

# THE DEMOCRATIC ADVOCATE.

FOUNDED 1838

\$1.50 PER ANNUM.

WESTMINSTER, MD., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 22 1920

VOL. 57.—NO. 18.

## THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS And Its 26 Articles Explained.

The Preamble states the purpose for which the League of Nations was formed: To achieve peace for the world by an agreement among the nations not to resort to war; to bring about open, just and honorable relations between them, to establish international law and provide for its observance; to require respect for all treaty obligations.

Article 1.—Provides that, in addition to the original members named in the Covenant, any self-governing State (Nation, Dominion or Colony) may join if approved by a two-thirds majority of the Assembly. Provision is also made for the withdrawal of any member.

Four nations (San Marino, Luxembourg, Iceland, Georgia) have already applied for admission. They will be proposed for membership at the first meeting of the Assembly on November 15.

If at any time the United States should become dissatisfied with the operation of the League, this Article provides a simple and easy plan for it to withdraw. After giving two years' notice of its intention to withdraw, for which no reason is required, it would automatically cease to be a member.

Article 2.—Provides that the League shall be composed of two bodies; an Assembly and a Council.

In certain respects these two bodies correspond to the lower and upper houses of a Congress, but, strictly speaking, the Assembly is more like a parliamentary body (or legislature), and the Council more like a responsible cabinet with limited executive powers.

Article 3.—Provides for an Assembly (or Body of Delegates) made up of from one to three representatives from each member of the League. No member nation is to have more than one vote.

This is the Article under which it is asserted by opponents of the League that Great Britain would have six votes to one by the United States, because Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa (British Dominions) and India (British Colony) are members of the Assembly.

A complete answer is that the Council and not the Assembly is the real governing body of the League. Great Britain has but one vote in this Council and none of her Dominions is a member. But even if, at any future time, the Dominions were to have a representative in the Council, all action taken must be by unanimous consent and the representative of the United States (whether one or more) would always be able to exercise the power of veto.

Article 4.—Provides for a Council of nine members, the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan, always having one member each. The other four members will be selected from time to time by the Assembly—these being planned to rotate memberships among the smaller nations. Each member has but one vote. The Council, with the approval of the Assembly, can increase its membership.

Article 5.—Provides that all decisions of the Assembly and the Council shall be by unanimous vote of all members represented at the meeting except where otherwise expressly provided.

Article 6.—Provides for a General Secretary, with staff of associates and assistants.

The "Secretariat" is the administrative branch of the League and is similar to the various departments of our Government, such as Post Office Department, Department of the Interior, etc.

Article 7.—Provides for the establishment of the seat of the League at Geneva, Switzerland. It is stipulated that all positions under or in connection with the League shall be open to women equally with men.

Article 8.—Provides for the general reduction of armaments; and for the revision, at least every ten years, of such plans as have been accepted and adopted by the several Governments.

Article 9.—Provides for a permanent commission to advise the Council in carrying out the first eight Articles of the Covenant.

Under Article 8 each Nation agrees to give the Council information con-

cerning its armaments. The Council can then recommend what reductions, in its judgment, should be made, each Nation acting for itself, under its own laws, with full regard for its own safety.

Article 10.—Provides that the members of the League shall respect and guarantee each other's sovereignty against external aggression. In the event of such aggression, or in case aggression is threatened, the Council shall advise how this obligation of mutual defense against a covenant-breaking nation shall be carried out.

This limits the League to action only in cases of outside attacks on the territory or independence of its members and does not apply in cases of rebellion or revolution or civil war which are considered domestic affairs, or matters for each nation to deal with inside its own borders. The League does not provide for any regulation of the domestic or internal affairs of any nation. Only when such rebellion or revolution actually threatens the peace of the world could the League take action to preserve world peace, which is the main purpose for which the League was formed.

In case of an outside attack upon the territory or independence of a member nation, the only "action" the Council could take on its own authority would be to advise action in fulfillment of the Covenant obligation and this would have to be unanimous. If the representatives of the United States on the Council voted with the other eight members to recommend the use of force against any nation or nations, which attacked members of the League, such action on our part could be taken only with the express approval of Congress, which is the only power in this country authorized by the Constitution to declare war.

The principle of Article 10 is the principle of the Monroe Doctrine (a guarantee of sovereignty) applied to the whole world. That this principle makes for peace and not for war is shown by the test of experience, as stated so clearly by Governor Cox in his speech of acceptance, referring to the Monroe Doctrine as follows:

Skeptics viewed Monroe's mandate with alarm, predicting recurrent wars in defense of Central and South American States, whose guardians they alleged we need not be. And yet not a shot has been fired in almost one hundred years in preserving sovereign rights on this hemisphere.

Article 11.—Provides that, in the event of an emergency arising which seriously threatens the immediate disturbance of peace, any member of the League may through the Secretary General, summon a meeting of the Council forthwith. Any war, whether directly affecting any of the members of the League or not, is declared to be a matter of concern to the whole League, which shall take such action as it may deem wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of nations.

This gives the League the right to deal with matters which it permitted to develop, might endanger the peace of the world, before the peace has actually been broken.

Article 12.—Provides that members of the League must submit to arbitration or to inquiry by the Council, any dispute which is likely to lead to war, and must not resort to war until three months after the award by the arbitrators or the report of the Council. The Council shall have six months in which to conduct its inquiry, render its report, and make its recommendations.

Article 13.—Provides for the arbitration of what are called "justiciable matters," that is, matters which are proper to be examined by a court of justice, and states what matters shall be so considered, such as the meaning of a treaty, questions of international law, failure to keep obligations, the kind and amount of reparation (judgment, fines, etc.); the members of the League agree to carry out the decision in good faith and pledge themselves not to resort to war with a member which does so.

Article 14.—Provides for the formulation of plans for the establishment of a permanent court of international justice, competent to hear and decide all cases submitted

to it and to give advisory opinions to the Council and Assembly in disputes referred to it by them.

In compliance with the provisions of this Article a committee of twelve jurists of international reputation was appointed at the second session of the Council of the League of Nations, held at London, February 13, 1920. Mr. Elihu Root, Secretary of State in President Roosevelt's Cabinet, was one of these jurists selected to draft a "convention" (detail plan or scheme of organization) for the establishment of this international tribunal. Mr. Root did not represent the United States officially, as this country is not yet a member of the League.

A plan devised and agreed upon by this committee, was approved by the Council at its sixth session, at San Sebastian. After the plan has been approved by the League Assembly, the Court will be set up at the Hague.

Article 15.—Provides for the settlement by conciliation (by the Council or Assembly of the League) of disputes which cannot be settled by diplomacy and which are not formally submitted to a court of arbitration. If the Council fails to settle the dispute it shall publish a report of its findings as to the facts together with its recommendations. The members of the League agree not to go to war with any party to the dispute which complies with the recommendations of the Council. If the Council finds that the matter in dispute is a domestic one it will so report and make no recommendation of settlement. If the Council reaches a unanimous agreement on the dispute and fails to get the assent of either or both parties to the dispute, it may take such action as it considers necessary to maintain right and justice. Provision is made for the Council to refer disputes to the Assembly, but the findings must have a majority of the Assembly in addition to the members who are represented in the Council.

Article 16.—Provides that any member of the League which goes to war without first having recourse to the means of peaceful settlement afforded by Articles 12, 13, or 15, shall be deemed to have committed an act of war against all other members of the League, and provides for a boycott of the offending nations, as follows: The nations in the League to sever all trade and financial relations with the offender, to stop all intercourse between the people of the offending nations and the people of the other League nations and prevent all financial, commercial or personal intercourse between the treaty-breaking nations and the people of any other nation, whether a member of the League or not. The Council will recommend what forces shall be used and the members agree to support one another in the measures taken to uphold the agreements of the League; the offending nation to be expelled from the League.

The nation which violated the Covenant would be completely cut off from every other nation in the world. It could not borrow money, buy arms or munitions or fuel or food or clothing; no ship could enter or leave its ports; no person could enter or leave its territory; it could neither send nor receive letters or telegrams beyond its borders.

If cannot be said too plainly that although we assume certain obligations by joining the League, the "when" and the "how" of those obligations are (under the League just as they are now) up to Congress to determine.

Article 17.—Provides for settling disputes between members of the League and non-members; and, when both parties are non-members, first by inviting the non-member (or non-members) to join the League. If a non-member state refuses to join the League (and accept the obligation of membership) and makes war on a member of the League, the Council will take action as provided in Article 16. If both parties refuse to accept membership the Council may recommend such action as will prevent war and settle the dispute.

Article 18.—Provides that every treaty, or agreement between nations hereafter made by any member of the League shall be registered with the Secretary's office and published by it. No treaty or agreement shall be considered binding unless and until so registered.

Article 19.—Provides that the Assembly may advise the reconsideration of treaties already in existence and may call attention to conditions which, if continued, might endanger peace.

Article 20.—Provides that the acceptance of the Covenant of the League of Nations shall abrogate (make void) all treaties inconsistent with its terms; and the members pledge themselves not to enter into any treaty hereafter that is inconsistent with the League agreement.

Article 21.—Provides that nothing in the Covenant shall affect such understandings as the Monroe Doctrine or such other agreements as made for peace.

This is the first time since the Monroe Doctrine was affirmed, nearly a hundred years ago, that it has been officially recognized by the nations of the world.

Article 22.—Provides for Mandatories for the colonies and territories now independent of the States which formerly governed them, referring particularly to those formerly under Turkey and Germany. A permanent commission will be formed to examine the annual reports which must be made by the Mandatories, and to advise the Council in matters relating thereto.

A mandatory is a trustee or agent who cares for property or interests placed in his hands. In this case a mandatory would be a "Big Brother" to the small and weak nations created by the war.

The United States, since the Spanish-American War, has practically been the mandatory for the Philippines and Cuba. We have never thought of either as colonies to be exploited, but as temporary dependencies to be trained for self-government. Cuba has already received her freedom at our hands and we are pledged to give the Philippines their independence as soon as they have proved themselves ready for it.

Article 23.—Provides that the League shall use its best endeavors to maintain fair and humane conditions of labor; to secure just treatment of native inhabitants in territory under control of League members; to supervise the fulfillment of agreements with regard to traffic in women and children and the traffic in opium and other dangerous drugs; to supervise trade in arms and ammunition in countries in which it is necessary to control this traffic; to secure freedom of communication and transit and equitable treatment for the commerce of all members of the League and to take steps for the prevention and control of disease.

All these humanitarian enterprises are in the nature of voluntary cooperation. The benefits of one country's experience would be made available to all countries through such instrumentalities as the International Labor Office and the International Labor Conference. Thus the best intelligence and common conscience of the world are made available for each nation.

Article 24.—Provides for placing all international bureaus and commissions under the League, thus preventing duplication of effort.

Article 25.—Provides that the League shall encourage and promote voluntary national Red Cross organizations.

Article 26.—Provides for amending the Covenant by unanimous vote of the Council and a majority of the Assembly.

The Constitution of the United States was improved by the adoption of 10 amendments (the Bill of Rights) within two years after its ratification.

Miss Marie Shaw, Park avenue, after visiting in New York has returned.

### WHAT IS THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS ?

It is a written agreement between nations to settle their differences by arbitration and to do all they can to prevent war and promote justice in the world.

The following nations are now members of the League; British Empire, China, France, Italy, Japan, Poland, Spain, Belgium, Brazil, Czechoslovakia, Netherlands (Holland), Rumania, Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Serb-Croat-Slovene State, Argentine Republic, Chili, Columbia, Greece, Peru, Bolivia, Guatemala, Haiti, Panama, Paraguay, Persia, Salvador, Siam, Uruguay, Venezuela, Liberia, Hedjaz, Cuba and Nicaragua.

The principal nations now outside the League, besides the former enemy Powers are Russia, Turkey, Mexico and the United States.

#### Maryland League of Women Voters Organized.

Women for every Congressional District in Maryland attended the meeting in Baltimore on Thursday, October 14, to organize the Maryland League of Women Voters.

The first official statement from the League emphasizes the fact that it is not a Woman's Party. On the contrary its members are urged to affiliate with the existing Parties. The

League will be non-partisan. (Nor all partisan.)

The work of the new Organization will be twofold; first, to foster education in Citizenship and, second, to support improved legislation in Maryland and assist in carrying out the National program of legislation.

The Educational program proposes Schools of Citizenship in every county in the state. These Schools are to teach the new women voters the value of their ballots and how to use them.

The relation of the individual citizen to the state and the nation will be shown.

The legislation program will provide a clearing house for the Women's Organizations of the State. A concise and definite program will be presented to the next session of the General Assembly. This department will also cooperate with the National Committee in preparing the legislative program to be pushed during the next session of Congress.

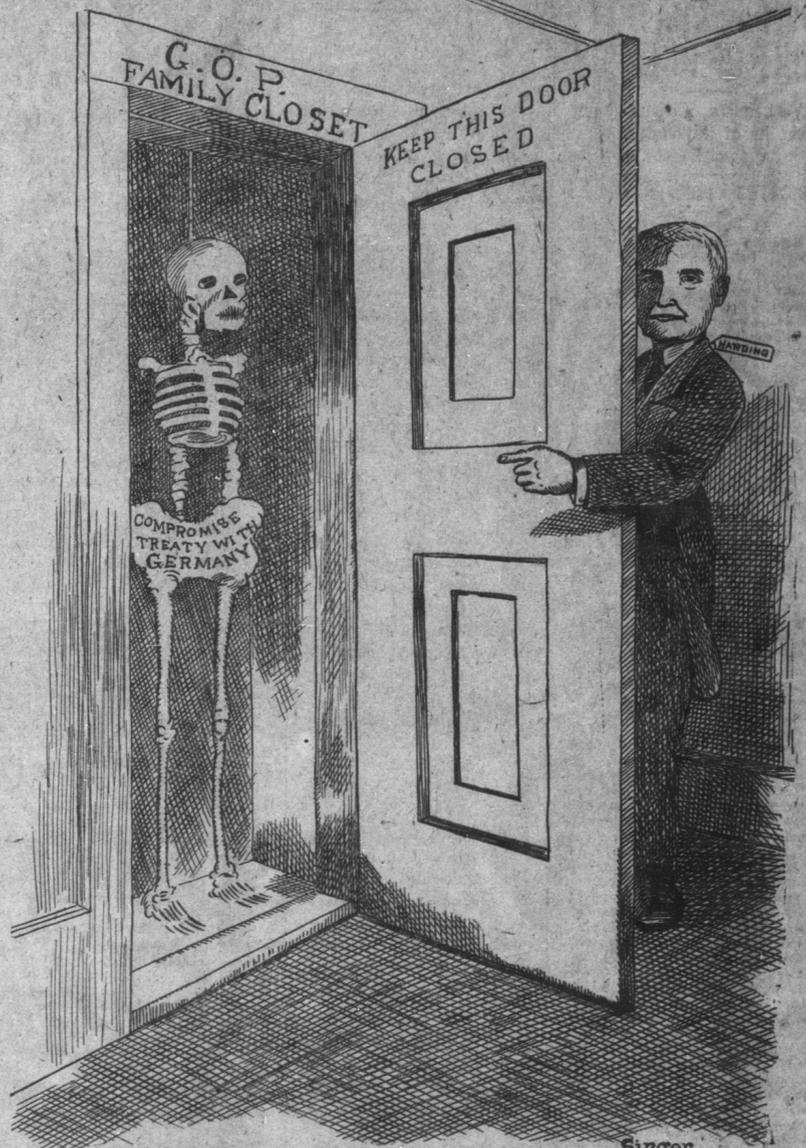
The organization of the League provides for a Board of Directors of nine members, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and one Director to be elected from the State at large and one Director from each of the six Congressional districts.

Eight Standing Committees similar to the Committees of the National will have charge of the departments of the league's work. These Committees are:

1. Child Welfare
  2. Woman in Industry
  3. Social Hygiene
  4. American Citizenship
  5. Food Supply and Demand
  6. Legal Status of Women
  7. Election Laws and Methods
  8. Research and Data
- A nomination Committee was elected and ordered to report to a meeting to be held Tuesday, October 28th. At this meeting a Temporary Board will be elected to conduct the affairs of the League until the regular meeting in the spring.
- State Headquarters are at 17 W. Saratoga St., Baltimore, Md.

Hoff  
Mary A. Hoff died Tuesday, October 19, at the age of 76 years, 9 months and 24 days at the home of her son, Ivan L. Hoff, in Westminster. She was the widow of Levi B. Hoff, who died at Melrose, in Carroll County, in the year 1898. Burial services were held at Sherman's Church on Thursday afternoon. H. Bankard & Sons undertakers.

### THE OPEN DOOR.



Harding:—That's my idea, exactly.