

If you don't want Shooting.  
Don't carry guns.

Pravda.



Great thoughts have the feet of doves; they tread softly.

Nietzsche.

# PAX INTERNATIONAL

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## CURRENT EVENTS

### Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth

The secretary of the U.S.A. navy proposed a naval building program covering twenty years at a cost of three billion dollars; at the same time the secretary of state proposed that the U.S.A. should pledge itself, in agreement with five other Great Powers to renounce war and to submit every dispute to arbitration.

In Havana the President of the U.S.A. declared to the assembled representatives of Latin America that «next to our attachment to the principle of self-government has been our attachment to the policy of peace!»... and again «all nations here represented stand on an exact footing of equality. The smallest and the weakest speaks here with the same authority as the largest and the most powerful.» At the same time troops of the large and powerful U.S.A. are intervening in small and weak Nicaragua, carrying on a campaign in which much blood is shed, and «supervising» elections!

The proposed large increase of naval armaments has called forth such a volume

of protests (including of course that of the American W.I.L.) that drastic reduction is now promised *This reduction is ascribed as due to the women!* The Federal Council of Churches opposes the navy plans and a writer in its organ says: «Is our nation to put its energies into a programme of armaments, which perpetuate the atmosphere of war, or into a vigorous campaign to renounce war and build up agencies of peace?»

### Poland and Lithuania

The reconciliation of Poland and Lithuania initiated at the last meeting of the Council of the League of Nations has unfortunately gone no further. The barrier between the two countries remains: no intercourse across the frontiers, in fact the old «state of war».

This constitutes a danger to North Eastern Europe and calls for further efforts to bring about friendly relations.

### French Senate

#### rejects conscription of women

M. Paul-Boncour's bill for mobilising the entire population in time of war has been before the Senate which has rejected the clause dealing with the conscription of women (who are still voteless in France). There is less cause for rejoicing in its refusal to sanction the conscription of members of Parliament, and to forbid profiteering.

### A Life-Saving Service

A Swiss Committee is appealing for volunteers of all nationalities to perform flood relief work in the adjoining little territory of Liechtenstein which has been devastated by the flood waters of the Rhine. Women are also invited to offer their services as nurses and cooks. No salary is paid, but board, lodging and tools are furnished. The Swiss authorities provide free transport. The work is to start as soon as weather permits and will continue till the autumn. The promoters of the scheme initiated by M. Cérésole wish by drawing together men and women of all nations for this humanitarian work to develop relations of mutual aid which will make hostile relations between peoples impossible. Austrian and Swiss military engineers have cooperated in giving relief to the stricken district, the Committee expresses the hope that the time will soon come when such services will be the only ones which national defence forces will undertake.

### Russian Disarmament Proposal Women's Support

The International Co-operative Women's Guild representing many millions of married working women in ten countries has sent letters to many organisations in different parts of the world asking them to sign a declaration supporting the Russian Disarmament proposal. This declaration, which will be submitted to the members of the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference at their meeting on March 15th, is as follows:—

«On behalf of the growing world opinion embodied in the organisations which we represent we gratefully welcome the courageous proposals of the Soviet Government for complete and universal disarmament, and note with satisfaction that they are to be discussed in detail by the Preparatory Commission at its next meeting on March 15th.

«Being convinced that these proposals represent the will of the great mass of people in every country who are determined to make an end of war; and that where the will exists practical means can be devised for giving it effect, we urge with all the strength at our command that the members of the Commission should examine the Russian proposals with the utmost care, and with the determination to place before the International Disarmament Conference when it meets some concrete scheme for the complete disarmament of the world within a definite period of time.»

The League of Nations has published the «Draft Disarmament Convention submitted by the delegation of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics» dated Moscow, February 15, 1928.

The document is to serve as a basis for the discussion of the proposal of the U.S.S.R. by the League's Disarmament Commission. It sets forth in detail the methods by which immediate, complete and general disarmament is to be begun, and by which it will be completed within four years. It shows how land, naval and air armaments are to be discarded and all war material destroyed even military books are to be prohibited. Arrangements are proposed for policing the seas by neighbouring states.

To read this convention is to be transported into another world; between the lines of its severe formal language shines a vision of the future when war shall have completely vanished from the world, and with it all the fear, hatred and anxiety that now torture and poison human life.



## OUR DELEGATES TO CHINA

### Notes from Edith Pye's diary

Shanghai, January 8th, 1928.

The 29th of December, we went to lunch with Mrs. H.H. Kung to meet her sister Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek. They are both sisters of Mrs. Sun Yat Sen. I was able to show them the «book of messages» in which they seemed much interested. From there we went to tea with Dr. and Mrs. Isai. He is Minister for Education in the Nationalist Movement and is a very learned and venerable old man. His wife is one of the most respected leaders among the women.

December, 30th. We went to lunch with Miss Soumé Scheng to meet the wife of the Christian General Feng. After lunch we went to see a Chinese village «au naturel» and a model village that is being built for and by the Chinese Y.M.C.A. to house some of the working folks in this huge industrial district. Only 12 houses are built so far, but the contrast between them and the village one passes through to get to them, must be seen to be believed!

From the village we went to tea with Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek in the new house which the General gave her on her wedding a few weeks ago. They had prepared a special tea in our honour—with Ceylon tea to drink hot toast cakes and wedding-cake. The little house was new and shining, very modern indeed. The General came in and sat down to tea with us for a short time—he does not speak English but Mrs. Kung who was there, too, translated for us. He said he was glad to see us and to hear of the interest that was being taken in China by people in the West.

December 31st. Miss Tchong Yi Yung came to see us. She had been specially sent by the women in Nankin to say they hoped we should come and see them, and to assure us of a warm welcome. She gave us considerable information about the women's movement of the Kuomintang and its hopes.

January 1st. On the evening of January 1st we went to a supper party with Dr. Margaret Lin who is President of the Women's Chinese Temperance Union, which works in connection with the Anti-Narcotic League for the suppression of Opium, and also is doing educational and preventive work among the beggars.

On the 3rd we went in the morning to speak at the Maceyre School where there are about 300 Chinese girls mostly belonging to aristocratic families all over China. We were told that of the 14 Chinese Ambassadors' wives abroad, 12 were educated in this school, which is under American management. The buildings are very fine and modern and it looks much like any other girls' school. They all understand English, and I interpreted for Camille Drevet who said a few words in French and then sang them a French song which delighted them hugely and they made her sing again. It seems that they were asked to contribute money for the soldiers and though they are extremely generous for causes they believe in, they said no, they would not give a penny for fighting or anything to do with it—a refusal which must have taken some courage. In the afternoon we spoke again at a much more Chinese establishment, the Fu Yan University which has just become co-educational. Here the students were all ages from 16 to 25 or so. Unfortunately their term has already ended and most of the women students had gone down, but

we had the opportunity to give our message to some 300 of the young men. They all understood English, so I spoke for perhaps 25 minutes and then translated for Camille Drevet. I found them pleasant and responsive in both places. We were shown over the university with its fine buildings and given a book about it—it is 30 years old, a purely Chinese foundation.

January 4th. The morning of the 4th I went to see Miss Wu, the matron of the Chinese Red Cross Hospital, and take her the letters Miss Reimann of the International Council of Nurses was kind enough to get for me. She was so very pleased and happy to have these messages, and I have been asked to speak at the Annual Meeting of the Nurses Association of China on the 18th. This Association has now 900 Chinese members and 400 foreign, but only 200 actually in China. Her hospital is really wonderful considering how poor it is, but oh her poor nurses! They do have to live in a miserable place, because there is no money for better. Such jolly cheerful Chinese girls they were. Everything was spotlessly clean. There is not a European in the place, it is an entirely Chinese hospital.

In the afternoon we went to meet a group of about ten of the leading Chinese women here in order to have a frank talk with them. The first thing they asked was what did the W.I.L. think about Extraterritoriality? I had our resolutions with me so could give a categorical answer, and then we did have a really frank talk over the difficulties of the present situation. Those present expressed the greatest thankfulness and gratitude for the opportunity and did really, I think, get at what the W.I.L. meant in sending the delegation. We had some more talk as to what women's organisations were doing and Mrs. Mei said that she felt it was essential that women should prepare themselves to meet the opportunities that were undoubtedly coming to them.

On the 5th we went to see the heads of the Labour and Health Departments of the Municipality of Greater Shanghai. Dr. Hu the head of the Health Service is really accomplishing a tremendous amount of work. It is quite certain that the Municipality of the Chinese City is making a tremendous effort to improve it in every way, and what is fine is the amount of voluntary unpaid work that is being put into it. For instance we were told that the eyes, teeth, nose and throat of all the school children are to be examined between now and the summer, by the Chinese specialists who are giving their time on Sundays to this work. They are only having their actual expenses in getting there paid—and so on.

In the afternoon Mr. Pao who is now director of Education in the same body was sent by Dr. Isai to show us anything that interested us. We saw the Commercial Press, the largest printing works in the East, organised and run entirely by Chinese. They have 3000 men employees and about 600 women, with an editorial staff of 200. They edit and print both English and Chinese, but of course chiefly the latter. They have no child labour and an eight hour day. They have a system of accident insurance with their union, and a very fine hall for recreation and meeting, with a stage. They also have a comfortable nursery for their nursing mothers. All very clean, light and well ventilated.

The Company has also organised a public library, of over 240,000 Chinese volumes and about 30,000 English—with reading room and magazine room—all quite full when we

were there. The books are indexed with a numerical modification of the Dewey card system that is very ingenious and enables books with Chinese titles to be found at once. The library is practically free.

In the evening we went to one of the Nationalist Schools, which has about 400 boys and girls by day, and about 40 who can only come in the evening, when the masters give voluntary teaching for two hours every evening. We saw a class being taught to write, many of them work all day—there were some quite young children, and two girls who are in domestic service; there is no doubt about their desire to learn. Another evening we saw a little group of factory girls of 14-17 who were forming a little class which was being taught to read by the Chinese Y.W.C.A.—such friendly smiling little people—one of them sang for us, very sweetly, and then Mme Drevet sang a French song at which they could hardly contain their amusement, fairly bubbling with it. They had all been at work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., but they looked very well and cheerful on it.

The Yangtseepoo Social Centre is another of these educational growing points—there they have about 200 children by day, but 300 men from the factories by night who are being taught reading, writing and arithmetic. Unfortunately it is difficult for us to see night schools at present, as there is martial law in the Chinese city. One is very thankful to feel the steady effort apart from politics that is being put into social betterment. It is too soon for us to do more than just say this much. Poor China. I fear before she really has peace within she has a long road to travel.

I find the Chinese people most attractive. We are of course specially fortunate in getting into circles of the best type—also the people in the streets I find most fascinating—one is never tired of watching them.

### Mrs. Anna Bugge Wicksell

We deeply regret to record the death of Mrs. Anna Bugge-Wicksell at Stockholm. Mrs. Wicksell was for many years a well-known and honoured figure in the women's franchise movement. She devoted many years of her life also to the study of international law. It was a matter of great satisfaction to feminists and supporters of the League of Nations that Mrs. Wicksell was from the beginning nominated by the Swedish Government as technical advisor to their delegation to the League of Nations. She was the ideal type of woman for such work, highly competent, very quiet and reserved in manner and only speaking when she had a real contribution to make. These qualities earned for her also nomination to the League Commission on Mandates and to this work for the safeguarding of native races she devoted the later years of her life, throwing herself with intense enthusiasm into the problems of African education. She latterly visited the United States to study methods of negro education.

She took an active part in the recent peace weeks both in Oslo and Stockholm speaking on the subject of education of African natives and on the mandate system. Sir Eric Drummond on behalf of the League of Nations offered his condolences to the Swedish Government and expressed the deep loss which the League of Nations will suffer by her death.

## The Socialism of Co-operation

Olga Misar, Vienna.

MARCH 1928.

Peace propaganda perpetually meets with the objections that a peace ideal based on sentiment is ineffective, because everyone is convinced of the evils of war; but our present social order leads again and again to difficulties for which no solution can be found but that of force. When we try to combat the deeper causes of war and advocate a new social order we find that the most influential supporters of this point of view, the Socialist leaders, do indeed oppose international war, but that in internal politics their dangerous doctrine of the class war and their open approval of violent revolution are incompatible with peaceful methods of adjusting conflicting interests.

Therefore, those of us who wish to work not only for peace but also for liberty, who are wholeheartedly on the side of the poor suffering masses and who see in their setting free the way to peace, are often faced with a very difficult alternative, because we see that those who wish to bring freedom, do not choose the path of peace.

Is there then no other way to emancipation? Must we choose between peace and freedom?

These conflicts have brought to many of us bitter hours of anxiety. Now a solution seems to have been found, and although we dare not cherish exaggerated hopes, we think that the new idea shows such a fundamentally different approach to the problems of life, that so many concrete facts in favor of it can be adduced, that a high degree of confidence is justified. The new system is called «The Socialism of Co-operation». It has been proclaimed by Warbasse in America, by Dr. Julius Wilhelm in Austria and perhaps by others in other countries.

In what does it consist?

### Every purchaser shares profits

Everyone knows the principle of unions of consumers. Men and women unite in their capacity as consumers to acquire in common the necessities of life, avoiding the retail trader and his profits. They agree that every member of their union shall have only one vote in their decisions, that the interest on capital shall not exceed the usual rate, and that the profits shall be returned to the members in proportion to the amount of their purchases. These three principles of the Rochdale pioneers, the poor weavers who founded the first Co-operative Society, now form, in spite of their simple unpretentiousness, the basis of a new social order, which without any use of force, without the destruction of existing conditions, without sensation or bloodshed, will create a new form of human community, and will free mankind from the greatest evils of modern times, from poverty, from exploitation, from oppression, lack of freedom and from war. But what is the connection between all these things?

The workers of today make the greatest sacrifices in order to attain higher wages through the complicated and expensive machinery of politics. But in gaining the means of subsistence for themselves they pay nine tenths of their wages back to capitalism and provide it with the means of continuing its system of exploitation. They would do much better to work for cheaper necessities rather than higher wages. Now if they make their purchase through their own Co-operative Societies, the capital remains in their hands and the profits flow into their pockets.

The consumers thus have command over ever increasing sums of money and can, when their Societies flourish, develop fresh branches of activity. Warbasse describes the growth of the great Co-operative movements in England, Denmark and Germany, how they provide not only food but clothing, underwear, shoes, and widening their scope, have taken over the provision of houses, hygiene and education, insurance for sickness and old age and in the end look so well after all the necessities of life for their members that the importance of the state gradually fades and government loses power, prestige and influence.

### Production for use – not for profits

It may be objected that Co-operatives that grow to be such big undertakings become actually mighty businesses which do not differ from other business undertakings. But they are protected from this danger by the principles of Co-operation, which, if they are adhered to avoid all serious danger.

Co-operators are purchasers and proprietors at the same time and are in a position to check abuses through their control of the business; the fixing of the rate of interest and the fact that the vote is an individual one (and not conditioned by shares) prevents speculation. There is indeed no absolute security against misuse, and it may always happen that directors of a Co-operative may abuse their power and take possession of the concern and alter its character, but those are exceptions against which the Society can protect itself by taking suitable measures. On the whole the Co-operatives have achieved brilliant success and the system has shown itself as superior to undertakings for private profit as the latter are to state undertakings.

It may well be imagined that when production is undertaken for use and not for profit, and thus fewer opposed interests are involved, and all have the same interest of cheap purchase and good service, a comradeship feeling grows up among co-operators. Moreover, the production and exchange of goods requires peaceful and orderly conditions, and when the supplying of demand plays a much greater part than politics in life, when the whole commercial life is absorbed by Co-operatives, the domain of politics will be lifeless and unimportant and then the prospects of the maintenance of peace will be much more favourable.

The Socialism of Co-operation will educate and accustom people to weigh and deliberate in the practical way so necessary in business transactions, and to take independent decisions. The modern State governs and commands. It demands obedience and submission and punishes criticism and revolt with prison and death. But the Socialism of Co-operation exerts no force. The individual may and must criticise and control, he may complain, he may leave his Society.

The Societies have no right to demand love or respect or any other privileges, but only enjoy the prestige that they earn by what they accomplish. They include in their sphere of activities more and more departments that were once considered to belong properly to the state, and so people will gradually get to need the state less and to free themselves from its yoke. They will not upset it by force, but diminish its importance and crowd it out! Then when all men

are organised in the first place as consumers, when one class no longer fights and plunders the other, freedom will come of itself without being conquered by violence.

Men will manage their own business concerns and free themselves at the same time from exploitation and parasitism. Where there are no profits everyone must work, but everyone is well enough off not to be forced to submit to exploitation.

### Is it a dream?

All this is no dream, no phantasm, but a practical system that is already partially in existence.

Powerful Co-operative Societies exist in many countries, which have already carried out almost everything mentioned above. What remains to be done is to spread the system in other countries, to free the existing societies from dangerous abuses and make them all that they might and should be. Co-operatives can be falsified into being ordinary business and can be misused and subordinated to service to a party, but they can also be steps to a new social order.

But Co-operators must understand all that is involved, must exercise the control to which they are entitled and feel themselves as owners.

Such a Socialism of Co-operation can fulfil all the demands of our Women's League. It ensures peace, not as its immediate object but as a result of its economic system.

We want to get rid of the causes of war, by building up a new social order based on the co-operation of all for the general good.

But where are we to seek this new order? Up till now we had vague ideas of a socialism never clearly defined and represented by none of the Socialist parties; consequently the Socialists considered as out-siders and the other parties considered as socialists. We hardly knew ourselves where we politically belonged and this uncertainty hindered us in our work. But the moment has now come to unite on a definite economic program. Co-operative Socialism is what we were vaguely seeking. Let us now clear our minds, let us take the trouble to read this little book, and let us consider how we can work together in all countries to realise this program.

*What is Co-operation?*, by James Warbasse, Vanguard Press, New York. Price: 50 cents.

### Cooperation in England

A practical instance of the benefits of co-operative production is given by some of the figures published by the Co-operative Wholesale Society which supplies 1,200 retail societies in Britain. It states that the net savings to the pockets of co-operators in 1926 amounted to £23,700,000. These figures are controlled by public auditors under state control. The Co-operative Society also prevents the cost of living from rising still higher, e.g. the Wholesale Society has eight flour mills whose output last year was 1,034,104,800 lbs. They turn 16,000 tons of grain into flour, that is, bread for about 7,000,000 people. The making of this bread at a price not meant for large profits but returning all surplus to members makes it impossible for other bakers to obtain monopoly prices. (Ed. Pax.)



# Souvenirs of CochinChina

Camille DREVET.

W.I.L.L.P.F. delegate to China.

December 20th, on board the *Chenonceau*.

Hong Kong. The sky is grey. The magnificent harbor has been spoiled by the buildings. In the harbor there is a French cruiser. On the quai marches an English regiment with the band at its head. Everything seems chaotic. My head is heavy. Chinese are fleeing from Canton where real and pretended communists are being executed. We have arrived in the midst of reaction.

Hong Kong is not real China. In the silence of the deserted ship I can relive the three weeks passed in CochinChina. I see again very distinctly the trip we made to Macao on one of the islands of the delta, to the west of Saigon.

The market was very animated when I met my friend Duong van Giao at the little station at Mytho. At half past five the train puffing and whistling took us across the great plains where fields of mown rice and green rice stretched away to the horizon. At Mytho we boarded a long-boat in which we glided up the river past islands, cocoa trees and palm trees. We reached Macao two and a half hours late.

How long had the uncle and cousins of Duong van Giao been waiting for us? Who can tell? Calmly and smilingly they received us and took us to the family house.

It is an old provincial house which has kept its Annamite character; long and low it opens out through French windows on to the vast garden, a real paradise where our friend as a child played among the ylang-ylangs, the jasmynes and the wild plum trees surrounding a pond. One is wrapped in perfumes of the garden like invisible silken strands. In the fresh, pleasant house there is no cheap bric-à-brac. There are inlaid tables and handworked wallhangings. The altar of the ancestors invites meditation, there is gentle, faded beauty. The round tiled roof has no ceiling. The furniture is sober and suitable.

And the young men passing discreetly between the pillars and the tables, in their dark clothes, look like young Levites.

Am I in a provincial home or in a temple? While I dream Duong van Giao has gone to pay homage first to the ancestors of Macao in the community temple and then to his own ancestors.

When he comes back, I see, arriving silently one by one, the parents and friends who have come to see the son of the house after twelve years of absence. Without approaching him, each person bows, the two hands pressed together, in a reserved way that disconcerts an Occidental.

In the West after twelve years of absence what talking there would be, and kisses, and tears and exclamations! Here even children and old people are reserved. But I think I perceive joy in their faces.

The hero of the hour, rises when each person comes in, bows also for a «vai»; after the «vai» several men sit down near us in the centre of the gallery in front of the altar to the ancestors. The younger men remain behind the pillars.

The children only appear and disappear. But the very little ones stay in the arms of the young servants. The babies and the servant are silent attendants at all receptions.

I am greatly touched to be in the place of honour but among these people who seem made of spirit more than of matter. I feel myself terribly heavy, awkward, a barbarian, and I understand what the Orientals feel about our rough faces, colourful and mobile, our gestures and movements.

At the end of the afternoon when the house and garden are quite full and Duong van Giao asks me to say a few words to these people who have come for him and for me, I can find no words delicate enough, sober enough, to express what I am feeling.

The men sit at the right, the women and the children at the left and I remain in the centre, near the grandfather and the uncle

and not far from Duong van Giao who translates my poor heavy words.

He is at home. He is «Monsieur Troisième» according to the Annamite custom. «Monsieur Troisième» who has come back to his family after twelve years of occidental life.

The war, the years of study, the Paris bar, the disillusionment and sorrow which no living being escapes, the ardent fight for his country's liberty, congresses, meetings—how far away that seems to me. Nevertheless, when I look at «Monsieur Troisième» I can see, in spite of his reserve, his great passion for justice and liberty.

At the end of the evening the house slowly becomes empty and the cool perfumes of the garden envelop the family home.

The next day we visit the grandfather of the family, the father of our friend Ben Guang Chien. His house is the cradle of the family that built Macao; of the family of the three «dicenciates». At the time when three sons of one of the ancestors were crowned at the triennial tournament, the emperor of Annam, who decorated them, also decorated their mother, thus honoring, in her, her children's talents.

The father of Ben Guang Chien showed me these precious decorations with pride. He introduces me to his wife, to his daughter who had studied in Saigon, and to one of his sons who is just back from France. He shows me his library and finally, in order that I may really penetrate to the heart of the family, he invites me to come with him to the altar of the ancestors and shows me the tablets bearing the names of those whom the altar honours.

This gesture of the old man coming after the reception in the house where «Monsieur Troisième» was born makes the bonds which have been drawing our Annamite friend and us together for three weeks quite sacred to me.

On the way to Shanghai I see again «Monsieur Troisième» welcoming me to his childhood's home and the old grandfather showing me the tablets of his ancestors.

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

### Austria

#### Political Group

This Section has published a brochure in German *Russia's Peace Message to the World* containing Litvinoff's declaration to the League of Nations Disarmament Commission.

#### Social Group

The Youth Group organised on the 9th of December an international evening of Folk Songs. The club rooms, III. Henslergasse 3, were decorated with evergreen and gay banners in the national colours of the European States. Austrian, German and German Swiss songs in the various dialects were sung; then French, Swiss French, Flemish, Czech, Scottish, English and Hungarian songs all in the native language. The audience sat crowded together and applauded the singers heartily. It was a lovely successful evening.

On January 10th the Social Group together with the Society of Friends organised a lecture evening which was devoted to China. An expert on the subject spoke, Mr. Rosthorn, formerly Austrian ambassador to China, now Professor of Chinese history etc. at the University of Vienna. He showed the great wrong that Europa has done China in that it has made China the object of economic exploitation and has forced treaties on her that exploit her. He said that peace-loving China had learned militarism and nationalism from Europe. Of course no one European State would be justified in interfering in Chinese affairs, but the League of Nations, of which China is a member, should mediate between North and South China; it would in that way do China, Asia, and itself a good service. A large audience listened to Mr. Rosthorn's lecture with great interest.

### British Section

The British Section's annual report is now out and gives testimony to great activity throughout the past year. The main work of the British Section in 1927 has been in favour of arbitration; meetings have been arranged and campaigns carried on in some of the smaller towns and villages. At present this section is interested in promoting the signing of an all-inclusive Treaty of arbitration between Great Britain and the United States. A large meeting is being arranged to be held in Albert Hall in the near future and the W.I.L.L. is working with Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt's organisation in the United States to start an intensive arbitration campaign.

During 1927 special meetings were arranged where lectures were given on Forced Labour, Mandates and the race problem in South Africa. The Education Committee has been concerned with militarism in education. In July of last year the British Government arranged an Air Force Display at Hendon and the British W.I.L.L. protested by letters to the Press. This Section also organised an «International Friendship Leaflet Competition» and a «New Women Voters' Essay Competition». The Leeds Branch of the British Section wishes to organise each year amongst the Leeds school-children a Peace Essay Competition in memory of Isabella O. Ford and has already raised £208 towards the £250 which are necessary. Among the other activities of the Section are the tours of the secretary, Miss Dorothy Woodman in the provinces

where she has done organising work, the sending of speakers to other organisations such as the Women's Sections of the Labour Party, the Women's Co-operative Guilds, etc., the publishing of the Monthly News Sheet which is a mine of valuable information and co-operation with other organisations.

At present the British Section is taking a very active interest in the question of war films. It organised a conference on «What is the Influence of War Films» on February 21st. Col. Harry Day, M.P., and Mrs. Monica Ewer (Film critic) spoke on «How and Why War Films are Produced» and Major T. H. Hague, Rev. T. Tiplady and Miss Winifred Holtby, M.A., spoke on «What is the Influence of War Films?»

The Annual Council Meetings of the British Section were held on February 22nd and 23rd and a number of resolutions dealing with Arbitration, Disarmament, Forced Labour, War Films, Militarism in Education and Equal Franchise were passed.

### German Section

The German Section has just got out a handbill urging parents and educationists not to use corporal punishment in educating children. It reads in part as follows:—

Beating, whipping, any kind of corporal punishment compels obedience by force. ...It lowers children instead of educating them. ...Beating gives rise to Fear, Cowardice, weakness of will, lying, hatred and desire for revenge. Tyrants and oppressors are brought up on beating. ...Educate the children placed in your care not with a stick, but with understanding and love. Don't allow your children to be beaten in school, for teachers only beat when they don't know how to teach, and such teachers should therefore be shut out from the teaching profession. ...Educate your children with head and heart, with goodness and patience by means of non-violence to non-violence and to being good, upright persons. Only such people are qualified after this World War to shape the life of the peoples anew in political, economic and social spheres and to bring a better age.

This handbill can be obtained from the Secretary of the German Section, Kleiststrasse 25 II, Berlin W 62, for one mark the hundred, or nine marks the thousand.

The German Section has also recently published a pamphlet called «Nie Wieder Kolonien» (No more colonies) and has distributed 20,000 copies of it.

In general the Section has been most active. Its report for the period November 1st to February 1st is out and shows that the last three months have been very busy. Among other things, several lecture tours have been arranged, namely for Frau Perlen, Frau Hallgarten, Frau Hoppstock-Huth, Miss Sheepshanks and Fräulein Baer, who all spoke in several German cities. At present a lecture tour is being arranged for Dr. Gertrud Woker of Bern, member of the W.I.L.L. Chemical Warfare Commission, who will speak in as many towns as possible in the space of thirteen days! The Section has been in correspondence with the British and Belgian Sections in regard to the abolition of brothels in the occupied territory and it is conferring with the Belgian Section in view of an exchange of German and Belgian girls. From November 1st till January 15th the secretary of the section, Gertrud Baer, was doing all the work of the office with no help at all; since that time she has fortunately secured the services of a volunteer. This Section is also interested in the matter of

films and has been in communication with some film people in Germany in the hope of having the French film «La paix du monde» produced in Germany.

### German Group in Czecho-Slovakia

This Section has recently sent two letters of protest to their Government; one letter to the Minister of the Interior protesting against the showing of a war film, and another letter to the Minister for Defence with regard to a trial air attack on Prague. They are as follows:—

«At the same time that the rapporteurs of the Security and Arbitration Commission of the League of Nations were meeting in Prague and that Dr. Hodza, Minister for Education, declared himself in Parliament as being in favour of pacifist education for the youth of the country, the war film «Verdun» was passed by the Censor. Whoever was present and heard the applause which greeted the entrance of the victors through the Arc de Triomphe accompanied by the strains of the «Marseillaise», can readily imagine the effect of this film on the public. Those who see the film are not impressed by the suffering in the trenches, the unspeakable horrors, the mutilated bodies, the sight of the awful devastation of what was once a forest, but they remember the last scenes, the victory and the glory which justify and cover over the horrors, death and devastation. The final caption says that the peace of the world has been assured by the million men who fell at Verdun! According to the latest calculations, however, the war cost 26 million lives not counting the wounded. And even these figures do not horrify people and don't compel the world to disarm. Since this film is not in harmony with the policy of our Government and might influence the youth of the country harmfully, the undersigned peace societies protest most strongly against the production of the war film «Verdun» and insist on its being prohibited.»

«To the Minister of Defence,

«The newspapers announce that the military authorities are planning a trial air attack on Prague in order to acquaint the population and industries with the methods of defence against an enemy air attack. The German Group of the Czecho-Slovak Section of the W.I.L.L.P.F. feels itself obliged to protest against the execution of this plan and bases its protest on the following grounds: The cost of this trial air attack and the supplying of the public with masks for defence will be very high and the money could be used for better purposes. The methods of defence are useless because 1) some of the most effective gases are heavier than the air and therefore penetrate into lower regions, cellars, etc., 2) gas masks are not sufficient since the gases penetrate through clothes and skin and destroy the inner organs, 3) it is known that new methods of defence give rise to new methods of attack and thus the vicious circle will be repeated endlessly. A panic could easily break out as happened at the time of a trial attack in Sweden. Even if so-called harmless gases are used, such as tear and smoke gas, the health of persons with sensitive eyes or respiratory systems will be in danger. The bellicose instincts of young people will be aroused, and the alarming of the population and putting them in danger are likely to cause more harm than good.

The only effective method of defence is to take part in the efforts to outlaw war, especially poison gas war.»

## Lida Gustava Heymann

by Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

This March, the readers of *Pax* all over the world will celebrate in their hearts the birthday of Lida Gustava Heymann. The 60 years of her courageous uncompromising life have been the seed bed into which great and generous ideas have been sown, and these ideas are to-day bearing new seed in many countries.

One glance at our Friend is enough to tell us that she came into this world endowed with a strong free spirit, which could never be dominated by custom tradition or brainless authority. The next glance tells us that in her reactions to the facts and realities of life she is magnanimous, and the next impression we get about her concerns her power of generous compassion. These characteristics supply the clue to her words and actions, even when we wilt under her indignation or wither under her scorn!

Lida Gustava Heymann was born in Hamburg in 1868 and as she grew up, she turned from the usual pursuits and pleasures of youth, to devote herself wholly to the alleviation of those who suffer under the cruelties of our social economic system.

Until 1906 she directed her own Social Settlement with its department of Child Welfare, and its Unemployment Bureau. She organised the Shop Assistants, and the Actresses Union, and founded a Commercial School for girls.

In Hamburg, she threw herself into the fight against regulated prostitution, led a campaign for the Women's Suffrage, and helped to organise Women's Suffrage throughout Germany.

With her distinguished friend and colleague Dr. Anita Augsborg, she was the first woman on the continent of Europa to hail with joy and encouragement the Militant Women's Movement in Great Britain. She organised a meeting in Munich in 1908 which was addressed by two of the «Suffragette» Leaders, and her whole hearted comradeship was a great inspiration to English women.

Even at the moment of the outbreak of the War Lida Gustava Heymann never lost her sense of the solidarity of womanhood and never allowed that inherent unity to be broken by the accident of frontiers. She threw herself with that complete wholeness

of mind and heart that characterises her, into the effort to being about the reconciliation of the peoples.

She attended the Conference of Women from the belligerent and neutral countries called at The Hague in 1915, and helped to found the International League for Peace and Freedom, and filled the post of Vice President for 10 years.

During the War she suffered great persecution and was exiled from Bavaria, because of her fearless and outspoken advocacy of reconciliation and peace. She has been and is a Pacifist in the most complete and comprehensive sense of the word. She is opposed to the use of physical force of any kind, in any circumstances in every sphere, educational or political or economic. She repudiates every kind of colonisation.

Since 1928 she has with Dr. Anita Augsborg edited and published a Women's Paper, *Die Frau im Staat*, an independent Weekly.

We give her our warmest birthday greeting. May she be spared for many years in health and strength, to work for the International Idea of Worldwide friendship and Peace.



## Polish Section

«Great thoughts have the feet of doves. They tread softly!» the great philosopher Nietzsche said once. Softly and unexpectedly has Poland been flooded by the idea of Peace. It would have been very difficult to believe only a few years ago, that this idea would grow so popular. There now exist a large number of peace societies among the University youth. We find more and more often sympathisers in this movement among the teachers. Even in military circles, a pacifist is not an infrequent occurrence. Since the presentation by Poland, at the session of the League of Nations, of the draft for the settlement of disputes by means of arbitration, and since the declaration of Marshall Pilsudski to the Polish nation in regard to the Lithuanian question, when he said:— «The reason for peace is more beautiful than the reason for war», we can see the progress of the pacifist idea.

But this wide-spread pacifist atmosphere harbours a danger. It was based on sentiment and consequently superficial. The feeling of today ought to have a deeper foundation. The Polish Section realising this situation resolved to organise special drawing-room meetings on this question.

The activity of the Polish Section has been marked by two events:— the Polish-German Conference at Beuthen and Katowice and by an active participation in the organisation of the Council of Pacifist Societies in Poland.

A report on the Conference has already been presented by our German co-workers. We wish here to express our appreciation of the very careful preparation which the German Section made for the Conference, particularly we wish to commend the work of Mrs. Shondon who was Chairman of the Beuthen Section. The selection of the German speakers was excellent. Mrs. Kirchof of Hamburg gained the sympathy of her Polish hearers to a remarkable extent. The Conference hoped for future common work on the Polish-German Silesian frontier, and this is in preparation.

The Council of Pacifist Societies is formed of 7 pacifist and related bodies with the purpose of upholding pacifist activities in case of necessity. The first Work in this direction will be the International Peace Congress which is to be held in Warsaw at the end of June 1928. Mr. Lypacewicz

has been elected Chairman of the Council for this year, and Mrs. Jagmin Secretary. The Polish Section will be very glad if the central Delegation of our League will take part in the International Peace Congress.

J. KODIS.

## U. S. A.

This section is carrying on an intensive campaign against American military intervention in Nicaragua and against the big naval building scheme.

Successive letters have been addressed (a) to the President protesting against the cruelty, immorality and stupidity of this Nicaraguan war, and against the use of our tax money for carrying on this aggressive war, (b) to the U.S.A. delegation to the Pan-American Congress at Havana urging «free and open discussion of our Caribbean policies» and opposing intervention by the United States in Latin-American countries and particularly all occupation of their territory, (c) to W.I.L. members, urging them to help in stopping war with Nicaragua, and in stopping a new race in armaments, by writing and getting others to send in written protests to the President, to the Press, to Senators and Congressmen. The appeal to members says in part: «Concentrate on Nicaragua now. But when the navy question arises, an even greater issue will be before the country involving, we believe, the future Peace of the entire world—give your best effort when this crisis arises».

## W.I.L.

### INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL 1928.

Friday July 27th to August 10th.

WESTHILL COLLEGE, SELLY OAK,  
NR. BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

Subject:— *New Theories of Government—  
Socialism, Communism, Fascism, and their  
relation to international peace.*

Apply to Sec. Women's International League,  
55 Gower Street, London W.C.1.

## Honolulu Congress

A Congress of women's organisations will meet at Honolulu on August 20th to discuss pan-Pacific problems. Miss Jane Addams will attend it.

## Propaganda for the Balkan Congress 1929

In order that we may already begin to draw attention to our Balkan Congress it would be well for all the sections of the W.I.L. to get into touch, in all the large cities, with any Bulgarians, Greeks or Jugoslavs who are there for study or other purposes. Consulates, Embassies, student organisations and other societies would be willing to put their address lists at the disposal of the Sections.

The members of one nation alone should first be invited and instructed as to the objects of the W.I.L. as well as to the purpose of the Balkan Congress. They should be asked for the addresses of men and women in their country who might be interested in the work of the W.I.L. Further these people should be asked to tell about the institutions and political conditions in their country. Later on those Bulgarians, Greeks and Jugoslavs who are interested in our work should be invited together for an evening and some subject like, for instance, the question of minorities, should be dealt with.

In this way the objects of our League will become known to many members of the Balkan States and they will tell about the Balkan Congress. We can also find out many interesting things about their country which will be useful in preparing for the Congress.

Lida Gustava HEYMANN.

## CORRECTIONS.

It was incorrectly stated in the December *Pax* that *Pax International* is the only women's international paper in three languages. The International Council of Women publishes a monthly bulletin which appears in English, French and German. We much regret the mistake made.

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In the report of the Annual Meeting of the German Section held at Duisburg on October 28th to 31st, which appears in the December *Pax* it is said that 1200 Marks were handed to Lucie Dejardin to be used for the exchange of German and Belgian children. This money has not yet been given to Mlle. Dejardin as she preferred not to receive it until she was quite sure to be able to use it to good advantage.

## Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Jane Addams, International President

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

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

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

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

International Dues \$5.00 or £1.00 a year.  
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