

# The Oregon Statesman

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## FOR OPEN SESSIONS AT CONFERENCE

The great newspapers of the world will have representatives at the disarmament conference in Washington. Seigo Watanabe, of the Toyko Asahi, one of the biggest newspapers of Japan, has already arrived, and the ablest newspaper writers of the other countries with representatives at the conference are on the way.

This will be the biggest "story" of the world. And there has been opened a strenuous campaign on the part of the newspapers to have the conference doors open. They are using arguments something like these:

A murderer objects to publicity. A thief does not want reporters around while he is cracking a safe. An embezzler is a natural foe to open sessions in his office while he is doctoring his books. Diplomats imagine they can best serve the highest world ideals by operating behind closed doors. The record is against them. The world war was the latest and greatest proof that world diplomacy carried on in secret is an absolute failure.

Every international friendship that hangs in the balance today; every cloud that lies heavy on the horizon of world peace is the result of distrust that has come out of secret diplomacy, with its behind-closed-doors-gambling with the rights of people and political advantage as the pawns.

Freedom of the press as guaranteed under our constitution relates entirely to the affairs of the government.

There is no question but the people of the United States, and the people of the world generally, want the forthcoming conference to be open. The peoples of the world are suspicious of the diplomats who led the world to slaughter in 1914.

Some of the ablest writers in the world are saying that the conference will be successful just so far as it is trusted by the people of the world, and there cannot be any trust except on understanding—such understanding as cannot come from official announcements prepared by biased minds.

Due to late spring frosts which destroyed the apple crop, the annual Lawrence county apple show, famous throughout Ohio, will not be held this year. Last year the county shipped over 260,000 barrels of apples, but this year the entire output is barely 10,000 barrels. This helps to explain the excellent market for our Oregon apples of first quality.

Holland desires a seat at the disarmament conference. It does not want to get in Dutch.

And still some folks wondered what we would put in the papers when the war was over.

Bolivia says she will not stand for the Monroe doctrine. But she will cry for it the first time she is menaced by a powerful neighbor.

There are not so many local people interested in the status of the Silesian trouble as there are those who would like to see local business boom in every direction. Silesia is a long ways off.

When President Harding was in Atlantic City, the hotel management thought they were doing the proper thing in placing gold plates on the table for the use of the presidential party. The president did not make a speech in the presence of the gold dishes.

but he did say: "Take those things away and bring us some regular dishes." The hotel had the opportunity to show the world that the management owned gold dishes. What if that success cost the president a frown?

Charlie Chaplin, disguised as a woman, attended the Beckett-McCormick prize fight, and nobody penetrated his disguise. Another method of hiding his identity would have been for Chaplin to give an imitation of a man spending a dollar. He would never have been recognized.—Los Angeles Times.

Put out more evergreen blackberries, of course. But also more loganberries, prunes, filberts, walnuts, apples of the right varieties, both sweet and sour cherries, pears of the wanted kinds, gooseberries, both red and black currants, and keep more and better cows and raise more and better hogs, and go into grapes of the

Concord kind; and put out some mint, and produce a whole lot of other things that may be produced more successfully here than in any other country or section. This is the land of diversity, the country of opportunity, and the city and section of welcome.

## LAYING THE CORNER STONE OF THE TEMPLE.

(Los Angeles Times.)

As the date for the opening session of the disarmament conference approaches the international situation is clarifying sufficiently to give an advance view of the attitude of the different nations.

Great Britain hopes to obtain an understanding which will enable her to reduce her present armament expense very materially and, at the same time, to be assured that British interests in the Far East will not be jeopardized.

France is likely to insist that European problems shall be considered, as well as those affecting the Pacific area. She will attempt to secure international agreements by which this country and Great Britain will agree to lend her armed assistance in case Germany attempts a new invasion of French territory.

Japan hopes to consolidate the victories that she has won in successful wars, to continue the exploitation of Siberia and parts of China without running the risk of an armed conflict with the United States.

Italy has no national aspirations to be furthered. She is not immediately involved in the problems of the Pacific area and will occupy a rather neutral position when they are considered. On questions of policy she is likely to favor a rapprochement with Great Britain, as her interests clash with those of the French at a number of points.

Our own government seeks an international understanding that will cause all questions affecting the Pacific area to be settled by an international court of arbitration and which will reduce to a minimum the armaments maintained by Great Britain, Japan and the United States in Pacific waters.

Such are the aspirations of the governments which will be represented. Each of them is chiefly concerned with the thing at hand, with the problems of the hour. The proverbial short-sightedness of governments and diplomats is apparent, and perhaps it is not as serious a fault as appears at first glance. One of the conclusions which Carlyle drew from his extended study of history was that no group of men who believed at the time of action that they were accomplishing a formidable task, that they were reforming the governments of the world, ever succeeding in doing anything of permanent value, that they invariably became bewildered in a maze of abstractions and only made existing conditions worse.

As one views with the added light of two years of experience the result of the Versailles peace conference one becomes irresistibly inclined toward the Carlyle view. Hitching one's wagon to a star is a beautiful abstraction, but experience proves that who attempts to give it a practical application generally gets a nasty fall.

There is no mistaking the trend of the times so far as the peoples of the nations that will participate in the conferences are concerned. They are impelled by a mutual desire for universal peace. Each people has grown weary of arming ceaselessly against its neighbors. Modern warfare is a horrible thing to contemplate. It has lost its illusions. It leaves even the victors in almost hopeless misery. The sentiment of universal brotherhood has asserted itself. The seeds sown in the Sermon on the Mount are bearing their harvest. Peoples can no longer rejoice at the slaughter of their neighbors.

This consolidation of the popular will is certain to have its effect on the deliberations of the conference. No people desires to see its representatives attend the sessions dooted and spurred. No people hopes to gain territorial advantage. Never was an international conference held amid such universal expression of good will on the part of all the peoples concerned; if the Japanese were either an Anglo-Saxon or a Latin people its success would be assured in advance. The Japanese recognize that they are the only alien element and they are perhaps to be pardoned for their reluctance to make irrevocable commitments.

But the Japanese nation is still in the making. Japanese policies are in a fluid state. Her states-

men recognize that they cannot successfully oppose the united force of the white nations; and they are probably too wise to attempt to repeat the German experience. They know the futility of arming against a combination of powerful nations. They are intensely patriotic, but they have given no evidence of shrewdness. The Japanese commissioners are likely to recognize and bow to the inevitable.

Those who sincerely desire to see the world turn from war to peace are not expecting all the vexed problems of the nations to be settled at this conference. They will be satisfied if there is a mutual endeavor to substitute justice for force, if the menace of armed conflicts shall no longer threaten international disputes, if there shall be a general disposition to dispense with force as an arbiter. The disarmament conference is only an initial movement in the direction of universal peace. Its deliberations will probably be limited to the Pacific area. But, if it is successful, it will point the way for the nations of Europe to compose their differences. If Mars can once be compelled to cast away his weapons he will no longer appear so formidable.

The disarmament conference should succeed in laying the cornerstone of the temple of peace. That will be a great victory and with that we must be content, even though a generation passes before the structure is completed. A hundred generations have succeeded only in clearing the ground and assembling the workmen. Let us not insist on undue haste, thereby rendering the structure unstable.

**BITS FOR BREAKFAST**  
 Talking of the weather—  
 Everybody is asking everybody else, "Did you ever see such fine weather?"  
 The answer is yes. This is the usual fall weather for the Willamette valley. It often extends into November. The early rains of last year were the unusual.

Salem ought to have more policemen, of course. As many as were recommended by Chief Moffitt when he first took office. But the important thing is a night man on duty at the station with a motorcycle; preferably a sidecar, so that he may pick up another policeman to go with him when summoned by phone. In due time Salem must have enough police officers to give protection to all the people who pay taxes, in all sections of the city. But some things may have to wait.

We must cut our suit according to our cloth. The man at the station with a motorcycle, however, ought not to wait.  
 Berlin reports only 250,000 jobless in all Germany. Nearly everybody is working. That part-

ly explains the unusual number of jobless in the United States. German workmen are making the things that ought to be made in this country, and shipping them here under our present free trade law. Congress ought to be jarred into getting the new tariff law on the statute books. It is eight months overdue now.  
 We are in the midst of the third anniversary of the flu epidemic. Don't neglect a cold.  
 A recent court decision in Los Angeles in a divorce case gave the children to the father one day in a week. The wife brought down the house by asking that the day on which the father might be allowed to see his progeny should be pay day.

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These reductions have been made possible by the reduced cost of white paper, ink and other printers' supplies. The Statesman is pleased to be one of the first to make this announcement and to do away with the War Prices which were forced upon all publishers during the war and for some time thereafter.

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**ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS**  
 THE organizing of the local committee of the war finance corporation means definite arrangements for financing farmers and livestock raisers according to recent legislation.

The sum of \$10,000,000 was set aside for the West, this sum to be loaned through the banks on livestock and farm products only.

Those wishing further details, may call at the United States National.

**United States National Bank**  
 SALEM OREGON

**FUTURE DATES**  
 November 21, 22 and 23—Marion County Teachers Institute.