

George Washington and Thomas Jefferson Their Views on a League of Nations

By H. R. SPENCER

While the question is under consideration whether the league of nations treaty should be ratified or not by the United States senate, it is interesting to note the attitude toward alliances with European countries, of two of the early presidents of the United States—George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, whose theory of government in many respects was the prototype of the two prevailing political parties of today.

Washington's Address. "Against the insidious wiles of foreign influence, the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake, since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of republican government. The great rule of conduct for us in regard to foreign nations is, in extending our commercial relations, to have as little political connection as possible. Europe has a set of primary interests which to us have none, or a very remote relation. Therefore, it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves by artificial ties in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics, or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities.

"Why forego the advantage of so peculiar a situation (as ours)? Why quit our own to stand upon foreign ground? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European am-

bition, rivalry, interest or caprice? "It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world."

Stand By Jefferson. The attitude which the United States should take toward European countries was more forcibly, and more frequently, expressed by Thomas Jefferson. In a letter to Elbridge Gary, he says: "I am for free commerce with all nations, political connections with none. I am not for linking ourselves by new treaties with the quarrels of Europe, or entering that field of slaughter to preserve their balance, or joining in their confederacy of kings to war against the principles of liberty."

In a letter to E. Carrington, he says: "It is a maxim with us, and I think it a wise one, not to entangle ourselves with the affairs of Europe." In a letter to T. Lomax, under date of March, 1799, Jefferson writes: "I sincerely join you in abjuring all political connection with every foreign power, and, though I cordially wish well to the progress of liberty in all nations, and would forever give it the weight of our countenance, yet they are not to be touched without contamination from their bad principles."

Commerce Only. In a letter to Edward Rutledge, in 1797, Jefferson writes: "As to everything except commerce, we ought to divorce ourselves from all foreign alliances. This system will require time, temper, and occasional sacrifice of interest, and how far all of these will

be ours, our children may see, but we shall not." In a letter to John Taylor, in 1798, he says: "Better keep together as we are, hands off from Europe, as soon as we can, and from all attachments to any portions of it."

In a letter to George Logan, under date of March, 1801, Jefferson writes: "To take part in European conflicts would be to divert our energies from creation to destruction. It ought to be the very first object of our pursuit to have nothing to do with European interests and politics. Let them be free, or slaves, at will; navigators or agriculturists; swallowed into one government, or divided into a thousand, we have nothing to fear from them in any form."

In a letter to Philip Mazzi, written in July, 1804, Jefferson says: "It is against our system to embarrass ourselves with treaties, or to entangle ourselves at all with the affairs of Europe." "We believe that with nations, as with individuals, dealings may be carried on as advantageously, perhaps more so, while their continuance depends on voluntary good treatment, as if fixed by a contract which, while it becomes injurious to either, is made by forced constructions to mean what suits them, and becomes a cause of war instead of a bond of peace."

Alliances With None. In his first address, President Jefferson said: "Honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none. I deem one of the essential principles of our government, and, consequently, one which ought to shape its administration."

In a letter to Thomas Paine, written in 1801, he says: "Determined as we are to avoid if possible wasting the energies of our people in war and destruction, we should avoid implicating ourselves with the powers of Europe, even in support of principles which we mean to pursue. They have so many other interests different from ours that we must avoid being entangled in them."

To Thomas Leiper, in 1885, he writes: "The less we have to do with the amities or enmities of Europe, the better."

In a letter to J. Corna, in 1820, he says: "All entanglements with that quarter of the globe (Europe) should be avoided if we mean that peace and justice shall be the polar star of the American societies. The fundamental principle of our government is never to entangle us with the broils of Europe."

In a letter to George Logan, written in 1801, Jefferson says: "I join you in a sense of the necessity of restoring freedom to the ocean, but I doubt with you whether the United States ought to join in an armed confederacy for that purpose,

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or rather, I am satisfied they ought not." Interests Different. In a letter to President Monroe, in 1820, long after Jefferson had retired to the quietude of private life, and with opportunity of reflection on the plan and operation of our constitutional form of government, he writes: "I have ever deemed it fundamental for the United States never to take active part in the quarrels of Europe; their political interests are entirely distinct from ours; their mutual jealousies, their balance of power, their complicated alliances, their forms and principles of government, are all foreign to us; they are nations of eternal war."

In a letter to Baron Von Humboldt, written in December, 1813, Jefferson says: "European nations constitute a separate division of the globe; their treaties make them part of a distinct system; they have a set of interests of their own, in which it is our business never to engage ourselves. "America has a hemisphere to itself; it must have its separate system of interests, which must not be subordinated to those of Europe."

In an address at Washington, May 6, 1914, President Wilson spoke in terms that should appeal to every patriotic American. He said: "America should live her own life. Washington saw it when he wrote his farewell address. It was not merely because of passing and transient circumstances that Washington said that we must keep from entangling alliances; it was because he saw that no country had yet set its face in the same direction which America had set her face. We cannot form alliances with those who are not going our way. We need not, and we should not, form alliances with any nation in the world. Those who are right, those who hold their honor higher than their advantage, do not need alliances."

should, therefore, have a system of its own, separate and apart from that of Europe."

Refused England's Offer. During the administration of President Monroe the government of Great Britain addressed a communication to the United States in which it sought to join hands with this country in a sort of protectorate over the western continent, to the effect that the United States and England should issue a joint declaration announcing that while the two governments desired for themselves no portion of the Spanish-American colonies, then in revolt against Spain, they would not view with indifference any foreign intervention in their affairs. This proposition to join England in a league of two nations was declined by President Monroe. He took the position that the United States alone is most interested in the affairs of the western continent, and, in a message to congress, under date of December 2, 1823, said:

"With the movements on this hemisphere, we are of necessity more immediately connected, and by more causes, which must be obvious to all enlightened and impartial observers. We owe it, therefore, to candor and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and these (European) powers to declare that we should consider an attempt on their part to extend their systems to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety. "We could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them (American countries) or controlling in any other manner their destiny by any European power, in any other light than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States. "Our policy in regard to Europe, which was adopted at an early stage of the wars which have so long agitated that quarter of the globe, nevertheless remains the same, which is, not to interfere in the internal concerns of any of its powers. "It is impossible that the allied powers should extend their political system to any portion of either continent without endangering our peace and happiness. "This is the language of Thomas Jefferson in a letter to President Monroe.

Should Stand Alone. "Our first and fundamental maxim should be never to entangle ourselves in the broils of Europe; our second, never to suffer Europe to intermeddle with cis-Atlantic affairs. America, north and south, has a set of interests distinct from those of Europe, and peculiarly its own. It is possible to clear out a Ford oil pipe which has become clogged by taking off the front gear plate, which discloses the can gear, and this is removed with a puller. Now the end of the pipe is exposed, and to this an air hose is connected, and the air is turned on and the obstruction is blown out. Without this little trick it is necessary to tear down the engine to get at an obstruction of this kind. "Cutting Glass Circles. It is possible to break out circles of glass, such as lenses for headlights, by making a number of straight cuts from the edge of the glass and breaking these sections out one at a time. Be careful not to cut inside the line of the circle to be cut.

Railroad Swindler Runs School of Crime in Omaha

Claim Agent Discovers Organized Plan to Defraud Company on Fake Claims for Damages Due to Personal Injuries to Employees.

At times during their existence, in all great cities there have been schools maintained where crooks have taught to both young and old the proper methods to adopt in order to become experts in the commission of crime. Presumably Omaha has not been an exception to the rule. However, one of these schools was recently forced to close its doors, immediately after which the master in charge sought other fields.

Until a few months ago railroads were swamped with personal injury claims of parties afflicted with ruptures and hernia. They were coming in thick and fast and the railroads were settling their claims. Sam Peterson, general claim agent for the Union Pacific, ordered the payment of a number of claims of track men, who contended that while working out on the lines, by reason of the hard work exacted of them, they were sufferers from rupture and hernia. Finally the claims became so numerous that Peterson started an investigation and the outcome of that investigation was that during the last six months not a man afflicted with rupture or hernia has put in an appearance along the lines of the Overland system.

In pursuing his investigations, Peterson discovered that here in Omaha there was being maintained a school where those attending as students were instructed in the art of beating a railroad. Men who had previously contracted hernia, or who had been ruptured were hunted for both high and low, the "school master" paying a premium for the names of all such. They were brought to Omaha, and obtained positions with the Union Pacific as track and section men. For a few days they did their work well and then came the inevitable hernia,

or rupture. In each instance it was a clear case against the company. By some hook or crook, Peterson was admitted to the school as a student. There he learned how the railroad company with which he was connected was being cheated by sharpers. With this information, he told the "master" that unless he closed his school and left town inside of 24 hours he would be looking through the bars. The "school master" needed only half of this time, for inside of 12 hours he was gone and his whereabouts have not since been discovered. As a result of the "school" closing, it has been weeks since a hernia, or rupture, damage claim has been presented to the Union Pacific.

Splicing Fuel Pipe. Cut the ends of the pipes to be joined on a bevel, being sure to bevel them alike so that they will make a tight juncture. This can be accomplished with a hack saw and a file. Clean the ends of the pipes with sandpaper and then place them together. Next wind No. 18 copper wire, or door bell wire, with insulation removed, over the splice, being sure to wind tight, and close together. Solder with flame or iron and sweat solder in between the wires and on end of winding. This makes a strong splice and one that will last.

Drop Light Arrangement. A convenient arrangement for taking up slack in drop light cords is to put the cord on two pulleys placed at convenient locations. The cord should be fastened at two places to pieces of heavy twine, clothes line will do, and then a weight is hung on each end of the line. The cord as suspended from these lines will be just long enough to hold the lam off the floor.

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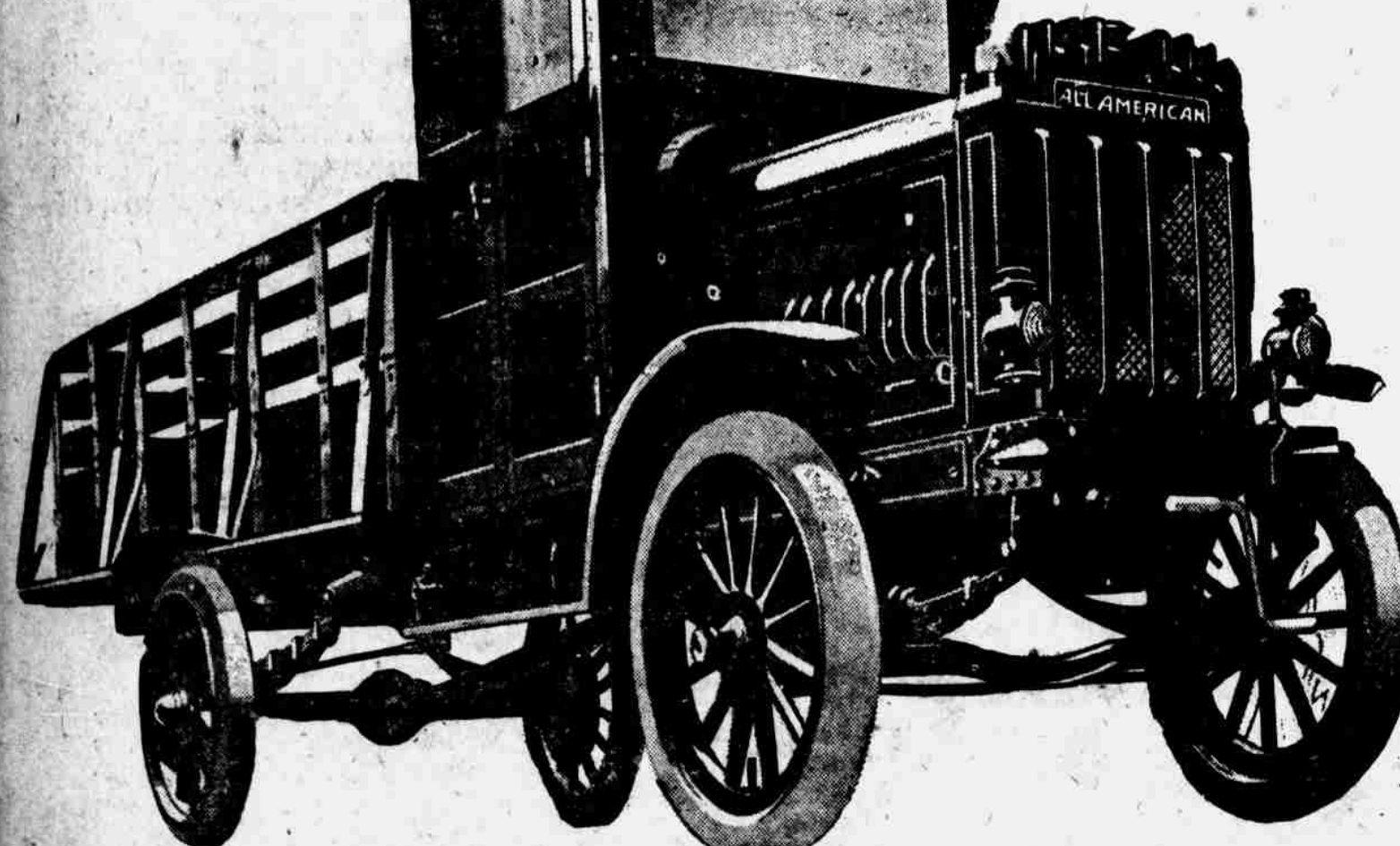
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