

World Must Have Peace Pact As President Wilson Requests Or None at All Declares Taft

Monroe Doctrine Fully Protected, He Says—Would Define Period of Ten Years for Binding Obligations—With Two Years' Notice to Withdraw from League.

By H. P. BURTON.
New York, April 19.—"What the people of the United States must realize, in making up their mind about the league of nations, is that the world is going to have a league of nations substantially as President Wilson is now championing it, or it is not going to have a league of nations at all."

"This is the climax of the message given today by ex-President William H. Taft in an interview in which he has chosen to make a public fight for Woodrow Wilson's league plan, in the face of opposition by many leaders of his own party."

"All this iteration and reiteration by certain of its opponents of an impossible construction of the plan for the league of nations as now drawn up is to blind the people to the real issue at stake—which is whether we are to have any league at all or not," Taft continued. "The people should know that the inference these objectors draw from the league platform are unwarranted—namely, that its acceptance by us would never affect our sovereignty, would never make us subservient to Great Britain, would never make us mod-

THREE TAFT TIPS

- 1—The world is going to this league of nations or none at all.
- 2—Monroe doctrine is as safe as under a more specific reservation.
- 3—The contention this league means future wars has no foundation.



WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT.

ify our immigration rules, nor affect our commercial relationship.

Would Vote for League.
"What these objectors know, and what I know, is that if this league plan is defeated, any league of nations is defeated. The general plan, as now drawn up, while only a report, is a unanimous report, and it is a document which has been whittled down until it represents the only compromise for a league which is acceptable to all the nations represented at Versailles."

spread, all nations will yield to the common obligation and make their proper contributions.

Monroe Doctrine Protected.
"But I have no doubt that the Monroe doctrine would be enforced under this covenant quite as effectively as under a more specific reservation. Nevertheless, it is of highest importance that the concern of the people of the United States in the maintenance of the sound principles of that useful doctrine should be fully satisfied in order that every vestige of opposition should fade away and we should not run the risk of losing the benefit of the great forward step toward peace, the hope not only of the world, but of this country—certainly by the greatest step ever taken in the recorded history of international relations."

tions of this document except all the nations together by agreement. Therefore, the construction must be reasonable, because if it isn't, it won't hold; and it's most unfair to assume, in respect to it, constructions strained to make it mean something unreasonable in order to defeat it, when in actual practice it must needs have a fair and moderate construction for the benefit of all.

"The present unfair, broadside construction of the league advanced by its opponents, which puts us in the league under the control of a super-sovereign (the executive council), would give me great anxiety as to the result and would create great impatience at the misleading effect of representation it produces as to what the league really is, were it not that the covenant, as part of the treaty of peace, is to be submitted to the Senate as a unit document."

"The questions will then recur as to whether we are to have peace with the covenant as it will then be in it, or whether we are to continue in state of war until there can be another conference to make a treaty to meet all the varying inconsistent and impracticable objections of the opponents of the present league, who differ radically and are only united in opposing the present covenant."

"The situation then will require a covenant, which will completely refute the present unreasonable claims as to the effect of the league, and compel the present proponents of its 'threatening and dangerous character' to recall what they have said."

Plains People Favor It.
"The plain people of France, England and Italy have a passionate desire for the league because they are war-weary. And the plain people of the United States respond to this, although not so intensely, since they have not seen all the horrors of war. The Federated Churches of the country of largest influence—the Catholic, the Methodist, the Presbyterian, the Episcopal—all are all for it. The great spirit of the country is for it. The women, who are much more sensitive to the horrors of war than the men, are for it. And much more important, perhaps, is the fact that all organized labor is for it."

"A faction in a party ignoring these elements and attempting to give opposition to the league a party color is neither loyal to the party nor governed by considerations that ought to weigh in a great international question."

"The contention that this league will involve us in war instead of keeping us out of war has no foundation. It is certain that the obligations of the league will create an immediate, withering ostracism and isolation by all nations directed against any country recklessly beginning war; and the further prospect that the nations will unite their military forces to suppress such a nation, making the league a tremendous power for peace."

"Its very existence, with the known penalty of violating its obligations, will make the necessity for the execution of the boycott or the use of force most infrequent and improbable."

Does Not Include Grant.
"As to the relation of the league to the Monroe Doctrine, Article 10, in which all the high contracting parties undertake to respect and preserve against external aggression the territorial integrity and political independence of any member of the league unites all the forces of the world in support of the main part of the Monroe Doctrine as declared by President Mon-

The Amazing Story of Maria Botchkareva Leader of the Russian Battalion of Death

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and that the latter wanted to see him at 7 o'clock the following morning, when he would broach the subject to him. After his call on Kerensky Rodzianko telephoned to tell us that he had arranged for an audience for me with Kerensky at the Winter Palace at noon, the next day.

Capt. Dementiev drove me to the Winter Palace and a few minutes before 12 I was in the ante-chamber of the war minister. I was surprised to find Gen. Brusilov there and he asked me if I came to see Kerensky about the same matter. I replied in the affirmative. He offered to support my idea with the war minister, and he accompanied me right there to Gen. Polovtsev, commander of the Petrograd military district, who was with him.

Kerensky Appears.
Suddenly the door swung open and a young face, with eyes inflamed from sleeplessness, beckoned to me to come in. It was Kerensky, at the moment the idol of the masses. One of his arms was in a sling. With the other he shook my hand. He walked about nervously and talked briefly and dryly. He told me that he had heard of my idea and was interested in my idea. I then outlined to him the purpose of the project, saying that there would be no committees, but regular discipline in the battalion women.

Kerensky listened impatiently. He had evidently made up his mind on the subject. There was only one point at which he hesitated. Would I be able to maintain a high standard of morality in the organization? He would allow me to recruit immediately if I made myself answerable for the conduct and reputation of the girls. I pledged myself to do so. And it was all done. I was granted the authority there and then to form a unit under the name of the First Russian Women's Battalion of Death.

It seemed unbelievable. A few days ago it had dawned upon me as a mere fancy. Now the dream was adopted as a practical policy by the highest in authority. I was transported. As Kerensky showed me out his eyes fell on Gen. Polovtsev. He asked him to extend to me all necessary help. I was overwhelmed with happiness.

A brief consultation took place immediately between Capt. Dementiev and Gen. Polovtsev, who made the following suggestion:

"Why not start at the meeting to be held tomorrow night in the Mariynski Theater for the benefit of the Home for Invalids? Kerensky, Rodzianko, Tekhelsky, and others will speak there. Let us put Botchkareva between Rodzianko and Kerensky on the program."

I was seized with fright and objected strenuously that I could never appear publicly and that I would not know what to talk about.

"You will tell the same things that you told Rodzianko, Brusilov and Kerensky. Just tell how you feel about the front and the country," they said, brushing away my objections.

Before I had time to realize it I was already in a photographer's studio, and there had my picture taken. The following day this picture topped big posters pasted all over the city, announcing my appearance at the Mariynski Theater for the purpose of organizing a Women's Battalion of Death.

I did not close an eye during the entire night preceding the evening set for the meeting. It all seemed a weird dream. Where did I come in between two such great men as Rodzianko and Kerensky? How could I ever face an assembly of educated people, I an illiterate peasant woman? And what could I say? My eyes had never beheld a place like the Mariynski Theater, formerly frequented by the Tsar and the imperial family. I tossed in bed in a state of fever.

"Holy Father," I prayed, my eyes streaming with tears, "show thy humble servant the path to truth. I am afraid, instill courage into my heart; I can feel my knees give way; steady them with Thy strength. My mind is groping in the dark; illumine it with Thy light. My speech is but the common talk of an ignorant babbling woman; give it Thy wisdom and penetrate the hearts of my hearers. Do all this, not for the sake of Thy humble Maria, but for the sake of Russia, my unhappy country."

My eyes were red with inflammation when I arose in the morning. I continued nervous all day. Capt. Dementiev suggested that I commit my speech to memory. I rejected his suggestion with the comment:

"I have placed my trust in God and rely on Him to put the right words into my mouth."

It was the evening of May 21, 1917. I was driven to the Mariynski Theater and escorted by Capt. Dementiev and his wife into the former imperial box. The house was packed. The receipts of the ticket office amounted to 20,000 rubles. Everybody seemed to point at me, and it was with great difficulty that I controlled my nerves.

Kerensky appeared and was given a tremendous ovation. He spoke only about ten minutes. Next on the program was Mrs. Kerensky, and I was to follow her. "Our mother is perishing. Our mother is Russia. I want to help save her. I want women whose hearts are crystal, whose souls are pure, whose impulses are lofty. With such women setting example of self-sacrifice, you men will realize your duty in this grave hour!"

"Then I stopped and could not proceed. Sobbs choked the words in my throat. Sobbs shook me, my legs grew weak. I was caught under the arm and led away under a thunderous outburst of applause.

Registration of volunteers for the battalion from among those present took place the same evening, there and then. So great was the enthusiasm that 1,500 women applied for enlistment. It was necessary to put quarters at my immediate disposal and it was decided to let me have the building and grounds of the Kolomensk Women's Institute, and I directed the women to come there on the morning of the 22nd. They were examined and officially enlisted.

The newspapers carried accounts of the meeting and other publicity helped to swell the number of women who volunteered to join the Battalion of Death to 2,000. They were gathered in the garden of the institute, all in a state of jubilation. I arrived with Staff Capt. Kuzmin, assistant to Gen. Polovtsev, Capt. Dementiev, assistant to Gen. Anosov, who was introduced to me as a man very interested in my idea. He looked about 50 and was of impressive appearance. He wanted to help me, he explained. In addition, there was about a score of newspaper men. I mounted a table in the center of the garden and addressed the women in the following manner:

"Women, do you know what I have called you here for? Do you realize clearly the task lying ahead of you? Do you know what war is? War? Look into our hearts, examine into your souls and see if you can stand the great test."

Women's Part in War.
"At a time when our country is perishing it is the duty of all of us to rise to its succor. The morale of our men has fallen low, and it is up to us women to serve as an inspiration to them. But only those women who have entirely sacrificed their personal interests and affairs could do it."

"Woman is naturally light-hearted! But if she can purge herself for sacrifice, then through a caring word, a loving heart and an example of heroism she can save the motherland. We are physically weak, but if we be strong morally and spiritually we will accomplish more than a large force."

"I will have no committees in the battalion. There will be strict discipline and guilt will be severely punished. There will be punishment for even slight disobediences. No flirtations will be allowed and any attempts at them will be punished by expulsion and sending home under arrest. It is the purpose of this battalion to restore discipline in the army. It must, therefore, be irreplicable in character. Now, are you willing to enlist under such conditions?"

"Yes! We are! All right! All right!" the women responded in a chorus.

"I will now ask those of you who accept my terms to sign a pledge, binding you to obey any order of Botchkareva. I warn you that I am stern by nature, that I will personally

punish any misdeed, that I will demand absolute obedience. Those of you who hesitate, better not sign the pledge. There will now be a medical examination."

There were nearly 2,000 signed pledges. They included names of some of the most illustrious families in the country, as well as those of many peasant girls and domestic servants. The physical examination, given by ten physicians, some of whom were women, was not of the same standard as that required of the men. There were, naturally, very few perfect specimens of health among the women. But we rejected only those suffering from serious ailments. Altogether there were a few acute rejections. Those accepted were allowed to go home, with instructions to return on the day following when they would be quartered permanently in the Institute and begin training.

Outfit and Supplies.
It was necessary to obtain outfits, and I applied to Gen. Polovtsev, commander of the military district of Petrograd, for them. The same evening two thousand complete outfits were delivered at my headquarters. I also asked General Polovtsev for two weeks. He sent me twenty-five petty officers of all grades from the Volynski Regiment.

Then there was the question of supplies. We were to have our own kitchen? It was found more expedient not to establish one of our own but to make use of the kitchen of a guard regiment, stationed not far from our quarters. The ration was that of regular troops, consisting of two pounds of bread, cabbage soup, kasha, sugar and tea. I would send a company at a time, equipped with pans, for their meals.

On the morning of May 25 all the recruits gathered at the grounds of the Institute. I had them placed in rows, so as to distribute them according to their height, and divided the whole body into two battalions of approximately 1,000 each. Each battalion was divided into four companies, and each company subdivided into four platoons. There was a man instructor in command of every platoon, and, in addition, there was a petty officer in command of every company, so that altogether I had to increase the number of men instructors to forty.

(To be continued.)

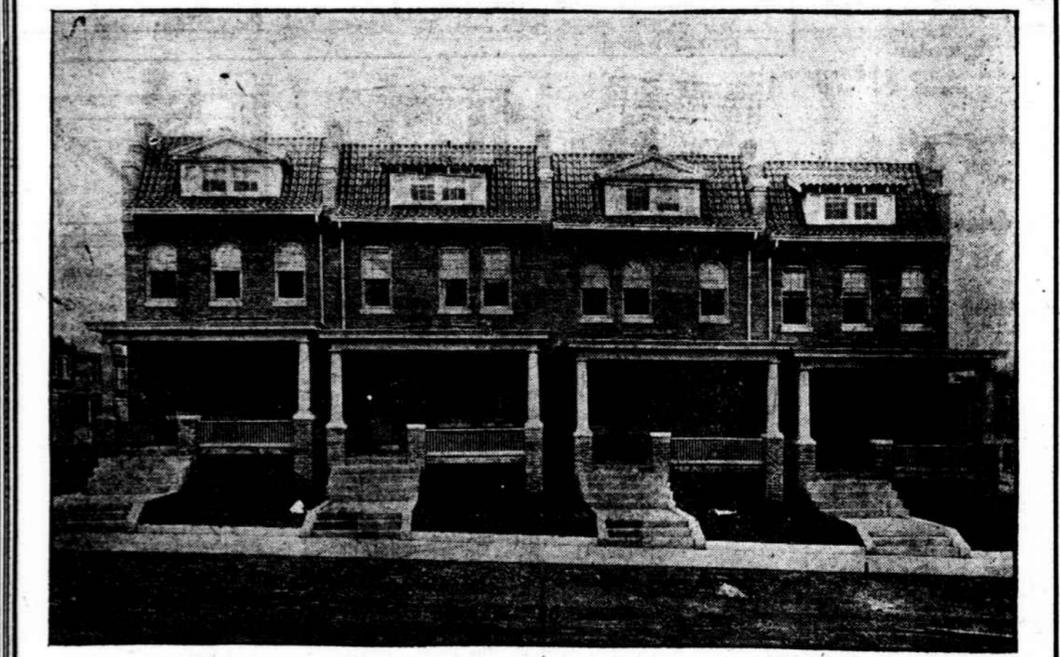
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WHY SOCIETY WOMEN WASH THEIR OWN HAIR

They do, not because it is a fad, but because they wish to obtain the greatest possible hair beauty and be sure they are not using anything harmful. They have found that in washing the hair it is never wise to use a makeshift, but is always advisable to use a preparation made for shampooing only. Many of our friends say they get the best results from a simple home-made canthrox mixture. You can use this at a cost of about 3 cents a shampoo by getting some canthrox from your druggist and dissolving a teaspoonful in a cup of hot water. This makes enough shampoo liquid to apply to all the hair instead of just the top of the head, as with most preparations. Dandruff, excess oil and dirt are dissolved and entirely disappear in the rinsing water. Your hair will be so fluffy that it will look much heavier than it is. Its luster and softness will also delight you.—Adv.

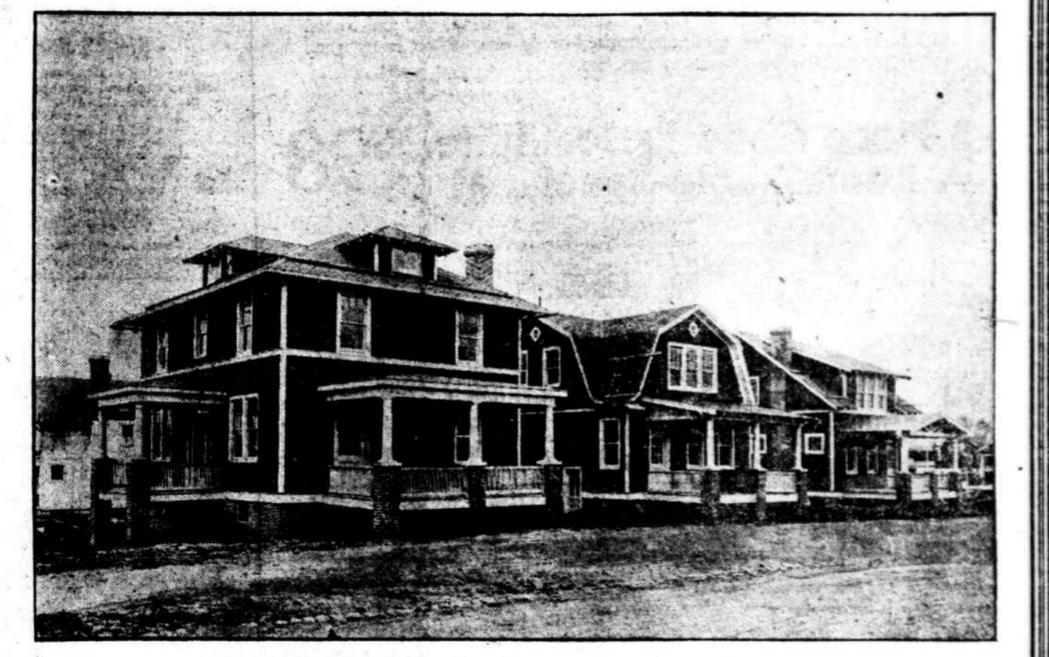
Society Women Learn Hair Curling Secret

"If your hair is straight, flat, dull looking, I need not ask if you long to possess perpetually wavy, light, fluffing, glossy tresses, say Gladys Coleman in Society World. 'I'll tell you what to do. Tonight, after your hair has had its usual brushing, take a clean tooth brush, dip it in a saucer of pure liquid salerine and run this through the hair from crown to tip. 'When morning dawns and you have yawned yourself out of your 'downy' cot, you will have a real surprise, quite an agreeable one. Your hair will have a prettier and more natural looking curl and lustre than it has ever had before—and there will be nothing sticky, greasy or anything unpleasant about it. If you will get the liquid salerine from your druggist it will require no preparation at all, and four or five ounces will last for months. This is just the best thing imaginable for the purpose.'—Adv.



IF you are looking for an attractive home, complete in every detail, located in one of the choicest sections of this city, do not fail to inspect these new houses now being completed on Decatur street northwest, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets. Nine houses are now being completed in this subdivision, six of which have been sold in the last ten days. Only three left.

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THESE attractive homes, modern in every detail, beautifully finished throughout, having hardwood floors, are located in Manor Park, one of the most attractive subdivisions in the Northwest section of the District. The houses are all detached and located on large lots. To inspect these houses, take Fourteenth street car marked Takoma, get off at Rittenhouse street—houses are located both to the East and West of car line. Several of these houses are already sold before completion.

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