

Objective: To analyze the debate over the Versailles Treaty.

USHC 5.5

The Senate and the Treaty

Criticisms of the Versailles Treaty:

- \cdot some said it was too soft on the defeated powers
- · many thought it was too harsh, especially German Americans
- many opposed the League of Nations because they wanted the U.S. to stay out of world affairs

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge objected to many parts of the treaty for the following reasons.

• Lodge believed that the League of Nations should not have to protect any nation whose territory was threatened.

 \cdot He believed that the U.S. should remain independent of the League of Nations.

 \cdot He also felt that Congress should have the power to decide whether or not to follow the League of Nations.

* Pres. Wilson refused to compromise on the treaty.

* In November of 1919 the Senate rejected the Versailles Treaty.



