

The Indianapolis Times

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JAPAN AT GENEVA

IT LOOKS as if the League of Nations had emerged from its sessions at Geneva more powerful than ever.

Those who started bonfires of joy over its certain doom when Japan was threatening to quit unless its views on exclusion from America were accepted, now realize they shouted too soon.

In fact, though America was willfully absent from this, one of the greatest international gatherings in the history of mankind, the league gave justice to American interests in a way that should heap coals of fire on the heads of that institution's worst enemies.

Boiled down, what happened was this:

The league commission, in drawing up plans to safeguard the peace of the world through arbitration, international security and armament reduction, agreed—without naming names—that if Japan ever went to war with the United States over immigration after immigration had been declared an American "domestic" problem, she would automatically be declared the aggressor and stand outlawed accordingly.

With everybody in Japan howling for punishment of the United States for excluding Japanese immigrants, the Japanese delegates at Geneva naturally objected. They wanted the league to interfere anyway, even if immigration in America was purely America's business. And she threatened to walk out unless the league complied.

Then came the compromise. Under it, even if the world court should decide against Japan, she would have the right to bring up the question again before the League of Nations. And the league, acting under its covenant, would be bound to try to avoid a conflict.

The fundamental principles, therefore, have not been altered in the iota. If the league could find no formula satisfying both the United States and Japan, and Japan insisted on going to war, she would still be declared the aggressor and suffer the outlaw penalties accordingly.

We lose nothing and gain additional security against war with Japan as a result of the doings at Geneva.

WHO'S A GOOD SPORT?

CALIFORNIA and Wisconsin, with Louisiana and Michigan, are coming on, show a nice contrast in the matter of playing the big political game.

In California, the Supreme Court, by a 4-3 vote, twists the election laws and throws La Follette off the ticket.

In Louisiana and Michigan the tiny technicalities of the law are being invoked to bar La Follette from the ticket.

In Wisconsin, with complete control of the regular Republican State organization, Coolidge is given the regular place and La Follette takes his place on the Independent ticket.

It isn't hard to see which course is good sportsmanship.

BACK TO THE CONSTITUTION

THE CONSTITUTION of the United States, as it was drafted in 1787, did not give the Supreme Court the power to declare laws unconstitutional.

The convention which met at Carpenters Hall, Philadelphia, and which framed the Constitution of the United States, debated the question whether the courts should be given the power to declare laws unconstitutional. It decided that judges should not be given this power. The Constitution, as it was finally adopted by the convention and ratified by the States, did not contain any clause giving the courts this power. The Constitution has never been amended to give the courts this power.

But beginning with Chief Justice Marshall, who served from 1801 to 1835, the courts began to assume the right to declare laws invalid—in other words, the judges usurped the power to make laws, which the Constitution intended only Congress to have.

Recently the Supreme Court has knocked out the income tax law, the child labor law, and the woman's minimum wage law. This has caused many people to think that something should be done about it.

So La Follette and the Progressives propose to add an amendment to the Constitution giving Congress the right to pass a law over the veto of the Supreme Court. They want Congress, whose members are elected by the people, solely to have the lawmaking power, and to limit the Supreme Court to its original and proper function of trying cases appealed from the lower courts, as the Constitution of 1787 intended.

La Follette and the Progressives want to preserve the American system of Government. They want to go back to the Constitution of the Fathers.

Tom Sims Says

Thousands of moths, on bathing suits, will starve soon.

Four yards of short skirt can look more interesting than half a yard of bathing suit.

Tax-dodging and taxi-dodging keep us all up in the air.

Germany has built us another airship, but the list of killed and injured has not been announced yet.

The ship of state might do something about the state of ships.

The man who spends his life, making faces at the devil soon begins to look like the devil.

Now is the time for that old chestnut about the early bird and early chestnut getting the worm.

And the early fish gets the hook.

Many an apple-grower is looking forward to a pleasant winter because his cider is working for him.

On the first of the month, when the bills come in, it is very hard to laugh at your own expense.

During the hunting season calves are warned not to look like deer.

Even an optimist can't see much fun in missing a street car.

If all our wishes were granted, who would build the autos?

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BASIC LAW MAN-MADE, SAYS QUICK

Declares Lawyers Mold
Provisions to Benefit
Interests.

By HERBERT QUICK

HO is there that believes this plea by Coolidge, Dawes and Davis for the Constitution as the guaranty of freedom, has anything in it for the freedom of the common man?

It is a man-made Constitution. And it provides for courts which are not elective. Its provisions which are so lauded as safeguards of liberty are all the time molded and bent and altered by these courts manned by mere men who have been nearly all hold office for life.

Freedom of Interests

Any thinker can see that under such conditions the freedom which must be protected will be the freedom of the great interests: and that the freedom of the common man is to the same extent taken from him.

And that is just what has been happening for decades.

Mr. Dawes had to order out his "Minute-Men" to re-elect Judge Holton in Illinois who had handed down that decision which let Dawes' bank escape from the penalties of helping William Lorimer fleece the people who put their money in the Lorimer bank.

Dawes, Davis and Coolidge do not want elective judges.

They prefer the sort of judge that Daugherty put on the Federal bench who issued that fearful injunction against the railroad strikers.

These men prefer court decisions handed down by men serving for life rather than by judges who are forced to go back to the people for re-election. In other words, they prefer a judicial oligarchy rather than a democracy.

In a recent book Hillare Belloc, an able British writer, says that the Americans worship the Constitution.

Why Not Criticize?

If so, it is a very pretentious thing. When any controlling part of any government becomes an object of worship, it ceases to be a thing which can be criticized.

This election will prove to what extent we worship the Constitution. And just to the extent which we worship it or any other part of our Government, we have ceased to be free. No other people in the world would for a single year endure a system of courts which could not be changed by their votes, or which dared to stand permanently in the way of the will of the people in their Congress assembled.

Ask The Times

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to the Indianapolis Times, Indianapolis, Indiana, 1322 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., inclosing 2 cents in postage. Personal, political, and marital advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be made. All correspondence, however, receives a personal reply. Unsigned requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

Who owned the land on which the Capitol building of the United States now stands?

Daniel Carrington, of Duddington, of the family of Bishop Carroll.

Why was the Saxby Gale so called? When was it and how destructive?

Because it was predicted by an officer of the British navy by the name of Saxby. It occurred Oct. 4, 1869, at New Brunswick, eastern Canada. It was very destructive to shipping and buildings and a few lives were lost from large vessels lying in the harbor but there was no great general loss of life.

What is the average depth of the Mississippi River from New Orleans to Quarantine Station? The average depth is sixty-two feet.

When did Frank Carpenter die? June 18, 1924.

Does the weather bureau or any reliable source issue a weather forecast a year ahead? No authentic forecast for a year ahead do not appear to be possible.

What is the description of the Griffon? What are they worth? This is a very robust dog, with a rough, hard coat; it stands higher than the setter, and in color is a grizzly liver. The coat is rather shaggy. The value of a Griffon varies, but is usually between \$100 and \$200.

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