

THE FRONTIER

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

By Frank P. Litschert

That the United States Senate will confer no dictatorship on President Roosevelt, at least so far as international affairs are concerned, was evidenced the other day by the outburst of feeling which greeted the newspaper reports that the administration would now insist that the much discussed and much argued World Court resolution be reported out of committee and passed. So great was the commotion, that the sponsors of the resolution postponed action in the committee for a week, and serious doubt was expressed by several Senators as to whether or not the Senate would have a chance to vote on the resolution during this session of Congress.

The principal objection to spending the time of the Senate with the World Court just now is that there are so many more important matters which should be considered. With twelve million Americans jobless, and a great many of the nation's banks in the hands of the conservators, with rail and farm problems yet to be solved, a great many statesmen in both parties are of the opinion that the question of whether or not Uncle Sam enters the League Court can well be left for the future to decide. The League of Nations has lost a great deal of prestige during the past few months, culminating with the withdrawal of Japan, which even the French, who control the League, admit was "unfortunate," and the League Court has lost prestige along with the parent body.

Perhaps the most significant thing about the newly developed opposition to the World Court movement is the fact that a great deal of this opposition comes from Democrats and Independents who supported Mr. Roosevelt very effectively during the 1932 campaign. Senator Hiram Johnson, of California, dean of Republican progressives, who aided Mr. Roosevelt, was outspoken in his opposition to consideration at this time. Senator James Hamilton Lewis, the tutored Democratic Senator from Illinois, declared, "This is no time to call up League Court protocols. Events of the world give warning to the United States that it should go about its own business and should make no alliances or compacts to give other nations a voice of authority in directing affairs of the United States."

Senator Dill, liberal Democrat, declared of consideration of the World Court resolution: "It can only lead to confusion and delay economic recovery. It is my conviction that if the question was submitted to a popular vote, 75 per cent of the American people would vote against it." According to one newspaper, several of the newly seated Democratic senators are against ratification of the League Court resolution. Among those specifically named were McCarran of Nevada, Bone of Washington, Russel of Georgia, Dieterich of Illinois and Lonergan of Connecticut.

Washington political observers attached significance to an editorial which appeared on the front page of the Washington Herald, William Randolph Hearst's morning paper in the national capital, the day following the announcement that the World Court resolution was about to be taken up and considered. The Hearst newspapers were among the most active and consistent supporters of Roosevelt and Garner in the 1932 campaign. Under the caption "This Is No Time for League Court Folly" the Herald said:

"Senate Democrats will jeopardize the success of the Roosevelt program for the restoration of prosperity if they attempt to jam through the ratification at the present special session of the League Court protocols.

"These protocols do not provide any relief for our twelve million unemployed fellow citizens.

"These protocols will not reopen any of our closed banks or release to depositors any of their hard-earned savings which are tied up in these banks.

"These protocols will not purge our banking system, nationalize our transportation system, reduce our unemployment, rehabilitate the American

farmer or relieve the American taxpayer.

"To attempt the ratification of the League Court protocols in this national emergency would plunge the Senate into a prolonged debate and divert the minds of the American people from their own pressing problems to the political quarrels of Europe and Asia.

"To force the United States into the League of Nations by the trap-door of its Court at the very time when Japan is leaving the League through the front door, would be an act of national folly that could and should cost the Democratic Party the control of the House in 1934 and control of the Senate and Presidency in 1936.

"It would seem that the idol of gold has feet of clay."

CANCELLATION DRIVE

STARTED BACK IN 1920

Propaganda for cancellation of the European debts owed to the United States was launched as far back as 1920 and has been continuing ever since, according to Arthur R. Robinson, United States senator from Indiana, who writes convincingly on the debt subject in the current issue of the National Republic. In describing the methods of the propagandists, Senator Robinson says in part:

"In the drive for cancellation we have seen the execution of several well defined methods of attack. Europe first intimated that we should be the great idealists we had shown ourselves in lending the money and 'be a good fellow' and forget about the debts. But America with huge expenses of running the government was not so anxious to be a good fellow. We could not tell our thousands of bond holders to be good fellows and forget about their claims for payment.

"Since we were not destined to be motivated by such high-sounding altruism, Europe began to abuse and vilify us. They abused us in the press, in the street, and in bitterly satirical cartoons. But abuse got them nowhere even if it is continuing. What was the next attack tried by the cancellationists?

"After Germany had paid until she could pay no more, France and Britain made a gesture in what has come to be known as the Lausanne agreement, whereby the German indemnity was to be reduced ninety per cent. This sounded well at the time it was announced but it developed later that there was a joker in the gesture. France and Britain had entered into a gentleman's agreement, the terms of which provided that the Lausanne agreement should become effective only in the event America could be induced to reduce the foreign debts in the same amount, namely, ninety per cent. Of course, the debtor nations attempt to link reparations with war debts.

"This condition is unsound. In the first place, there was no such idea in the minds of the high contracting parties when the agreement was entered into. In the second place, reparations exacted from Germany represent war indemnities demanded by conquerors from a vanquished people, while the obligations due this country from European nations represent money loaned which they promised to pay back on demand. In the third place, America did not participate in dividing the spoils of war. Reparations is entirely the business of Europe, but indebtedness due this country from European nations is very much our business.

"Altruism and abuse having failed, the new approach begins. They now appeal to our greed. We are in the midst of a world-wide depression and want to get out. Our debtors have a ready solution; cancel all war debts and, presto—the world will be rolling merrily along back to prosperity.

"If it were but that, perhaps prosperity would be worth the price but the cold facts are that it simply isn't true. Thus cancellation is offered as a magic solution and with the temper of the world awaiting any sort of panacea it is no wonder that this thesis has some followers. The amazing thing is that so many of our leading publicists and usually well balanced journalists have been taken in by this specious logic. Let us examine the facts.

"We are told that insistence on debtors' nations' fulfilling their obligations will cause a world economic collapse. I fear that 'world collapse' is another phase of the new lexicon of highbrow economics that will not stand the test of logic."

THERE MUST BE TAX REDUCTION

In 1930 the population of the United States was a trifle less than twice that of 1890.

The national wealth was six times as great.

The tax collections of government, federal, state and local, were 12 times the 1890 level. An 827 per cent increase was registered by the federal government, with state and local taxes jumping 1,754 per cent and 1,139 per cent respectively.

Since 1930 taxes have continued to increase. National income has taken an appreciable drop. There has been little change in population. At the moment, more of the individual and

business dollar goes to government than at any other time in our history. During 1933 it is estimated that taxes will take at least 30 per cent of the national income.

Taxation is as serious an economic problem as we have ever faced. There has been, on the one hand, an unprecedented collapse in incomes and values—on the other, an unprecedented orgy of government spending and indebtedness. Until taxes are reduced, there can be no recovery—unless taxes are reduced we face a bleak future.

DOLLARS COME HOME

Trace the course of a dollar spent for property improvement, repairs, or replacement.

Part of it goes to local merchants, who provide needed materials. Another part goes to the workman on the job.

The workman spends his part for the necessities of life. The corner grocery, the drug store, the department store get it—and through them it goes to their employees, to the farmer and the manufacturer. Then the circle begins again—the money enters new pockets, passes through other industries, travels to other sections of the country.

The part of the dollar going to the store providing the supplies follows much the same course. It pays the store's workers. It pays bills. It goes to factories to purchase new stock. From the factory it goes to other workmen, to related industries, supplying raw materials, to investors.

And, at last, the dollar comes back, through one channel or another, to the original spender.

In a short length of time that dollar has had a thousand uses. It has done the work of a thousand dollars.

That's the beauty of money which is actually circulating—it is used an infinite number of times, and it does as much good each time.

Now is the time to obtain needed repairs at the lowest cost in decades—and at the same time do your bit in fighting depression.

Jobs are cheaper than charity—and without the jobs, there won't be anything for charity.

NEED OF COOPERATION

Washington Times: Mr. Julian, Democratic committeeman from Ohio, says Governor Roosevelt "has much need of cooperation," which is true. Mr. Julian also believes "the same type of assistance accorded President Wilson during the World War must precede the emergence of America from depression."

If there is to be a repetition of that "type of assistance," Hearst save Uncle Sam.

President Wilson received very complete cooperation, shipping 3,000,000 Americans to Europe and ten thousand million American dollars, spending a billion on floating ships that never went to sea and other billions on "cost plus contracts" under which "the more you charged Uncle Sam for raw materials the more you made."

The country is now struggling to pay for and live down the "type of assistance" that President Wilson used so lavishly. The kind Lord forbid another dose of it.

SWANSON'S NAVY PROGRAM

Los Angeles Times: Plans of Secretary of the Navy Swanson to gain the treaty ratio for the United States Navy, either by building up to the Treaty of London limits or by inducing other nations to reduce their strength, is apt to be generally approved. The plans involve no inconsistency with the position of the United States at any time in the past. The naval holiday was a guarantee of this nation's good faith in seeking general disarmament, but the slowness of other nations to follow suit constitutes a new fact in the situation.

This new fact seems to require a change in policy. If it is true, as naval experts assert, that the navy will be 135 vessels short by 1936 of the strength permitted by the London Treaty some method of equalization becomes highly desirable. Which method is to be adopted, as Secretary Swanson remarks, is a problem of the State Department.

Such action on our part, of course, constitutes no threat to any other nation and cannot be construed as a preparation for war. It is a simple defensive measure. The United States Navy is the first line of defense of the United States, a nation with one of the longest coast lines in the world, and a necessity for keeping open the sea lines of communication between its coasts. A navy adequate to the defense of that coast line and of our commerce in proper proportion to the other fleets of the world, is necessary in a world which cannot yet rely upon treaties to maintain the peace.

Whether the parity with the London ratios can be reached by the reduction method is a question to which positive answer cannot be given, but it seems improbable that efforts in this direction will be successful. It would be the sensible and logical method, particularly in view of the dislocation of the world's economic system which makes naval expenditure burdensome upon everyone. The world, however, does not run on logical lines.

Costly as the navy is, it is relatively cheap insurance, and this country cannot afford to let its insurance lapse.

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

During and since the bank holidays the best news of each week has been of a psychological character. It has three phases: Faith in the new Administration, demonstrated by the support it is being given by organizations and individuals of all political divisions; confidence in the future of the country; a belief that recovery is underway. Most important of these is confidence. So far as the public mind generally is concerned, the days of gloom are over. The spirit of inertia that gripped so many millions a few months ago, has been replaced by a spirit of aggressiveness and action.

This spirit is naturally reflected in the attitude of industrial organisms. Of great interest is a survey recently made by a press association among the major industries of the country. It produced opinion as follows:

Steel—Prospect for recovery brighter than at any time in past few years.

Metals—An unmistakable return of confidence is felt.

Cement—Slow but certain change for the better anticipated.

Machinery—Stimulated sales looked for.

Meat Products—Supplies on hand not excessive, and price rise expected.

Flour—Moderate price advance, at least, assured.

Textiles—Greater buying activity and firmer price levels anticipated.

Department Stores—Predict rise in prices.

Shoes and Leather—Any change will be up not down.

These forecasts reflect the attitude of leaders of most other industries.

The Department of Agriculture forecasts a general reduction in acreage of major crops this year. Decreases of 3.5 per cent in corn for harvest; 3 per cent in spring wheat and in oats; 13 per cent in flax-seed, rice and sweet potatoes; 5.4 per cent in potatoes are indicated. Contrary to the general trend is tobacco, for which a 22 per cent increase in acreage is predicted.

Farm leaders made a dramatic move when, led by Secretary Wallace, they called on President Roosevelt and asked him to request Congress for dictatorial powers in the matter of farm products. Under their proposed legislation, the President would have absolute power in fixing the price of wheat, corn, cotton, hogs, cattle, dairy products, etc. Purpose of the legislation would be to bring about parity of prices between agricultural and industrial commodities. The proposal, if it became a law, would give President Roosevelt even greater powers than were given President Wilson under the Food Administration Act made necessary by the war.

Farm mortgages remain a pressing agricultural problem. The Administration will give every effort to finding means of equitably solving it. It is not, however, a new problem. A survey has shown, for example, that 45.2 per cent of all farms in New York are under mortgage—and this is precisely the same percentage that was mortgaged in 1900. Best year was 1925, when the percentage dropped to 38.7. Farm prices have remained fairly steady, and there have been a number of advances. It is doubtful if any major recession will set in.

Aftermath of the banking difficulties is a drive to bring all of the 12,000 state banks into the Federal Reserve System. Some observers hold that this is not enough—in 1932, over 80 per cent of bank failures involved banks of less than \$200,000 capital and they believe this to be proof of a need for extension of branch banking. Others point to the fact that thousands of small banks are excellently managed, and are as sound or sounder than many big banks, and hold that banking legislation should simply seek to eliminate poor management and dubious practices, whether the product of dishonesty or inexperience.

The Supreme Court's decision in the Appalachian Coals case is of importance to other industries, principally lumber. Appalachian Coals was central selling agency for more than 130 producers of bituminous coal. The government brought suit against it on the grounds of violating the anti-trust laws. The Supreme Court decided against the government, and held the concern to be legal.

The lumber industry now has underway plans for forming a similar agency for handling forest products. This will make possible elimination of tremendous waste in present methods of selling and distributing, and likewise the elimination of much destructive competition which has disrupted the industry.

Present conditions in the industry are fairly good. Inventories are down, orders exceed shipments. An increase has been reported by Douglas fir mills.

MUTE WISDOM

Dayton Daily News: "As a general rule the man who says 'I say what I think' would, if he lived up to that statement, be rather silent."

JAPAN AND ARMAMENTS

San Diego Union: Japan will not quit the Disarmament Conference, but believes the way to get rid of armaments is to wear them out.

DUST AND DEPRESSION

Indianapolis News: They are dodging depression effects with gold dust in Alaska. It is a little awkward to handle, but wholly convincing.

UNWELCOME THOUGHT

Memphis, Mo., Democrat: Just think, we breathe the very air through which some of these radio programs come.

THE CABINET TRICK

Oakland Tribune: These are the days when the small boy who was conspicuous in his town because he could name the cabinet officers must learn the trick all over.

AN OMISSION

Philadelphia Evening Bulletin: Greeting card makers fell down on their job when they failed to get out anything appropriate to the bank holiday.

BLIND WARDS

Louisville Courier Journal: The "blind pig" and the "blind tiger" will be put under the supervision of the states by the latest federal prohibition order. The animals will continue to be fed by the public.

ON THE SIDE

The depression is not over yet. A mountain blew up in Colorado the other day.

The return of beer ought to help the hairpin industry. The bartenders will need bobby pins for their moustaches.

It is said that the quaint old custom of throwing beer mugs at the umpire is to be revived at St. Louis and Cincinnati this year.

A lot of fellows who kick on their income tax will be willing to contribute to the government through the beer tax.

The poet who wanted to know what was so rare as a day in June can now have his answer. It's a shiny new automobile on the road in April.

The Japs have checked out of the League of Nations and they took all their baggage with them, including their mandated islands in the Pacific.

Newfoundland is offering Labrador for sale. Trying to get rid of her frozen assets, so to speak.

Is this new plan for refinancing encumbered farms calculated to help the farmers or the noteholders?

ATKINSON WORLD WAR VETERAN HONORED.

Graphic: Tony Leach, Atkinson veteran of the World War, has been honored by the U. S. government with the award of the Purple Heart. Tony received the medal last week and recognition of the award and honor will be made soon by John Farley Post American Legion.

Tony saw four months of action and hard fighting in a field artillery unit in France. He volunteered for overseas duty shortly after arriving at a U. S. training camp and had but very little military training when he went into action with his outfit. One day at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon he was badly wounded by shrapnel. He laid in the field until midnight before being rescued and sent to a hospital.

Doorbell Ringer: I'm a young man who is taking subscriptions for Harpo's Bazoos so as to make enough to go to college.

Man at Door: You've struck the right place. This is a college. Come right in.—Pathfinder.

Mrs. Gossip: I understand you let your husband have a latchkey. Is that right?

Mrs. Peck: Yes, I do allow Henry to carry a key, to humor him. He likes to show it to his friends and make them think he's independent. But it doesn't fit the door.—Pathfinder.

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Use only half as much as is required of some others

MILLIONS OF POUNDS USED BY OUR GOVERNMENT

COUNCIL OAK STORES

YOUR FRIEND AT MEAL TIME

PAAS EGG DYES, 2 DIME PACKAGES	15c
ROLLED OATS, 9 POUND BAG	15c
POWDERED SUGAR, 2 POUND BAG	12c
Economy FRUITS	
Farmers should keep physically fit during planting season by eating lots of fruit. The economical way to buy fruit is in large near gallon or No. 10 cans.	
APRICOTS, Per Can	39c
BLACKBERRIES, Per Can	39c
RED PITTED CHERRIES, Per Can	39c
PEACHES, sliced or halves, Per Can	39c
BARTLETT PEARS, Per Can	39c
ROBB ROSS CAKE FLOUR	19c
PER PACKAGE	
Baker's Premium CHOCOLATE	21c
HALF-LB. CAKE	
SUPERB BRAND Cream Tarter	15c
2 DIME CANS	
WET AND DRY SHRIMP	10c
PER CAN	
FLOUR	Just Arrived. One Carload of our famous PANTRY PRIDE Flour. Per Bag 89c
SUGAR	Fine Granulated, With Order 10 POUNDS FOR 46c
SALAD FRUITS	
Everybody at the table can enjoy their favorite fruit without waste from these small cans of quality fruits in heavy syrup. Apricots, Peaches, Bartlett Pears, Strawberries, Red Raspberries and Prunes. Also the right quantity of Fruit for Gelatine dessert.	
8-OUNCE CAN	5c
SUBJECT TO STOCK	
ONION SETS	Red, Yellow and White 2 lbs. - 15c
SALMON, Alaska Pink	TALL CAN 10c
PALMOLIVE	Same size, same quality, same olive oil content and same school girl complexion. 2 CAKES 11c
SEED POTATOES	GENUINE U. S. NO. 1 Arrange for your supply at once at Council Oak.