

SAYS LEAGUE IS THE REAL CHAMPION ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S ADVISER SPEAKS
AT DEMOCRATIC CLUB.

RAPS REPUBLICAN LEADERS

A striking address on the league of nations by a man who took part in the formation of the league covenant in his capacity of legal adviser to President Woodrow Wilson at Paris, was made at the Indiana Democratic Club last night by David Hunter Miller, of New York.

In addition to an expert discussion of some of the sections of the league pact which have been the target of objections, including Article 10, which he said was all for peace, Mr. Miller made some pertinent comments on the varying attitudes on the league of such Republican leaders as Senators Harding, Johnson and Borah, William H. Taft, Elihu Root and Herbert Hoover.

Mr. Miller said the league of nations is the one real issue of the campaign. "It is a clear cut issue," he said, "for Governor Cox has said that while he is not opposed to qualifications, he is in favor of going in, and Senator Harding, doubtless after looking at the poster with his picture on it, decided to abandon 'wigly' and was against the league, that it was not a question of his of qualification, but rejection."

Dangerous Position.

"Now, I am aware that there are some supporters of Senator Harding who are taking what seems to me the rather dangerous position of attempting to persuade the people that Senator Harding means nothing of what he says. You heard a speech in your city a few days ago from Mr. Hoover. I have a great respect for the personality and ability of Mr. Hoover. I should much prefer to take the judgment of Mr. Hoover on any international matter than the opinion of Senator Johnson or of Senator Borah."

"But Mr. Hoover has been a Republican only a few months. Mr. Hoover's first lesson in Republican politics was administered at the Chicago convention, whereas Senator Johnson and Senator Borah have been colleagues in the Republican party of Senator Harding for some years past. So it seems to me that we must adopt the view of Senator Johnson and of Senator Borah that their colleague, the Republican candidate, means what he says, rather than to accept the extraordinary and must confess the wholly complimentary view of Mr. Hoover, who seems to think, if I read him correctly, that it is Senator Harding with meaning what he says, would be to charge the senator with breach of faith unwarranted by his past record."

Existing League or None.

"And let no one deceive you by asking about some other league of nations. The issue is between the existing league of nations and none at all; that is the issue between Governor Cox and Senator Harding. For the forty-five countries that are named in the treaty of Versailles as prospective parties to the league, are in process of taking the technical steps necessary for joining; forty-four out of forty-five; thirteen other countries have applied for admission to the league; Germany and Austria will be admitted in November; and in November we shall see a league of nations comprising perhaps sixty members, and at least 1,124,000,000 people. And when Mexico joins, as she will under her new government, we shall find the only statesmen in the world opposed to the league of nations to be Trotsky and Lenin and a few United States senators."

Mr. Miller said that when the league of nations was first presented to the American people, it was greeted with respect and admiration by the principal leaders of the Republican party, such men as former President Taft, former Attorney-General Wickersham, Senator Colt, Senator McCumber, President Lowell, of Harvard, and many others. But these men are not in control of the Republican party today, he said, but a senatorial clique has seized the power, after nominating one of itself at Chicago.

Those in the Clique.

"And who are the men who make up this clique?" he asked. "Men without a common principle, without a common tie, except their common hatred for Woodrow Wilson, their common lust for public office. Knox, the corporation lawyer from Pennsylvania; Johnson, the corporation lawyer from California; Brandegee, the reac-

tionary from Connecticut; Borah, the radical from Idaho; Penrose, the political boss of Pennsylvania; and Tamm, the political outlaw of Washington. A mere unholy alliance of professional place hunters was never formed."

"Judge, you are leaving out Jim Watson," said a voice in the crowd. What Mr. Miller might have said in response to this was drowned in general laughter.

Mr. Miller discussed as one of the great accomplishments of the league of nations the plan for the establishment of the international court of justice. He said he could state from personal knowledge that it was President Wilson himself who suggested the commission for drafting the plans.

Root Plan.

"That commission finished its work last summer," he said, "and if you recall what was said in the Republican papers at the time, you will remember that it was more than hinted, it was predicted that the real plan was going to be the plan for an international court, and that after the government of the United States had been carefully turned over to Republican guards—old guards—the plan which would be accepted would be the Root plan for the court and that the plan which would be rejected would be the Wilson plan for the league. There were even some hints of that in one of the addresses of the Republicans in which he was making one of his oral attempts to make an octagon of the circle."

"Well, since that time the Root-Phillimore plan, as it is called—or Senator Root's plan, as I shall call it, for it is an open secret in Europe that it is largely Senator Root's plan—has been published and opportunity has been given to examine it in detail. I have taken occasion myself to examine it with some care, and to write some rather uninteresting articles about it. It seems to me to be an excellent plan, and if it were not for one difficulty with it, I am inclined to think it is a plan that would be accepted by intelligent people generally. I hasten to add that I do not mean that it would be accepted by the senate of the United States."

Discretion and Valor

An opponent of the league of nations found no sympathy Wednesday evening in a crowd of persons listening to a political speech at Market and Illinois streets. Instead he found considerable opposition.

While the speaker was extolling the league, the man opposed to the covenant withdrew from the crowd, drew a revolver and shouted:

"Any one who would vote for the league of nations is a snarebird."

The crowd rushed toward him, and the man ran. The crowd followed but lost trace of him at Meridian and Washington streets.

States, for I do not include the senate in that classification. "But there is one grave difficulty with the acceptance of Senator Root's plan and that is, that it is based on the league of nations; the court is a part of the league. Under the plan the court could not exist without the league, and to accept the court without accepting the league would be something like accepting the Mississippi river without its banks—the necessary background would be lacking."

Blind or Ignorant.

Mr. Miller said that those who think the league of nations has an existence only in theory or on paper are either blind to current events or are ignorant of what is taking place in the world. He said the council of the league had recently averted war between Poland and Lithuania, and on the same day it made at least a temporary adjustment between Sweden and Finland in a dispute of a grave character. The great humanitarian work done by the league in sending medical supplies and doctors to fight epidemics in central Europe, its work in repatriating the 200,000 Hungarians who have been prisoners in Siberia, the conclusion of the recent

great financial conference at Brussels, and the establishment of an international labor conference, were mentioned by the speaker as things already accomplished by the league. "In regard to the objection that joining the league would be limiting the affairs of Europe, Mr. Miller said that one way of mixing in was what we did two years ago when we sent two million men to Europe, but instead of having two million men there, we shall have one man, a representative of the United States on the council of the league, and when war is threatened in Europe, that representative will say: "The United States of America does not want war to take place."

Article 10.

Mr. Miller went into considerable detail in regard to Article 10, and concluded that instead of having anything dangerous in it, it means the end of every war of conquest and aggression. He could not see any danger in the fact that Great Britain has six votes in the assembly, and said he knew personally that the provision granting the six votes was not due to British influence. He explained that in every matter which is committed exclusively to the consideration of the assembly, the assembly must act unanimously, and every country by its own vote has what practically amounts to a veto on any action by the assembly.

He did not believe that the British colonies would always act with the mother country.

"In regard to the Irish, he said they should welcome the league, for if the United States were a member, Ireland probably would be admitted as a member of the league, even probably with the consent of some of the British colonies. It was declared by Mr. Miller that there is nothing in the league plan which would give other powers the right to order United States troops to Europe without the

consent of the congress. Moral and economic pressure rather than military pressure for keeping the peace in the world is provided for in the league plan, he said.

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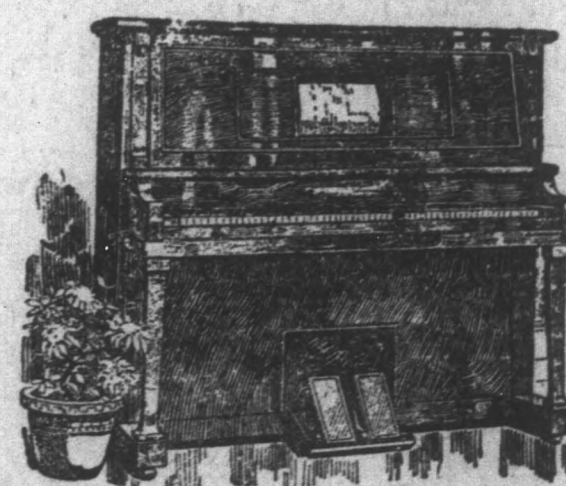
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