

# AN URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNORS OF 41 STATES TO Twenty Million School Children OF AMERICA

**THOMAS E. KILBY, Governor of Alabama.**  
School and college students everywhere should study the proceedings of the pending conference for the limitation of armaments. I can conceive of no way by which those who are to be our future citizens can be trained more effectively for the political and economic development of our country and of the world.

**THOMAS E. CAMPBELL, Governor of Arizona.**  
Regardless of its outcome, the Armament Conference is of such tremendous importance to the future welfare of the young people of America that they should take advantage of every possible opportunity to follow the proceedings in detail.

**THOMAS C. McRAE, Governor of Arkansas.**  
Every school child and college student in the United States should be required to study closely the proceedings of this great conference. They should know the significance of it all. Teachers and school and college officials will co-operate to this end I believe.

**WILLIAM D. STEPHENS, Governor of California.**  
Never before in the history of the world has a limited group of men been given an opportunity to relieve a war weary world of the awful burdens of destructive warfare. Never before has it been possible to relieve the mothers, the children and the toilers of the world of the heartaches, the heartbreaks, the want and misery and slighted education, the almost unbearable taxes and other economic sacrifices brought on by war. May we not pray that God will guide aright all those who participate in the proceedings of the great Disarmament Conference now in session in Washington. In my judgment it will be good for the future of the republic if all school children give earnest study to the proceedings.

**OLIVER H. SHOUP, Governor of Colorado.**  
We can conceive no better way to train the citizens of tomorrow for the discharge of their most important duties than by encouraging their study of the proceedings in Washington at the great Conference.

**EVERETT J. LAKE, Governor of Connecticut.**  
It can be impressed upon all our school children to watch intently and to study by all means at hand the proceedings now taking place at the Armament Conference at Washington. I feel sure that in the years to come their influence will be moulded into a public opinion which will insist upon an amicable adjustment without force of arms of all difference, and that this public opinion will also make such amicable adjustment effective to prevent further armament among civilized nations.

**CARY A. HARDEE, Governor of Florida.**  
It is well that the twenty million school children of America should study the proceedings of the Washington Conference. It is perhaps a mountain peak in the political and economic history of modern world.

**THOMAS W. HARDWICK, Governor of Georgia.**  
I believe that a study of this question by the college students and school children of the country is most important.

**D. W. DAVIS, Governor of Idaho.**  
There is an astonishing lack of sound information among our citizens of the political and economic history of the world. Should the true situation be spread before the boys and girls today there would dawn a better tomorrow, because the dominating characteristic of the average citizen is his desire for betterment.

**LEN SMALL, Governor of Illinois.**  
Warring between nations must cease. Humanity demands it; economic demand it. I can see no better way to bring about this ultimate end, should it not be reached, than to mould a public opinion among the twenty million American school children to the horrors of war and the necessities of peace through close study of the proceedings of the present Disarmament Conference.

**WARREN T. McCRAY, Governor of Indiana.**  
There has never been a time in the world's history when the deliberations and decrees of a selected group of international representatives meant more to the future of civilization than the decisions resulting from the Armament Conference now in session at Washington. Every suggestion or movement of the Conference should be closely studied by the public school children of our land, thus insculcating in their minds the idea that the apostles of peace are no less deserving of the eternal gratitude of a liberty-loving nation than are the heroes of war.

**N. E. KENDALL, Governor of Iowa.**  
I unreservedly approve the campaign to induce the school children of the country to study its proceedings from day to day. Nothing, in my opinion, will contribute so much to the preservation of permanent peace as the inculcation in the hearts of the young of a profound abhorrence of war.

**HENRY J. ALLEN, Governor of Kansas.**  
I know of nothing more timely than the study in the schools of the present proceedings of the Arms Conference. Its fundamental educational value alone would justify it. It marks an important epoch in history, and will have a tremendous effect upon the thought and feeling of the present and the future.

**EDWIN P. MORROW, Governor of Kentucky.**  
The youth of America, its boys and girls, should watch with the keenest interest and the fullest understanding the ever-shifting scene of the Disarmament Conference to the end that they may forever say: "I beheld the present which looketh fear and distrust out of the hearts of nations and brought confidence in each other to nations and a newer sense of brotherhood to the peoples of the earth."

**JOHN M. PARKER, Governor of Louisiana.**  
The nation, and especially coming men and women, as represented by our school children, should carefully study this Conference.

**PERCIVAL P. BAXTER, Governor of Maine.**  
As Governor of Maine and head of the School Department I have urged both superintendents and teachers to have their classes study and follow the proceedings of the Disarmament Conference. I consider this Conference the greatest event of history and believe that the rising generation should become conversant with the problems of the Conference and with the discussion that takes place there. A careful daily study of the conference proceedings will teach world history, geography, economics and politics, and will give our students a wide range of information. The importance of such a programme cannot be overstated.

**J. A. O. PREUS, Governor of Minnesota.**  
The Conference on Limitation of Armaments is the most important gathering in many decades and every student who desires a complete knowledge of history must read and watch its proceedings.

**THE AMERICAN SCHOOL CHILDREN OF TODAY** must be the preservers of World Peace tomorrow. The Presidents and Cabinet Members, the Senators and Congressmen, the Preachers and Editors, and all the great leaders of thought and action who will control the destinies of America and of the world when "tomorrow" dawns are studying at this very moment in the schoolrooms of the Nation.

They are preparing—we who plan their studies, we who teach them are preparing them—for the great tasks we must soon turn over to them. Their minds and hearts must be filled with the great lessons from the living present.

The greatest moment of their lives, for learning, is **THIS MOMENT.** The greatest opportunity that ever came or ever can come to them for learning the political and economic history of the world, and of their own country in its relation to the rest of the world, has come to them **NOW** in the great Conference of Nations which is meeting in Washington.

The Literary Digest has received telegrams from the Governors of forty-one of the forty-eight States of the United States calling upon the teachers and school children of America to give earnest study day by day to the proceedings, from beginning to end, of the great Disarmament Conference, which the Governor of Florida characterizes as "the mountain peak in the political and economic history of the modern world" These telegrams are here printed as an urgent message to the schools of the Nation.

**NATHAN L. MILLER, Governor of New York.**  
I strongly recommend to the teachers and the boys and girls of New York the earnest study of the proceedings of the Disarmament Conference, which already gives such promise of a new era. The rising generation should be taught the lessons of this Conference and be made to understand the high aims and unselfish purposes of America.

**EDWARD I. EDWARDS, Governor of New Jersey.**  
Next to the movement which resulted in the gathering of representatives of world powers at Washington to discuss and agree upon a limitation of armaments, the most powerful aid to the ultimate accomplishment of a lasting peace among men is your earnest plea that our twenty million American school children join with their elders in studying closely the proceedings of the Armament Conference that they may be thoroughly imbued with the anti-war feeling. That sentiment will be trust, through the medium of our most potential educator, the Press, be heard around the world and do more than any other human agency to supplant fear and suspicion with trust and confidence, thus removing the primary cause of war and begetting an era of good will.

**R. A. NESTOS, Governor of North Dakota.**  
Every student should secure as full and accurate knowledge as possible of the work of the Conference. This will help us scarcely anything else could give meaning to the events of the coming decade, imbue the rising generations with the spirit of this Conference, and the world's progress must follow the paths of peace.

**J. B. A. ROBERTSON, Governor of Oklahoma.**  
The Limitation of Armaments Conference in Washington will accomplish through its deliberations the most thorough illuminating and practical survey of the past development and future progress of our civilization that has ever been achieved. The proceedings of the Conference should be read and reviewed as a part of the daily course in all our universities in order that the rising generation may be fully educated upon the cost and folly of war.

**BEN W. OLCOTT, Governor of Oregon.**  
If success is achieved at Disarmament Conference, as it now appears it shall be, History will hold no record of achievement for world good equal to it. Consequently History may hold nothing more vital for the study of our youths and all citizens than the progressive steps of this gathering.

**WILLIAM C. SPROUL, Governor of Pennsylvania.**  
I am calling upon fifty thousand public school teachers in Pennsylvania to lead their students into the study of the proceedings of the great Conference at Washington in the belief that they will thus see in the making historical events which may lead to results comparable only to the promised millennium of peace and good will.

**EMERY J. SAN SOUCI, Governor of Rhode Island.**  
The President should receive the support of every American in his efforts to assure permanent peace to the world. The school children especially should study the proceedings of the Conference so that the coming generation may be well fitted to aid in the cause of permanent peace.

**ROBERT A. COOPER, Governor of South Carolina.**  
Study of the proceedings of the Disarmament Conference will have a tendency to enlighten the public concerning international relations, to lighten questions arising between nations. Many stupid blunders and costly wars have resulted because the general public was not informed. The proceedings of the Conference should be studied in all schools.

**W. H. McMASTER, Governor of South Dakota.**  
May the school children of America study every phase, act and utterance of the Disarmament Conference. Every detail and circumstance of the Conference should be a vital part of the daily study and thought of the twenty million school children of America.

**ALFRED A. TAYLOR, Governor of Tennessee.**  
There can be no better way to train the citizens of tomorrow for the discharge of their most important duties than by encouraging them to study the proceedings of the great Conference now in session at Washington. That Conference will deal with the political and economic history of the whole world, and its study and a discussion of these subjects will add a far greater value to the curriculum of our schools than a fund of knowledge of inestimable value to the rising generation of boys and girls when they are at the helm.

**PAT M. NEFF, Governor of Texas.**  
The history that is now being made by the Disarmament Conference at Washington will be frequently referred to by writers, speakers and thinkers for generations to come. It constitutes an epoch-making milestone that ineffaceably marks the march of man. The students of today who are to be the men and women of tomorrow should have as a part of their daily curriculum the detailed proceedings of this world-wide conference, as it seeks to turn the tide of civilization away from the war-wrecked shores of the past.

**CHARLES R. MABEY, Governor of Utah.**  
The Disarmament Conference constitutes a landmark in human progress the significance of which cannot yet be estimated. By all means let us study earnestly its deliberations that understanding among all peoples may be the result. . . . It is essential to posterity that the youth of the nation comprehend the full meaning and purposes of the gathering. With such a basis of familiarity they will be prepared to perpetuate and bring to complete materialization the aims and ideas now being proposed.

**LOUIS F. HART, Governor of Washington.**  
There is much truth in the argument that human nature will have to undergo a change before war can be eliminated. . . . A beginning has been made—a bold, fearless step, such as an unselfish nation like the United States might expect to take, but after all its greatest value is educational—the problem remains for future generations. By all means let the children of the land study closely the Disarmament Conference.

**E. F. MORGAN, Governor of West Virginia.**  
The International Conference on Limitation of Armaments, with political and economic discussions concerning far east problems, gives to American students unparalleled opportunities to study and acquaint themselves with world problems, an understanding of which will be of great service to their Nation in coming years.

**JOHN J. BLAINE, Governor of Wisconsin.**  
The study of the news of the Armament Conference in connection with the political and economic history of the world and the causes of war will give us enlightened future generations in aid of World Peace.

**ROBERT D. CAREY, Governor of Wyoming.**  
The history of the Disarmament Conference should be impressed upon the minds of the school children of America. The United States leads in a movement that promises more for the peace of the world than any gathering of statesmen since the dawn of history. Through our Educational Department I have requested that the schools of Wyoming shall study every phase of the Conference, from its inception to final adjournment. With the minds of the students of the Nation focused upon the proceedings of the Conference, the chief actors will feel a keener incentive to make their conclusions conform to the dominant will of the peoples of the earth.

**ALBERT C. RITCHIE, Governor of Maryland.**

I heartily urge the school children of America to study the proceedings of the Disarmament Conference as they develop from day to day. No such opportunity for learning the political and economic history of the world, the hopes and ambitions of its peoples, has ever been presented. It is a rare privilege that is afforded us. There can be no greater or broader educational advantage than to study intently the proceedings of the Conference.

**CHANNING H. COX, Gov. of Massachusetts.**

In the Armament Conference the political and economic history of the modern world is to be studied. I can conceive of no better way to train the citizens of tomorrow for the discharge of their most important duties than by encouraging their study of the proceedings of the great Conference.

**ALEX. J. GROESBECK, Governor of Michigan.**

Our boys and girls should closely follow the proceedings at Washington and thus take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to study history in its making.

**ARTHUR M. HYDE, Governor of Missouri.**

The history of the Washington Conference should be studied from both the political and the economic side by the school children of America. There can be no better way to train citizenship than by the study of the history and the present conditions, political, economic and social, of the other nations of the world. The study of the proceedings of the Conference will be of vast educational value to the school children of America and to the citizenship of the future.

**JOSEPH M. DIXON, Governor of Montana.**

The Disarmament Conference marks a milestone in world history. The public schools and colleges of the country can perform no greater service to the nation than that of giving courses, during the sitting of the Washington Conference, to their students regarding the great questions involved. If we can fully impress upon the minds of these young people the tremendous danger involved and the compelling necessity for World Disarmament, the possibilities of future war will be greatly reduced.

**SAMUEL R. MCKELVIE, Governor of Nebraska.**

School and college students should keep carefully informed of the work of the Disarmament Conference. The facts that will be deduced out of the discussion there are of tremendous importance to our national life. A knowledge of national conditions is a prime requisite of good citizenship, and of almost equal importance is a knowledge of international affairs.

**EMMET D. BOYLE, Governor of Nevada.**

I think it vitally important to instruct the youth of the country relative to the great historical event now transpiring at the Washington Disarmament Conference. Our children should be helped to understand thoroughly what is being done to prevent a recurrence of the horrible world tragedy we are now emerging from.

**MERRITT C. MECHEM, Gov. of New Mexico.**

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## TO the FATHERS and MOTHERS of AMERICA

This message comes to you with the challenge of a great opportunity for your boys and girls. It presses upon you a personal responsibility to see that they do not lose the benefits of this wonderful opportunity to fit themselves in the broadest way for their future citizenship. Take the matter up personally with their teachers and with the principals of their schools. Urge it through your Parents' Associations. The Literary Digest is helping all it can, not only by printing this Message of the Governors in hundreds of the leading dailies of the country from Maine to California, but also by

publishing in its own pages every week a careful review and explanation of the Proceedings of the Arms Conference, together with opinions regarding it from all over the world. The Governor of Montana was moved to telegraph, a few days ago, that "the last number of The Literary Digest was a veritable treasure-house of information regarding the scope and possibilities of this historic International Conference." Five hundred thousand school children already are studying The Literary Digest in their classrooms, and the fullest co-operation is provided to enable all others to enjoy the same benefit.

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