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WHAT OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS?

Senator Mc Cormick has made it plain that he regards Nebraska as the spot in which American opinion is called upon to assert, once and for all, its attitude on the question of an international super-government. Two years ago the voters of Nebraska first met this issue by giving a heavy majority to the candidate for the presidency who was pledged against the League of Nations. It is not to be believed that they have altered their firm determination to reject this entangling alliance.

In his speech in Omaha Senator Mc Cormick thus put the issue:

"Have you forgotten that two years ago, the war won, the rights of America vindicated, we found our independence imperiled, we found our old policy against entangling alliances with the ever-quarreling rivals for power in old Europe? It was proposed that we guarantee our own treasure and blood frontiers which defy economic laws and the rights of self-determination. Do you propose now to vote as to convey to Europe the idea that there are people in America who would perpetuate the follies and wrongs of the Treaty of Versailles and encourage the militarists of Europe in their course?"

Senator Mc Cormick is typically American in his hope for a better world understanding, and it is his belief that this can best be assured if each nation attends to its own affairs. His condemnation of the League of Nations comes with great force, for he has made a special trip abroad to witness the league meetings in Geneva, and to investigate conditions on the continent. From his first-hand knowledge he charges that the Treaty of Versailles is the cause of the present European chaos.

America would have been plunged into the midst of this danger if President Wilson had had his way. Wilson's way was also that of Senator Hitchcock, who was his mouthpiece as chairman of the foreign relations committee of the senate. A striking feature of the campaign is the present silence of Senator Hitchcock on the question of the Treaty of Versailles. Until the eve of the election campaign his newspaper kept up a continual outcry in behalf of the League of Nations, rebuking Americans for having rejected it—but now all its silence and it is not even dignified by being called a "dead issue."

If the United States had put its head in this noose, as Senator Hitchcock urged, Americans would have been involved in every foreign dispute. The same spirit of militarism that rides democracy over there would have been bred at home. Instead of having reduced our army and naval forces, we would have been saddled with the same burden of armament that is bankrupting the people of Europe. By retaining our independence we have been able to induce the principal naval powers to sign an agreement to limit naval armament. The League of Nations has accomplished nothing like this, and has not even proved a peace maker in the smallest disputes.

America was saved once from becoming the accomplice of the militaristic imperialism that threatens world peace. It must not again be exposed to this peril. To have accepted this role, as Hitchcock advocated, would have been to have set the seal of approval on all the wrongs of the Treaty of Versailles.

The mistakes of this treaty, as R. B. Howell also pointed out in his speech at Sutton, are many, and for them Senator Hitchcock, as spokesman for Wilson in the senate, must bear his share of the blame.

The present situation clearly suggests the reconstruction of the Versailles treaty, and a reduction of the great burden of armament under which Europe is now laboring." Howell declares.

America desires to see the recovery of Europe. This depends in part on the recovery of Germany, not as a military power, but as a market for the interchange of goods. Many mistakes were written into the treaty. Howell and Mc Cormick are frank in calling attention to this. Hitchcock's support of the Wilsonian theories indeed makes the Nebraska election one of nation-wide importance. A vote for Hitchcock would be regarded as a vindication of his position on the League of Nations. That impression Nebraska can avoid by voting for his republican opponent.

DO YOU KNOW NEBRASKA?

One Nebraska father recently spent an evening in ascertaining the subjects his 18-year-old boy was studying in school. Among others was ancient history, and the lad was seemingly well up in that particular branch. He talked glibly of ancient Greece and Rome; he knew a lot about Babylon and Tyre; and he explained at length the conquests of Alexander and the doings of Hannibal. He also was pretty well informed as to the Druids and had some knowledge of the history of Pompeii and Herculaneum. But when asked to tell something about Nebraska he was forced to admit that he had not given it any study.

He did not know that no other state equals Nebraska's river mileage; that Nebraska is the only state in the Union that produced a surplus of the four great staples—sugar, meatstuffs, breadstuffs and wool; that Cherry county is big enough to harbor all the people on this globe and afford each one room enough to swing comfortably in a rocking chair; that Nebraska produces more corn and wheat per capita than any other state; that while Nebraska has not a single mine in all her borders yet her annual production of farm wealth would pay for all the coal mined in the United States at the mine mouth; that her annual butter production is worth more than all the gold mined in America and her possessions in the world is in Nebraska, and that Nebraska has fewer illiterates per thousand of population than any other state, with possibly one exception.

The lad knew that Napoleon was born in Corsica and that Nero was born in Rome, but he did not know that Nebraska is the birthplace of two of the world's famous cartoonists, Briggs and Johnson. He knew that King Cyrus was a Persian, but he did not know that the world's foremost consulting engineer is a native Nebraskan. As a matter of

fact he had been so busy studying about the dead ones that he did not know much of anything about the liveliest state in the Union. Whereupon the lad's father wondered if it would not be a good thing to compel the teaching of Nebraska more and of dead ones less, in Nebraska schools.

THE KILLING FROST.

The vines and flowers that so valiantly withstood the chill winds and frosty nights of early autumn hang limp and black in the gardens; the trees are stripped of some of their gorgeous foliage by every passing breeze, and we said "there was a killing frost last night."

But it wasn't a killing frost, for nothing really died; the joy and thrill of life goes on unchanged. True, the birds have gone, and we miss their sweet songs from tree and field; but in the leafless branches of the trees their nests remain to remind us that they will come again.

The leaves lie in great heaps of gold and crimson and brown, but the children shout with joy as they play among them, or, in the quiet evening, gather them into a blazing camp fire where they roast their apples and marshmallows, supreme delight of childhood.

The trees stand bare and brown, but their matchless symmetry is revealed as their branches are outlined against the sky. The heavy foliage shut away the distant view, but from the window we now can see the quiet fields beyond the town, the smooth, gray roads that tie us to the great world outside, and the wider spaces of blue sky.

No, the frost did not kill the beautiful things we love; it only helped us find our proper perspective.

PLEASANT JUDICIAL INTERLUDE.

At Wilkesbarre, Pa., a culprit was before the police magistrate, accused of beating his wife. "Let's see how you like it," exclaimed the judge, as he jumped over the bench and landed one on the prisoner's left eye. When he arose the judge struck him again in the right eye, and once more knocked him down.

Satisfied that the prisoner's eyes were completely blackened, the judge fined him and sent him to jail for three months.

Some question may be raised as to the propriety of this action. It surely does not comport with judicial dignity, and yet as poetic and retributive justice it glows with a light that is almost equal to incandescence. "Treat 'em rough" may be all right in polite fiction, and the "cave man" stuff may afford a backbone for a great deal of hectic and flabby romance, but if the man who beats his wife were assured in advance that every time he blackened one of his helpmeet's eyes he was in danger of having one of his own similarly decorated, he might hesitate, if not actually refrain.

Such champions do not lightly risk their own precious hides. We may be, as Katherine Fuller Gerould suggests, coming up to something finer than chivalry, but while we are on the way there still lingers enough of the old way of treating work-mankind to applaud this Pennsylvania police judge for affording a really pleasant interlude.

WHEN NEIGHBORS GET TOGETHER.

The opening of a community house in Florence promises much for the development and progress of the northern section of Omaha. People have only to meet together and understand each other in order to develop a solidarity of spirit and purpose that counts large in civic affairs.

From the standpoint of Omaha it is a fortunate thing there should be such historical units brought into the city by annexation as Florence, Benson, Dundee, South Omaha and the Carter Lake district. These are the natural, actual neighborhoods whose total is a metropolis, and yet each with its distinctive life and characteristics.

The community entertainments given in the schoolhouses about the city during the winter are encouraging this neighborly spirit. The Mothers' circles that center about the schools likewise are a factor. But the establishment of a community hall in Florence is a farther step.

Recreation and assembly rooms there provide for the social needs of the Florence neighborhood. A branch library gives a further feeling of independent identity. In the basement is a room for the boy scouts. The local improvement club is one among many organizations finding a home in this public building. Encouragement is easy now for the formation of a neighborhood orchestra and for entertainment exhibits of various kinds.

It is to be hoped that before the old spirit of neighborhood entity has died down other community halls will be established. The sort of local patriotism that is bred in these districts can be a mighty constructive force, useful alike to the locality and to the city as a whole.

DREAMS OF EMPIRE.

According to the St. Paul Dispatch, an effort will be made to secure from congress a charter that will permit the consolidation of the Burlington, the Northern Pacific, and the Great Northern into one huge railroad system. As a matter of fact, the several lines are operated so closely now that clever inquiry is needed to note the difference from the outside. The plan, however, has some qualities that will get it much attention before it is consummated.

Reference to it as a "dream of an empire builder," by which is meant that James J. Hill sought to bring it about long ago, recalls that eminent leader's endeavor to secure the enactment of the Northern Securities law in Iowa and Nebraska, after failure in the courts. His battle with Harriman for control of the Northern Pacific is one of the most spectacular in transportation history; his acquiring of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy one of the shrewdest railroad bargains ever made, and his development of the lines under his control a proof of his keen vision and daring conception. Hill lacked some of the picturesque attributes of Harriman, but the two had one trait in common—their so-called aggressiveness rested on well judged calculations, and was an evidence of faith in that judgment.

Harriman's system was quickly knocked to bits after his death, by conflict between certain elements of its make-up, for he had taken in more than he had time to tie closely together. Hill concentrated actual ownership of three great railroads in his own hands, and when he passed control remained fixed.

Two of the most profitable railway lines in all the world are the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and the Union Pacific, each a monument to a builder, who could transmit to the visibility of actual figures the potential future of the region his railroad serves, and thus prepare to take care of it. If other railroad magnates had dreamed of empire in the same fashion as did this pair, conditions might have been different. At the outset, the railroads of the country would be ready to do much more of the business that is offered them. Harriman and Hill still stand as excellent examples for men in their line of endeavor.

"From State and Nation"

Editorials from other newspapers.

Democratic Charity.

From the Casper Herald.  
"Giving has been democratized in the last 20 years," says an Associated Charities official. "Once the rich gave to the poor. Now everybody is 'folks' and everybody gives for such as may need service or financial aid."

This aptly describes a remarkable change that may have escaped many people's notice. It is particularly true in cities that have established the "community fund" as a means of pooling charities and contributions and disbursing them efficiently and fairly among worthy institutions and individuals.

There are cities where the gifts to such a fund represent more than half the families. Once the giving would have been confined to less than a tenth as many. And they come to make their subsidy known as a matter of course, just as they pay their taxes or their dues to the club or to labor union. Some give much and other little, but most of them give something to their means, and so are even. It is truly the democratic way.

Eventually the plan may be broadened so that absolutely everybody give in some way or other money or goods or service—and that will be 100 per cent democratic. When that blessed time arrives, perhaps it will not be much longer until the university of helpfulness has wrought a miracle and there is no more need of charity.

Seeing by Radio.

From the Atlanta Journal.  
More and more do the "airy nothings" of Arabian Nights and Fairyland become the wondrous realities of our work-a-day world. The mythical horn, through which an imprisoned prisoner could call to her deliverer a thousand leagues away was materialized years ago as the telephone.

The magic carpet, which many lucky passengers could mount from housetop and sail the skies has come to pass as the airplane. And now the magic tube through which one could behold the world as it appears on the other side of the house, or for the matter of that, on the other side of the world, is about to be realized in rapid if not in actual fact.

So, at least, predicts an English inventor, whose experiments confirm him in the hopes of seeing ere long "by wireless" news dispatches on the subject are disappointingly meager of details, but imagination can easily fill the gap. If it is possible to transmit a photograph by means of radio activity, why not a change of the object itself? (We are not arguing the matter, scientific reader. We would as lief presume to argue with the inventor of the airplane concerning affairs in the empyrean. We are merely surmising.)

There are, however, two or three few of the great world which scientists and inventors have yet to reproduce. They have yet to reproduce the cap of invisibility, the Purse of Potentia, and the great compass of the kettle that chimed with silver bells as it boiled, and revealed to him who thrust his finger into its steam the secret of what all his neighbors were having for dinner. O wonder-bringers, do not disappoint us in these!

Biography and the Motion Pictures.

From the Rocky Mountain News.  
Motion pictures, having been put to about every other use, are now to be employed for the presentation of biographies. A plan, recently announced, includes the filming of the lives of the great composers as a means of stimulating interest in these geniuses and their work. Appropriate musical settings will be provided. It is said, and it may well be, that during the progress of the film to give the spectator some idea of the work accomplished by the subject of the picture.

There is great need for the popularization of the lives of the great composers of music and of other great men. In biography we find not only instruction but inspiration. Unfortunately, much of the biography which has been written has been so dry that it fails to attract the ordinary reader. Of course, when a man of ripe scholarship is asked concerning his reading he will always include biography. But the scholars are the exception. The ordinary man or woman does not, but as for young persons, their knowledge of our great men is limited to brief sketches found in the reading books at school.

It has been demonstrated that the motion picture is an excellent medium for the presentation of biography. It has been given place in many schools and is of special value in the teaching of geography and science. It could be used as a complement to the history courses, and now that some one has conceived the idea of presenting biography by this means, its allotment of pedagogical tasks has been fairly well rounded out.

One cannot help but think of "Diarrei" in this connection. Here was a picture which did play which served a valuable purpose. It presented entertainingly a phase of English history little known to those on this side of the Atlantic. The picture aroused interest in one of the greatest figures of English national life. How many Americans had more than a passing knowledge of the man Beaconsfield before he found his way to the screen? But once there, with this picture being shown wherever there is a picture house, picture theater, Benjamin Disraeli became well-known. It is probable that this picture inspired many to read the story of his life in detail and like wise, perhaps, to read his published works.

If the biographer employed in the making of motion pictures is a real "actor," not a substitute, and prepares their work in the spirit in which George Arliss prepared to act Diarrei, in which the various actors who have been mentioned in this article have prepared themselves for the honor thus assigned them, the plan may well prove a valuable one.

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION

FOR SEPTEMBER, 1922, OF THE OMAHA BEE.  
Daily - - - - - 72,093  
Sunday - - - - - 76,202

B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr.  
ELMER S. ROOD, Cir. Mgr.

Wants to read and subscribe before the 30 day of October, 1922.  
W. H. QUINCY,  
Notary Public

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MUSIC



"The People's Voice"

Editorial from readers of The Morning Bee. Readers of The Morning Bee are invited to use this column freely for expression on matters of public interest.

He Does Not.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Does a man have to cast reflections upon honest, sincere men, whose integrity has never been doubted, to be elected to an office? I notice that Lloyd Magney has said in the World-Herald that he is sure that he and Endres will be elected and is willing to set his case before the people of the county "knowing this unfavorable reflection upon a man who has ever questioned Mr. Endres for the past several years in the offices we seek." I wonder how Abel V. Shotwell feels about this.

Abel V. Shotwell has nearly finished his history of Douglas county for the past several years in the offices we seek." I wonder how Abel V. Shotwell feels about this. He has won the admiration of every citizen during his term of office. Lloyd Magney is the best man I know in Douglas county. He is a man of integrity and has never been questioned by me for nearly four years. If this endorsement by Mr. Shotwell of Henry Beal's candidacy is the cause of Lloyd Magney's unfair exposure, he sure is a poor loser. For he is certain to lose with that kind of unfair campaigning. DIGNIFIED.

A Challenge to Bryan.  
Fairmont, Neb.—To W. J. and Charley Bryan: I noticed in the press of the state a short time ago that Arthur Wray was writing a letter asking you if you thought it morally right for you to support Senator Hitchcock after all the charges you have now signed and bear false witness to his character and his principles in the past.

It is to be regretted that your reply was not given the same publicity as was his letter to you. In common with many of your friends and followers I am intensely interested in your attitude towards those questions and some other questions which I wish to submit to you. First, let me say I have always stood with you in your declared position relative to all moral questions and especially your stand on the Bible as the inspired word of God and your adherence to the principles of righteousness.

Now you are aware that the Bible says "Thou shalt not bear false witness," so I wonder if you think it morally right to go over the state of Nebraska telling the people that Charley Wray was a liar and a cheat, which is absolutely false, and that Charley as governor would reduce taxes 20 per cent, when it is a fact that if Charley were governor and should close the state house and discontinue every state activity, the executive offices, the supreme court, the district courts, the railway commission, the state university, the normal schools, the insane asylums, the pen-

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Bryan's Opinion of Hitchcock

A Wall Street Representative.  
In the Commencement of April, 1920, Bryan gives his frank opinion of Hitchcock as follows:

"The statement of my views explains why I can not support Senator Hitchcock for the democratic presidential nomination. The senator's record follows:

"1. Eight years ago he was the Nebraska representative of the Wall Street group that tried to secure for Governor Harrison the democratic nomination for president and he has since indicated no change of heart. His nomination would be a triumph for Wall Street and a rebuke to the Baltimore convention.

"2. He joined the republican members of the currency committee opposing the currency bill now a law. He stood with Wall Street in fighting this measure, the most important economic reform accomplished by the Wilson administration, and his nomination would be construed as a pledge to put Wall Street in charge of the Federal Reserve system.

"3. He is opposed to prohibition. He opposed it before Nebraska adopted it, and even after Nebraska had adopted it by 29,000 majority, he voted against the submission of the national amendment to the voters. He was voted out of office by the Nebraska legislature with but one dissenting vote. The national amendment has now been ratified by 45 states, including every democratic state, and we are now living under an enforcement law passed by more than two-thirds of the states. Senator Hitchcock has declared for such an amendment of the enforcement law as will restore the use of wine and beer, without defining the alcoholic content, thus reopening the entire question and trying to make the party the champion of an outlawed traffic. His nomination would be an offense to the conscience of the nation. It would make the liquor question the paramount domestic issue and condemn the

tentary, close the soldiers' homes, stop the building of the new state house, road building, etc., he could reduce taxes only 19 per cent.

Do you think it morally right to tell the people of the state that the code law had increased the number of employees in the state house, and as Charley told the women in Omaha, that there are twice as many employees in the state house as there were four years ago when, you must know, if you have investigated the matter, that there are less employees on the payroll of the state at the present time than there were four years ago to do the same work that was being done then.

Do you think it morally right to charge that the code law caused taxes to be three times as high as they were four years ago when a little investigation on your part would show the statement absolutely false and that practically all the increase in state taxes is caused by increased state activities, such as soldiers' relief, roads, the new state house, appropriations for educational, charitable and penal institutions, while the code department brings in more money in fees and fines than they expend.

Do you think it would be more in keeping with the principles of righteousness, even though it may not be good politics, if you were to admit to the people that the work of the 25 boards that existed before the code is being carried on more effectively and at less cost than it was in the past under the unbusinesslike method of that time? Has it ever occurred to you that whether you lose or win you are paying a tremendous price? Who shall it profit a man if he win the governorship and lose his own self respect and that of his associates? GEORGE A. WILLIAMS.

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democratic party to disgrace as well as defeat.

"4. He opposed equal suffrage even after Nebraska had conferred suffrage upon women by statute. He voted against submitting the national suffrage amendment at a time when his vote would have carried the resolution and given to a democratic congress the honor of submitting this great amendment. In so doing he declined to follow the wishes of his constituents expressed by the unanimous vote of the Nebraska legislature. His nomination would doubly offend the women voters of the nation—he would tie the mother's hands and at the same time permit the saloons