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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor.

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WANT IRELAND'S DESTINY SETTLED AT PARIS MEET

DUBLIN.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Captain Stephen L. Gwynn, former nationalist member of parliament, now chairman of the executive committee of the Irish Center party, and several Irish nationalist officers who served in the war, have sent an appeal to Premier Lloyd George to submit the Irish question to the peace conference.

"The Irish difficulty lies partly in Ireland, between a majority and a minority; but it lies also between Ireland and England. You who have accepted the principle of international equity between nation and nation cannot in honor and in justice claim that as between England and Ireland, England should be the sole judge."

GAGNON FIGURES ON LEASING ROAD

Relative to the report published in the Jacksonville paper recently that he was figuring on purchasing and operating the Southern Oregon Traction railroad between Medford and Jacksonville, Joe Gagnon, the local lumber man, said today that he was negotiating for a lease of the railroad for a term of years and that if he obtained the lease, as now seems probable, he would not only operate it as a logging road between his lumber mill at Medford and his logging camp at Jackson creek, but would continue to operate the passenger car between the two municipalities on a strictly regular schedule.

Mr. Gagnon will start up his lumber mill at once after obtaining the lease, and already has many logs cut at the logging camp, which are awaiting transportation to the mill, and has several million more feet to cut. The outcome of the deal for the lease of the railroad will soon be known.

J. W. Mitchell left last night for a trip which will take him to Salem, Portland and the Yakima valley, on fish screen and orchard ladder business. He will be gone about two weeks.

THE 187th anniversary of the birth of George Washington finds the "small Americans" of today using the utterances of the first great American as an excuse for opposing human progress in the form of the proposed league of nations.

The advice of the "Father of His Country" to "avoid entangling alliances" was the best advice for the newborn nation menaced by the greed of European belligerents and served its purpose well, but it was not meant to govern all futurity.

Washington himself was no worshiper of precedent—had he been, he would not have refused to pay the tax imposed upon imports by constitutional authority; he would not have led the armies of the revolution in their war against established order; he would not have presided at a constitutional convention creating a new nation; and he would not have violated all the precedents of history by refusing power his prestige had placed with grasp.

Washington was not born great—but was educated into greatness by the weight of responsibility cast upon him. He fully realized that progress, whether in the individual or nation, meant the break with precedent and tradition and the loyalty of the young hero of the French and Indian war to the throne, under changed conditions became the bitter enemy that overthrew tyranny.

Washington was not even much of an admirer of the constitution of the United States, whose drafting he assisted in. He remarked: "It is the best constitution that could be obtained at that epoch, and that this or a dissolution awaits our choice, and is the only alternative." He was far from regarding it as the sacred instrument of the national and human progress that reactionaries have since proclaimed it in their efforts to perpetuate the old order amid the drifting sands of time.

The constitution itself was received with misgivings and dire forebodings by many Americans. The same arguments used now against the league of nations constitution was raised against the league of states constitution. Patriots like Patrick Henry vigorously fought its adoption and some of the states, like New York, only ratified it, when they were given the choice of going it alone or joining their sister states.

The United States of Washington's day contained less population than either the city of New York or the city of Chicago today. The young democracy has become the most powerful nation on the globe. Steam and electricity, unknown in Washington's time, have bound the nations of the earth into a community of interests and what effects one, affects in greater or less degree, all. The new times dawning cannot be bound by the precedents of the past any more than the American states could be bound by the precedents of the colonies.

It has been given to the new nation, which Washington did so much to establish, to be forced by circumstances, to violate his advice and shatter precedent by participation in European affairs—but the participation has been for ideals for which Washington himself fought so valiantly, for the dethronement of tyranny and overthrow of autocracy and the establishment of democracy. Every lesson from the life of Washington teaches that he would have been the last if alive today to evade the responsibilities incurred by that participation, and would have seen to it that the principles of the declaration of independence which the new world has extended to the old world, were given the needed support for perpetuation, so that liberty may not perish among the oppressed peoples, and militarism be forever dethroned from its bloody sway over prostrate humanity.

Participation by America in the league of nations violates only the tradition, not the spirit or ideals of Washington.

COUNTRY COUSIN AT PAGE MONDAY

"The Country Cousin" coming to the Page Monday, February 24th, with Miss Christie in the stellar role, is a smart satire on New York society and not a rural play as its name might indicate. Its characters and situations are said to be as real as every day life itself. The authors of the play, Booth Tarkington and Julian Street, have devised a most striking contrast of types and at the same time have unfolded a delightful story teeming with romance and with several dramatic climaxes well worth while.

"The Country Cousin" is the play which during its long run at the Gaiety theater, New York, was so highly endorsed by the late Col. Roosevelt. In Washington, President Wilson also grew enthusiastic over the play and company and wrote Miss Christie a letter of the highest commendation.

The play tells the story of a young girl in an Ohio town, wealthy in her own right, who leaves home that she may experience life. Her father years before, has been divorced by his wife and married again, and the daughter is persuaded to make her home with them. The young girl does not realize it is her money that her father is after, and things are in a bad muddle when cousin Nancy, uninvited, puts in an appearance at the house party being given in New York.

JOHN A. PERL Undertaker Phone M. 47 and 47-73 Automobile Hearse Service Lady Assistant 32 SOUTH BARTLETT Auto Ambulance Service. Coroner

SENATE KILLS BILL TO SPEED ELECTIONS

SALEM, Feb. 22.—Representative Crawford's bill to provide greater despatch in vote counting by having the count begin as soon as 25 ballots are cast, was beaten in the senate. Senator Bell said there are too many election clerks now, while Dimick and Strayer said the result of the count would leak out and have an influence on voting. Orton opposed the bill as contrary to the secret ballot principle.

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REED JOINS IN ASSAULT UPON NATIONS' LEAGUE

Missourian Declares "Fangs" of Bolshevism Plainly Visible—Sherman Attacks Ex-President Taft and Reads Letter Ridiculing Him Which Brings Protest From Ashurst.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Support of the republican attacks upon the proposed league of nations came from the democratic side today when Senator Reed of Missouri, democrat, delivered a prepared address in denunciation of the plan.

Free American government, Senator Reed asserted, would through the league be largely displaced by a government controlled by "European monarchs and Asiatic despots." He supported the charge of Senator Borah of Idaho, that the league would abrogate the Monroe doctrine, involve America in all world conflicts and compel submission of vital American questions to a foreign tribunal.

Denouncing the league as a movement of internationalism, Senator Reed asserted that "the fangs" of Bolshevism were plainly visible in the league constitution. The provision requiring America to fight foreign wars, he said, was monstrous.

Former President Taft's support of the league was criticized by Senator Sherman of Illinois, republican, in a flurry on the senate floor before Senator Reed spoke. Senator Sherman presented a letter from a constituent in which Mr. Taft's position was assailed and his political record ridiculed, to the manifest amusement of senators and the overflowing galleries.

Ridicules Taft. Senator Ashurst of Arizona, democrat, sharply criticized reading of the letter, declaring it made Mr. Taft an "object of ridicule."

"This is no way to conduct debate on this league of nations," said Mr. Ashurst. "Although I never agreed with Mr. Taft politically, for four years he was president of the United States, and an honest, patriotic gentleman. I believe that when the years go by and we see this league in action the senator from Illinois will be as ashamed of his conduct as I am."

"Mr. Taft is entitled to fair treatment at the hands of the senate of the United States."

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.—The right of Irish liberty was emphasized by the Very Reverend Peter E. McGuinness of New York, president of the Friends of Irish Freedom, in an address at the opening today of the convention of the Irish race.

The purpose of the convention is to demand for Ireland the right of self-determination, she has had been given to Poland, Czechoslovakia and other small nations. It will adjourn tomorrow.

"Outside Ireland itself, the solution of the problem that is so near to our hearts lies in America.

"The all important work of this convention is to ascertain—did America turn away from her prosperous career and direct her steps to blood stained lands of Europe, the end that nations should be free and the world shall be safe for democracy? Did the voice of our great president ring true, or did it ring with doubtful tone when he told the listening world the principles that have made America the great and prosperous land she undoubtedly is?"

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