

TAFT OUTLINES LEAGUE PLAN

Puts It Into Plain Language Free From Legal and Diplomatic Verbiage, in Response to Request.

MANY ARE CONFUSED BY PRESENT DEBATE

Danger That People Will Lose Sight of Basic Principles During Discussion of Complicated Details and Technicalities.

(By ex-President William H. Taft.)

The plan for a League of Nations is based on a few simple principles, which are not hard to understand when lifted out of the morass of technical discussion and freed from legal and diplomatic language. As the one authority best able to present these points without partisan bias, ex-President Taft has been asked to put the league idea into a few plain words for the benefit of millions of Americans who desire a better understanding of the plan but find themselves confused by the debate in the United States Senate. In response to this request he has written the following article.

Purpose of the League.

The chief purpose of the League of Nations is to keep the world in a state of peace. Another way of expressing it is to say that the league is designed to prevent wars.

We have just finished the greatest, which is to say the most horrible, of all conflicts between nations. We have won a glorious victory. But that victory will be wasted unless this war has made the nations ready to put aside their differences and cooperate to end war forever.

It is not enough, however, to provide for the prevention of wars and the settlement of disputes after they have arisen. We must foresee causes of trouble and remove them before they have reached an acute stage. Hence there must be provision for frequent consultations of members of the league for exchange of information, for agreement on common policies and for the gradual formation of rules of international law which at present are uncertain and incomplete.

The representatives of the great free nations which won the war have met at Paris and, after long consultation, have drawn an agreement which they believe will accomplish these ends. At the very least it will set in motion great changes which will result in universal benefit to all mankind. This agreement is called the Covenant of the League of Nations and it is a part of the peace treaty.

There will be no league worth talking about, however, unless the United States is a member. The decision as to whether the United States shall join rests with our Senate. The Senators, chosen by the people, will in the end vote as the people desire. For this reason the people themselves will decide whether or not the United States will join the league. In this question every citizen should have a voice. He or she can express opinion either by writing direct to Senators, by letters to the newspapers, by speeches in his lodge or local union or in conversation with friends.

Methods of Maintaining Peace.

Since the prime object of the League of Nations is to preserve peace—and to reap the benefits of peace—let us see how the league will operate to accomplish that purpose.

In the first place it will seek to remove the main causes of war. By the formation of an international court it will create a means for the peaceful settlement of disputes between nations. Then it will seek to compel the nations to make use of this court. This is nothing more or less than an application of the rules and customs governing private individuals in civilized communities to the relations between nations.

Secondly, the League will seek to remove a great temptation to war by the general agreement to reduce the size of armies and navies. This will halt the race for military and naval supremacy which was largely responsible for the war just ended. The amount of armament any nation may maintain will be strictly defined. Thus it will be impossible for one country to overwhelm its neighbor by unexpected attack, in the way that Germany crushed Belgium and would have crushed France had not the other democratic nations gone to her aid. The idea is that each country may keep an army and navy large enough to enable it to fulfill its responsibilities as a member of the League, but no larger. The United States, for example, probably would be expected to keep a check on Mexico and the state of constant turmoil in that country would be taken into consideration in deciding how large an army we should need.

The third important safeguard which the League will set up is a system of penalties. This will make an outlaw of any nation or group of nations which goes to war in violation of the rules of the League. The out-

lawed nation will be boycotted by all the other members of the League and will find itself cut off from both business and social communication with the rest of the world.

How It Will Prevent Wars.

It is not claimed that the League of Nations will do away with war altogether. Every possible provision that human intelligence can devise will be made to settle international disputes peacefully. But should all these measures fail and two nations go to war, this is what will happen:

If both parties to the dispute have observed the rules of the League, the other nations will stand back and let them fight it out. War under such circumstances is almost to be expected, however, because before the League was observed the rules of the League, the other nations will stand back and let them fight it out. War under such circumstances is almost to be expected, however, because before the League was observed the rules of the League, the other nations will stand back and let them fight it out.

What we have to fear is that some nation will go to war in defiance of the League, and every precaution has been taken to suppress such a nation by the immediate use of the united power of the other nations. If international boycott failed to bring her to terms she would have to face a combined international army and navy. The founders of the League believe that the mere possibility of such a situation will prevent any nation from violating its agreement. Does anyone think that Germany would have begun war five years ago if she had known that nearly all the other great powers would combine against her?

Doing the World's Work.

In addition to settling international disputes peacefully the League of Nations will provide means for doing much of the world's work more systematically and effectively than can be done now when each nation is working only for itself. The people you know best and like best are those who work with you on the same job. It will be the same way with the nations of the future. The more they work together, the sooner they will come to understand and like each other.

For example, the League will establish an international organization for the bettering of labor conditions in different countries, for the protection of women and children and the native inhabitants of civilized and semi-civilized countries. One of Germany's greatest crimes has been her barbarous treatment of the helpless people in some of her colonies. One of the chief tasks of the League will be to look after peoples that are not strong enough to protect themselves.

The League will appoint commissions to take charge of various international undertakings so that they may be carried on, not for the benefit of any one nation, but for the benefit of the whole world. Provision will be made for promotion of fair and equal trade conditions.

These are only a few of the benefits the world will derive from the League. As time goes on we shall find more and more tasks at which the nations can work in common and a greater number of opportunities to remove causes which stir up jealousies and animosities between races and peoples.

Objections Answered.

Of course we cannot hope to make the great changes such as the League of Nations will bring about without opposition. Fortunately the war has taught us the great advantages of international co-operation. It was only by good team work that the free liberty loving nations were able to whip Germany.

The treaty which the United States Senate is debating obligates the members of the proposed League to protect one another against attack from enemies outside their own boundaries, bent upon conquest. Although this agreement (Article X of the Covenant) is vital to any arrangement which seeks to prevent war, it has been attacked on the ground that it would draw the United States into wars in various parts of the world and force us to send our boys to fight in quarrels which did not concern us.

We should remember, however, that the main purpose of Article X is to frighten nations tempted to wars of conquest from yielding to the temptation, by the certainty that they will be crushed if they begin such a war by a universal boycott and a union of forces of the world against them. If a big war breaks out again, the United States will be forced to take part in it whether we have a League of Nations or not. We tried hard enough to keep out of the war with Germany but found we couldn't.

A little war contrary to the League rules could be handled by the powers close at hand. Certainly it would not be necessary to send American troops to suppress an uprising in the Balkans when prompt action by the armies of Italy or some other nearby powerful nation could suppress the fracas before American troops could even get started.

Great Gain for Small Loss.

We had to make many sacrifices to win the last war and we made them willingly because we knew they were worth while. It will be the same in a smaller degree with a League of Nations. When men form a business partnership each one has to make concessions to the views and opinions of the other members of the firm. When we enter the League of Nations we may have to give up certain privileges, but the losses will be small compared with the profits.

The council, the chief governing body of the League, cannot take action without unanimous decision of its members and since the United States will have a representative in the Council our interest will be protected there. We hear it said that the League is formed for the benefit of Great Britain or Japan or some other great nation. This is not true. All the nations will gain by it, not only the great nations such as the United States, Great Britain, France, Japan and Italy, but the little nations which in the past have been oppressed by the great powers. The international plan presented by numerous governments for the relief of humanity from the scourge of war is a settlement of all grievances which have long troubled the peoples of the world.

It has been said that the League will interfere with the Monroe Doctrine, but the League Covenant expressly protects this Doctrine. In fact, through the Covenant the Monroe Doctrine receives recognition throughout the world and its principles become forever established.

WOMEN DEMAND WARS SHALL END

Peace League Means More to Them Than It Can Mean to Men.

DR. SHAW'S STIRRING PLEA.

(By the Late Dr. Anna Howard Shaw.)

Seven million one hundred thousand men who had laid down their lives in the great war. Think of it! Seven million, one hundred thousand young men had died on the field of battle!

What does that mean to the women of the world? It means that seven million one hundred thousand women walked day by day with their faces toward an open grave that they might give life to a son. It means that seven million one hundred thousand little children lay in the arms of a mother whose love had made them face even the terrors of death that they might become the mothers of men.

It means that year after year these women had put up their lives into the lives of their sons until they had reared them to be men. For what? The hope that these sons of theirs could other planets so young that they are give to the world the things for which women dream, the things for which a woman hopes and pray and long. These were the things that the women had mass, but white-hot still—then red-hot in their hearts when they gave birth to their sons.

But who can estimate the value of seven million one hundred thousand dead sons of the women of the world? Who can estimate the price which the women have paid for this war; what it has cost them, not only in the death of their sons, because that is a phase of our war to which we look.

The Courage of Women.

We hear our orators tell us of the courage of our men. How they went across the sea. Very few of them remember to tell us of the courage of our women, who also went across the sea; of the women who did nursing the sick and wounded, the women who died in the hospitals, where the terrible bombs came and drove them almost to madness. They tell us nothing of the forty thousand English women who went to work back of the trenches in France.

They tell us nothing of the thousands upon thousands upon thousands of women who not only toiled and worked and slaved in order that the war might be successful, but we do not hear of the thousands of women, not alone in Armenia, not alone in Montenegro, not alone in Serbia, but in Flanders, in Belgium, in Rumania, in Russia—the thousands of women who lie in graves today, murdered, so horribly murdered that men dare not speak of it.

And yet we women are asked what we know about the League of Nations; asked what we can understand about a League of Nations. Oh men! the horrible deaths; the horrible lives of thousands upon thousands of women today in all these nations, who must live, and who must look in the faces of children unwelcomed, undesired of little children and know that these are the result of war.

And then ask women why they should be interested in a league of peace?

Women Suffer Most From War.

If there is any body of citizens in the world who ought to be interested in a league to ultimately bring to the world peace it is the mothers of men, and the women who suffered as only women can suffer in the war and in devastated countries.

And we call upon them, we women of the world call upon the men who have been fighting all these battles of the years, the men who have led armies, and led armies close to their deaths.

WHY Men of Knowledge Deride "Short Cuts"

"Short cuts! Short cuts to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," comments the Journal of the American Medical Association on the tenets of a certain "health fad" magazine. It continues: "Short cuts to health, of course, predominate."

"One learns that he may cure himself of almost anything from soil and worms to cirrhosis of the liver by means of the various 'internal baths' so cheaply advertised by numerous general practitioners for the relief of humanity from the scourge of war is a settlement of all grievances which have long troubled the peoples of the world."

"Are your eyes weak? There is a short cut cure for them! Are you deaf? There is a short cut to perfect hearing! Are you ruptured? There is a short cut hernia cure! Do you crave large busts? Presto, 'chance!' You may have them!"

Among the other short cuts cited are a method of learning shorthand in seven days, one of gaining a "thorough knowledge of law in your spare time"; others are to "increase your will power in one hour"; to learn in one evening "the secret of being a convincing talker"; to learn to play the piano in a quarter the usual time at a quarter the usual cost.

"Verily, we live in an age of quackery," comments the editor. "And all the quacks are not in the medical profession." It is wise to remember that there are no short cuts to health, no short cuts to learning. You cannot become a Paderewski except by years of laborious practice; you cannot learn the Morse telegraph code in five minutes; Rome was not built in a day.

ROMANTIC STORY OF AMBER

Why Lithuanians Are Convinced the Sea Has Been Known to Give Up Its Dead.

Originally the earth was a white hot mass of gaseous vapor. That was too long ago for even the oldest inhabitants to remember, because the heat was so intense that there was no such thing as an inhabitant on the earth. In the only way we know it is by seeing the hope that these sons of theirs could other planets so young that they are give to the world the things for which women dream, the things for which a woman hopes and pray and long. These were the things that the women had mass, but white-hot still—then red-hot in their hearts when they gave birth to their sons.

Some parts of the earth continued to develop until Adam and Eve came on the scene. Lithuania, the new Baltic republic, had just about reached the Adam and Eve stage when it got drowned out of sight. The whole country literally disappeared. It was covered by the sea.

There is a common belief that the sea never gives up its dead. It isn't true. Any Lithuanian will tell you so. For the sea not only withdrew but in withdrawing it left Lithuania a gift without price. Amber it was, that glowing golden jewel of delight. The Baltic coast of Lithuania, in fact, is the only place in the world where misty can get the amber which goes into the beautiful necklace she covets so much.

Why Country Should Get Busy.

Millions and miles are the only terms big enough to measure America's exports to Europe now. Balthus came into the mileage class with 1,182 miles—about two miles of 'em. Then there are the ten miles of fly paper and more than a thousand miles of movie film which have gone across in the last five months.

But chewing gum is at the head of the class, for if the sticks we exported since the armistice were placed end to end they would reach from here to Paris, some 3,500 miles, and approximately 735,000,000 chews.

This is just a beginning of our reconstruction by the mile, for Europe wants American goods, and in the language of the doughboy, she wants them "the fatter the sweeter."—Adelaide Lyons in World Outlook.

How Rubber Industry Grows.

The process of turning the milk-like sap of the rubber trees into the hard material familiar to every one is a lengthy one, but as an industry it is growing every year.

In the calendar year 1918, for instance, the United States Rubber company sold more than \$215,398,425 worth of rubber and rubber products, surpassing its sales of the preceding year by more than \$39,000,000, according to the annual report, which gives some idea of what the "rubber industry" really means in the world of trade.

How England Honors Nurses.

Honors paid to Edith Cavell have brought to light the fact that Edgland delights to honor women who give their best to the profession of nursing. The first statue in the country raised to a woman, other than royalty, was that of Dorothy Pattison in Wallasey, as a memorial for her work during the smallpox epidemic in Staffordshire in 1837, while a figure of Florence Nightingale stands in Waterloo place. This statue was, on the day of the homecoming of Edith Cavell's body, profusely decorated with handsome wreaths from an unknown donor.

HOW UNTUTORED HALF OF HUMAN BRAIN CAUSES FOOLISH DREAMS.

—Manifestly there is a part of your brain that goes on thinking while you are asleep. Were this not the case you would have no dreams. What part? Nobody knows with certainty, but there is good reason for believing that it is the untutored half of the brain—the right half.

Each one of us has really two brains, right and left, just as we have a right leg and a left leg. The left brain does our thinking for us, while the right (if we are "right handed") is uneducated and does almost no thinking at all. So uneducated is it that we cannot without great difficulty use a pen or so simple an instrument as a pair of scissors with the left hand.

For it is the right brain that controls the muscles of the left half of the body, and vice versa. Having almost no work to do, the right brain needs no rest. It does not get tired, and so stays awake or at least partly so, while we sleep. Its thoughts are what we call dreams.

Your dreams are foolish, because in sleep your thinking is being done by the foolish half of your brain. It is simple minded; at times it seems semi-idiotic. Of judgment it possesses none at all, nothing being too absurd or impossible to be accepted by it without criticism.

For example, it often happens that in a dream you meet a near relative or other person who has been long dead. Are you surprised to see him or her walking about and talking? Not a bit. The foolish brain thinks in a dull and stupid way, with no exercise of the reasoning faculty. Those parts of it which have to do with vision and speech seem to be chiefly active, judging from the ever-varying motion pictures thrown upon the screen of the mind during sleep, and from the constant talking that accompanies them.

The foolish brain may perhaps be compared to that of a monkey, though probably inferior. It forms concepts, but cannot put them together and draw from them the conclusions which are the basis of judgment.

LIFE'S PARTNER EASILY WON

How Business of Courtship and Marriage is Practiced Among Uncivilized Peoples.

The Azandi, a tribe living in the northeast of the Belgian Congo, sell wives amazingly cheap. A knife, costing about 75 cents, will procure an intending bridegroom a life's partner. Another "marriage market" thrives in the mountainous district of the Mafalees, in New Guinea. The price of each girl is one pig, augmented with dogs' teeth necklaces, and so on, according to the wealth of the girl's parents. The proposal is usually made by proxy, the boy sending a female relative to the lady of his choice.

The preliminaries to courtship among the Mafalees are rather picturesque. When a young man, wishing to marry, goes out to seek his "fiancee" (literally, his flower), he will light a fire on a still day, in a bush or in an open space outside his village, and wait till a slight breeze carries the flame or smoke in the direction or another. He then takes that point of the compass as an indication and walks to the next village to find his "flower."

How Novel Ship is Built.

A most remarkable 9,000 ton ship, destined to make but one voyage of 9,000 miles, being built in a British Columbia shipyard, is described and illustrated in Popular Mechanics Magazine. Its purpose is to carry 5,000,000 feet of lumber to England; but when it arrives at its destination, instead of being unloaded, it will simply be taken apart and turned bodily into a huge lumber pile. For the new vessel is all cargo, and the cargo forms the vessel.

The method of construction is to lay down the keel and fore-and-aft cross timbers, complete a skeleton bottom, mount donkey engines on the structure and then launch that portion of the vessel. The donkey engines hoist the heavy timbers aboard for the completion of the ship.

Why Called Leap Year.

Leap year is a year which leaps over, as it were, one day more than an ordinary year; a year which contains 366 days, as distinguished from an ordinary year, which includes only 365 days. Every year the number of which is divisible by four is a leap year, except when it happens to be any number of hundreds not divisible by four. Thus 1884 was a leap year, but not 1900, this omission of leap years in such centuries being necessary to correct the error which arises from the excess of the addition of one day in four years (i. e., six hours) to the year over the true length of the year, i. e., 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes.

How Aphids Destroy Plants.

That it is a matter of real importance, as well as interesting as a novelty, will be realized when it is considered that the annual plant destruction by aphids in the Pacific northwest alone entails a loss of from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000.

U. S. SCHOOLS TO HELP CHILDREN OF EUROPE

Junior Red Cross to Raise \$1,000,000 to Support Foreign and Domestic Activities.

A peace program for the Junior Red Cross, embodying public health and the relief of child sufferers in war-swept Europe, particularly the near East, has been put into operation by the Bureau of Junior Activities of the Atlantic Division of the American Red Cross.

For the relief of destitute children abroad, the Junior Red Cross has decided to appropriate sixty per cent of all its funds. Before January 1, school children enrolled in the Junior Red Cross will raise a national fund of \$1,000,000, a large part of which will go to support their activities in behalf of the suffering boys and girls abroad. One of the first steps will be the taking over of the maintenance of the Red Cross Home for war orphans at Mount Zion, Jerusalem, where children orphaned by the war, whatever their nationality, are sheltered.

It is especially significant that the children of America should form bonds of union with their cousins in remote lands. In this time of unprecedented international intercourse when nations and races are being drawn together through new common ties and interests discovered to them by the war, the Red Cross regards it as fitting that the coming generation should thus early be brought in touch with the movement of world friendliness and understanding.

School Superintendents Co-operating.

The promotion of this understanding will be facilitated by the dissemination abroad of literature concerning the life and activities, the sports and studies of American school children. This will be undertaken by the Junior Red Cross.

School superintendents are co-operating with the Red Cross in the training of school children in the elements of public health service. Much progress already has been made and many districts have established and equipped centers of instruction.

According to Colonel C. H. Connor of the Army Medical Corps and assistant director general of the Red Cross Military Relief, there is every reason to believe that Red Cross first aid courses will shortly be introduced in every school in the United States and Alaska as part of the permanent peace program of the Junior Red Cross.

With the growing number of accidents—and figures show that there are increased casualties every year—the Red Cross regards it as one of the highest services possible to public welfare to instruct children in the rudiments of first aid, for it is in the skillful application of immediate relief during the precious few minutes between the accident and the arrival of a doctor that many a life may be saved.

TOUL CANTEN SERVED 1,621,417 DOUGHBOYS

Station Located in Original American Battle Sector Provides Large Variety of Edibles.

Oceans of coffee, chocolate and lemonade, mountains of doughnuts and sandwiches and pyramids of ice cream were consumed by the 1,621,417 American doughboys who passed through the American Red Cross canteen at Toul, France, during the last eleven months. The Toul refreshment station, long known as "one of the busiest Red Cross spots in France," is located in the original American battle sector, at a point which enabled it to feed almost as many soldiers as there were in the American expeditionary forces. Many interesting figures regarding the canteen's activities are contained in a report received at Red Cross Headquarters.

American fighting men carried there long enough to eat 1,561,625 thickly constructed, well filled sandwiches and 461,114 doughnuts. During the big American troop movement in the Toul sector last June the canteen served 3,000 men a day, the soldiers of the Twenty-sixth, Seventy-seventh and Eighty-second divisions being cared for as they passed through in trains. No effort was made to keep track of the number of cigarettes and quantity of tobacco passed out to the men at this point. During the American offensive last September 18,000 soldiers received refreshments as they were carried into and evacuated from a hospital two miles outside of Toul.

Originally the canteen was established in a fifty-foot tent in the railroad yard at Toul, but with the rapid increase in the number of men to be cared for the Red Cross took over an entire hotel close by for the work. As many as 7,000 soldiers have found lodgings there in a month, the number cared for in this way rarely dropping below 3,000. More than 200,000 soldiers received meals there during the month of January. The shower baths have been used by 70,000 soldiers. General Pershing recently inspected the canteen and complimented the managers.

The American Red Cross mission now in Germany caring for Russian prisoners in that country is also extending aid to American citizens who were forced to remain in Germany during the war.