CONSTITUTIONAL LEAGUE
OF AMERICA

National Headquarters:
122 WEST 49th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

January 23
1 9 2 0

Harry F. Judson, LL.D.,
President University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear sir:

We inclose herewith preliminary announcement
of the Constitutional League, a volunteer association of
citizens of the United States, the purpose of which is to
promote knowledge of the principles underlying the Gov-
ernment of the United States and to combat the growing
wave of radicalism by means of education of the people in
the fundamentals of our National institutions. It is pro-
posed to conduct this campaign by means of the Spoken
and Written Word.

For the Spoken Word, the League will utilize
the spirit and enthusiasm of the American Legion and the
Liberty Loan Organizations. Volunteer speakers will be
drawn from both these organizations who will be provided
with the material upon which to base their remarks, and
who will be sent into motion picture houses, schools,
factories, churches and other forums throughout the
United States for the purpose of delivering four-minute
addresses upon the principles of Americanism.

For the Written Word, reliance must be had upon
the best thought of the Nation to furnish the League with
information as to the various theories upon which rad-
icalism is based and the best arguments to combat them.
It is also desired to get as many points of view as prac-
ticable upon the principles underlying the Constitution
of the United States in its three branches,—executive, leg-
islative and judicial,—including brief theses upon the
salient points of the discussion before the Constitutional
Convention and the reasons for the final action of the
majority; together with similar theses covering the basic
reasons for the various amendments.

We wish particularly to emphasize in all mate-
rial used how the rights of the individual are guarded by
CONSTITUTIONAL LEAGUE
OF AMERICA

National Headquarters:
111 W. 42d Street
New York City

President:

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Directors:

National Committee:

For the protection of the interests of the Constitutional League as an organization and for the protection of the business of the organization, it is hereby provided that no person shall be elected to the office of President, Secretary or Treasurer of the organization unless he shall have been a member of the organization for at least two years and shall have been a director of the organization for at least one year before his election to any one of these offices.

The direction of the business of the organization shall be vested in the executive committee, composed of the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five other members elected by the general meeting of the members of the organization.

The composition of the executive committee shall at all times be one-third of the members of the organization. The President shall serve ex officio as chairman of the executive committee.

The executive committee shall meet at least once in every three months, and shall hold a special meeting whenever a majority of its members shall desire to do so.

All actions taken by the executive committee shall be subject to the approval of the general meeting of the members of the organization, which shall be held at least once in every six months.

All funds received by the organization shall be deposited in the name of the organization in a bank designated by the executive committee, and all disbursements shall be made by order of the executive committee.

All accounts shall be audited by an auditor appointed by the executive committee, and a full and complete account of all transactions shall be kept by the treasurer of the organization.
the Constitution and also how changes in our laws may always be put through by the will of the majority, thus obviating any necessity for radical action on the part of the people.

Will you not, through the medium of your Faculty, aid us in arriving at the most thoughtful analyses of these questions, in order that our speakers may go forth fully armed and ready to answer any adverse arguments which may be advanced?

We will greatly appreciate an expression of your own views upon these questions, as well as those of your Professors of Political Science and Economics, in order that we may incorporate them in the text-books to be furnished to speakers who will represent the League. It is only in this way that an effective consensus of trained educational judgment upon this vital National question can be given to the average citizen and to the alien within our borders.

Anticipating the pleasure of your early favorable reply, I am,

Yours, for the Constitution,

[Signature]

National Director.
"We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this CONSTITUTION for the United States of America.

CONSTITUTIONAL LEAGUE
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National Headquarters
122 West 49th Street
New York City

Who It Is:

The following Americans have consented to serve on the committee for the Constitutional League:

Hon. Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior.

Hon. Alfred E. Smith, Governor of New York.

Hon. Charles Evans Hughes.

Hon. Herbert C. Pell, Jr., 17th New York Congressional District.

Hon. William Philips, First Assistant Secretary of State.

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt, First Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons.

Right Reverend Bishop Burch.

Reverend Dr. Joseph Silverman.


Jeremiah W. Jenks, L.L.D., Ph. D., Publicist.

Jerome A. Myers, National Director.

Lt. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt.

Guy Emerson, Vice-President, National Bank of Commerce.

Joseph Hartigan, Manager, Foreign Language Division, Government Loan Organization.

W. B. Marsh, Secretary, The Dial Publishing Company.

Manny Strauss, Consultant.

Wm. DeForest Manice, O'Brien, Boardman, Parker & Fox, Treasurer.
What It Is:

The Constitutional League is a voluntary association of citizens who believe in the Government of the United States and who consider its underlying principles, as evidenced by the Constitution, a true expression of the fundamental rights and liberties of the people.

It’s Platform:

If the people of America read and understand the Constitution of the United States, there will be no question of any other form of government for America.

We have tried the Constitution and it has worked satisfactorily for One Hundred and Thirty-five years, during which time the United States has grown to be the greatest nation in the world. Let us not lightly consider casting it aside.

What It Proposes to Do:

This organization proposes to do the following concrete things:

1. Put a copy of the United States Constitution into every one of the twenty million homes in America.
2. Explain the Constitution by the spoken word in every public forum.
3. Translate the Constitution into not less than sixteen foreign languages commonly spoken and read by Americans of foreign birth and extraction.
4. Explain the Constitution by means of motion picture slides and films in the 16,200 motion picture houses of America.
5. Have the Constitution taught to every American school child.
6. Use the 15,100 newspapers and the thousands of magazines in the country to develop a clearer understanding of the Constitution.

What It Will Accomplish:

This organization will seek to accomplish the following results:

1. The preservation of American ideals.
2. The development of a clearer and more general understanding of these ideals by all the people.
3. The encouragement of any activity, whether or not initiated by the League, which will lead to sound Americanism.
4. The encouragement of open discussion of questions affecting the fundamental principles upon which American institutions are based.
5. The education of the people in the principles underlying the Constitution of the United States.

What It Will Not Do:

The organization will not take part in any activity:

1. Which is controlled in aim by any class, creed or political party.
2. Which seeks the aggrandizement of any individual or group of individuals.
3. Which does not have for its purpose the greatest good of America.
4. Which is purely local.

Back to the Constitution of our Fathers
How It Will Function:

The organization proposes to accomplish results entirely through education of the public mind. This will be brought about by means of:

1. Volunteer speakers in motion picture houses, schools, factories and other public forums.
2. The distribution of printed matter.
3. Articles and statements in the public press.
4. Co-operation with other organizations or individuals.

The Extent of Its Work:

The territorial extent of the organization’s work will be national, limited only by the funds available.

How Its Funds Are Used:

Any funds contributed to the Treasury of this organization will be used as follows:

1. For printing and distribution of literature. 3. For rent and office expenses.
2. In locating and training speakers. 4. For establishing branches.
5. For motion picture slides and films.

Management:

The active management of the League will be under the personal direction and supervision of Mr. Jerome A. Myers, who for the past three years has been Chairman of the Speakers and Meetings Bureau of the five Liberty Loan Campaigns, the Red Cross, Salvation Army, War Savings, Boy Scouts and kindred other patriotic campaigns in New York. Mr. Myers has severed his relations with the Government Loan Organization to take up the directorship of the League. His intimate knowledge and experience in this avenue of endeavor assures the League of a trained executive who has demonstrated by previous results his ability to manage this kind of work

Associated with Mr. Myers in the active management of the league will be:

Guy Emerson, Vice-President of the Bank of Commerce, who was Director of Publicity of all five Liberty Loan Campaigns and Associate Director in thirty-five patriotic war drives and the acknowledged authority on publicity of this character

Joseph Hartigan, at present manager of the Foreign Language Bureau of the Government Loan Organization, who will have charge of our racial group division. Mr. Hartigan was formerly Commissioner of Weights and Measures in New York City and for the past three years has been associated with the Foreign Language groups of the country.

William B. Marsh, Secretary and Treasurer of “The Dial,” formerly Advertising Manager of the Government Loan Organization, who will direct the publicity and advertising of the League

Manny Strauss, Financial Advisor and Consultant, who acted as advisor in many departments of the five Liberty Loan Campaigns, War Savings and a number of other war activities

Chester Harrison Turner, Chief of Printing Division, Government Loan Organization will supervise the production of literature

F. Wallace Doying and Jerome F. Mantilla, who handled the literature distribution and feature advertising during four Liberty Loan campaigns will manage the distribution department

William DeForest Manice of the law firm of O’Brien, Boardman, Parker & Fox, will act as Treasurer

Policy and Program:

This is the first organization of this kind that has proposed a definite and concrete program and is composed of men who are the acknowledged authorities in their respective fields and whose experience in this particular line of work vouchsafes the program undertaken. These men are all able to inaugurate and carry forward these plans to an assured success.
The Secretary of the Interior

Washington

November 8, 1919.

My dear Mr. Pell:—

I wish you success with your Constitutional League. I have no objection whatever to my name being used in connection with it providing the League is not an institution for denouncing people or denouncing theories of government or economic panaceas, but is a positive, aggressive institution for the presentation to our people of the fact that we have in this Democracy a method of doing whatever we wish done which avoids the necessity for anything like revolutionary action. The objection to Bolshevism is that it is absolutism—as Lenin has said himself, the absolutism of the proletariat. It is an economic government by force, while our Democracy is a government of persuasion.

I find that no good comes from calling names. The men who are to be reached are the men who are not committed against us, but are disposed to be with American Institutions. We must show them that we have a system that it is worth while betting on, and that if they have another way of doing things economical, machinery by which it can be instituted is in the people's hands. Our policy is to look before we leap, and to submit our methods to the judicial judgment of the people. This permits any doctrine to be preached that does not subvert our institutions. Where do our institutions come from? What have they been effective in bringing about? What is the condition of the United States as a whole compared with other countries? Can we hope to work out our salvation without civil war? These are legitimate questions, the answer to which is found in this other question—is not political Democracy the one practical way to eventual industrial Democracy?

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Franklin K. Lane.

Hon. Herbert C. Pell, Jr.
House of Representatives.
The University of Chicago  
Department of History

Chicago, February 6, 1920.

President Harry Pratt Judson,  
Faculty Exchange,

My dear Mr. Judson:-

Enclosed please find a communication from the Constitutional League of America. I can see no reason why you should not express your interest in the general purposes of the league which I understand to be the extension of information in the United States concerning the Constitution of the United States and its real significance.

Very sincerely,

[Signature]
President Harry S. Truman

Dear Mr. Truman:

Received your communication.

From the Constitutional League of America, I can see no
reason why you should not express your interest in the
extension of information to the United States concerning the
Constitution of the United States and its real significance.

Very sincerely,
March 12, 1920

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 23rd of January with enclosure came I believe while I was out of the city. I am sorry not to have answered it before.

The general purposes of the League are excellent. I wondering whether there is any duplication of the agencies in this direction. It is certainly highly desirable that there should be the widest possible knowledge and understanding among our people of the Constitution of the United States and the particular principles embodied in it.

If there is any service any member of our faculty can render I am sure they will be glad to do it.

Very truly yours,

H. P. Judson

Mr. Jerome A. Meyers,
122 West 49th St.
New York City.

HFJ: JN
Dear Eil: 

Your letter of the 23rd of January with enclosure came I peferino while I was out of the office. I am sorry not to have answered it sooner. 

The recent influence of the lesson is excellent. In consequence of my impression at the moment, I am certain that the same principle which has been my guiding star to the wisdom of the people of the United States and the fundamental principles under the Constitution of the United States and the particular principles embodied in it. 

If there is any learning any member of our faculty can answer I am sure each will be glad to go it. 

Very truly yours,

H.P. Jackson

M.E. Tansey, Warden

The Main Building

New York City