

HITCHCOCK FEARS ROOT PEACE PLAN

Concessions on Monroeism Might Draw Demands From Others

CITES COMPLICATIONS

Says to Submit Policy to Europeans Is to Surrender It

Washington, April 1.—President Wilson favors having the Monroe Doctrine specifically reserved in the league-of-nations covenant, but its inclusion may endanger the entire league proposition because of special concessions demanded by other nations, said Senator Hitchcock, retiring chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, yesterday, in discussing Elihu Root's statement suggesting amendments to the proposed constitution of the league.

"Speaking first of the Monroe Doctrine, I am frank to say I should be glad to see it specifically reserved if it could be," said Senator Hitchcock. "I am satisfied also that President Wilson has the same preference. I should be willing, however, to insist on it at the expense of losing or endangering the league. Nor would I be willing to agree to some of the suggested amendments other nations have been asking for as a trade to incorporate the Monroe Doctrine in the league."

He took issue with Mr. Root on the latter's assertion that "to ratify the agreement as it now stands would itself be a surrender of the Monroe Doctrine." He proposed to submit the policy of the Monroe Doctrine to a central committee chiefly of European powers to be surrendered to."

Senator Hitchcock asserted the proposed constitution of the league goes further than the Monroe Doctrine and is designed to prevent nations from making forcible aggressions anywhere.

Mr. Root's suggested amendment establishing an international tribunal for the trial of disputes between nations, similar to The Hague convention, "would add to the difficulties of securing ratification," said Senator Hitchcock.

Senator Borah, Republican, of Idaho, who has been on the stump throughout the country opposing the league, endorsed Mr. Root's statement and especially Mr. Root's demand that the Monroe Doctrine be specifically reserved in the league covenant.

Other Senators declined to comment on Mr. Root's statement, saying they preferred to wait until the amended draft of the league constitution is published in Paris.

"Anything said by Mr. Root on this question is entitled to the highest consideration," said Senator Hitchcock. "He has for years been recognized as one of the leading advocates of the peaceful settlements of international disputes and he has contributed largely to the advancement of the cause of arbitration. He is a lawyer, a great lawyer, and his trend of thought, therefore, is in the direction of court proceedings. He is in favor of establishing an international tribunal for the trial of disputes between nations, even those including national honor and vital interests, providing they are justifiable in character and making the decisions binding.

Question of Honor "This is the subject of his first proposed amendment. In my opinion, if this amendment were incorporated in the league constitution it would add to the difficulties of securing ratification. The Senate has never been willing to arbitrate disputes involving national honor and vital interests. It has specifically excluded them. They have been regarded as proper subjects for an inquiry and report as provided in the league constitution shall be made by the executive council, but not safe to entrust to a tribunal with power to enter a binding decree.

"I can well imagine the storm of objections to this amendment in the Senate from those who fear the United States may go too far in binding itself in advance to accept the decisions of 'foreigners,' as some Senators have expressed it. Nor do I think that other nations will care to go any further than we are willing to go in the direction of agreeing in advance to submit questions involving national honor and vital interests to the final decision of an international court.

national court. The proposition really contemplates, though Mr. Root does not propose it, equipping the league or the court with military or naval powers to force the decree if necessary. "This certainly is going too fast. Better far, in my opinion, is the league provision.

Should Divide Amendment

"As to Mr. Root's proposed amendment reserving the Monroe Doctrine and American questions (including immigration), it should, in my opinion, first of all be divided. The Monroe Doctrine is one of American international policies and the immigration question is one of domestic policy. The immigration question is no more American than it is Canadian or Australian or British. Let us divide them in any covenant.

"The Monroe Doctrine prohibits any nation of the old world from making forcible aggressions against any nation on the western hemisphere. The league of nations goes further, and is designed to prevent nations from making forcible aggressions anywhere, either in the western hemisphere or anywhere else.

"If the league of nations had been in existence 100 years ago the declaration of the Monroe Doctrine would not have been necessary. The league of nations agreement is a compromise between fourteen nations. We cannot have everything exactly as we want it.

"Exclude Domestic Questions" "As to Mr. Root's proposition that questions of domestic character, like immigration, should be definitely excluded from league jurisdiction, I agree with him, although not with the wording of his amendment. I am quite certain that only international questions can be considered; but that matter can easily be made clear and I believe it will be.

"As to Mr. Root's other proposed amendments, they seem to me of less importance, affecting as they do chiefly the future development of the league, matters of procedure and withdrawal of the members.

"I am glad to note his endorsement and approval of Article 10, which certain Senators have attacked so furiously. He proposes to it an amendment which does not seriously weaken the article. It simply reserves to each member nation the right to withdraw after five years from the obligation to assist in preserving the political independence and territorial integrity of other nations. This withdrawal calls for a year's notice. There is no reason to think that after five years' operation there would be withdrawals."

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"The movement undoubtedly will begin at once.

Mrs. Prevey said Deb's condition is not serious and that he would be able to be out within a few days.

TASK OF COLLEGE WOMEN

Must Take Active Part in Reconstruction, Says Doctor Tracy

St. Louis, April 1.—(By A. P.)—The only way college women can escape being considered slackers is by taking active part in the reconstruction period, Dr. Martha Tracy, dean of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, declared in an address last night before members of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae in annual convention here.

Doctor Tracy said the educated woman could play a great part in the reconstruction work by teaching and doing welfare work in industrial centers.

DEBS'S CASE LOST; HE TALKS STRIKE

Denied a Rehearing, Socialist Leader Threatens a General Walkout

'INDIANA WILL START IT'

Barring Executive Clemency, Convicted Agitator Must Serve His Sentence

Akron, O., April 1.—Eugene V. Debs, Socialist leader, yesterday threatened to call a general strike of his party throughout the country unless he is granted a rehearing in the courts on charges upon which he was convicted under the espionage act.

Debs was confined to bed with lumbarago at the home of Mrs. Margaret Prevey here when notified the United States Supreme Court had refused him a rehearing.

"That means that by May 1, the day on which I begin my sentence, a general strike will have culminated. It must not be forgotten that that day is the labor day of the world. On that day I had been assured that if the Supreme Court had not ruled by that time more than 5000 labor meetings would have been held asking for my release.

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JERSEY TROUT SEASON OPENS

Season Will Prove Test of "Browns" Propagation

Frenchtown, N. J., April 1.—Thousands of anglers were ready for a big drive on the trout streams at dawn this morning when the trout and salmon season opened in this state. As a result of recent heavy rains, the streams are in too high water for fishing to be at its best, but this will not dampen the enthusiasm of the sportsmen for whipping their artificial flies across favorite pools and riffles, habits a of the rainbow and the brown trout.

The coming season will prove a test of the brown trout as a practical game and food fish in the warmer streams of South Jersey, in which he has been introduced by the State Fish and Game Commission for two years.

CHICAGO RESULT UNCERTAIN

Mayoralty Election Held Today After Bitter Fight

Chicago, April 1.—(By A. P.)—Men and women balloted for Mayor and other city officers today after a campaign which has been the most bitter in the history of the municipality. With six candidates in the field for Mayor, partisan religious and racial hatreds flamed high during the campaign which ended last night with riotous parades in the central district, and extra police details had difficulty in controlling at times.

Candidate Mayor, William Hale Thompson (Rep.), incumbent.

FRENCH LUXURY TAX UPHeld

Senate Votes for Retention of Import Despite Protests

Paris, April 1.—(By A. P.)—By a vote of 140 to 89 the Senate endorsed the government's demand for the retention of the luxuries tax by eliminating from the budget bill an article inserted by the Chamber of Deputies abolishing it. Louis L. Klotz, Minister of Finance, who was present and who urged that the article be struck out of the bill, motioned to the chamber later and asked that branch of parliament to reverse its action on the tax.



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