

A SHOCK TO THE COUNTRY

SENATOR HITCHCOCK SO CHARACTERIZED SENATOR KNOX'S ATTACK ON PEACE TREATY.

INSANE FOREIGN POLICY

Amendment or Defeat of the Treaty Would Be Commercial and Financial Disaster for America, Says Nebraska Senator.

Washington (Special)—Declaring that any amendment to the treaty of peace, good or bad, reasonable or unreasonable, means the defeat of the treaty with all its disastrous consequences, Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska made a powerful speech in the senate today urging that the treaty be ratified without delay and without amendment.

Referring to the recent speech of Senator McCumber, republican of North Dakota, who voted against the Shantung amendment in the foreign relations committee, Senator Hitchcock said:

"He has shown that the proposed amendment, instead of helping China, deprives her of the benefit of the promises and concessions the United States has exacted from Japan. He has shown that Japan is already in possession of the German rights, privileges, and leaseholds. He has also shown that Great Britain and France are under pledge to Japan to stand by her in her claim, and he has challenged the supporters of the proposed amendment to show how China can possibly be benefited unless when we reject Japan's promises we propose to go to war with her and drive her out of Shantung for the benefit of China.



SENATOR HITCHCOCK

"I think the senator from North Dakota conclusively demonstrated the folly of the proposed amendment as far as it concerns China and the danger that it involves to the United States."

Senator Hitchcock then explained the inevitable results if the senate should vote in favor of the Shantung amendment or any other. He said that one of two things would happen—either the president would refuse to go further with the treaty or he would have to submit the amendment to the nations associated with the United States in the war.

"Does any one believe," asked the senator, "that the other nations would accept the Shantung amendment?" He pointed out that Great Britain has already ratified the treaty and is under pledge to Japan with reference to Shantung; that France is soon to ratify the treaty and is under the same pledge to Japan.

"Does any one suppose that Japan herself would submit to such a humiliation before the eyes of the world?" asked Hitchcock. "The answer is simple," he asserted. "We would find ourselves out in the cold, isolated from the rest of the world."

"What, then, will the United States do? What will those American statesmen propose who stand for this method of killing the treaty? Some of them will say that congress can pass a joint resolution declaring a state of peace with Germany. Others say the United States can negotiate a separate and independent treaty of peace with Germany. Those who talk this way evidently have no conception of the enormous benefits and advantages which the United States derives from this treaty, which we wrung from Germany at the cannon's mouth. Neither have they any conception of the difficulties involved in negotiating a new treaty with Germany to establish the terms of peace and settle the controversies of the war.

"To my mind, it would be suicidal for the United States to throw away the advantages and benefits provided in this treaty. It would be disastrous commercially and financially. It would put us at an enormous disadvantage in our international relations, not only with Germany but with those nations which we would thus desert. They would remain bound together by ties of mutual interest, they would enjoy the benefits of the treaty and would not be slow to take every advantage of them. They would resent our desertion.

"Up to this point, I have discussed the possible defeat of the treaty by

means of proposed amendments to it. That is the real program and hope of the majority of the committee on foreign relations. It is for that purpose that the treaty has been locked up in cold storage for so many weeks. The enemies of the league of nations in the senate are not many compared to its friends, but they control the committee. They have felt justified in retaining the treaty in their committee, holding useless hearings and making killing amendments with the full knowledge that amendments would beat the treaty just as effectively as a refusal to ratify.

"A few, a very few, senators have declared that they would vote against the treaty because of the league of nations, but it has remained for the senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Knox) to declare boldly against our participation in the treaty settlement.

"To say that he has amazed the country is to put it mildly—he has shocked the country.

"Strangely enough, after months of time and a number of speeches in which his attack on the treaty has been on account of Article I, which contains the league of nations, he now takes a new position. He formerly favored taking the league of nations out of the treaty and ratifying the peace settlement with Germany. Now he suddenly changes front, declares in favor of deserting the nations associated with us in the war and advocates an unconditional peace or a negotiated peace with Germany.

"Was there ever a more insane international policy proposed? In the mixture of poltroonery and folly it is difficult to see which predominates Senator Knox goes the limit. He not only proposes that we desert our friends and abandon our obligations, but he suggests that we release Germany from all promises of indemnities and reparations.

"Why not go further and propose that we compensate Germany? That would be a still stronger appeal to German sentiment.

Senator Hitchcock said that he had full faith that the treaty would receive different treatment in the senate than it has in the foreign relations committee. "In the senate," he said, "there are few men who favor deserting the cause of civilization until the victory in the field has been rendered permanent by a peace settlement with ample guarantees. In the senate are few senators who favor releasing Germany from all responsibility of the war, few senators willing to sacrifice the material interests of the United States which this treaty alone can protect."

In concluding what was without doubt one of the ablest speeches that has been made in the senate for ratification of the treaty without amendment, Senator Hitchcock said:

"I cannot close without a few words on the league of nations feature of the treaty, which has been so persistently and unreasonably attacked in this chamber. To most of these attacks I have listened. They have varied somewhat, but they all have one characteristic in common—a tremendous exaggeration of possible disadvantages to this country.

"Those who conjure upon these possible disadvantages seem to ignore altogether the enormous advantages of organizing the world for peace. They appear to have lost sight of the horrors, evils and dangers of war while in the contemplation of possible disadvantages under the league of nations. They make mountains out of mole hills in reviewing difficulties in the league plan. They are suspicious that while it may benefit every other nation on earth, it is so devised as to bring disaster to the United States. They crawl upon the ground with a microscope, searching for pitfalls and are unable to look forward to the promised land of peace and order and justice to which the new movement leads."

COMMAND HAVE POWER.

Washington.—Military commanders must have the power to bring summary justice to men who show a tendency to quit their commands on the eve of battle. Major General John F. O'Ryan, commanding the New York national guard, declared before a senate military sub-committee considering the Chamberlain bill proposing a general revision of the system of military justice. Hope of reward, pride and patriotism, he said, are among the things that stimulate soldiers to courage in battle, but under them will follow any shirking of the fight.

General O'Ryan was a member of the board headed by Major General Kernan of the regular service which has submitted a report endorsed by the war department proposing modifications of the articles of war and the court martial system, but disapproving the radical changes outlined in the Chamberlain bill.

Under interrogation by Senator Chamberlain, author of the bill, General O'Ryan said he agreed that the "meat of this thing" lay in the creation of an appellate power somewhere which could relieve soldiers of the stigma of conviction if that appeared for the fair thing to do, instead of leaving it at present, a question for executive clemency, which could take away the punishment but not the conviction.

CEREALS FOR THE UNITED STATES.

Buenos Aires.—Ten steamers are in the ports of Buenos Aires, Rosario and Bahia, loading cargoes of cereals for the United States.

An Absurd and Futile Proposal

If the Senate as a whole does not repudiate the action of its Foreign Relations Committee on the Shantung issue, it will not only exceed its constitutional powers, but will stand committed to a decision which it cannot possibly enforce. The deliberate insult to Japan, whose good faith the Committee impeaches is, perhaps, the least important phase of the situation as it now impends. The Japanese government, which has pledged itself to restore Chinese sovereignty in Shantung, may well attribute a hostile attitude on the part of the Senate to political motives, and therefore ignore it entirely. The European governments which assented to the Shantung arrangement, would doubtless take a similar course. Japan would remain in possession of Shantung, and the Senate would have on its hands a rewritten treaty not worth the paper and ink used in its construction.

If the Senate Republicans do not like the Shantung settlement they can say so in a resolution withholding assent. That policy might be of no value to China, but at least it would not put the United States in the position of attempting to reverse the terms of a treaty provision adopted by the Peace Conference. What the majority of the Foreign Relations Committee proposes to do is to write an entirely new section into the treaty, regardless of the fact that the purpose therein embodied cannot be made effective short of a declaration of war against Japan.

Was there ever a more absurd or futile proposal than this? The very suggestion of it reveals the depths of folly and obstinacy to which the Republican partisans are willing to descend in their effort to destroy the work of the Peace Conference, to hamstring the Administration and to create issues for the next Presidential campaign.—Brooklyn Eagle.

HOLDING BONDS IS THRIFT.

Selling Liberty Issues for Less Than They Are Worth Is the Height of Folly.

Two things are true when a Liberty Bond changes hands for less than the highest market price. One person is selling something for less than its value; another person is lucky in striking a bargain; one is a chump, the other is fortunate.

You may argue the one is forced to sell. Possibly true, but his banker will lend him nearly the amount of his invested capital on his bond, or will show him a way to get the highest possible value.

The record of the sale and purchase of Liberty Bonds shows one thing plainly, that virtually all the Liberty Bonds that are sold are finding their way into the hands of thrifty persons who realize that the bonds are selling for less than their real value. These purchasers will hold the bonds until maturity when they will be at par, and undoubtedly at considerably above par in nearly every case.

If there is a more decided example of thrift than this, the Treasury Department at Washington would like to know of it.

ALL MUST SUPPORT LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The Covenant of the League of Nations will create a situation which will at least greatly restrict and lessen the chances of war between nations. Disputes between individuals are settled by our courts and we assume as a matter of course that no one shall turn to physical force. The present war has brought before mankind, more vividly than anything else in history, the folly and waste and crime of war. We see its terrible devastation; we see its terrible sufferings. All civilized mankind will struggle for years to come under the burdens of this war. With our advance in education, with our means of disseminating information, we certainly have reached the point where public judgment should support an understanding between nations that tends to throw up barriers in the path of forces gathering for war.

That the covenant of the League of Nations itself presents a real constructive method which undoubtedly will greatly tend to restrict war must be admitted by all. As such, all should give it help and support.

ANDREW J. PETERS, Boston, Mass. Mayor of Boston

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Attention Farmers!

The large amount of wheat coming in to our elevator daily, since the threshing season has opened has crowded our storage bins and compelled us to make shipments almost every day. Occasionally there are days when it is impossible for us to get cars. If you contemplate marketing your wheat phone us in advance so we may be ready to receive it, or tell you just what day to haul it in to us. This will be a great convenience to us, and will only mean a delay of a day or two for you. Remember when you sell your grain you not only get the highest market price for it, with honest weights and tests, but you also receive your PRO-RATE on the profits derived from the sale of your wheat to the commission firm. This will more than repay you for the delay. Do our competitors share the profits with you?

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