



1919

## Proposal for an Additional Article to be Appended to a Peace Treaty with Germany, Undated [1919]

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Resolved, that there should immediately be appended to the peace conditions now before the German government, and to those to be offered the co-belligerents of Germany, an additional article in the following sense: "The Allied and Associated Powers severally reserve the right <sup>(1)</sup> to substitute equivalent diplomatic commissions for any instrumentalities of the projected league of nations that are given functions in connection with this <sup>treaty</sup> treaty, which will be operative in ~~all that affects the security of whether or not a~~ league of nations shall be established; (2) ~~to reserve for further consideration to withdraw at any time from any provisions of this treaty that are not necessarily germane to the settlement of this war and the security sought for the permanence of that settlement against its recurrence.~~ <sup>and (B)</sup> ~~to reserve~~ <sup>without prejudice to themselves, separately and</sup> ~~to reserve~~ <sup>for future full con-</sup> sideration by their people the question of any league of nations. Neither this article nor the exercise of the rights <sup>reserved</sup> hereunder, whether at the time of signature, the time of ratification, or at any other time, shall affect

the substance of the obligations of Germany and its  
co-obligants under this treaty, nor the validity of  
signature and ratification on their behalf.

Be it further resolved that this resolution  
is ~~notice to the peace conference~~ intended to in-  
-dicate and to give notice of the limits of  
obligation on the part of the United States ~~to~~ in  
which the Senate is <sup>now</sup> prepared to ~~consent~~ acquiesce  
in consenting to the ratification of a treaty em-  
-bodying peace conditions that may ~~prove~~ be  
found otherwise ~~satisfactory~~ acceptable to its  
judgment.

Resolved that there should immediately be appended to the peace conditions now before the German government, and to those to be offered the co-belligerents of Germany, an additional article in the following sense:

"The Allied and Associated Powers severally reserve the right (1) to substitute equivalent diplomatic commissions for any instrumentalities of the projected league of nations that are given functions in connection with this treaty, which treaty will be operative whether or not a league of nations shall be substituted; (2) to withdraw at any time from any provisions of this treaty that are not necessarily germane to the settlement of this war and the security sought against its recurrence, and to reserve without prejudice to themselves for future separate and full consideration by their people the question of any league of nations. Neither this article nor the exercise of the rights reserved hereunder, whether at the time of signature, the time of ratification or at any other time, shall affect the substance of the obligations of Germany and its co-belligerents under this treaty, nor the validity of signature and ratification on their behalf.

Be it further resolved that this resolution is intended to indicate and to give notice of the limits of obligation on the part of the United States in which the Senate is now prepared to acquiesce in consenting to the ratification of a treaty embodying peace conditions that may be found otherwise acceptable to its judgment.