

**SMALL NATIONS LEAVING LEAGUE**

**SHOW SIGNS OF REVOLT**

**Express Discontent With Lethargy Displayed by Ineffective Body; Most of Them Disappointed**

There are signs of revolt on the part of small nations members of the League of Nations, in expression of their discontent with the lethargic attitude of the league toward problems for the solution of which it presumably was created and with the tendency of dominant powers to deal secretly among themselves, ignoring the little powers and the authority of the league itself, says the National Republic in commenting on the recent sessions at Geneva. These rebellious indications cropped out at the September, 1927, sessions of the league council and league assembly at Geneva in a manner sufficiently conspicuous to worry friends of the league with fears for the continued existence of the organization and to create a world-wide impression that the prestige of the league has not been heightened any by happenings in the last twelve months.

Of course the situation—the secret dealings of the big powers among themselves and the impotency of the league in meeting any but minor problems and controversies—is not by any means a new one. But, heretofore, the behavior of the small fry among the league membership has been that of silent submission or, perhaps, an occasional show of soft-grumbling resentment.

**Asks More Active**

When, however, in this September session of the league assembly, Norway and Lithuania joined Sweden in a demand for a less passive attitude by the league council toward important international political problems, there were innumerable and distinctly audible murmurs of approval from various delegations, and from the mixed public galleries there was an outburst of applause so surprising and so vociferous as to prompt many craning of necks on the floor of the assembly.

The president of the Norwegian Chamber of Deputies, C. J. Hambro, according to an Associated Press re-

port of the proceedings, told the gathering quite firmly that his "whole cabinet was disappointed in the failure of the League of Nations to agree on disarmament principles."

The statements of a few great powers in the league, he continued often settled questions in private, and public discussion in the council afterward was a mere formality. He said that the small nations are all waiting and wondering what the leading nations are going to do about disarmament. One difficulty, he remarked, is "that there are too many diplomats at the league meeting, and they are not in favor of publicity."

Mr. Hambro urged that the meeting of the disarmament preparatory commission, of which the United States is a member, be held in November as scheduled and not postponed.

**DIRECT PRIMARY IS FOUND LACKING**

**VOTERS FAIL TO TURN OUT**

**Man Elected Often Is Put in Office by Minority; No Chance for Poor Candidate Now**

There was more than a little element of political hysteria in the addition of the direct primary to our political machinery. At a time when there was a feeling current that somehow the common and garden voter was not having a fair show in the naming of candidates for public office, the direct primary was suggested as the great corrective. With printed ballots in every home and ballot boxes in every dooryard it was expected that there would be a fine big concerted uprising of the citizenship of the country for the selection and election of the best men. It was also argued that the direct primary was to open the way for the able, honest, yet poor, man to make his way into public life at the minimum of expense.

**Not Realized**

Unhappily, all these rosy forecasts have gone by the board. The man with his individual ballot in hand and away from his opportunity to counsel with his fellow party men has simply refused to participate in primaries and elections and we have a

steadily decreasing total of actual voters. Public officers in many instances now represent the minority and not the majority of party men or voters at large. The direct primary has also introduced a discussion of personalities rather than principles and while independence in voting is hailed as a cardinal virtue it is an unfortunate fact that the vociferous independent voter seems more inclined to exercise his powers in vocal declarations at the corner grocery store rather than at the voting booth. It is being made plainer all the time that we are suffering from lack of party cohesion.

**No Chance for Him**

As for the opportunities of the poor man, he is now more effectually barred than ever. Instead of one election, he is obliged to go through two—one for the nomination and then one for the election and we have examples at hand of the expense involved. The case for and against the direct primary is not in yea and the time for sober judgment may not have arrived, but it is a matter of satisfaction that in various states of the nation real inquiries are now being made as to the system and the possibility of amendment or correction is being seriously discussed.

Question asked what will the ball players do with their money? Well, a lot of kind friends will be very attentive to them and will help them spend it.

**LINCOLN SCHOOL**

Mrs. Whitehouse's seventh grade group took charge of assembly last Friday. The subject was the "History of Highland Park." Slides were shown and explanations given.

Inter-class Hallowe'en parties were staged last Monday by all the various grades. After school, the sixth grade gave a party, inviting all pupils of the school.

There was an omission about the P. T. A. meeting held two weeks ago at 7:30. Talks were given on "Play-ground Needs and Possibilities." Miss Ethel Goddard, physical education teacher, Mrs. Everett Millard, and Mrs. W. C. Shipness presided over the meeting.

Later, there were games in the gym under the direction of Miss Goddard, in order to show parents what was being done.

**JOURNALIST'S DAUGHTER BIGGEST TREE MERCHANT**

By making a business out of the hobby of her father, Miss Evelyn Smith, daughter of the late Major Orlando J. Smith, founder of the American Press association, has become today the America's biggest tree merchant and owner of more than two and one-half million of the finest specimens in America, valued at \$7,000,000.

Miss Smith's gigantic nursery at Amawalk, N. Y., which is the subject of an article in the American Magazine, was built upon the principle of selling only large trees, and it was largely through Miss Smith's efforts that the transplanting of huge trees to city streets and new estates was made successful. In the ordinary sense, Miss Smith's "city of trees" is not a nursery, for no small shoots or shrubs are sold. On the other hand, no tree is allowed to leave the grounds until it has grown into perfect health and maturity.

Miss Smith, with her sister, inherited a 249 acre farm owned by her father, who treated trees as a hobby and not a business. Evelyn, elder of the daughters, refused to allow the estate to be sold and, though still in her teens and fresh from private schools, plunged into the job of making tree growing her life's work. As a result the area planted in trees has increased to two square miles of land, valued at \$3,000 an acre, without its precious growth of trees. Conservative estimate of the value of Miss Smith's property is \$7,000,000, but her business itself being one of the few such ventures in America, is rated at even a higher figure.

The daughter of the old soldier-journalist has brought out her sister's interest and is sole owner of the property. She began its cultivation in 1909, soon after her father died.

**RAVINIA NEWS**

Each morning a five or ten minute assembly is being held at the Ravinia grammar school this year.

Mr. Ralph R. Seymour, who has just returned from a trip around the world, will speak to the Ravinia school assembly sometime in the near future.

The second grade held a bazaar last Monday at which clay models, made by the pupils, were sold. New curtains for the rooms will be bought with the proceeds.



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