

*Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, November 19, 1919*

"I cannot personally accede to the proposition that other nations, that a body of men in executive council where we as a nation have but one vote, shall have any power, unanimous or otherwise, to say who shall come into the United States. It must not be within the jurisdiction of the League at all. It lies at the foundation of national character and national well-being. There should be no possible jurisdiction over the power which defends this country from a flood of Japanese, Chinese, and Hindu labor."

*Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, November 19, 1919*

"Then comes Article X. That is the most important article in the whole treaty.... This article pledges us to guarantee the political independence and the territorial integrity against external aggression of every nation of the earth. We ask no guarantees; we have no endangered frontiers; but we are asked to guarantee the territorial integrity of every nation practically in the world—it will be when the League is complete. As it is today, we guarantee the territorial integrity and political independence of every part of the far-flung British Empire.... Under that clause of the treaty we have got to take our army and our navy and go to war with any country which attempts aggression upon the territorial integrity of another member of the League.... Now, guarantees must be fulfilled. They are sacred promises—it has been said only morally binding. Why, that is all there is to a treaty between great nations. If they are not morally binding they are nothing but 'scraps of paper.' If the United States agrees to Article 10 we must carry it out in letter and in spirit; and if it is agreed to I should insist that we do so, because the honor and good faith of our country would be at stake. Now, that is a tremendous promise to make."

*Senator Irvine L. Lenroot, November 19, 1919*

"Can it be possible that there is a Democrat so partisan that he does not see the necessity of a reservation as to Article 10 relieving us of the obligation of declaring war in an unjust

cause? I am profoundly convinced that if partisanship be forgotten and only Americanism remembered we can agree upon a reservation to this article, now so dangerous to the cause of true liberty, so destructive of American ideals and principles. I care not in what form the reservation is made so long as it does not obligate us to engage in war irrespective of the justice of the cause.... If Senators across the aisle would only forget that President Wilson is the leader of the Democratic party, and remember that this is an American question so crucial, so important to our country, so fateful to its future that consideration of political advantage should not have the weight of a feather in our deliberations—if this could be done, Mr. President, I am confident that we would come to an almost unanimous agreement as to reservations for the protection of the United States."

*Senator Key Pittman, November 19, 1919*

"When you unmask all of the hypocrisy surrounding this whole transaction, when you see the leaders of the great Republican Party, representing the people of this country, pretending that they are doing everything in God's world to ratify a treaty,... their interest and sincerity and consistency at least are open to suspicion on the part of the people of the country.... [I]f those of you there who are honest and sincere, if those of you there who hold your country above your party, are willing to join us on this side, I feel assured we can get you enough votes to ratify this treaty with reservations that you yourselves would have accepted two months ago.... [I]f you do not cut out of the resolution of ratification those reservations that you know will destroy the treaty, if you persist in that fraud upon the American people and that fraud upon the world, then I tell you there are enough fearless Democrats on this side of the Chamber to prevent its ratification until the American people understand. We may adopt the policy of isolation, and profit; we may decide to remain in an existence of selfishness, greed, and war, but we will not stand for national cowardice, pretense, and dishonesty."