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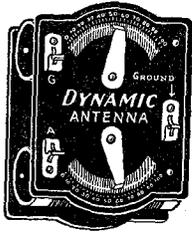
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Massachusetts' League of Nations Poll

At Least 62 Per Cent. of a Truly Representative Cross-Section of the State's Population Favors Membership

How do the American people stand on the issue of United States entrance into the League of Nations? An official referendum in Massachusetts—home State of the late Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, arch-opponent of American membership in the League, has just been taken.

Of a total 217,421 Massachusetts citizens voting on the question at the State election on November 6, 135,485—or 62.31 per cent.—registered their desire for the United States in the League. Of the 115 Massachusetts cities and towns where the referendum was on the ballot, but four returned negative majorities.

Descendant of the old New England town meeting, Massachusetts has its Public Policy Question Statute. Under it, any State Representative District, on petition of 200 of its citizens, or any State Senatorial District, when 1,000 citizens petition, must put on its ballot at a regular election any given question of public policy.

The League of Nations question asked:

"Shall the representatives in the General Court from . . . be instructed to vote to request the President and the United States Senate to enter into full cooperation and membership in the League of Nations, with the explanatory reservation that the United States shall not engage in war with any nation except by vote of Congress as provided in the United States Constitution, and such other reservations as they may deem wise?"

This appeared on the ballots of thirty-six Massachusetts Representative Districts. While only about one-fourth of the districts of the State, these are located in every region from the Cape to the Berkshires, and included at least a part of every county, except Dukes and Nantucket—sparsely settled island counties. In several instances, such as in Boston, Cambridge, and Brockton, district lines divided municipalities so that the referendum was on the ballot only in certain wards.

Comparison of returns seems to indicate little variation in sentiment between the types of population. Voters in college centers were most strongly in favor of the United States joining the League; those in suburban towns were the least so. Between these two were the rural communities and industrial centers, standing about alike on the League question. Political party-lines appeared to have had small, if any, bearing on the results.

As nearly as such distinctions can be made, using the general nature of the various towns or city wards as criteria, the following comparisons are possible:

	Per cent. of total vote	Majority in favor of League
Urban Industrial Centers	57.41	62.73
Suburban	23.92	57.71
Rural	14.84	65.14
College Centers	3.83	73.67

There appears to have been no difference in sentiment on the League between the native and foreign-born citizens. In such industrial cities as Worcester, Fitchburg,

and Lawrence, the preponderance of foreign born is great—in some instances around 40 per cent. The rural voters were, for the most part, born in the United States.

The four towns returning negative majorities may be classified as follows:

	Party Vote	Majority against League
Milton	Republican	52.84
Amesbury	Industrial Democratic	50.93
Salisbury	Rural Republican	52.04
Brewster	Rural Republican	52.82

This was an abnormally Democratic year in Massachusetts. Many normally Republican towns returned heavy Democratic majorities. Consequently it is difficult to measure League referendum results against party divisions.

Comparison of two Republican with two Democratic strongholds seems to show the Democrats somewhat more favorable than the Republicans to American membership in the League. Newton and Winchester, which normally return strong Republican majorities, gave 58 per cent. and 57 per cent. majorities in favor of the League; while Holyoke and New Bedford, heavily Democratic, returned League majorities of 67 per cent., and 74 per cent.

League Membership Wins

The possibility that the Democrats may have been somewhat more on the side of the League than the Republicans might be deduced from the fact that of the towns returning majorities against American membership, three were classed as Republican and one as Democratic. However, of the 115 cities and towns where the referendum was on the ballot, ninety-one were classed as Republican and twenty-four Democratic, on the basis of the 1933 elections.

Considering the general uniformity of the returns, it seems fair to say that at least 62 per cent. of a truly representative cross-section of the Massachusetts population favors the United States joining the League of Nations.

Free Exchange Markets

(Continued from page 40)
"selling" of securities will be very light in total volume. For his Federal taxation, it is no longer possible for the individual to offset his income by establishing large losses in stocks and bonds, since such capital losses are now allowable only to the extent of \$2,000 in excess of capital gains. At the same time, his New York State return must exclude both gains and losses in capital in computing his normal, as well as his emergency, income tax.

Therefore, the usual urge to sell securities and so record losses thereon will be a very mild urge this year, and the stock and bond markets should be relatively free from what has been a restraining, and even disturbing, influence in times past.

From Our Readers to Our Readers

Brevity is one of the first thoughts contributors to this department should keep in mind.

Hundreds of letters bearing on the same subject are frequently received. It is physically impossible to publish more than three or four which bring out special points.

Critical comments are as welcome as friendly expressions of approval.

Pursuit of Happiness

To the Editor of *The Literary Digest*—Sir:—It seems that our staunch defenders of the Constitution and the people's rights to liberty and pursuit of happiness are solely concerned about preserving the people's right to merely "pursue" happiness, but not to actually obtain it.

BEN FARBERSTEIN.

St. Joseph, Missouri.

History and the New Deal

To the Editor of *The Literary Digest*—Sir:—In your issue of October 13 you published a letter under the heading of "The Established Order." I did not want to answer it before election as it might be construed as political.

As the Socialists do, the writer of that letter, in order to make a case for himself, first builds a false premise—a dummy—and then proceeds to lambaste his own creation to "prove" his point. I will comment on just one paragraph of his letter.

He says: "They say there is no precedent for the 'New Deal.' Neither was there for Abraham Lincoln."

Now, no thinking and well-read person has said that there is no precedent for the "New Deal." Whatever else the "New Deal" may be, it is *not* new. It is the old, old Crooked Deal by which demagogues get the populace to thinking that a nation can become prosperous and happy by the process of robbing *Peter* to pay *Paul*. It is the centuries-old method used by governments to usurp the rights of man. This is so because the government that does the robbing for *Paul's* benefit, in reality robs both *Peter* and *Paul* of something more precious than life itself. It robs them of their human right, of their human liberty.

For instance, does the government give to *Paul* the fruits of its brigandage against *Peter* for destroying pigs and crops? Yes, but it also deprives *Paul* of his human right to run his farm as a freeman and subjects him to the rules and regulations of a despotic bureau 2,000 miles away. It turns him from a free American farmer into an abject European peasant.

There is one basic truth we must ever keep in mind if we are to remain a really free people, and that is this: No government can or will give the people something for nothing. It will always exact its price for such "gift," and that price is and always has been the liberty of the citizen. This liberty-robbing by the government is at first done so subtly and under such sweet-sounding names that the people usually are not aware of it until it is too late. For instance, this brigandage I speak about is called a "process-tax" and the process of robbing *Peter* to pay *Paul* is called "social justice." As if slavery under any other name would be less irksome!

This same thing happened to the Roman Republic. The people were given "free" bread, "free" circuses, "free" baths, etc.; and when they finally woke up to the fact that they were no longer a free people, their protest was loud and angry; but Julius Caesar's nephew told them in effect: "You are just a little too late, boys. This is no longer a Republic, but an Empire!" and he promptly declared himself an Emperor and became Augustus I, the first Emperor of Rome. Can't we profit by the experience of history?

And the "brain-trusters" of Augustus who engineered the Roman "New Deal" had the nerve, as their successors now in Washington, to call themselves "liberals!" Liberal, indeed—very liberal with other people's freedom!



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"The Man Behind the Man Behind the Gun"

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It was not for nothing that Washington warned us that eternal vigilance is the only price of liberty. Watch the mailed fist so carefully covered under the velvet glove of "social justice," "a more abundant life," and the "Forgotten Man!"

As for there being no precedent for Abraham Lincoln—read your history, boys, read your history! But why bring in Lincoln's name, anyway? Just to make an un-American thing look respectable?

I remain, as ever, yours for the Constitution, the greatest device ever conceived by the genius of man for the preservation of human rights, Elmira, New York. RICHARD MARLOWE.

Gold Forfeits to Avert War

To the Editor of *The Literary Digest*—Sir:—Assuming all nations to be members of the League of Nations, an assessment in gold should be made, by the League on each nation proportionately to its armament. This gold would then be held in trust by the League, but would belong irrevocably to the assessed nation, except on declaration of war; whereby it would be forfeited entirely or in part according to the discretion of the League. Each nation could issue paper money on the credit of the deposited gold just as if the specie were lying safely in its own treasury.

This plan would promote a double objective. First, to increase world disarmament, since each nation would naturally endeavor to lower its assessment to rock bottom. Second, to abolish war, since each nation would hesitate to engage in battle on pain of losing its posted bond.

MARTIN V. HOFFMAN.

Guttenberg, New Jersey.

For Restricting Retail Businesses

To the Editor of *The Literary Digest*—Sir:—Unless Congress enacts laws or adds an amendment to the Constitution with a view of returning the retail business to the local retail business man, there is no prosperity in view. Moreover, even the retail business should be classified and restricted to its specific boundaries, that is, every branch of business to limit its operations to the articles allowed to that particular line and no more.

America suffers to-day from too much chain-store system and retail branches operated by large corporations.

Dallas.

GEORGE PHILLIPS.

"If a Third of Six Were Three"

To the Editor of *The Literary Digest*—Sir:—My attention has just been called to an article by George W. Lyon entitled "How Gray Is Gray Matter To-day?" in *THE LITERARY DIGEST* of November 3. In this article occurs the riddle,

If a third of six were three,
What would a fourth of twenty be?

Any modern college student of mathematics would realize that three is completely disconnected from its normal mathematical setting and is a symbol, therefore, without significance. Hence, the answer to the above riddle might be given as $\frac{1}{2}$, -63 , or perhaps XYZ. Certainly the answer, $7\frac{1}{2}$, given dogmatically as the only result, indicates not only a lack of knowledge of simple arithmetic, but a complete lack of any use of logic.

It is a wonder to many of us that Burroughs and Gould survived such training. Moreover, it is pleasing to know that the modern student will not face the world with a mind filled with such a clutter of nonsense.

In conclusion, I should like to give the following problem to George W. Lyon:

If a penny were a tenny,
What then would be a henny?

C. V. NEWSOM.

Chairman, Department of Mathematics,
University of New Mexico.

Try a Substitute

To the Editor of *The Literary Digest*—Sir:—I'm gettin' purty tired of these hyar letters 'bout buttonholes. Down in these parts we don't worry none. If we can't git the kind of buttonhole we want, well, we just hook 'em up with a nail or a safety pin. Supposin' I'd suggest that to these fellers that keep a arguan, I wonder what they'd say. Then there's a new idea that's come out in the last few years what's used quite a bit in these parts and that's a zipper. You don't have to worry none 'bout gettin' 'em buttoned up, and you don't have to worry none 'bout 'em comin' undone. All you gotta do is give 'em a yank and believe me they stay put. Let's try a substitute so we fellers what likes to read the letters in *THE LITERARY DIGEST* won't have to keep on readin' 'bout buttonholes.

B. FOSTER EARNEST.

Elizabethton, Tennessee.

The Comics

To the Editor of *The Literary Digest*—Sir:—I note that one reader charges in this department that the comics should be cleaned up. There are many of us who heartily agree with this, not only because of what J.D.H. says, but because of the inane, idiotic themes concerning other planetary beings, nightmarish animals, and other fantastic and impossible creations of what would seem like an abnormal mind. Why fill the child mind with these fantastic, imaginative fictions? It can do no good, and most of us parents are sure it does much harm. There are many good, wholesome comics that stick to sanity, and the humor of common every day life. Let us boost these and let the publishers and artists know that we do not approve of the other type. May we hear from other parents?

RALPH R. TURNER.

Chesterfield, Illinois.

To the Editor of *The Literary Digest*—Sir:—Let me join with J. D. Herron in his suggestion that something be done to clean up the "funnies," so called. Merely a series of pictures portraying tales of love and banditry. I, for one, do not see the funny side of most of them. Some of them, let me say, contain real humor, for example Percy Crosby's *Skippy*.

In the interest of the children let us include the comics in the general clean-up campaign.

MARGOT HENDREL.

McKeesport, Pennsylvania.