

A cause may be as just as possible, but as soon as the sword is drawn for it, it ceases to be so, for then it is no longer right which is championing it but might.

Professor G. F. Nicolai.



The world has tried war with force and has utterly failed. The only hope of success lies in peace with justice.

President Calvin Coolidge.

# PAX INTERNATIONAL

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY (EXCEPT JULY)

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

International Office 12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva, Switzerland.

Vol. 2. No. 9.

AUGUST, 1927

## CONTENTS

News and Comments.

Danger Spots to Watch.

Glad Tidings for Pacifists.

Intellectual Cooperation.

Gilbert Murray.

Days of Horror in Vienna.

Olga Misar.

Conscription and Military Training.

A Conscientious Objector.

T. Corder Catchpool.

Work of the W. I. L. Sections.

Good Will Day May 18th.

Thou shalt not kill » (a true story).

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Office, 12, rue du Vieux-Collège,

Geneva, Switzerland.

Subscriptions to «Pax International»

One year fifty cents or 2/s.

International Dues . . . \$ 5 or £ 1.

## DANGER SPOTS TO WATCH

### U. S. Marines in Nicaragua.

Some 300 Nicaraguans appear to have been slaughtered in their latest collision with the American marines. Five American bombing aeroplanes are said to have flown over the forces of the Liberal leader, General Sandino, 200 of whom were mown down by a withering low-range machine-gun fire. Whatever the exact details of this affair may prove to be (and it looks as if they are leaking out only slowly and with difficulty), it has given a shock to American Liberal opinion. A manifesto has been sent to President Coolidge protesting against «the slaughter of hundreds of Nicaraguans». «Manchester Guardian».

### Russian Women Soldiers.

The president of the Council of Commissars in a message to the Russian people declares: «Whoever is not in the Red Army must join the Osoviackim (the League for Aviation and Gas Research) and must know how to handle a rifle and protect himself from asphyxiating gas.»

This semi official League has telegraphed its sections throughout the whole Soviet Union instructions as to how to train women, first in ambulance

duties; second in liaison work; and third to prepare women for battle, making a special effort to enlist peasant women.

Meanwhile girl state employees are invited to learn to shoot on Saturday afternoons, and Communist girls who have already joined the special Red Military look exceedingly romantic with red kerchiefs and rifles slung over their shoulders.

«Christian Science Monitor.»

### Spain's Military Laws

In Spain every youth is compelled to render military service on reaching the age of 20; even the lame and the blind are enrolled as «helpers». Anyone refusing military service is sent to Morocco, into the Disciplinary Corps, or if he refuses he is immediately shot.

«War Resister.»

## GLAD TIDINGS FOR PACIFISTS

### Students Oppose Compulsory Drill.

Many of the state universities in the United States require military drill but the students have been gradually rising in opposition to this training. Depauw University, Indiana, has abandoned compulsory drill. The College of the City of New York has been asked by the students to abolish civilian drill, a semi-military course. The University of Wisconsin which was one of the first state universities to abolish compulsory training and put it on an optional basis, prints some interesting figures. In 1923 when the drill was compulsory, 725 of the 1200 students took the course. In 1927 with the course optional, only 295 students out of 1650 have taken the course. In other words, the decrease has been from 64% to 18%.

### Churches Against Military Training.

The National Council of Congregational Churches in the United States has recently passed the following resolution: «Resolved that the National Council of Congregational Churches assembled at Omaha condemn both in theory and practice any compulsory military training in public schools or in any tax supported or land grant institution of higher learning.»

A Committee of Catholics recently met in Washington and constituted themselves the «Catholic Association for International Peace». Their program as stat-

ed in the preamble is «to participate in formulating plans for a permanent Catholic movement in the United States to study relations between nations.»

### Germans Vote Against Military Service.

At the 12th meeting of the German Peace Societies it was decided that it would be desirable to take action similar to that embodied in the English «Ponsonby» appeal. In accordance with this idea the Saxony branch of the peace cartel in May got out the following appeal:

«Believing that all disputes between peoples can be settled either by negotiation or by some form of arbitration, we, the undersigned, declare that we will refuse to give support or perform military service for any government that takes up arms whether the war be defensive or aggressive, or whether it be a war called by the League of Nations.»

This resolution was scattered widely in Saxony. Nearly 3000 posters were put up, meetings held in 21 large cities and 160,000 flyers were distributed. As a result 90,000 signatures have already been secured.

### Labor Women Against Military Drill.

The following letter was sent to Agnes MacPhail, a member of the W. I. L., and the only woman M. P. in Canada. The letter speaks for itself:

Dear Miss MacPhail:

Hearty congratulations for your splendid stand in the House on the following: Against reductions on the income tax; opposition to Cadet Military Training; your letter to the school children of your constituency (on China).

At this time, when imperialistic wires are being pulled from every possible angle to justify war on China, and when those who oppose the will and designs of the imperialists will be crucified, and when you yourself are being villified and decried throughout the land because you spoke the truth about designs of «self-interested patriots», we want you to know there are women in the Labor Movement who will support you and defend your stand, in spite of, and in the face of the powerful imperialistic octopus.

Executive Committee,  
Federation of Women's Labor Leagues.

## INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION

Gilbert Murray.

The Committee on Intellectual Cooperation of the League of Nations has just been meeting in Geneva. It comprises many distinguished persons such as Madame Curie, and Prof. Einstein. At the close of one of the sessions the public was admitted. On this occasion Prof. Gilbert Murray spoke and we give below extracts from his speech. On the middle page of this issue of Pax we give some of the compulsory military training laws of the different countries, the art of teaching men how to kill each other. Here Prof. Murray tells how men may cooperate to save each other. It is the reverse side of the picture. If we are to do away with military training we must put something in its place. We must drill men in the art of cooperation. (Editor.)

The President has asked me to say something about our work. It is a long programme of many different subjects... Hardly any have reached the stage at which we can say «That is done» and exhibit the concrete result...

Have you heard of the lady visiting this Secretariat who demanded to see the room where the Disarmament was being done. «Do you mean the room where the Committee meets?» «I mean the room where the nations are disarmed,» — and when she was shown the Committee room, she exclaimed with triumphant scepticism: «Where are the Guns?»

A little less unreasonably they ask the results of the League of Nations. «Many meetings, few definite settlements». True answer. But sometimes the meetings without settlement are the most useful of all. Every meeting brings the parties a little nearer; they have not convinced each other at the time, but next time they meet they are nearer to agreement, and agreement comes in the end.

So with us... We are a Committee on Intellectual Cooperation... If you ask, what we are doing, the answer is: «We are trying to accustom men's minds to cooperate.»

Take a subject which we have not touched and perhaps shall not touch for some time. Meteorology. A time will probably come when an attempt is made to survey the upper air, to map the currents and understand the mysteries of the weather. (Why for instance it always rains on Sunday in Geneva.) How can that subject be attacked at all except by the cooperation of many different observers and repeated meetings of experts?

But let me mention one piece of work, far from complete, in which we have made definite progress. Fifty-five nations, nearly all the nations of the world have signed the Covenant: but how many people in each nation know what the Covenant is? How many of the younger generation which has grown up since the war realise what war means or even what peace means, or what engagements their Governments have undertaken in order to maintain international peace and «open and honourable dealings of nations with one another»? Yet if the people do not know, how is it likely that the engagements will be kept? The young must somehow be led to understand what the League of Nations is and what work it has done.

And again it is little good that that

should be done in one country alone. If it is to work, it must be done in all the nations at once. That is why the Assembly in successive years, 1923, 1924 and 1925 passed Resolutions urging that steps should be taken to see that «the youth of the world», should be instructed in the aims and work of the League and trained to regard international cooperation, not as a rare exception, but as the normal method in which to conduct the business of the world. A huge task! It means changing the traditions and habits of thought of whole nations. And when one considers the underlying differences in national psychology, the differences in the systems of national education, it seems almost impossible to expect any agreement about the method by which to attempt it. I confess that when our Sub-Committee of Experts met, mostly utter strangers to one another, and drawn from twelve different nations, I was far from hopeful of success. Yet as a matter of fact we had no insoluble differences and indeed very few differences at all. Every nation made its contribution and in the end we agreed unanimously on a long series of detailed practical suggestions. And not only did the Committee agree, but when I took the first draft of the proposals back to England, all the Associations of teachers, English, Scotch and Welsh, agreed in approving them and a National Conference of Education Authorities cautiously blessed them...

If our plan succeeds, not only will the children in Bulgaria and Serbia be learning the same Covenant: the children in Brazil and Ecuador, Cuba and Japan will, we hope, soon be learning the same Covenant and imbibing the same spirit of comradeship as the children in France and Germany...

Of course co-operation is not everything... Even agreement and peace are not everything. Life is a struggle. There is a time for strife and a time when it is better to say No than Yes. An old Greek philosopher said that Life is built up of two equal and co-eternal forces, Concord and Discord, of Love and Strife. But it is perhaps not too much to hope that we may gradually learn to direct our strife and our fighting power not against our fellowmen but against those forces of disease and ignorance and evil which are really the enemies of the human race and the human soul. That is the hope of the League and of this Committee.

### DAYS OF HORROR IN VIENNA

Olga Misar.

July 15th was a day which will stand out in the annals of Vienna as the worst we have seen for centuries. On that tragic day inhabitants of Vienna were frightened to death by volleys of rifle fire, by machine-guns, the howling of infuriated crowds and the terrible uncertainty of what was going to happen next. The causes of this sudden and quite unexpected catastrophe are as follows:

For days a trial had been going on against two men, who were accused of killing a man and a child by shooting out of a window into a crowd. The scene of the tragedy was West Hungary, the part which has been ceded to Austria and where national feeling is consequently strong. In Schattendorf, a small village, there was a meeting of former Hungarian soldiers and at the same time a meeting of

Socialists. These two hostile groups were obliged to meet and being so close got into conflict. The victims were Socialists as indeed they had been on three former occasions. The murderers, whose guilt was quite clear, were acquitted seemingly for lack of evidence, but it was generally believed that this verdict was somehow or other influenced. Had it been the first case of the kind, people would have been content to merely protest, but being the fourth case, the confidence in justice was shaken and the popular indignation swept all bounds. On Friday morning crowds of workers left their factories, walked to Vienna and gathered near the parliament. Partly through the influence of the Communists who tried to incite to «deeds», partly by reason of the violence of the police, shooting began. The first shot was fired by a well-known Communist, the police answered and at the same time blocked the streets and prevented the crowd from moving, while new comers pushed from behind and this caused a turmoil. A crowd had marched to the Palace of Justice and set fire to it as a symbol of their mistrust in its work. They prevented the fire-engines from coming near by setting up barricades in the streets and it was then that the worst attacks of the police began. There are thousands of witnesses to the fact that the police attacked and shot down people in the town and in several of the outlying districts of the town, without reason, in cases where there was no question of self-defence. They had revolvers and were equipped with rifles, while the people were nearly all unarmed. Among the dead who unfortunately amount to about ninety, there are four policemen and the rest are workers. There are about a thousand wounded.

On Saturday the general strike began and everything was at a standstill. Shooting continued which began to look more like revenge and was more disgusting than on the previous day. On Sunday the trams were again running but the strike of the trains, post and telephone went on till Monday midnight.

What part did the Socialist Party play in all these proceedings? It is certain that neither the demonstration nor the general strike was their work. It was a spontaneous uprising of the people, whose passions were fanned by the Communists and whose sense of justice had been provoked beyond endurance. The Socialist leaders tried to calm the people, helped to extinguish the fires, negotiated with the police and tried to check their violence, but they had lost control and only slowly regained it. They organized the whole rescue work, and cared for the dead and wounded.

Looking at the events from the distance of two days of quietness, one is impressed with the disproportion of it all. There was reason for serious discontent with justice, but the protest and what came of it was in its dimension like an overthrow of society. It was a demonstration of the fact that the moment violence is resorted to, the foundations of civilized life are shattered, reason is lost and men and women become brutes... Possibly one good thing may come of the misfortune. The workers, and indeed the whole population, have for a short time experienced again what it means to let violence loose. All of them are horrified and are, I think, as never before, for peace...

## CONSCRIPTION AND MILITARY TRAINING.

The Executive Committee suggested that one issue of «Pax» be devoted to the problem of conscription. Some of the W.J.L. Sections have sent in valuable material; this together with the Nations Armaments Year Book 1926-1927 edition, furnished the material for this article.

### Scandinavian Countries.

In the Scandinavian countries, in spite of the fact that the permanent army is very small military training is compulsory. We consider these countries as great pacifist nations. In a sense they are. They are not likely to go to war with each other or anyone else. But they are like the small man afraid of the giant, who thinks he must have his rifle for protection. When you realize that in most Scandinavian families the husband, son and father have had military training, you understand why it is difficult for the women of the family to work for total disarmament.

In saying this one immediately thinks, however, of Denmark and the bill which has been introduced several times to abolish the army except as a police force. But this is a socialist measure and for propaganda. People who know say it will never pass the upper house no matter how many times it passes the lower. Denmark, though it decreases its standing army, continues to conscript all its male population and give them military training.

The laws in the Scandinavian countries are as follows:

«Military service in Norway is compulsory from 20 to 44 years of age: Military service begins at the age of 20. Service with the colours consists during the first year of 48 days' training in the infantry and garrison artillery, 62 days in the mountain artillery, 92 days in the field artillery and 102 days in the cavalry. This training is immediately followed by 24 days' training in the regular army, while during the second, third and seventh years men of the regular army are called up for 24 days' training.»

In Sweden every male unless physically unfit must perform military service from the age of 20 to 42. «The period of training is 140 days for ordinary conscripts, 200 days for special arms and 260 days for students.»

In Denmark «young men are entered on the conscription rolls at the age of 17 and receive their first training between the ages of 19 and 25... The period of service in the principal branches of the army is five months apart from a few subsequent training periods of shorter duration.»

But Norway, Sweden and Denmark have an alternative civil service. In Sweden those with religious or conscientious objections may serve in the army without being instructed in the use of arms or bearing arms, or, if there is conscientious objection against any service in the army, they may perform civil service for the state.

### Switzerland.

Switzerland is another so-called pacifist country which is not likely to be aggressive but like the Scandinavian countries it also has compulsory military training and without any alternative civil service. The man who refuses to serve must either pay a military tax or go to prison. Service is compulsory for all men from the age of 20 to 48 years. The service is 65 days for the infantry, 90 days for the cavalry and 75 days for the artillery. This is for the first year and after that the service is

11 days annually up to the age of 32. From 32 to 40 there is a period of service every four years. From 40 to 48 the men are in the «Landsturm» and only called on in case of mobilization. Every male citizen is a soldier. He has his own uniform and personal equipment given him free of charge during his term of service. Between 20 and 40 he is obliged to attend shooting practice.

The population roughly of Switzerland is about four million. In 1926 there were 45,000 young men in these preparatory shooting courses.

The Confederation subsidizes associations whose object it is to develop military aptitude. It furnishes the arms and instruction in shooting is given first place.

No wonder the women of Switzerland find it very difficult to work for total disarmament when husband, son or father possess a military uniform and a gun.

### British Dominions.

But if the spirit engendered by military training in countries which are not likely to go to war is dangerous consider what it is in countries where war is imminent.

Take for instance Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, which must defend the Empire and are likely to see service at any time. War for them is a deadly reality. In all of these countries it is customary to begin military training with boys of between 12 and 14 years of age.

In Australia every boy at the age of 12 must register and undergo cadet training at school. At 14 they must register again and join the senior cadet corp. At 18 the cadets join the Citizen Force. This comprises all male inhabitants who have resided six months in Australia, are British subjects and between the ages of 18 and 60 years of age. From 18 to 22 the members of the Citizen Force have 25 days annually of training with 17 days in camp. After that there are periods of service for eight years. The Citizen Force is presumably for home defence but in time of war the Citizen Force as well as the permanent force come under the army act and may be drafted over seas.

There are 1,120 Civilian Rifle Clubs in Australia with a membership of approximately 43,000 annually.

In New Zealand the story is much the same. In this country all British male inhabitants between the ages of 17 and 55 are liable to be trained for varying periods and must serve in the militia. Service in the Territorial Force is for 3 years. Between the ages of 14 and 18 the boys are trained in Senior Cadet Battalions. As in Australia there are many rifle clubs. These are affiliated with but are not part of the Defence Force.

In Canada the situation is better though there, too, there is cadet training. Every year an appropriation is made by the Government for cadet training in the schools. There are junior cadet corps made up of boys from 12 to 14 and senior cadet corps with boys from 14 to 18. There were 115,677 cadets trained in 1925. In addition the Provincial Governments of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Ontario avail themselves of the power vested in them to include

compulsory military drill and rifle shooting in the curriculum for colleges and schools under their control.

The military forces in Canada are constituted under the Militia Act. All male inhabitants between the age of 18 and 60 are liable for military service. There is an active militia and a reserve militia. The active militia is secured by a voluntary enlistment. When the number so raised is not enough the men are enrolled by ballot. The period of service in peace time is three years for the active militia and such period as prescribed for the reserve. Every man drafted for service in the militia who refuses to take oath is liable to imprisonment for six months.

### Military Training Manual.

It is appalling to consider the number of boys and men in the world who are obliged to take military training. The rules given for dealing with an enemy cannot be pleasant, and bayonet practice if one has imagination, must be hardening. Let us quote from the 1925 edition of the Manual of Military Training by Colonel Moss and Lang of the U. S. which has been used as a standard in America for nine years and of which more than 300,000 copies have been sold. It says:

«Vulnerable parts of the body. The point of the bayonet should be directed against the opponent's throat, especially in hand-to-hand fighting, so that the point will enter easily and make a fatal wound on penetrating a few inches. Other vulnerable and frequently exposed parts are the face, chest, lower abdomen, thighs, and, when the back is turned, the kidneys. The arm pit, which may be reached with a jab if the throat is protected, is vulnerable because it contains large blood vessels and a nerve center...»

«The principles of sportsmanship and consideration for your opponent have no place in the practical application of this work. When officers or men belonging to fighting troops leave their proper places to carry back or care for wounded during the progress of the action, they are guilty of skulking. This offense must be suppressed with the utmost vigor. To finish an opponent who hangs on, or attempts to pull you to the ground, always try to break his hold by driving the foot or knee to his crotch and gouging his eyes with your thumbs.»

Perhaps military instructions are not as brutal as this in other countries. If they are it is rather frightening to think that over 35 countries have compulsory military drill and shall we say for the sake of some figure, that ½ the men of the earth are being taught to fight.

England and the United States are probably as militaristic if not more so than any countries in the world today, but the fact that they haven't conscription means that in millions of families in both countries there are men who have not had military training. Because this is so it is possible for all these families to work for total disarmament in a way they could not do if their men were in training. Never will we have peace in the world until military drill is abolished. Our men and boys must not be taught how to kill each other, but instead how to cooperate with one another.

# A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR

Here is the story of what happened to a man who refused to obey military laws. T. Corder Catchpool an Englishman and a Quaker, whose religious convictions prevented his joining the army during the Great War, at first did a balance work but later came to feel he could not even do that. For refusal to serve he was court martialled and sentenced to 112 days of hard labor. This happened four times with increasingly long sentences. He tells his story in a little paper covered book called «On Two Fronts», Headley Bros. Publishers. We give extracts from it here.

## At the Front.

«The day or rather night when I first came to the Front, will be ever memorable. Darkness, slashing November sleet in our faces, the little bus ploughing through seas of mud — progress very slow — troops everywhere — «open fighting» only just over, regiments, batteries, constantly on the move... Sometimes we had to tail dead slow for miles wedged into a huge convoy. We crept the last stages lights out... Shrapnel began to whine, guns were booming, tongues of flame spitting out all round in the darkness...»

«All night long I watched our guns flashing and the German shells bursting, listened to the whistle of the shot through the air, the softened thud at the other end, or when a great shell was coming this way, heard nothing until the very earth seemed to shake with the concussion — and the whole horizon was one continuous blaze of light...»

«It is heart rending when the wounded describe the circumstances in which they were wounded. One said: «The Germans somehow got into a position to enfilade our trench, I was at the extreme end away from them — one by one we fell, like a row of ninepins — the man next to me remained after I had fallen, hit; then he lay down and pressed himself upon me to escape the bullets, one grazed his scalp, and the warm blood flowed over my face, the next moment he was done for; it was 8 a. m.; till 7.30 p. m., when it was dark enough to stir with some chance of safety, I lay perfectly still, my head and chest spattered all over with my comrade's brains. I was the only man who left the trench.»

## In Hospital.

«Thank God from the bottom of my heart for the inestimable privilege of being allowed to try to patch up the results of this ghastly mistake. But oh! the infinitesimal effect of the patching. The awful smallness of oneself amidst these vast forces. I was chatting to a lad in the wards this afternoon; both arms amputated, and he was trying to compose a letter telling his fiancée about it. Another case, in a bed near by, a young watchmaker from Besançon, writing to break it to his father, whose sole support he is, and whom he has never left before in his life, that he has lost the sight of both eyes. A father arrived from Paris this morning with the utmost speed of a pinched war-time service train, to find his son buried a few hours before! ...»

«Consider a man with a buttock torn off by a bit of shell, who has been lying two or three days on a stretcher in a pool of blood — such cases we get — or with a lump of jagged iron the size of a watch lodged in his neck so that he can neither swallow nor speak — or with a bullet that has zig-zagged about in his brain and is still in it somewhere, shouting nonsense at the top of his voice for a week and half his body paralysed...»

## Conscience Speaks.

«It has been dawning on me gradually that the continuance of our work does in fact depend upon the sinking of our individuality and stifling of our freedom of expression. The Conscriptio Act has meant a gradual tightening of the screw of military discipline, and I cannot help feeling now that we are in effect a conscript unit...»

«I have sent in my resignation... I am clear that the time has come for me to resign... I have acted throughout from a deep concern — loyalty to Pacifism and the Society of Friends seeming a greater thing than to the unit.»

## Court Martialled.

«I was last on the list and did not get tried until about 3.30 p. m. I felt a wonderful sense of confidence and of having a message to give. When the time came I read it quietly and without any feeling of nervousness. The officers were all extremely courteous and one had a feeling that they honestly desired to dispense justice according to the rules of the game. I pleaded «technically guilty»...»

«At 2.15 p. m. today, we were suddenly and unexpectedly paraded and «read out». The barracks were paraded, too, there were not many in at the moment, about 100 men. The Adjutant read out our sentences one by one — 112 days hard labour in each case — and we stood forward in turn before the assembled company. Half of them were old guard-room pals, and most certainly were feeling sympathetic; many gave as noticeable a wag of the head and grin as they dared under the severe eye of the regimental sergeant-major...»

After 112 days hard labor in prison, Catchpool was released only to be questioned again by the military authorities and on his refusal to perform military service he was again court martialled. The Court asked if he had anything to say. He replied that he would like to explain his action and spoke as follows:

«On the outbreak of the war there was a great need of ambulance workers... I went out longing to relieve the suffering caused by war, to show sympathy with the men who had obeyed a call of duty different from my own, and, in a labour of love, to share the dangers and hardships to which they were exposed. For 19 months I was spared to continue this work at the front. Meanwhile, however, the medical service had become completely organized. Voluntary units were either dispensed with or practically absorbed into the regular armies. The wounded no longer lacked help...»

«I was baffled more and more by the consciousness, that under military control, the primary object of our work was the refitting of men to take their place again in the trenches. Conscriptio followed and it seemed to me, that for one called to serve in the cause of peace, the position was becoming impossible. At home, men who stood for the same ideals as myself were being reviled as cowards and shirkers, and forced into the army against their principles. When

some of them were sent to France and became liable to the death penalty, I hesitated no longer. It seemed to me more honest and manly to take my stand with them, make public profession of my faith and accept the consequences...»

«I look upon the whole life as a sacrament of service, demanding loyalty to the highest ideal. For me, this ideal is the life of Jesus Christ. In the light of His teaching, I regard no man as my enemy, and am convinced of the wrongfulness of all war. If I am met with gas, bombs and bayonets, I will not poison and kill in return. I believe there is a heroism other than that which involves the infliction of pain and death: surer protection for those I love than the slaughter of those whom someone else loves... I have an unflinching faith in human nature, and seek no protection but that which God wills for those who trust Him... Some day a nation will have the courage to disarm, and put these convictions to the test; and I have absolute confidence in the issue... I am enlisted in the highest service I know, the formation of a world fellowship of men prepared to die rather than take part in war.»

## Imprisonment.

«The prisoner is at the gloomy gaol gate, sergeant is ringing, two soldiers guard the prisoner. He turns to bid a last goodbye to all he is leaving. The street is full of traffic. Paper boys run by crying «Great German push in Italy». ... The gate is opening. He passes from all that men hold dear, into the silence and isolation, the death in life, where the dreary hours will lengthen slowly into days, weeks and months. ... He is in Reception, that part of prison routine where first impressions are stamped so indelibly on the memory. He steps naked from the last vestiges of the old life — the little pile of his clothing upon the floor! Then the bath, and those new garments, covered with broad arrows, which are to grow so familiar... A tin of porridge and a bit of bread are thrust into his hands. He hears the key turn twice. Weary in mind and body, he sinks upon a stool. ... What was it those boys were shouting? Oh, God, that avalanche on the Isonzo! He has seen the poison gas-cloud rolling over the trenches, the bloody work of shells, the never-ending stream of shattered bodies. Memories stab into his brain with un-sparing strokes. If only ... oh, to be there! to give all in helping save some life from that awful wreck. ... He starts up, stares at the locked door, at the walls, — they seem shrinking in on him. He drops back helpless and baffled. ... Shall the soldier choose the front where he will fight? Oh, Christ — give patience! ... Little by little, kind nature dulls the pain, blunts the edge of piercing thoughts, ... The key is grating in the lock, the hinges creak louder and louder, and a rough voice is calling. «'Ere, get up there!» — and then to someone behind, «Blest if 'fourteen' ain't forgotten 'is supper!»»

## WORK OF THE W. I. L. NATIONAL SECTIONS. New Zealand Section.

This section comprises chiefly a group of labor women in Auckland who have been working for peace through their labor organization. They have been fighting against militarism by trying to get a majority of Labor men in Parliament. In New Zealand it is the Labor Party, the Society of Friends and the Fellowship of Reconciliation that are always on their side of peace an goodwill.

This Section's chief activity is in making propaganda for the abolition of compulsory military training. In New Zealand when boys leave the primary for the secondary schools at the age of fourteen or fifteen they are enrolled as cadets and obliged to drill.

The W. I. L. Section in Auckland is trying to get Labor Women in all parts of the Dominion to unite against compulsory military training. They succeeded in getting the Anti-Conscriptio Manifesto printed in half a dozen of the smaller newspapers.

This section reports with great satisfaction that a committee of clergymen representing all the Christian Churches has recently been formed to work for world peace. This is the first time all the churches have combined for this purpose.

Recently a large conference of all the Labor Women of the Dominion was held at Napier, and the W. I. L. group as the Auckland Women's Branch of the New Zealand Labor Party sent four representatives, one of them, the President of the W. I. L. Section, Mrs Rowlett, who read a paper on Internationalism and War. She began her paper by saying:

«Miss Jane Addams put the case for Internationalism in a nutshell when she said: 'Justice between men or between nations can only be achieved through understanding and goodwill.' Then she outlined conditions in various countries as the result of the last war and showed the need of total disarmament by every country. She spoke against the whole system of compulsory military training in New Zealand, and told of the messages of Good Will that had been sent out on May 18th, Good Will Day, by children of different countries, quoting the messages, and saying: «Women are doing valuable work but perhaps the most valuable of all is the effort being made in many quarters to imbue children with the spirit of comradeship for children of other lands, and a hatred of war.»

And she added: «It is one of the most hopeful signs that in spite of compulsory military drill, flag waving and jingoism generally, some of the children are being shown the true light.»

«With Labor working steadily for Internationalism and the mothers of the world striving for it, backed up as the ideal has always been by the Society of Friends and all bona fide Christians, the time is surely coming when the nations will understand each other, the brotherhood of man advance a step nearer and the horror of war be banishing for ever by the beneficent spirit of Internationalism.»

As a result of Mrs Rowlett's speech it was decided that the whole question of military training of youth must be taken up by the Women's Branches of the Labor Party.

## Australian Section

This section as always is particularly active in propaganda against compulsory military training, for all boys over fourteen in Australia must submit to military training.

The office of the National Section is at Melbourne, there monthly meetings are held. At these meetings news is given of peace activities all over the world. This group sends out the following peace literature regularly: their own paper, «Peacewards», and beside «Pax International», «Foreign Affairs», «No More War» and the «War Resisters' Bulletin». The «Anti-Conscriptio Leaflet» has been reprinted by this section and widely distributed. An International Peace Scholarship has been established by this group. Every school child under 14 ½ years of age may compete for the scholarship, by writing an essay, the subject of which is chosen by the Australian W. I. L. Section. The examination is conducted by the Education Department. The subject of the essay in 1926 was «Why War is Wrong» and the winner was a Master Geoffrey Wilmoth.

The winner of the prize is entitled to four years free education at a High School, Technical School or School of Domestic Science. The money for the scholarship, amounting to £ 16 a year, is raised by the Section.

The annual meeting of this section was held in April. Mrs. Byrning was again elected president and Miss Moore secretary. At this meeting a welcome was given to Miss Lambriek, recently returned from a trip abroad, who had acted as a delegate from Australia to the W. I. L. Peace Congress in Dublin last July.

Miss Lambriek in her speech said she was struck by the brilliantly intellectual character of the Congress meetings and said she regarded the W. I. L. as the feminist side of the League of Nations.

Not only did this section send a delegate to the Dublin Congress but recently Mrs. W. Warren Kerr, for many years the president of the section, went to Geneva with her husband and visited the Maison Internationale, dining there and thus bringing the Australian Section and Headquarters into close touch.

Mr. Kerr was one of the Australian delegates to the Economic Conference of the League of Nations.

This section has branches in Hobart, Tasmania and in Rockhampton, Queensland. The secretary of the Rockhampton group is 86 years of age but she is putting up as fine a fight against conscription and for an end to all war, as if she were many years younger.

This section is very anxious to establish branches in other parts of Australia, particularly in Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide, and would welcome names and addresses of people there.

The Australian Section has already raised £ 5 for the China mission and is continuing work for this cause.

## The U. S. Section

This Section held its annual meeting the end of April and the first days of May. There were reports from the various State Branches as to the work they had done during the past year. The outstanding sessions of the meeting were devoted to future policies. Miss Emily Balch has prepared a statement of policies which has been printed and can be obtained from the Washington Office of the U. S. Section.

There were several social events during the course of the meeting and on the last day a luncheon was given to Jane Addams. She gave a stirring account of the Dublin Congress and the international work.

One of the resolutions presented by Miss Balch and adopted unanimously dealt with the entrance of the United States into the League of Nations. It was as follows:

«The W. I. L. desires to see the United States enter the League of Nations, providing only that it does so with the understanding that the United States is exempt from any obligation to supply military forces, or to join in exerting military pressure in any case. The W. I. L. furthermore, hopes that the Government of the United States in applying for membership in the League of Nations, would not only secure acceptance of this position, but would express its earnest desire to see the League renounce, or at least abstain from, all use of military sanctions.»

There were five other resolutions which briefly summarized cover the following points:

1. **China.** Urging the President to exercise the utmost patience and pursue a policy of scrupulous non aggression in dealing with the present situation in China without regard to the policy pursued by any other nation.

2. **Interallied Debts.** Presenting to the Secretary of the Treasury Mellon the belief of the W. I. L. that the question of interallied debts is more than a pecuniary matter and the wish to see the whole thing reconsidered from the point of view of better international relations.

3. **Imperialism.** Urging the independence of the Philippines and the evacuation of Haiti and deploring the policy of intervention in Nicaragua and expressing satisfaction at the prospect of a peaceful termination of differences with Mexico.

4. **Immigration.** Urging a reconsideration of our present legislation and opposing all racial discrimination and urging that as long as the quota system is retained it should be applied without regard to race.

5. **Sacco and Vanzetti.** Believing that the trial of these men was influenced by their opinions and affiliations, always a historic basis for intolerance, the W. I. L. requests the Governor of Massachusetts to appoint a commission of impartial citizens to review the evidence and report findings.

The U. S. Section has been making a big drive for members during the past year. The National Secretary, Dorothy Detzer, reports an increase in national dues amounting to 2,500 dollars. This section has also been trying to organize groups in areas where the W. I. L. has no affiliations. Anne Martin, who attended the Dublin Congress and stayed at the Maison Internationale, and is known to many of our European members, undertook to organize in the Far West. She has been most successful. Her report says that in 25 days of work, 200 new members joined and beside the dues for these members, \$500 in contributions was secured. Groups have been organized in Denver, Colorado and in Sante Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico. In California a Southern California Branch was started with 50 new members and the group already existing in San Diego affiliated with this. Later there was a Northern California Branch organized, also with 50 new members, and the Palo

## U. S. Section - Continued.

Alto and Carmel groups already in existence affiliated with this branch. Eighteen new international memberships were secured in the new organizations.

Beside this very splendid work of Miss Martin, Miss Eleanor Brannon, who is the secretary of the New York State Branch of the W. I. L., reports that she has made a trip through New York State speaking 36 times in 13 cities. Often the speeches were to High School students. As a result of her trip Miss Brannon secured 117 new members.

The Pennsylvania Branch has also made a drive for members, and reports a total membership of 2,200.

### Good Will Day, May 18th.

In all the rush of work at Headquarters we did not make any particular plans here to celebrate this day. But we are very happy to announce that several of our sections did not forget the day and celebrated it accordingly. Last year the children of Wales sent out a message of goodwill over the radio and, at the suggestion of one of our members, Katherine Blake, Dr. Oltramare, the head of the Board of Education in Geneva arranged to have the school children of Geneva send back an answering message. This day had not been forgotten by the children and Dr. Oltramare and this year again the message of the children of Wales which came over the radio was answered by the children of Geneva. Not only this but a lecture was given in the secondary schools by the editor of the Journal de Genève, Monsieur W. Martin, on the League of Nations and the importance of maintaining peace in the world. Then some of the small school children formed a little procession, and carrying the Swiss flag marched to the Secretariat of the League of Nations and there before the plaque attached to the wall of the building which says « In memory of Woodrow Wilson, founder of the League of Nations », the children laid a wreath.

We hear also that on this day, on the other side of the world in Manitoba, Canada, the Board of Education sanctioned the observance of Good Will Day, May 18th in the schools of the province. Also in Vancouver our W. I. L. Section under

Laura E. Jamieson and with the help of the provincial Parent-Teacher Federation arranged a most attractive program. The children of the schools were encouraged to enter into a contest, for the girls, « Dolls of all Nations » contest, for the boys, « Boats of all Nations » contest. Prizes were offered to the competing schools. After the competition the dolls and boats were to be sold to provide funds for carrying out the goodwill day program. The newspapers of Vancouver gave much space to this day. They had in big headlines :

« Hands around the world. How our children will celebrate Good Will Day, May 18th. »

But this is not all. We hear that in New Orleans, Louisiana, in spite of the tragedy of the terrible floods, Good Will Day was celebrated with an open air meeting in Lafayette Square, that the superintendent of the public schools spoke and that the children sang peace music.

Then we have had word that Sweden has not forgotten Good Will Day and that they organized to celebrate it. At Malmo on the 18th a peace meeting was held in the open air pavillon by a group of the W. I. L. and at the close a collection was taken to go towards the travelling expenses of the peace mission which the W. I. L. is sending to China.

We are sure that news of this day will come in later from other sections. Meantime we will look to the day when May 18th will be celebrated around the world as a day of goodwill and understanding.

### A Peace Book for Children.

A very attractive book for children has just been published, « George Washington Lincoln » by Margaret Loring Thomas, who is a W. I. L. member. It is the story of a little American boy who wanders on to a steamer which is going around the world and is carried off. He has adventures in each country and makes new friends whom he persuades to come on the journey with him, so the steamer becomes the « Ship of Friendship ». In all his trip George Washington Lincoln has not been able to find a boundary line and he cannot see why any one friend is not as good as another

no matter what their colour, nor why they should not all come back to America with him and live together. The publishers are Thomas Nelson Company, New York.

### « Thou Shalt Not Kill. »

A strange story has come to light in France concerning two brothers, Félix and Théophile Berthaloni, aged 30 and 33, who have been hiding ever since the war in the mountains. They combine roughness with mysticism. They took the commandment « thou shalt not kill » literally and in order to keep it instead of going with the men of their village of Violins, which has only about 50 inhabitants, to the mobilization centre at Briançon they deserted and hid in the mountains. In January last they attended a religious service and were arrested. When questioned, they said :

« We suffered a great deal in the mountains, we are worn out and could not live much longer like that. We ask for mercy. Our religion says : 'thou shalt not kill'. »

Many people of the district have spoken in their behalf. The testimony is that they have lived a life of religious monks, reading their Bible and going to church. One man who had been in the war testified in their behalf :

« They were educated sternly in the fear of God, they would not even kill a sparrow, they preferred to obey God rather than men. For 12 years they have lived a life that I would not exchange for my life as a soldier. »

The pastor of the district said : « This is a case of survival of mysticism. They belong to a sect which does not recognize ecclesiastical authority. Their simple and obstinate mysticism puts them outside the church. But anyone who has seen them kneeling in prayer, trusting absolutely in the will of God, can have no doubt of their sincerity. » The pastor ended his remarks by hoping that conscientious objectors would be recognized by law and not forced to kill.

The court, however, felt that a pardon would be a dangerous precedent, so Théophile and Félix Berthaloni were condemned to 3 years of prison with commutation of sentence on good behavior.

## Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Jane Addams, International President

International Headquarters 12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva  
Secretary : Madeleine Z. Doty

### WHAT THE W. I. L. P. F. STANDS FOR :

It aims at uniting women in all countries who are opposed to every kind of war, exploitation and oppression, and who work for universal disarmament and for the solution of conflicts by the recognition of human solidarity, by conciliation and arbitration, by world co-operation, and by the establishment of social, political and economic justice for all, without distinction of sex, race, class or creed.

The work of all the National Sections is based upon the statements adopted and the Resolutions passed by the International Congresses of the League.

International Dues \$ 5.00 or £ 1.00 a year  
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