

PAX INTERNATIONAL

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OF POLITICAL AND
ECONOMIC SCIENCE

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva
Switzerland



"With the development of airplanes, explosives and poison gases in recent years, the men, women and children of any country partaking in a future war seemed doomed to creep like rats into a drainpipe. There will be no chivalry honor, or glory in a future war."
John Galsworthy.

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World Violence

One of the most terrible phenomena of the time is the widespread belief in violence as a political and social method and the recrudescence of torture. In the U. S. the popular conscience is still insufficiently prepared to end the horrors of lynching and the use of those police abuses which are known there as "the third degree". Ugly stories reach us of what goes on in prisons in the Balkans. Out of Russia and Poland come worse accounts of deliberate infliction of human suffering.

Up to date the Spanish Revolution appears to have been carried on with little appeal to violence and mob excess seem to have been directed rather against buildings than human beings.

But the unhappy Chinese whom we used to look up to as a naturally pacific people have now, for decades been torn by civil war, banditry and barbaric cruelty alike from the Right and from the Left. We have just received a poignant appeal from the "League of Chinese Writers of the Left" against excesses committed by the "White Terror" since 1897. It

accuses the Kuomintang Government of having cruelly killed, among so many others, five young poets and prose writers, one a woman. It is not by such methods that a New China, honored throughout the world, can be built up.

Germany And Disarmament

The Englishman Mr. Fenner Brockway, M.P., made a recent trip through Germany. We quote below briefly what he has to say of this journey.

"The dominant features of the German towns through which we passed are the modern factories and houses. The stage of the theatre of war has been reset with the scenery of peace.

But behind the scenes? In this Germany, Nationalism and Militarism are again resurgent. The humiliation of the Peace Treaties, the oppression of the German population across the new Polish frontier, the continued reparation demands, and the enforced disarmament have had their inevitable reaction. Faith in the League of Nations is fast disappearing, and belief in the sincerity of the disarmament of other nations has almost gone.

It is doubtful whether the movements in Germany which still believe in the methods of democracy and peace can hold their own until the Disarmament Conference of next year... The first objective of the peace movement must be to secure those amendments of the Draft Convention (on Disarmament) as will revive the faith of Germany. The second objective must be to demand that the blanks in the framework of the Draft Convention are filled in by figures involving immediate all-round reductions of a really drastic character. A 5 percent reduction would have no significance; a 10 percent reduction would have little significance; a 25 percent reduction would indicate that something was really happening; a 50 percent reduction would perhaps startle the world into enthusiasm for disarmament."

Disarmament Conference

We reprint from the May "Arbitrator" a fictitious account of the League Disarmament Conference to be held in February 1932.

CHAIRMAN: For the first time in the history of the world all nations are gathered together to adjust their military and naval affairs for the common good. The object of this conference is to obtain security for each nation by force of arms.

In order to avoid misunderstanding on the part of the people, meetings will be held in secret as heretofore...

PACIFIST: May I qualify as delegate?

CHAIRMAN: Only diplomats and military and naval experts are eligible. This is not a peace conference, but a technological mobilization.

RUSSIA: I move that universal disarmament be adopted, saving us all vast sums of money and making war less probable.

ALL DELEGATES: The Bolshevik is out of order: we have come to discuss whether navies shall be limited by categories, global tonnage, unit displacements or by budgetary methods.

INVENTOR: May I sell my new destructive invention to any country that bids for it without being considered unpatriotic?

CHAIRMAN: Certainly; the business of the world is business...

CHEMICAL WARFARE EXPERT: I am pleased to report that a gas mask has been devised... that is guaranteed absolutely effective. We can also produce a gas that will destroy persons equipped with perfect masks.

PACIFIST: If armaments are costly, if poison gas will destroy civilian populations and if everyone will be more secure when all are disarmed, why not disarm?

CHAIRMAN: Put him out; he is insane. Every country must arm for security, though there must be no competition. This conference will determine the size of the navy required by each nation to defeat the others.

IMPRESSIONS OF LEAGUE MAY COUNCIL MEETING

EMILY BALCH

That such a question as the Economic Agreement between Germany and Austria should be dealt with in an open international meeting and referred, so far as its legal aspects go, to the Hague Court, brings fresh realization of the inestimable value of the League. The question is not settled but the tension is relieved and a fresh precedent created for dealing with the hottest and most difficult disputes by reason and rule.

As to disarmament perhaps the best that can be said is there seems to have been no setback. The Disarmament Conference is to meet in Geneva, in February as proposed. Germany while dissatisfied with some of the aspects of the plan abstained from a negative vote rather than delay action.

One feels anew, on the other hand, the dangerous chasm between the courteous, not to say unctious phrasing and the grim realities of suspicion and self-seeking.

This was especially the case in the dealing with the grievances of Poland's German minorities, Henderson's simple human directness came like the fresh air when a window is opened in a stuffy room. It is a tragic thing that as yet efforts to secure open discussion of the even graver sufferings of the Ukrainian minority have failed. It is to be hoped that the "Committee of Three" to whom this question is entrusted will now deal with it promptly.

In the discussion of economic questions, both in the Council and in the meetings of the Committee dealing with Pan-European problems, the sense that something must be done to relieve the present deplorable situation beat against the unwillingness to sacrifice special interest.

Nevertheless one positive step was taken with surprising speed, the establishment at Geneva of a new international body to deal with agricultural credits.

Finally Litvinoff's proposal before the May 18th session of the Pan-European meeting was reassuring....

The main points of his proposal were: (as given by the *Journal de Genève*) Recognition that to relieve the economic crisis it is necessary to abstain not only from war but from all economic aggression....

Confirmation of the principle (already adopted at the 1927 I.E.C.) of the peaceful existence side by side of countries differing in their political, economic and social systems:

Agreement to make no discriminations among the signatory powers.

Women's Appeal To The Governments

Last month the "Committee on Protection of Women and Children" of the League of Nations, held along session. One of the subjects most discussed was

the question of licensed houses of prostitution. At this session more than ever before the necessity of fighting against the toleration and regulation of "Houses of Vice" became apparent. The moment therefore seemed favourable to send an appeal to the Governments to take radical measures along these lines.

The following appeal was addressed to the "President of the Council" and to the "Minister of the Interior" and signed by eight of the leading women's organizations including the W.I.L. It reads as follows:

"In view of the convincing experiences in countries which have denounced the system of licensed houses of prostitution as shown by the decrease in disease, the rise in the standard of morality, the aid to police administration in fighting against all forms of vice, we take the liberty in the name of the women's organizations signed below, to draw your attention to the results obtained and to insist that those Governments who have not already done so, should put an end to the exploitation of women and children by closing the "Houses of Vice" in their domains.

"In the name of both moral and divine law, in that of justice and the sufferings endured by a great number of victims of the traffic in women and children, we present our demand, persuaded that you will not remain indifferent to this appeal but that you will take immediate measures to prevent in the future all licensing of vice under whatever form it may be."

The Young Women Aid Society. The Council of Women. The Suffrage Alliance. The Y. W. C. A.. The Catholic Aid Society for Young Girls. The League of Jewish Women. The World Union of Women. The W. I. L.

The Women Of Tunis

CAMILLE DREVET

The Tunis Section of the W. I. L., knowing that we are very much interested in making an inquiry in the situation of women, presented a series of questions to the public in Tunis as follows:

1. Do you feel that the time is ripe for a big propaganda movement in behalf of the young Mohammedan women in the matter of education and instruction?

2. What do you think this education should be in order to permit the young girl grown to woman to achieve the fullest development of her moral, intellectual and artistic faculties and to take her place in Tunis social life.

3. Do the schools, already in existence, give satisfaction in this matter?

4. According to what plan and under whose guidance do you think the instruction should be given in the schools?

The replies to these questions were full of interest:

"Yes", said Mohamed El Bouhli in the journal "The Voice of Tunis", we

feel the necessity of a new education, which will enable the young girl to play her role in the social life, which will give her a taste for life, for harmony, for order, a firm determination to conquer obstacles, and so hasten her development".

"But", adds Mohamed El Bouhli, "We do not wish our young women to have a French education. We wish an instruction which shall develop the aptitudes of the young girls of Tunis according to our traditions and our tastes. We wish a Tunisian education and an Arabian culture."

At the time of this inquiry into the situation of women, the journal the "Voice of Tunis" published a series of articles on "Arabian Women and the Law". In these articles they tried to show that according to literature if men have superior rights to women, they also have duties. "The woman is a helpmate", says Azoua Ibn Zoubir, "and nothing so elevates a man after belief in God, as to make a morally suitable marriage and nothing so lowers him, next to the denial of God, as a marriage which is unsuitable. "The Prophet commands men to give food and clothing to their wives. He forbids beating or imprisonment."

From this to a reasonable emancipation of women is a long way but customs evolve slowly when one must shake off century old traditions.

The Arabs are particularly sensitive on this question, but I know that the young Arab men are convinced of the necessity of giving women the opportunity of collaborating with men in transforming the social order.

And I can assure my Arab friends of Tunis and elsewhere that the work of women which I saw in Baku for example seemed normal. Women there, ten years ago, established a little workshop of lingerie and now they are directing an industry of 12,000 employees working along all lines.

The Women's Club in Baku is very much occupied in the education and care of the child but its members also are engrossed in training women to become professional, manual and intellectual workers and delegates of syndicates. At the oil institute and at the cotton institute one finds young Mohammedan women. One finds them in all the organizations of Baku. I think that this example ought to reassure those who hesitate to give to women, whatever her race or her religion, the means of developing physically and intellectually.

The inquiry begun by our Tunis Section is of great importance. It should help to bring about mutual understanding between races whom century old traditions still separate. It should aid all sides in finding a new way whose end leads to the collaboration of all without distinction of race or sex, a collaboration, which will mean deliverance and freedom for all.

Jane Addams Honored By Bryn Mawr College

On May 2nd, at Bryn Mawr College in Goodheart Hall, the M. Carey Thomas Prize of \$ 5,000 which is awarded at intervals to an American woman in recognition of eminent achievement, was given to Jane Addams.

The alumnae association of Bryn Mawr College in 1922 raised a sum of \$ 25,000 in honor of M. Carey Thomas, then president of the College, to found an award. It was given for the first time in June 1922 to Dr. Thomas herself and the award was given this year for the second time to Jane Addams.

More than a thousand distinguished visitors attended the ceremony. The prize was awarded by Dr. Marion Edwards Park, president of Bryn Mawr College. The account of the presentation is perhaps best described in a personal letter written by Hannah Hull, the chairman of the U. S. Section, who was present on this occasion, which we are taking the liberty, without her knowledge, of printing. She says: "First of all we met at luncheon at Dr. Park's home—about sixty men and women. Seldom does one see such a distinguished company of women under one roof at the same time. When you get Jane Addams, Miss M. Carey Thomas, Mrs. Catt, Mrs. Kelly, Lillian Wald and Grace Abbott together, you have quite an array to begin with... The luncheon was very informal—a buffet affair—and we moved around freely and had a delightful time. Then a little before three we went into the Auditorium. At 2.55 the procession of seven walked up the aisle to the stage and the audience rose to greet the group. The hall, of course, was filled to its capacity. Dr. Park spoke in general terms of Miss Addams and Miss Thomas and then introduced the speakers. Frances Perkins (Industrial Commissioner of the New York State Department of Labor) spoke very well indeed. She made a little historical sketch as it were of the change in the times since Miss Addams was born and she wove Miss Addams' life into it very cleverly, trying to show what a contribution Miss Addams had made to the world.

"Professor John Dewey came next and was as good as usual and most appreciative. He said: "I think Miss Addams' greatest contribution to our institutions is what she has done to keep them from becoming institutionalized and hard and inflexible. She has kept her faith with democracy and kept it pure and unalloyed."

"Mrs. Catt followed and was superb. I do not mean by this that she made an oratorical address, but she was very generous in her praise and at the end hailed Miss Addams as the leader of the women's movement for peace...

"Then came Grace Abbott who was too precious. In a vigorous, lively way she said she had been asked to tell some intimate things about Miss Addams' life at Hull House. Miss Addams interrupted here and said she hoped not too intimate, which caused a smile. Miss Abbott told some very interesting bits about Miss Addams; how she slept on an uncomfortable cot to allow a late visitor to have her room, etc. And then she told how extravagant Miss Addams would now be, with all this money and that she knew that when friends would protest, Miss Addams would say: "Oh, you know, I received the M. Carey Thomas award." It really was very clever!

"Then came the award itself and Dr. Park said: "That you are a woman of eminent achievement, that you have made a fuller life possible for women needs no reiteration from me. But you have achieved a greater thing than this. You have shown to American women the hard path of democracy. For the helpless, young and old; for the poor, the unlearned, the stranger, the despised, you have urged understanding and then justice.

"We have not alas, been eager followers. But you have laughed at us when we pleaded special privilege, you have awakened our courage when we pleaded incapacity, when we were indifferent you pricked us with your ordered facts.

"You have called your self an incorrigible democrat. So by definition should we all be. Our hesitating steps toward real democracy are in your train.

"With admiration and affection, I give you this award."

"You can just imagine how sweetly Miss Addams stood there while Dr. Park pronounced the final benediction and handed her the prize in a leather case. She was just as natural and informal as ever. She said she was not given to the shedding of tears but almost did so several times during the afternoon and even feared at one time she might burst into tears. And then she looked around at Grace Abbott and said she could not promise that she would follow her advice to the letter in the use she made of the money. There were many ways it might be used—especially along three particular lines which she would indicate. She would like to use it to restore homes to the unemployed, who had had to give them up this winter. She would like to send some young people to college and she gave a fine message to the youth in the back of the hall and, best of all, she said, she would like to send W.I.L. commissions to various parts of the earth where there was trouble. She launched forth in a

wonderful description of the W.I.L. International work and said she had been having a conversation recently with Dr. Magnes, Chancellor of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and he had referred to these commissions with much appreciation and said if anyone in the world could help to bring together the Arabs and Jews in Palestine it was Emily Balch. Then Miss Addams said: "Of course, Miss Thomas knows all about Emily Balch. She was an early Bryn Mawr graduate, the first holder of the European fellowship and has continued her interest in international work!... We were simply delighted to have the W. I. L. brought so to the front and members there were as pleased as possible."

This personal and informal letter of Hannah Hull's gives us a very vivid picture of what occurred. The papers that evening were full of accounts of the occasion and all printed pictures of Jane Addams. They printed many of the splendid messages that came to Miss Addams from all over the world, of which the following are a few:

HERBERT HOOVER, President of the United States: "I am glad to learn that the M. Carey Thomas Prize is to be awarded to Miss Jane Addams at Bryn Mawr College on May 2nd. Miss Addams' distinguished achievements and her eminence in American life deserve every possible recognition, in addition to that which she already possesses in nation-wide admiration and affection."

RAMSAY MACDONALD, British Prime Minister: "If sincerity of belief and simplicity in life, devotion to one's fellows as persons and service to them as a community, an allegiance to a faith in the certain triumph of the good and a daily testing of that faith by work, an embodiment of charm and energy in the way one does things—if these are qualities which awaken affection in people's hearts and create memories which defy time, Miss Addams is one of the best beloved women in the world and her name and work will be known for many generations after she has gone."

THOMAS MASARYK, President of Czechoslovakia: "I heartily join you all assembled around Miss Jane Addams. I remember the days when I was privileged to stay in her settlement in Chicago. I could see her work, but what is more I was under the influence of her moral personality, and was able to appreciate her method of opening the way for a fuller life for all women.

"Her way, I felt, was educating and leading by gentleness, insight and firmness of moral principles.

"Let me express my devotion to Miss Addams and my friendly feelings to all who understand her and continue to propagate her noble work."

Disarmament Campaign In Switzerland

Clara Ragaz

Below we print the splendid appeal of Clara Ragaz to all sections to work for the disarmament campaign. She can speak with particular force not only as one of the chairmen of the International Executive but because the Swiss Section has secured thus far the largest number of signatures in proportion to the population. Switzerland thus heads the list.

There has hardly ever been an action undertaken by the W.I.L. in Switzerland that has met with such success as the action in favour of Disarmament. More than 110,000 signatures have already been obtained, and new collaborators offer themselves almost every day.

110,000 signatures means 2.75% of the whole population, quite a respectable percentage, but we are sure to make it far greater still before the end of the campaign. How is it that this movement has become so popular in Switzerland? Did we have the collaboration of the press or of any great organizations or political parties? Did we engage very able organizers? Did we have large funds that allowed us to make propaganda on a big scale or are we ourselves very able propagandists and organizers?

I regret to say that the great majority of our leading newspapers have refused and still refuse our articles, and the only assistance we get is that they some times help to make our declaration known by publishing polemics against it, if they do not prefer to maintain a "conspiracy of silence".

None of the political parties as such have supported us directly although indirectly we have had the help of many of the Labour organisations and the signatures of a good many religious, political and social leaders which has of course given us access to many different circles. But as for funds and well trained technical helpers we had neither and we ourselves do not in the least pretend to be anything like brilliant or experienced propagandists.

But if in spite of these disadvantages and shortcomings the result of the campaign has been so surprisingly good it is evident that some other force must be at work. And it seems to me not difficult to find the explanation. There lives really in a large part of the population the ardent desire for peace, for a prevention of war, and a large part of the people have recognised that *universal and total disarmament* would be the best and shortest way to peace. And as our declaration is the expression of an international organisation it is in itself a proof of this desire for peace in many peoples and nations, and that is what gives the declaration its inspiring force. But (and this is an urgent request which those national sections who have already collected a large number of signatures make to their sister sections), to make the signatures of one land valid the signatures of all the other countries or at least of a good many other countries are needed. For the large majority of the signatures have been given for a universal and not for a unilateral disarmament. Of course, the signatures obtained in each

country will always have their value as a kind of vote taken in that country in favour of universal disarmament; but they will make an impression on the Disarmament Conference only if they flow together in huge numbers and from many different countries, and those who have signed will only feel their hopes fully filled when they see that their own readiness to disarm is shared by all those unknown friends outside their own country.

But it is not only for the sake of the already successful sections that I address this appeal to the less successful ones; it is also for their own sake, for our own experience shows that the disarmament campaign is an excellent means of propaganda, for peace work in all sections. It wants so many different kinds of work: house to house canvassing, letterwriting, seeing people, speaking to small and large gatherings, looking up addresses and addressing envelopes etc., that every kind of ability and talent can be made use of, and in being made use of, be won for the cause. And as it is work for a limited time only a good many people can undertake it who could or would not bind themselves for an indefinite period. We have also been struck by the fact that much appreciation of the campaign has been shown by the men. "It is a shame that you women must take up the work, we ought to have done it" has been written and said to us many times. Or we hear "It is a good thing that you begin to see how much we need women's help in this cause". Of course, our opponents do not fail to point out that it is only a "women's action" and they patronizingly regret that we have not come and asked their advice before starting upon it. One of our most enthusiastic co-workers in a small town is a former German soldier who was at the front for three years, and whose ambition is now to get us ten thousands signatures. And many are the little notes and letters from towns and villages that speak of hardships and losses the writers have endured during the war. For although Switzerland itself was not engaged in the Great War, many of its inhabitants had their nearest friends and relatives in it, and that is perhaps why so much comprehension is found especially amongst the large masses for the necessity of an international collaboration against war and war-preparations.

Will their hopes be disappointed or shall we soon be able to tell them of large figures obtained in other countries also? Shall we triumph or shall those triumph who tell us that we are very naive in supposing it possible to obtain anything like an imposing international demonstration in

favour of world disarmament? Yes, even accuse us of betraying our own country by making our people believe that amongst other peoples also there is not only a strong desire for peace, but also the readiness to try new methods for securing it?

I am not afraid. I have no reason to believe my own people more pacifist than the others, on the contrary we have been fed and brought up on military traditions. So if with us a new mentality is being formed we well may rely on the same process developing in other nations. Therefore I say with Phillip Brooks: "The time has come when something more than mere repair and restoration of the old is necessary. The old must die and the new must come forth out of his tomb."

League Of Nations Preparatory Disarmament Commission

Mrs. Kathleen Innes, in a speech which she delivered in Belgrade the end of May, gave the following interesting summary of the work of the Preparatory Commission on Disarmament.

"The Preparatory Commission consisted, of Government representatives with expert technical advisors. It was decided that the best thing to do was to draw up a blank Convention or framework, classifying the armaments to be reduced... It was not its business to suggest the actual reductions or to insert any figures in the framework. It completed this task in its last session in December 1930, when 27 States, including Russia, Turkey and U. S. A., met for the purpose... The following broad conclusions were reached.

"Limitations and possible reductions in Army, Navy and Air Forces, were considered under two heads; Men and Material: it was also considered whether budgetary limitation could be applied to each of the three, and to all taken together.

"AS REGARDS THE ARMY, provision was made in the Draft Convention for a limit to be agreed to, regarding the total number of officers and the total number of professional soldiers at any given time... and for limiting the length of training under conscription. There was also to be a budgetary limitation for the army.

"AS REGARDS THE NAVY, The conclusions of the Washington and the London Conferences were accepted. In addition the total number of men was to be limited, and also ships, and total naval budgets.

"AS REGARDS THE AIR FORCES, provision was made to limit the personnel, the number of aircraft and the horsepower, but not the size, and in this case, not the budgets...

"Disarmament by Agreement is technically possible, if the Convention is accepted.

W.I.L. Congress Resolutions On Disarmament

We print below a selection of some of the resolutions passed at different W. I. L. Congresses. It will be seen from these that the W. I. L. has always stood for general, total and universal disarmament.

Women And War Hague 1915

"We women, in international Congress assembled, protest against the madness and the horror of war, involving as it does a reckless sacrifice of human life and the destruction of so much that humanity has laboured through centuries to build up. It opposes the assumption that women can be protected under the conditions of modern warfare. It protests vehemently against the odious wrongs of which women are the victims in time of war...

"This International Congress of Women resolves that an international meeting of women shall be held in the same place and at the same time as the Conference of the Powers which shall frame the terms of the peace settlement after the war for the purpose of presenting practical proposals to that Conference."

Zurich 1919

"This International Congress of Women, recognising that a strike of women against war of all kinds can only be effective if taken up internationally, urges the National Sections to work for an International agreement between women to refuse their support of war in money, work or propaganda."

Vienna 1921

"This Congress expressly declares that it abides by the above Resolution of Zurich 1919...

"For the further prosecution of this aim it declares:

"All sections are united as to the necessity of individual opposition against war.

But every Section is free to work for the attainment of this aim by any means which appear to it the most suitable."

war, the League of Nations should embody certain fundamental principles, now omitted from the Covenant...

"In order to avoid future wars, it urges the immediate adoption of these following, essential conditions:

(a) Total disarmament (land, sea, air;

(b) Immediate reduction of armaments on the same terms for all member states.

(c) Abolition of conscription in all states joining the League.

(d) Enforcement of the decisions of the League by other means than military pressure or food-blockade...

"This Congress resolves to work for a League of Nations with a constitution which is of easy amendment, and on the following basis.

(a) The abolishment of the right to declare war.

(b) The immediate reduction of armaments on the same terms for all states, and the abolition of private manufacture of and traffic in munitions of war, to be undertaken, as steps towards total international disarmament.

(c) The abolishment of military conscription.

"This International Congress of Women asks the League of Nations to appoint an International Commission, to sit in public, with power to take evidence on oath and to command the attendance of any witness it may desire to call, to enquire into the facts regarding profit-making due to war and preparation for war."

Vienna 1921

W. I. L. CONGRESS COMMITTEE

"The Committee recommends that the Congress, while always working for universal total disarmament welcome the proposed Conference of certain nations as a step in that direction and further recommends to the National Sections that they emphatically and continuously insist upon the original meaning of the term "disarmament" in its literal sense, thus preventing the use of the term as a camouflage for "reduction of armaments", which latter would simply continue the danger of war on a relatively smaller scale.

"The Committee recommends that the W.I.L. urge its Sections in all countries represented in the forthcoming Conference to bring pressure to bear upon their governments to work for universal disarmament through the Conference, and to send deputations to their governments for this purpose,

in support of a manifesto to be addressed to the Conference and to the governments concerned.

Washington 1924

LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS
Believing that work towards disarmament in different countries should not wait until general disarmament can be realized, though general disarmament is our goal, we welcome with profound satisfaction the suggestion of the President of the United States in regard to the calling of an international Conference to deal with limitation of armaments and the codification of international law.

Dublin 1926

DISARMAMENT AND ABOLITION

OF CONSCRIPTION

"This Congress proclaims itself in favour of universal disarmament and declares as first steps towards this end:

(a) The abolition of military and every form of conscription on the ground that it is contrary to freedom of conscience.

(b) The international control and supervision of the manufacture and traffic in arms, poison gas, and munitions...

"Considering that the prohibition of poison gas and similar products for war purposes is a step towards disarmament:

"This Congress recommends to all sections to urge their governments to ratify the Convention which was passed by the Conference for the Control of Arms And Munitions in Geneva, June 1925, and which is already ratified by at least 27 States.

Prague 1929

"Present events, the conflict between China and Russia, the serious difficulties of opinion between the delegates to the recent Hague Conference, etc. prove anew the dangers threatening world peace. In some part of the world there is perpetual danger of a new war...

"The Governments which have signed the Kellogg Pact have renounced war: *The renunciation of war involves the renunciation of armaments.*

"Therefore this Congress after again declaring in favour of universal disarmament, requests the national sections to use all means in their power to urge upon their governments that a Disarmament Conference be summoned as soon as possible, and that the Governments give their delegates formal instructions to examine and discuss previous proposals for disarmament, whencesoever they have come, and immediately to prepare for universal disarmament."

W. I. L. Campaign For Disarmament

British Section

This Section still heads the list in the campaign for disarmament. It has now 470,000 signatures. It has sent out 180,000 petitions up to date which, if all are returned and filled in, would mean 3½ million signatures.

On May 7th there was an article in the paper "The Daily Herald" on the declaration and petition with a message from Arthur Henderson, M.P.

On May 14th, another leading daily paper in London "The News Chronicle" published the disarmament declaration and petition. In large type across the top of the page were these words: "How you can reply to Lord Beaverbrook". "Stop the Crusade to Smash the League of Nations". "Sign this Declaration To-Day." The "News Chronicle" says that they will reprint the declaration at appropriate intervals. Already in a week they have secured 20,000 signatures.

Over 50 organizations in England are now officially helping to collect signatures. The Chief Rabbi sent a circular letter in support of the declaration to all the Rabbis in the British Empire.

A member of the Society of Friends in Yorkshire, an old lady of over 70, has collected 1,400 signatures by a house to house visitation.

In the local Disarmament Campaign in Birmingham 13,000 signatures were obtained in Aston Park at a May day meeting. Over 4,000 were collected at "The Peace Shop" in the first week, including those of the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress; and the same number was collected at each of the two stalls outside St. Martin's Church and the Cathedral.

At the National Liberal Federation meeting in Buxton, Miss Megan Lloyd George M.P. specially asked for signatures to the petition in her speech seconding a resolution on Disarmament.

Amongst some of the people of note who have recently signed are: Miss Ishbell MacDonald, Hon. Anthony Asquith, Rt. Hon. John Burns, F. Kingsley Griffith, M.P., P. M. Oliver, M.P., Bishop Woods and Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson.

A Tour For Disarmament

We have just received the following letter from Camille Drevet who has started off on her tour through the Balkans in an endeavour to arouse activity for the Disarmament Campaign. She says:

"Once again I have crossed the mountains of Switzerland and Austria and descended the lovely Danube which flows between meadow lands and fruit orchards now covered with

spring blossoms and reached Budapest. I had only a few hours there. I went at once to see our friends in the Hungarian Section and talked with them about the 'Stateless' and 'Disarmament' and arranged with them for a conference on my return. Then, in the middle of the night, I took the train for Salonika.

I left Geneva on the 7th of May and I was in Salonika the 10th at 5 o'clock in the morning. I crossed the upper part of the town and reached my comfortable hotel where I took a little rest while waiting for Madame Theodoropulos and other women of Salonika. At 11 o'clock we had a conference in a hall near the sea. The large audience seemed interested. In the afternoon I saw a number of women and answered their questions, I gave them our documents and I tried to persuade them to organize and take action. I asked them to work with the Jewish women and to push our Disarmament petition. That night I left for Athens where I was awaited by friends of the League, ancient friends, Madame Thiakakis, who knows Miss Balch very well, Madame Svolos, who has met Madame Duchêne several times, Madame Palamas, a great admirer of Romain Rolland, and a daughter of the poet Kortes Palamas.

In Athens, I saw Madame Parren and the women of the lyceum who received me in touching and artistic fashion, recalling by the costumes of the women and their songs the different provinces of ancient Greece. At the National Council of Women I was received with equal warmth.

The Conference that was held had amongst its audience feminists, pacifists, teachers, workers and members of the Trade Union. Madame Yanmos, who represented the socialist women, assured me of their desire to work for Disarmament.

Up to the moment of my departure I remained in close contact with all those who wished to help. They said first that, our Greek Section must remain autonomous and that they will organize and second that, they will bring together other organizations in a common action for Disarmament.

The soil seems ripe. The Athenians are not bellicose. They wish to live in understanding with their Balkan and Mediterranean neighbours.

But at Athens, as at Paris, there is need of conquering extreme individualism, a too keen critical spirit and an effort must be made to collaborate and to organize.

Much was said to me of the Constantinople Congress which is to take place in October. I was urged to attend and to stop off at Athens. Many messages were given me for our friends in Sofia.

The enthusiasm for our work is aroused. We exchanged promises. Some of our friends have promised to devote themselves to the work of propaganda and to correspond with Geneva. I was given a report on the pacifist activities in Greece.

Greece while participating in the Balkan life, through its sea contacts, is open to world influence and can play a very efficacious role in the work for the rapprochement of the nations. Her geographical situation and her past show very plainly her destiny. She should maintain with all people both intellectual and economic relations. And even if there is only a hand full of men and women of good will, the work for peace can be accomplished.

Can one forget that in the plains of Attica, surrounded by the immortal hills and by the sea, some thousands of men were able to create a civilization which revealed to the entire world a new beauty of spiritual liberty and harmony.

Bulgarian Section

A wire has just come from Camille Drevet from Sofia, saying that there has been a big meeting for Disarmament in Sofia and that the Bulgarian Section now has 11,000 signatures.

In a letter which followed the telegram we hear that the Bulgarian Section has 5,200 members. A cartel has been formed of different organizations to work for peace. At the big meeting at which Camille Drevet spoke others speakers were: the head of the church, a delegate of the Committee of Public Instruction, one of the women of the National Council, Madame Anna Karaveloff. The meeting was presided over by Prof. Kirof, the President of the League of Nations Union Group. The day before there was a big meeting to demand the revision of the treaties. But Camille Drevet writes: "The situation grows more serious here every day and I can assure you that the news of the political manoeuvres in France against Briand and the intransigent declarations of some of the Paris papers have produced a deplorable effect."

South African Group

We hear from Cape Town that the Disarmament Petitions sent out to them have been received. They say they have decided to launch a disarmament campaign but will print their own forms, on the back of which will be their own list of names. Already most of the teachers and pupils of one school have signed. The little group in Cape Town has written to the League of Nations Unions in South Africa and are hoping to get them to cooperate.

Work Of National Sections For Disarmament

U. S. Section

The campaign in the U.S.A. moves forward with ever growing strength. The news of the great demonstrations on Goodwill Day, May 18th, have not yet come in but a preliminary report states that mass meetings on disarmament were held in Baltimore, Newark, Charleston, Cincinnati, Topeka and Fargo and big luncheons with speakers on disarmament in Boston, New York, Detroit, Denver and Jacksonville, while Philadelphia gave a Pageant. Ministers over the entire country spoke on peace and disarmament on May 17th. Jane Addams gave an international broadcast on that day which was caught over the radio by W.I.L. members in many countries. The pastor of a Union Church in Raleigh, N. Carolina, turned over his pulpit on May 17th to a representative of the W.I.L. to speak on the Disarmament Campaign.

Three people are now travelling through the country campaigning for signatures to the Disarmament Petition, Miss Amy Woods of the National Board and two secretaries, Dr. Glassey, who is covering the South, and Miss Louise Wier, who is travelling through the Middle West.

The Disarmament Petitions are being taken up by the "Coloured Women's Clubs of S. Carolina". On April 18th, before the U. S. had really begun its campaign, there were 20,000 signatures. At that time Pennsylvania stood at the head of the list with 3107 signatures. Next New York with 3001 signatures, then California with 2646 signatures, Massachusetts with 1304, New Jersey with 1245 and so on in diminishing numbers in the other states. The states are now running a friendly competition with each other. Miss Frances Paine, the chairman of the Illinois Disarmament Petition Committee, is out for a 100,000 signatures in her state alone, 30,000 of which she expects to get before May 18th.

Earlier in the season, Miss Balch spoke on Disarmament in ten States, going as far west as Minnesota, where, to her surprise and pleasure, she was invited to address the State Legislature, then in Session, on Disarmament.

Canadian Section

We have an interesting letter from Violet McNaughton, who is the editor of the Women's Department of the journal "The Western Producer". She writes: "You may be interested to hear that we are making some progress among the farmers in Saskatchewan with our World Disarmament Campaign. I published a copy of the W.I.L. petition in our paper twice and the secretary of the United Farmer's Organization sent a copy to each

local lodge or branch of the United Farmer's movement.

"A great many women's 'Home Makers Groups' sent to me for copies of the petition and altogether the spontaneous effort of rural people interested in peace in the one province of Saskatoon has reached a total of nearly 7,000 signatures; and this in a province without any peace organization as such, except a small study group in one of the cities. A great point of interest in this response is that it is to a large extent from isolated individuals and entirely spontaneous."

Netherland Section

A letter from Selma Meyer, the secretary of the Dutch Section, says: "We have now 15,000 signatures but we hope to increase these to at least 50,000. We are asking for the co-operation of all the peace organizations in the country. In the course of this week a letter with a petition attached was sent to all the directors of high schools in Holland, asking them to distribute the petitions to the teachers. Of the 450 petitions we sent to University professors only about 30 have come back. We are hoping to receive more shortly."

On May 20th, Selma Meyer delivered a radio broadcast on Disarmament and appealed for signatures.

Irish Section

Ireland reports that they have about 5,000 signatures. The Irish League of Nations Union is much interested in the campaign and is planning a series of meetings in the autumn in cooperation with the Irish W. I. L. Disarmament Committee. 12,000 petitions have already been sent out in Ireland. About 40 business houses in Dublin have taken the petitions for signatures by the staff and employees.

Czecho-Slovakian Section

This Section reports that their best way to get signatures is by personal propaganda. They do not find it easy to hold meetings as there are so many organizations and so many meetings and conferences every day. They found the Remarque film a great help. They tried to get permission to collect signatures in the cinema where the film was running but the police would not permit them to do this in Prague. But in Bratislava they received permission and there secured about 7,000 signatures. This Section finds that putting petitions in the waiting rooms of physicians with an appeal to sign is a good way to get signatures. They hope to get support from the National Women's Council with its 48 organizations. They find however that people individually are more ready to sign the petition than the organizations to recommend it. They have a total of 17,000 signatures.

German Section

The campaign in this section has had particular success in Wurtemberg. One of the first organizations to offer assistance was the "Union of Ancient Combatants and Wounded and the Widows and Orphans of War". The secretary of this organization, one of the municipal councillors of Wurtemberg took 30,000 copies of a propaganda leaflet on Disarmament.

One of the leading papers in Wurtemberg published a long article by Frida Perlen and as a result there have been many demands for petitions. Recently the Union of Women's Organizations of Wurtemberg has given the following declaration to the press:

"The Commission of the Union of Women's Organizations of Wurtemberg, which comprise 34 organizations with 18,000 members, assembled at the Women's Club at Stuttgart, believing that it is the duty of women to say "no" to war and convinced that they should show to the League of Nations that the will of the people is for Disarmament, put their united forces at the service of the action undertaken by the W. I. L. for the purpose of securing signatures in favour of Disarmament."

It is more difficult in Germany than in other countries to make propaganda for disarmament. An argument against this action is that Germany has already disarmed and it is now for the other nations to do as much.

Frau Hopstock-Huth writing from Hamburg says: "Emile Vandervelde, former Foreign Minister of Belgium, in a recent visit to Hamburg, gave out the following message: 'I wish the greatest success to the international action of the W. I. L. for Disarmament and I believe that this appeal to the public opinion of all the people is the sort of thing that will influence the Disarmament Conference to take steps towards World Disarmament.'"

French Section

This Section is carrying on its campaign for disarmament by means of lantern slides showing the horrors of war and presenting documentary evidence of war's cost. It has furnished the "Committee of Action", consisting of seven organizations with this material. Two young lecturers from the Committee of Action have recently visited all the parishes and districts of Gien (Loiret) and ended their campaign with a big meeting at Gien having secured 2,000 signatures.

This Section says if it were possible to carry on similar campaigns in all the 40,000 parishes the number of signatures to the disarmament petition would be enormous.

As a matter of fact 40,000 petitions have been distributed in France and many meetings held in various towns.

Polish Section

This Section is occupied in organizing conferences on Disarmament to take place on the occasion of the arrival of Madame Drevet, secretary of the W. I. L., who is expected in June.

In the recent elections of the W.I.L. Polish Section, Madame Dr. Jozefa Kodisowa was made president; Madame Jadwiga Lypacewicz and Marie Jagmin vice-presidents, and Madame J. Kotarbinska secretary. Through these elections certain difficulties have been removed and the Polish Section hopes soon now to take a very active part in the Disarmament Campaign.

The W. I. L. Summer School

Plans for the Summer School are now pretty well complete. The School will begin at Breslau, the capital of Silesia, a town of more than 600,000 inhabitants, the industrial and commercial centre of the east of Germany. It is an old intellectual town; abounding in beautiful old and new buildings. On Saturday, August 22nd, in the morning, there will be a drive in motor cars through Breslau at the invitation of the town. At 5 p.m. there will be a reception and tea given by the town at the fine palace built in the 18th century and restored by Frederick the Great. On Sunday, August 23rd, there will be a lunch on the terrace of the restaurant of the "Jahrhundert-halle" and then a trip in a steamboat on the Oder through beautiful forests, one of the most famous landscapes in Germany, again at the invitation of the town. In the late afternoon the members of the school will leave for the "Boberhaus" in Lowenberg. On Monday, August 24th, the school will open with a speech from the Oberpresident of Lower-Silesia. From Tuesday, August 25th until Saturday September 5th, the school will discuss the German-Polish problem and international peace. Lectures will alternate with group study and general discussion. The speakers are as follows:

ON THE POLISH SIDE:

Dr. Lypacewicz, lawyer, Warsaw;
Mrs. Dr. Josepha Kodis, Warsaw;
Mrs. Ehrenkreutz, professor.

ON THE GERMAN SIDE:

M. Immanuel Birnbaum, Warsaw;
Dr. Hans Raupach, Lowenberg; Mrs. Auguste Kirchhoff, Bremen; Gertrud Baer, Berlin.

ON THE ENGLISH SIDE:

Mr. Voigt, correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian", Berlin; Dr. Hilda Clark, London; Mary Sheepshanks, London.

ON THE FRENCH SIDE:

Mrs. Camille Drevet, Geneva, international secretary.

FEES:

Room and board at the Boberhaus with meals: 3.50 R.M.; single or double room in a hotel: 2-3 R.M.; board in the Boberhaus without bed: 2.50 R.M. per day; Admission fee: 5 R.M.; fee for the whole school: 20 R.M.; fee for the week: 12 R.M.

For further particulars apply to:
Mrs. Klare Marck, Breslau 18, Kurfurstenstrasse 29 (Germany); Dr. Josepha Kodis, Warsaw, Filtrowa 30m, 26 (Poland).

O. D. I. Summer School

The Summer School in connection with the Conference of the Open Door International is to be held at Sigunta, Sweden, from August 24th to 29th.

Sigunta is beautifully situated on a bay of Lake Malaren with forest clad hills to the north and the People's High School and Guest House with its cloistered rose-garden, where the School is to be held is lovely and restful.

The subject of the lectures will be the economic position of women. There will be papers and discussions in the morning while as a rule the afternoons and evenings will be left free.

The price for board, lodging and lectures is fifty kroner (£2/15.)

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Secretary: CAMILLE DREVET.

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.

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