

147, Kent Street,

St. Paul, Minn.

April 4th 1911.

To Senator Burton
Chairman U.S. Senate

In virtue of your position as Chairman of the Committee to fittingly celebrate the Hundredth Anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Ghent, I venture to lay before you my plan for an Annual Anglo Saxon Peace Holiday, in the hope that it will meet with your sympathetic support; that of the members of your Committee, and the Conference in general, for with such support it can be carried far.

It is almost a year since I began correspondence on this subject, and the Lake Mohonk Conference would have been the first to hear from me had I known of its existence.

Through the courtesy of your Secretary, Mr. H. C. Phillips, I have your name, and at his suggestion send this letter to you.

It is an inspiring thought to think of the United States, the Philippines, Canada, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, and the smaller Colonies of both powers uniting in one annual Peace Holiday; one that in a decade would unquestionably have a powerful influence on World Peace and the curtailment of excessive expenditure on armies and navies, especially in Europe.

The opinion seems to prevail with Statesmen at Washington that the time is ripe to consider a permanent arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain, something which only a few years ago would have been impossible. Do you not think that an Annual Peace Holiday would be one step further, and are you not willing to have a share in bringing it about?

I do not claim that such a day would make war impossible, but I do feel that its continued celebration would make war just that much more difficult.

If it can be arranged so that the people of the Dominion on their next Empire Day, May 25th, would include in the celebration thereof a peace demonstration to be followed by a similar demonstration on our part on May 30th, or if that be too soon, then in 1912, I feel that one great step will have been accomplished, and that the day started in this fashion would gradually draw within its charmed circle the Mother country and the great Colonies. While this would anticipate the completion of the centenary would it really matter when you consider the results which it is hoped will spring from it?

A plan of this kind will require much thought, and much work, and while the event is still some years ahead of us it seems to me proper to commence planning for it now.

Awaiting your reply at your convenience, I am.

Faithfully yours,