Lansing's Book Stirs National Political Chiefs

First Issues on Sale in Washington Sell Like Hot Cakes
—Hitchcock Comments
On Volume.

Washington, March 26.—Comment here today concerning the book of Robert Lansing, former secretary of state, entitled "The Peace Nego tiations," was sufficient to indicate that the disclosures contained in the colume are expected to receive the controversy of former President Wilson's part in the making of peace at Paris. The book was placed on sale in Washington today and copies of it sold like hotcakes.

Great interest was aroused in matters concerned in the political aspect of governmental affairs and the noses of the great and near great are buried in its pages tonight.

Friends and supporters of Woodrow Wilson are certain to take issue with certain statements made by Mr. Lansing with reference to Mr. Wilson's peace-making activities and observers here are inclined to predict that the echoes of Mr. Lansing's assertions and allegations will be heard for many a day. As for those who have been critical of the expresident's policies, some of them are already showing a keen enjoyment of Mr. Lansing's revelations. Certain republican members of the senate are predicting that the book will be the most notable contribution to the whole history of the peace conference about which many volumes have been written.

Some Criticise Lansing.

One of the foremost of them said today that no historian of the period consumed in the making of peace after the great war could overlook the illuminating information that Mr. Lansing has given the world. While senators of this class are inclined to be delighted over Mr. Lansing's publication, some of them are disposed to criticise him on the basis of his own explanation of his opposition to the Versailles treaty and the league of nations covenant for signing the treaty.

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The contention was made today that his justification of his course in becoming one of the signatories was not entirely convincing.

Among comments from senators

were the following: Senator McCormick of Illinois-Whatever opinion the reader may form on Mr. Lansing's role in Paris, he can form but one of that which Mr. Wilson played there. Mr. Lansing's book justifies the harshest of Mr. Wilson's critics and condemns the treaty and covenant for the same reasons which led to their rejection by the senate. The world has forgotten Mr. Wilson. Let us do so, too, and with good heart set to work constructively to repair the damage. Let us labor in the real matter of fact realities and practical concern to rebuild the common economic life of Europe and

Says Lansing Bitter.

Senator G. M. Hitchcock of Nebraska-In my judgment President Wilson made a mistake in taking Secretary Lansing to Europe and humiliating him there. It is questionable whether Secretary Lansing could have rendered any real service to the president under any condition. But having taken him to Paris, he should have been accorded the consideration given the high officials of other governments at the peace conference. In view of their relations, it is ovious that Secretary Lansing is utterly incapable of judging President Wilson fairly. His book could not be fair, as he is

necessarily bitter over the way he was treated.

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, chairman of the foreign relations committee, who led the fight for reservations to the treaty, has read the Lansing book, but refused to comment on it. One of his confidants said he understood the senator would have nothing to say either now or later.

Senator Moses of New Hampshire, one of the "bitter enders," said:

"Mr. Lansing states and his book shows, that on President Wilson alone must rest the responsibility for failure of the peace negotiations, as looked upon from an Americaa standpoint. While the book presents a severe indictment of the president's policies and actions at the Versailles conference, the author has been more than fair to him, considering the treatment he received from him afterwards, and he appears to have gone out of his way to cover up and make excuses for the president's shortcomings."

Chicago Council Board

Favors Municipal Lines
Chicago, March 26.—Chicago's
city council committee investigating
city traction lines was enthusiastic
for municipal ownership on its return from a tour of seven western

"San Francisco, which has the most extensive municipally-towned traction system of the cities we visited, is having unqualified success," said U. S. Schwartz, chairman of the local improvements committee, which made the trp. "There the city operates the street cars on a 5-cent fare and is making mony.

The committee visited Kansas City, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Japanese House of Peers

Votes to Aid Silk Industry
Tokio, March 26.—Authorization
for an advance of 30,000,000 yen to
the Japanese silk industry was voted
by the House of Peers today, this
action being taken in the form of
the adoption of a concurrent resolution which already had been passed
by the House of Representatives.

Voluntarily Cut Wages
Tacoma, Wash., March 26.—Union carpenters today announced a voluntary wage reduction from \$8 to \$7 a day. The announcement was made by C. B. Gaskill, recording secretary of the union, who said the cut would become effective Monday next. The purpose of the cut is to stimulate building, it was said.

