

BULLETIN NEWS DIGEST

World Court Fight Looms

AMERICAN opinion on the World Court, expressed as Congress is assembling, is representative largely of varying views as to the strategic power of Senator Borah, chief opponent of the court. His committee position is recognized as giving him certain advantages. There are differences of opinion on the outcome of the fight, but many feel that he opposes the desires of the people.

Republican leaders who have "properly sensed the attitude of the nation in regard to the entrance into the World Court by the United States" are described by the Charlotte Observer (Dem.) as "trying to convert Senator Borah to the view that no reservations are needed for the original Hughes-Harding proposal for adherence to the court." The Observer, however, suggests: "The trouble is that Mr. Borah, thus made to feel the power of his position, might insist on a little more begging, and then some more. They may find that he is not responsive to the soft-soaping treatment and that the only way in which he may be conquered is by the steam roller process. It would have come to a strange pass in Congress if one individual senator should be able to defeat the will

Nation's Press Speculates on Borah's Line of Attack, With Public Opinion Chiefly Concerned As to Prospects of Blocking Favorable Action in Senate

ington administration is striving to assure in adhering to the World Court is that it may be separated from the league so far as the United States is concerned. The proposed reservations are designed, not to wreck the court; if anything, they will strengthen it. Senator Borah and the irreconcilables have no right to ask more than full protection for the United States. But what they demand is ruins."

POSITION ASSAILED.
The position of Senator Borah is assailed by the Philadelphia Public Ledger (Ind.) with the charge that "it is quite evident that what the senator from Idaho is suffering from is a lack of ruins. According to his philosophy of life," continues the Ledger, "if he can be said to have any, no perfect thing can be built save on ruins. Borah would accept the World Court only if it lay in ruins. Then a perfect tribunal could be erected. What the Wash-

"fully ratified in London," with the "accompanying evidence of good will." The St. Louis Post Dispatch (Ind.) declares that the public's "patience is exhausted" as a result of inaction by the Senate, and it says further in criticism of failure to act: "The plain people of this country and every country know what war is—better than anyone else they know what it is. They are fed up on war. And the plain people of the United States will be fed up on senators who fail to do everything in their power to banish war from the experience of humanity."

"A careful canvass of the Senate has revealed that the proposition for the United States to join the World Court would probably carry by more than the required two-thirds vote," says the Davenport Democrat (Dem.), while the situation, in the opinion of the Rutland Herald (Rep.), is one in which every citizen is interested, and "every member in Congress, regardless of his political relationship, should give this measure support."
HIS OWN DESIRE.
"Senator Borah proclaims," states the Washington Star (Ind.), "his own desire for a

World Court which shall include the United States, but only a court which has no connection with the League of Nations. The practical side of this question is whether the other nations of the world will agree to scrap the tribunal which they have already established in order to meet the wishes of the United States. Senator Borah believes they will." On the other hand, the Camden Courier (Ind.), while admitting that "Senator Borah is expected to do his stormy petrel stuff again at this winter's session," suggests that "perhaps Borah, as chairman

of foreign affairs, will surprise those who so confidently look to him for bitter opposition."

The senator's position is "consistently inconsistent," as viewed by the Atlanta Journal (Dem.), which remarks: "Senator Borah's objections to America's joining the World Court are like the wolf's charges against the lamb which he had made up his appetite to devour. No sooner is one of the senator's criticisms disposed of than he devises another; and the likelihood is that if the court were conformed precisely to his present theories of what it should and should not be, he would conclude to slay it anyhow." To this the Miami Daily News (Dem.) adds that "ordinarily there is a Borah in every legislative session," and that "in some cases they are controlled and managed by patronage," but that "Borah enjoys incorrigibility so much that he comes to believe in his cause so greatly that his quality stimulates

sincerity," and "all that may be done with him is to keep him sweet as possible."

SENATE BLOC.
"Mr. Borah would esteem it a triumph of statesmanship if he could tie the whole matter up, as he and others did the Isle of Pines treaty," asserts the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch (Ind. Dem.), while the position of Borah and his "Senate bloc" is cited by the Pasadena Star-News (Ind.) as indicating they will fight bitterly and "the result will not be known definitely until the last roll call of the Senate is made on this momentous issue." One point of attack, however, is suggested by the Watertown Times (Ind.) when it states: "There is no hope of defeating the ratification if it comes before the Senate in its present form. The opponents hope to defeat it by loading it with amendments and reservations which will so weaken it that it will fall to get the necessary two-thirds vote."
By Consolidated Press Association.

TEXAS DEVELOPMENTS PUT 'MA' FERGUSON UNDER FIRE

COMMENT on the situation in Texas arising from the acts of the governor, Mrs. Ferguson, puts the woman executive on the defensive. Expenditures for highway purposes are assailed in public comment, and the pardoning power is declared to have been used too extensively. Mrs. Ferguson is accused of permitting her husband to rule the state.

"The Ferguson administration," remarks the Charlotte Observer (Dem.), "is not panning out very happily, that is, for the woman governor. There are resignations under way. Two members of the state highway commission having already quit under fire, with indications of a general revision of the board personnel. Graft in operation of highway affairs seems to have developed, and

the blame goes back to the administration of Mr. Ferguson. It is an unfair situation for the woman governor, and of course she is to bear the brunt of the blame. Paternalism, such as is said to have existed in Texas gubernatorial affairs, is bound to undo any administration."

SUSPEND JUDGMENT.
Uncertainty as to the facts, however, is indicated by the Brooklyn Eagle (Ind. Dem.) with the comment: "In our opinion, outsiders should suspend judgment on the condition of things in the State of Texas until the data on which to base judgment are much fuller than they are. Of one thing we feel confident—that the chivalry of the Lone Star State will prevent any baseless assault on a woman governor. Texas chose her after a fair fight and

no favor. If she has made mistakes, her weakness is common to humanity. If she has done wrong, her accountability is the same as a man's, no more and no less." Further developments, however, according to the Bristol Herald Courier (Ind. Dem.) "will be watched with some interest," and that paper admits "Mrs. Ferguson's opponents may be able to hang something on her, as they say on the curb."

EXTRA SESSION.
If an extra session of the legislature is called, "as now seems likely," says the Washington Star (Ind.), "the country will, perhaps, find out just how far, in fact 'Ma' Ferguson has been really governor of Texas, and how far 'Pa' has been actually conducting the affairs of the common-

wealth behind his wife's petticoats." The situation impresses the Huntington Advertiser (Dem.) as an "illustration of what can and frequently does happen when an electorate votes its sentiment instead of its intelligence." The Advertiser also declares: "It is an unhappy plight in which the Ferguson family finds itself. 'Ma' Ferguson had every opportunity to make good. The sympathy of the public was with her. She could have erased much of the disgrace brought upon the family by the dismissal of her husband from office. But the wife has been a mere figurehead, and the husband has been the real governor." As to the result, the Quincy Whig Journal (Ind.) believes that "a tolerant and indulgent Texas citizenry will not be

long in guessing where to place the blame, and the woman who serves as a figurehead will probably be absolved."

NATIONAL ATTENTION.
"Naturally the Texas experiment with a woman governor," the Manchester Union (Ind. Rep.) states, "has aroused nation-wide attention. In all fairness, though, it is to be set down that the troubles of her administration are to be traced to the influence of a man, and that a similar situation would have been created had one of 'Jim' Ferguson's male lieutenants instead of his wife been chosen governor of Texas, and been disposed to follow the Ferguson advice. Subservience to a boss is no novelty in strictly masculine state administrations in this republic."

That both husband and wife, it is pointed out by the Charleston Evening Post (Ind. Dem.), "should both have served in the office of governor of a great state is a rare distinction, yet, remarkable as is the record, it is not unique. If, however, 'Ma' Ferguson is ousted from office by impeachment, as 'Jim' was, there will be a record which ought to stand in political annals for a long time unmatched. In event of Mrs. Ferguson being deposed, it might be in order for her daughter to run for governor."

ROAD PROJECTS.
"It remained for Texas," says the Reno Evening Gazette (Rep.), "to be the first state in the Union in which scandal should arise about the expenditure of the funds for federal road projects. But

what else can be expected? There is no one who loves his native state more sincerely and loyally than a Texan, but he will have to admit that the conditions at Austin are shocking. Information from papers in the South shows that Mrs. Ferguson scarcely acts as governor at all. Her husband is declared to be an unofficial member of the highway commission. The pardoning of convicts from the Texas prisons has become outrageous, but 'Ma' Ferguson continues to sign on the dotted line."

"She has not been a good governor," declares the Albany Evening News (Ind. Rep.), with the statements: "She has pardoned convicts in large numbers. The state has recovered \$600,000 from one highway contracting firm."

Charges by Representative Irwin of Dallas are declared by the Springfield Illinois State Journal (Rep.) to be "astounding indictments of official incapacity and neglect." Attacking "Fergusonism in Texas," the Chattanooga News (Dem.) says that "an opportunity is apparently developing for Attorney General Dan Moody to duplicate the record of Leo Polk in St. Louis twenty-odd years ago," and adds that "Moody is already being heralded as the next governor, which doubtless should constitute a very small part of the housecleaning program." The Raleigh News and Observer (Dem.) exclaims "Watch Dan Moody," and declares that "every state in the Union needs such prosecuting officers."
By Consolidated Press Association.

CIGARETTE SMOKING IN COLLEGE DRAWS ONLY MILD FIRE FROM PUBLIC

WHEN we consider the shrieks of horror that would have arisen from "press and pulpit" a few collegiate generations ago at an announcement that smoking was officially accepted as one of the recreations

ting aside smoking rooms in its dormitories ought to be sufficient to indicate to what extent the practice has grown. Feminine smoking is just one phase of that great and growing movement for greater freedom, especially a freedom from following a moral standard established for her by

ing," the New York Herald-Tribune believes, and it advises that "the open-minded Bryn Mawr decision" should be accepted as "a wholesome example in favor of letting college girls smoke when, where and if they want to." The Herald-Tribune adds that "wher-

The college action is interpreted as "practical institution of a course in cigarette smoking" in comment by the Charlotte Observer, which states further: "If the authorities expected to set an example for emulation, they have found that they made a false move. Bryn Mawr is destined to

who do not approve unrestricted smoking by young girls at Bryn Mawr or other colleges of like practice can refuse to send their daughters there or withdraw them from such institutions if they are already enrolled."
REAL ISSUE.
"Whether women should

rooms," and remarks that "it may be true that there will be less use of cigarettes when they are not forbidden than when they are." The further opportunity for choice is seen by the Utica Observer Dispatch, with the explanation that "it is no doubt well that there are colleges where smoking

lege head is that "if a regulation prohibiting anything can no longer depend on the authority of conscience and convention, then it is no longer effective."
The purpose to curtail smoking among students is credited, however, to President Parks by the Ann Arbor Times-News, which

pulsion must be defied."
It is granted by the Knoxville Sentinel that it took "courage for Bryn Mawr to change an edict that had been upheld by authority for 28 years," but the Sentinel asks: "Was it the only course to be pursued, if the institution was to make any pretense of admini-