

REPORT OF THE MEETING MONDAY ON ARTICLE TEN

"Had a Good Time" Discussing the Various Phases of the World League.

Dear Mr. Staats:

In response to your request for a report of our meeting at the High School Assembly Hall, I wish to say that I feel like offering an apology to the Board of Education, since while it is undoubtedly the proper thing to use our school building for political discussion—just so it is open equally to both sides—nevertheless, it was given to us on the understanding that we should use same for an intellectual discussion of the League of Nations. And I believe we succeeded up to a certain point, for there is something that can be said on both sides of any question, and I must say that Mr. Downs presented the opposition angle very interestingly, but at this stage of the game a certain loquacious gentleman insisted on dragging into our considerations the Lodge reservations, which in my capacity of chairman I declined to entertain—realizing only too well that if the Senate of the United States could spend nine long, weary months in fruitlessly pawing over these, that in the short time at our command we

could not hope to get anywhere. However, on an appeal from the ruling of the Chair, I was voted down, first for a specific question and again a second time on the proposition of "letting the flood gates down" for an inundation of acrimony, for I believe we all think keenly on the subject of the responsibility of a defiance of the evident popular will—that the Treaty and the Covenant be disposed of some way; and yet, with our audience overwhelmingly of an opposite political faith to my own, it was only natural that they should have sustained our friend Carpenter in the contention, especially since they could be expected to take advantage of such an opportunity to "get back" at me for their inability to accept my challenge. In this connection, I wish to say that I think Brian misinterpreted my refusal to permit his long-drawn-out queries to reach surface, as it was not my being adverse to the "tenuosity" thereof, but to the content and a knowledge of where it would lead to—nowhere, not to No Man's Land, to which latter place as I stated that evening, it would have been a good investment if we could only have sent our entire Senate "over there," to drink in, as it were, the awfulness of the tragedy—that these gentlemen would have been able then to compose their troubles very quickly, instead of defying the sentiment of America. What I wished to do was to discuss pro and con the various mooted points of the Cove-

nant, as related to the much talked-about these days Article X—whether or not in our capacity as citizens we felt content with same or appreciated indeed the cogency of any criticisms. As it turned out, we were diverted from this phase of the subject, which probably would have been productive of less heat and more light, but I guess we all had a good time anyhow, and as I took occasion to emphasize to the President of the Board of Education, who was among those present, that it would be a splendid thing to have that assembly hall thrown open to the public in the same manner, for many similar functions. There must have been fifty or more in attendance, and in view of the inclemency of the weather I thought it reflected well of our interest in this great question. The idea back of this meeting primarily was that in a matter of such absorbing attention at the present time, it is our duty to give it a very careful consideration—regardless as to our being against it or for it. By the way, I am just in receipt of an express package from the League to Enforce Peace, containing a goodly number of copies of their various pieces of literature on the subject, and I shall be glad to pass these out as long as they last to anyone desiring to investigate further. The president of this organization is Mr. Taft, as your readers know, so it cannot be categorized as Democratic campaign literature, but contrariwise it is purely from the

Non-Partisan angle. Relative to your comment editorially as to the writer's attitude toward President Wilson, I wish to say that I am proud to be so classified, and more, one of these days I shall be glad to "inflict" on any who may care to listen to me a special address on his achievements; but not now, as I am too busy endeavoring to elect Jimmie Cox as the next President of the United States. Yours very truly, HOMER S. DUM.

roll call Commissioners Haller, Bender, Bryce and Mayor Barber voted Aye. Nays none. Motion carried. Commissioner Haller moved to adjourn to the next regular meeting

date November 1st, 1920. On roll call Commissioners Haller, Bender, Bryce and Mayor Barber voted Aye. Nays none. Motion carried. Chas. M. Hitch, Village Clerk.

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