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Friday, November 21, 1919.

League Of Nations

Right or wrong, a majority of the United States Senate has voted to make a number of reservations, defining what the senators think is the interpretation should be put upon specific sections, to the Peace Treaty and the League of Nations covenant negotiated by President Wilson and the other delegates to the Peace Conference at Versailles.

There are very many American citizens who approve the action taken by the Senate although they favor the theoretical scheme of the League of Nations. There are many non-citizen residents of the United States who would like to have the Senate ratify the Peace Treaty and the League of Nations covenant just as it came from the Versailles conference.

Judging from the press comments it is difficult to judge which group is the larger numerically. To judge from the bye-elections for Congress held since the United States Senate manifest purpose was evident, the people rather approve the reservations but it must be remembered that the result of these elections represent the sentiment of but the voters in a particular locality and not the sentiment of the country at large or even an entire State. If it were possible to take a referendum of all the citizens of the country that would be more satisfactory but that does not seem feasible or possible.

However, it looks as if the United States Senate intended to pursue its own decided course, whether or no. Time will tell whether the entire citizenship of the country will approve the action, even if the League of Nations falls by the wayside as the result of the action as now seems not only possible but probable.

"Centenary Week"

Preparations for the centenary celebration of St. Patrick's Cathedral are progressing apace. And not the least interesting feature is the flood of recollections of old residents of Rochester of incidents attendant upon the institution of St. Patrick's parish, which is coincident, practically, with the advent of the Catholic Church as a part of the community in the vicinity of Rochester.

The late Bishop Timon, first bishop of the Diocese of Buffalo within whose confines Rochester was included evidently is held in kindly memory by several Rochesterians still living. Of course Rochester's first Bishop Rt. Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid, is remembered by many even of the younger generation.

And what a wealth of recollections in the priests who ministered at the Cathedral in later years. Dr. O'Hare, afterward at the Immaculate Conception parish; Father Shanahan, who would have been the first bishop of Rochester had Bishop Hickey himself

who ministered there while coadjutor bishop before Bishop McQuaid passed away.

Many of Rochester's leading Catholic laymen who had much to do with the civic life of Rochester are recalled when one recalls reminiscences of the Cathedral. Charles J. Burke, Patrick Barry, Owen Gaffney, Dr. Bradley, John C. O'Brien, Walter B. Duffy, Bernard O'Reilly, William Furcell, John Dempsey, Richard Whalen, Peter Conway, A. B. Home, Daniel B. Murphy, Michael FitzSimons, Richard Curran were among the older pillars of St. Patrick's. And it is a matter of note that their children were also active in the Cathedral and that in many instances their children's children are also active today or, if they are not, their names will be found among the active supporters and upbuilders of the other parishes that have come into being in the last thirty or forty years.

It is well to recall these facts and figures and persons. They are of real historical interest, not only to us as Catholics but also to the entire community. It is noticeable that where the Catholic Church flourishes and prospers there will be found a flourishing and prosperous community. Just look around over the United States, test the accuracy of this assertion and see if we are not correct.

Prohibition

Judging from the announcement that 30,000 persons, salaries not specified as yet but undoubtedly fairly large if one judges by the salaries allowed by the present administration at Washington, will be needed to carry out the enforcement provisions of the National Prohibition amendment. While no indication is given as yet, it is reasonable to assume that a large majority, if not all, of the appointees will be acceptable to the Democratic politicians. Indeed, it is intimated that the chairman of the New York Democratic state committee will be the chief enforcement agent in charge of New York and New England states. Personally, we have a high opinion of Mr. Farley as a citizen and as an official. He was an acceptable state excise commissioner in New York state and has always been a conscientious official wherever placed. But it is a peculiar coincidence that a staunch upholder of the old-time Democratic doctrine of protest against all sumptuary legislation designed to curtail the personal liberty of the citizen to eat and drink whatever he chooses, should be chosen to enforce the most drastic enactment of the sort ever "put across" in this country, or any other that we have heard of.

Of course, if the Prohibition amendment is to mean anything it should be enforced. Undoubtedly, the Anti-Saloon League, its author and sponsor, expected it would be the enforcement agent. If Mr. Farley is named as the New York enforcer, the Anti-Saloon League, we fancy, will not be consulted nor will its assistance be sought. This may provoke Mr. William H. Anderson but this very fact is likely to endear Mr. Farley, if he is named, to many thousands of citizens. Altogether this prohibition situation is peculiar. Were it not so serious, it would be amusing from more than one angle.

Educational institutions are feeling the effect of the high cost of living. Their managers do not want to advance the price of tuition if that can be avoided but have adopted the alternative of appealing to the public for additional endowment subscriptions. And the public appears to respond pretty well. In fact there is scarcely a week that a "drive" of some sort is not in progress even in Rochester where the Community Chest takes care of many purely local institutions that in the past relied upon annual public subscription to meet its needs.

Law Prevails

"We are loyal Americans. We cannot fight our Government". That terse utterance with which President Lewis, of the United Mine Workers announced the recall of the miners' strike order in conformity with the mandate of the United States Court, will go down in history.

Of course, there are many Americans who think the miners should not have struck at this time when lack of coal would have produced untold suffering. But it must be recalled that, just as has been seen in other crafts, there are a number of intemperate radicals and it is not at all impossible that Mr. Lewis and his conservative lieutenants may have been temporarily over-ruled by the hot-heads and that the court order was needed to bring these chaps to their senses. It must also be remembered that the operators were not over willing to placate public opinion. They were not at all anxious to confer with the miners and have not yet disproved the allegation that whereas the miners' daily wage scale at present looks big the operators will not let the miners work to exceed three or four days a week and that it is impossible for them to earn in a whole year more than \$1,000 to \$1,200 and this is not an extravagant wage in this day of high living.

If this statement be true, the operators, not the miners are responsible for the underproduction of coal which is at least a contributing factor in the present excessive price of coal to the consumer.

Now let the Government apply all the pressure it can exert to compel the operators to reach an agreement with the miners so that coal may be mined and the public taken care of. As a matter of fact the public at large is more the interested party than either the miners or operators. And when the public becomes really aroused its hand will rest heavily upon both parties to what might easily develop into the most disastrous industrial dispute, so far as its effect upon the general public is concerned, of any similar dispute in the history of this country.

"Deport the Reds"

The following temperate editorial by the Rochester "Times Union" we think reflects the sentiment of every thinking, loyal American:—

Men who are openly agitating for forcible overthrow of our form of government are not entitled to remain in this country and enjoy the protection of our laws.

Investigation by the Department of Justice has shown that we have such "Reds" here in considerable numbers. Hence the raids recently made are fully justified and should be followed by deportation of these alien disturbers.

These men are entitled to their day in court. They are prompt to claim all their legal rights despite their loud voiced condemnation of our entire judicial system.

Delays of such review of cases are certainly irritating when the flagrant conduct of many of these men is taken into consideration. Protection of really law-abiding citizens from arbitrary or hasty action by the police or other executive agents is of course the real object.

But it would be well for all who do not wish to be classed with these revolutionaries to hold strictly aloof from their meetings. The bystander who gets hurt when a riot is quelled may be innocent, but he cannot be absolved from the charge of foolish curiosity.

Action against these Reds should proceed with all the speed consistent with the proper course of justice.

Mayor Edgerton's seventh term will put him in the Parsons class.

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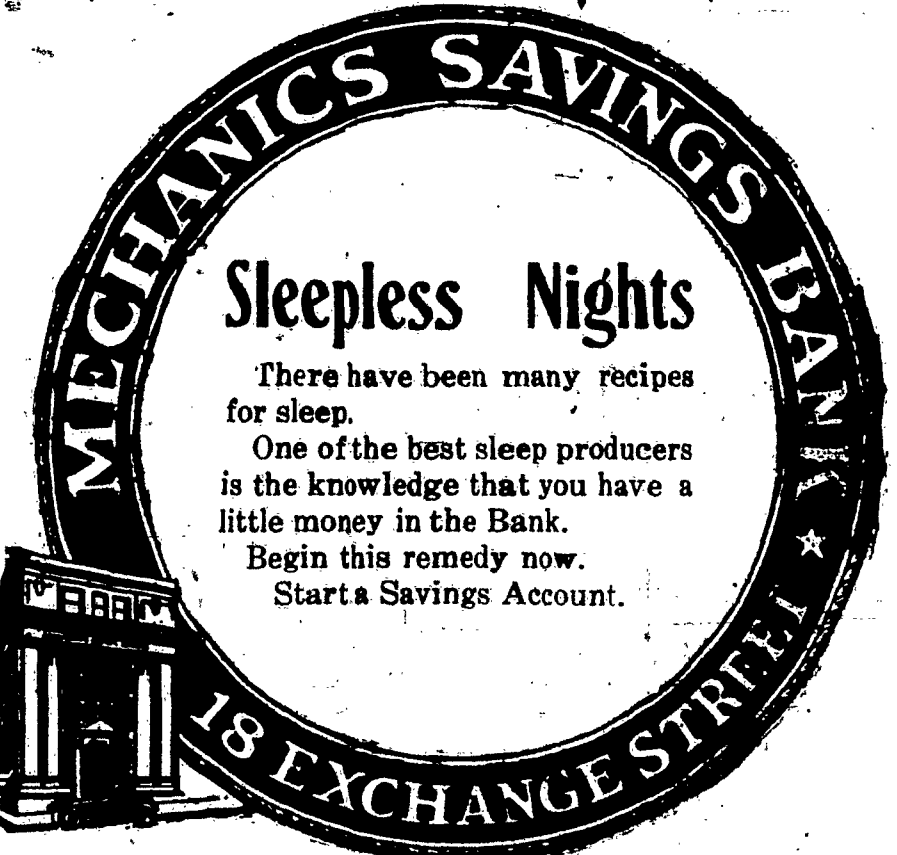
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