

Idle Comment

By FRANK STONE

For many years we have been observing the various organizations set up to give the world permanent peace. Various plans for peace have been here as long as the world has been created. It may not have been plans as we know them today, but there have been many attempts to bring the peoples of the nations to live in peace and harmony. As yet, we have to see the one that has done just what it created to do—to have peace. If there has been one that accomplished its purpose, history has never recorded it.

Since peace movements before our times are not familiar to us, we will dwell on those in our time.

At the end of World War I, when America became involved to "save the world for Democracy," we have had our doubts that peace plan would ever work. On second thought, we believe that it could be worked. But there is a big IF! And that IF will be the stumbling block for many years to come, we believe.

Back in 1919 and the early twenties, this country tried to get into the foreign entanglements of other nations. That was one of the first principles George Washington cautioned his countrymen not to do!

We almost got ourselves into the League of Nations in 1919 and early twenties, but we had men in the United States at that time, who believed in looking out for America first. These

men were cursed, criticized, condemned, and in some cases were ostracized from their groups of political friends, because they would not vote to put us into the League.

One of these Americans was the late Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts. He was the father of the present Henry Cabot Lodge who is American Representative at the United Nations. Many credit Lodge with being the power that prevented the U. S. from joining the League. History has about proven he was the power, and the same history has proven without a shadow of a doubt that the reasons why Lodge wanted America out of the League were right.

In his many speeches, Lodge contended that once the United States became a member of the League of Nations, we would continually be embroiled in some European or world conflict. How right he was! For this stand he was called an isolationist.

We have seen, only in recent years, what Lodge meant when he said we would be embroiled at the outset of trouble in Europe or any other place in the world. He contended that America would be the one nation that would be called, expected and just about demanded to enter the fight first. In other words, we would have to fight the battles of our so-called friends. Korea is a concrete example of that thought on his part.

What did the League of Nations prevent? To our knowledge, nothing. Japan was a member of the League. Yet when she marched into Manchuria in the early thirties, no other nation offered to stop her, except of course, China, the country invaded. There was supposed to have been ways of doing this, without firing a shot, but what did the member nations do? NOTHING! After many threats of what the League was going to do, Japan thumbed her nose at that world body and went on her way to wage war against China for many years.

The irony of all that, is that the United States was blamed outright, by none other than our "good friend England." The British yelled their heads off that if we had been in the League with them, Japan would not have dared enter Manchuria. That is the old British diplomacy down right down the line. There is no doubt that if we had been in the League and had been unfortunate enough to have had a sucker in the White House, we would have been at war with Japan long before Pearl Harbor. In fact, the British even double-crossed the United States regarding the attempt to stop Japan's Manchurian conquest.

When our Ambassador called on the Imperial Japanese Government, to deliver a warning, that we would enter the fight on the side of China, as had been pre-arranged with the British, and they were to do same, we were left with the bag to hold. The British Ambassador made his call, and instead of telling the Japs, that there would be war, with England and the United States fighting with China, he contradicted the

American representative, and told the Japs that England would not enter into no conflict against her. Just another example of how the British have back-knifed us down through the years.

Franklin Roosevelt came up with the bright idea of the United Nations, and having at his command a bunch of party congressmen who thought he was a little god, voted America into that world organization. So when trouble came in Korea, Harry Truman stuck his neck out, and sent our young men to their deaths in that hell hole. On this point we have said and will again, that if the Congress at that time, had been interested first in welfare of the United States, it would have impeached Truman for violation of the Constitution. He got by with, calling only a police action. Truman had no son nor grandson in Korea being shot at. But when such lead-slinging and murder that is going on in Korea is not a war, God help the world when it does become embroiled in a war.

As you know, England is a signatory power of the United Nations. Her part in the Korean conflict is really disgusting to an American. England's token contribution, as well as the other United Nations members in the Korean mess has about convinced us that we were suckers to be pulled into it without first finding out just what our allies were going to do and when they were going to do it. Why, our good friends are still selling war material to the Red Chinks! Yet we say, and they say, they are our friends. For our part we don't want and will not have, friends that stab us in the back more than once, for if we survive that once, from then on, we are watching this so-called friend.

In the third paragraph of this column we said a world peace movement could probably be worked, but there was a big IF. That IF is just this: IF ALL THE SIGNATORY POWERS, WERE TO AGREE, AND CARRY OUT THAT AGREEMENT, that once a friend or foe, started a move of aggression, that ALL MEMBER NATIONS would CEASE ALL TRADE of goods of any kind, blockade that aggressor, and give an ultimatum that if she did not cease her aggression immediately that ALL NATIONS WOULD BE AT WAR WITH HER, and all nations would have the SAME NUMBER OF MEN and the same amount of equipment on the field of battle, we are convinced, that when an aggres-

sor, was met face to face with this array of war material that she would BACK DOWN IN A HURRY!

This could have been done in the Korean mess, IF ALL MEMBER NATIONS HAD DONE WHAT THEY WERE OBLIGATED TO DO—OR were they obligated? We were left with load to carry. For our part, the time has come for the people of this country to wake up and find out what is happening to us.

We realize that we are so deep now, that we cannot easily get out of the so-called peace organization, but by the Grace of God, if ever again, we are unembroiled with foreign entanglements, we should STAY UN-EMBROILED! and look after our own land.

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