

PEACE TREATY AND LEAGUE OF NATIONS—PRO AND CON

FOR

I, therefore, would object to any amendment or reservation that would announce to the world that America does not purpose to assume any responsibility for political conditions in Europe. America is a part of the civilized world, and we cannot safely take an indifferent stand as to important world movements, whether in our quarter of the world or not. America is peculiarly fortunate in possessing the confidence of the world in the integrity of our purpose, and our ability to perform. If we wrap our cloaks about us, fold our arms, and say to the rest of the world, "Take care of yourselves," America will fall in the performance of a great duty and lose her greatest opportunity.

I am, therefore, unqualifiedly for ratification without amendments or reservation, if possible, or with reservations not detracting from the essential powers of the league, if such reservations are necessary to command the necessary majority. If I could save the league without reservation, I would save it. If I could save the league, with reservations not impairing its powers, then I would save it. Ratification is far more important than the particular manner or form of the ratification. America could perform no greater service to civilization than to promptly ratify the treaty and take its place along with the principal modern nations in an endeavor to promote and even compel the judicial settlement of international disputes.

Syracuse University's lacrosse schedule for 1920 will comprise twelve games according to announcement coming from Coach L. D. Cox.

The chart as planned will be one of the most attractive of all University athletic books. Yale, Harvard, Navy, Pennsylvania, Stevens, Crescent A. C., Hobart, and the Onondaga Indians all have places on the Orange lacrosse book. Lehigh, Johns Hopkins, Toronto, Swarthmore and Penn State are prospective opponents of the Hill lacrossers for the spring season.

AGAINST

given four votes out of nine, a material share in the workings of the league, one would think. But here again there is no warrant for believing that any small nation will be gratified at seeing another small one given a seat in this important body. There is no solidarity among the small nations as such. One nation cannot represent another, large or small. The excluded ones will be more restless than ever, and justly so.

It is an additional mistake, in my opinion, to think that any nation can long exercise authority out of proportion to its effective political power. The four small states added to the Big Five are a disturbing factor with little addition of strength. We know how difficult it was to get unity of action on the part of the Big Four. It will not be easier when the Big Four becomes the Big Nine, four of whom ought to sing small, but won't.

Now you may say, "It is easy to find fault, but our mistakes can be corrected later. The main thing is to begin." True, but let us begin modestly, and let us know what we are doing. Don't let us put up a pretentious and misleading facade when there is only a small and a very different kind of building behind it. Don't let us cackle before the egg is laid. We have no disarmament, no world court of justice, no real League of Nations; but an alliance (unnecessarily encumbered with impedimenta) for the enforcement of a French peace—essentially that. You may talk disdainfully if you like about "the old balance of power," but it is what you have now and it is what you will have to the end. That is what politics is, a balance of forces. We are joining an alliance for the enforcement of a French peace.

It is a fairly good peace on the whole, but from the American point of view it has one specially disconcerting provision. It makes us guarantee the boundaries of Eastern Europe, where in many places only arbitrary boundaries can be drawn, and where, say what you will, fighting will some day begin again. Does anyone seriously believe that American

troops will be sent to defend the Greeks, let us say, from the Bulgarians on the Aegean coast? It is at least doubtful, and no nation with self-respect is willing to promise more than it intends to perform. Article ten is, in my opinion, inadmissible and should be modified by a suitable reservation.

Of course it may be argued that no troops will be necessary. No nation or group of nations, it is sometimes said, will dare disobey a mandate of the world. This seems to me the Great Illusion, the Illusion of Illusions which is at the bottom of most activist fallacies. Experience points in the opposite direction. Small nations, when excited, are as a matter of fact as uncontrollable as hornets. Just before the beginning of the Balkan War the Balkan states received an unequivocal mandate from the Concert of Europe forbidding hostilities and announcing that under no circumstances would the Balkan states be permitted to enlarge their boundaries. Notwithstanding this provision, they carried the war to a triumphant conclusion and divided the spoils. At the beginning of the second Balkan war Great Britain notified Turkey that under no circumstances would she be allowed to keep Adrianople if she were so presumptuous as to take it by force of arms. Turkey took the city and kept it. Mandates not backed by force are worthless and the nations of the world show a wholesome dread of burning their fingers, as is shown in their treatment of Russia at the present moment.

It is also argued that wars may be avoided through an appeal to the league for a revision of boundaries where necessary. It has been said, "This treaty provides means for its own improvement." However, when we consider that this is merely an invitation to the disappointed states, who form the great majority, to keep their claims alive, to accept no settlement as final, to keep the "witches' cauldron boiling, the phrase loses some of its charm.

Are these objections to the league an argument for the rejection of the treaty? They would be an argument for the rejection of the league if it stood alone, but since it has been unwarrantably included in the treaty, its rejection seems to be impossible. The consequences of rejection of the whole treaty would be incalculable. We have been deprived of the privilege of passing upon the league alone. The best that can now be done is the adoption of certain moderate reservations, particularly with reference to article ten. I would not be understood as objecting to the league on the ground that it does not provide for a world court, a super-state. On the contrary, these shadowy and half religious conceptions are to me anathema as applied to actual present day conditions. They merely distract our attention from what is practicable. Politics should deal not with those grandiose conceptions, but with an infinity of laborious and rather unmanageable detail.

Shall we accept all the senate reservations? That also is impossible. Some of the senators, in their desire to curry favor with certain partly assimilated nationalities among us, have gone to absurd lengths in offensive anti-British agitation. It makes one ashamed to be found in opposition to the treaty at all. Are you opposed to the British empire as such? Then give them their six votes. It will not be a concession to England, but to the colonies, who are growing up and setting up housekeeping for themselves. For England it is an embarrassment. The British empire is dissolving before our eyes and the independent colonial vote is an outward and visible sign of that fact. I am personally not opposed to the British Empire. Quite the contrary. But I favor the six votes for a different reason. Canada, Australia and New Zealand will support us in some very important matters, notably in Asiatic exclusion; and their influence will bring England to our side. We could well afford to give each of these young nations (they represent being called colonists) a vote in the council instead of the assembly. The more influence they have, the better for us. The best friends we have in the world are to be found in that political aggregation formerly called the British Empire, now beginning to be known as the British Commonwealth.

For the reason thus briefly and inadequately given, I am in favor of ratifying the treaty with moderate reservations.

WANT ADS

LOST—A small loose-leaf note book in Bessey hall, Thursday morning, January 8. Please return to student activities office. 64-31

FOUND—A watch. Owner can recover it by identifying same in 401 Mechanics Arts Hall, and paying for this advertisement.

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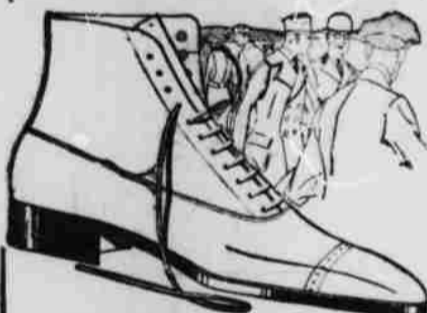
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WILLIAM FOX PRESENTS MUTT and JEFF



MUTT AND JEFF AT THE COLONIAL THIS WEEK

BOARD OF REGENTS MEET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION THURSDAY

The Regents of the University of Nebraska met in executive session Thursday in the Chancellor's office with all members of the board present.

Professor Wm. L. DeBaufre was made chairman of the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering in place of Professor L. W. Chase. The latter was asked to continue as director of tractor tests and adviser in Agricultural Engineering for three months. It is supposed at the end of this time the new plow company with which he is associated will require his entire service. Professor O. W. Sjogren was made chairman of the Dept. of Agricultural Engineering which place Professor Chase has held.

The resignation of Professor E. Mead Wilcox, Professor of Plant Pathology, was accepted to take effect April 1. He will be the director of the experiment station in San Domingo after this date.

A leave of absence was granted to N. A. Bengtson, Professor of Geography & Conservation from January 1 to August 31. W. A. Rockie now in Conservation & Soil Survey is transferred to Geography & Conservation with the title of Assistant Professor and he will take Professor Bengtson's classes during his absence. Professor Bengtson has left for Honduras, where he will be engaged as an expert geologist in some oil investigations.

New appointments were made as follows: C. M. Duff, Assistant Professor of Engineering Drawing in place of J. E. Rasmussen, resigned.

Mrs. Bessie Eneyart Thompson, hostess of Woman's hall; Miss Marjorie Selleck, assistant to Dean of Women; M. M. Lawritson, instructor in Dairy Husbandry; Leland M. Towle, assistant to the Executive Dean.

The regents requested Brown and Miller to look after the interests of the university in the constitutional convention.

The following recommendation of the faculty of the College of Agriculture was approved:

"Moved that it be recommended to the Chancellor and the Board of Regents that the age limit for girls entering the School of Agriculture be put at 16 years and for boys 17 years; with the understanding that the boys must have 3 months farm experience on entrance and an additional three months before he enters the second year. If he is a city boy; also there shall be either a recommendation or certificate of graduation from the principal for all students who come from other high schools."

A delegation of alumni was heard in connection with the athletic situation. The board directed that the chancellor and Regent Brown personally visit such colleges belonging to the Missouri Valley Conference as they saw fit and interview presidents and regents in regard to their attitude towards resuming relations with the university.

Regent J. E. Miller was elected president of the board for the coming year and Regent John R. Webster, vice-president.

The board authorized the architect to proceed with plans for the gymnasium, grandstand and general athletic development. Charles Hodgdon of the firm of Coolidge & Hodgdon, the university architects, was present. Mr. Hodgdon is in the city to discuss the gymnasium and dormitory plans.

Bubbles

As the 1920 maiden would say "Opportunity knocks but once—every four years."

Girls, look before you leap. Be not like the man who took a drink of wood alcohol and said, "I have made a fatal mistake."

All men long for the bonds of matrimony and if their wish is fulfilled they soon want Liberty bonds.

Don't blame a man if he gives you the mitten, but put on your gloves and depart.

The women are not looking for the man with money to burn. What they want is a man with coal to burn.

Signs of leap year: Number of women taking domestic science.

It does not take a second thought to realize why so many men are losing their pins since the first of the year.

Many a young man who plans on marrying a hometown girl may be put in an embarrassing position this year by some co-ed with whom he has utilized the parlors for several consecutive nights.

A girl should never ask a man to share her lot until she has paid for said real estate.

Among the well-known basketball players who have reported for practice with the Marquette basketball squad is Eddy Karst, a dental student who hails from Fond du Lac. Karst was selected forward on the All-American quintet last year by the A. A. U. and is considered one of the best players in the northwest.