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PEACE WITHOUT JUSTICE? PEACE WITHOUT DEMOCRACY? PEACE WITHOUT FREEDOM?

The events of the last few weeks have made it abundantly clear that the one thing the nations long and hope for, is peace.

Should not this experience alone make us happy and deservedly proud, seeing that all our efforts—ever since the Hague Conference in 1915—have been devoted to the fight against war and for peace. And now peace is universally hailed as the greatest of gifts. We see Statesmen stake their honour on saving peace, and willing to pay any price to save it. The nations in their turn are prepared to put up with anything from those who actually, or even in appearance only, secured peace for them.

Is this then the day we have been waiting for?

Yes and no.

It is our day, in so far as recent events would seem to prove that in spite of intensive preparations, the armies, the air-fleets and the navies of two great powers were not strong enough to defend the rights and the independence of a small State which was, itself, well equipped for modern warfare,

that military pacts, whether they be called pacts of mutual assistance or non-aggression pacts, or by any other name are declared null and void as soon as a change in the political constellation lets such pacts appear less desirable,

that the will of a small nation, however gallant, to fight for its independence to the last, breaks down in face of an absolutely hopeless fight, which would have been directed not merely against its powerful adversary but against the disapproval of its former allies as well,

that, in this particular case, the very system of defence, built up by Czechoslovakia at gigantic cost will add to the military power of the aggressor.

Events have proved us right in this, too, that all those prepared to face facts will have to admit that mobilisations, and the measures that were taken to protect and evacuate the non-combatants,—so far from producing a sense of security,—actually created panic.

And yet—although peace has officially been saved, we are deeply conscious that we have no cause to rejoice.

For the "peace" proclaimed at Munich is not the peace we have always fought for. It is no peace at all. It might at best be called a state of "non-war" or better still "deferred war". It cannot be called peace because it is not founded on justice. It is merely an agreement between four partners, one of whom, the party prosecuting as it were, under threat of war made certain demands which were supported by his second and acquiesced in and granted by the third and fourth partners. The defendant, who might just as easily have been prosecuting, had not been asked to be present; he was not even consulted and was sacrificed in cold blood. The four partners then were acclaimed by the multitude as peace-makers while the victim was going to his death.

This "peace" is a violation of all fundamental rights, inasmuch as it was concluded with absolute disregard of the principles and the statute of the League of Nations, which two of the great powers represented were still bound to respect. This "peace" is devoid of a further element indispensable for a real peace: democracy.

Four men, two of whom represent democratic countries, meet in secret council, and adopt resolutions involving the fate of Europe. Their decisions take effect even before the respective parliaments have met—these august assemblies, however, take no offence at being thus set aside. The majorities in both parliaments, without inquiring into the full range of the commitments entered into, are prepared to express their enthusiastic approval to the men who saved the peace. "Nothing else matters so long as peace is preserved!"

The cry is taken up by the multitude. "Thank God there is no war. Maybe peace was dearly bought, the main thing is that it could be secured!"

Is there not a real danger in this very idea? "Peace at any price" would be a wonderful thought, if meant to express our abhorrence of war, but what if it is merely the outcome of panic? Should we not ask for immediate disarmament as the only measure consistent with our attitude of abhorrence? Instead of which the order of the day is simply: More and bigger arms!

"Peace at any price", indeed, is an attitude to be adopted only by those statesmen and nations who would be prepared to pay the price out of their own substance. For this time another people has been sacrificed. But let there be no mistake about it. The other nations will not be long in paying for this "peace from panic", for their submission to the dictate of Munich. Some of these nations have even now had the bill presented to them—on account as it were—in the shape of increased interference, on the part of the victors of Munich, in their countries' own affairs, and there is no knowing what havoc this dictated peace may yet work among them. The treaties of Versailles, of Trianon, etc., 'dictates' though they were, were at least subject to the moderating influence of the League of Nations. This "peace", however, entails the destruction of the League and the return to the worst type of alliances for war.

The cause of peace, which we have at heart, makes it imperative for us to express these facts as clearly as possible. We must on no account be a party to the disastrous policy of veiling and twisting the truth, of trying to make right appear wrong, and wrong right.

An unheard-of crime has been committed against a gallant and noble people, an injustice that cannot be undone and which we shall have to suffer for. We could not prevent the crime and, very likely, we shall not be able to avert the even greater disaster that will result from it.

What we can do, however, is this: we can spread the facts about Czechoslovakia and whatever must be known about the Munich agreement; we must give what help we can towards the relief of the emigrants driven from the occupied areas of Czechoslovakia to the centre of that country, towards the relief of the dreadful economic misery and the despair that has come over this unhappy people.

Beyond these immediate tasks we have to face the future. It is up to us, more than ever to uphold truth which is now sneered at, and the principles which are the only possible basis for a lasting peace; a new community, a new solidarity, a new international law, founded on democracy within the State and between the nations; a new economic order which aims at satisfying our needs instead of profiting the few. These ideals we have always stood for; we must fight for them more than ever now that they are being belittled and betrayed. Let us be clear about this! The powers against us are triumphant at the moment; should their triumph last, it would mean the end of humanity. In our relentless and indefatigable struggle against them lies our only hope of salvation.

CLARA RAGAZ.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER TO SECTIONS FROM HEADQUARTERS

"In the immediate situation the tasks which are before our National Sections are:

First: To interpret events in the light of the W.I.L.P.F. principles to their own members as well as to as wide circles as possible. The greatest possible amount of enlightenment of public opinion is urgently needed.

Second: To destroy the net of insinuations, calumnies and lies about Czechoslovakia by making widely known

the facts about the events which led up to its unscrupulous abandonment.

Third: Czechoslovakia urgently wants a long term international loan of, for the time being, about 7 Milliard of Czech Crowns (250 Million Dollars) for the transformation and reconstruction of her National Economy: industries, commerce, public roads, railways, etc., as well as for a large scale solution of the problems connected with the migration of hundreds of thousands of Refugees into Czechoslovakian areas.

(a) Therefore we urge our National Sections to make a campaign for such an international loan in their respective countries. Czechoslovakia, dismembered and robbed of vital industries, subsoil resources, springs, forests, etc., is entitled to a big international economic loan for the reconstruction of her economic life, an essential factor in the establishment of the economic balance in Europe. There is a very great drive for a loan in Great Britain; we hope to have the support of our American Section to start a similar move in the U.S.A.

(b) We also ask our Sections to encourage increased imports of Czechoslovakian products into their respective countries, in order to keep the remaining industries going and to stimulate and promote the transformation of industries.

(c) Czechoslovakia plans to revise her commercial treaties with various countries. A strong public opinion for increased orders to Czechoslovakia could lead to valuable results.

Fourth: The questions of the revision of frontiers, of the settling of Minority Problems by the ceding of territory, by exchange of minority groups, etc., are again in the foreground of discussion. If the W.I.L.P.F. stands for the calling of a general Peace Conference to be attended by all nations concerned, the W.I.L.P.F. ought to prepare proposals for the solution of the questions at present under discussion. The W.I.L.P.F. has since its foundation done much valuable work by thorough study as well as by practical experience in frontier and minority territories. We urge our National Sections again to devote a great part of their winter work to these important problems. To give in to the dictation of brute force is no solution of these questions. Such a procedure may lead to *temporary avoidance of war*, but it can never lead to their constructive settlement or to just and lasting peace."

(Signed) CLARA RAGAZ, GERTRUD BAER, K. E. INNES,
Joint Chairmen.

OUR SECTIONS AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

During the Four Power Conference at Munich the Chairmen sent the following telegram to Mr. Chamberlain and a similar one to M. Daladier.

"Women's International League Peace Freedom members in 52 countries demand right of self-determination for Czechoslovakian people on basis Franco-British plan with exchange population guarantee independence economic possibilities."

When the agreement reached became known, and the German troops moved into Czechoslovakia, two feelings were uppermost; deep sympathy for our Czech friends and admiration for the behaviour throughout the whole period of terrible strain, both of President Benes and of the Czech people.

Messages from our Danish Section to President Benes and to our Czechoslovak Section are typical of what many felt and wrote. To President Benes they wrote:

"From democratic Denmark and on behalf of 25,000 Danish women organised in the Danish Section of W.I.L.P.F. we beg to express to you Mr. President, our profound admiration and thankfulness for the dignified way in which you led your country through these serious days to a peaceful solution. No one could successfully belittle your high reputation as a peace-seeking statesman. May democratic Czechoslovakia from now on rest in peace and maintain freedom."

The International Chairmen sent a letter on similar lines.

To the Czechoslovakian Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom the Danish Section sent the following letter, with a gift.

"Dear Friends and Co-Workers,

"Friends in Denmark hereby send you our most heartfelt greetings of love and understanding. Our thoughts went to you, day and night, through all these dreadful and serious days.

"The task which rested upon the Czechoslovakian Government and people of saving the whole world from war would seem to be unhumanly heavy—but the manner in which it was carried out has filled the whole world with admiration and thankfulness. In spite of everything, it was the small democratic State who came out as the victor—may the democracy of the whole world take its lesson of the sufferings and sacrifices now endured by Czechoslovakia!

"Through co-operation within our League and specially at the Congresses in Prague, 1929, in Copenhagen and Luhacovice in 1937 our Sections were linked together in a friendship which is very dear to us. We have felt encouraged to manifest this friendship just now. Every single branch all over the country has contributed to the letter-opener we have sent you. What is failing it in splendour it therefore has a thousand times as a message from 25,000 Danish women—their joy and pride in our mutual friendship—their confidence, their promise of good comradeship.

"May this small piece of tool in future—and in the hands of good friends—open up for many, good tidings about constructive work linking us together and never ceasing till 'right has taken the place of might'.

On behalf of the Danish Section,

(Signed) THORA DAUGAARD."

The officers of the British Section also wrote to our Czechoslovak Section:

"We feel overwhelmed with shame at what you and your country have suffered for the sake of the peace of Europe, and we are constrained at the same time to express to you our admiration for the nobility and self-control of your Leader and your people.

"We believe that by this self-control you have made the greatest contribution that it is possible for any

nation to make towards the establishment of the peace of the world. You have stood for a civilised standard of conduct, the effect of which will, we are convinced, be written in human history."

The following telegrams were sent from Norway:

To the Czechoslovak Section—

"Unsere innigsten Gedanken sind immerwieder bei Ihnen und allen lieben Freunden.

Die Norwegische Gruppe der I.F.F.F.

Unterzeichnet: MARIE LOUS MOHR."

To President Benes—

"W.I.L.P.F. Norwegian Section wants to make known to your Excellency and the Czechoslovakian people the deep and respectful admiration we feel at the example you have given the world of courage and sacrifice for the sake of peace.

(Signed) MARIE LOUS MOHR."

From the area now occupied by Germany comes a brave message from one of our members:

"... Die Frauen und Kinder sind ins Tschechische gefahren. Es ist auf jeden Fall besser. Ich bleibe auf meinem Posten, so lange es geht. Sie brauchen sich jetzt um mich keine Sorgen machen. Ich werde mich schon in Acht nehmen.

"Ich bin ja freiwillige Schwester des Csl. roten Kreuzes und möchten falls es nötig sein sollte, auch in dieser Hinsicht meine Pflicht erfüllen.

"Jedenfalls werden wir mit ganzem Herzen für unsere teure Republik eintreten.

"Was heute und in den vergangenen Tagen über unsere Republik im deutschen Rundfunk zusammen gelogen wurde, übersteigt jedes Mass. Auch die englische Regierung sollte sich doch darüber im Klaren sein.

Herzlichste Grüsse und auf Wiedersehen."

Next, we quote a letter suggesting practical action, and giving us fresh assurance of the courage and magnanimity of our Czechoslovak members. It was sent from their Chairman to the British Section.

"Now that the decisions of the Four Power Conference in Munich are put into effect, our League is one of the many organisations which are attempting to alleviate the suffering of German refugees from the Sudete Area. Because these Germans are known to be loyal to the Republic, they would be so persecuted in their home districts that they do not dare to return. They could salvage only a few of their possessions, if anything, and arrive in Prague almost penniless, and completely exhausted from cold, hunger, fatigue, and the nervous strain of the past month.

"Our members work willingly to help relieve the distress which the Sudete refugees, victims of the new territorial settlement, feel now and have experienced. But we are greatly handicapped by our lack of funds. To shelter and feed the adults, to care adequately for the babies and children, all this costs much money.

"We realize that you must already feel your responsibility for the decisions of the Munich Conference and for the dreadful tragedies that our country is daily experiencing and witnessing. We appeal to you to mitigate this injustice against the democratic part of the German population. By sending us money that we can use for the care of the Sudete refugees. This would enable us to extend our work. Because the shifting of the territory to Germany is being made in such a short period, our need is most urgent.

"We send you our hearty greetings."

The British Section responded at once by cabling a sum collected at the Executive, together with an amount collected in a Branch before the request was received.

From Sweden we hear:

"Everywhere is collected for Czechoslovakia by the churches and the Labour organisations and R.U.P.

"But I think we ought to concentrate on help for our members and comrades. We have sent 1,500 Swedish crowns to begin with. I have sent out an appeal to our groups and I hope to bring some more money when I am able to go to Prague. But people are giving so much to Spain and China and everywhere there is misery."

A letter from Norway runs:—

"Mass meetings are being held to show our great admiration and deep sympathy with President Benes and the Czechoslovak people. Money is collected as a help for all the new refugees and for the betrayed people. And what is interesting: this is done in the biggest conservative papers, *Aftenposten*, as well as in *Dagbladet*, liberal, and *Arbeiderbladet*, organ of the Labour party.

"The wife of the general secretary of the Conservative party has in *Aftenposten* even sent out a call asking all women to show their gratitude towards C.S.R. in subscribing to a fund for this country which was forced to sacrifice so much. The subscription will have this heading: "All women's thanks to C.S.R. for the peace". She also proposes to make this subscription international through women's organisations.

"Our Section has not sent money directly to C.S.R. but to the collections in these three papers mentioned and also offered our help for further work."

We are sure other Sections are ready to help also.

Lastly, we print a reply, sent to the Danish Section from our Czechoslovak Section, which is, in a sense, a reply to all.

"Liebe Freunde und Mitarbeiterinnen,

"Wir danken Euch herzlich für Eure freundlichen Worte und die Versicherung Eurer Sympathie in dieser für uns so katastrophalen Zeit. Wir danken Euch und allen 25.000 dänischen Friedensfreundinnen für den wunderschönen Brieföffner. Bei dessen Anblick macht uns der Gedanke traurig Euch sagen zu müssen, das wir wahrscheinlich nicht mehr lange die Möglichkeit haben werden, viele Briefe zu öffnen,

den wir haben nicht nur äusserlich viele Verluste gehabt, sondern sind auch innerlich durch starke Erschütterungen gegangen und sind zahlenmässig sehr zusammengeschrumpft.

"Wir waren und sind auch weiter der Ueberzeugung, dass der Sache des Weltfriedens nicht gedient wird, wenn die friedliebende Menschheit Schritt für Schritt vor jeder Androhung von Gewalt zurückweicht. Und die Tatsache, dass der Bau von deutschen Befestigungen an der französischen und belgischen Grenze weitergeht, und das Herr Hitler in seiner Saarbrückener Rede bereits so weit ging, den Englandern bei Strafe des Weltkrieges eine Regierung Eden oder Churchill zu verbieten, zeigt wohl deutlich genug, dass die Opferung unseres Landes und seiner Bewohner keineswegs den Weltfrieden gesichert, sondern jene gestärkt hat, die seine ständige und gefährliche Bedrohung bedeuten.

"Das Unglück ist nun geschehen und wir wollen heute nicht darüber reden, von wem und zu wessen Gunsten es verschuldet worden ist. Wir glauben aber, dass es Eure und der ganzen demokratischen Menschheit primitivste Verpflichtung ist, dem unschuldigen Opfer nicht Medaillen und Siegeltitel zuzusprechen, sondern zu retten, was zu retten ist. Helft dabei, die weitere politische und wirtschaftliche Verstümmelung unseres Landes zu verhindern, die ständig noch versucht wird; helft das Leben und die Existenz von hunderttausenden zu retten, die über Nacht aus arbeitsamen Bürgern zu gehetzten Emigranten geworden sind; helft den Millionen von Menschen, die durch die Zerreissung und Zerstückelung eines seit tausend Jahren zusammen gehörigen Wirtschaftsgebietes der äussersten Gefahr wirtschaftlichen Ruins preisgegeben worden sind. Und, 'last but not least', lernt aus dieser traurigen Erfahrung und vergesst es niemals, das der Frieden nicht dadurch erhalten wird, dass man vor denen zurückweicht, die ihn ununterbrochen bedrohen und gefährden.

"Nur die gemeinsame ernste und aufopfernde Arbeit in diesem Sinne kann uns heute und in Zukunft vereinigen, nur sie bedeutet 'constructive work linking us together', nur sie kann uns einer Zeit entgegenführen, in welcher 'right will take the place of might'.

"Wir grüssen Sie Alle und danken Ihnen,
Ihre

(gezeichnet) für die INTERNATIONALE FRAUENLIGA
FUER FRIEDEN UND FREIHEIT IN DER
TSCHESCHOSLOVAKEI."

THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

Several of our Sections are supporting the proposal put forward in more than one country, that the Nobel Peace Prize should be awarded to Dr. Benes. We are sure that anything our Sections and members can do to support this will be done. The statesmen at Munich all claimed to have been responsible for preserving the peace of Europe. We think the man who saved us from war, at a bitter price, which he deliberately accepted, was one who was not asked to the conference.

HOW I LOOK AT RECENT EVENTS

Everyone, in politics, sees and interprets events according to his or her own standards and relation to them.

In the last days of September uneasy Europe was dancing again on the edge of a crater, from which frightful explosions—wars, a world war, might break out at any moment.

World peace, it was said, would be once more assured. The wars raging in Spain and China were not taken into account. China is far away—and Spain? People are getting used to the continuance there of a state of war. Deplorable—but true!

The peoples did not ask, at what price and on what conditions peace would be maintained. The majority of women and men in all lands saw, heard, felt *one thing only*. There will not at present be a new war, or the new horrors that accompany war. An oppressive nightmare was removed. They breathed freely again.

At the end of September, I was in France. I saw there, before the Four-Power Munich Conference, men who were called up for the army. I shall never forget the despairing eyes of a pedestrian, who, in spite of our violent warning signal, did not get out of the way of our motor-car. "Drive on," said these eyes. "Better to die now, than to have to perish amid horrors of war, and be obliged to kill my fellow men, against whom I have nothing."

Anyone who saw the look in those eyes, and understood their language, will understand the passionate rejoicing of those who are forced to take part in war, and will not feel as a once absolute pacifist, who declared in her irrepressible range over the action of the four great Powers; "I could become an advocate of war, when I see all this blind jubilation over a peace which is no peace."

Only very few persons were able, in those last days of September, to maintain their balance and keep control over their excitement.

This rejoicing over peace,—which swept also through militarised Germany,—taught me that pacifist thought has made progress among most peoples, and the desire to settle differences between nations in other ways than war. That is a factor not to be overlooked in the pacification of the world, but it is also, in view of the methods by which Governments carry on their diplomacy to-day, a great danger.

Space forbids more than two examples. Who to-day knows that the mobilisation in many lands was a well-considered bluff to secure for Governments greater response to their claims?

In spite of mobilisation peace was preserved.

Who knows that Hitler, or rather his military advisers, after the mobilisation of the English fleet, after a superior military force was ranged against Germany, would *never* have risked war?

Under these circumstances was the surrender to the Dictator, at the cost of sacrificing the weak, necessary?

Pacifists, politicians, who know this, and who are of the opinion that lasting peace can only be based on mutual confidence, on respect for the freedom of all,—for these

the Munich Conference of the four Powers was completely shattering, quite apart from the above-mentioned factor.

Obligations accepted, and Treaties entered into, were broken. A great State was able to satisfy its hunger for land, at the cost of and without consultation with the interested party, and under the protection of three great Powers. A second Versailles!

Russia too, took no clear line, and the League of Nations, as for several years, did not rouse itself to any action.

A fresh war was avoided at the moment, but shameless force won all along the line.

The results are following rapidly. The future will show what the Munich Conference signifies for Europe and the World.

What Hitler-Germany wishes, Hitler has proclaimed clearly and openly in "Mein Kampf", and he pursues his aim step by step . . . under the protection of the democratic great Powers.

But it is not yet night. The time of restoration must come. The Czech people and their Government have won a moral victory. Such self-control, dignity and calm, shown in the face of a strong, unscrupulous, superior Power, in order to spare mankind the horrors of a new world war, gains for a people and its Government the highest fame, and, come what will, must, in the course of history, lead to a new uprising and prosperity.

What has happened to-day to Czechoslovakia, may to-morrow befall Denmark, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, etc. Germans are everywhere and . . . "Where the German tongue is spoken, there is German ground."

Will the smaller States of Europe at last learn from the Munich Conference the lesson that one alone has no power, that a coming together of all the smaller democratic States is the most urgent need of the hour, in order to prevent the greatest danger from materialism of the moment: the ever-closer rapprochement in their Four-Power pact of the European Great Powers? It must not become a fact! Whoever wishes to save freedom,—last remnant of European culture, democracy and humanity,—and ensure lasting peace, must realise this.

L. G. H.

LE COURS DE VACANCES INTERNATIONAL DE LA SECTION FRANCAISE DE LA LIGUE INTERNATIONALE DES FEMMES POUR LA PAIX ET LA LIBERTE

Paris, 12-18 Juillet, 1938

"Le Vrai Visage de la France Contemporaine"

Depuis plusieurs années, depuis, surtout, la formation du *Rassemblement Populaire* français après la menace de putsch fasciste du 6 Février, 1935, presque chaque reconte internationale—même au sein de notre Ligue—nous a donné l'occasion de faire une douloureuse constatation. Dans tous les pays, une présentation mensongère, répand la croyance en une France livrée aux luttes intérieures, au bord de la révolution sociale, incapable de tout effort constructif.

Les grèves de 1936—grèves qui se déroulèrent cependant dans un calme impressionnant et apportèrent une preuve éclatante de la maîtrise de soi dont pouvait être capable notre classe ouvrière,(1) furent présentées à l'étranger comme de véritables émeutes. Les nouvelles lois sociales—lois cependant justifiées non seulement par les nécessités du progrès social mais aussi par les conditions économiques, en particulier par le chômage grandissant—furent accusées d'être, uniquement, le produit d'une démagogie condamnable. N'a-t-on pas été jusqu'à dire que, depuis la semaine de 40 heures, les hommes se livraient de plus en plus à l'ivrognerie et que les femmes consacraient leurs loisirs à la prostitution. . .(2)

Notre mauvaise situation économique—trop réelle—donna même naissance à des légendes inouïes concernant les aliments dont les français, et les parisiens en particulier, devaient se contenter.

Le *Rassemblement Populaire* qui groupait, dans un bel effort d'unité, tous les hommes de tendances démocratiques, des partis d'extrême-gauche aux plus pâles républicains, et impliquait, ainsi, le sacrifice méritoire de certaines exigences de leurs tendances respectives dans l'intérêt de la cause commune—prit, hors de nos frontières, l'aspect d'une formation quasi-bolchevique.

Nous connaissions les dangers que peuvent présenter ces mensongères présentations : haine des réactionnaires de tous pays, crainte et désaffection de ceux qui redoutent toute agitation sociale.

Nous savions quelles conséquences avaient eu les campagnes de dénigrement menées contre l'Espagne. Nous pressentions celles que pourraient avoir de telles campagnes pour la Tchéco-Slovaquie.

D'autre part, nous estimions que le rôle d'une organisation comme la nôtre est d'aider à la compréhension mutuelle des peuples et que, les éclairer les uns sur les autres, c'est contribuer à leur rapprochement.

C'est pour quoi la Section Française a voulu, en montrant le "*vrai visage de la France contemporaine*", réagir, dans la mesure de ses moyens, contre la campagne de mensonges entreprise contre notre pays et qui n'est, nous en avons la certitude, qu'une des formes de la propagande—plus ou moins camouflée—organisée dans tous les pays contre toute démocratie, par les agents du fascisme international.

Il ne s'agissait pas de présenter notre pays sous un angle particulièrement favorable; il ne s'agissait pas d'infliger aux auditeurs une apologie de la France, mais de leur montrer, plus par des réalisations que par des paroles, quelques-unes de les plus récentes contributions au progrès.

L'idée trouva un accueil chaleureux auprès de nombreuses personnalités.

M. M. Paul Langevin, Membre de l'Institut, Professeur au Collège de France, Albert Bayet, Professeur à l'École des Hautes-Études, Charles Vildrac, Homme de lettres,

(1) même celles de ses fractions qui n'étaient pas encore organisées syndicalement.

(2) de telles affirmations furent rapportées au cours par des participants de différents pays.

Robert Siohan, Chef d'Orchestre; Mmes Irène Joliot-Curie, Prix Nobel de Chimie, P. Ramart, Professeur à la Sorbonne, G. Bianquis, Professeur à la Faculté de Lettres de Dijon, Lahy-Hollebecque, Agrégée de l'Université, acceptèrent de faire partie du Comité de Patronage.

Des Organisations telles que : International Federation of University Women, League of Nations Union, National Federation of Women's Institutes, Peace Committee of the Society of Friends, Association Polonaise des Femmes diplômées des Universités, Union Mondiale de la Femme pour la Concorde Internationale, Section Hongroise de la L.I.F.P.L., diverses personnalités comme la Ctesse A. Apponyi, Mdme Ramondt et bien d'autres encore nous adressèrent des lettres encourageantes.

Malheureusement, la publicité fut entreprise à une date trop tardive—en raison du travail que nous donnait, en France, la préparation de la Conférence de Marseille—,

Néanmoins, si les participants ne furent pas aussi nombreux qu'ils auraient dû l'être, 13 pays furent représentés; Algérie, Allemagne, Autriche, Belgique, Egypte, Etats-Unis, Haïti, Hollande, Pologne, Suède, Suisse, Tunisie, Yougoslavie.

Les Cours, qui traitèrent de quelques-uns des principaux aspects de notre vie nationale, furent, pour la plupart, d'une haute tenue et toutes les questions furent abordées dans un esprit très élevé, avec le maximum d'objectivité.

Les visites d'institutions qui leur servaient d'illustration prirent un intérêt des plus vifs grâce à la valeur des personnalités qui avaient bien voulu accepter de les guider.

Les déjeuners, pris en commun avec les conférenciers, au Cercle des Nations qui nous avait accordé une généreuse et cordiale hospitalité, les échanges de vues qui les suivirent sous les arbres du jardin, permirent d'établir des contacts plus étroits qui favorisèrent infiniment la création d'une atmosphère de cordiale sympathie entre conférenciers et auditeurs.

Tous les participants se montrèrent enchantés de cette initiative de notre Section et manifestèrent le désir de voir se renouveler une telle tentative.

Nous étions fermement décidées à le faire mais, après les déshonorants Accords de Munich, il est à craindre que notre tâche devienne beaucoup plus ardue et qu'il nous soit difficile de faire comprendre que "le vrai peuple de France" n'est pas derrière ses gouvernants actuels.

G. DUCHÊNE.

Editor's Note.—We regret that space forbade the inclusion of the very interesting programme. Details will gladly be sent to any enquirer.

"A Venture in Internationalism, 1915-1938"

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