

# MOUNTAIN PEACE CONFERENCE APPROVES LEAGUE OF NATIONS

**Delegates From Utah, Idaho and Wyoming Back of Plan for World Peace.**

**Former President Taft and Other Speakers of International Fame Address Mountain Congress of League to Enforce Peace.**

Salt Lake City.—The Mountain congress of the League to Enforce Peace, held in this city February 21 and 22, brought together probably the greatest galaxy of celebrities the people of the intermountain section have had the pleasure of entertaining in the past decade.

Representative citizens from every section of the intermountain country had journeyed to Salt Lake to take



WILLIAM H. TAFT

part in the conference, and to listen to addresses by speakers of international fame.

Similar meetings have been held in eight other of the larger cities of the country, which have been addressed by former President William Howard Taft and other distinguished citizens of the United States, but none of the meetings were more enthusiastic than those held at Salt Lake.

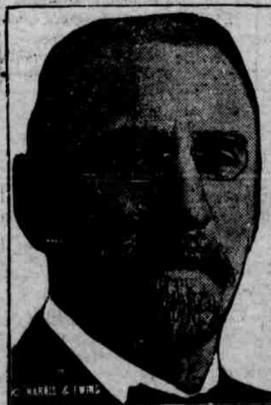
Mr. Taft formed the league to enforce peace in 1914, and is president of the league. He sees no good reason why a question of such supreme importance to the whole world should be made the football of partisan politics, and he does not believe that those who do not agree with President Wilson are justified in advocating the defeat of the covenant which holds out the hope of peace.

Mr. Taft was, of course, the principal speaker at the conference, some of the speakers of national fame who addressed the congress being A. Lawrence Lowell, president of Harvard university; George Grafton Wilson, professor of international law at Harvard; Dr. Henry Van Dyke, former minister to The Netherlands; Mrs. Phillip North Moore, president of the National Council of Women; Henry Morgenthau, former ambassador to Turkey; Dr. Charles R. Brown, Yale university; Edward A. Filene, director chamber of commerce, U. S. A.; Captain Thomas Chamberlain.

Frank P. Walsh, former joint chairman of the war labor board, was detained in San Francisco and was therefore unable to address the congress.

Former Governor John C. Cutler presided at the opening session of the congress at the tabernacle, which was packed to the doors. Among the prominent Utahns on the program were former Governor William Spry, President Heber J. Grant, head of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Rev. George E. Davies, pastor of the First Presbyterian church; Dr. J. A. Widstoe, president of the University of Utah; B. H. Roberts, former chaplain of the 145th field artillery; J. Will Knight, member of the state senate; Professor Levi Edgar Young of the University of Utah, and A. E. Harvey, secretary of the Utah State Federation of Labor.

At the opening session of the congress at the tabernacle, Friday evening, Dr. Henry Van Dyke, former minister to The Netherlands, author, scholar and more lately chaplain and lieutenant commander in the United States navy, voiced vigorous approval



HENRY MORGENTHAU

of the proposed league of nations as espoused by President Wilson.

Demands for reparation on the part of Germany were expressed by Dr. Van Dyke, who also expressed sentiments against further warfare on the part of the nations. Dr. Van Dyke not only strenuously voiced approbation of President Wilson's participation in the Paris peace conference and his labors in behalf of the league of nations, but he referred in a complimentary manner to the part former President Taft is playing in efforts to promote the proposed league.

He was most emphatic in his declaration that the league as proposed does not interfere with this or any other country's domestic affairs. "I hope no silly ass keeps us out of the league of nations," declared Dr. Van Dyke in concluding his references to the opposing congressmen and others.

Professor Grafton Wilson took occasion to berate the senators who are opposing the proposed league of nations, though none were mentioned by name. Professor Wilson, during the course of a most able address, presented arguments aiming to show conclusively that the Monroe doctrine was not endangered by the proposed league, and that the objections brought forward by the opponents of the plan were untenable.

Ex-Governor John C. Cutler, chairman of the Mountain congress for a league of nations, made a strong appeal for permanent peace and declared the league as fostered by President Wilson was the means to such an end.

State Senator J. Will Knight, representing the associated industries of the intermountain country, pledged the support of that organization to the proposed league.

President John A. Widstoe of the University of Utah appealed for the league on behalf of the farmers of Utah and the other mountain states.

Former President Taft was the guest of honor at a dinner given at the Hotel Utah Saturday, over 500 prominent citizens being present. Following the banquet, former Governor Cutler made a short address, being followed by Governor Bamberger, who introduced Mr. Taft.

The former president in opening his dinner speech referred laughingly to his "peculiar pleasure" in being in Utah and of the support given him in 1912 by the state. He then told of his mission in Salt Lake and of the efforts he and the other speakers endeavor in the interest of the proposed



A. E. HARVEY

league of nations were making to educate the people regarding the covenants of the union.

Dr. Henry Van Dyke, former minister to The Netherlands, followed Mr. Taft with an address in which he declared victory in the war must be made practical by a league of nations.

The two-day's session of the congress culminated in a mass meeting at the Tabernacle, Saturday night, presided over by President Heber J. Grant, and attended by over 10,000 people, at which former President Taft was the principal speaker. Mr. Taft declared unequivocally in favor of the league of nations, and was strong in his denunciation of the senators who have offered opposition to the league.

The former chief executive confined his address largely to an explanation of the various tenets of the proposal as drafted in Paris and to an expression of the results of the entrance of the United States as a member of the union of nations.

He declared that the formation of the league meant "open diplomacy" with everything in international relations open and with the "cards face up upon the table."

Mr. Taft closed his address with a stirring appeal to the women to support the league of nations.

Preceding Mr. Taft, A. E. Harvey, secretary of the Utah State Federation of Labor, in an able address declared that there ought to be a voluntary union of nations, a league of nations to adjust disputes and difficulties and to facilitate the world's progress in accord with the highest principles.

Following the address by former



DR. HENRY VAN DYKE

President Taft at the Tabernacle Saturday night, nine thousand delegates from Utah, Idaho and Wyoming voted to adopt a resolution expressing their conviction that the League of Nations was the means of guaranteeing that peace, liberty and justice will be established and maintained on an enduring foundation.

"We need to apply the principles of personal and domestic municipal and national morality more widely," declared Dean Charles R. Brown of Yale University at the Saturday morning session in the Assembly hall. Other speakers at the morning session were Mrs. Phillip North Moore, president of the National Council of Women of the United States, Professor Levi Edgar Young of the University of Utah and Brigham H. Roberts, chaplain of the 145th Utah field artillery.

At the Saturday afternoon session at the Tabernacle, Dr. A. Lawrence Lowell, president of the Harvard university, presided. The other speakers were Captain Thomas G. Chamberlain, Henry Morgenthau, former United States ambassador to Turkey, and Edward A. Filene, director of the United States chamber of commerce.

"The soldier fought to make the world safe for democracy, and he is going to fight to keep it safe," said Captain Chamberlain.

Former Ambassador Morgenthau made a strong appeal for the support of the American people to be placed squarely behind the league of nations plan.

Answering critics of the league of nations plan, Dr. Lowell declared that no longer was it possible "for us to wrap ourselves in a cloak of glorious isolation. We cannot avoid our responsibility as a great nation.

Business men, Mr. Filene said, realized the great need of a league of nations, and did not look upon it as an utopian thing. In their practical vision, he said, they strongly favored the formation of such a league to maintain world security.

Mrs. Phillip North Moore, president of the National Council of Women, who was one of the speakers at the Mountain Congress, was the guest of honor at a luncheon Saturday, attended by representative women of Utah, Idaho and Wyoming. Preceding the luncheon, Dr. Charles R. Brown, dean of the School of Religion at Yale university made a short address. Mrs. Moore, in an address following the luncheon, told of the aims of the league and extolled the war work of the women of the nation.

Mrs. Moore said it was her privilege to present the team work of the women of the country during the period of the war and that she knew they were ready to bear a larger share of responsibility in the new readjustment of life and principles for which the league of nations stood.

The celebration of Washington's birthday anniversary in Salt Lake will live in the annals of Spirit of Liberty chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. The members of the chapter and their guests were accorded the privilege of hearing Dr. Henry Van Dyke, former minister to The Netherlands, in an address following a luncheon at the Hotel Utah.



MRS. PHILIP NORTH MOORE.

# PRESIDENT CHALLENGES CRITICS TO TEST AMERICAN SENTIMENT

**Indicates in His Boston Address Eagerness to Battle for League of Nations.**

**Wilson Declares That Americans Who Would Have Their Country Fall The World Are Lacking in Broad Vision.**

Boston.—President Woodrow Wilson, just back from Europe, delivered an address in Mechanics' hall Monday afternoon, February 24, in which he threw down the gauntlet to those who distrust the proposed concert of governments, based, he declared, on the American ideals which have won the war for justice and humanity.

The complete text of the president's address follows:

I wonder if you are half as glad to see me as I am to see you? It warms my heart to see a great body of my fellow citizens again, because in some respects during the recent months I have been very lonely indeed without your comradeship and counsel, and I tried at every step of the work which fell to me to recall what I was sure would be your counsel with regard to the great matters which were under consideration.

I do not want you to think that I have not been appreciative of the extraordinarily generous reception which was given to me on the other side, in saying that it makes me very happy to get home again. I do not mean to say that I was not very deeply touched by the cries that came from the great crowds on the other side. But I want to say to you in all honesty that I felt them to be a call of greeting to you rather than to me.

I did not feel that the greeting was personal. I had in my heart the overflowing pride of being your representative and of receiving the plaudits of men everywhere who felt that your hearts beat with theirs in the cause of liberty.

There was no mistaking the tone in the voices of those great crowds. It was not a tone of mere generous welcome; it was the calling of comrade to comrade, the cries that come from men who say: "We have waited for this day when the friends of liberty should come across the sea and shake hands with us, to see that a new world was constructed upon a new basis and foundation of justice and right."

I can't tell you the inspiration that came out of those simple voices of the crowd. And the proudest thing I have to report to you is that this great country of ours is trusted throughout the world.

I have not come to report the proceedings or the results of the proceedings of the peace conference; that would be premature.

I can say that I have received very happy impressions from this conference; the impression that while there are many differences of judgment, while there are some divergences of object, there is, nevertheless, a common spirit and a common realization of the necessity of setting up new standards of right in the world.

Not Masters, but Servants. Because the men who are in conference in Paris realize as keenly as any American can realize that they are not the masters of their people; that they are the servants of their people, and that the spirit of their people has awakened to a new purpose and a new conception of their power to realize that purpose, and that no man dare go home from that conference and report anything less noble than was expected of it.

The conference seems to you to go slowly; from day to day in Paris it seems to go slowly; but I wonder if you realize the complexity of the task which it has undertaken? It seems as if the settlements of the war affect, and affect directly, every great, and I sometimes think every small, nation in the world, and no decision can prudently be made which is not properly linked in with the great series of other decisions which must accompany it. And it must be reckoned in with the final result if the real quality and character of that result is to be properly judged.

What we are doing is to hear the whole case; hear it from the mouths of the men most interested; hear it from those who are officially commissioned to state it; hear the rival claims; hear the claims that affect new areas of the world, that affect new commercial and economic connections that have been established by the great world war through which we have gone.

Claims of Nations Moderate. I have been struck by the moderation of those who have represented national claims. I can testify that I have nowhere seen the gleam of passion. I have seen earnestness, I have seen tears come to the eyes of men who pleaded for down-trodden people whom they were privileged to speak for; but they were not the tears of anguish, they were the tears of ardent hope.

And I don't see how any man can fail to have been subdued by these pleas, subdued to this feeling, that he was not there to assert an individual judgment of his own, but to try to assist the cause of humanity.

In the midst of it all, every interest seeks out first of all when it reaches Paris the representatives of the United States. Why? Because, and I think I am stating the most wonderful fact in history—because there is no nation in Europe that suspects the motive of the United States.

Hard to Forget Differences. It is impossible for men to believe that all ambitions have all of a sudden been foregone. They remember territory that was coveted; they re-

member rights that it was attempted to extort; they remember political ambitions, which it was attempted to realize—and, while they believe that men have come into a different temper, they cannot forget these things, and so they do not resort to one another for a dispassionate view of the matters in controversy. They resort to that nation which has won the enviable distinction of being regarded as the friend of mankind.

Whenever it was desired to send a small force of soldiers to occupy a piece of territory where it is thought nobody else will be welcome, they ask for American soldiers. And where other soldiers would be looked upon with suspicion and perhaps meet with resistance, the American soldier is welcomed with acclaim. I have so many grounds for pride on the other side of the water that I am very thankful that they are not grounds for personal pride.

And it has been an infinite pleasure to me to see these gallant soldiers of ours, of whom the constitution of the United States made me the proud commander. You may be proud of the Twenty-sixth division, but I command the Twenty-sixth division, and see what they did under my direction! And everybody praises the American soldier with the feeling that in praising him he is subtracting from the credit of no one else.

America Acted Her Ideals.

I have been searching for the fundamental fact that converted Europe to believe in us. Before the war Europe did not believe in us as she does now. She did not believe in us throughout the first three years of the war. She seems really to have believed that we were holding off because we thought we could make more by staying out than by going in. And, all of a sudden, in a short eighteen months, the whole verdict is reverse. There can be but one explanation for it. They saw what we did—that without making a single claim, we put all our men and all our means at the disposal of those who were fighting for their homes, in the first instance, but for a cause, the cause of human rights and justice, and that we went in, not to support their national claims, but to support the great cause which they held in common.

And when they saw that America not only held ideals, but acted ideals, they were converted to America and became firm partisans of those ideals.

Fighting for Lives and Ideals.

Men were fighting with tense muscle and lowered head until they came to realize those things, feeling they were fighting for their lives and their country, and when these accents of what it was all about reached them from America they lifted their heads, they raised their eyes to heaven, when they saw men in khaki coming across the sea in the spirit of crusaders, and they found that these were strange men, reckless of danger not only, but reckless because they seemed to see something that made that danger worth while.

Men have testified to me in Europe that our men were possessed by something that they could only call a religious fervor. They were not like any of the other soldiers. They had a vision, they had a dream, and they were fighting in the dream, and fighting in the dream, they turned the whole tide of battle and it never came back.

And now do you realize that this confidence we have established throughout the world imposes a burden upon us—if you choose to call it a burden? It is one of those burdens which any nation ought to be proud to carry. Any man who resists the present tides that run in the world will find himself thrown upon a shore so high and barren that it will seem as if he had been separated from his human kind forever.

Europe Continent of Hope.

The Europe that I left the other day was full of something that it had never felt fill its heart so full before. It was full of hope. The Europe of the second year of the war, the Europe of the third year of the war was sinking to a sort of sullen born desperation. They did not see any great thing to be achieved even when the war should be won. They hoped there would be some salvage; they hoped that they could clear their territories of invading armies; they hoped they could set up their homes and start their industries afresh. But they thought it would simply be the resumption of the old life that Europe had led—led in fear, led in anxiety, led in constant suspicious watchfulness. They never dreamed that it would be a Europe of settled peace and of justified hope.

And now these ideals have wrought this new magic, that all the peoples of Europe are buoyed up and confident in the spirit of hope, because they believe that we are at the eve of a new age in the world, when nations will understand one another, when nations will support one another in every just cause, when nations will unite every moral and every physical strength to see that the right shall prevail.

We Must Not Fail the World.

If America were at this juncture to fail the world, what would come of it? I do not mean any disrespect to any other great people when I say that America is the hope of the world; and if she does not justify that hope the results are unthinkable. Men will be thrown back upon the bitterness of disappointment not only, but the bitterness of despair. All nations will be set up as hostile camps again; the men at the peace conference will go home with their heads upon their breasts, knowing that they have failed—for they were bidden not to come home from there until they did something more than sign a treaty of peace.

Suppose we sign the treaty of peace and that it is the most satisfactory treaty of peace that the confusing elements of the modern world will afford, and go home and think about our labors; we will know that we have left written upon the historic table at Ver-

sailles, upon which Vergennes and Benjamin Franklin wrote their names, nothing but a modern scrap of paper, no nations united to defend it, no great forces combined to make it good, no assurances given to the down-trodden and fearful people of the world, that they shall be safe. Any man who thinks that America will take part in giving the world any such relief and disappointment as that does not know America.

Invited to Test Sentiment.

I invite him to test the sentiments of the nation. We set this up to make men free and we did not confine our conception and purpose to America, and now we will make men free. If we did not do that the fame of America would be gone, and all her powers would be dissipated. She then would have to keep her power for those narrow, selfish, provincial purposes which seem so dear to some minds that have no sweep beyond the nearest horizon. I should welcome no sweeter challenge than that. I have fighting blood in me and it is sometimes a delight to let me have scope, but if it is a challenge on this occasion it will be an indulgence. Think of the picture; think of the utter blackness that would fall on the world! America has failed! America made a little essay at generosity and then withdrew! America said: "We are your friends," but it was only for today, not for tomorrow. America said: "Here is our power to vindicate right," and then the next day said: "Let right take care of itself and we will take care of ourselves." America said: "We set up a light to lead men along the paths of liberty, but we have lowered it. It is intended only to light our own path." We set up a great ideal of liberty and then we said: "Liberty is a thing that you must win for yourself. Do not call upon us," and think of the world that we would leave!

New Nations Must Be Shielded.

Do you realize how many new nations are going to be set up in the presence of old and powerful nations in Europe and left there, if left by us, without a disinterested friend? Do you believe in the Polish cause as I do? Are you going to set up Poland, immature, inexperienced, as yet unorganized, and leave her with a circle of armies around her? Do you believe in the aspirations of the Czechoslovaks and the Jugoslavs as I do? Do you know how many powers would be quick to pounce upon them if there were not the guarantees of the world behind their liberty?

The arrangements of the present peace cannot stand a generation unless they are guaranteed by the united forces of the civilized world. And if we do not guarantee them, can you not see the picture? Your hearts have instructed you where the burden of this war fell. It did not fall upon the national treasuries; it did not fall upon the instruments of administration; it did not fall upon the resources of the nations. It fell upon the victims' homes everywhere, where women were toiling in hope that their men would come back.

Has No Doubt of Verdict.

When I think of the homes upon which dull despair would settle were this great hope disappointed, I should wish for my part never to have had America play any part whatever in this attempt to emancipate the world. But I talk as if there were any question. I have no more doubt of the verdict of America in this matter than I have doubt of the blood that is in me.

And so, my fellow citizens, I have come back to report progress, and I do not believe that the progress is going to stop short of the goal. The nations of the world have set their heads now to do a great thing, and they are not going to slacken their purpose. And when I speak of the nations of the world I do not speak of the governments of the world. I speak of the peoples who constitute the nations of the world. They are in the saddle and they are going to see to it that if their present governments do not do their will, some other governments shall. And the secret is out and the present governments know it.

Harmony Out of Common Knowledge.

There is a great deal of harmony to be got out of common knowledge. There is a great deal of sympathy to be got out of living in the same atmosphere, and, except for the differences of languages, which puzzled my American ear very sadly, I could have believed I was at home in France or in Italy or in England when I was on the streets, when I was in the presence of the crowds, when I was in great halls where men were gathered together irrespective of class. I did not feel quite as much at home there as I do here, but I felt that now, at any rate, after this storm of war had cleared the air, men were seeing eye to eye everywhere and that these were the kind of folks who would understand what the kind of folks at home would understand and that they were thinking the same things.

Trying to Interpret America.

It is a great comfort, for one thing, to realize that you all understand the language I am speaking. A friend of mine said that to talk through an interpreter was like witnessing the compound fracture of an idea. But the beauty of it is that, whatever the impediments, the channel of communication, the idea is the same; that it gets registered, and it gets registered in responsive hearts and receptive purposes.

I have come back for a strenuous attempt to transact business for a little while in America, but I have really come back to say to you, in all soberness and honesty, that I have been trying my best to speak your thoughts.

When I sample myself, I think I find that I am a typical American, and if I sample deep enough and get down to what is probably the true stuff of a man, then I have hope that it is part of the stuff that is like the other fellow's at home.

And, therefore, probing deep in my heart and trying to see the things that are right, without regard to the things that may be debated as expedient, I feel that I am interpreting the purpose and the thought of America; and in loving America I find I have joined the great majority of my fellow men throughout the world.