truly says the United States is the most important factor in the world to-day.

"This is due to two things; first, our example to the world as an unselfish, liberty loving, self-governing people; second, our entire freedom of action to determine for ourselves what course will best serve the preservation of our own liberties and the future of civilization.

"This freedom of action is not only to be surrendered to a League of Nations, but it is to be surrendered to a body in which we would have no greater voting power than Portugal. Either this inequality must be remedied or else freedom of action must be preserved."

Question of Disarmament.

Senator Lenroot, while supporting the suggestion of world disarmament, held that there was nothing in the proposed constitution which really required or insured such a reduction.

"All the League of Nations could do would be to propose such a convention or treaty as would provide for a gradation downward of the military strength of the component nations of the league," he insisted. "Thus in the most important factor for the prevention of future wars the reduction of armaments so strongly emphasized by President Wilson in his fourteen points, the league is powerless."

Senator Lenroot followed closely the argument earlier advanced by Senator Lodge that provisions of the constitution for international supervision of the private manufacturer of munitions and implements of war was advisory altogether.

The rights of the peoples of nations now existing or later to be formed to rise against aggression or tyranny or to develop along natural rather than along artificial lines in the growth and expansion Senator Lenroot later in his discourse insisted could not be accomplished. He cited a striking instance in the growth of the American Republic, saying:

"If, following the Revolutionary War, and before the Mexican war, a League of Nations with this proposed constitution had been created California, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona would still be a part of Mexico and would have been bound to protect Mexico in her possessions."

Case of Spanish War.

"If following the Mexican war and before the Spanish war a League of Nations had been created with this proposed constitution, Cuba and the Philippines would still be Spanish countries. We would not have interfered in the Weller butcheries in Cuba nor could the League of Nations have done so. We declared war with Spain on behalf of humanity and we gained liberty and self-government for millions of people. This proposed League of Nations would prevent us from doing a like service to mankind."

Senator Lenroot concluded his speech with the statement that America was not for the sort of a League of Nations provided by the compromise between the plans of various contending nationalities at the peace table so crudely expressed in the document now informally before the Senate. The American people were not opposed, he said, to a League of Nations, but the American people will not be for such a league as may prevent America from realizing her own ideals, achieving her own destiny and enabling her to serve the cause of liberty and mankind as may seem to her best."

Bill to Annex Yonkers.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

ALBANY, Feb. 28.—Assemblyman J. Fairfax McLaughlin of The Bronx introduced to-day a bill to provide for the annexation to New York city of the territory lying within the city of Yonkers.

The Best in Books

Joseph Conrad as Seen by Jo Davidson, Sculptor

An Interview from Paris

"Five Criticisms"

Unusual New Poems by Alfred Noyes

Maeterlinck's New Play of Wartime Belgium

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BOOKS AND THE BOOK WORLD

The Sunday Sun, March 2