#### Winnetka Weekly Talk ISSUED FRIDAY OF EACH WEEK

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1919

#### Seeking The Light

"Armed isolation or peaceful partnership"—that is the alternative that President Wilson presents to the American public, choice depending upon whether or not this country accepts the treaty and the covenant of Of all kinds in large and small cans amends it.

the president. It will come into being whether we are a part of it or not. Ours is the choice of being in or out, but not of there being a league or none. We shall have to stand armed against the rest of the world. We shall have to take what is left of the world's business after the other nations have had what they want. We shall still have to carry the financial burden of the world. Upon whether we are in this league which is to be formed or out of it will depend our power to have a directing part of that business.

If the League is an instrument to avoid war, to make war most improbable, if not impossible, if the other nations of the world are to bind themselves in the agreement held in the covenant, it is difficult to see just why the United States, outside, should have to be armed to the teeth, be the world's creditor and, at the same time, be barred from the world's markets.

The people of the United States, that great mass of the public which has paid in money and suffering for the war that has been fought, want nothing but the establishment of conditions that look towards a settled peace. American business naturally desires its share of the world's markets. The people of the United States no longer believe in their isolation from the rest of the world. They have seen the Atlantic crossed both by submarine and by aircraft. They know that they must accept a place in the world related to the other great nations .

All that is needed to convert the people of the United States to the Covenant of the League of Nations, is a convincing statement of just how its articles will work to ensure security from war, just how failure to accept it will bring the dire consequences that are prophesied for that failure. There has been nothing brought out in all the long discussion, nothing that has come to the public ear or eye, that brings that conviction. Recrimination, opposition that is not backed by reasons that can be accepted by intelligent people as being the controlling motives behind the resistance, this is all that the people of the United States have had for guidance.

It is not enough for the common man to read a document like the peace treaty and the covenant of the League of Nations. The common man is not accustomed to analytical consideration of such documents. He requires interpretations, explanations. The fact that the English seems clear to the president, or even to the men who sit in Congress, is no reason to suppose that John Jones, of the police force, for instance, is able to read understandingly. And it is the John Joneses who are most concerned, for it is they who are called upon to fight the wars, to meet the bills, to do the sacrificing with no recompense but such as comes from sacrificing.

The President in his speeches made throughout the length and breath of the land is not talking to the single audiences that hear his words. Millions of people every morning take up their newspapers to read what has been said the night before, each hoping that now there will be light shed upon his perplexity. He lays it down again with the heart sickness that comes from hope deferred.

The American people are already and anxious to lay party politics and passed to the waste basket. The same personalities aside. All they need is an example and to be convinced wherein the best interests of the American people lie.

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Articles will be called for.

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