MEM - SCOTT.

On Nov 26th find Sullivan waiting for Scott, both of us on same errand. Reason for Mr. Harding's move. As Scott evidently peeved in his gentle way - says of course the President doesn't know much about this sort of thing and reacts quickly to a word dropped. Maybe Mr. Root dropped a word, mayby something was said in Cabinet (Sullivan tells me later that the Cabinet did discuss the matter that morning.) Rather thinks the President has seen which he runs a way and brings back to us. His own scheme. The merit of it is in his judgment that it institutes so little machinery and new personnel , it really is a utilization of diplomatic corps and of the Hague group. He says maliciously enough for so sweet a soul, that the body at Geneva could be worked in, that of course all they are interested in is their salaries., and for the sake of peace it would be cheap to use the best of them. Goes on to say that he laid this scheme before Nicholas Murray Butler and Butler laid it before the President. This was some weeks ago. He advises Sullivan to have his office get hold of Butler and get a new interview . Later I learned that David Lawrence has published the whole scheme.

He cannot let us get away without a dig at Wilson. Tells how Lansing came to him once in despair at Paris and said that Wilson had asked him to draft a resolution suggesting that henceforth difficulties should settled by arbitration. Scott then drafted a note showing how long generally and successfully arbitration had been in use. Wilson did not know this, he contends. which of course is an amusing inference for a man who has said as much as Wilson has and for as long as he had on arbitration and who had used it to more or less good effect for some six years as

† see article attached.

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President of the U.S. This is a part of the Washington partisan physhology. The ablest and the sweetest of them do not seem to be able to escape it.

The next day I drop in and meet Scott. Ask him if he has any further light on why the President did it.

Well, he says, you know we are all human. You must remember that a few days ago this ceased to be Mr. Harding's conference. His fine sentiments had put everybody in a delightful frame of mind, arroused the best. He retired afterh his opening speech and Secy.Hughes appeared and stirred the world. Since that time the Secretary has been the only man quoted. We have had great secretaries, Mr. Root for instance, who never allowed his shadow to overshadow that of the President of the U.S. If you remember when Mr. Roosevelt was president, Mr. Root prepared some very remarkable state papers, but they always began :The President instructs me to say .

Mr. Hughes has been speaking for himself. It is quite possible that the President thought it time to let the public know that after all it was he who occupied the White House.

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