Text of Covenent of League of Nations as Read at Paris Peace Conference by Wilson

Preamble—In order to promote international co-operation and to secure international peace and security by the acceptance of obligations not to resort to war, by the prescription of open, just and honorable relations between the nations, the firm establishment of the understanding of international law, as the actual rule of conduct among governments, and by the maintenance of justice and a scrupulous respect for all treaty obligations in the dealings of organized peoples with one another, the powers signatory to this covenant adopt this constitution of the league of nations:

Article 1.—The action of the high contracting parties under the terms of this covenant shall be effected through the instrumentality of a meeting of a body of delegates representing the high contracting parties, of meetings at more frequent intervals of an executive council and a permanent international secretariat to be established at the seat of the league.

Article 2.—Meetings of the body of delegations shall be held at stated intervals and from time to time as occasion may require for the purpose of dealing with matters in the sphere of action of the league. Meetings of the bodies of delegates shall be held at the seat of the league or at such other place as may be found convenient and shall consist of representatives of the high contracting parties. Each of the high contracting parties shall have one vote, but may have not more than three representatives.

Article 3.—The executive council shall consist of representatives of the United States of America, the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan, together with representatives of four other states, members of the league. The selection of these four states shall be made by the body of delegates on such principles and in such manner as they think fit. Pending the appointment of these representatives of the other states, representatives (blank left for names) shall be members of the executive council. Meetings of the council shall be held from time to time as occasion may require, and at least once a year, at whatever place may be decided on, or, failing any such decision, at the seat of the league, and any matter within the sphere of action of the league or affecting the peace of the world may be dealt with at such meetings. Invitations shall be sent to any power to attend a meeting of the council at which such matters directly affecting its interests are to be discussed, and no decision taken at any meeting will be binding on such powers unless so invited.

Article 4.—All matters of procedure at meetings of the body of delegates or the executive council, including the appointment of committees to investigate particular matters, shall be regulated by the body of delegates or the executive council and may be decided by a majority of the states represented at the meeting. The first meeting of the body of delegates and of the executive council shall be summoned by the President of the United States of America.

Article 5.—The permanent secretariat of the league shall be established at (blank), which shall constitute the seat of the league. The secretariat shall comprise such secretaries and staff as may be required under the general direction and control of a secretary-general of the league, who shall be chosen by the executive council; the secretariat shall be appointed by the secretary-general, subject to confirmation by the executive council. The secretary-general shall act in that capacity at all meetings of the body of delegates or of the executive council. The expenses of the secretariat shall be borne by the states—members of the league—in accordance with the apportionment of the expenses of the international bureau of the universal postal union.

Article 6.—Representatives of the high contracting parties and of those of the league, when engaged in the business of the league shall enjoy diplomatic privileges and immunities and the buildings occupied by the league or its officials or by representatives attending the meetings shall enjoy the benefits of extra-territoriality.

Article 7.—Admission to the league of states not signatories to the covenant and not named in the protocol hereto as stated to be invited to adhere to the covenant requires the assent of not less than two-thirds of the states represented in the body of delegates and shall be limited fully to self-governing countries, including dominions and colonies. No state shall be admitted to the league unless it is able to give effective guarantees of its sincere intention to observe its international obligations and unless it shall conform to each principle as may be prescribed by the league in regard to its naval and military forces and armaments.

Article 8.—The high contracting parties recognize the principle that the maintenance of peace will require the reduction of national armaments to the lowest point consistent with national safety and the enforcement by common action of international obligations, having special regard to the geographical situation and circumstances of each state; and the executive council shall formulate plans for effecting such reduction. The executive council also shall determine for the consideration and action of the several governments what military equipment and armament is fair and reasonable in proportion to the scale of forces laid down in the programme of disarmament and these limits when adopted shall not be exceeded without the permission of the executive council. The high contracting parties agree that the manufacture by private enterprise of munitions and implements of war lends itself to grave objections and direct the executive council to advise how the evil effects attendant upon such manufacture can be prevented, due regard being paid to the necessities of those countries which are not able to manufacture for themselves the munitions and implements of war necessary for their safety. The high contracting parties undertake in no way to conceal from each other the conditions of such of their industries as are capable of being adapted to war purposes or the scale of their armaments, and agree that there shall be full and frank interchange of information as to their military and naval programmes.

Article 9.—A permanent commission shall be constituted to advise the league on the execution of the provisions of article 8 and on military and naval questions generally.

Article 10.—The high contracting parties shall undertake to respect and preserve, as against external aggression, the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all states members of the league. In case of any such aggression or in case of any threat of danger of such aggression, the executive council shall advise upon means by which the obligation shall be fulfilled.

Article 11.—Any war or threat of war, whether immediately affecting any of the high contracting parties or not, hereby is declared a matter of concern to the league, and the high contracting parties reserve the right to take any action that may be deemed wise and effective to safeguard the peace of nations. It is hereby also declared and agreed to be the friendly right of each of the high contracting parties to draw the attention of the body of delegates or of the executive council to any circumstances affecting international intercourse which threatens to disturb international peace or the good understanding between nations upon which peace depends.

Article 12.—The high contracting parties agree that should disputes arise between them which cannot be adjusted by the ordinary processes of diplomacy, they in no case will resort to war without previously submitting the questions and matters involved either to arbitration or to inquiry by the executive council and until three months after the award by the arbitrators or recommendations by the executive council and that they will not even then resort to war as against a member of the league which complies with the award of the arbitrators or the recommendation of the executive council. In any case, under this article, the award of the arbitrators shall be made within a reasonable time and the recommendation of the executive council shall be made within six months after the submission of the disputes.

Article 13.—The high contracting parties agree that whenever any dispute or differences shall arise between them which they recognize to be suitable for submission to arbitration and which cannot be satisfactorily settled by diplomacy they will submit the whole matter to arbitration. For this purpose the court of arbitration to which the case is referred shall be the court agreed on by the parties or stipulated in any convention existing between them. The high contracting parties agree that they will carry out in full good faith any award that may be rendered. In the event of any failure to carry out the award, the executive council shall propose what steps best can be taken to give effect thereto.

Article 14.—The executive council shall formulate plans for the establishment of a permanent court of international justice and this part shall, when established, be competent to hear and determine any matter which the parties recognize as subject for submission to it for arbitration under the foregoing article.

Article 15.—If there should arise between states members of the league any dispute likely to lead to rupture which is not submitted to arbitration as above, the high contracting parties agree that they will refer the matter to the executive council; either party to the dispute may give notice of the existence of the dispute to the secretary-general, who will make all necessary arrangements for a full investigation and consideration thereof. For this purpose the parties agree to communicate to the secretary-general as promptly as possible statements of their cases with all the relevant papers and the executive council may forthwith direct the publication thereof. Where the efforts of the council lead to the settlement of the dispute a statement shall be published indicating the nature of the dispute and the terms of settlement, together with such explanations as may be appropriate. If the dispute has not been settled a report by the council shall be published setting forth with all necessary facts and explanations the recommendations which the council think just and proper for the settlement of the dispute. If the report is unanimously agreed to by the members of the council other than the parties to the dispute the high contracting parties agree that they will not go to war with any party which complies with the recommendations and that if any party shall refuse so to comply the council shall propose measures necessary to give effect to the recommendations. If no such report can be made it shall be the duty of the majority and the privilege of the minority to issue statements indicating what they believe to be the facts and containing the reason which they consider to be just and proper. The executive council may in any case under this article refer the dispute to the body of delegates. The dispute shall be so referred at the request of either party to the dispute, provided that such request must be made within 14 days after the submission of the dispute. In a case referred to the body of delegates the provisions of this article and of article 12, relating to the action and powers of the executive council, shall apply to the action and powers of the body of delegates.

Article 16.—Should any of the high contracting parties break or disregard its covenants under article 12 it shall thereby ipso facto be declared to have committed an act of war as against all the other members of the league, which hereby undertakes immediately to subject it to severance of all trade or financial relations, the prohibition of all intercourse between their nationals and nations of the covenant-breaking state and the prevention of all financial, commercial or personal intercourse between the nationals of the covenant-breaking state and the nationals of any other state, whether a member of the league or not. It shall be the duty of the executive council in such cases to recommend what effective military or naval force the members of the league shall severally contribute to the armed forces to be used to protect the covenants of the league. The high contracting parties agree further that they will mutually support one another in the financial and economic measures which may be taken under this article, in order to minimize the loss and inconvenience resulting from the above measures, and that they will mutually support one another in resisting any special measures aimed at one of their number by the covenant-breaking state, and they will afford passage through their territory to the forces of any of the high contracting parties who are co-operating to protect the covenants of the league.

Article 17.—In the event of disputes between one state member of the league and another state which is not a member of the league or between states not members of the league, the high contracting parties agree that the state or states not members of the league shall be invited to accept the obligations of the membership in the league for the purposes of such dispute upon such conditions as the executive council may deem just, and upon acceptance of any such invitation the above provisions shall be applied with such modifications as may be deemed necessary by the league. Upon such indication being given the executive council shall institute an inquiry into the circumstances and merits of the dispute and recommend steps to be taken as seem to be best and effectual. In the event of a power so invited refusing to accept the obligations of membership in the league for the purpose of a dispute which in the case of a state member of the league would constitute a breach of article 12, the provisions of article 14 shall be applicable as against the state taking such action. If both parties to the dispute when so invited refuse to accept the obligations of membership in the league for the purpose of such dispute, the executive council may take such action and make such recommendations as will prevent hostilities and will result in the settlement of the dispute.

Article 18.—The high contracting parties agree that the league shall be intrusted with general supervision of the trade in arms and ammunition with the countries in which the control of this traffic is necessary in the common interest.

Article 19.—To those colonies and territories which, as a consequence of the late war, have ceased to be under the sovereignty of the states which formerly owned them and which are inhabited by peoples not yet able to stand by themselves under the strenuous conditions of the modern world, there should be applied the principle that the wellbeing and development of such peoples form a sacred trust of civilization and that securities for the permanence of this trust should be embodied in the constitution of the league. The best method of giving practicable effect to this principle is that the tutelage of such peoples should be intrusted to advanced nations who, by reason of their resources, by experience and their geographical position, can best undertake the responsibility and that this tutelage should be accepted by them as mandateries on behalf of the league. The character of the mandate must differ according to the state of the development of the people, the geographical situation of the territory, its economic conditions and other similar circumstances. Certain communities formerly belonging to the Turkish empire have reached a stage of development that their existence as independent nations can be provisionally recognized subject to the rendering of advice toward development and assistance by a mandatory power until such time as they are able to stand alone. The wishes of these communities must be a principal condition in the selection of the mandatory power. Other peoples, especially those of central Africa, are at such a stage that the mandatory powers must be responsible for the administration of the territory subject to conditions which will guarantee freedom of conscience or religion, subject only to the maintenance of public order and morals, the prohibition of abuses such as the slave trade, the arms traffic and the liquor traffic, and the prevention of the establishment of fortifications or military or naval bases and of military training of the natives for other than police purposes and the defense of territory, and also will secure equal opportunities for the trade and commerce of other members of the league. There are territories, such as southwest Africa and certain of the South Pacific islands, which, owing to the sparseness of their population and their small size or their remoteness from the center of civilization, or their geographical contiguity to the mandatory state, and other circumstances, can be administered best under the laws of the mandatory state as integral portions thereof, subject to the safeguards above mentioned in the interest of the indigenous population. In every case of mandate the mandatory state shall render to the league an annual report in reference to the territory committed to its charge. The degree of authority, control or administration to be exercised by the mandatory state shall, if not previously agreed upon by the high contracting parties, in each case be explicitly defined by the executive council in a special act or charter. The high contracting parties further agree to establish at the seat of the league a mandatory commission to receive and examine the annual reports of the mandatory powers, and to assist the league in insuring the observance of the terms of all mandates.

Article 20.—The high contracting parties will endeavor to secure and maintain fair and humane conditions of labor for men, women and children, both in their own countries and in all countries to which their commercial and industrial relations extend; and to that end agree to establish as part of the organization of the league a permanent bureau of labor.

Article 21.—The high contracting parties agree that provision shall be made through the instrumentality of the league to secure and maintain freedom of transit and equitable treatment for the commerce of all states—members of the league, having in mind, among other things, special arrangements with regard to the necessities of the regions devastated during the war of 1914-1919.

Article 22.—The high contracting parties agree to place under the control of the league all international bureaus already established by general treaties if the parties to such treaties consent. Fundamentally they agree that all such international bureaus to be constituted in future shall be placed under control of the league.

Article 23.—The high contracting parties agree that every treaty or international engagement entered into hereafter by any state-member of the league shall be forthwith registered with the secretary-general and as soon as possible published by him, and that no such treaties or international engagement shall be binding until so registered.

Article 24.—It shall be the right of the body of delegates from time to time to advise the reconsideration by state members of the league of treaties which have become inapplicable, and other international conditions of which the continuance may endanger the peace of the world.

Article 25.—The high contracting parties severally agree that the present covenant is accepted as abrogating all obligations inter se which are inconsistent with the terms thereof, and solemnly engage that they will not hereafter enter into any engagement inconsistent with the terms thereof. In case any of the powers signatory hereto are admitted subsequently to the league shall, before becoming a party to this covenant, have undertaken any obligations which are inconsistent with the terms of this covenant, it shall be the duty of such power to take immediate steps to procure its release from such obligations.

Article 26.—Amendments to this covenant will take effect when ratified by the states whose representatives compose the executive council and by three-fourths of the states whose representatives compose the body of delegates.

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR YOU

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

President Wilson sailed from Brest for New York, February 16, according to Reuter's Paris correspondent.

A dispatch to the London Exchange Telegraph from Copenhagen says the German armistice commission has been informed that the armistice conference has been postponed indefinitely.

The daylight saving plan introduced throughout the United States last year will be in vogue in Portland if an ordinance presented to the city council by City Commissioner Bigelow is approved.

Writs of habeas corpus sought in New York by a group of radicals in an effort to prevent deportation of 49 of the 54 aliens to Ellis island from the west were issued Thursday night by Federal Judge Knox.

The German national assembly last Wednesday elected Friedrich Ebert president of the German state by a vote of 277 out of 379 votes. Herr Ebert accepted the election. Count von Posadowesky-Wehner received 49 votes.

Reduction of hospital facilities in France to conform with the continued reduction of army personnel was indicated Friday by a war department announcement that a number of base hospitals had been assigned to early convoy.

An international aviation conference will be held in Paris within a few weeks to outline recommendations to the society of nations in order to make possible the resumption of civilian aerial service between the nations.

The Bisbee deportation cases, resulting from the sending out of Arizona in 1917 under armed guards of 221 men accused of attempting to interfere with employes of copper mines, reached the U. S. supreme court Friday.

The eye trouble with which Viscount Grey, former British secretary of state for foreign affairs, has been afflicted for years has culminated in total blindness, says the London Daily Mail.

FIGHT BATTLES OVER AND OVER

Wounded Yanks in British Hospital Have to Be Amused.

ARE LIKE LITTLE CHILDREN

Now Their Job Is Done They Will Fight to a Finish With Best Friends Over Question of Who Won War.

London.—Three wounded boys who are left behind in the hospital, the ones whose names were crossed from the lists of those who sailed away in time to reach home for Christmas, are the especial charge of the women who volunteered to work on the care committee of the Red Cross way back yonder last summer when there was a war on.

We thought that with the signing of the armistice our work soon would be over and the Christmas plans we already had begun to make were abandoned under the impression that there wouldn't be any wounded to entertain in England. But that was all a mistake; it seems as if our work might go on for quite a bit yet. Anyhow, our hospital at Tottenham is one of those which is still full. Every afternoon trains of ambulances pour out their burdens in our receiving wards just as in war times, and boys who have been for months in French or British hospitals are for the first time among their own home folks.

Wounded Captives Received.

Then there are our wounded prisoners—now beginning to dribble back from Germany—to be looked after and made much of. To listen to their stories alone takes one person's entire time.

There was no bother about Christmas dinner at Tottenham. Uncle Sam saw to that ages ago. Every boy in the hospital here had such a Christmas dinner as he will remember for years. Sir Thomas Lipton gave a party, one of his many, and it had special Christmas frills. The boys who could be moved assert they had a bully time at Sir Thomas' house.

He understands American boys, and more, he gets people to help entertain who understand them, too, like them and don't contradict them when they declare that they won the war. It's all a matter of that little phrase with them. These children of a larger growth who have been masquerading in khaki these last few months have become children again; now their job is done and they will fight to the finish with their best friends over the question of who won the war. They just naturally can't keep off it. And some of the ones who arrived too late to fight at all declare that it's not won yet, and that wars and wars and wars are going to follow.

By night time they are all worn out with fighting it all over again and they sink back in their narrow little gray cots and the indulgent nurses—girls of our Denver unit in their quiet gray cotton dresses and their snowy caps—pass down the long wards tucking in this quivering battler, smoothing the forehead of that boy of nineteen who has lost all his faith in any government whatsoever because he lost his hospital allowance to a guy from Cincinnati before he had had time to even pack it in the cherished money belt the Red Cross gave him.

But most of the boys who are being left over here are seriously wounded and it is thought best for them not to take a sea voyage for a while longer; so we try to plan little surprises for them week by week to pass the time until their joyful summons comes.

It isn't so easy, either, to think of something that will amuse a lad who must always lie on his chest to keep a piece of shrapnel lodged somewhere in his interior from floating into a locality where it may cause a great deal of damage.

Bracelets Are Praised.

Little silver bracelets with tags bearing the boy's full name and his military number are perhaps the most coveted trinkets, but as these cost $1.50 apiece, they cannot be got by the dozen by a single person. And then by the time they were all engraved and the numbers verified in all probability the boys would be transferred and far away. I asked one boy how it was that Yanks were crazy to wear bracelets, and he said it was a little queer how the idea had taken, and then he added:

"What can you expect? We took to wrist watches because they told us fighting men wore them; we found they wouldn't go, but we got the habit of having something on our arms, and it all came down to this: if you've got your stuff chained to you it's yours; just once pry it off and you pass on and leave it, just like we have left so many things we thought sure we couldn't get along without."

Wife of Poker Player Sues to Recover Losses

Boston.—Because her husband lost $11,500 playing poker at a Roxbury club, Mrs. Eugene P. Grant has brought suit against the club and four of its members for $24,000. Under the state law triple damages may be recovered for money lost in gambling.

ROGERS AND HIS RADIO

James Harris Rogers of Hyattsville, Md., is the inventor of a radio system by which wireless messages may be sent and received under ground or water without the use of aerials. The chief and obvious advantage of the invention is that it eliminates or greatly reduces static disturbances, both voluntary and involuntary, which have hitherto interfered with the complete success of wireless. This invention was practically perfected when the United States entered the war, and Mr. Rogers promptly offered it to the navy. It was adopted and played no small part in winning the war. In this photograph Mr. Rogers is shown with the apparatus which he has installed in his own premises, where he has received messages from Berlin, Paris and Rome. At his feet is a small case which contains a portable outfit for setting up anywhere a wire can be stuck in the ground.

LABOR UNREST ALARMS BRITAIN

Nearly All Trades Demanding Either Higher Wages or Shorter Hours, or Both.

BEER ISSUE AGAIN REVIVED

Dock Workers Complain of the Quality of Beverage and Shortage of Supply—Unions Strong and Well Organized.

London.—The industrial unrest prevalent throughout the country is causing serious anxiety, not only to large employers of labor, but even to conservative labor leaders. The labor leaders taking this attitude include J. H. Thomas, general secretary of the Railwaymen's union, who warned a meeting of postal workers who were demanding a 42-hour week, more holidays and curtailment of night work, that "the industrial and economic position of this country gives cause for alarm."

Demand Shorter Hours.

The postal workers are only one of many trade unions which are demanding shorter hours with the present or better pay. Up to this time the demands of the miners have been embodied in the resolutions of the Southport Miners' Federation, who demanded that the government demobilize all miners in the army and that wages other than war wages be advanced 30 per cent.

The attitude of the miners has caused the most comment, as coal and its price more directly affect the public. It is estimated that to grant a 30 per cent increase in wages would send the price of coal up at least a dollar a ton.

In addition to the miners, the shipbuilders on the Clyde and in other centers are agitating for a 40-hour week, with daily wages of £1. The men engaged in the same industry in Belfast threaten to throw down their tools unless they get a 44-hour week. The carpenters throughout the United Kingdom are asking for a 47-hour week, and the iron molders, who recently got 47 hours, are threatening to strike unless this is lowered to 44 hours.

May Go to Extremes.

The dock laborers are putting forth a demand for 44 hours for day workers and 41 hours for night workers. They are also much agitated over the shortage of beer and the poor quality of that beverage, and during the week there has been much slacking, particularly at Liverpool, from the cause. There has been a temporary shortage of beer at some shipping points due to the strike of brewery employees, who also complain of long hours.

All these unions are strong numerically and well organized, and from the tone of speeches at their meetings the members apparently are prepared to go to extremes in their efforts to have conditions of labor improved along the lines laid down in their resolutions.

There also have been minor troubles in the labor world. One of these affected the crew of the liner Adriatic. The sailing of that vessel for New York with a full list of American passengers has been delayed several days, and there is yet no indication of a settlement.

HOW STRASSBOURG CELEBRATED

After 50 years of German oppression, liberated Strassbourg celebrated the victory of the allies. Placards extolling Wilson, Clemenceau, Foch, Poincare and Lloyd George occupied prominent places in the windows; the allied flags flaunted from the staffs, while wreaths and ribbons were strung artistically with swinging lanterns from the cornices.

NEW WAY TO GET RICH QUICK

Man Charged With Shipping Bibles to Dead Persons C. O. D. and Collecting $5 Thereby.

Seattle, Wash.—A new way to get rich quick is alleged to have been discovered by F. J. Comeau of this city, whose complaint led to the arrest in Tacoma of H. A. Jourdan, who is accused of shipping Bibles to dead persons C. O. D. and then waiting for the cash to roll in from relatives.

Jourdan is alleged to have obtained the names of dead persons in the Northwest from obituary notices in the newspapers. As soon as the names and addresses were obtained Bibles were shipped with a bill for $5 each. In almost every case the Bibles would arrive on the day of the funeral and the relatives would immediately send the $5. The Bibles are said to be worth about 75 cents. To add dignity to the scheme the name of "Rev. Ira Worth," a mythical person, is alleged to have been used.