

# PAX INTERNATIONAL

## Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva  
Switzerland



A pacific settlement of conflicts and the international cooperation of intellectuals is not possible until military service and the armies are abolished...

I am of the opinion that all thinking men should take a solemn pledge never to participate in any military activity, direct or indirect.

*Albert Einstein.*

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### CONTENTS

Current Events.  
Equality in Nationality.  
The League Opium Conference  
Indian Round Table Conference  
Mr. Pethick Lawrence. Mr. R. Rao.  
W.I.L. World Disarmament Campaign.  
Mr. Henderson's Speech.  
German Soldiers in A French Village  
Marcelle Capy.  
Work of W. I. L. National Sections.  
German, United States, Austrian,  
British, German-Polish School.  
W. I. L. Economic Conference.  
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### The Next War

In the "Nouvelle Revue Mondiale" for February there is a significant article by Romain Rolland. In it he points out with relentless courage the despotism, brutality and greed of the Western World. Today the people of Europe are being duped by the cry "Europe my country". He asks why are the German war industries allowed to revive with the investment of French capital? For what are these countries and Western Europe preparing? Russia is the prey. The day that a European Entente is realized it will not remain inactive in the presence of a sovietic world. When this happens on what side will we line up? With the masters of oil and petrol? Romain Rolland says if this occurs though he has pointed out Russia's defects, he will be on her side. In a final paragraph he says: "When the duel begins, which the blind egotism of Europe is making more and more inevitable, who will be the obedient soldiers of the European adventures, against the independence of a world in revolt.

I will not be that soldier. Europe if you enter into this monstrous combat. I will march against you,

against your despotism and your greed, for my brothers of India, China and Indo-China and all the other exploited and oppressed nations.

I will do so not only in the name of justice and sacred duty... but in the cause of the progress of the immortal human soul; for its great need at the moment is to be enriched and renewed by the intellectual and moral gifts of those magnificent races whom centuries of pillage have wrested from them their gold but who have garded intact the ancient spiritual treasures".

### The Indian Problem

The situation in India is far from satisfactory. Gandhi and the Viceroy are holding discussion but an accord does not seem likely. Gandhi will not give in on the salt tax. He wishes an improvement in economic conditions before there are negotiations over the new constitution.

Mr. H. N. Brailsford, the well known English journalist, who has recently been travelling through India has written a penetrating article in the "New Leader" of February 6th.

While feeling that there is much in MacDonald's solution of the Indian problem and that a big step has been made in that for the first time in a hundred and fifty years an Indian Government will rule at Dehli, he still sees many defects in the proposed Indian Constitution. He says: "The Round Table Conference has negotiated with the leaders of the day before yesterday... There is no disputing the fact that from the first to last this is a conservative constitution. It's federal structure is modelled on that of the U. S.... It brings the Princes into the Federal Assembly before they have conceded self government to their own subjects. They will nominate one third of the members of the two Federal Houses... Finally the qualification for citizenship alike in federal and provincial elections remains on a property basis... The tenants are the mass of the popula-

tion in India... In every question of taxation and land tenure, the voice of the tenant if it is heard at all will be drowned."

### He Blesses Our Work

After the public luncheon in New York City Jan. 12th at which Jane Addams and several other members of the W. I. L. spoke, Miss Addams received the following letter from an exsoldier:

I have just listened to the broadcast of your League and could not resist writing and thanking you and all of those wonderful women for their tireless efforts in such a work.

You no doubt have gone through some of the national hospitals and have seen some of the living monuments that returned with a victorious army of which I am one...

In 1917 I could have finished in summer school in one of our Michigan Universities as a chemical engineer and perhaps could have really done something for the good of mankind during my stay on this earth.

I stood the strain of the call to arms until the 2nd day of May 1917 and then threw my hat into the ring and was in France in less than two months.

The return, Oh God, broken in health, disfigured for life, a heap of clay that most people shudder to look at. I am at home now on a leave and you can feel and see the strain on your dear ones, especially at meal times. My leave will soon be up and I will again join the rest of the war relics where we understand each other. It would be a God-send if the Government would be kind enough to give us what the boys call the Old Black Bottle and let our souls pass on to their Maker.

I can't help but feel that you and your associates are working for us, for if your ambitions are realized there will be peace forever.

May God speed you and all the members of the League for a bright and prosperous New Year in this noble work.

*A War Relic.*

## LEAGUE OF NATIONS ASK WOMEN'S AID

### Equality In Nationality

Several international women's organizations including the W. I. L. have been carrying on a campaign to secure for women the same nationality rights as enjoyed by men. It was found that the first section of the World Code which was drawn up at the Hague last spring contained one kind of law for men and another for women.

At the 11th Assembly of the League of Nations last September the first section of the World Code including the question of the nationality of women was discussed. Because of the protests of the women, the 11th Assembly decided to demand that the whole question of the World Code be reconsidered at the next Assembly.

When the Council of the League of Nations met the end of January they took this matter up and voted to send to all the Governments the resolution of the 11th Assembly which called for the reopening of the question of nationality of married women. The Council also decided to put the subject of the nationality of the wife on the agenda of the 12th Assembly. Further the Council has empowered the Secretary General of the League of Nations to create a "Committee of Women" composed of two members from each of the following organizations: The International Council of Women; The International Suffrage Alliance; The Women's International League; The Inter-American Commission of Women; The Equal Rights International; The All Asian Women's Congress; The International Federation of University Women and The Young Women's Christian Association. The representatives of these organizations are to give expression to the point of view of women in the matter of nationality and to present their opinion to the next Assembly. For the first time in the eleven years of its existence the League of Nations has voted to ask the opinion of the organized women of the world upon legislation which particularly concerns them.

A formal letter from the Secretary General of the League of Nations has been received by the W. I. L. and the other organizations announcing the decision of the Council and asking us to form a "Committee of Women" and saying it would be desirable that any proposals which the Committee should make should be put in the Secretary General's hands not later than July 1st in order that the proposals may be circulated to the Governments before the commencement of the Assembly's session. The Secretary General also offers to place a room and an official of the Secretariat at the service of the

Women's Committee for their meetings if they so desire.

Special credit must be given to the Inter-American Commission of Women, under the leadership of Alice Paul for their splendid work in this campaign. This Commission has opened an office in the Hotel Russie, Geneva and is devoting its energies to this fight for equality in nationality.

### Pioneer In Woman's Rights

The biography of Lucy Stone written by her daughter Alice Stone Blackwell has recently been published. It is as thrilling as any novel. Lucy Stone was born in 1818 in West Brookfield, Mass. In those days women in the U. S. had no rights. They could not speak in public, there was no college or university open to women, all a married woman's property and earnings belonged to her husband, the husband had sole control of the children while he lived and when he died could will them away from the mother to strangers. Into such a world came Lucy Stone full of courage and strength. Bit by bit she fought her way. It took her nine years to earn the money to go to college. But she went, to the one college that had then opened its doors to women, Oberlin. When commencement came she was asked to write one of the commencement addresses. In those days women could not speak on a platform with men. A professor read the women's papers. Lucy refused to write her paper unless she could also read it. A great struggle ensued in the college. Lucy lost temporarily. But years later when Oberlin celebrated its semicentennial Lucy was invited to be one of the speakers at the great gathering, she was the only woman. She fought valiantly against slavery, for freedom for women, for the right to vote and to speak in public. She also demanded that a woman should not lose her name when she married. She kept her own name after marriage. If she could know that today the League of Nations is consulting women in regard to their nationality rights her heart would rejoice. "Lucy Stone" by Alice Stone Blackwell. Little Brown Co, Boston, Mass. Price \$3.

### The League Opium Commission

The 14th session of the "Advisory Commission on Opium and Dangerous Drugs" of the League of Nations opened on January 9th and sat for over a month. There were seven new members at this session representing non-manufacturing countries: i. e. Austria, Belgium, Egypt, Mexico, Poland, Spain and Uruguay.

The principal work of the Committee was the preparation of a Draft Convention which should serve as a basis of work for the May Conference on

the "Limitation of Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs", and the adoption of a report for the Council.

The Advisory Committee soon divided itself into two factions the old conservative group which, while accepting the principal of limitation, was still concerned with safeguarding the interests of the manufacturers and the new victim group of non-manufacturing countries who were concerned with the limitation of manufacture and safeguarding the interests of the legitimate consumer.

The first group were for fixed quotas, that is dividing the world medical needs between the present manufacturing countries, and by doing so making it possible for these countries to raise prices.

The second group advocated an open market, that is to say competition between manufacturing countries for the legitimate orders of consuming countries, which would tend to keep prices down and prevent a limited number of countries getting a preferential position.

The British representative presented the Committee with a "Draft Convention for Regulating the Manufacture and Supply of Narcotic Drugs" which was used as the basis of work. The attention of Sir Malcolm Delevingne was however drawn to the fact that the Convention was for the purpose of *limiting not regulating* manufacture. The Draft Convention was considerably amended but its basic principle that of quotas remained. Its supporters however were obliged to leave the three following points blank.

1. Names of countries to which quotas are to be assigned,
2. The quotas to be assigned,
3. The manner in which an increase in price of narcotics is to be prevented.

Even with the Draft Convention thus amended the representatives of the consuming countries were not satisfied and handed in a strong minority report, which there is not space here to print.

The discussion of the scope of the May Conference on Limitation was not taken up. This was a serious defect for if the May Conference on Limitation is to be successful it will have to cover not only the drugs enumerated in the Geneva Convention but all other derivatives of opium and the coca leaf.

Fortunately this vital point was brought to the attention of the Council by the Spanish representative when the report of the Advisory Committee on Opium was presented to the Council. An amendment was then made which provides that the delegates to the May Conference should have full power not only to discuss the points in the report but also:

"The Limitation of all derivatives of opium and of the coca leaves as well as the control of the limited quantity."

## India And The Round Table Conference

We print below two articles on the Round Table Conference, one by Mr. Pethick-Lawrence M. P., who is an assistant to the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the other by Mr. R. Rao, an Indian and a Hindu living in Geneva. Mr. Lawrence's article is a letter written to his constituents, of which we have printed only a small portion.

### An Englishman

First let me remind you of some of the salient facts about India. Its area is equal to that of the whole of Europe without Russia. Its population exceeds 300 millions. Of this, British India contains some 250 millions and the remaining 70 millions are subjects of the six hundred Indian Princes who rule over the territories of the Indian States scattered all over the country. Moreover the peoples of India differ among themselves in race, colour, creed and language...

A generation ago there was no self government. To-day there are elected legislatures in the Provinces and a central legislature partially elected; there are also Indian Ministers of the Crown. But it is contended, with a measure of truth, that there has been little real transfer of power from Britain to the Indian people...

A demand for a fundamental change in the situation accordingly arose. Congress, the most extreme section, declared last year by resolution in favour of complete independence, Indian Liberals asked for "Dominion Status", the Princes called for a greater freedom for India from British control...

The British Labour Government decided to meet these demands by convening in London a Round Table Conference at which all shades of opinion might be represented and a new constitution laid down...

It would gladly have included Indians of the most advanced section. But Gandhi and Congress decided otherwise...

But nearly every other section in India was represented, including the Indian Princes, and also all parties in this country. The Conference met... It divided itself up and sat in committee. It did not draw up a neat and tidy paper constitution for India. It did not settle all the major difficulties, it left many of the minor difficulties almost unmentioned. Nevertheless unless untoward forces frustrate its purpose, it will in my judgement, be memorable for all time as one of the greatest events in the history of civilisation...

It marked in the first place the triumph of common humanity over race prejudice and convention. Here were representatives of the race, that has claimed superiority and the right to rule, and others of the races, that have suffered humiliation and subjection, met round a table...

It marked in the second place the amazing unity of India in her demand for self government. Princes ruling

kingdoms as large as the British Isles, political leaders of different schools of thought in British India, Hindus, Mohammedans, Sikhs, representatives of Labour, Anglo Indians, the spokesmen of the depressed classes men and women from all over India, many of whom had never met before and who would probably disagree upon any other conceivable subject found themselves speaking with one voice in expressing their conviction that the hour had struck for India to rule herself. From this marvellous unanimity the idea of a "Federal India", dimly conceived by the Simon Commission, was suddenly born and within 24 hours had attained to full stature, for ever after to dominate the Conference.

Then came the British response. Stirred by the unity of Indian thought, impressed by the grandeur of a federation embracing 300 million souls, led by the wise counsels of our Labour spokesmen, all sections of British opinion accepted the basic conception of a really self-governing India within the ambit of a British Commonwealth...

It is true that tremendous issues remain to be resolved on which there will have to be considerable discussion and a large measure of give and take. Prominent among these are the so-called "communal" differences between Hindus, Mohammedans and Sikhs, the nature of the franchise, the precise method of the inclusion of the Indian States, the safeguards and reservations, and the Indianizations of the Army. Serious and important as are all these and other matters, they seem almost parochial in their significance compared with the stupendous decisions taken...

For a new chapter in human history is being written, in which a great nation led by men imbued with the true spirit of democracy has had the wisdom to open its portals of freedom to a fifth of the human race who up till to-day have remained in subjection.

### An Indian

The main achievements of the Round Table Conference consisted of first, the meeting of Indian and British representatives as equals (in contrast to the All-British-Simon-Commission), secondly the immediate prospect of an All-India federation (regarded by the Simon-Commission only as a distant objective) on account of the willingness of the Princes to participate in it, and last but not least, the preparedness of the British representatives at the Conference to accept, albeit with safeguards, the

principle of responsibility in the Central Government... All these put together mark a notable change in the British attitude as compared to what it was at the time of the appointment of the Simon Commission...

Indians, however, cannot overlook the fact that these very changes were brought about by the awakening of the masses which is and must remain the ultimate source of any further development. They fear that the nature of the present proposals is such that so far from envisaging any democratic development it is calculated to throttle the infant democracy in its cradle. The entrance of the Princes into Indian politics with their autonomy and autocracy unimpaired can only impede further development and the insistence on a 2-3 majority for effective legislation, with a constitution which will probably provide only for indirect elections and moreover will largely restrict the franchise to propertied classes can only have the effect of keeping out the masses from power. Nor will the masses, who are deeply affected by the national movement and the world forces of today, long remain in their impotent condition. They will revolt against such a situation until the revolt assumes the proportions of a revolution which can bring no good to India or to British interests. And if, on the contrary, a reactionary rule is by chance, successfully established and the attenuated autocracy now outlined is consolidated, any hope of India becoming a modernised and democratic country must be abandoned for a generation or more. So, the feeling is that the best way, to bring India into line with the rest of the world and thus enable her to take an effective part in international affairs is to make the masses responsible here and now.

Moreover, the economic position of India is by common consent deplorable and the improvement in the conditions of the masses is not the least of the objectives of Mr. Gandhi's crusade... The economic conditions in India make it impossible for Indians to be any longer indifferent to their finances of which they are determined to assume control. And yet finance, like the army and foreign affairs, is a subject about which British opinion is equally suspicious and adamant. India is at the parting of the ways and the events of the next few weeks will decide the next move in a political struggle whose end cannot be said to be within sight.

# The W.I.L. World Disarmament Campaign

## Canada

The Toronto Branch reports that groups in Winnipeg, Man., in Regina, Sask., and in Vancouver, B. C., are circulating the disarmament petition. The Convention of United Farmers, Ontario, on Dec. 9th, endorsed the declaration and sent it out to 500 farmers clubs....

## U. S. Section

The U. S. Section has only 12000 signatures but it has only begun its campaign. Recent signers are: Rev. Harry Emerson Fosdick—one of the outstanding clergymen in the U. S. and pastor of the Rockefeller Church.—Edna St. Vincent Millay, the outstanding woman poet, Dr. Mary Woolley, president of Mt. Holyoke college.

This Section has sent a letter to the President asking what preparations are being made by the U. S. for the World Disarmament Conference saying:

"We are concerned by the fact that the U. S. appears to be the only power opposed to any form of budgetary limitation. It is to be hoped that under these circumstances the Government will reconsider its position in this matter".

## China

The disarmament petition is beginning to circulate in China. The National Committee of the Y. W. C. A. has printed it in its publication "Green Year" and has already begun to receive signatures. Miss Ting the Secretary of the National Committee of the Y. W. C. A. brought these signatures to the big disarmament meeting in London on Feb. 9th.

## Switzerland

At Bienne in Switzerland, though there is no section of the W. I. L., a group of people have undertaken to circulate the petition on disarmament. In an editorial in the Bienne daily paper "La Sentinelle" a house to house canvas is advocated. Representatives of the following organizations have already signed the petition: the Municipal Council of the town of Bienne; the Council of the National Church, the Council of the Liberal Church, the Evangelical Society, the Methodist Society, the National Popular Party, the French Socialist Party, the Social Democratic Party, the Y. M. C. A., the Congregation of the Children of Mary, the Military Roman Catholic Young Men's Association, the Roman Catholic Young Women's Association, the Roman Catholic Men's Association, the Swiss League of Nations' Union of Bienne, the French-Swiss Feminist Group, the Pacifist Group, the Bern Society of Teachers both French and German Swiss, the Swiss Society of the Red Cross, the Social Democratic Women's group, and the Temperance Union.

## British Section

On February 9th a huge mass meeting for World Disarmament was held in the Queen's Hall, London, under the auspices of this section. About two thousand people attended. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Israel Zangwill. The speakers were the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Arthur Henderson, the noted Greek scholar Sir Gilbert Murray, and representatives of the W. I. L. from different countries who reported on the number of signatures that had thus far been secured to the World Disarmament petition.

Camille Drevet who spoke for France and as the International Secretary of the W. I. L. says:

"That which stood out before all else at the meeting was that a member of the British Government whose influence is great, not only encouraged us in our efforts at disarmament, but told us plainly and precisely what our task was. He said: 'Now that the Council of the League of Nations has fixed the date for the Disarmament Conference, it is plainly of great importance that public opinion should be informed about the issues that are involved. I, therefore, welcome warmly the educational campaign which the W. I. L. and other organizations have begun... I hope from now until this day next year you and those who think with you will never rest and that every organization that stands for peace and international cooperation will work together upon a common platform to secure a common aim'".

## MR. HENDERSON'S SPEECH

There is not room for all of Mr. Henderson's speech, we give only extracts. At the outset he defined in unmistakable terms what was meant by disarmament. It meant, he said, the reduction of national armed forces of every kind, by a solemn international treaty under which all Governments should agree to accept certain fixed levels for their national forces, with a very definite obligation not to exceed the fixed limit... That was of much higher importance than a reduction by one government or another acting by itself.

"Disarmament in the sense I have indicated" declared Mr. Henderson, "has now become a matter of practical politics.

"Everything now depends upon how the Governments complete the framework which the Preparatory Disarmament Commission has drawn up; and upon the figures which the Governments insert. The vital question for every friend of peace is therefore this: 'What will these figures be?... What the figures will be will de-

pend upon public opinion. At the Disarmament Conference as elsewhere, and I say this as an old political hand, the Governments will do what the people want. If the people want disarmament, they can have it'".

"Are we really to drift on", asked Mr. Henderson "until we have another holocaust like the last? And I would say this to those doubters—if such there be,—the next war will not be like the last. It will be incomparably worse. A great military expert has said that in the last war we were killing by retail but next time we shall do it wholesale.

"The next war, if it should ever come, will be fought by aircraft, and by aircraft using Poison Gas. Every year our Air Force carries out manoeuvres over London. Have you ever thought what those manoeuvres mean? They mean that our staff, like every other staff, is now expecting that the decisive operations of the next war will be the air attacks against the great centres of industry and of civilian populations... Surely, the only way to stop such barbarities is to stop war itself."

Mr. Henderson pointed out that the economic crisis, the grim spectre of unemployment and the world crisis generally was all part of the aftermath which the last war left behind it. The workers are still paying for the war by their sufferings, as they paid for it while it was in progress by their lives.

"Tariff barriers" continued Mr. Henderson, "self-sufficiency, trade prohibitions, economic nationalism, these are all consequences of conceptions of national interests which have been created by the fear of war... Europe today, is as full of difficult political problems as it was five years ago, and I say as the Foreign Minister, of a Great European Power that it is in disarmament that the key to the peaceful solutions of these problems can be found..."

"On all grounds" concluded the speaker "we believe the case for the policy of disarmament to be overwhelming. It is on moral, economic, political and material grounds that I hope your appeal to the peoples will be made. Go forward in the work to which you have set your hands. Yours is the cause of truth and justice and if you are faithful in your labours it cannot fail. I hope you will show the governments that however far they may be ready to go, their peoples will be behind them. From every country let the trumpet call be heard that the peoples are ready to make the sacrifices and to run the risks that may be needed to make the world safe from the age long scourge of war."

# German Prisoners In A French Village

Marcelle Capy

Marcelle Capy has won the Severine prize. Madame Severine, who was one of the leading women in France, a journalist and pacifist died recently and a memorial to her was created in the form of a sum of money to be given to the person who wrote the best book against war. Although there were many competitors, Marcelle Capy's simple story of a French village during wartime, its struggles to exist, the relief that came with the German prisoners who performed the farm labor and the change in the attitude of the women towards war, all summed up under the title "Des Hommes passèrent" has won the prize. The dedication in the book reads as follows: "One must always tell the truth said Severine dying. I have therefore tried to do so, thinking of her, M. C." We give below extracts from "Des Hommes passèrent", Edition Tambourin, Paris, price f. f. 15.

"The men left for the front, flowers in their guns, wine in their flasks, clean clothes in their knapsacks. The music of the Marseillaise made the station windows rattle. Now then, women, no tears. Good bye? No, only au revoir, we will see you soon. Trust us and put your handkerchiefs in your pockets. Come, children of France, the day of glory has come.

*The village settles down to work.*  
"The sun at the end of September was warm and mellow. But one did not see it. One saw nothing. One worked. One struggled. One wished to weep. The fever of enthusiasm, the tragedy of the first loss, passed. One struggled against fatigue but it came just the same. One grew old. Grief and overwork age quicker than the years..."

*The men return on leave.*  
"Sebastien was there. In his blue uniform he was enchanting. He had grown in stature. His helmet gave him the air of a conqueror. He was beautiful. He had never been so beautiful. Madeline's admiration was boundless..."

"But Madeline! — the sun had burned her skin. Her arms were hard and dry like the branches of a tree. Her cheeks had lost their roundness, her figure had thickened, her softness hardened... She had a direct and severe look which seemed to command, She wore her hair straight back and no longer curled. She looked like a boy. Sebastien could not help feeling that work had made her ugly. Atavism is stronger than love, stronger than reason which recognizes the new necessities born of war. Atavism in man demands that woman should be lovely..."

*The men leave, the village works on.*  
Again one planted the seeds. Again winter came. One no longer asked when will war end? But one said from time to time; such a one has fallen; such a one has disappeared; such a one is wounded; such a one has been made prisoner..."

The women hurried along the road... it was nearly noon. The beasts, the children and old people must be fed. Necessity made the law... Whether one was in war or peace, in sorrow or joy, one is hungry, and because of hunger, work commands. It calls to the arms, the legs, the body, the soul, it calls all. It takes all... At night, duty accomplished, one drops with fatigue.

One wants to think of what is happening out there—Sleep overcomes one. In the bed, which one has not had time to remake, sleep stills the heart, the silence and the night do not even bring dreams. One is too tired to reflect. The head is empty, the body can do no more. But sometimes one wakes in the night. One does not know where one is. There is anguish in the air. It stops the breath. The war—O God! one is always in war,—the husband, the son, the brother, the fiancé, the lover, the cousin, the neighbour, all the men, all those whom one knows—all—all at the front... God give us strength...

The women of the village capitulated... They had touched bottom.

*The French Government sends German prisoners to help with the work.*

"No one doubted but that the prisoners would be men in chains, dirty, ragged, like vagabonds between two gendarmes, handcuffed, the face hairy and sullen Behind Pirquille came the prisoners: twenty tall young men, broad shoulders, small hips, clean shaven faces, and blue eyes.... Surprise closed all mouths... The prisoners camped in a house belonging to the Commune. They ate with the inhabitants but slept in the cantonnement..."

Nothing seemed changed. The prisoners came and went and did as they were ordered. They did not protest, they worked without noise, and did untold work...

In the houses the kitchens were well cared for. The men were young and workers must be well fed. They were given the very best. The men went to and from their work and to and from the cantonnement. This made activity. One still reserved one's opinion. One spoke little but life was not the same... One made plans. If the prisoners remained in the village one could sow this and plant that, risk innovations and thus gain a little money... The prisoners were agriculturists. They understood the land, adapted themselves to the conditions of the region and worked as no one had ever worked before...

They said that at home they had farms with eight or ten cows and three or four horses, big farms lighted by electricity, including the barn the cellar and the attic. The village was lighted by oil... It seemed much

behind the time and miserable in comparison...

Peace reigned in the village between the French and the Germans while war continued at the front...

Madeline grew plump again. The hollows in her cheeks filled out... She did not get up so early, she went to bed less late, she took time to dress herself. She began to revive...

If the women in the village had been asked what prisoner they liked best, the old ones would have said Fritz, the young ones Hans....

The young women preferred Hans, the biggest, the strongest and the most serious. He was not handsome.... Hans was a peasant mechanic. In his country he worked with a tractor. He talked of electric machines to make butter, to chop wood, to cut beet roots, to wash the clothes, to do everything and thus do away with fatigue... He introduced a word quite new to the village which the young ones liked to pronounce. One said, 'it is modern', or, 'it is not modern.' And this was big with significance... One day, a fire broke out in the woods of Gaures... Hans quite naturally took command. His coolness calmed every one and dissipated fears. The boys, the girls, the women, the old men, the prisoners, every one obeyed him. Ditches were dug, the fire was stopped. After this the old ones like the young ones recognized that Hans was a man... But he was a German. What a pity thought Madeline. Many thoughts filled her mind... "How could one explain it? Men who wished to do good when one came to know them, could for years make war, kill one another, knife each other. For what?... Madeline's head ached... Hans the prisoner who knew about machines, who washed in cold water, who commanded and calmed in the hour of fear, the modern man, strong, supple and gentle, whose eyes were grey like sudden rain

Madeline would have liked to be free to love him... Sebastien had deserted her... How quickly one consoles oneself, —still just the same... That girl would be lucky who passed her life leaning on Hans' arm... Madeline went to sleep praying "God let me one day see peace sparing life, machines saving the sweat of labor, men finding the way to make our life and theirs easier, and Hans no longer my enemy."

## WORK OF THE W. I. L. NATIONAL SECTIONS

### German Section

This section has been very active this year. Unfortunately the political situation is such that it necessitates continual protests and proposals to the authorities. Recently a letter was sent to the Minister for Internal Affairs Dr. Josef Wirth demanding the strict enforcement of the prohibition to bear arms or wear uniforms; this demand was urgent because of the shooting that occurs almost daily between the Right and Left Wings. The letter was as follows:

"The German Section of the W. I. L. P. F. which, ever since its foundation, has worked for non-violence in internal and foreign policy, urgently demands; that in view of the enormously increased brutality in public life, the degeneration of political struggles into murder and killing on the streets, that the law against the possession of firearms be strictly enforced without exceptions as regards both Right and Left wings; that the law forbidding the organisations to wear uniforms at all meetings, parades and demonstrations be carried out according to the unanimous decision for its execution in the whole country, and that this prohibition should include not only military insignia, caps, armbands, ties, belts, etc. but also wearing apparel such as suits, coats, wind jackets etc."

At the first meeting of the Reichstag in 1931 the leaders of each of the different political factions received a copy of the twelve demands of the W. I. L. P. F. dealing with the internal and foreign political situation which were as follows:

1. The constitution of the Reich and the Code of Laws to be brought into harmony with the Kellogg Pact.
  2. Orientation of the economic policy to meet the needs of the consumers; abolishing of protective tariffs.
  3. All colonial aspirations to be given up; refusal to own colonies or colonial mandates; prohibition of all colonial propaganda in schools.
  4. Transformation of the Ministry for Defence into a Peace Ministry.
  5. Prohibition of private manufacture of arms, traffic in arms and the bearing of arms.
  6. Suppression of the manufacture of noxious drugs beyond the amount needed for medical and scientific purposes. More active fighting against smuggling.
  7. Abolition of the death sentence.
  8. Abolition of Paragraph 218 St. G. B. concerning abortion.
  9. Introduction of the 40 hour working week and guarantees for its execution.
  10. Guarantees for the carrying out of certain articles relating to the fundamental rights of individuals.
  11. The law dealing with the family to be brought into harmony with the Constitution concerning equal status of legitimate and illegitimate children.
  12. Control of school instruction with a view to the complete fulfilment of the prescription of Art. 148 of the Constitution, concerning education for peace.
- As there was danger of a law being

introduced providing for obligatory or voluntary labour the Committee against military service and the military education of youth which comprises 22 organizations, was asked to call the attention of the Ministry of Labour to the economic uselessness of this measure and the danger of creating an army of strike breakers.

On New Years Day a declaration signed by the German and Polish Sections was sent to all the federal state and frontier authorities concerned and to the German press and to some of the foreign press. Many big newspapers and periodicals in Germany, France and Holland published the text. (This declaration was published in last month's Pax.)

This Section protested to the Chancellor of the Reich and the Minister for Internal Affairs at the Remarque Film being forbidden. Extracts of the letter are as follows:

"The under-signed request you most urgently in the name of the German Section of the W. I. L. P. F. and in the interest and dignity of the German people and out of respect for the German Republic abroad, to dissolve the Film Censorship in its present form and, if this body must be retained, to compose it of people suited for the task..."

The task of film censorship is to decide whether a film is inartistic or lacking in culture, for which much sharper examination is needed than usually given—but its duty is not to keep back political truths from the population."

In December when in the Reichs Committee for Foreign Affairs, under the pressure of the reaction, decisions were taken concerning German foreign policy which were contrary to the spirit of reconciliation, a manifesto from the W. I. L. and other pacifist organisations was sent to the press and the leaders of the different parties, drawing attention to the danger of such a change in policy and calling upon the deputies to vote this decision down in the plenary session.

Events in Butow, Nikolaiken, etc., against the Polish minority gave this Section an opportunity to protest at the Prussian Ministry for the Interior and to demand a minute investigation.

Disarmament is of course part of the work of this Section: The Disarmament petition is being circulated among all groups and even school children have offered to help. The Executive of the German Section sent to all deputies of the Reichstag an emphatic protest against increasing the German fleet and said that it was an irresponsible act, in time of such severe economic distress and with millions of unemployed, to demand hundred of millions of gold marks for armaments.

This represents part of the activity of this Section this winter. Propaganda work is always carried on, leaf-

lets distributed, lecture tours arranged, new groups formed, new members secured and constant press work carried on. Many groups have held crowded meetings in spite of the terror created at meetings by the reaction through the use of bad smelling bombs, and whistles of the noisy Fascist crowd. Work has not been easy this winter in Germany but most of the groups, especially those on the German-Polish frontier show by their untiring work that they realise what is at stake at present.

### German-Polish Summer School

A German-Polish Summer School will meet from August 22nd to September 9th in the Boberhaus near Löwenberg in Schlesien. It is organised by the German and Polish Sections of the W. I. L. and the subject is "German-Polish Relations and World Peace".

The initiative came from the Breslau Group of the German Section and the preparations are in the hands of this group and of Frau Kirchhoff, Dr. Josefa Kodis, Filtrowa 30, Warsaw, is directing the Polish side.

The Summer School will begin with an official reception on August 22 given by the City of Breslau in Schloss Friedrich the Great. The City authorities are also extending an invitation for a trip around the city to see the principal sights and the beautiful baroque buildings. On August 23rd the members of the School will travel to Loewenberg where an official reception will be given by city authorities. A large public meeting will probably be arranged at the same time in Breslau.

The School will really begin on August 24th in the Boberhaus. The rapporteurs, economists and other experts will speak on the burning question of German-Polish relations. Beside the German and Polish speakers there will be English and French women speakers as well.

It is planned to have social gatherings in the evenings with music and folk dances.

Registration fee is 5 Marks.

Price for the whole course: 20 M.

Price for one week: 12 M.

Full pension in the Boberhaus (rooms for three to four persons), 3,50 M. Cheap lodgings can be had in hotels and lodging houses. Registration must be made before July 1st to Frau Kläre Marck, Kurfürstenstrasse 29, Breslau. Polish registrations should be sent to Dr. Kodis, Filtrowa 30, Warsaw.

In view of the extreme importance for world peace of creating good relations between Poland and Germany, it is hoped that there will be a large attendance at the Summer School.

### United States Section

This Section has had a busy and active winter in spite of the economic distress, and the wide spread unemployment which has made work difficult. This Section is closely in touch with many of the men in the National Government and is continually bringing pressure to bear through personal interviews. Much of its work is of a confidential and personal nature which cannot be reported, but the influence of the W. I. L. is distinctly felt and recognized in the U. S.

Nicaragua. The problem of the U. S. marines in Nicaragua was a matter given especial attention. On January 3rd, Dorothy Detzer wrote for the U. S. Section to the President urging the withdrawal of U. S. marines from Nicaragua.

This letter was answered by the State Department to the effect that the U. S. Government desired to withdraw its armed forces from Nicaragua at the first practical moment.

Toward the end of January, Miss Detzer with the endorsement of the U. S. Board, wrote the Secretary of State pointing out that the original purpose of sending troops to Nicaragua was to preserve and protect the lives property and interests of U. S. citizens and the Government, that this need no longer existed, that as a matter of fact no American non-participant lost his life in the Nicaraguan disturbances until the U. S. forces began their search for Sandino and his followers. The letter points out that at the end of the revolution in Nicaragua three new reasons were given for keeping the U. S. marines there: 1. training, of the National Guard; 2. pacification of banditry; 3. the supervision of elections.

As to point 1, the Nicaraguan law limits the service to 1200 men, therefore a dozen U. S. officers would suffice to train the National Guard. As to point 2, banditry, the pacification has not been and cannot be accomplished by a foreign force. It is a domestic police problem. As to point 3, supervision of elections, it is pointed out fair elections are not necessarily a certainty in advanced and progressive countries, as the wide spread corruption in the U. S. elections has proved and that it is presumptuous and unintelligent to keep the marines in Nicaragua to supervise the 1932 elections. One of the concluding paragraphs of the letter reads:

"The United States Government has adhered to the Kellogg-Briand Pact. Even those who interpret the Pact as sanctioning hostilities in certain cases, limit those cases to the actual defense of United States territory. We believe to expose American boys who have volunteered to serve in defense of their country to the diseases and dangers of the jungle of a foreign country not at war with us is contrary both to the

spirit and terms of the Kellogg Treaty, and is an assumption of power by the Executive not provided for in the United States Constitution. Search for bandits in the northern part of Nicaragua cannot by the widest stretch of interpretation be the defense of the United States or even the protection of American life and property."

The U. S. Section urged all its branches to write to the State Department asking for the withdrawal of troops from Nicaragua. It is gratifying to note that on February 13th the U. S. Government withdrew part of the troops and the rest leave after the elections.

Another piece of work undertaken by this Section was the fight against the appropriating of thirty millions of dollars for modernizing three battleships. While the U. S. Board was in session in January it sent the following telegram to the Presiding Officer of the Senate asking that the message be read to the Senates:

"The W. I. L. Board calls upon the Senate to defeat thirty million dollar appropriation to modernize three old battleships. Such expenditure out of harmony with agreements among nations to which we are a party. We have renounced war as a national policy. We should therefore renounce battleships not rebuild them. We understand effort being made to obtain support for this bill on grounds it will give employment to five thousand men. We protest against use of unemployment issue in this way but since it has been made we point out that five thousand men is a small number to receive employment from expenditure of thirty million dollars."

One of the most recent actions of this Section was the sending of a letter by the Secretary Dorothy Detzer to the President protesting against favourable action by the President on the New Naval Construction Program. The letter said in part:

"At a great meeting of the British Section of this organization, held in Queen's Hall, London, Arthur Henderson, the Foreign Minister of Great Britain, appealed to our membership and a capacity audience which thronged Queen's Hall, to increase its efforts for disarmament..."

The day after this speech by Great Britain's Foreign Minister was cabled from London, you, Mr. President, are said to favor new naval construction involving \$ 74,000,000 of the taxpayer's money. Just, as Mr. Henderson's words are an inspiration and a challenge to peace effort, not only in England, but throughout the world, so Mr. President, your very acquiescence to this Naval Construction Program in America can deflate and discourage work for peace, not only in the United States, but also throughout the world."

This Section also took up the matter of the terroristic methods used by the Polish Government in the Ukraine. On the strength of Miss Sheepshanks' report it was decided to send a delegation to see the Polish Ambassador to the U. S. and present to him a resolution deploring the methods of terror

and personal maltreatment of political opponents.

### Austrian Section

The Rosa Mayreder Group reports that on December 7th, 1930 Dr. Hetzer finished her series of lectures on "Toys as Education". She took a strong stand against military toys. Reports on this were sent to 7 pedagogical and literary magazines. An article by Dr. Zycha was even gotten into a little paper advertising toys which has connections with the Czecho-Slovakian Republic and firms in Europe and abroad. This action aroused interest in many schools. There were requests for lectures and this campaign will be continued throughout the next school year.

The discussion evenings of this group are very successful and have developed into a sort of peace school and many new and capable speakers are thus trained for peace work. The participants were not satisfied with fortnightly meetings and the gatherings now take place weekly.

Members of the Committee of this group gave some lectures under the auspices of the Austrian Woman's Party and were able to make propaganda in these circles and gain new members.

In collaboration with the Union of Austrian Peace Societies this group has arranged a series of lectures on "How can States and Super-States serve Peace"?

The Youth Group, has among other things started a language course.

In collaboration with the Union of Peace Societies, this group has followed the political situation which is very critical as far as internal disarmament and peace are concerned. It protested to the Austrian Chancellor Ender and Vice Chancellor Schober against the manifestations against the Remarque film but their reassuring promises were unfortunately not kept. A poster was gotten out demanding that the terror of the reaction should not be given into, preventing the showing of this film. But the film was banned. Our next task is to work against such incitement to violence. A mass meeting is being planned.

### British Section

This Section has just sent the following cable on February 12th to Sarojini Naidu, Allahabad, India.

"British W. I. L. sympathising non violent ideals and desire of congress for achievement political and economic freedom for India. Believing new opportunity in awakened sympathy of British people and sincerity of British Government. Earnestly hopes congress leaders will decide to cooperate with conference delegates in constructive work for new constitution which can gain for them ends they have in view."

## W. I. L. Economic Conference

The International Economic Conference will meet in Paris, at the Musée Social, rue Las Cases, from April 14th to April 16th 1931. The following well known speakers have been secured up to date:

Prof. Dr. M. J. Bonn of the University of Berlin (accepted in principle).  
Dr. Elisabeth C. van Dorp, Netherlands.

Roger Francq, Ingénieur des Arts et Manufactures, member of the National Economic Council of France  
Emmy Freundlich, member of the National Council of Austria and League of Nations.

M. Füss, International Labour Office, Geneva.

Dr. J. Marschak, Economic Institute, Heidelberg.

P. W. Martin, International Labour Office, Geneva.

André Philip, professor of economics at the Faculté de Droit of Lyon.

The Secretariat of the Conference will take charge of gettings rooms in Paris for foreign visitors. From March 20th all the correspondence for the Economic Conference should be sent to: Frau Yella Hertzka, Conférence économique, Musée social, 5 rue Las Cases, Paris.

## Visapur Jail India

The Howard League for Penal Reform of England has made inquiries into the conditions in the Visapur Jail which were reported in the August Pax. We are happy to say that this League reports that these conditions have been remedied. It says the Government admits there was a certain amount of overcrowding while some barracks were under repair. It admits also that blankets were short. Further supplies however were sent for and before the middle of August all justification for complaints had ceased. The overcrowding came to an end when other barracks were ready for use.

Some of the statements the Government contends were untrue i. e. that one prisoner was stung by an scorpion not an unusual event in India. Also that "Visapur Jail is like a desert with no human habitation with ten miles", when as a matter of fact the Visapur Village is half a mile from the Jail. Three other villages are also visible from the Jail.

## Pax International

We wish to report on our campaign for subscriptions to *Pax*. During the month from January 20th to February 20th we received about three hundred and eighty letters from the U. S. members, containing a total of about \$400. Some people sent the regular fifty cents subscription. Many generously doubled it and made it one dollar and a few sent two to five dollars. We are deeply grateful for the splendid support of those who responded so generously to our call. We have sent a post card or letter to everyone acknowledging the receipt of subscriptions except for the following persons who gave us no adequate address: Mrs. Edna R. Hane, Katherine A. Ischida, Mrs. D. S. Salomon, Mrs. Gertrude Rosenstein, Mrs. Emma Gall, Miss Evelyn B. Polachek and Mrs. John C. Browne. Anyone else who sent us money which should have reached Geneva before February 20th and who has not received an acknowledgement from us, please notify us. We want to be sure no subscriptions go astray.

We feel this is a good beginning but only a beginning. We must have thousands of subscribers if we are to cover the cost of *Pax*. Please every one who has not yet paid your subscription to *Pax* for 1931, do so at once. All members no matter how much they pay in National dues owe fifty cents yearly for their paper. Only the International members who pay \$5.00 a year have their paper included in their dues.

Please, do not feel you can do without *Pax*. It is not a question of taking in another paper you have not time to read. You cannot do W. I. L. work adequately without *Pax*. It tells you what other sections are doing, what the W. I. L. is working for, what you should do. There are nine thousand national members in the U. S. to say nothing of the thousands elsewhere. We want four or five thousand more paid subscriptions in, before the end of the year. Please take not only a subscription for yourself but take one for the school and the library near you. Spread the news of the W. I. L. around the world. Use *Pax* as propaganda in the Disarmament campaign. The more people that read *Pax* the more people we will have fighting for Disarmament.

Send cheques and money orders to *Pax International* c/o M. Z. Doty, 12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva. Please put five cent stamps on your letters.

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