

SENTIMENT AN LONG PUBLIC IS SHOWN FOR THE LEAGUE

4700 Letters Chosen From Files of 18 Senators Show Nation Is Overwhelmingly for League.

MAIL SWAMPING SENATORS

American People Eagerly Responding to President's Invitation to Discuss World Pact.

By L. C. Martin

Washington, March 10.—(U. P.)—The American people are responding eagerly to President Wilson's invitation to discuss the League of Nations.

While controversies over war policies drew a tremendous number of letters nothing in the memory of men now living equaled the present avalanche of mail at their offices.

Senators haven't been able to read half the letters addressed to them on the subject, they said today. But what letters have been read show one thing clearly—that the country realizes the vast importance of the question.

League Leader in Coast

Forty-seven hundred letters chosen from the files of 18 senators, representing every section of the country and both political parties, readily asserted themselves in four classes.

First, those unqualifiedly for the league, as now proposed, 1,623.

Second, those for the league, with qualifications, 1,540.

Third, those expressing no opinion, but asking information, 264.

Fourth, those unqualifiedly against the league in its present form, 1,508.

More than half the letters in the first class came from professional and business. Clergymen, scholars, educators, lawyers, writers—men and women alike—and many big business men apparently approve very heartily of the draft of the league constitution as it now stands.

The rest of the letters in the first class based their approval on faith in President Wilson. It may be significant that most of the letters in class one came from the east, New England and the south.

Want an End To War

The vast bulk of the other three classes came from the middle and far west. Through the "class two" letters ran the strain "we want an end to war," but the writers then expressed in various ways their fears that the proposed league would enmesh the United States too deeply in foreign affairs.

Monroe doctrine, American sovereignty and all the other objections already urged were covered in these letters. Many of them complained that President Wilson's attitude is that of a man assuming superior wisdom and unwilling to come down to cases in giving reasons for various provisions.

Class three, the smallest, came largely from school teachers and women generally. Men apparently have made up their minds rather thoroughly on the league. The information asked for along the lines of the objections raised against the league in the senate.

Opponents Are Bitter

Class four contained some bitter letters. In them President Wilson was vigorously assailed, senators criticizing the league were applauded and in a number more or less thinly veiled threats were made against the government if the league compact is ratified.

Most of the letters of this class, however, struck the same note that ran through all the others—"let us prevent war forever."

Scores of the letters offered substitutes for the proposed league, ranging from a policy of complete American isolation, maintained by force if necessary, to a policy of diplomatic chief feature of which would be keeping European nations constantly in rows with one another so this country would be left alone.

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The fear persists that unless the former Kaiser is kept under the control of the allies he may return to Germany when conditions there are settled and may return to rule. This must be prevented by a definite answer has been found to this question.

One suggestion is that Holland be asked to give up Count Hohenloer of her own accord or give guarantees to the council of ten to begin immediately to the allies for keeping him interned for life.

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