

CANADA, UNITED STATES HAVE JOINT INTERESTS AT GENEVA

All Countries Should Belong To One World Society—Modern Warfare Means Destruction of Each, Both in Civilization and Common Life.

(By T. W. L. McDERMOT National Secretary, League of Nations Society in Canada.)

The Covenant of the League of Nations is built on one fact that we are slowly realizing, namely, that all countries belong to one world society and that in that society modern war means the destruction of the civilization of each country and of the common life of all.

Some few people with imagination and the time to read can learn this fact for themselves. Most of us have to have it rammed into us by brutal experience, and we on this continent—because we are well out of Europe and some distance off the coasts of China, Russia and Japan—have been particularly dense.

Because we are out of the Eastern hemisphere geographically, we have long cherished the notion that we are also off the globe altogether.

The Exempt Feeling

Canada and the United States have had this exempt feeling in common, but not in equal degree. Canada was not cut off from the pact and from Europe so decisively as the United States was in the eighteenth century. The Dominion had evolved into a nation as a co-operative partner in a British Combine or Commonwealth, and as such she took part in the war, and in the Versailles Peace Treaty and joined the League of Nations at the outset.

In doing all this, and particularly in joining the League, Canada was faithful to her British connections, but she was also acting as a North American country which had discovered that its responsibilities were world wide as well. And this is probably the deepest reason why Canadians have been so disappointed at the failure of the United States to act in the same way.

The first reaction and perhaps still the commonest in Canada is one of anything from disappointment to bitter disgust. But views are changing, and even if one cannot diagnose public opinion any more easily than one can indict a nation, one may guess that at present feeling in Canada is compounded partly of a new understanding, and partly of a new hope.

The understanding comes of a growing knowledge of why the United States refused to go into the League in 1919, and what it has done about it since. Canada's own attitude, in fact, has served to illuminate that of the United States, because Canada has been slow and reluctant to accept the spirit as well as the letter of the whole Covenant.

As is well known, it was Canada which opposed most strongly and with some success Article X, which guarantees the territorial integrity of League members against aggression. Living "in a fireproof house far from inflammable materials," as her spokesman put it, Canada also rejected the Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance and the Protocol that was offered in its place, because they involved sanctions and possibly "the burden of representing North America" when trouble arise in Europe. In other words, the Dominion was against any entangling arrangements in Europe, and on guard against signing any undertaking which might hand over to the League Council or any other body any part of the sovereign power of the Canadian Parliament.

North American Outlook

Canada, therefore, was in the League—with its new international basis—but because of her North American outlook still held aloof from a complete acceptance of the principles of the Covenant. It must also be said that Canadian reluctance was strongly fortified by the absence of the United States from the League. It may be an hour to represent English-speaking North America at Geneva, but it is a somewhat formidable and indeed unreal one when it has to be borne by

less than 8 per cent of the whole.

As Canadians have discovered their own shyness about getting any deeper into external commitments, they have come to appreciate somewhat the point of view of Americans who have the same feeling. But in the meantime, two counteracting tendencies have been developing. The inextricable unity of world affairs and the oblique possibility of war and violence have grown clearer as the economic tension has been heightened and as the armament makers have expended their markets, snapped their fingers at peace treaties, and generally infused the position of the illusion of armed strength into the veins of all national bodies.

U. S. Has Cooperated

And simultaneously the United States of America has steadily joined in the co-operative efforts of the League, the International Labor Office, and international conferences, to evolve some kind of world order, economical and political. Without "joining" anything, the United States has sent its delegate to deliberate about disarmament, labor legislation, economic matters and so on, at Geneva and elsewhere, and not only has this all had its educative consequences on this continent, but it has also gradually identified the United States with peace machinery and has strongly represented the methods and outlook of the new world in the old.

Then came the Kellogg Pact, which, as it were, laid down the fundamental interpretation of the American view of the Covenant or of any peace document. It said, in effect, that countries could not co-operate if they retained the right to make war on each other; and it also put the United States very definitely on record as opposed to that right. For many Canadians it expressed the whole difference between what is too loosely called the European point of view and that of America in the large sense. The former—held by militarists, super-nationalities, and reactionaries the world over—believes in violence or force as an instrument of national policy, especially if they wield it; the latter repudiates it as socially destructive and criminal in character.

U. S. Joined I. L. O.

Finally, the United States joined the International Labor Organization, and gave one more token of its willingness to co-operate. And to Canadians who are somewhat over-awed by the mysterious constitutional paralysis that seems to threaten American executive action from time to time, it seemed to be good evidence that even that obstacle was not as serious as they had thought.

These are the facts that we have been learning. The hope is based on them, and is sharpened by the dramatic denouement of the Washington Treaty system. In short: will the United States now participate in the political structure of world peace by joining the League of Nations?

The hope that she will is an old hope long unfulfilled, and some still profess a sturdy scepticism. But the present world situation presents it in a new form, because, while the talk of war and its preparation still centered round Europe and therefore still seemed un-American or un-Canadian, we could continue to practice an easy inertia and ignore it. Now, however, that Japan has Europeanized the Pacific, as it were, and by her aggression on land and her casual treatment of pacts and agreements has extended the sphere of international anarchy, North America as a whole has been brought face to face with the political problems of a world society at its very doors.

League vs. "Pacific" System.

The League system rests on arbitration and co-operation; it implies disarmament and the equality of nations before a common law enforced collectively will and action of all peoples. The Pacific "system" which is threatened is heralded by the breakdown of arbitration, and the starkest competition; it promises a naval race and the fortification of bases; it centers around the problem of the domination of one power over another; it will have no law but that of the sword and the bomb.

SCIENTIST SCOFFS AT DARWIN THEORY

Likewise Declares His Belief in Resurrection Of Christ

LONDON, England, Jan. 22 — Sir Ambrose Fleming, 85, in his presidential address to the Victoria Institute of Philosophical Society of Great Britain last night, startled the scientists with a challenge that the Darwin theory of evolution of "man from monkeys" was a product of the imagination.

Sir Ambrose, long one of the outstanding scientists and philosophers of England, also declared his belief in the bodily resurrection of Christ. He asserted that this miracle was one of the most certainly attested facts in human history, and that consequently it certified all the previous miracles of the Lord.

Discussing Darwin's evolution theory, he said:

"I cannot consider that we have any serious proof of the evolution of modern man from an animal. We have not the smallest knowledge of how empty space became occupied with the most rudimentary form of matter."

Sir Ambrose was educated as an electrical engineer, and for years was a consulting electrical engineer. He is a Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and has headed the Victoria Institute and Philosophical Society for the last eight years.

As a Pacific country, therefore, Canada is vitally interested in the choice of systems there, and especially in what her neighbor will do about it. For Canada's most active views in external affairs have been given on the Pacific. It was her pressure in 1921 that contributed largely to the ending of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, and at the bare mention of the resumption of that treaty, Canadian opinion has recently become vigorous again; for Canadians are fully aware of the identity of Canadian-American interests, and are alive to the offensive character of that treaty to American opinion. But they also are learning that neither the mere ending of a treaty or the signing of another agreement will substitute law for anarchy unless the collective principle of responsibility in the Pacific is established.

A Collective Effort

International order and freedom can only be established there on the same foundations as elsewhere. All who share in it must be party to it, both to enjoy and to preserve it; and nowhere but in a League arrangement, reinforced by the Kellogg Pact and by the American people, can such a system be found.

Other countries' policies are supposed to be their own affairs, and of course, they are; but where war and peace are concerned it is impossible to act or to think entirely to oneself. Canada is often spoken of as the "interpreter" or the "mouth-piece" or some such intermediary of the United States at Geneva. It is true to a certain degree, inasmuch as we are close neighbors, have a common history, a common cultural practice, and speak the same language in every sense of that phrase. At Geneva, Canada can put in a word for North America and perhaps do something to convey to the English and other Europeans a slant on things of which they seem to be stubbornly ignorant.

But Canada at Geneva without the United States is like an incomplete team of horses, and as Canadians by study and experience are coming to believe more and more in the system of collective security and freedom which the League of Nations can be used to build, they hope, with some fervor, that the team will soon be made up and that the pair can then get on with the real job.

Common Sense Approach

In spite of some appearances to the contrary, in spite of a mild tradition of mutual testiness between Canada and the United States of America, there is a common sense approach to things which both share. Many Canadians, and many Americans would welcome a greater degree of political co-operation in face of a menacing world problem, from which no one can escape. Common membership in the League offers excellent ground for that;

ONE OF RAREST BIRDS IN CAPTIVITY IS IN BRONX ZOO

New York, Jan. 21—It was eight years ago that Jimmy the Shoebill, having crossed the ocean in a steam-heated cabin under the personal ministrations of the captain, was delivered at last into the custody of the Bronx zoo.

There was rejoicing at the zoological park, renewed recently, says the New York Sun, because Jimmie is entering his ninth winter as one of the world's rarest birds in captivity.

Just as certainly, adds the Sun, there was a thanksgiving service in a certain missionary station on the upper reaches of the Nile.

For 18 interminable months that missionary had caught fish for Jimmy—millions of fish, tons of fish. The missionary caught fish, and Jimmy devoured them while an endless chain of letters flowed between Cairo and New York negotiating the expensive permit to take a protected shoebill story out of Egypt. When it was all over, and Jimmy was delivered here, sound and healthy and full of fish, he cost the Zoo \$1,300.

"But he was well worth it," said Dr. W. Reid Blair, the director. "In 1926 he was the only shoebill on exhibition anywhere in the world except in Egypt and the London Zoological Park. Since then two or three have been brought over here, to the parks in Washington, St. Louis and Philadelphia, I believe, but I think the one in Washington is the only survivor, except Jimmy."

Shoebill storks are found only in north central Africa and they are not particularly common there. They prefer the big swamps around the sources of the Nile and it was among those headwaters that Jimmy was captured as a very young bird.

"We had been eager for some time to get a shoebill," Curator Lee S. Crandall recalled, "but the Egyptian government was protecting them and wouldn't let them be sent out of the country."

"About 1924, as I recall it, Ellis Joseph, the animal dealer, sent George Bistany to Egypt to see what he could pick up and he reported he could get a shoebill. But the fee was high—several hundred dollars, I believe."

"Well, Bistany commissioned a missionary far up the Nile to get him a shoebill. The missionary sent his natives out to the nests and they brought in a young bird—Jimmy. Then came the trouble about the permit. It seemed like a lot of money to put up for taking one small bird away, I suppose."

"Anyway, things dragged on for a year and a half and the missionary was getting pretty tired of catching fish for Jimmy. He began to write snappy letters about it and eventually everything was arranged and the shoe bill left Egypt."

In the wilds, shoebills do their own fishing quite successfully.

"They get together, two or three of them, and drive the fish into shallow water where they can get at them," Dr. Blair explained. "You will notice that Jimmy has very large eyes, too. That's indicative of a night feeder."

"There is a little pile of rocks in his cage," said Dr. Blair, and I used to notice that every afternoon around 1 o'clock, about the time the visitors increased, Jimmy would climb up on the rocks and exhibit himself. Oh, he likes admiration—and he always gets it."

it already is the spot in the infinity of international questions where many parallel policies are found to meet; for Canada and the United States it would be a place where a North American contribution to world affairs might be deposited.

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