

BOK PRIZE PEACE PLAN URGES COOPERATION WITH LEAGUE

RALSTON REPLIES TO 'LETTER' ON MELLON TAX PLAN

Ft. Wayne Man Receives
Scathing Answer From
Indiana Senator.

By JOHN CARSON
Times Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Senator
Samuel M. Ralston of Indiana will
not be frightened by propaganda favoring
the Mellon tax program.

Ralston today made that point emphatic in a letter to F. H. Beebe of Ft. Wayne. Ralston has been flooded with form letters, signed in many cases by persons who evidently knew little about the subject. And, like other Senators, he has been irritated because he has just obtained a copy of the Mellon bill and has not had time to study it.

Beebe wrote urging Ralston to support the bill. Ralston replied that he would give it consideration and that, of course, he favored any possible tax reduction. Beebe then replied that Ralston was not specific on the soldier bonus and that he would find a majority of the people in Indiana were opposed to the bonus and demanded adoption of Mellon's program.

A Form Letter

Unfortunately for the Beebe letter, it carried evidences of having been copied after a form, or at least Ralston so interpreted it. The letter even had notations to send copies to other Senators and the names of the Senators were incorrect. Ralston said it seemed Beebe had been handed a form letter with notations to whom it was to be sent after it was copied. But in copying it Beebe retained all the notations.

The Ralston reply was so emphatic and so pertinent he made it public in full. It was as follows:

"In your communication of Dec. 31 you indicate that my answer to your letter of Dec. 11 was not as specific as you would like it to be.

"I meant to give you what I thought would be a reasonable answer to a man who understood the grave importance of legislating on the subject of taxation or on a subject-like that of the bonus to the boys who went into the trenches far too many people in this country availed themselves of the opportunity the war afforded to hoard additional millions.

"Your letter of the 11th was a mimeograph signed by you and the fact that you signed it, when on its face it bore directions for you to copy it and to send a copy thereof to the chairman of the finance committee, to Hon. James R. Watson, to Hon. Samuel L. Ralston and Hon. Louis W. Fairfield, indicated very conclusively to me that you personally had prepared this communication and in sending it to me you were allowing yourself to be used by some propagandist who was hiding in the background and using innocent people like yourself, to further what he conceived to be his own selfish interests.

"I want my constituents to feel perfectly free to write upon any subject in which they are personally interested or are interested in common with their fellow men. I shall always welcome such communications and give them most respectful consideration, but I confess that I have but little patience in the consideration of communications that are in the most offensive sense, propaganda.

"I have not condemned the Mellon plan. I have had but very little opportunity up to date to know what all it proposes. I was not able to get possession of the Mellon bill until two days ago. It embraces 344 closely printed pages, and to understand it, it will be necessary to read hundreds of pages of additional matter on the subject of taxation.

Not Well Informed

"Naturally I wondered how you could be sufficiently advised of this proposed legislation to assume to tell me in a most emphatic manner how I should vote thereon. I necessarily knew that you had not personally had any opportunity to study Mr. Mellon's plan. For all I know, you may be the best informed man on the subject of taxation in Indiana, but my experience has been that the more widely a man is advised on this all important question, the slower he is in reaching a conclusion on a proposal that will make radical changes in the financial and tax legislation of this country.

"Under the circumstances, therefore, I felt that I answered your letter of Dec. 11, very properly when I said to you, 'When such legislation comes before the Senate for action I shall be glad to give it due consideration as I believe that all the people are agreed that the tax of the country should be lowered.'

"In your letter of Dec. 31, however, you remind me that my letter of Dec. 14 does not show exactly where you stand on the subject of tax reduction and a bonus." Let me be more specific. I have shown you as definitely as I propose to show you or any other man where I stand on the Mellon proposal until I am offered an opportunity to study the same. As to the bonus—I said in my speeches that if I were to sign a tax bill on one day to give the 'special interests' of this country four billion of dollars annually through tariff taxes, that I would not hesitate on the next day to favor legislation giving a like sum of money to be paid in a series of years to the boys who broke their bodies on battlefields to make liberty world-wide and world peace secure."

ROAD SCHOOL OPENS

Tenth Annual Meeting in Session for Five Days at Purdue.

The young people's union of Connersville, Ind., closed the convention with a dramatized lesson.

Engineer to Attend Convention

Officials and engineers of the State highway department of the Purdue University civil engineering school.

Engineers, state, county and city officials from Indiana who are interested in highways attend. The school will continue five days.

Holiday Play Period Over, Students in Public Schools Return to Books



Fifty thousand youngsters put aside thoughts of Christmas presents, coasting, skating and bob-sled riding today and went back to public school, dismissed since the Friday before Christmas.

In the front row, entering Manual are shown Miss Dorothea Miller, 1127

English Ave., and Miss Lillian Fagin, 1506 Naomi St.; second row, Miss Edna Reynolds, 1110 English Ave., and Miss Eleonora Huebschman, 1137 Delos St.; third row, Miss Martha Sweeney, 1518 Naomi St., and Miss Alma Herndon, 1522½ S. Meridian St.

DR. WICKS BASES SERMON UPON POLLOCK'S 'FOOL'

Pastor Gives His Opinion of Greatly Discussed Stage Play.

"In this day—in this practical world can any man follow the Master?"

This is the question asked by Channing-Pollock in his play, "The Fool."

From the pulpit of All Souls Unitarian Church, Sunday morning, Dr. Frank S. C. Wicks discussed the play and its answer to the question. After giving a resume of the drama, Dr. Wicks said that as a play it did not grip him, but as a sermon he listened with interest.

"Occasionally," Dr. Wicks said, "the sentiment dropped into sentimentality; pathos into bathos. The play did what a good sermon does. It sent us away thinking; examining ourselves; perhaps stirring our consciences. We may have asked, Is there an inconsistency between our professions and our practices?"

Dr. Wicks went on to say that "this drama is a fearful indictment of many professing Christians. Do they try to follow the teachings and example of Jesus? Do they sell all that they have and give to the poor?" Do they despise worldly success? Do they consort with the despots of society, with prostitutes and sinners? Do they love their enemies? If they make no attempt to do these things they fall under the condemnation of Jesus. 'Hypocrites and Liars.'

"Now, I do not think we should attempt to follow Jesus blindly. It is the spirit of Jesus that should be our guide. What was that spirit? An attitude of good will towards all and a passion for human service.

"Will such a life end with a cross or a crown? I do not know, but it is an act of faith ahead of the human progression we will end on Golgotha. But I agree with the dramatist that the life of good will and human service is the only happy life," Dr. Wicks said.

PASTOR GIVES INITIAL SERMON

Rev. Long Declares Christians Must Be Watchmen Against Evil.

Christians of today must become watchmen against evil, the Rev. J. A. Long, pastor of the North Park Christian Church, said in his sermon on "The Summit of the Years" Sunday morning. It was his first sermon since becoming pastor.

"Watchmen of the old times were stationed on towers," he declared. "We stand on the summit of the years with unobscured vision."

MARSHALLON BROTHERHOOD

Former Vice President Speaks Before Y. M. C. A. Big Meeting.

"Democracy has not found root in atheism or in communism, but finds its source in the teachings of Jesus Christ, the Son of God," Thomas R. Marshall, former Vice President, said in a talk at the Y. M. C. A. Men's Big Meeting at English's Theater Sunday afternoon.

"I am not a Socialist in the narrow sense of party affiliation; I am an anti-Bolshevist, but I do believe in the brotherhood of man," Marshall said.

BAPTIST CONVENTION CLOSES

New York Religious Leader Addresses Young People.

"Christianity at its fullest is the life of greatest power," asserted Dr. Allyn K. Foster, New York, student secretary, board of education of the Northern Baptist convention, Sunday at the last session of the district conference of the Baptist Young People's Union at First Baptist Church, Meridian and Vermont Sts.

"This power, however, is denied unless men and women are willing to be obedient to God," Dr. Foster said.

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Foundation President to Address Riley Memorial

Dr. George Edgar Vincent, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, and leading educator, will be the chief speaker at the annual meeting of the Riley Memorial Association, Jan. 22, in the Riley Room of the Claypool.

Contributors to the building fund of the hospital, Riley Hospital chairman and others interested in the project, and those interested in the work of the Rockefeller Foundation have been invited. Admission to the meeting will be by ticket until 8 p. m. The doors will then be thrown open to the public.

Dr. Vincent holds degrees of A. B., Phi. D. and LL. D. degrees from Yale University of Chicago, and University of Michigan. He was president of the University of Minnesota from 1911 to 1917, resigning that year on his appointment May 15, 1917, as president of the Rockefeller Foundation.

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Proverb Pictures Must Be Submitted Correctly.

The last of the sixty proverb pictures in the \$2,500 Times Proverb Contest has appeared. You have until noon, Jan. 19, in which to go over the proverb pictures, check your proverb answers and have them in the office of The Times.

Be certain that you read the rules.

Be positive that the proverb pictures are mailed, flat. Weigh the package and place the proper amount of postage on it. Place your name and address prominently in the upper left-hand corner of the package. All of these things are important. To fall in one of these may mean the loss of one of the prizes, which range from \$1,000 to \$5.

You may bring your answers to The Times, but be certain that they are wrapped and the name and address appears in the upper left-hand corner.

There is no cause to hurry, but do not wait until the last minute to send them because if they arrive after noon, Jan. 19, they will not be considered in the contest.

Do not make a mistake at the last minute. Check everything. Address the package to the Proverb Editor, Indianapolis Times, Indianapolis, Ind.

INDORSERS' MEETING SET

Movie Critics Install Piano for Children's Shows.

The annual convention of the Indiana Indorsers of Photoplays will be held at the Claypool April 4-5, it was announced today at a meeting of the executive board at the Fletcher-American National Bank.

A piano has been installed by the Indorsers at the public library especially for use during moving picture shows for children every Saturday.

"District School" Repeated

The Aid Society of Fleming Garden Church of Christ will repeat the play, "The District School of Blueberry Corners" at the West Washington M. E. Church, Warman Ave. and W. Washington St., at 8 p. m. Tuesday.

The "Blueberry Corners" orchestra will play.

Bok Peace Ballot

Indianapolis Times, Indianapolis, Ind.

Do you approve the winning plan in substance?

(Put an X inside the proper box.)

Name Please Print

Address

City State

Are you a voter?

Mail promptly to The American Peace Award, 342 Madison Ave., New York City. If you wish to express a fuller opinion also, please write to the American Peace Award.

Also Urges Entry Into World Court—Referendum on \$100,000 Pact Will Show Feeling of People on Foreign Policy.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS,
Foreign Editor, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—With mixed emotions officials today watched the launching of the nation-wide referendum on the Edward W. Bok \$100,000 peace plan, just made public.

Regarded as one of the oddest experiments in American history, it is nothing less than an effort on the part of the citizens of the United States to make their voice heard above a coterie of stubborn politicians who, for years, have been standing in the way of world peace.

After the World War it was proposed all nations should join hands to prevent another. Politicians blocked American participation at that time and for four years now the bosses of Washington have insisted upon a policy of international isolation.

They claimed they held "a mandate from the people" by a 7,000,000 majority, to refuse to cooperate with other countries to preserve world peace.

Others held the American people had really never had their say on the subject. They claimed that if the people only had a chance they would, by an overwhelming majority, vote for cooperation.

Then Edward W. Bok, former editor of the Ladies Home Journal, had an idea. He offered \$100,000 for the best peace plan. The plan today gives public property. But the most important element of all is yet to come. The people from one end of the country to the other, are to be given a chance to vote on it.

Bok's hope is that such a tidal wave of popular opposition to the isolation policy will roll up the Senate and the people cannot ignore the new "mandate of the people," thus expressed, and will be forced to act.

Plan Unanimous Choice

The plan to be voted on was the unanimous choice of the Jury of Award. It is significant that it had its chairman, Ellsworth Root, Secretary of State in President Roosevelt's Cabinet, and as one of its most prominent members, Col. E. M. House, closest personal friend and adviser of President Wilson, father of the League of Nations.

It is an open effort to square the differences between Republicans and Democrats in order to make the United States a part of the league, though "with reservations."

"We are already cooperating with the league in a sub rosa sort of a way," the plan says in effect. "Let us cooperate with it whole-heartedly in the open and really do something to help keep the world at peace."

If public opinion, through the Bok plan, will force the Government's hand now, it would be to all intents and purposes, the same as if we had joined the league back in 1920 under the Lodge reservations.

The \$100,000 plan would put us at once into the world court.

It would make inoperative Articles 10 and 16 of the league covenant objected to by Republican Senators on the ground they implied the use of armed force.

It would exempt us from any obligations under the Treaty of Versailles except by act of Congress—which is as it is now.

It would "safeguard the Monroe Doctrine." But Article 21, of the covenant already does this.

It would open the league to all self-governing nations by two-thirds vote of the league assembly. This is already the case.

It proposes the "continuing development" of international law. This law is now considering.

The gist of the whole argument is that little, in fact, remains to be done to bring about the desired cooperation against war except for the die-hards to stand out of the way and let the United States take the lead where five-sixths of all nations and four-fifths of all mankind are already.

Here is the \$100,000 peace plan, known as No. 1463.

The name of the author will be kept secret until about the first of February, by which time the Nation-wide referendum, which begins today, will be completed.

This is the official synopsis:

I. Enter the permanent court.

That the United States adheres to the permanent court of international justice for the reasons and under the conditions stated by Secretary Hughes and President Harding in February, 1923.

II. Cooperate with the League of Nations.