

Page 1  
to sent to  
congress  
-5-

April 2  
1947

Well, the Democrats in Congress had an enjoyable field day on last Wednesday, because of the Democratic victory in Oklahoma's special Congressional election. The Republicans had claimed that the Republican candidate would win. The campaign took on national importance with both Democratic and Republican bigwigs going into the District to campaign. After the Democratic candidate won, of course, a lot of democrats hailed it as not only exploding the myth of a trend toward the Republicans in the country but as portending a democratic victory in the nation in November. Of course, the Republicans came back and said "Bosh." "There's nothing to that. Look what a small majority you got, and besides, it's a traditionally Democratic district and it's a victory for us to even make a close fight of it." So, there they went, each side interpreting the outcome of this special election according to his own inclination.

Congress has taken a two-weeks recess, and a majority of the members of both the Senate and the House are either at home visiting with their constituents or otherwise ~~with~~ out of the Capitol seeking a rest and a respite from the stress and strain of Washington. There has been no relaxation, however, in the persistent, critican birage directed at Secretary Hull and the Administration's foreign policy. Despite Secretary Hull's 17-point statement on American foreign policy, a lot of people, some of whom undoubtedly have political motives, are ~~still asking what~~ still asking, what is our foreign policy? And a few are still saying that we have no foreign policy. With an eye to the future, as always, and



seeing a long way into the future, as always, the astute Secretary of State continued to pursue his course. During the week, he moved to take Congress into closer partnership with the Executive Branch in the formulation of a plan for an international organization to keep peace after the war is won. Peace-making in the United States is a problem for teamwork. Presidential commitments are of little force and effect unless supported by Congress. We saw, for instance, at the conclusion of the other war President Wilson's far-reaching plan for maintenance of peace and <sup>a</sup>peaceful world's society was defeated by a minority of the United States Senate. Secretary Hull, who for a long period was a member of the legislative branch, serving both in the House and in the Senate, has been remarkably successful in his dealings with the legislative branch, in which he is held in the highest esteem. The House Foreign Affairs Committee, for instance, composed of 14 Democrats and 11 Republicans, has given an unanimous report recommending the extension of the Lend-Lease program, trying hard, no doubt, to steer the ship of State away from the dangerous rocks of jealousy and suspicion between the legislative and executive branches of government. The Secretary has reportedly asked that a committee, representing both the Senate and the House, be selected to confer with him upon the highly important task of drafting terms of collaboration to which the United States might agree. The destiny not only of our people but of all the people of the world who aspire to a world of peace and security is wrapped up in the destiny of America's course. We need not only to keep the ship in good repair but to maintain, too, the highest degree of confidence and trust between the captains and the crew.