

# League of Nations, as Instrument of Peace is Dead

By WALLACE CARROLL

The League of Nations virtually is dead as an international political instrument for the preservation of world peace and the status quo.

The great dream of a permanently stable world, as conceived by President Woodrow Wilson, has been dissipated by the brutal realism of world political and territorial development.

The league, is an instrument to prevent war and seizure of territory from weak nations by stronger ones, has failed.

Diplomats made these admissions as they took stock of the league's position and the end of a day making final Paraguay's withdrawal from Geneva's councils.

The little South American republic is one of eight nations to leave the league.

Optimists, comparing the league's firm principles with those of the Roman Catholic church, predicted that it will live as a potent international factor despite its past failures. All agreed that, although the league has become politically impotent, it will survive

as a clearing house of economic, cultural and sanitary information.

Seven have served official notice of their intention to quit the league during the 17 years of its history. Brazil, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Japan, Germany and Paraguay. Italy walked out without giving official notice and may return if she wishes. The resignations of Germany, Brazil, Japan, and Paraguay have become effective.

Paraguay withdrew because the league applied an arm embargo to it after it refused to accept Geneva's peace proposal in its dispute with Bolivia over the Chaco question.

Looking over the league's record of successes and failures, statesmen counted the following:

Four years ago the league assembly condemned Japan's seizure of Manchuria. But speech making in Geneva did not halt relentless drive of the Nipponese soldiers over the plains of China's "eastern provinces."

Then in 1932, the disarm-

ment conference was convoked. It failed to satisfy Germany's claim for rearmament and the conflicting ambitions of the "ins" and "outs" in Europe, and so ended in failure.

Later, Germany rearmed despite the Versailles treaty, of which the league is the official guardian, remilitarized the Rhine and declared sovereignty over internationalized rivers. Geneva passed resolutions but did nothing else.

The league's next reversal came over the Chaco dispute. For the first time, Geneva tried to use strong measures against the little south American countries.

It applied an embargo on both nations. Then, when Bolivia accepted Geneva's peace proposal and Paraguay did not, the embargo was left to apply to Paraguay alone which caused its resignation.

Before the league's next failure, several minor successes occurred, whom King Alexander of Yugoslavia accused Hungary of inspiring crimes. War became an imminent

possibility. But the League quickly settled the dispute.

At the same time a dangerous dispute arose between Germany and France over the Saar plebiscite which was to determine to which country the rich mining back should belong. The league dispelled the danger of war by sending an international army to see that the vote was just. The territory returned peacefully to Germany.

Then came the league's biggest test--the Italian invasion of Ethiopia. A boycott on war supplies was laid down on Italy, but this did not prevent it from taking Ethiopia.

With its prestige at its lowest ebb in history, she refrained from mixing in the Spanish civil war.

Despite these failures there are those, especially permanent league officials, who believe that the Geneva body's present ill health is merely temporary and that it will emerge again as a strong guardian of peace.

## Visayan Transportation Co., Inc., M. V. "GOVERNMENT TAFT"

SAFE—FAST—COMFORTABLE

### THURSDAY ROUTE

Leaves Cebu Thursday at 5:00 o'clock p. m. and arrives Tacloban Friday at 7:00 o'clock a. m.  
Leaves Tacloban Friday at 11:00 o'clock a. m. and arrives Catbalogan the same day at 4:00 o'clock p. m.

### SATURDAY ROUTE

Leaves Cebu Saturday at 5:00 o'clock p. m. for Catbalogan, Calbayog, Allen and arrives Legaspi Monday at 7:00 o'clock a. m.  
Leaves Legaspi Monday at 7:00 o'clock p. m. for Loang, Catarman, Allen, Calbayog and arrives Catbalogan Wednesday at 2:00 o'clock p. m.  
Leaves Catbalogan Wednesday at 3:00 o'clock p. m. and arrives Cebu Thursday at 5:00 o'clock a. m.

One who desires to go to Manila may take the M. V. "GOVERNOR TAFT" for Legaspi, then by train to Manila. This will not only cost him less but will also avoid a long and tiresome sea voyage. This will also afford him a chance to see Legaspi, one of the most picturesque and the most progressive business center of Bicolandia.