

The development of the technique of warfare continues so rapidly that another war would certainly put an end to practically all human culture and civilisation.
General von Schenaich.



No good-thing ever came out of war that could not better have been secured by reason and conscience.
President Coolidge.

PAX INTERNATIONAL

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W. I. L. AGAIN ATTACKED

It stands to reason that the W.I.L.P.F. must be an efficient organisation doing good work, and possessing real power or we should not so often be attacked. No one would bother with us. The most recent attack is by an organisation called the "International Entente Against The Third International" with headquarters in Geneva. This organisation has issued a large document full of charts which it has circulated all over the world and in which we are shown as directly connected with the Bolshevik Government in Russia. It puts us under the Komintern making it appear that we are sustained and financed by them.

This is really funny for I suppose with the strong belief of most of our members in peace and freedom, if we went to Russia and preached these doctrines, we would be imprisoned.

We are organised in many countries of the world regardless of whether the government of that country is radical or conservative, and we have tried to see if it was not possible to form a peace group in Russia, but the response from the women there has always been: "we cannot yet work for peace and freedom in this country; such ideals are regarded as bourgeois".

In May 1927 when a Russian delegation for the first time attended the Economic Commission of the League of Nations, we sent a letter to them inviting the women of the delegation to come and

discuss our programme of peace and freedom, but we never received an answer. When the Russians came to Geneva to attend the Disarmament Commission of the League in December 1927 and put forward their peace proposals, we expressed our appreciation.

This is the only connection we have had officially with Russia.

All our work is done in the open; every month our paper, *Pax International*, gives our entire Programme, showing exactly what we are doing and the principles we stand for. Also our books at Headquarters are open to anyone that cares to look at them. From them it can be seen where our money comes from and that not one cent has ever come from Russia.

We have protested vigorously to the "International Entente Against the Third International" for their attack upon us, and in response to negotiations with them have agreed to meet the members of the committee and talk over the situation.

Life is short and we have much to do but perhaps it is time we took some notice of these attacks and did something vigorous.

It might even be worth while bringing an action for damages against the International Entente and make them realise they cannot slander people with impunity.

CURRENT EVENTS

Militarists and School Boys

In 1917 the Swedish Parliament abolished military exercises in the schools, and ever since the militarists have been busy. A large placard has been issued by the Youth Section of the Stockholm National Defence League and is being distributed to the youth on entering their school year. This placard invites the scholars between 12 and 16 to join the Defence League, and says exercises under the League's auspices include shooting with rifles, guns, pistols etc., field drill, sham battles, hand-grenade fighting, and all exercises preparatory for offensive and defensive warfare.

The Results of War

There are still in Germany to-day: 785,000 war cripples; 533,000 war widows, 1,134,000 children entitled to war pensions, 58,000 complete orphans, 200,000 parents of fallen sons needing support.

Toy Gas Masks

A Belgian newspaper has recently shown its readers a picture of the latest thing in toys—a toy gas mask.

Swiss School Teachers Arrange Peace Meetings

In September seven large School and Peace Meetings were held in Canton Solothurn, Switzerland, under the auspices of the Social-Democratic teachers. Three thousand fathers and mothers of the school children attended these meetings and passed a long resolution of which the following is an extract.

"Thou shalt not kill" is one of the fundamental propositions in the Bible... If individual murder is to be condemned, the mass-murder of war is infinitely more to be condemned.

"Switzerland, despite her army, would be powerless in a modern war... War is no longer a matter of courage and manliness... it has become technique, machinery, chemistry... invisible, malicious murder by poisoning. Switzerland with her utmost energy could no longer organize an efficient war-machinery.

"If Switzerland wishes to give a high example to the world, she can only do so spiritually... by a practical demonstration of a peaceful community life of the most dissimilar populations...

"To this end she must reform the education of Swiss Youth. The schools must apply themselves to this task by means of: (a) New methods of history teaching...; (b) Reform of the present singing instruction, largely consisting in patriotic and military songs; (c) Reform of the present school readers, which glorify war and soldiers; (d) Reform of the present national spirit in the Schools."

Why Not Disarm?

The following is an extract from an article by Axel Dam in the National Law Journal of Denmark.

"A peace treaty forbidding war but permitting armaments as before, seems undoubtedly to contain in itself doubts as to its own value. If no one will disarm until others have done so, it can never come to anything. Would it really be so dangerous to begin?..."

"If the will to peace is a serious one, it should at least seem reasonable propaganda,—that the export of war-materials should be forbidden by law.

DID THE WAR END WAR? 1918-1928

Mary Sheepshanks

The tenth anniversary of the end of the war has been celebrated, generally by military displays; in particular in London where the Government refused Lawrence Housman's fine suggestion that the troops should parade at the Cenotaph without arms.

Again the world takes stock of the progress made towards establishing permanent peace. In trying to read the signs of the times we find much for hope but much for anxiety. Hopeful and constructive is the close co-operation and friendly intercourse of governments and ministers in the League of Nations, and partly arising from their collaborating, the increased number of treaties of arbitration and the development of peace machinery. The Kellogg Pact pledges all countries that adhere to it to renounce war as a method of settling disputes and to have recourse to none but peaceful methods. If signed honestly and without reservations this would mark a big step in advance, and we have lately had two speeches indicating that, whatever unofficial comments may have accompanied the acceptance of the Pact, officially there were no reservations. The King's Speech, read at the opening of the British Parliament declared that it was signed "in the form proposed by the Government of the United States". Mr. Kellogg, speaking at New York on November 11, stated that fifty-eight nations had adhered to it and added: "there are no collateral reservations or amendments made to the treaty as finally agreed upon". After all, the pact remains a declaration which the peoples of the world must take hold of and make into an actuality. In the end, the most hopeful feature of present day public opinion in most European countries, in the Far East and in the Americas is the will of the peoples to peace and the steady and reiterated cry for disarmament. It is in the building up and strengthening of this will of the peoples for peace, in bringing it to bear, in making governments its instrument that our task lies. For there are still many lions in the path.

One of the many dangerous features of pre-war diplomacy was exemplified by the secret military understanding between France and Britain, of which the British public was ignorant, but which was held by the Foreign Secretary, Grey, to bind Britain to enter the war on the side of France. In the last few weeks the public has been painfully reminded of that "entente" by the disclosure of a naval understanding between Britain and France, by which each fleet would have conveniently supplemented the other and by which in return for French agreement to British naval plans, Britain agreed to withdraw its objection to the non-inclusion of French trained army reserves in any scheme for limitation of land armaments. This bargain has many disquieting features and though it has been dropped because America refused to agree to it, its consequences can not be so easily disposed of. Britain had previously insisted in the disarmament discussions at Geneva that trained reserves were an important element in

a country's forces and must be reckoned in; having in return for a "quid pro quo" agreed with France to drop this line of argument, how is it possible for her to go back to it, although she has lost her "quid pro quo"? She seems to have sold something for a mess of pottage and not to have even got the pottage. Meanwhile the United States, whose well-known claims with regard to large cruisers had been passed over, has been offended, has again been given grounds for mistrusting the will to peace in Europe, and is now reviving her own big navy programme. Thus intrigue and mistrust once more lead to increased armaments and they again engender further insecurity.

Lord Grey, the author of the pre-war understanding with France, denounces the new one as either "a wrong departure in policy" which must be fought and reversed, or at best "an isolated blunder". The right policy to follow is that of the League of Nations, the wrong policy is that of a separate political entente. The agreement should not only be dropped in all its parts but the world should be convinced that the French and British Governments are co-operating within the League of Nations and on the lines of Locarno, and aiming at bringing nations together and not keeping them apart. Herr Stresemann commenting on the matter pointed out that separate agreements should not be made guaranteeing certain armaments to particular countries; it is contrary both to the letter and the spirit of the Pact for one of its signatories to give certain military guarantees to another signatory. Unfortunately, the reverberations of the Anglo-French entente have given rise to suspicions in many European centres, where it is freely said that underground combinations are being worked affecting Eastern Europe.

Truly, as the British Labour Party moved in the House of Commons, "The recent Anglo-French naval agreement was conceived in such circumstances of secrecy as to throw suspicion on the good faith of the country, is a serious departure from the spirit and purpose of the League of Nations, prejudices the success of the Pact for the Renunciation of War and postpones the realisation of permanent peace through international disarmament."

Armaments, in spite of all the disarmament discussions, are everywhere gigantic. Britain is spending well over 100 million pounds a year on them, while the population groans under taxation and unemployment. Her forces are much stronger than in 1913, as is shown by figures quoted by Lord Cecil.

France too besides her conscript army, is preparing a professional army of 400,000 men; her army estimates are more than 6 million pounds more than last year and she is preparing for a gigantic line of frontier forts. In Europe, although the great military empires of Germany and Austria are disarmed, more men are under arms than in 1913, besides the terrific developments in air forces and the apparatus for chemical war. The United States, which before 1914 kept out of military and naval competition with Europe, seems to have caught the war fever from its participation in "the war to end war". Its army is immensely

greater than in 1913, and its navy is now to be second to none. Mr. Coolidge in his speech on Armistice Day expressed his belief that European armaments had prevented war coming sooner than it actually did; this is in our view a profoundly mistaken judgment. It will indeed be disastrous if America thus follows the worst precedents of European politics. The American President then foreshadowed a naval building programme on a big scale, before summing up in favour of "complete reciprocity of goodwill and such further limitation of armaments as would be commensurate with the treaty renouncing war". Thus the response to the Anglo-French bargain.

Another danger signal in Western Europe is the Rhineland, still occupied by French and British troops in contravention of the Covenant, which stipulated that this German territory should be freed when Germany was fulfilling her treaty obligations. The German people rightly resent the prolongation of the occupation and the attempt to extort fresh concessions from them in return for what is due to them as a right.

If we turn to Eastern Europe the signs are not less disquieting. Military missions between France and Poland and Roumania give rise to the suspicion that fresh military projects are on foot. The French General Le Rond has been visiting all the States on the Russian border; Roumanian generals and staff officers have been holding conferences with the Polish staff in Warsaw, at which it is stated that plans of campaign were worked out. This visit was followed up by that of the chief of the Polish general staff to Bucarest, followed by that of the Polish President Pilsudski, who held conferences with the Roumanian army chiefs. The press, not only in Eastern Europe but including leading organs in Germany and Switzerland, states that these movements are connected with far-reaching plans for territorial changes in Eastern Europe, for alienating Russian territory, forming buffer states, giving Roumania and Poland ports on the Black Sea and to the latter further large provinces. The opinion is freely expressed that certainly France and possibly England support these schemes and that efforts are being made to bring in the adherence of Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Many facts are quoted in support of these statements and to whatever extent they may be well founded it is certain that there is very widespread suspicion and anxiety as to the objects of all these military conferences and that there is urgent need of clearing up the situation and getting together all lovers of peace in the States all along Russian's Western border to counteract ambitious schemes and warlike preparations by insisting on open diplomacy and peaceful policies. This is all the more necessary as interested parties are endeavouring to gain support for their ambitious schemes by appealing to the hopes of oppressed and discontented minorities, who will be used as cat's paws and having got the chestnuts out of the fire for their powerful neighbours will themselves be left hungry.

Again the common sense and will to peace of the peoples must be roused to frustrate the schemes of militaristic politicians. Eternal vigilance is needed to safeguard peace and freedom.

The Health Committee of the League of Nations

Alice Hamilton

Dr. Alice Hamilton, a member of the W. I. L. and on the Health Commission of the League, came to Geneva to attend the sessions of that Committee. She stayed at the Maison Internationale and spoke at one of the Thursday teas greatly stimulating those present to renewed work for peace.

The Health Committee of the League of Nations finished its thirteenth session on November 3rd. This is only the third time I have been able to attend for the trip is too long for the three American Members, Surgeon General Cumming, Professor Winslow of Yale and myself, to make every year. Therefore, when I do come, I am struck by the amazing progress that has been made since my former visit and the gradual extension of the work. In 1924, when I came on for my first session, I found the Committee still struggling with the great disasters caused directly or indirectly by the war. It was a question of restoring public health work in the older countries and initiating it in some of the newer and it was a question of bringing malaria under control after it had burst all the defences built against it and it had spread far and wide. Now I find the Committee pushing into new fields although it does not take its hand off the old tasks.

When one enters the room of the Health Committee of the League of Nations one leaves politics and nationalism outside. The twenty-three members of the Committee and the nine members of the Hygiene Section of the Secretariat are not appointed by their Governments, nor do they represent any country, although their selection is influenced by the desire to have the membership scattered widely over the world. A German was a member before Germany entered the League. The President is a Dane, and the three Vice-Presidents, a Belgian, a Portuguese and a Pole. All are chosen because they are experts in some field of public health such as, epidemiology, administration, education, bacteriology and so on, and during the discussions, which are carried on mostly in French, it would be hard to guess the nationality of the speaker, especially as he is often presenting a report of an investigation made in some country far distant from his own. Several of these investigations have been made in Russia and Russian Health Officials have come to Geneva to confer with the Committee.

Work of Health Committee in 1924

At that first meeting we listened to a report on malaria, made by a sub-committee which had personally visited the most stricken countries—from Dalmatia, through Albania, Macedonia, Greece, Bulgaria and Russia. Everywhere they found the anti-malarial work swept away by the war. Doctors and nurses were gone, hospitals closed and often there was not even quinine available. Every country was eager to begin the fight against this great scourge, but needed advice as to how the money should be spent; whether they should undertake to drain the marshes and fill the pools where the mosquitoes breed, or build hospitals for the sick. In each case the Committee gave advice according to the conditions in the country, usually urging that with the money at hand, the only practical way was to open little dispensaries throughout the malarial districts with a visiting nurse and, if possible, a doctor

and an abundance of quinine, so that the whole population could be treated, the sick in order to kill the malarial organism in their blood, and the well in order to protect them against infection.

Next in importance to malaria came the reorganisation of demoralised Health Departments and the formation of new ones for the newly-born countries. In connection with this, the Committee instituted a series of educational journeys for public health officials from these countries, sending them to the most advanced centres of public health work where they could study at first hand modern control of disease. This work has had a great development during the last four years and now includes the Far East and Latin America.

Another interesting discussion in 1924 concerned Equatorial Africa, where sleeping sickness and tuberculosis have become very serious menaces. Sleeping sickness is, of course, an African disease, but since the coming of the white man it has spread with great rapidity. Formerly it would rage in scattered regions but it did not spread. Now that the white man has built trade routes and communication is easy, sleeping sickness travels the length and breadth of the land. Tuberculosis was introduced by Europeans, Syrians and Indians and the form it takes with the African is severe and rapid because he has no acquired racial immunity as have the Europeans.

At my next meeting in 1925 we listened to reports on malaria in Corsica, Spain and Palestine, where the Jews have done amazingly successful work in preparing the country for Zionist colonies. It was evident at this meeting that whereas at first the Committee often asked permission to make its investigations, that was no longer necessary, in fact, it was almost overwhelmed by the number of requests for advice and help which came from all over the world. Some of these had to do with administrative work as, for instance, the desire of Czechoslovakia to know how to link public health with sickness insurance. Latin America asked for a Commission to advise them on many matters. Persia and Turkey both wished advice in forming their health services. Holland suggested that the Committee make a comparison of Infant Welfare Work in several countries and a comparison of the mortality rates, so as to see which country was using the most efficient methods. This last request has led us very far, for at the beginning it appeared that the statistics of countries are not in many cases comparable and we are now engaged in an effort to form a common standard which all will follow.

Work of Health Committee Today

Now in 1928 we are still working on malaria, but the discussions now have to do with more elaborate and expensive measures to rid a country of this scourge and they have to do with the world supply of quinine and whether it can not be increased by utilising other substances than Peruvian bark. Much time was

spent over the reports of the educational journeys made during the past year.

But the most striking change this year was the new emphasis laid on rural health work and on popular health education. We were shown films of rural health work in Tuscany, in the city of Naples, in several parts of France, in Belgium, in Jugo-Slavia and in Holland. These films are all designed for the education of the people at large and are admirably done. Finally, we were shown two Indian films; one of the great pilgrimage which takes place once in twelve years to the upper waters of the Ganges and the other a study of life in one of the poorest villages. In the former we caught glimpses of the two million pilgrims, with their groups of 20,000 holy men, naked and unkempt, travelling the roads to Hardwaar, and we saw the inoculation stations manned by Indians who had their sanitary training and were sent to take control not only of the anti-cholera inoculations, but of the cleanliness of the camps, the disposal of refuse and night soil and the care of the sick and injured. As a result, we were told that there were only twenty-eight cases of cholera during this pilgrimage which in former years has been the cause of a formidable epidemic. The health work in the villages is also carried out largely by Indians, who have been trained not only in simple sanitation and disease prevention, but who can give advice on agricultural problems and know how to care for sick animals and fowl, so that they can act as advisers in many emergencies.

Physicians Methods Versus Politicians

As I listen to these reports and discussions, I sometimes think how much nearer we should be to world peace if statesmen would face war as physicians face disease. ... We do not believe that disease will ever be abolished, but we believe that disease is an unmitigated evil and that we must fight it with all our powers. We think it is nonsense to say that sickness is the cause of heroism and beautiful instances of self-sacrifice, for those instances are exceptional. Usually disease stunts and embitters rather than ennoble. We refuse to agree with those who say that disease is necessary to keep down the excess of population and to eliminate the unfit, for we know that it often takes those that are mentally and spiritually the fittest and we insist that the problem of over-population can never be solved in such a way.

Now these are all arguments that are used by those who believe pacifism is an impossible idea and even an undesirable one. We are told that you cannot change human nature, that war always has been and therefore always will be, that it stimulates heroism and all the rest. That is why the fight against disease is so much more efficient than the fight against war. When our statesmen are as fully convinced that war is evil as physicians are convinced that disease is evil, we may really succeed in controlling it as we are on the way to controlling disease.

The Ninth Assembly of The League of Nations

William Martin

Mr. William Martin, the brilliant editor of the *Journal de Genève*, gave an address on Armistice Day at a meeting arranged by the Geneva Group of the W. I. L., in collaboration with the W. I. L. Headquarters. At this meeting Madame Rolli, of the Swiss Section, presided and Miss Marie Butts, the Secretary of the International Bureau of Education, gave an interesting reading. A resume of Mr. Martin's speech follows.

An Assembly of the League is in itself nothing, it is merely a session of Parliament.

To understand its importance it must be placed in its setting and seen as a step in evolution.

The victory of the Allies had profound sources which are at the base of all the evolution of the 19th century.

In the political sphere, the 19th century was dominated by nationalism, in the economic, by big business.

Nationalism has tended to differentiate people, while big business has created new bonds between them. It was out of this contradiction that the war arose and a real settlement can only be achieved by a triumph of the forces making for union over those making for separation.

Even before 1914 the world was ready for a League of Nations but it needed the war to bring home this fact and it is thanks to the energy of President Wilson that the League of Nations Pact was inserted in the Treaty of Versailles.

This Treaty has never yet been ratified by the United States and consequently Europe has suffered from a wave of scepticism and discouragement. In order therefore to save the League for the moment and to permit it to await the return of the United States the European diplomats pushed the League into technical work and avoided political issues which they did not feel sufficiently strong to handle.

But in 1924 following the rapprochement of France and Germany and the entry of Germany into the League, Europe took fresh courage and began to show confidence in the strength of the League of Nations.

This confidence was increased by the outcome of the Greco-Bulgarian affair and the League was able to consecrate itself afresh and in increasing measure to its political tasks. Among these, the most important of all was disarmament. There were those not slow to point out that disarmament depends directly on security.

At the beginning of 1927 the Preparatory Commission on Disarmament suffered a check in its progress as it did also at the Conference of the three Naval Powers.

In the matter of security the Protocol of Geneva also ran aground before the opposition of England which was based on the political attitude of the United States.

But in 1928 there was marked progress with regard to both security and disarmament.

The signing of the Kellogg Pact seemed to settle the question of security and the Anglo-French naval compromise the question of disarmament. Therefore the last Assembly opened in an atmosphere of hopefulness.

Unfortunately it was not possible for the League to officially adopt the Kellogg Pact. On the one hand there was fear if this were done of risking the ratification of the United States; on the other hand the South American States showed themselves hostile to the Pact in which they saw a reinforcement of the Monroe Doctrine.

As to the Naval compromise it was rejected while the Assembly was still in session by the American Government. Thus the League has not been able to attain any great result in the matter of disarmament. The German thesis of

going quick at the risk of getting stranded, was opposed to the French thesis of going slow in order to succeed. An accord was finally reached in a resolution which provided for the continuation of work.

But one does not see what the Preparatory Commission on Disarmament can do when it reassembles.

In the matter of security the Assembly transformed a treaty, prepared by the Commission on Arbitration and Security which was to have been presented merely as a model to the Nations, into a general act open to the signature of all the States.

On another point the Assembly showed progress, the optional clause of the statute of the Permanent Court of The Hague was signed by Spain and Hungary and a Swiss proposal laid before public opinion with great eclat the question of applying to the Court for consultative opinions.

In concluding his speech, Mr. Martin reviewed the results of the different Commissions.

He recalled the manner in which the elections to the Council had been made, and particularly the denial of a permanent seat to China and the political effect which this may have, and finally he showed that the general discussion was much fuller and freer than ordinary and that it had chiefly been directed to the very delicate problem of minorities.

Then after recalling in a word the speeches of Monsieur Briand and Count Apponyi, he concluded by saying that this Assembly had been, as had already been said, one of frankness and that frankness is always a sign of strength.

Modern Methods of Warfare Conference

THE PROTECTION OF THE CIVIL POPULATION

Plans for this Conference at Frankfurt on January 4-6 are going forward rapidly under the direction of Dr. Sahlbom, Sweden, Dr. Gertrude Woker, Switzerland, Mme. Gabrielle Duchêne, France, Frau Frida Perlen, Germany, and Miss Mary Sheepshanks, England. The final programme has been arranged and it promises to be most interesting, and a large number of people representing many countries are arranging to attend. Prof. Paul Langevin, the well known French scientist and lecturer at the Sorbonne who will give an address, has written a declaration which he is asking all scientists to sign; two paragraphs of which are as follows:

"The recent war witnessed the birth of new methods of destruction and we are promised in case of a new catastrophe, unprecedented horrors in the way of chemical war and bacteriological war..."

"The undersigned consider it their

urgent duty to denounce with all their might the frightful danger threatening the whole of humanity and especially the most civilised nations through the preparations for new scientific wars. As there can be no idea of limiting the development of science it is absolutely essential to put a stop to war."

This declaration has been sent to a number of scientists asking them to sign it with an accompanying letter written by Miss Sheepshanks in which she also asks that the scientist's name may be used on a Comité d'Honneur of which Prof. Albert Einstein, Prof. Traube and Prof. Langevin are already members.

Miss Sheepshanks says in her letter: "It is necessary to emphasize that the idea of the promoters of the Conference is not in the least to attempt to humanise warfare or to denounce any special methods of slaughter, but, in view of the threat to whole populations that any

future war would be, it is desired to impress the public with the fact that all methods of protection are entirely futile and that the only protection lies in the settlement of disputes by peaceful means and the abolition of all armaments."

The subject of the Conference as stated last month is "Modern Methods of Warfare and the Protection of the Civil Population."

The speakers include: Captain Bruns-kog and Dr. Hôjer, Sweden; Mr. Francis Delaisi and Prof. Paul Langevin, France; Prof. Dr. Zanger and Dr. Gertrud Woker, Switzerland; Dr. Budzinska-Tylika, Poland; Prof. van Embden, Holland; Dr. Sasek, Czechoslovakia; Prof. Nestler, Senator Gotthard Sachsenburg, Prof. Traube and Prof. L. Lewin, Germany.

For accommodation and final information about the Conference write to: Frau Thea Wolff, 4 Landgraf Phillipstr. Eschersheim-Frankfurt a.M., Germany.

WORK OF THE W. I. L. NATIONAL SECTIONS

Canadian Section

Mrs. Laura E. Jamieson, the secretary of this Section, sends out every month a letter to all the groups affiliated with the Section and especially to farm women's organisations connected with the W. I. L. Extracts from these letters give a good idea of the work of the Canadian Section.

September Letter

"With the coming of Autumn we may look in brief review at the events pertaining to Peace in the last few months. The Kellogg proposals come first. Already this Treaty has been signed by the Premier of our own country and by a number of leading nations..."

"If, according to this pact, the nations are to renounce war as an instrument of national policy, obviously the next step is a practical move toward disarmament. For example, will Canada, after signing this treaty, continue to increase her expenditure for defence as she has done for the last several years; or will her people insist that the Department of Defence live up to the implications of the Kellogg pact?..."

"The important thing is that we should not be lulled into a false sense of security by such Peace gestures, but be alert to carry them to their logical conclusions..."

October Letter

"I am devoting the whole of my October letter to a very definite project in peace work, which I hope all the groups receiving this will undertake, and the individuals will use to interest others."

"I have recently received letters from two representatives of Farm Women's groups, expressing a desire for a Dominion Wide Conference on Peace. Two factors militate against this, first, our geographical extent, and second, the fact that only a few women's organisations are really and actively interested in Peace."

"The logical way to proceed, therefore, it seems to me, is to begin with smaller conferences, getting local women's organisations interested and working with the more interested groups. Such conferences may be local or provincial, and might later lead to a Dominion Wide meeting."

"Another indication of the need for such conferences in Canada is the movement among women peace workers in many countries to follow up the Kellogg Pact by urging their Governments to proceed locally to institute measures for speedy disarmament in conjunction with other Governments."

"The Vancouver W. I. L. is therefore approaching other groups interested in Peace, asking them to send representatives to form a Joint Committee, this Committee to arrange an all day Conference in Armistice Week, or as early as possible."

At this Conference one item on the agenda will be a resolution calling upon our government, "to take the necessary action, in conjunction with other governments, to give effective expression to the policy of renunciation of war by instituting measures for speedy disarmament."

"The main thing is—get a representative joint committee, and have a small Conference. Let the key note of the Conference be: 'Canada has signed the

Kellogg Pact. What is the next step, in order to live up to it.'

"After the Conferences have been held each local Committee should be prepared to link up with others in the effort to consolidate what we have accomplished by forming a broader Joint Committee, and eventually giving a national voice to our peace work."

British Section

This Section is working with other affiliated organisations in a Joint Committee called the British American Women's Crusade. They carried on active work to secure the signing of the Kellogg Pact without reservations and since the signing of the Pact they are demanding that the terms of the Pact shall have significance. In the literature they put out they say "The signing of the Pact is not an end but a beginning." Then they enumerate what some of the next steps should be. (a) Signing the optional clause. (b) Settling disputes of all sorts by the award of some peaceful tribunal. (c) Cease work on the Naval Dockyard at Singapore. (d) Abolish the title War Office and Secretary of State for War. (e) Withdraw all reservations from Peace Pact. (f) Mutual reduction of armaments. (g) The end of the military occupation of Germany.

On November 8th, a one day conference on "The Kellogg Pact and After" was arranged for at Caxton Hall, London. Lady Acland presided at the meeting and some of the speakers were Viscount Cecil, Mrs. H. M. Swanwick and Mr. Arnold Foster.

The British Women's Crusade has prepared a set of questions which it is presenting to all the members of Parliament and the prospective candidates in the coming elections. The leaflet says "we are not asking these questions in a spirit of dictation, but because of the decisive importance of knowing where the candidates who are asking for our votes stand." The questions are:

Kellogg Pact

Seeing that in signing the Kellogg Pact we have renounced War as an instrument of national policy, will you urge that this principle should be strictly observed in every dispute with other countries, without reservations?

Optional Clause

"Will you vote and speak in favour of Great Britain signing the optional clause of the Statute establishing the Permanent Court of International Justice, by which she would bind herself to take to the Court any justiciable dispute which cannot otherwise be peacefully settled?"

Peaceful Settlement

"Will you vote and speak in favour of the British Government accepting the obligation to settle all international disputes by peaceful means?"

Disarmament

"Will you urge the Government to insist at the Preparatory Disarmament Commission that reduction as well as limitation of all armaments are required of members of the League, and to make definite proposals for this purpose untrammelled by private understandings?"

Will you do all in your power to urge the calling of the International Disarmament Conference in 1929?

Evacuation of Rhineland

"Are you in favour of the immediate evacuation of the Rhineland, in accordance with Article 431 of the Treaty of Versailles?"

At a meeting of the British W. I. L. Executive Committee on November 13th a resolution was passed urging that the reply sent by the Government of Great Britain to the communication of the U. S. A. on the Anglo-French Compromise should express the willingness of this country to take definite steps towards co-operation between Great Britain and the U. S. A. for the maintenance of the peace of the world, in order to make the Kellogg Pact a reality.

German Section

This Section has started its fall work with vigor and enthusiasm. When the Reichstag opened, every member found on his seat the following leaflet:

"The following twelve urgent demands are presented to the German Reichstag and Government for the new session of the legislature with the request that they be given attention and carried out:

(1) That as ministers and members of the Reichstag were elected on the strength of their promises, therefore the electors have now the right to demand that these pledges be fulfilled.

(2) That capital punishment be abolished.

(3) That free trade be made the basis of all commercial treaties.

(4) That immediate steps be taken to abrogate all laws not in accordance with the Constitution; that there be a revision of family-law in the civil code to conform with the above.

(5) That the paragraphs regulating a reduction in personnel which are contrary to Articles 128 and 129 of the German Constitution providing equal status for male and female employees, be cancelled and guarantees given that these articles shall not in future be evaded.

(6) That guarantees be given for the carrying out of Articles 109, 4 and 5, 113, 115, 117, 118, 123 and also Art. 148 of the Constitution of the Reich, in all the Federated States.

(7) That the Washington Convention be ratified and the 8 hour day be legally established and enforced.

(8) That Article 452 providing for the declaration of war and peace by act of the Reich be abrogated and the following provision substituted: "Every act of war is declared a crime".

(9) That the Ministry of Defence be changed into a Ministry of Peace.

(10) That the carrying of arms be absolutely prohibited.

(11) That the administration of the Reich be simplified by dividing it into 10 or 12 equal districts, according to the racial origin of the inhabitants as indicated by the dialect spoken.

(12) That the electoral law be revised and the system of lists abolished."

New Zealand Section

This section reports we are very busy in an effort to have compulsory military training abolished. The boys have to start at 14 years of age, and continue attending drills, until they are 21. When they are drafted until the age of 25. We have had one very good meeting at which a Congregational clergyman, a doctor

and two M. P.'s spoke, besides two prominent women. We have a petition to Parliament in circulation and intend to hold another meeting on the subject of military training shortly. The N. Z. Branch of the "No More War Movement" is also circulating a similar petition. One of the Labour members has agreed to present both petitions to Parliament.

Extracts from the Petition to Repeal Conscription read as follows:

Conscription is not British

"There is no equivalent to our Boy Conscription in Great Britain or Canada..."

Conscription is Inefficient

"The Government's Defence Report in 1921 admit "the non-success of the scheme, the lack of interest on the part of the trainees, the lack of enthusiasm on the part of the parents, the lack of enthusiasm on the part of the public!"

Conscription Costs New Zealand \$ 500,000 a Year

"Conscription involves an unwarrantable interference with the rights of conscience of many of our most promising young men.

DO NOT FORGET

that Britain, with a population of 40,000,000 depends on Voluntary military service.

"Why should New Zealand continue Conscription?"

Dutch Section

This Section reports an active campaign for Disarmament. It invited other organisations to join it and accept the Disarmament Resolution proposed by the Irish Section. Public meetings were held. There was a large open air meeting in the summer which members from all parts of Holland attended and at which Frau Yella Hertzka lectured on the Kellogg Pact and Disarmament and Mrs. Cousins on conditions in India.

This campaign for disarmament is being continued and on November 11th several big meetings have been arranged, at which resolutions are to be passed and given wide publicity in the press.

This Section has secured the co-operation of 14 other organisations.

This Section took up the matter of Opium and found that Holland was one of the countries in which illicit traffic in opium was carried on, and that great profits were made from drugs in the colonies. This Section is giving serious study to the matter and is doing all it can to bring pressure to bear on its Government.

This Section took up the matter of traffic in arms to China, but did not find their country involved in this, though they found that their country was manufacturing more arms than most people realize and they are going into the matter further.

**Australian Section
(Hobart Branch)**

The secretary of this group in writing says: "Our little Island (Tasmania) is the Cinderella of Australia and we are still struggling to get regular communication with the mainland from the Federal Government."

This group though far over seas has been working hard against conscription and for disarmament. They had copies made of the War Resisters' Manifesto one paragraph of which is:

"We call for some definite step towards complete disarmament and the demilitarising of the mind of civilised nations. The most effective measure towards this would be the universal abolition of conscription. We therefore ask the League of Nations to propose the abolition of compulsory military service in all countries as a first step towards true disarmament."

They sent copies of this manifesto to all the prominent citizens in Tasmania and to officials and secured its publication in a leading newspaper.

In response to this appeal they had letters from numerous prominent persons among others the Prime Minister J. C. McPhee who said:

"I have read the manifesto with much interest and I am in cordial sympathy with every effort having for its object the abolition of war and the promotion of peace between countries and peoples."

Danish Section

Kellogg Pact.

A resolution endorsing the Pact without reservations has been signed by all the groups of the Danish Section, and this section now proposes beginning October 1st, to begin a campaign for Disarmament all over the country.

Nobel Prize.

The matter of securing the Nobel Prize for Jane Addams is being worked for by everyone.

World Youth Demand Peace

The printed report of the Conference of World Youth held the end of last August in Holland has been published. There were 461 delegates from 31 countries representing 110 different organisations at the Conference.

The work of the Congress was divided among six Commissions dealing with the problems of Race, Minorities, Politics, Economics, Religion and Education in relation to world peace.

The freedom of the Coloured Races was energetically demanded by the Youth of Africa, India, China, East Indies, Western Asia and America. The Congress declared itself absolutely against all race oppression and for representation on an equal footing of all races in the League of Nations.

By a large majority Gandhi's principles of non-violence and non-cooperation were accepted in the relations between oppressed peoples and imperialists.

Other measures passed were, a condemnation of all imperialism and of all customs barriers and a demand that all countries should disarm and war be stigmatized as an international crime. An almost unanimous resolution was passed against conscription and by a two thirds majority one declaring that all Christians should refuse military service. The importance of Religious and Educational work for peace was recognised. It was agreed that churches should take an absolute stand against war and to this end should be wholly independent of the State.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Jane Addams, International President

International Headquarters, 12, rue du Vieux-College, Geneva
Secretary: MARY SHEEPHANKS.

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

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

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

International Dues — \$5.00 or £1 a year.

Cable Willif.



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