

CARTOON: "OUR ARTIST IN THE SENATE"

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Mr. Wilson Goes Republican

WE can doubt no longer that the President is on the high road to complete and fairly quick recovery of that remarkable mental and physical vigor which has sustained him so notably in his unprecedentedly arduous endeavors during the past year. Ordinarily so severe an attack as he suffered as a consequence of excessive undertaking is followed by a period of grave depression, but happily in this instance there appear no evidences of such a happening. Not only does the abolition of daily bulletins afford a cheering sign, but the practical demonstration of his ability to consider and sign or veto legislative measures and to indite important official communications enhances to a marked degree the encouragement which seemed to be waning.

Yet more significant and gratifying perhaps is the authoritative testimony of the *World* respecting Mr. Wilson's full satisfaction "with results of Tuesday's voting." This clearly evidences at the least a renewed buoyancy of spirit and possibly, in addition, a change of heart. That is to say that in logic, if not in morals, Mr. Wilson seems to have gone Republican, along with the country—an inference plainly warranted by his handsome congratulatory message to Governor Coolidge.

True, the President carefully restricted his felicitations to the "victory for law and order," but the *World* hastened to demonstrate in its peculiar fashion that the League also was in-

involved. In order to make even a semblance of a case, however, Mr. Cobb was driven to the necessity which must have been most distasteful to his honorable spirit of deliberately deceiving his readers.

"The Republicans," he declared audaciously on Thursday, "not only made the cause of law and order their own, but paid their respects to Senator Lodge and his bushwhackers by demanding 'the prompt ratification of the treaty of peace without amendment.'"

Now that was not true. It was not a complete falsehood to be sure; it was one of those half lies which are universally recognized as being worse because they comprise the more detestable elements of hypocrisy and deceit. This is what the Republican platform contained and what the *World* knew it contained:

All are also agreed that the sooner a final disposition of this problem is made the better it will be for the peoples of the world. We therefore favor prompt ratification of the treaty without amendment, but with such unequivocal and effective reservations as will make clear the unconditional right of the United States to withdraw from the League upon due notice, as will provide that the United States shall assume no obligation to employ American soldiers or sailors unless Congress shall by act or resolution so direct, as will make it clear that no domestic questions, such as the tariff and immigration, will be taken from the control of the United States, and that the United States shall be the sole judge as to the interpretation of the Monroe Doctrine. There must be no abridgment of the sovereignty of the nation, of the control of its own domestic affairs, or of the maintenance of its national policies.

Letters From Our Readers

THE RECORD OF THE 317TH ENGINEERS

SIR,—Referring to your article in HARVEY'S WEEKLY for November 1, entitled "The Negro Soldier," I feel that a little further statement on this subject is necessary as a matter of justice to one of the units of the 92nd Division which did not fail to carry out with credit every task assigned to it. After recounting the failure of the 368th Infantry in the Fourth French Army in the Argonne-Meuse operations, you state that: "Following this disgrace, the division was withdrawn from the Argonne and assigned to a quiet sector on the Moselle, where it remained until after the armistice was signed." The 317th Engineers, which was the sapper engineer regiment of the 92nd Division, was officered by experienced white engineer officers, the field officers being selected specially from the available engineer officers for duty with this regiment, and most of the company officers, who were also white engineer officers, had seen service at the front during the great German onslaught in the Spring of 1918, having been with the British, Canadians and Australians along the Ypres, Arras, Amiens front during some of the heaviest fighting, while others had been with the Engineers regiments of our own divisions at Belleau Woods, Bovesches, Vaux, and other places between Montdidier and Chateau Thierry. Under these white engineer officers, the 317th Engineers went into the line in the Vosges Mountains two days in advance of the 92nd Division, and during the succeeding period of more than a month in the line, including the organization of captured ground in the Frapelle salient, acquitted themselves with great credit, earning special commendation from the 33rd French Corps. The regiment moved to the Argonne with the 92nd Division, coming out of the line without a day's rest, and on reaching the Argonne, the 317th Engineers passed from the 92nd Division to the 1st Army Corps, and without a single hour's rest moved into position on the night of September 25, 1918, to take part in the attack of the First American and Fourth French Armies on the following morning.

This regiment took the part assigned to it in the attack of September 26, and for the succeeding forty-seven days there was no cessation in its work, either day or night. The first day's rest that the regiment had after August 19, 1918, was on November 12, 1918, the day after the armistice went into effect. This regiment did not accompany the 92nd Division when it was sent to the Pont a Nousson sector, but, as stated above, remained in the Argonne, where it acquitted itself with a great deal of credit. The men of the regiment had the utmost faith in their officers, and did not hesitate to follow their officers wherever they went. There are numerous graves in France in which are buried both officers and men of the regiment who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty without fear or favor, and I trust that you will publish this statement out of justice to them.

J. EDWARD CASSIDY,
(Lieut. Colonel of Engineers,
Formerly C. O. 317th Engineers.)

War Department, Office of the Chief of Engineers, Washington.

JUSTICE AND THE COLORED MAN

SIR,—I am taking the liberty of addressing you, to express my very high appreciation of your forceful editorial in the issue of HARVEY'S WEEKLY of October 11th, entitled "An Old Race-War Warning." It is not only timely, but I am sure it must do great good. Not only as an American citizen, interested in the welfare of the whole country, but also as a colored American, I wish to thank you, and to beg of you to continue to throw the weight of your great influence in helping to ease the burdens that are pressing so heavily upon the colored people in this country because of race prejudice. All they ask is that they be permitted to enjoy the same rights that are enjoyed by other American citizens. They do not ask to be treated differently from other citizens of the Republic. They ask no special legislation in their behalf, only that they may enjoy untrammelled the common rights that inhere in citizenship. They have always been loyal to the country; they have never hesitated to make any sacrifice, however great, for the country whenever they have been called upon. No class of citizens responded more readily to the call of the Government in meeting the German peril across the sea. If they were slackers, or if the service rendered by them was grudgingly given, it might be different. But such is not the case.

And here I am reminded of some words uttered by Secretary Franklin K. Lane some time ago in a speech which I had the pleasure of hearing him deliver. He said:

"No men in this Nation have a better right to claim eminence in that great virtue of loyalty than you have, as you have proved when you have been tried. I reckon no higher proof of loyalty was ever

given by your fathers in the days of slavery, when into their hands was entrusted the care of the property of those men who were fighting against their freedom. And no greater courage and no greater loyalty have ever been shown by any of the troops of the United States than was shown in Cuba when you had the chance, and but a year ago at Carrizal, in Mexico. You have the courage. Your courage no one questions, and, in these days when we who have to deal with large affairs of state are counting up the assets of this country and asking ourselves, and asking each other, who is there that can be counted upon; who is there that is sure; who is there whose loyalty to that flag is unquestioned, no matter what comes, we know the Negro can be counted upon. No man has any reason to say that the colored man in the United States is not, first of all, a loyal American."

Again I thank you, and pray for your continued interest in seeing that justice is done the colored man.

Washington, D. C.

FRANCIS J. GRIMKE.

A FEW WORDS WITH ROBERT LANSING

SIR,—If Doctor Robert Lansing cares for the good opinion of the American people, or for his name in the history of our country, he will separate himself from Wilson's disintegrating cabinet without delay. He holds a great office, next to that of president. It has been filled with honor and distinction by Alexander Hamilton, John Marshall, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, Martin Van Buren, Daniel Webster, William L. Marcy, William H. Seward, William M. Evarts, John W. Foster, James G. Blaine, John Hay and Elihu Root. Is Doctor Lansing willing to send his name down to posterity as the messenger boy of Woodrow Wilson, the most selfish egotist this country has ever known?

Is he satisfied to be a simple rubber stamp? Is he satisfied to be known as the servant of a president who has persistently ignored and belittled him?

How does Doctor Lansing reconcile his action in signing the wonderful peace treaty with his declaration to Bullitt that if the American people knew what the treaty contained, they would repudiate it? How does he reconcile his address at Boston in favor of nationalism with his address at Watertown advocating the immediate ratification of the treaty? What would his distinguished father-in-law, Secretary Foster, think of his consistency?

And now we read that the President's cabinet meets at the call of Mr. Lansing and that he presides over the deliberations. Will he tell us by what authority he acts in presiding at a cabinet meeting? The Constitution of the United States provides (Article 2, Section 1, Paragraph 5), as follows:

"In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice-President."

Is Doctor Lansing Vice-President as well as Secretary of State? By the way, who is Vice-President, anyway? Verily, these are days of strange doings!

Albany, N. Y.

CHARLES R. SKINNER.

VOTES IN THE LEAGUE

SIR,—Senator McCumber believes that the votes of the English colonies do not count, as the assembly of the League is merely a debating society. Then it follows that all the other nations in the assembly have worthless votes, and we have, according to Senator McCumber's logic, a League in which only nine nations have votes with power back of them, and the other seventeen nations have been buncoed, because they have been taken into a co-operative scheme in which they are not permitted to co-operate—which is certainly an unfair and unjust proposition.

By the Senator's arguments the League is a voting trust where nine nations have good votes and 17 nations have worthless votes. Neutral nations like Holland and Sweden have debating society privileges only, with worthless votes, while other neutrals, like Spain and Greece, have real votes and the privilege of regulating affairs. How can such a League be fair when seventeen nations in it are not permitted to have any real voting power, and nine nations alone are able to vote, according to Senator McCumber? General Smuts drew up the covenant, and we are asked to believe that this shrewd statesman deliberately arranged to have his country, South Africa, represented by a worthless vote. Is it likely that he would be so unfaithful to his people as to palm off on them a vote that he knew was useless? Is it not more logical to believe that when General Smuts was devising the voting power, he made absolutely certain that his country would get a perfectly good vote?

Brooklyn.

J. F. CULLEN.