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SEPTEMBER 2, 1920.

AMERICA'S ATTITUDE TO THE LEAGUE

It is important that we should endeavor to understand something about the real reasons that have shaped American policy in respect to the League of Nations, the Peace Treaty and European affairs generally. That policy in the first instance probably had little direct relation to the views of the general public; ministerial, fraternal, labor and other organizations were enthusiastic supporters of the League. But the powers that be at Washington are very much like the powers that be at Ottawa; they represent forces and influences that are not necessarily concerned with giving expression to the popular wills. The men the politicians select as presidential candidates were not the men that the people who voted in the Literary Digest's plebiscite wanted to represent them. President Wilson, chief sponsor of the League, could not overcome the forces arrayed against him.

Much criticism has been directed against the United States for its failure to accept the League and the responsibilities membership in it would entail. But no great effort has been made to delve into the real reasons of America's attitude, perhaps because they do not appear on the surface, and have been camouflaged by consideration of party politics, Sinn Fein and pro-German influences. More recently, however, we have had some light on the influences which have shaped American foreign policy since the war, and on the relations of financial power to political affairs.

In considering America's attitude to the League many people have lost sight of the fact that the great financial interests are predominant in the politics of the Republic—as indeed they are in the politics of most countries; at any rate they have rather side-stepped the potential implications of the fact that American foreign policy is bound to be largely a reflection of the views the big financial interests take of foreign affairs, and they have attempted to throw the responsibilities upon the American people, whose views on foreign affairs are in any case indefinite. Of course, in Canada where Union Government has labored so industriously for democracy we need not accept the theory that plutocracy is a dominant power in politics, but unless we endeavor to comprehend the American financial plutocracy's view of the world's problem, or more specifically, Europe's problems, we cannot understand the attitude of the United States to the League of Nations and what it represents or is supposed to represent. We do not lack information as to what the American financial interests think of affairs when proposals have been made that America should make big loans to Europe. They have expressed the opinion that loans to Europe would only mean a further inflation of currency, postponing perhaps, but rendering more inevitable a collapse which would involve Europe in ruin, and make it impossible for the United States to obtain repayment of her loans. They have practically told European nations that if they come some irritation, some breach in these war debts, and lift from industry the burden of paying interest on such debts to their own people. Or failing such cancellation, which would not leave the nations as a whole poorer, being a matter of internal readjustment, they have suggested that the European nations resort to taxation on a scale calculated to wipe out their national debts in a measurable period, and thus arrive at a position where their governments' guarantees in respect to loans from America or any other foreign country would be worth while.

More than one American financier has expressed grave doubts as to whether the capitalist system can be maintained in Europe, especially against the menace of the westward thrust of Bolshevism. They see in all the capitals of Europe people living extravagantly on the interest from war bonds, and they say that it is up to the European nations to divert that money power to productive industry, rather than to come to America begging for loans. They consider the

possibility of the capitalist system collapsing in Europe, and other nations following the Russian example, and repudiating foreign loans, and they don't propose to lose any more money there than they can help. They believe that capitalism is safe enough in their own country, that their extraordinary system of taxation will soon dispose of the war debt, enabling an extension of credit that will permit a big expansion of their productive forces and provide employment for all their people at high wages.

That is the attitude of American financiers and it explains America's determination to hold aloof from the League of Nations, which is regarded as a scheme to lure the United States into the dubious business of helping to finance nations perilously near bankruptcy. Doubtless it is a selfish attitude, and possibly a short-sighted one for no nation can flourish without foreign markets for its products, and whatever happens in Europe will have a pronounced reaction in America.

THE FAR EAST

The Anglo-Japanese Treaty has been renewed for a year, but according to the London Chronicle it has been agreed that the new treaty which is now the subject of negotiations will be referred to the League of Nations. An official Chinese statement objects to any arrangement between Britain and Japan guaranteeing the territorial integrity of China, the contention being that Article X of the League is sufficient guarantee that the territorial integrity of China will be respected. The Peking Daily News observes that it is not consistent with the dignity of a sovereign state to have other sovereign states making even friendly arrangements between themselves regarding their treatment of a neighbor without asking that neighbor to be a party to these arrangements; and it is suggested that the difficulty might be got over by making China the third party in a triple alliance. But other Chinese journals evidently regard the idea of a triple alliance with suspicion, believing that the Japanese government is controlled by militarist influences with undue designs upon Chinese interests.

Evidently the making of a new Anglo-Japanese Treaty will not be an easy matter. China objects to the position of Japan in Shantung, and this is a question upon which strong opinions have been voiced in the United States Senate. As the old treaty contained a stipulation that it would not be operative with the United States, the new treaty will naturally have to face the question of the relations of Japan and the United States. If the United States comes into the League of Nations the offices of that body might be instrumental in promoting an amicable agreement all round, but if the United States remains outside the League the problem may not be easy of solution. Reference of the proposed treaty to the League would be evidence of good faith on the part of Britain and Japan, but will not necessarily develop an agreement acceptable to Japan, and satisfactory to China which will doubtless be supported by the United States in its protest against Japan's position in Shantung.

DEPENDENT ON CANADA

Warning that it is within the power of Canada to force the United States to "return, so far as the printed word is concerned, almost to the dark ages," is sounded by the writer of an article on the paper situation in the United States, which is printed in The Wall Street Journal.

"When Sir Auckland Geddes, Great Britain's Ambassador to the United States, spoke to the representatives of southern newspapers at Asheville, N.C., a few days ago," the writer says, "he had in mind among other things the newsprint paper situation. He did not refer in words to a condition which has become alarming, but he did speak of the importance of maintaining friendly relations between England, Canada and the United States. Should there States they must first cancel their internal embargo upon the export to the United States war debts, and lift from industry the burden of paying interest on such debts to their own people. Or failing such cancellation, which would not leave the nations as a whole poorer, being a matter of internal readjustment, they have suggested that the European nations resort to taxation on a scale calculated to wipe out their national debts in a measurable period, and thus arrive at a position where their governments' guarantees in respect to loans from America or any other foreign country would be worth while."

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will, unless there be reforestation, have been absolutely exhausted by 1960 and perhaps as soon as 1950."

After detailing the available pulpwood supplies in the United States and discussing the possibility of developing the paper industry in Alaska, the article concludes:

"The paper manufacturers of the United States who are deeply concerned over the situation are persuaded that there should be such legislation as will tend to relieve the situation. This legislation if secured will not only open up the government timber lands, of course under governmental supervision, but will also provide for reforestation. The best authorities say that for every pulp-producing tree cut down there should be immediately planted under governmental supervision another spruce or hemlock tree, for it is upon reforestation that the safety and permanence of the supply of pulp for our newsprint paper depends. If the pulp timber now available is utilized and if reforestation takes place then by the time the present supply is exhausted the new trees will be ready for the pulp mills."

REBUILDING PALESTINE

Ten thousand volunteers, chosen from veterans of the world war, the Jewish Legion and skilled workmen, to enlist at once for eighteen months' service in a Jewish industrial army in Palestine, are necessary for the basic reconstruction work of the Jewish National Home, according to Bernard A. Rosenblatt, president of the American Zion Commonwealth, who is now in Palestine in the interests of "Balfouria," the colony of the American Zion Commonwealth.

Mr. Rosenblatt recommends a regular army organization with a general staff of three which, as a Jewish Industrial Commission, will supervise the work of the Jewish labor army in rebuilding the Holy Land.

"Our biggest task, once the call is issued for volunteers, will be in sifting out the applicants and determining upon the 10,000 to go," he said. "They could all be occupied in the one task of building houses for future immigrants. The army should work only on land belonging to the Jewish nation, lands secured from the Palestine government, from the Jewish National Fund, the American Zion Commonwealth or other agencies of the Zionist Organization."

In addition to the construction of houses, he points out that such an army would be busied in preparing land for immediate settlement, irrigation, afforestation, sanitation and engineering works necessary for the development of industry and commerce.

"The nucleus for such an industrial army is already in Palestine in the co-operative groups, working on the lands of the Jewish National Fund and in the group that is developing 'Balfouria,' the first colony of the American Zion Commonwealth," he concluded. "I am convinced after two visits to Palestine that only through such a huge disciplined Jewish labor army will we be able to reconquer the land of our forefathers."

THE NEW PLATFORM

The most conspicuous planks in the platform of the new Liberal and Conservative party, as enunciated in his address at Stirling on Wednesday afternoon by Premier Meighen, would seem to be:

- Hog Protection.
- We Won The War.
- Let Well Enough Alone.
- Canadians are divided into two classes—Patriots and Traitors.
- We Ain't the Traitors.
- Give the poor, down-trodden Exploiter a Change.
- To H— with the U. F. O.

The British Columbia Salmon catch is reported to be large this season, in the northern rivers, but unsatisfactory in the Fraser River. Canners are paying 12 cents per pound, for red salmon and five cents for white.

More than 5,000 officers and privates in the Mexican army retired from military service in the first week of July, according to El Herald. This general withdrawal from the army is the result of a campaign recently launched by the government to induce a large part of the soldiers of Mexico "to abandon the rifle for the plow," as the Mexican press is fond of phrasing it.

The government's campaign for a smaller army is due to the realization that vast tracts of valuable agricultural land are in urgent need of development and that many factories in Mexico are short of help. It is pointed out that the present military situation is such as to require the services of not more than 50,000 men, thus permitting the other thousands of men under arms to devote themselves to the task of economically rehabilitating the country.

The recent uprisings of Generals Carlos Osuna and Jesus H. Guajardo have not altered the government's determination to reduce the personnel of the army. According to General Antonio I. Villarreal, Secretary of Agriculture and Development, these two movements do not "present a military problem."

Progress in civil flying made by the various countries of the world since the armistice is discussed in a detailed report just made public by Sir Frederick Sykes, Controller-General of Civil Aviation in Great Britain.

Despite the fact that Germany, Austria and Hungary are forbidden, under the terms of peace, to manufacture or import aircraft engines, the report points out that these three countries are in process of organizing departments of government to deal with civil aviation. At the present time, Sir Frederick says, there are twenty-five air transport companies in Germany and the number is increasing monthly.

Shortage of fuel and the general chaotic economic situation is retarding aviation in Austria, says the report. Belgium has organized an Air Ministry and has established air attaches in Paris and London. The government, it is said, has appropriated 2,000,000 francs for development of flying in the Belgian Congo.

Great progress is recorded for France which has air attaches in all the chief capitals of the world, whose duty it is to study the aviation in various countries.

France, he says, has acquired five aerodromes and twenty-four landing grounds for the use of civilian flying and is also planning to connect all her colonial possessions by air-lines.

Italy has appointed sixteen air attaches in as many countries says the report, and is spending large sums of money in order to keep herself in the front rank of aviation development.

Frog meat made its first appearance last month in the menu of one of the most popular restaurants of Tokyo. Frogs had never been considered as a food until very recently by the Japanese. In 1918 Dr. Watanabe brought some edible frogs from the United States. They were kept at the Infectious Disease Experimental Station where experiments were made in breeding and raising. The government has taken steps to encourage the raising and eating of frogs.

GREY HAIR

Your hair is grey—what then? The east is grey.

When the sun laughs it into living gold, As Wisdom's sun in you begets a day, Even now, of lights mellow and manifold, Grey are the loftiest turrets; grey the hills In tender-pencilled twilights, and the sea 'Twixt night and sunset, ere the first star thrills And penetrates its beauteous mystery; Like Love's hand brushing back this frosted lock

To find the high-domed temple of thought behind! The dove's grey, and the mist; the eternal rock, And cool cloud, ruffled by the westering wind, Grey hair! From Thought's white peak, from Learning's light, The silver is caught; show me a gold as bright.

—S. Gertrude Ford.

DEBTS

There's no truer friend than debt Wisely made and fairly met; Debt which marks a distant goal Is a builder of the soul; Debt which means some worthy end Is a staunch and loyal friend.

Debt's a pledge that you will stand Firmly by your native land; Debt becomes your guarantee That you will keep faith and be In your dealings fair and just, One that all the world can trust.

Mark the citizen and he Plans for joys that are to be, By his debt his worth is known— There's the home he hopes to own, Here's the patch of ground, which he Says that some day his will be.

There's a purpose running through Every task he finds to do; On his shoulders he's a care Which he did not have to bear, And he toils from day to day For the debts which he shall pay.

Debts are proof that men believe In your purpose to achieve, And they eloquently speak Of the better things you seek Wisely made and fairly met There's no truer friend than debt.

OTHER EDITORS' OPINIONS

SOCIAL EMINENCE

It is natural that one should desire to be affiliated with those groups of men who represent the better elements of human nature. The average individual considers the so-called social status to be the measure of prominence or importance in life. To be one of the fortunate whom wealth or power or position or beauty has placed aside from those who possess not these things, is to be in a class apart; it is to be in society.

There is a society, however, that stands infinitely above all the trappings of wealth and all the tinsel glare of political power, says Catholic Bulletin. It is the society of thought, of faith. On this lofty eminence are gathered the most brilliant minds of the race. The vast majority of these intellectual luminaries were marked with the seal of Christian faith; many of them bore the stamp of blood, the magic sign that enraptured the beauty of their lives with the glory of martyrdom.

In this society is represented every phase of human splendor and distinction. Are you proud of literary eminence? There you will see the ennobled multitude in the field of literature led by Dante. If art appeals in a special manner, Raphael and Angelo will introduce you to the noblest artists that have wrought in colors or in marble. The wondrous oratorical of the middle ages, led by Gregory's Schola cantorum, will enrapture you with the dulcet strains of divine harmony. Would you enter the courts of kings to breathe for a moment the air of royalty? Charlemagne and Clovis and Louis will gladly escort you through the halls wherein are gathered the Christian princes of the ages. If you are one of the few whom God has blessed with superior intellectual prowess, meet Augustine and Thomas of Aquin, the most towering intellects of human annals. The delightful pastures where the Fathers of the Church hold sway will be a source of never-ending pleasure and new revelations as you admire the unlimited variety of their beauties from the lowly pansy to the stately oak; for the Fathers were masters of human thought in every varying shade from utmost delicacy to consummate strength.

This is an eminence on which every Catholic stands; it is a goodly society to which even the lowliest Catholic may rightfully claim entrance. Catholic faith is the badge of admission to this nobility of all societies wherein all are brothers, all stand upon a plane of equality, all may feel themselves as lawful members, not intruders or curiosity-seekers.

It were well for our Catholic people to think of this, to realize that they belong to an exclusive set, to a society that will never become passe. Human society may rise or fall—it is ever in a state of change—but the society of Catholic brotherhood is ever young, ever fresh, and all-embracing in its beautiful equality.—Canadian Freeman.

ASSESSMENT AND TAX RATE

Of late we find bobbing up a municipality here and there rejoicing that its tax rate has not been increased this year. That this is so is not always cause for congratulation, for an enquiring mind may find that while that municipality's number of mills on the dollar is below that of sister communities its assessment on property may be proportionately higher.

There are instances where the basis on which property is assessed minimizes the tax rate. Then these days of increasing costs it may be exceedingly difficult, not to say impossible, even under the best of civic administration, to escape increased provision to meet municipal requirements, and at the same time keep pace with that spirit of community progress prevailing in most ambitious cities and towns, unless indeed considerable debt happens to have been wiped off the slate of corporation expenditure.—Peterborough Examiner.

KINGSTON TO GET ANOTHER INDUSTRY

Another industry looms in sight for Kingston. On September 10th the ratepayers will vote on a proposition to give a free site, exemption from taxation and a railway siding to Thos. Watson of Woodstock who proposes erecting a plant there for the manufacture of machinery and who agrees to employ not fewer than one hundred hands for nine months in the year.

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E. N. BAKER, M. A. Principal

THE CAA

Chas.

With slight notice this side of the great Industrial Court in jurisdiction with the Industrial Court in the Cum road act of Congress ed against a claim sent in by the union railway operation in The London Times declares that the decision is based upon well-reasoned and that it "marks a new era on the economic road." As this is president's office, no public official of public opinion aims to create or only a reduction in wages unpopular by taking there is a margin beyond which should not go. If the high cost of reduced, all factors create and which no high cost of living produced. The legend eats its own tail gains if its appetite grows of the tail. At the end it will be the same old story of growth and of balanced each other stand off.

The London Times mark—apropos of Court and its position in wages at this "important decision," large and varied body and will resound through union world." The before the court and ure laid down by the unions connected with ing and foundry trade which provided that on production should consider what general wages, if any, is war. The committee, which was an official body, has since been by the interim court and last November by Court, which is a for equal representation and trade unions. They was in February, when vances of six shillings week on time rates as on piece rates were g on the ground of the trade.

The present claim w al advance of six pen an hour, and was put half of seven large ions representing eng building, and accessory together with the Nation of General Work ed an advantage of tw (\$4.80) a week.

The grounds put fo British unions are all f erica. Briefly stated, the increased cost of li year, the greater adv to other trades, and th proved state of trade.

The award of the Co approved by unanimous members, discusses the

BRINGING UP

