

# If Haiti Invokes the League

Startling as it may seem, and preposterous as it would be, there is unfortunately only too much reason in the suggestion that Haiti could and may appeal to the League of Nations for protection against the aggressions of the United States. These are the facts of record and the logical arguments in the case:

Haiti is one of the signatories of the Versailles Treaty and one of the charter members of the League of Nations. She is therefore, equally with the other members, entitled to all the rights, privileges, immunities and benefits of the League.

The Covenant of the League in Article Ten pledges all members of the League to "preserve as against external aggression the existing political independence of all members of the League." Therefore, the British Empire, Hedjaz, France, Liberia and all the rest are pledged to preserve against external aggression the political independence of Haiti. The United States, being a power external to Haiti, has for some time committed and is still committing aggressions against the political independence of that Republic. It has compelled that country, through military force, to abrogate its constitution and to accept against its will a new constitution arbitrarily prescribed for it by this country—a new constitution which Mr. F. D. Roosevelt now denies that he ever said he wrote, though a considerable number of highly credible witnesses declare that they heard him say it. This country has also attacked the political independence of Haiti by forcibly depriving its President and Cabinet of their salaries, unless they will acquiesce in its dictate. It therefore inevitably follows that the British Empire, Hedjaz, France, Liberia, and all the other members, of the League are pledged to protect Haiti in her political independence against the external aggressions of the United States. The fact that the United States is not a member of the League, is not pertinent, since the undertaking

of protection is against aggression by non-members as well as by members. Neither can any treaty or other arrangement between the United States and Haiti be pleaded in the case, since all treaties repugnant to the Covenant of the League are automatically voided and annulled.

It now appears that among the thousands (3,250) of indiscriminate killings of Haitians by American Marines, "there may have been cases of women being shot." Also, there is reason to suspect that there have been cases of flogging, strangulation, and other physical tortures inflicted upon Haitians, to extort confessions and information from them. All of which superbly exemplifies the fine service to humanity which the Administration of Woodrow Wilson has performed in the land of Toussaint L'Ouverture, and the effective manner in which our President has commended this country to the affection and confidence of all Spanish America. Also, it convincingly confirms the appreciative tribute of (Secretary of the U. S. Navy) Sir Josephus Daniels, N. C. B., D. S. M., etc., in which he asserted that the Marines who butchered Haitian women were worthy comrades of those who fought in Belleau Wood.—Harvey's Weekly, N. Y. City.