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MATTERS OF MOMENT

It is to be regretted that the first meeting of the Committee appointed to consider the constitution of the League Council was held at Geneva when Great Britain was almost completely cut off from foreign news. As a result, only a handful of people in this country were aware even that the Committee was meeting, much less that the problems which wrecked the Assembly last March and aroused such intense interest in this country were being discussed in public, and substantial progress being made towards their settlement. There is widespread approval of the attitude taken up by Lord Cecil, who, with the authority of the British Government behind him, firmly opposed any addition to the number of permanent members of the Council, with, of course, the important exception of Germany. No final decision was taken on this question, and it was postponed until the Committee meets again this month. A provisional settlement was, however, reached concerning the election of the non-permanent members, which should go a long way towards solving the whole problem. From the authoritative account given on another page of the Committee's first session, it is clear that the proposals should enable Germany to take her place as a member of the League next September. Indeed, it seems safe to say that, mainly owing to the good offices of Lord Cecil, much has already been done towards retrieving the ground lost last March.

A New Attempt

THE League's Preparatory Committee for a Disarmament Conference got to work on May 18. Lord Cecil represents our Government. France has sent Paul Boncour, whose speech on this same subject so profoundly impressed the Assembly last year. Germany, for the first time in full official co-operation with the League on this matter, is spoken for by Count Bernstorff. The United States are participating also. The other States represented are Council members only, for Russia has stood aloof, refusing to send delegates to Geneva, on the ground that she is not in diplomatic relations with Switzerland. The Committee is otherwise so representative, however, that her absence will not destroy the value of the preparatory work it has met to do. It is discussing a questionnaire, which in itself proves that the League is getting to close quarters with the actual difficulties. Nothing in League history is more striking to those who try to look below the surface of things than the pertinacity with which all the member States return again and again to assault this knottiest of international questions, approaching it first from one angle and then another, never discouraged by the differences in their respective points of view, and by their refusal to consider defeat confounding the critics who deny that "moral disarmament" is possible.

Getting Down to Facts

THESE Committee discussions are not academic, nor concerned with platitudes. On the contrary, they bristle already with technicalities. Take, for instance, one question that is being considered, "On what principle should the scale of permissible armaments be drawn up, and what factors, such as population, resources, geographical situation, density of railways, vulnerability of frontiers, degree of security, and so on, should be particularly taken into account?" It is obvious that an adequate reply to a question so packed with important points will take time to prepare, and as this is typical of some of the riddles which the Committee has set itself to solve, the attitude of a certain section of the English Press in announcing that this new effort towards disarmament has already shown itself to be futile is both premature and unreasonable. No one with any knowledge of the immense difficulties of the problem imagined that results would be forthcoming so soon as the Preparatory Committee set to work, and, indeed, if progress is made without interruption, there is no possibility of the full Disarmament Conference being called until 1927.

Germany's New Government

THE political crisis in Germany, which has resulted in the appointment of Dr. Marx as Chancellor, in place of Herr Luther, is not likely to produce any change in Germany's foreign policy. In fact, the party agreement which has re-established all the former Ministers in their offices (including Herr Stresemann, the Foreign Minister) with only a change of Chancellor, is a fresh proof of steady adherence to Locarno and the League. The Treaty with Russia will also stand. Herr Luther's resignation was brought about by a defeat in the Reichstag over a decree issued by the Government ordaining that the mercantile marine flag should henceforward be flown in German Embassies and Consulates abroad, together with the flag of the Republic. As the marine flag is of the old colours of the Empire (black, white and red), the parties of the left were greatly angered. There was talk of a Monarchist plot, a dissolution of Parliament and so forth. However, the excitement, which began on May 12, lasted only three or four days. It never infected President Hindenburg, who set himself to re-forming a Government which would have sufficient support in the present Reichstag. Marx's Cabinet relies on an agreement between the Centre Party and People's Party. It is spoken of as transitional, and efforts are being made to get a Coalition which will include the Socialists. This is difficult for domestic reasons. From our point of view the interest lies in the support given by all parties except the Nationalists to Germany's present foreign policy.

Polish Politics

POLAND'S political crisis, which became acute about the same date as that in Germany (though the two were quite unconnected), is much more violent, more obscure in origin, and its ultimate results far more difficult to predict. Poland

for months past has suffered grave economic difficulties. Budget deficit, falling exchange, inflation, have played their familiar parts. On April 21, Count Skrynski's Coalition Government fell owing to Socialist disapproval of proposed financial reforms. Eventually (May 12) a Government was formed under Witos, resting on a Coalition of the Centre and Right parties. Marshal Pilsudski gave an interview attacking this Government, which was published in a paper devoted to his cause. The issue of this journal was confiscated by the Government, and great excitement ensued. Pilsudski commands the love and admiration of a large section of the people and the army, and especially of the national Socialists. It seems that a regiment stationed outside Warsaw mutinied. Government troops were sent against it. Other regiments then declared themselves for Pilsudski, who shortly found himself at the head of a force which marched into Warsaw, and after some stiff street fighting turned out the Government. The President resigned, and Parliament has ceased to function. Marshal Pilsudski reigns in Warsaw, but it may not yet be clear even to himself how his power is to be exercised or delegated, nor how far throughout the country it may be acknowledged. Resistance has begun to organise itself in Prussian Poland, where the troops and people are out of sympathy with the Marshal and the Socialist programme of agrarian reform. It is said that some deputies of the Right have repaired thither by aeroplane. One thing only is so far clear. Poland is upheaved to an extent that must cause anxiety to her friends and to the friends of a speedy restoration of peace and prosperity in Europe. Whether her troubles will cause such repercussions upon her frontiers as to threaten international peace it is too soon to say.

Let Parliament Decide

THE Government has decided to ratify two Draft Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference in May of last year. One of these provides that workmen incapacitated by industrial diseases shall receive compensation, and the other that foreign workers should receive the same treatment as national workers as regards accident compensation. Two recommendations on these subjects are also to be adopted. It is disappointing, however, that the two other Conventions adopted by the Conference—those dealing with night work in bakeries and with workmen's compensation for industrial accidents—are "unacceptable." Apparently the Government does not intend to submit these Conventions to Parliament. The Union has always maintained that it was the intention of the framers of the Peace Treaty that Conventions adopted by the I.L. Conference should be submitted for discussion to the Parliament or popular Assembly of each member State, and that it is exceedingly important to establish a precedent that draft Conventions or Recommendations should be so discussed. Otherwise Conventions may easily be shelved without any opportunity for the expression of public opinion upon their merits. It is hoped therefore that when the present stress of business is over Parliament will demand an opportunity for discussion upon these two Conventions.

Coal Economics

IN view of the present discussions on the possibility of an international agreement for the improvement of conditions in the European coal industry, special interest attaches to a resolution which the British League of Nations Union will submit to the Congress of the Federation of League of Nations Societies when it meets at Aberystwyth on June 29. It deals with the international aspect of the coal crisis, and, after calling attention to the fact that the International Labour Office has been conducting an enquiry into conditions of labour in the coal-mining industry all over the world and collecting comparative statements, including those relating to wages, hours of work and holidays with pay, expresses the hope that the I.L. Conference will take immediate action upon the results of this enquiry so soon as the report is completed. As a sub-committee of the International Economic Conference is also studying other factors affecting the coal situation, such as production and distribution, there seems reason to hope that international agreements aimed at improving the welfare of the coal industry as a whole are well within sight.

Slavery in the Sudan

A WHITE Paper just issued contains the interesting announcement that the Governor-General of the Sudan has appointed a Special Slavery Commissioner whose function is to "obtain all information possible as to the numbers and conditions of slaves, domestic or otherwise, in the Sudan," and to "put forward recommendations likely to accelerate the rapid disappearance of slavery from the Sudan." This is a corollary to the general inquiry which the League has been making on the whole matter, as a result of allegations that slave raiding is a common occurrence in the more remote parts of the Sudan as well as in Abyssinia. Men, women and children are said to be seized by the slave-dealers and smuggled down to the Red Sea, where they are shipped across to Arabia. To those people in this country who find it difficult to believe that slavery did not disappear at the time of Wilberforce, it will come as a shock to find that the evil flourishes to such an extent in British territory that it is necessary to take special steps to suppress it.

Mosul Again

ACCORDING to what is described as "semi-official information," the signature of a treaty between Great Britain and Turkey is imminent. In so far as this denotes an end to the long-standing disagreements between the two countries, it is all to the good, and there will be general satisfaction in League quarters if, as is reported, Turkey intends to apply for admission to the League—as, indeed, she pledged herself to do in the Treaty of Lausanne—immediately the agreement is signed. There are rumours that the price of Turkey's acceptance of the city of Mosul as a part of Irak is the rectification of the Mosul frontier. But there is this important fact to be borne in mind. The Mosul boundary has been laid down by the League Council, and any adjustments that may be contemplated by the parties to the treaty must be submitted to the League before they can become effective.

Our Future

AGRATIFYINGLY large number of readers have sent their views on the suggestion made in the May issue that HEADWAY should be converted into a weekly paper. It is evident from these letters that the proposal has aroused a great deal of interest. Moreover, it has also inspired many of our correspondents who do not desire such a radical change, to contribute various suggestions, which, in their opinion, would add to the interest of HEADWAY in its present form. As yet the replies have not been classified, and, in any case, no decision on the whole matter, which involves a great many other factors, can be taken for some time. Meanwhile, as it is impossible for us to thank our correspondents individually for their welcome and helpful expressions of opinion, we hope they will accept this in acknowledgment and also our assurance that, whatever is the outcome of the present discussion, their proposals will be given most careful consideration. The subject is to be discussed at the General Meeting of the Council of the Union when it meets at Bristol on June 22 and 23.

The Disarmament Demonstration

THERE is no need to elaborate the reasons which made it impossible for the Union to hold its proposed demonstration in favour of the reduction of armaments at the Queen's Hall, on May 5. The Hall was handed over by the Union to the Archbishop of Canterbury in order that he might hold a meeting to promote the spirit of goodwill and conciliation in industry, and was the first of a chain of similar meetings held all over the country. But the need for some organised expression of the steadily increasing volume of opinion in favour of disarmament still remains, and the Union has no intention of cancelling its demonstration. Plans are already on foot, and it is hoped that a meeting will be arranged in London in the near future. Full particulars will be announced in the Press.

Books on the League

THE Library at the League of Nations Secretariat has been compiling a list of works on the League or its special activities received in the years 1920-1925. Naturally, they appear in all languages, but the predominance of books in English is marked. Altogether 732 volumes figure on the list, and of these 305 are in English, 194 in French and 120 in German, the others being divided among some sixteen further different languages. The number of the books in English is not as surprising as it seems, in view of the fact that, of course, it includes works written in America (where the output of League literature is considerable) and in some of the British Dominions. The fact of 120 books relating to the League having appeared in Germany is testimony to the characteristic diligence of German scholars in regard to an institution the importance of which is manifest, even though Germany is not yet a member of it. Among the languages most scantily represented are the Portuguese with two entries, Serbian with one, Czech with two, Hungarian with two, Latvian with one, Finnish with one, Chinese with one, while Ido and Esperanto also boast one each.

THE PROBLEM OF THE COUNCIL SEATS

CUTTING THE GORDIAN KNOT AT GENEVA

THE essential problem which faced the Committee appointed to consider the composition of the Council of the League was to find a means of overcoming Brazil's veto to the allocation of a permanent seat on the Council to Germany unless she herself is given a permanent seat at the same time. Undoubtedly there are other serious aspects, but first and foremost is the removal of any obstacle to Germany's admission, and the main question to be answered is how far the Committee which sat in Geneva for a week has made progress in this direction. Technically speaking, the terms of its provisional report to the Council imply that they have dealt only with the number and method of election of *non-permanent* members, and have postponed the consideration of the question of *permanent* members until a later meeting. Politically speaking, however, matters have gone considerably further than this, and there are grounds for hoping that Brazil will eventually be satisfied with the non-permanent membership proposals, and will cease to press her claim for a permanent seat. If there were nothing further to go upon, the difference between the attitude of the Brazilian delegate at the beginning of the meeting and his attitude at the end would, in itself, be a significant indication, for having spent the first few meetings in a jaunty and not too agreeable insistence on Brazil's claim, he declared on the last day of the meeting that Brazil was anxious to collaborate with the League and that one of the main reasons for her action in March was that she desired to have the whole matter investigated, as was now being done by the League.

Lord Cecil's Role

The debates in the meetings were extraordinarily interesting, and the fullest possible recognition should be given to the great skill, both in tactics and in substance, of Lord Cecil, who represented the British Government. It was he who persuaded the Committee to have its debates in public in order that future misunderstandings might be avoided and past misunderstandings cleared up, and the result was that the Committee really carried on in public, with every advantage and no disadvantages, the most delicate negotiations affecting the closest individual interests and prestige of several important States. The President, M. Motta (Switzerland), declared at the close of the session that it was an event of historical importance, of which the lesson should not be lost. It was Lord Cecil, too, who provided the basis of discussion, and it was his plan, with a few minor adaptations, which was adopted without opposition, if with several reservations.

What he did was first of all to direct attention to the number and method of election of non-permanent members, leaving aside for the moment the discussion of permanent membership. It was only when agreement was provisionally reached upon the general lines of his plan that permanent membership became a matter of general debate. This was full and frank, and showed plainly that there was a general feeling, except on the part of the particular claimants, against any addition to the number beyond that of Germany. The advantage of taking the non-permanent scheme first was that the proposed system of rotation, with the provisions for re-eligibility of a limited number, went, in itself, a long way towards meeting the practical, as distinct from the prestige, requirements of Brazil, Spain, China and Poland. Brazil, as I said, became much less insistent, Poland virtually withdrew her claim for a permanent seat, and China only presented her claim in case any other claims were granted.

Spain Isolated

Spain gave no firm sign of yielding, and her representative stated that it was the opinion of his Government that Spain could not "usefully" collaborate except as a permanent member of the Council. It is not easy to say precisely what this means, but it is a fact that, taking into consideration the attitude of the other claimants, coupled with the fact that the French representative pointedly indicated that his Government intended to ratify the amendment to Article 4 of the Covenant, leaving Spain the only State on the Council whose ratification is now required, had the effect of putting Spain in a somewhat isolated situation. There are some valuable months for reflection still to run before the next Assembly. Brazil was bold enough to present her claim largely as the most important of the South American States whose influence justified at least one permanent seat, but the representatives of Argentine and Uruguay lent no support to this theory, and were clearly satisfied with the recognition of what they pressed for—namely, three instead of two non-permanent seats for the South American members.

What is clear from this first meeting of the Committee is that there is no possibility whatever of any recommendation for an increase in the number of permanent seats on the Council, and that they look forward to meeting the crisis by the adoption of a new non-permanent membership plan. The idea of the arrangements, adopted on first reading without any opposition, is to increase the number of non-permanent members from six to nine, so as, in theory, to give a suitable number for the purposes of the rotation system, and on the political side to satisfy South America, Poland and China. Elected States are to serve for three years, and to be elected as soon as possible at the next Assembly and to take their seats immediately on election.

How the Scheme Works

To put the scheme into operation, the next Assembly would elect three States for three years, three for two years and three for one year. When the terms of office have expired, the States are not re-eligible until after the lapse of three years, unless the Assembly, by a two-thirds majority, decides that any of them, not exceeding three in number, may be immediately re-elected. This means that the Assembly has, first of all, to say by a two-thirds majority, whether a State is re-eligible, and the actual elections are the occasion for another vote. This system gives the Assembly an opportunity of prolonging the presence on the Council of any States whose collaboration is considered desirable for a longer period. No interference is made with the Assembly's freedom of election.

The scheme was accepted under general reservations by Spain and Brazil, and Sweden accepted only on condition that it provided a solution of the crisis. The attitude of the German delegate was somewhat similar. There was a certain reluctance on the part of Sweden, Italy and Switzerland to agree to an increase of three non-permanent seats mainly in their desire to make sure that the effectiveness of the work of the Council should not be hampered by too large a membership, and there was general agreement on the absolute necessity of maintaining the unanimity rule.

The provisional report and records of the Committee are to be presented to the Council in June, with a suggestion that the non-permanent membership plan should come up for second reading at a meeting of the Committee to be held on June 28, when the question of permanent membership will also be considered.

THE PASSPORT NUISANCE

FAILURES AND SUCCESSES OF THE LEAGUE'S SECOND CONFERENCE

THE Second Passport Conference, which was held at Geneva from May 12 to 18, had practically no publicity, owing to the simultaneous session of the far more interesting Commission on the reorganisation of the Council. The British Press was *hors de combat* as a result of the strike, and the thirty-eight Governments which had sent delegates to this Conference were represented almost entirely by officials from their respective passport bureaux.

These circumstances probably account for the fact that whereas the last Assembly unanimously passed a resolution in which it stated that "public opinion, particularly in economic circles, undoubtedly expects [the Conference on Passports] to take at least a step towards the abolition, to the widest extent possible, of the passport system," the Conference refused even to consider any step toward abolition, and this refusal was the work principally of the British delegation.

It is of course unreasonable to expect passport officials to decide on the suppression of their own jobs, and the whole idea of sending such officials as chief delegates to such a Conference is as quaint as though a committee of butchers should be formed to promote vegetarianism. It is to be hoped that public opinion between now and the next Assembly will insist upon immediate preparations for a Third Passport Conference, at which the work left undone by the first and second should be completed, and that to this Conference statesmen of the calibre of Lord Cecil should be sent, with passport officials as technical advisers. It is further to be hoped that our own public opinion will, at any rate, inquire very closely into the reasons that induced the British Government to take the lead in opposing the whole idea of ever abolishing passports, for at first sight this attitude seems paradoxical and even startling. There may be excellent reasons for it, but they did not appear at the Conference, and certainly the whole idea is very different from the general attitude of public opinion to the passport nuisance.

What conclusions the Conference did adopt were modest in substance and tentative in form, since they were put forward as a series of more or less vague recommendations for the consideration of Governments. The Conference agreed to the general "standard type" of passport adopted by the first Conference in 1920 (the British passport conforms to this type) with a number of precautions against frauds. A wish was expressed that passport and visa offices should be organised so as to simplify formalities and be readily accessible. The period of two years for the validity of passports recommended in 1920 was extended to five in the second Conference's recommendation, and it was further suggested that passports should be made valid for all countries. A further recommendation asked that the sums demanded for the granting of passports should in no case exceed the expense occasioned by the transaction, and should never be allowed to become a source of revenue. The Conference was well nigh unanimously in favour of the total suppression of visas for leaving a country, and, on the whole, favourable to the idea that visas for admission and transit should be suppressed, not by general agreements, but by reciprocal conventions between states. It was recommended that transit visas should be given for two years and give the right to an indefinite number of exits and entrances over any part of the frontier; that the expense of a single entrance visa should not be more than 5 gold francs, and for an entrance visa good for a long time not more than 10 gold francs; a transit visa should not cost more than one gold franc, however long its duration.

The Conference further recommended that the sums charged for visas should not vary according to the nationality of the bearer of the passport or the route he chose. Passport inspection should take place whenever possible on trains while they were in motion, and otherwise while the train stopped at one or other of the frontier stations concerned, and then in immediate succession by the passport authorities of both countries. It was pointed out that Customs formalities would have to undergo a parallel simplification and co-ordination.

These were the main recommendations of general interest. Undoubtedly some progress has been made, but undoubtedly, too, it is less than might have been realised had the Conference been better prepared and more intelligently manned. Fortunately, one of the great advantages of the League system is that no question is ever finished—League procedure is cumulative and continuous. The gains achieved at this Conference should be consolidated by public pressure to force their adoption by governments, and public opinion should press for further progress through a stronger resolution in the next Assembly, calling for a Third Conference which shall succeed where the Second Conference fell short.

THIS MONTH'S COUNCIL.

WHEN the fortieth session of the Council of the League opens at Geneva on June 7, it will have before it an agenda of twenty-four items of varying importance. Great Britain will be represented by Sir Austen Chamberlain.

Chief interest will centre round the report presented by the Committee on the Composition of the Council, but as its work is not yet finished, the Council will probably do no more than table the report. Another matter of considerable importance is the proposals of the Preparatory Committee of the Economic Conference. If the Council's approval is forthcoming, three expert committees will set to work during the next few months on special inquiries into a number of economic and financial problems in order to provide material for the Agenda of the World Conference.

The Council will also consider an application from the Bulgarian Government for a loan for the settlement of more than 300,000 refugees. From the point of view of Bulgaria's internal condition, such a loan would be likely to make an immense difference. At present these refugees are a constant menace to the peace and keep the country in a state of turmoil. They are, however, excellent agriculturists, and the proposed loan would be used to settle them on the land.

The remaining items on the agenda for the most part consist of the reports on the various activities of the League and the administrative questions which regularly come before the Council.

Owing to the strike, Professor Philip Baker's public lectures on Disarmament were postponed, and will be delivered on the following dates at the London School of Economics at 5.30 p.m.: June 2, Naval Disarmament; June 9, Land Disarmament; June 16, Air Forces and Chemical Warfare.

Don't destroy "Headway," give it to someone else

TOWARDS INDUSTRIAL PEACE

AN ADDRESS BROADCAST BY PROFESSOR MURRAY, ON MAY 13, 1926

I HAVE been asked to speak to you to-night—and I count it an honour to do so—about the great conflict which is just over. I have been asked, I suppose, because I belong to neither side; I have friends whom I respect and trust on both sides, and I have worked for the League of Nations and international peace.

What I would say first is this. I think we shall all agree that if this General Strike had gone on to the bitter end, that end would have been ruin—ruin not of the Trades Unions alone, or the coalowners, or the Government, but of the whole life of the nation. The General Strike had to be ended somehow; and the whole nation was watching to see who would take the first step towards ending it. That step was taken yesterday; and I think the nation will be grateful to the men who took that step, and to anyone who may have made that step easier to them. The leaders of the Trade Union Council went formally to the Prime Minister and told him that they had called off the General Strike unconditionally.

Was that a defeat? Was it a sign of weakness? For my part, I think it was a big and generous action, bravely done, and, of course, generously responded to by the Prime Minister. I do not believe that by any man who knows what honour is it will be counted a dishonour to have yielded first. It will be counted an act of wisdom and of patriotism.

Personally, I am one of those who think that the General Strike was an utterly false step, but I honour the men who dare in the face of the world to admit that they have made a false step. All men make mistakes, but only honest and brave men amend them.

Looking back on this awful danger through which we have passed, what have we learned from it? It is unwise to boast, but do not you think we have learned to respect the British people, to be proud of our country and our fellow-countrymen? Ten days of General Strike with very little violence and almost no crime. Ten days of General Strike, with all the essential services preserved and almost unbroken good temper everywhere. I have had some talk with a foreign observer who has been in England the last week, and I find that two things struck him most, first, the discipline and self-restraint and good humour of the strikers and the police, and the unselfish obedience of so many Trade Unionists to an order which involved each man in some sacrifice. Next, the extraordinary strength of the social organism, which met an attack of this deadly and paralysing kind almost unmoved and quite unshaken. This was due in part to the admirable organisation of the Government for carrying on the life of the community, but still more to the fundamental loyalty and common sense of the British people and the readiness of each man to labour for the common good.

But there was a third influence at work, which my friend did not see, and which hardly got into the newspapers; that is the immense movement for peace and reconciliation, a movement which did not, of course, prescribe a policy, but tried to awaken a spirit. It tried to bring home to the whole nation the knowledge that we are all brothers, all Englishmen, and should meet our differences in the spirit of Christ. Generally, when any nation is torn by some great controversy, you find arising everywhere outbursts of rage and party bitterness. This time it was an outburst of prayer, a prayer for the spirit of peace rising from the hearts of men and women in every town and village. And peace has come!

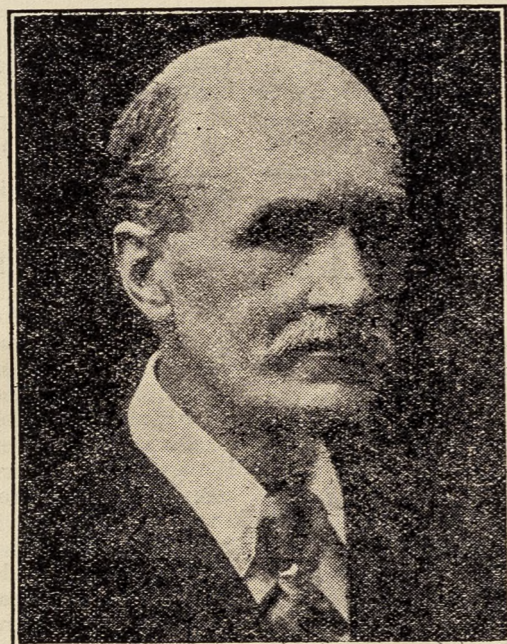
If there is a question of victory and defeat, it is that movement that has won the victory; and as for defeat, it is easy to see who is defeated. I see in *The Times* that the Bolsheviks in Moscow have started a newspaper in support of the British General Strike, which bears the attractive title, "Fight like Devils!" And they proposed to send money to the Trade Union Council to enable them to fight like devils. So little do they know England! And they have found that we do not fight like devils. We do not do anything like devils. We do not even wish to be like devils. And the T.U.C. sends them their money back!

Let there be no taunts, no shouts of victory. We are a nation of sportsmen, and after fighting we shake hands. Remember that we are not yet out of the wood. The nation has still before it the immensely difficult problem of the re-organisation of the coal mines. We have not solved that problem; we have only got rid of a situation which made all attempts to solve it impossible. The re-organisation, even if

initiated on the lines suggested by Sir Herbert Samuel and approved by the Trade Unions, will not be an easy business. It will not be pleasant for anyone. There are too many mines in which the cost of getting a ton of coal is more than the price which a ton of coal will fetch. Some mines will have to be closed and the miners left unemployed. In many the owners will have no profits at all; in some the mines will be run at a loss in the hope of better times.

The whole matter has been studied by an exceptionally able and impartial commission, and all are agreed that there is nothing for it but to accept their report. Everyone will have to make sacrifices. If you read the report, you will see that heavy sacrifices are demanded from the coalowners; heavy burdens are put on the Government; the public will have to pay more for its coal, and a sacrifice which the whole nation regrets is also required from the miners.

As I read the Commission's report, its proposals are based on the fundamental understanding that wages



PROFESSOR GILBERT MURRAY

ought not to be reduced permanently, that the reduction is a temporary expedient to tide over an interval in which the re-organisation of the industry takes effect and the home trade recovers, as it is bound to recover, from the great depression of the last five years. When that time comes, all good citizens must remember the sacrifices that were made.

May I say one other thing, speaking as one who has long worked for the League of Nations? When the Great War came to an end, peace did not come of itself. We have not yet, perhaps, reached real peace between the nations, but we have learned much about the causes both of peace and war. We have learned, above all, that peace comes from honest men trusting one another, and war very often from honest men distrusting one another.

In the League of Nations all kinds of methods have been devised by which the representatives of different nations may be induced to agree. But, above all, the method of the League is that, wherever there is a tendency to dispute or ill-feeling or conflict, the opposing parties shall sit and work together before the dispute breaks out. At the League we do not propose that the French should sit in one camp and the Germans in another camp, and that when a dispute arises they should just meet and argue. We propose that French and Germans should sit regularly at the same table, doing the ordinary business about which there is no dispute, and learning gradually to know each other. Then, when the disagreement does come, it is a disagreement between friends, and differences of that sort can be solved.

Cannot something of that sort be devised for industry? The cause of half our trouble is mistrust, and it is my deliberate opinion, with some experience behind me, that, generally, the mistrust is undeserved. In that great historic meeting to which we listened yesterday, between the leaders of the T.U.C. and the head of the Government, did you not feel, as I did, that behind the actual words that were used there was something which gave you hope and confidence? It was the feeling that the negotiators were true men, men of honour, men of their word, men who, through all difficulties and troubles that may be coming, can trust one another.

Let us thank God that peace is come, and come in so right a way. As Lord Salisbury put it: "Let there be no tone of triumph in any voice," and having peace let us use the peace with wisdom.

ECONOMICS AT GENEVA

IT is natural enough that in the midst of our own grave industrial problems there should be a tendency among many people in this country to overlook the fact that these domestic difficulties are symptomatic of world conditions that affect many other countries just as vitally. Too little attention has been paid in the past to the dominant part economic forces have played in the relations between nations.

So early in its history as 1920 the League entered this neglected field, and in October of that year organised the Brussels Financial and Economic Conference. There is ample proof that several of the European States owe their economic recovery to the fact that they put into practice the principles laid down by this Conference. The International Economic Conference which the Sixth Assembly decided to call on the initiative of the French delegate is a continuation of the work the League began at Brussels. Its special task is to investigate the economic difficulties which at present prevent a revival of general prosperity, and to propose the best means of overcoming them, and preventing the international conflict caused by rivalry between economic interests.

The special committee set up to prepare the programme for the full Conference met in Geneva at the end of April. In appointing its members an endeavour was made to make it thoroughly representative of present-day economic life both in the international and technical aspect. Its members include prominent economists and industrialists, Labour leaders, ex-Ministers and high officials experienced in dealing in their own countries with the various interests represented. Among the British delegates were Sir Arthur Balfour, Sir H. Llewellyn Smith, and Mr. Tom Shaw, M.P., who was substitute for Mr. Pugh, the President of the T.U.C. Both the United States and Germany were represented, the latter by the Minister of National Economy.

A Plan of Work

The committee decided, at any rate provisionally, to give its research work the widest possible scope. It lost no time in subdividing the work according to the usual League precedent. Three sub-committees were formed, the first to study questions bearing upon agriculture, finance and population; the second to deal with problems of industrial production, especially those relating to industrial agreements and safeguards in the public interest as well as with labour questions; the third to consider commerce and marketing problems such as tariffs, dumping, distribution of raw materials and transport questions. Each of the reports of these sub-committees, which were unanimously adopted by the Plenary Committee, drew up a programme of work for the coming months, together with a list of questions upon which the League Secretariat and the International Labour Organisation, in collaboration with various international organisations, are to collect information.

In view of recent events Great Britain is likely to be specially interested in some of the proposals made by the second sub-committee, which is dealing with industrial production. The material which it has asked the League to prepare includes a series of special memoranda on the world situation regarding production and international trade in connection with certain key industries such as coal, iron and steel, engineering, shipbuilding and cotton. Details are to be given of the potential and actual output, the number of men employed and unemployed, hours of labour, wages, exports and imports, prices, and consumption per head in each country.

Public Support Needed

The first stage, therefore, in the work of the Preparatory Committee has been to set the necessary machinery in motion for ascertaining the facts of the situation. The investigation of their causes will be the special work of the committee when it meets again next October, and the seeking of remedies for the Economic Conference itself.

The task of the Conference is so ambitious that there might be grounds for scepticism as to its success were it not for the fact that the League has already demonstrated its capacity for coping with problems of international economics. The financial restoration of Austria and Hungary, the International Labour Organisation conventions on the regulation of industrial standards, the successful negotiations for the simplification of Customs formalities, are all instances which encourage hope that the League will be able to do something more than justify its new attempt to break down economic barriers between the nations. But, as the chairman of the Preparatory Committee, M. Theunis, pointed out in his closing speech, the ultimate success of the Conference depends upon the readiness of public opinion to support its work. If the Conference is to achieve anything it is essential for it to have the full co-operation of every nation and every class. "It must also be shown," he said, "that at the present time no country can live in prosperity if other countries are in a state of poverty and uneasiness."

ALL ABOUT MANDATES

By WILLIAM E. RAPPARD, *Member of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations.*

IT has often, and rightly, been said that the League of Nations was born of public opinion. If the child is to enjoy the necessary support, encouragement, and control of its parent, public opinion must be both vigilant and informed. It is, as I see it, the main task of the League of Nations Union to stimulate the vigilance and to contribute to the information of their members and of their national communities.

In no sphere of the League's work is this task more difficult nor more important than in that of mandates. The more complex and technical a subject, the greater the danger that the man in the street should know and consequently care nothing about it.

Miss White has, therefore, performed a particularly useful service in publishing her very readable booklet* on Mandates, to which Sir Frederick Lugard, British member of the Permanent Mandates Commission, who is generally recognised as being the foremost living authority on colonial affairs, has contributed a brief but weighty foreword. By presenting the British public with her little monograph, Miss White deserves the gratitude of all friends of the League the world over, as the institution of mandates stands and falls with the attitude taken towards it by British public opinion. This is true, not only because of the fourteen mandated territories nine are being administered on behalf of the League by British mandatory powers, but also in view of the specifically Anglo-Saxon origin of Article 22 of the Covenant, on which the whole institution is based.

Miss White, in the course of her twelve short chapters, first examines the historical origin of Article 22 and of the application of its provisions to the former German colonies and to the former Arab provinces of the Ottoman Empire. She then analyses the various types of mandates. She shows how, in their drafting as well as in their practical working, they have been adapted to the widely divergent needs of the populations concerned, and to the no less varying administrative ideals and habits of the Mandatory Powers. It is obvious, for instance, that the British in Palestine, the French in Syria, the Australians in New Guinea, and the Japanese in the Pacific Islands situated north of the Equator differ in their methods of government, not only because they each have different problems to solve, but because their approach to these problems is influenced by their respective national traditions and past experience. However, the Covenant and the mandates set up certain common standards of progressive and civilising colonial administration to which all Mandatories are bound, and in actual fact tend, to conform.

After discussing the effectual operation of the whole system and considering in particular the part played by the Council of the League and its advisory body, the Permanent Mandates Commission, Miss White sums up her own impressions in a final chapter under the title of "Doubts and Hopes." Her judgment is refreshingly independent. A firm believer in the fundamental principle of national administration under international supervision, which underlies the whole scheme of mandates, she is blind neither to the theoretical difficulties, nor to the practical deficiencies which the experience of the last years has revealed. On the whole, however, her hopes much more than offset her doubts. Her conclusions, as well as the whole booklet, might be described as critically and constructively optimistic.

It would doubtless be possible to challenge certain of her assertions and to discuss certain of her forecasts. But it is not possible to withhold one's admiration for her

exceptional mastery of this difficult subject and for her skill and success in presenting clearly and concisely the results of what must have been a very prolonged and minute study of its intricacies. A useful brief bibliography and an excellent index enhance the value of this very able study, which cannot fail to stimulate intelligent interest in a particularly novel and hopeful League experiment.

THE UNION'S POLICY IN THE CRISIS AN EXPLANATION

SINCE the last number of HEADWAY appeared the country has been confronted by the reality of the general strike and the peril of something like revolution or civil war. It was not possible to collect a fully representative meeting of the Executive; and it was obvious that, had there been such a meeting, opinions would have been divided. Indeed, apart from differences of political party, some would probably have held that the Union had no right to express any opinion on a domestic crisis unconnected with the League; others would have appealed to Article 23 of the Covenant and to the Preamble to the Labour Section (XIII) of the Treaty of Versailles, which recognizes that "peace can be established only if it is based upon social justice." Others, again, might say that the Union exists to support the League, and that the outbreak of civil war or revolution in England would be something like the death-knell of the League; while many, without bothering about the minutiae of documents, would have thought it a plain dereliction of duty for a great society whose first aim is peace to sit still without lifting a finger while the country drifted towards civil war.

In these difficult circumstances the Chairman, acting in consultation with the secretary, and with such other colleagues as he was able to see, took the following line:—

1. The great Queen's Hall meeting on May 5 was abandoned, and the Hall, together with the help of the stewards and other facilities, handed over to the Archbishop of Canterbury for a religious meeting in support of the spirit of peace. A letter was sent to branches informing them of this fact, and urging them, whatever views individuals might take about the crisis, to act steadily in the spirit of peace.

2. Leave was freely granted to members of the Headquarters staff to absent themselves from the office for public service or for special works of charity.

3. Later on, when it appeared that in a large number of towns throughout the country religious meetings and services of intercession representing, as a rule, all the churches, were being held for the same purpose as the Queen's Hall meeting, a letter was sent to regional representatives and the secretaries of a few large branches suggesting that they should support this movement. No policy of any sort was recommended or even mentioned, but members of the Union were urged, whatever views they might hold, to do all in their power to keep alive and to strengthen the spirit of peace and of Christian brotherhood.

4. During the strike the Chairman received and accepted, in his private capacity, an invitation to broadcast a wireless message. The strike was over before he actually spoke, and the message is given on another page. Naturally, it binds nobody but the speaker himself, but it is given here merely to let members of the Union know the line taken, rightly or wrongly, at Headquarters by those responsible in an exceedingly difficult situation.

APPLYING LEAGUE PRINCIPLES TO INDUSTRY

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—No one who has worked for the cause of international peace, and studied the League of Nations during recent years, can fail to have learned certain lessons which apply to industrial as well as to international peace.

Thus the common conception of the independent sovereign state has undergone a great change in the last twenty years. According to the old view, each State existed for itself alone. It had no responsibility to anything or anybody outside or above itself. It was free to commit acts of robbery or piracy, and to make war on whom it would. Lately, however, a different notion has made headway; States are coming to be looked upon as members of an international community. Corresponding to this altered conception there have been changes in international law, the first and greatest being the Covenant of the League of Nations. Just as the Great War gave an immense impetus to the new conception of the state, so the Great Strike has made people begin to think differently about the relation of industries to the community. Industries which used to be thought of as existing for themselves alone, to make profit for the employer or wages for the employed, are now seen to be forms of service to the community. As this view gradually prevails, a change in the legal position of industries is likely to take place. But just as the growth of the new international law that is binding states together would have no effect apart from a change in public opinion, so changes in domestic law will be useless unless they correspond to changes in the minds of men.

The first of the new laws of sovereign states was, I have said, the Covenant. Article 11 provides that any war, or threat of war, whether immediately affecting any member of the League or not, is a matter of concern to the whole League. Many people have come to see in these last days that any dispute, or threat of a dispute, in any industry is a matter of concern to the whole community.

Among the suggestions of the League of Nations for the peaceful settlement of international disputes are Permanent Conciliation Commissions. Might not similar Permanent Conciliation Commissions be formed, one for each trade or group of trades? Already Sir Herbert Samuel has suggested the formation of such a body for the coal industry.

Finally, the study of international affairs during the past six years teaches how much the cause of world peace has lost from the unpreparedness of public opinion in 1919 to allow Germany to become a member of the League of Nations at the outset. We want no Carthaginian elements in the new peace in British industry.

A DRAFT CONVENTION

THE suggestion to create Permanent Conciliation Commissions for industry has come to us from several members of the Union. One has prepared the draft of a convention to establish a single Permanent Conciliation Commission for British Industry as a whole. The principal articles are as follows:—

ARTICLE 1.—The contracting parties undertake to refer to a Permanent Conciliation Commission to be appointed in a manner set forth below, for investigation and settlement by conciliation all disputes of any nature whatever between organised Trade Unions affiliated to the Trade Union Congress and Association of Employers affiliated to the Federation of British

Industries which it has not been possible to settle within reasonable time through direct negotiation between Organisations of Workers and of Employers.

ARTICLE 2.—The Commission shall be composed of seven members. Each party shall appoint three members but no two members appointed by either party shall be a member of the same trade, industry or profession. The seventh member who shall act as Chairman of the Commission shall not be a member of a trade, industry or profession already represented on the Commission. He shall be appointed jointly by the parties. Should the parties be unable to agree, the Chairman shall, at the request of one of the parties, be appointed by (*to be decided upon*).

ARTICLE 3.—When one of the parties desires to submit a dispute to the Commission, it shall notify the Chairman. The other party shall be informed at once of such notification. The task of the Permanent Conciliation Commission shall be to further the settlement of disputes by an impartial and conscientious examination of the facts and by formulating proposals with a view to settling the case. The Chairman shall convene the Commission as soon as possible.

ARTICLE 4.—The parties shall supply the Commission with all the information which may be useful and shall, in every respect, assist it in the accomplishment of its task.

ARTICLE 5.—The Commission shall make a Report on each dispute submitted to it. The Report shall include a proposal for the settlement of the dispute, if a settlement is possible, and if at least five members agree to its proposals. The reasoned opinions of the members who are in the minority shall be recorded in the Report.

The Report shall not as regards either the statement of facts or the legal considerations be in the nature of a final judgment binding on the parties.

ARTICLE 6.—During the procedure of the Commission the contracting parties shall abstain from all measures which might prejudicially affect the acceptance of the proposals of the Permanent Conciliation Commission.

ARTICLE 7.—The Report of the Commission shall be signed by the Chairman, who shall immediately bring it to the knowledge of the parties, of the Prime Minister and of the Labour Minister. Each party undertakes to inform the other within a time-limit to be fixed by the Report, whether and within what limits it recognises the accuracy of the facts noted in the Report and accepts the proposals which it contains. The duration of this time-limit shall not exceed six months. If during this time-limit of six months they should be unable to reach a friendly arrangement the parties to the dispute shall recover entire liberty of action to proceed as their interests may dictate in the question dealt with in the investigation.

A Further Suggestion

Another member suggests that in the event of the parties to such a Convention not agreeing to the findings of the Conciliation Commission, the latter should publish its findings together with the reasons for them, and individual firms or employees should be left free to work on the basis of these findings. In such cases clauses of the Trades Disputes Act, 1906, *re* peaceful picketing would be withdrawn in so far as they are applicable to men working under these conditions and the Government would provide security for workpeople and employers accepting these conditions.

* "Mandates," by Freda White. (Jonathan Cape, 3s. 6d. net.)

AMERICA AND THE LEAGUE

SIGNS AND PORTENTS: FAVOURABLE AND ADVERSE

By H. WILSON HARRIS

ONE can hardly hope to gain much new light on America's attitude to the League from a flying visit of a few weeks to the United States. But two or three impressions on particular points at any rate do emerge and they may not be quite without value.

A day or two ago I sat in the room of the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the House of Representatives—Mr. Stephen G. Porter, well known in connection with the Geneva opium conferences—and listened to a hearing by the committee of a proposal "requesting the President to propose the calling of a third Hague Conference for the codification of international law." The interest of that, of course, lies in the fact that the League is already at work on the codification of international law, and that the adoption of the American proposal would mean elbowing the League on one side and starting the whole business afresh. The House Committee recognised that clearly enough, and even the witnesses who were advocating the proposition with the maximum of vehemence and perspiration had to admit something of the kind.

"You don't believe that any good thing can come out of Nazareth?" a committee member asked one eloquent gentleman who had been Attorney-General of the Philippines. The witness hedged dexterously and passed to his next point. "What you mean," another member put in, "is that even if what came out of Geneva was good you wouldn't accept it because it came out of Geneva?" That again brought an answer more diplomatic than direct, though the witness conceded that so far as the present League inquiry had yielded results of any value they might very well be turned over to the new conference.

A Rival Body?

The first proposal, then, is to call a new conference to supersede the League in the matter of the codification of international law. But out of that another suggestion inevitably emerges, and it was put to me quite definitely by the most important member of the House Committee. He recognised what the League has recognised from the first, that the codification of international law is not a task that can be fulfilled in a week, in a month or in years. The conference, he submitted, would have to meet every three or four years or so to take up bit by bit separate sections of the work as subjects ripe for action came to hand. It would become, therefore, a kind of semi-permanent body working side by side with the League, with far less satisfactory machinery, because the League is not semi-permanent but permanent, and has at Geneva a skilled secretariat with its finger all the time on the steering-wheel.

From every point of view, therefore, but one the American suggestion is fantastic. For what conceivable reason should the 55 nations who are now in the League abandon a task well begun in order to start it all over again and carry it out with machinery so far entirely untried and unproven? The only possible inducement would be the prospect of America's official co-operation, and valuable as that is the time is past when the League States are likely to be ready to sit waiting for America's endorsement every time before they make a move. In any case this particular work in its present phase is in the hands of a committee which contains only unofficial representatives—that is to say, distinguished authorities chosen by the League Council itself, not nominated by Governments—and an American, Mr. G. W. Wickersham, is one of them.

Along Parallel Lines

The one point of view from which the American suggestion is not fantastic is America's own. The codification of international law—and herein lies the importance of the whole business—is only one example of a number, and an increasing number, of questions regarding which the best American opinion is and must be identical with the best European and world opinion; and the logic of her own convictions is driving America, whether she likes it or not, straight along lines parallel with the League's own.

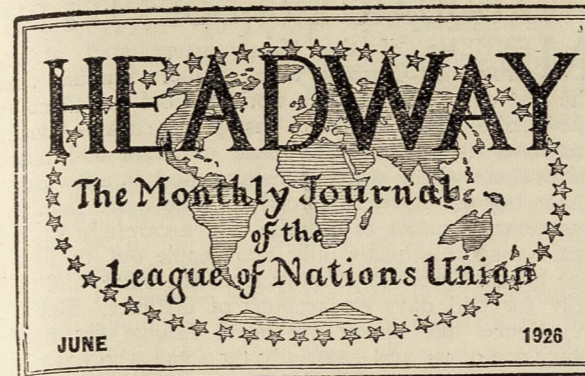
To move parallel with the League is, of course, a very different matter from moving into the League. So far as I can see America shows no more signs of coming into the League than she did four or five years ago, and the more I study the situation the more I hope personally that no question of her entering it will seriously arise till a full 75 per cent. of her people are convinced it is the right course to take. An America carried into the League by a 51 per cent. vote or anything like it, might prove the greatest handicap the League has yet had to face.

But if America's full participation in the League's activities is so far distant that it had better be put out of mind altogether the problem of America's co-operation in certain branches of League work is worth solving. To no small extent, of course, it has been solved already. At the very moment when the House Committee was considering the desirability of calling a codification of law conference in rivalry to the League an American official delegation was on the high seas on its way to Geneva to take part in the first session of the League's Preparatory Commission on Armaments. An American delegation helped to draft the Arms Traffic Convention last June, and the Senate may ratify it before its present session ends. America, in spite of the unfortunate episode of February of last year, had a representative at the Opium Commission last month. She has regularly her representatives on the Women and Children's Commission, the Health Commission, and other bodies.

Difficulties Ahead

Along that line there is room for abundant development. One of the most notorious and emphatic opponents of the League in all America told me a day or two ago that he fully acquiesced in America's co-operation in these individual activities. Even here, of course, all will not be plain sailing. For one thing America will often, by the nature of things, not be in at the opening phase of discussions that lead to subsequent action and she may find herself faced with an invitation to join in an agreement she has had no part in drafting. That is what is happening, rather to the embarrassment of the State Department and the White House, in regard to the Slavery Convention. Secondly, America may tend in some cases to attach to her offer of co-operation conditions that go far to make it nugatory. That is in danger of happening in the matter of the World Court, for one of the American reservations (which prevents the Council from seeking an advisory opinion from the Court without America's concurrence on any question in which America even claims to have an interest) would fetter the Council so much by the precedent it would create that American adhesion on those terms would be priced too high to be worth buying.

But in spite of that things are moving on the whole in the right direction and it would be the profoundest mistake to attempt, at any rate on our side of the Atlantic, to try and force a natural momentum into an artificial drive.



BACK TO PUBLICITY

PUBLICITY is the life-blood of the League." This dictum of a great League leader is as true and as important in 1926 as it was in 1920. And, unhappily, it is not only as true and as important as it then was; it also needs now, as it needed then, to be brought vigorously and persistently to the attention of those who control what happens at Geneva.

For there can be no doubt in the mind of anyone who knows the facts about the working of the Council of the League that in this matter of publicity there has, in recent times, been retrogression. There was a time when practically no business of any kind, except that relating to the appointment of persons or Commissions, was done in private. To-day that is lamentably far from being true. A great deal, if not by far the greater part, of the Council's work is first arranged in private session; the mere formal adoption of reports is left for public meetings.

That in itself means a serious and cumulative loss to the progress of the League; a loss the more serious in that there are nowadays at every Council meeting great numbers of journalists ready to do their part in educating the public opinion of the world in the work and methods of the League. Yet that loss, important though it is, is the least of the matter. For the unbroken experience of the Council has shown that its work is always done more effectively and more efficiently in public than it is in private. This retrogressive tendency to private meetings is thus on every ground to be deplored.

But the holding of private meetings is not the worst of the present tendencies towards methods of secrecy in the conduct of the Council's work. Worse by far than the private meeting is the "tea party." At private meetings the secretariat are present; full records of both decisions and discussions are always kept; these records are both circulated to all the members of the League, and printed in the Official Journal. Debates in private meetings, therefore, are conducted under a full sense of responsibility and each member of the Council knows that he may subsequently be called upon in public to account for whatever attitude he may adopt. But in a "tea party" there are none of these restraints. There is no secretariat; there are no records or minutes of any kind; everyone who is present is pledged to secrecy; in consequence, the whole discussion is irresponsible from first to last. A "tea party" indeed is not an official meeting of the Council at all; it is simply a gathering of the members of the Council as private citizens. It is in short, an ingenious device for enabling the members of the Council to disregard the rules of their own Code of Procedure, by which it is laid down that records of their deliberations shall be kept and published.

No one, of course, denies that private discussion in the *coulisses* may often be useful and sometimes indispensable in the conduct of the negotiations with which the

Council has to deal. To deny that would be palpably absurd. But informal private discussions are very different, in nature and in effect, from the organised system of the "tea party" as it has recently been used. Nearly everything about the "tea party" is objectionable, both in principle and in practice; its secrecy, the false versions of the truth that get about, the fact that it offends the representatives of outside States who may think themselves concerned, but who are excluded from knowing what has taken place, the unconstitutional character of the whole proceedings. But its chief characteristic is that it always altogether defeats the purpose with which its members meet. The Council has a "tea party" when it is in a difficulty because of the intransigent attitude which some Member State adopts; its members hope thus to get a quiet compromise without revealing in public the differences of policy or view that may divide them. But the mere fact that the whole proceedings are irresponsible from first to last, that no records of any kind are kept, not only enables, but actually encourages the recalcitrant Member to be as intransigent as it desires. It sets a premium on policies which have been inelegantly but forcibly described as "blackmail"; it makes it possible for delegates to rely on arguments that will not bear the light of day. And, in fact, as everybody knows, delegates have often taken up in "tea parties" positions which they will never venture to defend even in a private session of the Council proper, still less in public. The classic example of the futility of the "tea party" method, of the way in which it defeats the purpose which the Council members have in view, is furnished by the lamentable failure of the last Assembly to secure the admission of Germany to the League. That was a failure due at every stage to the lack of publicity and to the neglect of the proper constitutional machinery that was at hand. That is the classic example, but it by no means stands alone. If the failures of the League are sought out and canvassed—the inadequate control of the Government of the Saar, the insufficient use of the system of Minority protection, or whatever it may be—it will be found, it might almost be said in every case, that there has not been proper or even reasonable publicity in the deliberations of the Council on the matter. And the contrary proposition is no less true; the adherents of the "tea party" would be hard put to it to show a single case in which their methods have brought the Council nearer to a reasonably satisfactory solution of any subject of dispute.

It is with an immense feeling of relief, therefore, that we find that two most important League Commissions have, during the month of May, done all their work in public. First, the Commission on the composition of the Council, and afterwards the Preparatory Commission on Disarmament, decided on the motion of the British representative to open their meetings to the Press. So far as can be judged at present the results have more than justified the step. What happens in these two Commissions is of profound importance to the whole future of the League. The Council Commission seems to have made already, in a question of almost inextricable difficulty and confusion, a remarkable amount of progress towards a sound programme of constitutional reform. At the time of writing the Disarmament Commission has made an equally solid and satisfactory start. We may hope that the members of the Council itself will observe these facts and will adhere henceforward to the system of constitutional procedure and discussion in the light of day, by which alone its machinery, and above all, the rule of unanimity, can be made to work. Only so can they command the great forces from which the League in the last analysis must draw its strength.

A MOCK CONFERENCE A NEW IDEA FOR BRANCHES

AUTUMN programmes are already shaping, and branch secretaries are on the search for new ideas. To those who have already tried their hand at a model Assembly we would suggest a model International Labour Conference as an interesting new experiment. The Headquarters of the Union were recently asked to stage such a conference for the National Organisation of Girls' Clubs, which held its annual meeting at Bostall Heath on April 24. The conference delegates were chiefly factory girls coming from industrial centres all over England and Scotland, and having for the most part very little time to prepare material for the speeches. There were about a hundred of them, and each wanted a "part"! To stage a real model conference, with two government delegates, one employer and one worker from each country with the text of an international labour convention for discussion might have raised a great deal of controversy, and would have meant more detailed knowledge than we could command. An alternative arrangement, which had been tried successfully at a Y.W.C.A. conference in America, was to take one particular convention—in this case the minimum age for children in industry—and to make each country explain to the conference what it had done to carry out the terms of this convention. It might have been possible to have a large blackboard on which the delegates from each country which had ratified the convention would write their country's name, or a blank map of the world, to be filled in as a sort of child labour map. A third alternative, and the one which was finally adopted, was the staging of a debate on the Annual Report of the Director of the International Labour Office. This debate takes place at the opening of each I.L. Conference, and gives an opportunity for delegates to report any progress made during the past year, and to complain and question if progress has not been made. In this case government delegates only were represented, and each "delegation" was provided with a short description of their country, its chief industries and the manner in which its workers live, together with a list of the number of International Labour Conventions it had ratified. Although some of these accounts formed rather stiff reading for girls who had already listened to four lectures that day, a great deal of interest was shown, and some of the delegates had taken considerable trouble to collect further material for speeches.

The Conference Hall had a much more cheerful appearance than its counterpart at Geneva, since flags of each country hung over the seats of the delegates. Captain W. Sanders, of the I.L. Office at Geneva, as President of the Conference, opened proceedings in an appropriately dramatic manner, and called upon each country to record its progress in international labour legislation since 1919. The speeches read and the President's comments upon them gave quite a vivid picture of the lives of workers all over the world. It is possible that a shorter programme with a selected number of countries only giving speeches, might make a more lively evening. It would be easy, for instance, to arrange for speeches by two or three of the great industrial Powers of the West, by India, China and Japan, by a representative of the new States created by the Peace Treaty (Czechoslovakia or Poland), by one of the South American Republics, and one of the great British Dominions. Another suggestion made was that the President should give a short description of each Convention, and then ask all those countries which had ratified the Convention to stand up. There are, of course, doubtless many other variations possible, and all suggestions sent to 15, Grosvenor Crescent would be very welcome.

HEADQUARTERS DOES ITS BIT

MEMBERS of the Headquarters staff at 15, Grosvenor Crescent were no more immune than the rest of London's office workers from the effects of the strike. For many of us private cars—usually someone else's—took the place of tubes and buses, while those within walking distance and, in a few cases, those beyond it, were forced to take more than the customary amount of exercise. By a carefully worked out transport scheme, only two people out of nearly one hundred were kept away from the office, and they only for odd days on account of distance. But the experience has meant increased fatigue for nearly every one of us, and especially for some who have had the experience of working all day at the office, speaking at an evening meeting, and then going on duty as special constables from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.!

The work of the Union as seen at the head office went on during the strike very much as in normal times. While a few meetings were cancelled, the great majority were held, although sometimes special speakers had to be sent by such means of emergency transport as were available. There was no falling off in the size of the audiences, and Mr. Whelen and other speakers report crowded meetings.

The letters received at the office on the Monday in the middle of the crisis numbered no less than 390, and hardly any made mention of the strike. The posts included the usual proportion of renewal subscriptions. During the strike period the number of new members registered was about thirteen hundred for the first week and one thousand for the second week; the average figure in normal times is nearly two thousand. By means of an improvised wireless set, the broadcast news was taken down in shorthand, and typewritten copies were sent round the office. One of these copies was posted on a board at the front door for the benefit of passers-by, who were invited to step inside and join the Union.

The second day of the strike was the day fixed for the great demonstration in the Queen's Hall on the Limitation of Armaments. It had promised to be an immense success, but all three speakers—Lord Cecil, Lord Grey and Mr. Clynnes—felt that it would be a mistake to bring together a great crowd of people to listen to speeches on the reduction of national armaments at a time when the public mind was pre-occupied with other matters. Our meeting was therefore offered to the Archbishop of Canterbury, whom, with the help of the Bishop of London, conducted a devotional service with the object of fostering a spirit of peace and conciliation. The Archbishop himself was the chief speaker. Those were the beginnings of a great series of meetings throughout the length and breadth of England at which the Church took the lead in praying for a spirit of conciliation. How that prayer was answered on Wednesday, May 12, we all know.

BOOKS ON DISARMAMENT

The following books can be borrowed from the League of Nations Union Library at 15, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W. 1:—

Baker, P. J. N., "Disarmament" (reprint from *Economica*). 1926.

Baker, P. J. N., "Disarmament." 1926.

Enock, A. G., "The Problem of Armaments." 1923.

Wheeler-Bennett, J. W., "Information on the Reduction of Armaments." 1925.

The Library is open free to all members of the Union, on payment of postage both ways, but donations are welcome.

LEAGUE WORK OVERSEAS

THE Tenth Plenary Congress of the International Federation of League of Nations Societies is to be held, by kind invitation of the Welsh National Council, at Aberystwyth from June 29 to July 3. Free hospitality is being offered to all the foreign delegates, and an attractive programme, including trips to Tregaron and the Devil's Bridge, is being arranged for them. The meetings of the permanent Committees, of the Executive Committee, and of the Council of the Federation will take place in London from the 25th to the 28th of June. It is hoped to give a reception in honour of the delegates in London on the night of the 28th.

Among the more important subjects which will be discussed at the Congress are Education, Disarmament, the Slavery Convention and the reports of the Federation committees dealing with the composition of the Council of the League, the work of the I.L.O. and the Equitable Treatment of Foreigners.

In the Dominions.—News from the Dominions is encouraging; Sir Henry Lunn has been doing great work for the League in Canada, and has addressed many appreciative audiences.

The South Australian Union have attracted a good deal of notice by publicly urging that the Prime Minister of Australia should head the Australian delegation to the next Assembly. The Adelaide newspapers have taken the matter up, and, whether or not the campaign will be successful, it is good that the public mind in Australia should be occupied with such questions.

In India the name of Amritsar may again be on men's lips—this time more happily, perhaps—for a League of Nations Union has been formed there.

In South Africa Miss Holtby continues her triumphant progress. Civic Guilds, Rotary Clubs, Women's Universities, High Schools and Diocesan Schools, and many other organisations are all coming under her spell. May we hope that in the not distant future a South African League of Nations Society will be formed and will take its place beside its sister societies in all parts of the world?

A Scandinavian Tour.—In Northern Europe plans are maturing for the Dutch Society's journey to Scandinavian countries for the purpose of furthering the League of Nations cause in Northern Europe. The journey will take place in September and will last three weeks. The proposed route is via Copenhagen and Stockholm, passing the Aaland Isles and on to Helsingfors.

Balkan Students.—A Congress of the Balkan University Associations for the League of Nations took place at Belgrade on the 23rd April and following days. The Congress was opened by M. Novakovitch, professor at Belgrade University. The *Politika* reports that this is "the first time that the students of all the Balkan provinces, moved by the sincere desire to work for mutual understanding, have come together." The immediate object of the Congress was to draw up a common plan of work based upon the principles of the League of Nations.

Hell and the Way Out.—The American Non-Partisan Association has produced a new film called "Hell and the Way Out." The horrors of war are contrasted with the newer international conference method of settling disputes. The film is being widely used as propaganda in New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland and Massachusetts.

THE UNION IN 1925

A NOTE ON THE ANNUAL REPORT

By C. DELISLE BURNS.

WE who belong to the Union know that it is the most numerous and probably the most powerful of all the groups in Great Britain which aim at the restoration of peace. The Report just issued for 1925 says that we number about 500,000; but reports, even by Royal Commissions, need commentary. How many of that 500,000 pay even a minimum subscription annually? And how many do any work for peace, except, of course, the painful work of listening to other people talking about it? Then, again, what report will explain the various kinds of peace which are wanted by our members? However, we have gone forward. The newspapers ought certainly to allow for the fact that we have 500,000 members. If they did, there would be fewer mistakes made in leading articles about the League. But we are really not satisfied with 500,000. The Report does not sufficiently state the comparative force of our numbers. Remember that about five million voted for each of the two parties which were not successful in the last election. No doubt people vote for many other purposes besides peace; but surely the Union ought by this time to have reached at least a million paying members out of the 20 million who now have votes, and some of the others.

The other main point in the Report is expenditure. We have spent about £30,000 in a year. Not much for peace—if we have got some peace for our money. In spite of speeches, it seems clear that our policy missed fire completely at Geneva in March. But we did something. The expenditure is practically all for "education," since the Union's main work is the educating of public opinion with regard to international problems. The subscriptions for the year received at headquarters amounted to about £4,700 and the Council's vote £15,400. Donations received during the year 1925 were £11,200; so that the income, including donations and deducting cost of appeals, was £24,338. But in addition we have £10,000 invested which brings in £500, and some special donations. The result for the year is an excess of expenditure over income amounting to £1,793 10s. 6d. The explanation of these figures is to be found in the Annual Report. Of course, in a growing movement such as the movement for international peace, no one year can be fairly judged if it is taken alone. But the Report seems to show that we have still only half the number of members that we ought to have.

MORE BROADCASTING

READERS of HEADWAY have suggested that we might announce from time to time any arrangements made for broadcasting speeches about the League. As there are to be two important speeches to "listen in" to this month we are following the suggestion in this issue. The first is on Friday evening, June 11, when Sir Frederick Maurice will broadcast a speech on the Limitation of Armaments. The second is in connection with the Demonstration in Hyde Park of the Peacemakers' Pilgrimage on June 19. The speaker will probably be Prof. Gilbert Murray, and the subject Disarmament. We hope that the majority of our readers in the London area will be present personally at the Demonstration, but for those who cannot be present the next best thing will be that they should "listen in" at 5 o'clock on that afternoon and induce all their friends who have wireless sets to do the same.

THE I.L.O. REPORTS PROGRESS

THE GOVERNING BODY

THE first public meeting of the Governing Body of the I.L.O. took place on April 26 at Geneva, when important statements were made by the chief industrial Powers on the Agreement reached at the recent London Conference on Hours of Work. There had been some apprehension, especially among the countries not represented at this Conference, that the Great Powers intended to substitute a new text for the original Washington Convention on Hours of Work. These fears were, however, dissipated by the statements made at this meeting of the Governing Body. It was decided that the Agreement signed at the London Conference was "no infringement of the text of the Washington Convention, to which text the Permanent Court of International Justice was alone competent to give a binding interpretation. The British Government delegate (Mr. Wolfe) stated that anxieties over the coal-mining situation alone prevented his Government from taking action on the results of the Conference. The French delegate told the Governing Body that it was the intention of his Government to pass the law giving effect to the Convention which had already been approved by the Chamber of Deputies and was at present before the Senate. The German Federal Ministry of Labour is also to bring in a similar Bill in the near future, while the Belgian Government has declared that her own Hours of Work Act of June, 1921, is not only in accordance with the Convention but actually goes beyond it. She means therefore to ratify the Convention unconditionally. These announcements, as the Director of the I.L.O. stated, mark a very real step forward in the way of the universal adoption of the Washington Convention.

SAILORS AND THE I.L.O.

THERE are to be two sessions of the International Labour Conference this year. The Eighth, which opened on May 25, dealt with the simplification of emigration regulations, while the Ninth, which will follow immediately after, will be devoted wholly to maritime questions.

This will be the second maritime conference to be called by the International Labour Organisation. The first, which was held at Genoa in 1920, referred to a Joint Maritime Commission—a body on which Governments and ship-owners, and seamen's organisations are represented—a number of problems with which it could not then deal. One of these is the possibility of forming an international legal code for seamen. Another is the problem of drawing up some general principles for the inspection of seamen's conditions of work, similar to the principles of factory inspection adopted by the Fifth I.L. Conference in 1923. Both these subjects are on the agenda of this year's Conference.

What is an "international seamen's code"? A Commission of the Genoa Conference explains its value in the following way: "Unlike most other workers, seamen must often follow their calling in various countries, in each of which it may be necessary for them to know something of the law as to their relations with their employers and their fellows. . . . Moreover, on board ships of most countries the crew frequently comprise many nationalities. It is not unusual for a seaman on a ship neither to speak the language of the country to which the ship belongs or to under-

stand its laws. Seamen form what is indeed an international community, and as such there are many circumstances in which it would be advantageous to have applied to them a uniform law, whatever flag be flown by the vessel on which they serve." The topics with which such an international code was to deal were as follows: Articles of agreement, accommodation for seamen on board ship, discipline, settlement of disputes, social insurance for seamen, etc. The Office was therefore instructed to begin to codify the laws relating to the first of these points—seamen's articles of agreement. The problem is naturally a complicated one. Should the proposed code merely sort out those general principles which are common to the law of all countries, or should it embody those provisions which form part of the law of the most advanced States, thus leading to a general raising of the level of maritime labour legislation? The first of these views has ultimately prevailed, and has been embodied in the three draft conventions which will be before the Conference. One of these deals with articles of agreement for seamen, the second with the methods of repatriation of seamen, and the third with the rules relating to the observance of discipline on board ship.

The second topic on the agenda—general principles for the inspection of the conditions of work of seamen—is an endeavour to pool the knowledge and experience of different countries on the difficult problem of inspection at sea.

A YEAR AT A GLANCE

THE Annual Report of the Director of the I.L. Office has now appeared, and been placed before the Eighth International Labour Conference. Published in rather a weighty volume it contains such a mine of information, indexed under different headings, that all speakers on the League would do well to give some time to it. It is a survey of the progress of international labour legislation all over the world during the past year, and gives an exceedingly interesting bird's-eye view of the activities of the I.L.O. itself in its different spheres. The material is divided under the following headings: The general constitution of the Organisation and its relations with non-Members; the organisation of the Office itself and its relations with the Secretariat of the League; international labour legislation; the collection and distribution of international information; hours of work; weekly rest-days; holidays with pay; night work; housing; unemployment; emigration; Russian and Armenian refugees; wages; scientific management; industrial hygiene; prevention of accidents and workmen's compensation; social insurance; protection of women and children; native labour problems; labour conditions in Eastern countries; factory inspection; co-operation; conciliation and arbitration.

Members of the Union will be interested to read the tribute paid by the Director to "the particularly helpful support given to the Office by the International Federation of League of Nations Societies," and his gratification that the last Congress of the Federation urged its national societies to take action with a view to ratifying Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference.

Copies of this Report may be obtained on loan from the Union's Library.

OUR MEMBERS' HOTEL LIST

MOST of our readers are thinking of holidays just now. Some will be spending them at British holiday resorts, whilst others, no doubt, will be visiting the Continent. Foundation (£1) Members who have not yet completed their holiday arrangements are invited to scan the list below, as at all these hotels they can obtain a discount, on their hotel bills, of 10 per cent. at foreign,

and 5 per cent. at English hotels. Foundation members, therefore, have the satisfaction of knowing that they are at one and the same time enabling the Union to carry on without fear of possible withdrawal, and at the same time they are curtailing their own holiday expenses. Will every reader of HEADWAY who is not a £1 member seriously consider the possibility of at once increasing his or her subscription to that amount?

The attention of members is called to the undermentioned list of hotels, at which all fully-paid £1 members can obtain a rebate on their bills of 10 per cent. at foreign and 5 per cent. at British hotels for themselves, family or party, on presenting their Special Membership Card at the time of paying the bill. These cards are available on application to 15, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.1.

GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

ENGLAND

BEXHILL

CARLTON PRIVATE HOTEL.—Finest position on sea front; near three golf links; personally recommended. 'Phone 464. Night porter.

BRIGHTON

THE KING'S HOTEL.—Reconstruction now complete. Hot and cold water all bedrooms; central heating; lift; electric fires; own farm.

CHESTER

WASHINGTON HOTEL, City Road.—Not licensed; conveniently situated close to General Railway Station; garage adjoining.—G. ERNEST SHARP, proprietor. Also of Cartmell's Hotel, Colwyn Bay.

HASTINGS

THE ALBANY HOTEL (Sir Henry Lunn, Ltd.).—Finest position on Front. 150 rooms. A.A. and R.A.C. Telephone: 761.

MATLOCK

CHATSWORTH HYDRO.—Tel.: 9. Finest position, 800 ft. high. Nearest hydro to golf links, 100 bedrooms. Excellent table and most comfortable. Write for free illustrated souvenir.

PAIGNTON, S. Devon.

REDCLIFFE HOTEL.—Two miles south Torquay. Ideal summer or winter residence, every comfort. Golf, tennis, central heating, 100 rooms, garage.

RYE

GEORGE HOTEL.—The principal hotel, excellent cuisine, service and comfort. Two fine golf links near. Garage. Telephone: 14.

BELGIUM

YPRES

SKINDLES HOTEL.—Opposite station. The leading hotel in the Salient. Hot and cold running water. A.A. and R.A.C. appointed. English speaking staff.

ITALY

BORDIGHERA

HOTEL CONTINENTAL.—First class Family Hotel. Entirely renovated and redecorated. The most modernly equipped Hotel in Bordighera. Speciality of serving meals at guests' convenience—not at fixed hours.—V. E. SIMON, proprietor.

SAN REMO

HOTEL DE L'EUROPE ET DE LA PAIX.—First class Family Hotel. Facing sea. Full South. H. and C. running water in every room. American Bar. Moderate terms for families and long visits.—Messrs. CODONI & MONYI, proprietors.

HOTEL MIRAMARE.—The only Hotel on the sea front. First class. Thoroughly up to date. Private Garage. American bar. Orchestra.—Manager Cav. Off. G. MAESTRI.

SWITZERLAND

AIGLE (Vaud)

HOTEL BEAU SITE.—English Family Hotel. Nearest Golf Links and Station. Garage. Large Garden. Pension from 10 to 13ff. Open all year.

BERN

HOTEL JURA.—Comfortable Family Hotel. Near Station and centre of town. Central Heating, Electric Light. Lift. Pension from 12ff. Tariff on application.

CHATEAU D'OEX (Vaud)

GRAND HOTEL PENSION BEAU-SEJOUR.—Under personal management of proprietress. A first-class hotel which especially caters for a good English clientèle.

GUNTEN

PARK HOTEL, LAKE OF THUN.—First class Hotel. Best situation on Lake. Rooms with Bathrooms. Terms from 15ff. Prospectus on application.

HILTERFINGEN (Lake of Thun) B.O.

HOTEL BELLEVUE AU LAC.—New Hotel. Rooms with running water. Private suites with bath. Pension from 12.50ff. Open all the year. Garage.

INTERLAKEN B.O.

HOTEL ROYAL ST. GEORGES.—Leading First-class English Family Hotel. All the latest comforts. Running water in all rooms. Garage.

LAUSANNE

LAUSANNE-PALACE AND BEAU-SITE.—Leading first-class Hotels in centre. Magnificent Park. Extensive views. Tennis. Golf-links. J. Baumgartner, new Manager.

HOTEL VICTORIA.—Only first-class Hotel near Station. Leading Anglo-American Hotel. Every room private Bath or Dressing Room. Large Garden. Moderate charges.

GRAND HOTEL DE LA PAIX.—First class. Finest situation overlooking the Lake of Geneva and the Mountains.

HOTEL EDEN.—Rooms from 5ff. Pension from 12ff. Near the Station.

HOTEL DE LAUSANNE AND RESTAURANT.—Place de la Gare. Running water. Special terms for long stay. Room from 5ff. R. Stettler.

MONTREUX—CLARENS

HOTEL MIRABEAU.—Well-known house. Excellent French cuisine. Large shady garden on the edge of the lake. Garage. Madame Béranek, proprietress.

MONTREUX—TERRITET

HOTEL BONIVARD.—First-class English Family Hotel. Quiet and most sheltered position in Territet. Running water in bedrooms. Billiards, Tennis. Pension from 12ff.

MONTREUX

HOTEL CHATEAU BELMONT.—First-class English Family House. Quiet and elevated position. Pension from 14ff. Special arrangement for families.

HOTEL SPLENDID.—Only Second-class Hotel in Central position. Every comfort. Near Station and Landing Stage. Excellent cuisine. Pension from 11ff. M. Julien, Manager.

HOTEL SUISSE AND MAJESTIC.—First-class Hotel. Most convenient for station, lakeside and pier. Most up-to-date first-class hotel in Montreux.

HOTEL BEAU-RIVAGE.—On Lake Superior second-class English Family Hotel. Pension terms, 12-13ff. incl. Open all year; central heat; lift.—A. X. CURTI, proprietor.

SPIEZ B.O.

SCHLOSSHOTEL SCHONEGG.—First-class Hotel. Magnificent position. Tennis. Garage. Golf. Private baths. Pension from 14ff to 20ff.

HOTEL DES ALPES.—Family Hotel. Open all the year. Beautiful situation. Garages. Central heating. Tennis. Golf. Pension from 11ff.

VEVEY (Vaud)

PARK-HOTEL MOOSER.—Entirely renovated, running water. Numerous suites with bath. Tennis. Garage. Terms from 13.50ff.

VEVEY—MONT PELERIN

HOTEL DES ALPES.—Hotel Pension des families. Beautiful situation. Comfort and excellent cuisine, combined with very moderate charges.

YVERDON-LES-BAINS (Lake Neuchatel)

HOTEL DE LA PRAIRIE.—Premier family Hotel. Running water and rooms with private baths. Garage, Tennis. Pension from 11-15ff. Booklet on application.

ZWEISIMMEN B.O.

HOTEL BRISTOL-TERMINUS.—Leading English hotel on the Montreux-Interlaken Railway. 3,500 ft. above sea. Summer and winter sports. Tennis. J. Hubler.

ZWEISIMMEN

HOTEL SIMMENTHAL.—Open all the year. Most modern Hotel. Tennis. Garage. Pension summer from 8ff. Winter from 10ff. Ice rink.

BOOKS WORTH READING

THE GERMAN COLONIES—THE LEAGUE IN INDIA—MR. BALDWIN ON DISARMAMENT

German Colonisation, Past and Future, by Dr. Heinrich Schnee (Allen & Unwin, 5s.). At the risk of being accused of pro-Germanism—although the charge will not be true—the reviewer commends this book to all thoughtful English readers who wish to know both sides of the question of German colonisation. Dr. Schnee writes with a wide experience of the colonial administration of his country; after serving in German New Guinea, Samoa and the Imperial Colonial Office, he became Governor of German East Africa in 1912, occupying this position until the existence of the colony came to an end in 1919. In each country in which he served he made it his duty to obtain an intimate and personal knowledge of the natives for whose government he was responsible; he seems to have genuinely endeavoured to improve their conditions of life and to secure their moral and physical well-being. It is not surprising that, in consequence of the course of events and of the widespread and often unfair criticism of German colonial methods, Dr. Schnee should write strongly, and that a good deal of what he says should be unpalatable to the British public; nevertheless, he writes with restraint and with more sorrow and regret than bitterness. Trying to be impartial, we are bound to say that the evidence which he brings forward makes us more than ever distrustful of the official propaganda issued and swallowed in this country during the war. With regard to the post-war administration of the ex-German colonies under the mandates, it is a matter of common knowledge that the progress made by Germany in the right development of these colonies has not been maintained; much of her work has fallen into decay. Development means money, and the money has not been forthcoming; the scientific research with its beneficial results to the natives, as well as to the rest of the world, has in great measure lapsed, and in other respects the mandatory powers cannot be exempted from blame. With her admission to the League it is certain that sooner or later Germany will ask for a mandate over part, at any rate, of the territory she has lost; the record which Dr. Schnee presents goes far to justify the granting of this demand and to remove any fears that may exist as to its results, both upon the territories themselves and in the promotion of the spirit of peace and goodwill. Mr. W. Harbutt Dawson contributes a long introduction, in which he falls into the common and mischievous error of implying that the mandates system is neither more nor less than annexation; his case is strong enough without giving his authority to this misconception which, so far as the British Government at least is concerned, is simply not true. The book itself is admirably illustrated with photographs.

LIGHT FROM THE EAST

The League of Nations, by D. G. E. Hall and J. M. Sen (Macmillans, Bombay, 1 rupee 12 annas). This book may not appear to be of direct interest to English readers, but prepared as a manual for use in secondary schools and intermediate colleges in India, Burma and Ceylon, it provides striking evidence of the way in which the League idea is being spread in the East. The authors, Professor Hall, of Rangoon, and Professor Sen, of Calcutta (who at one time was a member of a headquarters committee of the L.N.U.), seek to carry into effect the resolution of the 1923 Assembly, which urged Governments "to arrange that the children and youth in their respective countries be made aware of the

existence and aims of the League and the terms of the Covenant." They have accomplished their purpose well, and their work is certain to stimulate the growing generation of the great Eastern Empire. India has already played no small part in the work of the League, and has notably carried out her responsibilities in the direction of improving the industrial conditions of her workers; her influence will grow as her people understand what the League means, for the ideals of the League are in close harmony with their philosophic outlook. They are by nature and mental habit more peacefully disposed than many nations of the West, and the West has still much to learn from the older civilisation of the East. If the young men and women of India throw themselves with understanding into the work of the League, their country will be regarded less as a centre of unrest than as a source from which peace and goodwill may spread far beyond her frontiers. To this result Professors Hall and Sen will have largely contributed; their manual is remarkably complete, and is illustrated with three maps in colours.

THE PRIME MINISTER

"On England," by Stanley Baldwin. (Philip Allan, 12s. 6d.) This book, which to judge by the short preface Mr. Baldwin has rather allowed to be published than taken the initiative in publishing, contains speeches and extracts from speeches made by the Prime Minister (mostly during his premierships) on a diversity of subjects. The speeches chosen cover a wide range; they are full of scholarship and wisdom, and reveal the mind and character of our Prime Minister; the book is therefore of general interest.

To say this and no more would be to emphasise the transient and to overlook the permanent value of the book. For there is in it, breathing in every page, a spirit greater than the written or spoken word, more lasting than any argument and transcending all political theories. It would be impossible to embody this spirit in any one passage out of the book, and yet almost every sentence seems to be alive with it.

Assuredly you need not be a Conservative to appreciate Mr. Baldwin's greatness. It is true that he is the finest product of traditional Conservatism, but his most violent political opponent, were he to read this book, would not only find himself in danger of falling in love with the writer, but would begin to understand, if he had not understood already, how it is that in politics, as in every other walk of life, men will follow a leader just for himself, and in spite of all the theories, arguments and statistics that are hurled at their heads to persuade them to the contrary. It is the character of a man that counts more than anything else with the English. The English character lives in Mr. Baldwin's book.

For the reader interested in the League of Nations there is a speech on Disarmament which summarises the enlightened Conservative view of that problem. Caution ("When the time is ripe," "at the first moment when it appears to be practicable") and sincerity are the chief notes of this speech. We want disarmament, and we mean to get it if possible; but we must be allowed to take our own time about it. We will not be rushed. That is the tenor of the speech, and you can easily put in the good Conservative "hear, hears" at the right place—and the good Labour "hear, hears" as well.—A. E. W. T.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES

By ANTHONY SOMERS

I have discovered a remarkable method of learning French, Spanish, Italian and German. I only wish I had known of it before. It would have saved me much drudgery, toil and disappointment.

It has sometimes been said that the British people do not possess the "gift of tongues." Certainly I never did. At school I was hopeless. When the subject was French, German, Latin or Greek I was always somewhere near the bottom of my Form. Yet in other subjects I held my own quite well. I have now come to the conclusion—my recent experience has convinced me of this—that the reason I failed to learn languages was that the method of teaching was wrong.

Although I never "got on" with Foreign Languages, I have always wanted to know them—especially French. I have wanted to read Racine and Balzac and Anatole France, and that great critic whom Matthew Arnold so much admired, Sainte Beuve, in French, and not merely through the medium of a characterless translation. And I have wanted to spend holidays abroad without being tied to a phrase-book. So I have often tried to find a method which would really teach me a Foreign Language. And at last I have found it.

Some time ago I read that the well-known Pelman Institute was teaching French, Spanish, German and Italian by an entirely new method. I wrote for particulars, and they so interested me that I enrolled for a course in French. Frankly, it has amazed me. Here is the method I have wanted all my life. It is quite unlike anything I have ever heard of before, and its simplicity and effectiveness are almost startling.

Consider, for example, this question:

"Do you think you could pick up a book of 400 pages, written in a language of which you may not know a syllable—say Spanish, Italian, German or French—and not containing a single English word, and read it through correctly without referring to a dictionary?"

Most people will say that such a thing is impossible. Yet this is just what the new method enables you to do, as you will see for yourself when you take the first lesson.

One of the most striking features of the Pelman Courses in French, German, Italian and Spanish is that they are given entirely in the language concerned. English is not used at all. Yet, even if you do not know the meaning of a single Foreign word you can study these Courses with ease, *right from the beginning*, and without "looking up" any words in a vocabulary. It sounds incredible, but it is perfectly true.

Further, this new method enables you to read, write and speak French, Spanish, Italian or German without bothering your head with complex grammatical rules or learning by heart long lists of Foreign words. Yet, when you have completed one of these Courses, you will be able to read Foreign books and newspapers, and to write and speak the language in question grammatically and fluently, without the hesitation which comes when a Foreign Language is acquired through the medium of English.

This new Pelman method of learning languages is explained in four little books entitled "How to learn French," "How to learn German," "How to learn Spanish," and "How to learn Italian." You can have one of these books to-day, free of cost. Write (mentioning which one of the four you require) to the PELMAN INSTITUTE (Languages Dept.), 114, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1, and the particular book you require (with full particulars of the method) will be sent you by return, gratis and post free.



READERS' VIEWS

PERMANENT SEATS ON THE COUNCIL

SIR,—I notice in your May issue a report of the Foreign Secretary's answer in the House to the question "Does the Government think that permanent seats (upon the League of Nations Council) should be reserved only for Great Powers?" to which the answer was "The rule that only Great Powers should be permanent members should in principle be maintained." The Foreign Secretary, however, went on to say that "the constitution of the Council . . . is a perfectly open question." It is this last-named fact which appears to me to give significance to the suggestion recently made by the Spanish Government (or of one of its spokesmen) that a solution to the recent impasse at Geneva could only be found in the abolition of the distinction between permanent and temporary membership of the Council, and in allowing all the constituent nations belonging to the League in rotation to occupy seats for a term of years.

Surely the Spanish Government has shown both discernment and frankness in pointing to the permanent membership of the Great Powers as the source alike of the recent trouble and of the prospective difficulty at the September Assembly of the League. As you report, the Brazilian Foreign Minister has intimated that his Government will not withdraw its veto to the admission of Germany as a permanent member unless Brazil is also accorded a similar position; but, much as we may lament this Brazilian obstinacy, we in this country are debarred from blaming or rebuking Brazil so long as we ourselves cling to the privilege of permanency which Brazil covets. It seems to me, therefore—and I should like to invite the consideration of the League of Nations Union to this point—that there lies just here a supreme opportunity for constructive statesmanship on the part of this country; for if the British Government would endorse the Spanish proposal, and then anticipate it by forthwith placing our seat on the Council at the disposal of the Assembly, it would do more than anything else to allay the bickerings and jealousies of the nations, and to restore the damaged prestige of the League. Incidentally, my own conviction is that were we to do this, Great Britain would go back to the Council, not indeed as a self-appointed "Great Power," but gratefully elected as the champion and representative of all enlightened peoples. Whether or not this would be the case, however, the status given to the Great Powers upon the Council is, after all, weighting the scales against the very ideals for which the League is ostensibly organized; for political power and moral influence are by no means synonymous, and one yearns, therefore, for the imagination and the courage which would dispense with the prestige of a Great Power and dare to rest our claim for place and position within the League of Nations solely upon the service which Great Britain could render to the world and her devotion to the cause of peace.—Yours, etc.,

Birmingham, May 5, 1926.

LEYTON RICHARDS.

A LEAGUE OF RELIGIONS

SIR,—The letter by Mr. Arthur Pearson will have reminded many of your readers of the existence of the Committee of Religions and Ethics of the League of Nations Union. This Committee, which was formed so far back as 1921, and includes representatives of seven religions, has among its objects the advancement of the cause of the League of Nations among the regular members of all congregations and at religious and ethical conferences.

It will be seen, therefore, that the Committee includes amongst its aspirations the achievement of some such ideal as that of a Commission on Religious Co-operation to which your correspondent alludes.

A more detailed reply may be made in a later issue.—Yours, etc.,

H. R. LEWIS.

SECURITY AND DISARMAMENT

SIR,—Professor Murray says in last month's HEADWAY that our task is to make the nations "feel not absolutely secure, but more secure." That is indeed true; but, so far as disarmament goes, is it not a fact that while it will tend to induce such a feeling if honestly carried out, it is not likely to be carried out until such feeling has been induced? Is it not necessary to get outside this vicious circle by adverting to some further consideration? Can the nations be induced to believe that in the long run their neighbours' good is also their own, as most of us believe it is. The matter might with absolute truth be put on higher ground, but it is uncertain how far such ground would appeal to all alike. For myself, while I recognise that disarmament does involve some risk, I am unable to see how that risk is not to be preferred to the certainty of war and probable ruin which a continuation of the system of increasing armaments must bring about.—Yours, etc.,

H. HARCOURT.

1, Elm Court, Temple.

May 20, 1926.

UNION NOTES AND NEWS

Points from Branch Reports

The Waterloo, Crosby, Seaford and Litherland Branch is to be congratulated on having secured and made good use of a particularly large number of excellent speakers during the past year: Judge Thomas, Mr. Graham White, Dr. Thomas Cochrane, Professor Roxby, Mr. F. Whelen, Dr. H. T. Hodgkin and Mr. Shoran S. Singha being but a selection of the names which appear in their annual report.

The Lewisham High Road Congregational Church Branch claims that it registered its 200th member almost simultaneously with Headquarters reporting "the first half-million." We would like to see every church in the Kingdom with as energetic a branch.

The Buttershaw and Shelf Branch is also to be congratulated on an increase in its membership.

The special feature of the year's work of the Byfleet and Pyrford Branch appears to have been an open-air inter-denominational service around the local war memorial. An excellent attendance is reported.

A point from the Crowborough District Branch report: Literature has been distributed to institutes in Crowborough, St. Johns and Jarvis Brook. Other branches please copy!

A two-day conference on international relationships, held in co-operation with another organisation, is one of the most successful items recorded in the Sunderland branch report.

Unitarians and the Union

The Unitarian and Kindred Congregation, at their Triennial Conference, in April, adopted the following important resolution: "This Conference of Unitarian, Liberal Christian, Free Christian and Kindred Congregations regrets that the entrance of Germany to the League of Nations has been postponed. It urges the British Government to give full support, through the constitutional machinery of the League, to Germany's application for membership whenever it is again brought forward. And that this resolution be sent to the Government and the League of Nations Union." This is but another of many instances that the churches are realising more and more their responsibility in supporting the League ideal.

The Schools Carry On

The work of the Education Section has been carried on uninterrupted during the period of the strike. At many schools letters bearing foreign stamps are arriving at regular intervals. This is the result of the Union's plan for arranging for the interchange of correspondence in English and foreign schools. It is being carried out with the help of League of Nations societies and educational institutions abroad, amongst which are the American School Citizenship League and La Société de Liaison. American, French, Japanese, German and Indian and other Dominion schools are taking part in the exchange, to say nothing of individual correspondents in Italy and Germany and elsewhere. At the present time there are schools in America and India waiting to be put into touch with English schools, and the Union will be glad to hear of any schools willing to correspond with schools in these or other countries.

An Education Week

Exeter is planning an Education Week in which the Union has been invited to co-operate. One session is to be devoted to the subject of the League and the schools, and the Union is to have a stall at an exhibition in connection with the "Week." The "Week" is being organised by the local authorities, and should do much to interest parents and teachers in the steps that are being taken to teach children about the League.

The Union Considers the Adolescent

Junior branches in schools have increased rapidly during the last year or so, and the Union has never lost sight of the value of interesting school children of all ages in the work of the League. But every year thousands of children leave school at the age of fourteen. They are too young to join the local Branch, and yet they are just at that age when their ideas and ideals are being formulated. The Union has been considering this problem, and has set up a special committee on Young People's Organisations. As a result of this committee's enquiries, the Union has decided to ask every branch to assure itself that adequate provision is made through existing organisations in its neighbourhood for familiarising young people with the principles and work of the League. If this is not so, the Union urges that Branches should try to persuade young people's organisations to make this provision for their members, and that if this proves inadequate, a junior branch should be formed.

Schoolboys Found a Society

Some schoolboys from the Watford Grammar School touring France in 1923 with their schoolmaster decided to correspond with some of the French school-boys they met. Its value both as an aid to learning the language and as an international link was quickly appreciated, and other boys wished to join. This resulted in the formation of the Société de Liaison and branches sprang up in various parts of England, whilst the French Ministry of Education expressed their sympathy with the work, and gave the assurance of their active support in the formation of branches in France. Already about 700 correspondences have been arranged. As indicated elsewhere, the Union is co-operating with this society in arranging correspondences between English and French schools.

More Enrolments for Geneva and Cambridge

Professors, teachers, ministers of religion, colonels, representatives of social organisations, medical men, students—these are but a few of the callings which are represented in the ever-increasing list of those who are enrolling for the Geneva Institute. Readers of HEADWAY will remember that this Holiday Conference is to be held from August 14 to 21. The American contingent is to include professors from several universities.

Those enrolling for the Cambridge School appear to represent no less varied interests, and it is hoped that all districts will be represented either at Cambridge or Geneva. Have you ascertained yet whether anyone from your district is going?

Please Send Us the Address

Headquarters are assured that a certain leakage in the membership occurs when members remove from one district to another. This could be remedied if the branch secretaries would kindly send Headquarters the new address of such members as leave the district, so that the branch secretary in the new district can be notified.

May Branch Letters

Last month two letters were sent out by the Secretary of the Union to the branches, both dealing with the situation created by the strike. Secretaries were reminded in the first that the dislocation of the British coal trade is only one of many by-products of the great war. "Let us then highly resolve," continues the letter, "that, when the present emergency is past, we will give increased devotion to the cause of the League of Nations and of peace." The second letter gave some practical suggestions for holding, should the strike continue, similar meetings to that held at the Queen's Hall.

**TO END WAR
50,000 £1 MEMBERS
NEEDED!
Shall the Union Finish the Job?**

The answer depends upon whether the Union can rely on an assured annual income. If every 1/- or 3/6 member, who can afford to do so, would become a £1 member instead, the Union (both at headquarters and in the branches) could go forward without fear of collapse through the failure to secure more large donations. On an average twenty-five Foundation Members are needed to each Branch.

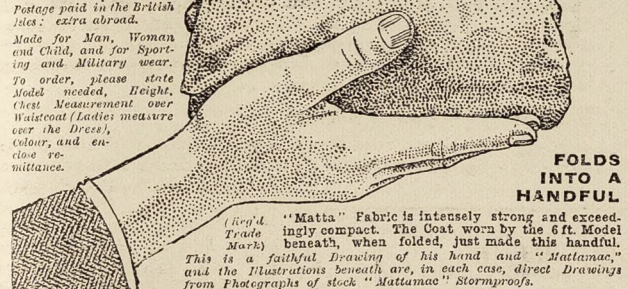
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19 OUNCES WEIGHT Three ounces heavier than an umbrella. 29/6



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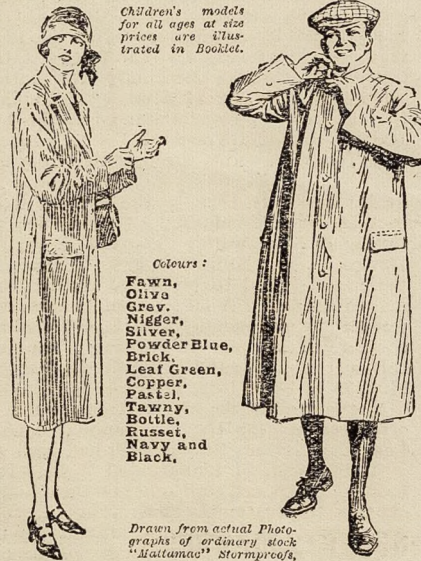
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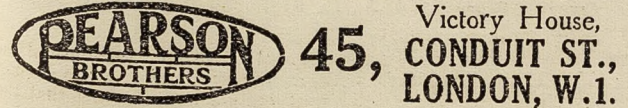


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"MATTAMAC" ART BOOKLET, POST FREE.

Send a postcard for the "Mattamac" Booklet "142 H" and Colour Patterns of "Matta" Fabric. This Booklet illustrates Town and Country Models for Adults, Unbelted (29/6), Belted Models (32/6), Sporting Models (from 29/6), and grown-up-style Models for Children of all ages at size prices. "Mattamac" Stormproofs can only be obtained from the "Mattamac" Show-rooms and Branches, from our accredited Provincial Agents, and through the Post from the Conduit St. Headquarters. If unable personally to inspect Models, send order with remittance, or write for "Mattamac" Booklet "142 H" to Pearson Bros., the Sole Makers of "Mattamac" Stormproofs;



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The L.M.S. and the I.L.O.

Employees at the L.M.S. carriage works at Derby exhibited enthusiastic interest in the work of the I.L.O. when Captain Sanders held two midday meetings in their works' canteen. At the first meeting between six and seven hundred men listened to the address, whilst a queue of over 400 men waited for admission to the next meeting. Altogether Captain Sanders addressed about 1,100 men—a solid trades union block. Other meetings which Captain Sanders addressed included a conference of delegates from Labour organisations in the London area, a meeting of the Bermondsey Labour Party and the Fabian Society.

On the March

The Pilgrims are on the march. Many—we hope most—of our readers, when they read this, will have either actually joined the Pilgrims, or are about to do so, or else are giving them a good "send off" as they pass through on their way to London. Fears were entertained at one time that the strike would interfere with the plans for the Pilgrimage, but these were set at rest by the following resolution passed by the General Pilgrimage Council: "That we resolve to carry on and to meet every difficulty as it arises in the spirit of brotherhood and constancy, courage and faith, that characterises all true Pilgrims."

Prominent Union Member and the Strike

Mr. John Sherborne, the Chairman of the Reading Branch of the Union and a well-known employer in the district, gave expression to that spirit of conciliation and goodwill for which the Union stands, in a practical way during the strike. He offered to present a silver cup for competition to the Trades and Labour Council if they would arrange a series of games. In the course of the letter making the offer, Mr. Sherborne wrote: "As you know, the main purpose of my life is to promote peace and harmony both amongst nations and individuals, and I believe that your members share this desire; it is in this spirit and for this purpose that I ask your acceptance of the gift."

The letter of acceptance and thanks which Mr. Sherborne received from the Trade Unions, contained the following tribute to his work: "We fully appreciate the purpose that inspires you to make this gift, and we know of the work you put in all the year round for the great cause of peace. We also are anxious to avoid violent conflict in all the affairs of the land. Even in this dispute we are simply endeavouring to maintain the standard of life of the British coal miner, and have only taken the steps which have caused the great stoppage because of the human brotherhood we feel towards the poorest of our fellows."

Membership of the Union as Enrolled at Headquarters

Jan. 1, 1919, 3,841; Jan. 1, 1920, 10,000; Jan. 1, 1921, 60,000; Jan. 1, 1922, 150,031; Jan. 1, 1923, 230,456; Jan. 1, 1924, 333,455; Jan. 1, 1925, 432,478; May 20, 1926, 551,842.

Branches

On May 20, 1926, the number of Branches was 2,312, Junior Branches 367, and Corporate Members 1,879.

London Junior Branches Report Progress

A lively and interesting meeting of junior branches was held recently at 15, Grosvenor Crescent by the London Regional Federation.

The Peckham Secondary School reported that the children in the youngest forms could answer very many more questions on League affairs than the older children, the explanation being that they could give a great deal more time to League questions, not being encumbered with the horrors of examinations. The Greycoat School, Westminster, reported that it ran a quarterly news sheet, and that a librarian was appointed who saw that books and pamphlets got round.

The Dartford County School for Girls reported success in getting visitors from other countries to come and talk to the school, an interesting feature being that the junior members themselves conducted their own meetings, and did it very well.

The Central Foundation School was able to estimate that about 90 per cent. of the girls leaving the school joined senior branches. This same school stated that one of the most useful features of its work was its League Wall. It used to be just a blank wall, used for nothing at all, but now every week one of the girls puts up coloured pictures or postcards. It was described as "a great big advertisement like a hoarding, because everybody who passes by this wall is every day reminded of the League."

This idea of a League wall or hoarding finds an echo in a scheme for "Peace Panels" or "Peace Corners," put forward by the Civic Branch of the Union for Wood Green and Southgate. The promoters describe it as a "sublimated hoarding" with a peace slogan on it. Something "big, bold and beautiful," that by its size and artistic character should compel general attention. It is further suggested that the slogan might be made the subject of a competition for a prize, and that the panel completed it might be ceremoniously unveiled by someone prominently identified with the cause, and the occasion used for some spectacular and oratorical demonstration. A new slogan should be painted on the panel at frequent intervals, whilst in the

summer the sale of League of Nations literature could be conducted at the spot from a stand draped with the Union Jack.

The General Council Meeting

All the churches and chapels in Bristol are being asked by the Bristol and District Council to make reference on Sunday, June 20, to peace and the League of Nations, and the approaching general meeting.

On the Tuesday morning the Lord Mayor will welcome the delegates in the Great Hall, University of Bristol. In the afternoon a garden party will be given by Mr. Edward Robinson, J.P., at "The Towers," Sneyd Park, to delegates and hosts. Branches that have not yet sent in the names of their delegates requiring hospitality are urged to do so immediately.

The Council's Vote

Three more Branches have completed their quota for 1925. They are Watford, Hertfordshire District and Sutton-on-Sea. We are glad to be able to announce also that four more Branches—Torquay, Wokingham, Eastbourne and Lymington—have completed their 1925 quota. We hope that this excellent progress will be continued.

New Corporate Members

The following have been admitted to Corporate Membership:—
ABERDEEN: Ferry Hill U.F. Church. **ABINGDON:** Congregational Church. **BACUP:** North Street P.M. Church. **BATLEY:** Free Library Committee. **BERWICK-ON-TWEED:** St. Aidan's Presbyterian Church. **BLACKPOOL:** Springfield Road United Methodist Church. **BOLTON:** Tonge Moor Wesleyan Methodist Church. **BOLTON-ON-DEARNE:** Wesleyan Church. **BRADFORD:** Tetley Street Baptist Memorial Church. **BUDE:** Welcombe Wesleyan Church. **CHEADLE:** Hulme Wesleyan Church. **CLAINES:** Parish Church. **DERBY:** Rose Hill Wesleyan Church. **EDINBURGH:** Young Scots Society (Women's Section). **FENWICK (Kilmarnock):** Women's Rural Institute. **GARSTON:** Island Road Wesley Guild. **GILLINGHAM:** Byron Road Wesleyan Church. **GUERNSEY:** Carmel Wesleyan Chapel; Castel Wesleyan Chapel; Forest Wesleyan Chapel; Galand Wesleyan Chapel; Les Adams Wesleyan Chapel; St. Andrew's Wesleyan Chapel; Victoria Road Wesleyan Church; Wesley Chapel. **HATFIELD:** Park Street Congregational Church. **HINTON:** Baptist Church. **HONLEY:** Wesleyan Church. **HUDDERSFIELD:** Buxton Road Wesleyan Church. **ILKLEY:** Ben Rhydding Wesleyan Church. **KETTERING:** National League of Young Liberals; Toller Congregational Church. **LANGLEY PARK:** Wesleyan

Church. **LITTLE LEVER:** Congregational Church. **LIVERPOOL:** Liverpool Branch of British League of Unitarian and Other Christian Women. **LONDON REGION:** TOOTING: Parish Church, Tooting, S.W.17. **BAYSWATER:** Ethical Church. **BRONDESBURY:** Synagogue. **CATFORD:** Men's and Women's Co-operative Guild. **CORTENHAM PARK:** Wesleyan Methodist Church. **EDMONTON:** Labour Party (Women's Section). **ESNER:** Wesleyan Church. **FOREST HILL:** Senior Christian Endeavour Society. **HARROW:** Wesleyan Methodist Church. **STAINES:** Brotherhood; Congregational Church. **SURBITON HILL:** Wesleyan Church. **TOTTENHAM:** High Cross Congregational Church. **TWICKENHAM:** Sisterhood. **WEMBLEY:** Labour Party. **WOODBERRY DOWN:** Baptist Church. **LOSCOE:** Parish Church. **MANCHESTER:** Oldham Road Wesley Chapel; Openshaw United Methodist Church. **MARLOW:** Wesleyan Church. **NANTWICH:** Wesleyan Church. **NARBOROUGH:** Narborough and District Free Church Council. **NEWARK:** Christ Church. **NORTH UNSWORTH:** Wesleyan Church. **OLDFHAM:** 1st Circuit Primitive Methodist Church; Regent Street Congregational Church; Zion United Methodist Church, Local. **OLD WHITTINGTON:** Primitive Methodist C.E. Society. **OTLEY:** Wesleyan Church. **PADGATE:** Christ Church. **PRESTON:** New Jerusalem Church. **READING:** Trinity Congregational Church. **ROWLANDS GILL:** Wesleyan Church. **ST. ALBANS:** Marlborough Road Wesleyan Church. **SAWLEY:** Baptist Church. **SHEFFIELD:** Abbeydale Congregational Church. **SOWERBY:** Wesleyan Church. **SOWERBY BRIDGE:** Stones Wesleyan Church. **STACKSTEAD:** Primitive Methodist Church; Waterbarn Baptist Church. **STOCKPORT:** Heston Mersey Brotherhood; Heaton Moor Wesleyan Church; Trinity Wesleyan Church. **STOCKSBRIDGE:** Free Library Committee. **STOCKTON HEATH:** Wesleyan Church. **STOCKTON-ON-TEES:** St. George's Presbyterian Church. **SUNDERLAND:** St. Ignatius Church. **TEIGNMOUTH:** East Teignmouth Parish Church. **TUFFLEY:** St. Barnabas' Church. **WIDNES:** British Legion. **WROTHAM:** British Legion.

WELSH NOTES

On Goodwill Day, May 18, the Welsh children's wireless greeting was sent out "to all the world" for the fifth year in succession. By arrangement with the Postmaster-General, the message was wirelessly by the Rugby station with a world-wide range, and, through the kindly intervention of Professor Prudhommeaux, the French Ministry of Public Works arranged for the message to be simultaneously broadcast by the French stations of Eiffel Tower, P.T.T., Lyons, Bordeaux, Marseilles and Toulouse. And through the co-operation of Mr. Arthur Burrows, the Secretary-General of the Union Internationale de Radiophones, Geneva, the message from the boys and girls of Wales was broadcast by the principal broadcasting stations throughout the world. The B.B.C. invited the Rev. Gwilym Davies, M.A., who first suggested the idea in 1922, to speak on the message and to broadcast it through Daventry in Welsh and in English. A larger number than ever of the secondary, elementary and Sunday schools of Wales and of Monmouthshire co-operated in the 1926 greeting. The first cable from abroad this year in answer to the Welsh message came from the Prussian Minister of Education, Professor Becker, Berlin.

The general strike made it impossible to carry through the arrangements for the fifth annual conference of the Welsh League of Nations Union which had been arranged to take place at Whitsuntide at Llandrindod Wells. It has been decided to hold the postponed conference on the closing days of the congress of the International Federation of Voluntary Societies at Aberystwyth on July 1-3. This will give the delegates from the Welsh branches an opportunity of seeing something of the Plenary Congress of the Federation, and give them an opportunity of meeting fellow-workers in the Peace movement in other countries.

PRACTICAL INTERNATIONALISM

The Executive Committee of the League of Nations Union has recently passed a resolution in favour of Esperanto. A knowledge of Esperanto enables people of all nationalities to communicate with one another, and facilitates the promotion of the ideals of the League of Nations.

Investigate This To-day

by sending for the HEADWAY packet, which contains a copy of the League of Nations Report on "Esperanto" (published at 6d.), a copy of "Esperanto for All," giving details of the language, and a specimen copy of the Magazine, "International Language." The packet will be sent for 6d. post free. For 1/6 a text-book will be included.

THE BRITISH ESPERANTO ASSOCIATION
 17, Hart Street, London, W.C.1

LEAGUE OF NATIONS ASSEMBLY TOURS

A party will leave London for Geneva, September 3rd to 10th. VISITS to Assembly and International Labour Office, Lectures, etc. **INCLUSIVE FEE, London—London, 411 11s.** **APPLY AT ONCE** to Secretary, League of Nations Union, 15, Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.W.1, or direct to **ORGANISER OF TOURS, Mrs. Innes, 29, High Oaks Road, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.**

HOTELS, BOARDING HOUSES, &c.

GODSHILL PARK, ISLE OF WIGHT.—Vegetarian Guest House, 200 ft. up on Southern Downs; every comfort.—Mrs. WYNNE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PEACE PAGEANT LAY.—"THE HEART'S DESIRE"—post free 1/2 each.—Rev. A. E. ROSE, The Manse, Rothwell, Nr. Leeds.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION SUBSCRIPTION RATES

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP (per annum).

Foundation membership, HEADWAY, and all pamphlets issued, minimum, £1. Ordinary membership and monthly copy of HEADWAY, minimum 3s. 6d. (in Wales and Monmouthshire, 5s.). Membership, 1s.

Particulars of the work in Wales and Monmouthshire may be obtained from the Honorary Director of the Welsh Council, the Rev. Gwilym Davies, M.A., 10, Richmond Terrace, Park Place, Cardiff.

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