

# CHARITON COURIER

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## WHAT JAPAN WANTS

A week or two ago the state department at Washington was somewhat exercised over the request of Great Britain for a preliminary conference on the questions of disarmament and the Pacific. What threatened to be an embarrassing situation was effectually ended when Secretary of State Hughes cabled Lloyd George that America was opposed to the calling of a preliminary conference. That seemed to settle the matter.

But Japan now stands in the same position occupied by the British. It would appear from the recent dispatches from Tokio that the Japanese are going to insist on a preliminary conference to the main event that is to be held at Washington.

Not only do the Japanese want a preliminary conference, but they want it thoroughly understood that the Washington conference shall not consider the question of disarmament or even reduction of armaments, but simply a limitation of armaments. Further, the Japs insist that the Washington conference shall not discuss the Yap or Shantung problems, as these are considered **faits accomplis**—matters already disposed of in a permanent fashion. The wishes of Japan, if respected by the powers, would simply result in nullifying the purposes and probable constructive results of the Washington conference. The very attitude of the far east empire indicates that it is reluctant to have anything to do with discussing disarmament. Japan is evidently afraid—afraid that the great powers will limit her room for expansion in the Pacific and the far east.

When the disarmament conference opens on November 11 there will be at least one nation represented that will fight all thought of disarmament and combat all efforts to divide influence on the Pacific—that nation will be Japan. The Japs believe that they have everything to lose and nothing to gain at the conference; hence their reluctance to take part in the deliberations.

What Japan wants is to be left alone. She now sees interference with her imperialistic plans is threatened. It seems reasonably certain that the Jap conferees will not meet the representatives of the other powers in the spirit desired by the administration of the United States. This can in no wise be blamed on the American diplomatic organization. In fairness, it must be said that both Mr. Hughes and President Harding have done everything possible to make the Washington conclave a success. It will not be their fault if it fails through the recalcitrancy of the Japanese.

A City is known by its newspaper; a store by its advertising. Some stores remain anonymous.

Lots of people who are too wise to buy green goods or gold bricks can be persuaded to sign on the dotted line. Yes, Barnum was right.

The administration's friends are attempting to make capital over the fact that Secretary Hughes won a "diplomatic victory" over Premier Lloyd-George in their recent discussion as to whether a preliminary disarmament conference should be held in London. The fact is that Hughes said, "there mustn't be a preliminary conference," and Lloyd-George, not liking to offend the American secretary, said, "All right, old top, we won't fight about it." Just like that. A real diplomatic victory!

Beware of the whisperer! In this free country the message that cannot be proclaimed from the housetops ought not to be heard by a loyal American citizen. This refers to that type of homo who takes delight in secretly poisoning the minds of the gullible and stirring up of strife and hatred which in most cases he is too cowardly to speak openly. The way to happiness, power and good influence is through the cultivation of a kind and open heart, gentle and sincere speech and thoughts of which one would not be ashamed if they were held up in the light of the Great White Throne.

Blessed is work. Have you ever noticed how cheerful men are when they have done a day's work, after the day is over? It is the loafers who are unhappy. The busy have their own reward. There is nothing that breeds keener satisfaction than a full day's work well done. If you do the work given you well and faithfully, there is no greater reward to be found than the resulting happiness. Do your work as best you can each day. Then when you go to bed each night you can say, "I did my best—a full day's work honestly done." Effort is the thing that counts. Don't dissipate the vitality by work, for vitality is a liability. Do your days' work faithfully, and with a will to do your best, and you will have no regrets.

Did you read Hyde's interview on the new constitution a few days since in the Daily press? Well, if you didn't you've missed something. Hyde wants a new constitution. Sure, most of people know that. But do you know why he wants a new constitution? You never fully understood? Well, that's one of the reasons why the following is printed, and from a recent interview the following reasons are given: He wants a new constitution so that the secretary of state, attorney general, auditor, and all other officers will be appointed by the governor. That's what he says. He don't want the people to elect anybody except the governor. The governor is to be the whole cheese, according to Hyde's idea, and the new constitution is to make Missouri a one-man autocracy. That's what Hyde wants, and that's what he says.

## HIGH SCHOOL SUBJECT NOT DEBATABLE

A great deal of criticism has arisen and more will arise during the months of preparation on the following subject that has been selected—the good Lord knows by whom—for high schools in Missouri during the 1921-22 school year:

"Resolved, That the principle of the closed shop should prevail in American industry."

Can you beat it? Right off hand the Courier man can mention a dozen subjects for debate that would be debatable for the youth of this commonwealth. But to get back to the subject.

The question of the closed shop has but one side from the organized labor standpoint. It must be remembered that organized labor apparently has the whip hand in American industry. We are not saying this is either right or wrong, but the fact remains, and who shall say that organized labor is in the concrete wrong? Is it for you, for the Congress of these United States or for the youth of the country?

A debating team should have a fighting chance be the team representing the negative or the affirmative side of the question. A 50-50 chance to win a team is entitled to. To win on most any subject a debating team should be able to believe in their subject, for in believing they not only talk from a certain knowledge which they possess, but they throw their own individuality into the work. The Courier man has gone through three sessions of high school debates and has seen some of the finest teams go down to defeat because they were not discussing a subject that was debatable. They know when on the affirmative side that they are bound to lose, and they cannot go into the contest and win on a subject where the audience and the judges are both against them. How many judges can listen to a debate on that subject and give an unbiased opinion on the arguments presented? They will take their seat in the audience and admit that the affirmative side or the negative side as the case may be put up a wonderful array of facts and argument, but—

The average man will sit in judgment on this question, knowing full well before he renders his vote, before the arguments are presented, just what his vote will be. The average man is for or against the closed shop, and a debating team, no matter how well prepared, will in no wise change his mind.

American industry covers quite a bit of territory. In the different sections of these United States there are many conditions that are never allowed to reach the surface for the gaze of the general public. These matters are threshed out on the floor of the union hall. All the public knows is just what they see fit to give out for publication. Upon these technical reports by the union heads the high students of the Missouri are asked to decide if the open shop is good or bad and why.

Most centers have more or less to do with the union help proposition. From these observations certain lessons have been learned by the greatest teacher in the world—experience. Imagine picking a judge from such a community to act this winter and make his decision for the negative team whose argument, facts, delivery, impetuosity was 100% and more ahead of the affirmative, giving a decision on the showing made by the team representing the side that even the home guard was against.

It can't be done. Four years ago high schools in the state of Washington debated on the subject of compulsory military training in the public schools. Little third rate high schools on the negative side won from city schools of the very best reputation. Several schools withdrew from the contest knowing they had not a fighting chance.

The Missouri high school debating teams are entitled to an even break. The Courier man predicts that the percentages of wins for the negative will be about 2 1/4%.

Perhaps when Cain in frenzied wrath his brother slew, the latter asked him with a grin, "is it hot enough for you?"

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## MISSOURI'S STANDING IN EDUCATION

Discussion appears to be endless of the report last year which gave Missouri a rank of thirteenth-fourth among the states in education. The report was issued by the department of education of the Russel Sage Foundation of New York City. It was prepared by Leonard P. Ayers, and is sometimes known as the "Ayers report." Many times it has been incorrectly referred to as the "Carnegie report."

Apparently, there is a question with many persons in the state as to whether this report be taken seriously. The fact that giving a state an exact rank in education is a difficult proposition has opened the way for many who feel the state has been done an injustice or who have interests of their own at stake to flout the report openly. Among those who discredit the report are opponents of the county unit bill, which was designed to raise the standing of Missouri educationally. Misleading and entirely incorrect statements have been made about the data on which the foundation report was based. It has been said that salaries of county superintendents of schools furnished the basis of the rank given Missouri, and also that the report was based on illiteracy in the state.

As a matter of fact, the Ayers report is based on a large number of facts relative to the schools in all the states and possessions. Practically all, if not entirely all, the data that can be relied upon as furnishing an index to educational conditions were made use of. And it is a significant fact that educators of the country generally have found nothing ridiculous or greatly misleading in the work. In Oregon, for instance, the report has been made the basis of improving the educational conditions which it reveals.

Nevertheless there are many to be found that will take serious issue with the report, for those who have kept watch of Missouri's educational advance in the last few years know that

the state has been done a rank injustice.

There are too many people in the world who imagine that the mule is the only thing that has or ever will make and keep up the reputation of this commonwealth. To such it would be a revelation without doubt to come to Missouri and see for themselves, live among its common people and not take some fossilized professor's report that Missourians are ignorant and as a general proposition are unable to stand educationally upon their own feet.

## MYSTERIOUS PACKAGE SENT THROUGH MAIL

A mysterious strong pasteboard box was left at J. M. Hooker's mail box on route 3 out of Linville recently. Mrs. Hoover unwrapped the package and found a small round tin can about three inches tall. She was unable to unscrew the box lid so she called a neighbor. He became suspicious and instead of unscrewing it, pried the can open with a screwdriver. When the lid was pried off, the can was found to be filled with black powder and underneath the lid a match had been attached in such a manner that it would have ignited on sandpaper skillfully arranged on the inside of the lid had been unscrewed. So far no clew has been found as to the sender of the package. Mr. Hooker and the family are considerably worked up about the matter.—Unionville Republican.

A survey made by the county agent of Linn county shows that lime rock is well distributed over the county. It is said that the test shows 96% lime carbonate, and most of it will pay to crush and spread on the land. This being the case would it not be a good plan to look over Chariton county for like deposits? Lime rock is becoming famous as one of the best of fertilizers, and in many instances certain farm crops will yield in large percentages over land that has not been so treated.

Old papers for sale, come quick

## MOBERLY TREATING THEM ROUGH

The city of Moberly is leading the state in enforcing its automobile regulations. Read this from the Democrat: You must equip your car lights with lenses or not drive after dark commencing last Sunday night. This is the word given out by the officers, and after last Sunday every driver caught will be arrested.

Many an accident has been caused in the last few months because the lights on cars contained no dimmers, and many an autoist has brought his car to a standstill on a country road when another car is approaching with his spot light turned straight ahead.

Both of these disregards for the law must stop. The officers gave the notice and the same is effective now. People from outside districts will be treated with no more consideration than those living within the confines of that enterprising city.

## BODY FOUND IN THE MISSOURI RIVER

The body of Miss Frances Jailey of Leavenworth, Kansas, who was drowned while bathing Tuesday a week ago was discovered Friday.

Miss Jailey and another young lady had gone in bathing and she got into deep water and was drowned, the current immediately sweeping her away. The ferryman at Glasgow discovered her body in some driftwood at the bridge Friday afternoon. The father and brother arrived in Glasgow Saturday to take charge of the remains.

## NEW FAIR GROUNDS FOR FOREST GREEN

The Forest Green fair will be held the second week in September. The location has been changed and it will be held in the Gabhardt pasture north of the old grounds. There are a plenty of nice shade trees in the new location.

Read in the Courier FIRST