

LA FOLLETTE FEARS IMPERIALISM HERE

Tells 10,000 in Boston That
World-Wide Exploiters Are
Undermining the Nation.

CITES CENTRAL AMERICA

Likens "Subjected" Peoples Fight-
ing Exactions on Bankers' Behalf
to 1776 Patriots.

Special to The New York Times.

BOSTON, Mass., Oct. 30.—Invading President Coolidge's State, Senator La Follette in a speech here tonight set forth his views on "American Imperialism." He indicted as "traitors to American ideals the Administrations at Washington responsible for the conquest of Haiti and Santo Domingo, of the republics of Nicaragua and Honduras, Bolivia, Panama and Costa Rica."

An enthusiastic audience of fully 10,000 Bostonians, most of whom paid admission, gave the Progressive candidate an ovation when he appeared.

Senator La Follette praised the part played by Massachusetts in the struggle to abolish slavery, and he said it was the same spirit that caused the Progressives today to attack "Government-created special privileges which are enriching the few and impoverishing the many."

Asserting that the nation in the last twenty years has abandoned its foreign policy and has slavishly copied the policies upon which the British Empire was built, Senator La Follette declared:

"We are today creating in Central and South America our Irelands, our Egypts and our Indias. Helpless peoples are being crushed into submission in order to compel them to pay tribute to our international bankers and industrial exploiters."

Points to World War Danger.

"At the same time, in Asia, Africa and Europe, in the Near East as well as in the Far East, American oil interests and concession hunters, with the aid and encouragement of our State Department, are competing with the financial imperialists of England and France for the control of the world's natural resources."

"We have gone a long way on the path of imperialism, a path that leads inevitably to a huge military and naval establishment, to a secret use of our State Department by private interests and ultimately into conflicts which may embroil us in war in the Far East. It may embroil us in war with Europe as well."

"It has already converted our army and our navy into a collection agency for the financial house of J. P. Morgan & Co., of the National City Bank, of the Standard Oil Company and of other banking houses of Wall Street, State Street and of American gold."

"In the republic of Haiti alone between 2,000 and 3,000 natives have already given up their lives because they would not willingly assent to abandoning without protest their 111 years of independence—an independence almost as long as our own."

"You may shrug your shoulders over the murder of from 2,000 to 3,000 black folks in Haiti; you may say 'It is no concern of mine.' But do you realize that what has happened in Haiti has happened in Santo Domingo? It has happened in the sister republic of Mexico. It has happened in Nicaragua, Honduras and Costa Rica. It has happened in the republic of Colombia."

"Do you realize, too, that this policy is rapidly extending itself over the whole of South America; that it is active in China? But it is not confined to these two continents. American gold and American oil is backed by our State Department in the Mediterranean, it is fighting for concessions in Arabia, in Persia, in Russia. It is involved with Turkey."

Calls Marines "Collectors."

"For twelve years American marines have been maintained in the independent republic of Nicaragua, which has been appropriately nicknamed 'The republic of Brown Brothers, bankers.' For eight years the formerly independent republic of Santo Domingo has been conquered and policed by American boys in the interests of great banking firms—of the National City Bank, Speyer & Co., and the Equitable Trust Company of New York."

"Our Department of State has negotiated loans and has made itself responsible for their collection in Peru, for the Guaranty Trust Company. In Salvador, your State Department has been the agent for the banking firm of F. J. Lisman & Co."

"China is being divided into spheres of influence, and unless checked American boys under the pretense of guarding American lives will be policing the investments of Wall Street bankers in China, just as for fifty years the American State Department has supported American investors in Mexico, one of the instances of which was the bombardment of Vera Cruz in which American boys lost their lives for the protection of American oil interests."

"It is not a pleasant picture, this picture of American boys clad in the uniform of the United States dying in tropical jungles to collect usurious claims."

"It does not inspire one's patriotism to think of the State Department conniving with banking interests to send men who have enlisted to protect our country, against defenseless peoples, and to have them die, not for our flag but for private greed."

"It is not an inspiring parallel to picture the grandsons of men who fought here on Bunker Hill, dying in the plague-infested jungles of the tropics at the hands of men defending their own soil, just as our grandfathers defended the soil of America."

Traces Haitian Control to Bankers-

He discussed in detail the relations of the United States to Haiti, and declared that the loss of Haitian independence dates back to 1905, when American financiers obtained a concession to build a railroad. In 1910 four American banks, he said, "conspired to control the National Bank of Haiti," and in December, 1914, "without a word of warning to the Government of Haiti, American marines were landed in the capital of Haiti."

He quoted Admiral Caperton as saying that the United States Government was only interested in helping maintain Haitian independence, and added that nine years have elapsed and American marines are still in Haiti, Haitian finances are under American control, "her laws have been drafted and her Constitution amended against her will in order to permit the Americans to introduce the plantation system into Haiti and the Custom Houses of the island have been taken over."

Admiral Caperton, in charge of the American warships, he said, described the operation as follows:

"The following message is secret and confidential:

"United States has now accomplished actual intervention in the affairs of another nation. Hostility now exists in Haiti and existed for a number of years against such action. We now have the capital of the country and two other important seaports. Consider it imperative that these contemplated operations be kept at present secret."

"I ask you to bear in mind that we are not at war with Haiti," he continued. "But we had conquered a peaceful nation without even a declaration of war. We had invaded a neutral country. We had torn our treaties to shreds. We had treated them as a scrap of paper. We had done this not to make the world safe for democracy but to make the Republic of Haiti safe for American bankers."

Likens Haitians to Patriots of 1776.

"And in making Haiti safe for American bankers we have killed between 2,000 and 3,000 people whose only offense was the offense of which your fathers were guilty here on Boston

Common 150 years ago. They were defending their liberties.

"But the Haitian people had not even the means of defense that our fathers had. They were shot down unarmed. And in this killing some American boys lost their lives. They were sacrificial offerings, not on the altar of liberty but on the altar of private greed."

"Since that time Haiti has been under martial law. Any man who dared to criticize a marine officer was subject to court-martial and imprisonment. Editors have been imprisoned for saying the very things which were said here in Boston in 1775."

"I cannot contemplate this nine years of crime, of wanton killings, of the destruction of civil liberties, without shame for my country as I contemplate the base purposes to which our strength has been applied."

"I feel a greater sense of humiliation than that expressed by Burke and Fox in the British Parliament at the sending of paid Hessians to the conquest of the American colonies. Honest Britishers might have felt a right to hold its Colonies by conquest, but we had no semblance of right in Haiti or in Santo Domingo."

Their soil was as sovereign as is the soil of Massachusetts. They were weak. They trusted the great sister Republic to the north. But, without warning, they found their sovereignty stripped from them, their people ambuscaded and shot down because they would not accept the sovereignty of another power."

"To protect the gamblers of Wall Street, we have made enemies of former neighbors. We have lost friendships in Central and South America that should be ours. We have desecrated the finest traditions of America, of New England, of Washington, of Adams, of Jefferson and of Lincoln."

"We have sown the seeds of future wars. We have started on that course of empire which ended in the destruction of Rome, in the destruction of Spain, in the destruction of Germany, and the all but destruction of France and Great Britain as well."

"The policy of imperialism which is now dominating the American Government is not due to the control of any particular political party. It is not a question of politics. Both parties, Democratic and Republican alike, have been used in subverting the Government and turning it away from the traditional policies of genuine Americanism."

"Financial imperialism is the natural and inevitable product of the control of Government by the private monopoly system. With the system in power, it has made no difference whether the administration was nominally Republican or nominally Democratic."