

# Sinnott's Masterly Address On the Campaign Issue— The League of Nations

Despite the attempts of Democratic politicians to "draw a red herring across the trail," there is but one paramount issue in the present national campaign and that is the league of nations, said Congressman N. J. Sinnott in his address at the city hall Saturday night. In which in logical cleancut speech he presented arguments showing why the United States should not become a party to the covenant.

Other issues there are in plenty, said Mr. Sinnott, and the Republican party, if it wished, might take up any of them with success. The Democratic unpreparedness for war, their equal unpreparedness for peace, might be made a successful issue.

Cox has raised the hue and cry of "slush fund" wherever he has spoken, his statements becoming wilder and wilder as his tour progressed, said the speaker. He disposed of the charges briefly, declaring that taking Cox's latest figures, \$20,000,000, as the size of the fund, it was ridiculous to believe that the American electorate "could be corrupted at 30 cents a head."

Mr. Sinnott was introduced by Fred A. Baker who said:

As citizens of the Republic we are gathered here this evening to lay aside for a little while our private concerns and devote our attention to matters of public interest,—to matters of vital importance to our beloved country, and to listen to a message from one of our representatives in congress, who has had a most excellent opportunity of bringing to you a message worth while.

A few years ago the speaker whom I am able to introduce to you, but who really needs no introduction, was chosen by his constituents to represent them in the congress of the United States. By his devotion to duty and to the interests of his constituents and of his state and of the United States, by his love of his fellowman, by his ability, he rose from out the mass of numbers in congress of the United States to a

position of mounting eminence in the councils of his country.

Congressman Sinnott, it affords me peculiar pleasure to introduce the citizens of Klamath county, among whom no name stands higher in estimation,—it affords me great pleasure to welcome you here, and we assure you that we have confidence in your ability to represent us in the congress of the United States, and we shall give to you next November a renewed lease of power.

Ladies and gentlemen, I take pleasure in introducing to you our representative in congress, Nicholas J. Sinnott, of Oregon, who will address you.

Mr. Sinnott said:  
Ladies and Gentlemen:

I indeed appreciate the generous words uttered concerning my humble efforts in congress in your behalf, and I certainly appreciate the great compliment implied in your coming to this meeting to hear my feeble words upon the issues of the day. Klamath county and the city of Klamath Falls, have indeed been very generous and magnanimous towards me.

I come before you, not as a speaker, but as one claiming to have some ability to do things. I come before you not as a speaker; I make no claims along that line,—but I am going to take the liberty of addressing you upon one of the important,—in fact the important issue of this campaign,—an issue more stupendous, more fateful, more crucial, than any other issue the American people have faced since the organization of the government,—and that issue is the plague improperly called the league of nations.

There has been an attempt to inject certain secondary issues into this campaign, and in ordinary times they might be vital issues. Governor Cox is endeavoring to draw the red herring across the trail, to divert

the minds of American patriots from the real issues of the campaign.

The Republicans, if they saw fit, might take up many of these issues with success. We could take up the unpreparedness of the Democratic party,—their unpreparedness for war, their unpreparedness for peace.

Governor Cox has endeavored to inject into this campaign one issue,—the issue of the alleged slush fund. I think that issue has been entirely eliminated by the good sense of the American people. Why, he would have the world believe that the American electorate could be corrupted at 30 cents a head. He starts with a slush fund of \$8,000,000; then it increased to \$10,000,000; then to \$15,000,000; and I think without all counties being heard from, it is now up to \$30,000,000.

Governor Cox in what he says is somewhat like a boy I read about:—Jimmie and Billie were out gunning for coons. Jimmie carried the gun. Billie said "Jimmie, there's a coon there on that tree; shoot it down." Jimmie says: "I don't see any coon. You take the gun, if you can see one and shoot it." Billie took the gun, and winked his eye to shoot. "Well," he says, "I don't see the coon when I wink my eye." Jimmie looked at him. He says: "Billie you've got a louse on your left eye winker; That's the reason he didn't see the coon when he went to shoot. Governor Cox has the louse of this slush fund upon his left eye.

The real issue, as I said, is the league of nations.

When President Wilson returned from Europe the first time, with his league of nations, he sent a wireless from the ship asking the senate of the United States not to discuss the league of nations. It was the duty of the senate of the United States under the constitution to discuss that league of nations, and to advise with the president both before and during the negotiations of that treaty. Yet the president asked them not to discuss it.

When he arrived in Boston and an inkling of what was in this monstrosity began to permeate through the nation, President Wilson bade defiance to the senators, bade defiance to the nation, and said: "I know of no sweeter challenge than that. I have fighting blood in me." It is sometimes a delight to give it scope. On this occasion it would be an indulgence.

The Republican party in this cam-

paign also welcomes that challenge of the president, and it has answered that challenge in its platform, by declaring "it will resist all attempts to overthrow the foundation of the government, or to weaken the force of its controlling principles and ideals, whether that attempt is made in the form of international policy or domestic agitation."

Therefore, we have the real issue before the American people,—the issue as to whether or not, there shall be a super-flag above the old stars and stripes. That is the issue of this campaign.

President Wilson desires to internationalize the American people. Senator Harding desires to Americanize America. If you want America Americanized, vote for Senator Harding; if that is what you want, put Senator Harding where he can Americanize America and where he can Americanize any agreement designed to remove the peril of war; if that is your desire elect the Republican senators upon whom Senator Harding can rely when he is elected to carry out his policies.

When President Wilson first brought home the league of nations, the idea of a league of nations captivated perhaps nearly all but a few far-seeing Americans. The idea was captivating to those who were sick and tired of war, sick and tired of horrible holocaust that was taking place across the waters. The soldier boys were appealed to,—the soldier boys who knew horror and the misery of trench warfare and of "going over the top." The women of the land were appealed to,—the mothers who had looked forward for two anxious years while their boys were on the other side. They all were appealed,—especially the mothers. Of these mothers. Do you know the most beautiful thing that was ever said about mothers was said by a man who spent his early life in this vicinity, among the Klamath and the Pitt River Indians,—Joaquin Miller, when he said:

The bravest battle that ever was fought,  
Shall I tell you where and when?  
On the map of the world you will find it not;  
'Twas fought by the mothers of men.  
'Twas not with cannon or battle shot,  
With sword or noble pen,  
'Twas not with eloquent words or thought  
From the lips of wonderful men:



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But deep in a welled-up woman's heart,  
A woman who would not yield,  
But bravely, silently bore her part;  
Lo! there is that battle field!

The mother, who bravely, silently bore her part, was appealed to with the Wilson promise that the league of nations would bring universal peace, that it was a panacea for war.

But they didn't tell you that it meant, not the cessation of war, that it meant throwing America into every war that might occur in Europe or elsewhere throughout the world.

The women and the soldier boys who went to the war, were appealed to, with the promise that the league of nations would bring about arbitration, that it would bring about disarmament, that it would bring about peace.

Now get this straight; there is absolutely no compulsory arbitration provided for in the league of nations; There is absolutely no compulsory disarmament provided for in the league of nations. The only compulsory thing along the line of arbitration or discussion provided for in the league of nations is this:—That in a dispute between two nations, it may as a matter of right be taken to the council of the league of nations but there is not a provision for any compulsory arbitration. Arbitration is optional. Disarmament is solely optional.

In case we have a dispute with another country, under the league of nations, that other country, as a matter of right, may force us to submit the dispute, not to arbitration, but to the council of the league of nations, and that council of the league of nations as now constituted, in case we should join, would consist of the United States, the British Empire, France, Italy, and Japan, as the five permanent members of the council. There are also four temporary members of the council and those four temporary members are Belgium, Greece, Spain and Brazil,—one American power outside of the United States.

Now in case a dispute arises between the United States on the one hand and England on the other hand, we will say, then England, as a matter of right, may submit that dispute to the council of the league of nations; that being submitted to the council, then Japan and France and Italy, as the permanent members, and Spain, Greece, and Brazil and Belgium as temporary members, would decide the question between us and England with this exception, that England as a matter of right, within 14 days after having submitted the question to the council of the league of nations, could have the dispute transferred from the council to the assembly of the league of nations. In such a dispute England would not vote; neither would the United States vote. When the matter is submitted to the assembly of the league of nations, before there is a decision there must be a unanimous decision of the council members of the league, plus a majority of the assembly members of the league.

As at present constituted there would be 21 members of the league, as distinguished from the council members of the league. The majority of that 21 would be 11, but to make up those 11 votes, would be the votes of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India and Egypt. There would be five votes for England where we don't have a single vote for ourselves, because these five colonies are English colonies, and then in addition England would have, in the assembly, the vote of Hedjas a country of less than than 300,000 population, whose ruler at the present time is under the pay of England, and besides that England, under the league of nations, would have the protectorate over Persia, so that she would start out with seven votes against us, when a dispute between England and the United States is submitted to the assembly of the league of nations.

Would it be any trouble for England to buy up some of these vengal states, like Siberia, Hayti and Siam and a few others, for the purpose of either securing a decision or blocking a decision by the assembly? Remember that every question submitted to the council may, as a matter of right, by either one of contesting parties, be transferred to the assembly, and in case of a difference between the United States and England, if the council members should show a disposition to decide in our favor, or even if against us, England would have seven votes at the outset either to bring about a majority of the assembly, or to block a decision.

This condition is one of the things that the senate of the United States by appropriate reservations endeavored to circumvent.

The Republican party, as I told you, says in its campaign platform, that it will resist all attempts to overthrow the foundations of our government or to weaken the con-

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# IT FIRST HAPPENED

IN

# 1906

## IT WILL BE STILL GREATER

IN

# 1920

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### UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF H. T. L.?