

The Sun AND NEW YORK PRESS

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nant and their support it cannot be assumed except, in some cases, in a negative way. The thirty-nine Senators who signed the pledge did something positive, something that sprang from the confidence of men who had no uncertainty about the temper of their constituents. These Senators are not striving for the adulation of a very wide world. Not more than a half dozen of them, we fancy, have ambitions above serving their country by the way of serving their own States; and it is the people of these States that they considered when they pledged themselves not to consent to the abrogation of America's right to go her own magnificent way.

There are other Senators, whose names have not been attached to the pledge, but who are as firmly set against the subversion of our ideals, is certain. Rezn of Missouri and Thomas of Colorado are not on the pledge, yet both of these declared, in speeches made in this city on Thursday night, that they could not support the League project in its present form. As it is, there are eleven States, with a population of 38,000,000, where both Senators have pledged themselves in writing; and these are States the general intelligence of whose inhabitants certainly needs no defence. These States are:

- Alabama, Nebraska. Arizona, Nevada. Arkansas, North Carolina. Florida, Oklahoma. Georgia, Oregon. Kentucky, Rhode Island. Louisiana, South Carolina. Mississippi, Tennessee. Montana, Virginia.

But, the supporters of the Wilson covenant may object, there are twenty States none of whose Senators have signed the pledge. True, and here are the names of these States:

- Alabama, Nebraska. Arizona, Nevada. Arkansas, North Carolina. Florida, Oklahoma. Georgia, Oregon. Kentucky, Rhode Island. Louisiana, South Carolina. Mississippi, Tennessee. Montana, Virginia.

Twelve of these twenty States, it will be observed, form the solid South. Nearly all their statesmen, thanks to the generosity of an Administration of thoroughly Southern sympathies, expressed practically in tax laws which do not painfully affect the South, are in Mr. Wilson's pocket. It may have been through these statesmen, dropping in for patronage, that the President gained his remarkable notions of the stand of the American people on the subject of his covenant. We prefer the judgment of the American people the Senate of the United States was in session. That Senate is composed of men directly responsible to them. It must be assumed that most Senators—even those Democrats who were completely under the President's thrall—were eagerly recoiling, not only the news that came from Paris relative to the terms of the League covenant, but the opinions of the people of their respective States on the proposed abandonment of American traditions and sovereignty. It is only natural that the members of the body which is the final judge of America's international agreements should have their ears to the ground. The future of most of these Senators will depend in large measure upon their attitude toward the covenant.

While President Wilson was in Washington thirty-nine Senators from twenty-eight States, or more than half of the Union, signed a pledge not to vote for the ratification of the covenant of the League of Nations in its present form—the form which Mr. Wilson, without ifs or ands and without public explanation, has arbitrarily commanded the United States to accept. The combined populations of the twenty-eight States represented in the pledge make up approximately two-thirds of the entire population of the United States. These States, with the names of the Senators pledged in writing and the number of the inhabitants, as estimated by the Census Bureau for 1918, follow:

Table with 2 columns: State Name and Population. Includes California (3,119,412), Colorado (1,014,981), Connecticut (1,286,268), Delaware (216,941), Idaho (461,766), Illinois (5,317,748), Indiana (3,554,167), Iowa (2,924,471), Kansas (1,874,195), Maine (782,191), Maryland (2,134,539), Massachusetts (2,822,790), Michigan (3,192,678), Missouri (3,448,498), New Hampshire (308,825), New Jersey (2,858,371), New Mexico (437,015), New York (10,646,899), North Dakota (691,487), Ohio (5,272,814), Pennsylvania (5,798,067), South Dakota (738,434), Utah (502,648), Vermont (266,192), Washington (1,660,578), West Virginia (1,423,168), Wisconsin (2,853,583), Wyoming (190,380).

According to the review of business and industrial conditions in February prepared by the Federal Reserve Board there have been numerous unofficial reports of labor unemployment, but "the reports of Federal agents show that there has probably thus far been overanxiety and exaggeration with respect to this matter." The review continues:

"From several of the manufacturing districts of the Federal Reserve system it is reported that labor conditions are far from satisfactory, and that there is considerable unemployment; but it is also noted that the condition does not seem to have grown worse during February."

"While the existence of unemployment is admitted by most of the Federal Reserve agents, it appears that the surplus of labor is smallest in the South and Southwest, while in only a very few districts it is reported that serious labor controversies are in progress."

The labor situation will not be improved by "overanxiety and exaggeration." Instead of helping men out of work, unnecessary alarm will hurt them. If everybody gets frightened, conditions will become worse instead of better; a scared community is not going to get back to normal prosperity as soon as a community that keeps its head and knows the facts.

A good many well meaning but un-

informed men and women are trying to help men and women out of jobs to get work. Their purpose and their efforts deserve nothing except praise. But if they are deceived as to the general condition by their knowledge of specific cases they may do a great deal of harm. To understand the labor situation and to meet the needs of employers and workers, it is essential that the whole problem should be understood. It cannot be judged even from the most intimate and exact knowledge of one incident, or a dozen incidents.

Nobody who is trying to find jobs for workers should relax his or her efforts, but all of those engaged in this essential task should try not to over-emphasize the difficulties before us. A little knowledge of unemployment, if it is exploited, may do serious injury in impairing public confidence.

Government Operation Lessons. It might be that the failure of Congress to provide the funds needed by the Director General of Railways would result in landing the roads sooner than was expected back in the hands of their owners. The banks and investors are bound to help the roads out. The roads are bound to go on giving service. The public is bound to sit up and take notice.

When the Government was obligated to provide the funds and didn't, when the roads, in spite of all the burdens piled upon them by the Government, were compelled to finance themselves, everybody would be impressed with the fact that there was mighty little use of a Government financier that didn't finance, while, on the other hand, the Government operator did run up the expenses of the roads a billion dollars a year and correspondingly swelled the freight bills which the public must pay.

But if the natural development of this situation should send the roads back to their owners within several months instead of years, that outcome might be regrettable from at least one point of view. In the last year and two months the American people have learned out of bitter experience more and soldier truths about Government ownership than they ever could have learned out of theories. But maybe for their own good, maybe for the fixing of those truths on a lasting foundation, they haven't yet learned enough. They know how bad the service is. They know how much more it costs. They know what little interest the rank and file of railway employees now take in the public, the public's business, or the railway's welfare. They know that the touch of the Government on this great business enterprise—the greatest business enterprise in the country—is the touch of death. But we all easily forget our troubles when they are over. Perhaps the best thing that could happen would be for us to have a full dose of this Government operation until the country just couldn't stand any more.

Government management of our railways, in truth, disastrous as it has been to the roads, costly as it has been to the public and damning as it has been to Government operation, has been not an unmixed evil, because of all we have learned in that year and two months. How much more could we not learn in twice or three that time. How lightly the memory of it might stick to us when there were new calls for Government operation from the dreamers that are always with us, peace or war, success or failure.

The theory that the United States Collier Cyclopedia may have turned turtle because of shifting cargo, advanced by our correspondent whose letter we print elsewhere on this page, is plausible; but if he sank in the manner described, why has no wreckage been found? The navy has searched the sea through which she was steaming; the State Department has had our consular representatives continuously on the lookout for some evidence of the ship's loss, but not a raft, not a boat, not a life preserver has been reported. This absence of wreckage contributes not a little to the mystery of the Cyclopedia.

When the Bolsheviks apply for a loan from the United States, probably they will recommend their notes as a good investment because, having repudiated Russia's debt, they will have no prior obligations to meet.

General O'Brian's order to the Twenty-seventh Division when it was brigaded with the British, that "if the gun team cannot remain here alive it will remain here dead, but in any case it will remain here." Should any man attempt to surrender he will remain here—dead, deserves place with the great military messages of all time. Nelson's at Trafalgar, Perry's at Lake Erie, Grant's at Fort Donelson, Paine's at Verdun and Bundy's at Chateau Thierry.

There are some incredulous souls who will not really believe that peace has come until they can get the time of day from the telephone central.

To the Lady of New York Harbor certain recent events must prove puzzling. In addition to the outgoing George Washington one day and the incoming Leviathan another are both plying ships by night, the passenger-carrying is not apparent; there is distinction between winning and making peace.

Robins, found and otherwise, are harbingers this year of spring and other conditions besides.

Perils of the Pious in Oklahoma. From the End Events. Mr. and Mrs. Ober and family started a picnic at their own with a picnic roast and marshmallow toast one evening this week. All went home with burnt tongues and fingers.

The Practical Advantage. Washington was hailed as the father of his country. "Can I claim \$700 tax exemption for each pig?" he asked.

The Internationalized Or. Old Sol—According to the League of Nations, shall I rise in the east or the west?

The Modern Version. From the Moon Telegram. By Yank's we sent to Heaven. A slug of glue, a Rollin' back and Thou. Kitting beside me in the Wilderness. O' Hilders was prebition drunk.

Possible Awful Results of the Bourgeois Strike. Germany is desperately trying every social, political and economical trick to steady her badly rocking ship of state, and one of these will excite widespread interest: The bourgeois of Leipzig are reported to be on strike in rivalry with striking laborers.

The bourgeois of any country furnish the capital, the energy and the brains needed to supply employment and wages for labor, and it may be that many of them in many countries have wondered how and then at their forbearance in not striking to compel public recognition, even if not commendation, of the long hours they

ASK THE TWENTY-SEVENTH. New York's Returning Sons Know If Americans Fought as in a Dream.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The President tells us the American soldier fought as in a dream, that he went over for an ideal—that of saving humanity and other ideal things; that the American was the League of Nations. The Twenty-seventh is home to-day. They fought, they bled. Why not take a straw vote to show what they thought for, why they went over, how they fought, if they went Wilson's League of Nations?

They are New York's own, and Tammany's. To the Editor of the Sun—Sir: The President tells us the American soldier fought as in a dream, that he went over for an ideal—that of saving humanity and other ideal things; that the American was the League of Nations. The Twenty-seventh is home to-day. They fought, they bled. Why not take a straw vote to show what they thought for, why they went over, how they fought, if they went Wilson's League of Nations?

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FARMINGTON'S VOICE. An Unprejudiced Inquiry Into One of Mr. Wilson's Indorsements.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Did you happen to see in this morning's Times a sample of the support which President Wilson is getting for his League of Peace? The article is entitled "Missouri's Favorable League." Message to the President Saying They Appreciate His Efforts." Then follows this telegram, dated Farmington, Mo., February 23, which is a Sunday:

President Wilson, U. S. George Washington, via South Wellfleet, Mass.: Accept our appreciation of the wonderful work you have done in Europe. We have read and understand every word of the proposed constitution for a League of Nations. We are not afraid of an agreement that makes for peace on earth and good will to men of whatever matter what any one says to the contrary.

To this is appended in double columns 117 names, the last four of which are those of reverend gentlemen, Mr. Mitchell speaking for himself; Mr. Duggins for himself and congregation, Methodist Episcopal Church South; Mr. Bailey for himself and congregation, Christian Church; Mr. Cunningham for himself and members of Baptist Congregation. The President does not seem to have replied to this until March 3 from the White House, when he answered as follows:

W. B. Hariden, Farmington, Mo.: The telegram sent to me on the George Washington from you and others of my fellow citizens at Farmington brought with it a great deal of cheer and reassurance. I beg you will accept for me the thanks of the people associated with you in that generous message my warmest thanks for the tonic such support has put into me. Woodrow Wilson.

Farmington is a city in St. Francois county in southeastern Missouri, to which the census of 1910 gave a population of 2,413. I wonder who W. B. Hariden, whose name appears in the list above referred to but not at the head of it, is. Query, Mayor? Democratic political boss? Collector of internal revenue, or what? Why was his name picked out from a long list?

St. Francois contains other counties, forms the Thirtieth Missouri Congressional district, represented in the late Sixty-fifth Congress by Walter Lewis Henley, Democrat, Farmington, concerning whom we find in the Congressional Directory for December, 1917 (page 23), this:

Walter Lewis Henley, Democrat, of Farmington, is married; is a lawyer; elected to the office of collector of internal revenue, and Sixty-fourth Congress, and re-elected to the Sixty-fifth Congress.

So much and no more. But the World Almanac for 1919 shows that last November a Republican, Marion E. Rhodes of Potosi, was elected from the Thirtieth Congressional district, Missouri, to represent it in the next Congress. How much had Mr. Rhodes' character in that well reasoned Democratic election in that well reasoned Democratic district to do with the forwarding of the telegram which the Times publishes?

What marvellous diligence the 117 individuals and the three congregations which sent it must have! One of each of them on the Sabbath Day assured the President in writing of having read and understood every word of the proposed constitution for a League of Nations! Congressmen in this part of the country generally consist as to the majority of women with a fair sprinkling of children.

Looking at the list from another point of view: Rand & McNally's "Bankers Directory and List of Attorneys, July, 1918," gives with regard to Farmington, Mo., this information:

Population, 3,000; banks, three, of which the largest, the Bank of Farmington, has a capital of \$100,000, and which Mr. W. M. Harlan is president and Mr. M. P. Cayce cashier, both of whose names appear in the list in the Times. Also that bank's principal correspondent is the German Savings Institution of St. Louis. That bank further gives with respect to that and the other two banks the names of four officers each, president, vice-president, cashier and assistant cashier, twelve in all, but the names of ten of them are conspicuously absent from the list. Perhaps those gentlemen were keeping the Sabbath and not playing politics on Sunday, February 23.

STUTTSBURG FISH. NEW YORK, March 7. With Cargo Improperly Stowed She Might Have Turned Turtle. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I cannot resist the impulse to give you a theory regarding the collier Cyclopedia. This vessel was loaded with ore, and a vessel of its construction, that is the type of construction of a collier is of necessity a top-heavy vessel.

If the cargo had not been properly stowed, a shifting of cargo would cause a listing of the vessel, and if the vessel listed beyond approximately 20 degrees it would most certainly turn turtle and sink like a piece of lead.

It is my opinion that such a turning, assuming a shifting of cargo, could happen very quickly, and when I say quickly I mean a matter of a few moments only. JOHN H. KIRKMAN.

NEW YORK, March 7. UNDER FIVE FLAGS. First Step in Internationalism Taken by the Post Office. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The Post Office Department announces that the new three-cent Victory stamps will bear the American, British, French, Belgian and Italian flags. This is our first step in internationalism.

Of what avail is all the agitation for "One Flag, One Language—America," when the Government on official matter waves five flags?

By what right has such an action been taken? AN AMERICAN. NEW YORK, March 7.

The Flute Has the Flap. From the Edgely Station. Music for the dance Friday night may cause its postponement, owing to part of the orchestra being sick.

Colonies. Within the League of Nations Great Britain's strength was noted. Each colony is counted. A country with a vote.

But let us though outnumbered Retain a proper calm. For there are more dominions Beyond the pine and palm.

By two far lands we peopled We claim two votes as well. By Yank's we sent to Heaven. A slug of glue, a Rollin' back and Thou. Kitting beside me in the Wilderness. O' Hilders was prebition drunk.

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