

Of all the higher achievements of civilisations the devotion of the toiler, of the brave, the creations of the artist—the secret spring is to be found in woman's influence.



In the clash and battle of primitive civilisation, the action of woman's "shakti" is not clearly manifest, but as civilisation becomes spiritual... the charm of woman gets the opportunity to become the predominant factor.

Rabindranath Tagore.

Pax International

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CURRENT EVENTS

Calender For January India

The All India National Congress which met at Lahore and was led by Mahatma Gandhi and Pundit Nehru carried by a large majority a demand for complete independence for India and authorises a program of non-violent civil disobedience and non-payment of taxes to begin whenever the Committee thinks fit. On January 26th Independence Day was celebrated in India by processions and the hoisting of the National flag but there was no violence. The National Liberal Federation which is for Dominion Status welcomed the Viceroy's announcement calling for a Round-Table Conference to discuss Dominion Status for India.

Second Hague Conference

In January 2d a meeting was called to put into operation the Young plan. A dispute arose as to "sanctions". The Germans were deter-

mined that their debt under the Young plan should be like any other debt and not enforceable by sanctions such as the reoccupation of the Rhineland. A protocol was finally agreed upon which recognizes that a voluntary default in payment on Germany's part is extremely unlikely, but if it should occur then the Creditor Powers shall have the right to appeal to the Permanent Court of International Justice, if the Court gives a verdict against Germany then the Creditor Powers shall be free to take whatever measures they think fit.

Before the end of the Conference the difficult problem of Eastern reparations which for ten years has troubled the peace of Europe, was settled in principle. This protocol was signed by representatives of 20 nations. Austria has been relieved from the payment of all reparations, a reduction has been made in the case of Bulgaria, and funds have been created which will deal with the question of sequestered properties.

League Council Meeting

The Council met in Geneva on the 13th of January and held a session for only three days. One measure of real importance passed, was the decision to appoint a Committee whose business it should be to make a report on the amendments necessary to the Covenant in order to bring it in line with the Kellogg Pact. It was also decided to appoint a Commission of Investigation for Palestine to consider the rights of Jews and Moslems in relation to the Wailing Wall of Jerusalem.

London Naval Conference

The Five Power Naval Conference opened on Tuesday January 21st in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords with speeches by the King of England and all the chief delegates!

On the 23rd and the 28th there were private sessions of the whole Conference in St. James' Palace with many small informal meetings of the delegates on intervening days at 10,

Downing Street and elsewhere. On the 30th there was a plenary conference to which a limited number of the press were admitted. These first days of the Naval Conference were occupied in stating national needs and working out a programme.

Seven Revolutions

The following is taken from an advertisement put out by the "World Unity Magazine" which we reprint with apologies for some changes :

POLITICAL REVOLUTION

Self-centered national governments have failed to solve the new international problems of the twentieth century resulting in the inevitable development of a World State.

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Machines replace men. Enormous production has resulted which demands active international markets and coordination on a world scale.

FINANCIAL REVOLUTION

Transfer of economic power from European politics to American business : international bank.

SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION

Man's victory over nature : apparently inexhaustible supply of new inventions and appliances.

SOCIAL REVOLUTION

Rise of submerged groups : slumbering Orient awakes : universal education : lack of adjustment between political and economic forces : the new common denominator, the radio and movies : influence of aeroplane.

RELIGIOUS REVOLUTION

Old Historic creeds and dogmas unable to relate men to the new era : increased contact between the great racial faiths : need of a religious experience to overcome racial, national and class prejudice and inculcate spirit of cooperation.

PSYCHOLOGICAL REVOLUTION

Mental and emotional break with the past : the search for fulfillment in a satisfying faith.

Women's Deputations To The Naval Conference

The Women's Peace Crusade is an association of eighteen British organisations including the British section of the Women's International League, which did splendid work in England to secure a "Parliament of Peacemakers". Though it achieved its object the Crusade has continued its existence. It has arranged as a piece of new work a deputation to the Naval Conference early in February to present a memorial which has been signed by the 18 affiliated organisations. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald has been written to and asked if possible to arrange for the reception by the Naval Conference of the deputation. The memorial to be presented is as follows:

"We, the undersigned, representing national organisations of British women, united in the Women's Peace Crusade for making a reality of the Pact of Paris for the renunciation of war, urge the delegates to the Naval Conference to do all in their power to give effect to the widespread and considered demand of women from all parts of the country that a large decrease be now secured by international agreement in the naval armaments of the world".

In addition to this deputation, others are planned. Two Japanese women, Mrs. Hyasaki and Mrs. Tsune Gauntlett, who is a member of the W.I.L. arrived in London January 31st. Mrs. Gauntlett is bringing a Peace resolution to the Naval Conference which was signed by 180,000 Japanese women. The American section of the W.I.L. has also prepared a resolution which it is sending to the London Naval Conference. This section has sent Madeleine Z. Doty to London to represent it during the Conference. The resolution of the U.S. section which is addressed to the American delegates at the conference is as follows:

"Whereas The United States is one of 55 nations which, by signing the General Pact for the Renunciation of War, have agreed that the settlement of all conflicts of whatever nature shall never be sought except by pacific means.

Therefore, We the National Board of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting in New York City, earnestly call upon you to make the United States' contribution at the forthcoming Conference on Naval Reduction in London in January, the advocacy of the largest possible measure of naval reductions in all categories of ships, battleships, cruisers, submarines, destroyers and airplane carriers, hoping thereby to give concrete reality to the Pact for the Renunciation of War."

The International Headquarters of the Women's International League

in Geneva have also sent a telegram to the Naval Conference as follows:

"The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom having organised national branches in twenty-six countries believing that an immediate reduction of armaments is necessary in the interests of peace, urges the Naval Conference to agree on drastic reductions in all types of naval armaments and in particular to abolish the building and use of battleships." *Mary Sheepshanks.*

Not only are the representatives of the W.I.L. and the Women's Peace Crusade interested in the Naval Conference but the delegates to the Women's Conference on the Cause and Cure of War now taking place in America and which is presided over by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, is also sending over delegates and a resolution to the Naval Conference.

It is not known yet, whether all these organisations will finally combine in a deputation, to the Naval Conference or whether they will each present their resolutions separately. Meantime the British Women's Peace Crusade will entertain the delegates from overseas at a luncheon, and two receptions are also being arranged, one by the British section of the W.I.L. and the other by Lady Samuels.

The full story of what the women were able to accomplish by their deputations, will be given in next month's "Pax".

A Petition For Conscientious Objectors

The Joint Peace Council, consisting of the following seven organisations, Friends' Service Council, Friends' Peace Committee, International Anti-Militarist Bureau, International Fellowship of Reconciliation, War Resisters' International, International Union of Anti-Militarists (Ministers and Clergymen) and the Women's International League sent a letter in September to the State-members of the League of Nations whose Governments have signed the Kellogg Pact, but who still imprison conscientious objectors, urging that the conscientious objectors still in jail in Holland, France, Poland, Switzerland, New Zealand and Yugoslavia be released now that the Peace Pact renouncing war has been signed.

Not content with sending a letter, when the Council met in January, the Joint Peace Council entrusted two delegates, Mr. de Ligt for the International Anti-Militarist Organisations and Mary Sheepshanks, International Secretary of the W.I.L., with the task of presenting their demand to the League Council. The two delegates tried to see the men on the Council whose countries still imprison conscientious objectors, *i.e.* France, Poland and Yugoslavia. They did

not succeed in getting an audience. So a memorandum on imprisoned war resisters and the arguments, that would have been made personally to the Ministers of France, Poland and Yugoslavia if the delegation had been received, were given out to the press. Mr. de Ligt said in part:

"If the Governments who have signed the Pact of Paris wish to convince the movement which I represent here, I do not say of the efficacy of the Pact, but of the sincere motives of the Governments which have signed it, the first thing to be done is to set at liberty those men who have devoted their life and energy to the struggle against war and to recognise their moral right to refuse military service".

Miss Sheepshanks said:

"Speaking for the Joint Peace Council and especially for organised women in twenty-five countries, whose hopes for permanent peace have been encouraged by the pledges given by all the States who have signed the Pact of Paris, we demand the real renunciation of the use of force in international affairs, and... we urge that individuals who abjure the use of force and refuse military service should no longer be penalised and we ask that all men who are punished or driven into exile for refusing military service should be permitted to return to their homes and social life. The women of the world have been appealed to (by Mr. Briand) in the League of Nations' Assembly to educate their children for peace. Those women who are doing so protest against forcing a military training upon their sons, and against the punishment inflicted on them when they resist.

In the name of all the women who are working for peace, not only in word but in deed, we demand that there shall be no more imprisonment for war-resisters."

A General And A Soldier On War

In MacCarthy's magazine for November a series of letters were published between the English General Sir Ian Hamilton and a German private Herr Ramarque who is now famous as the author of "All Quiet on the Western Front". Both are agreed as to the accursedness of war.

Sir Ian Hamilton says "There was a time when I would have strenuously combated Ramarque's inferences and conclusions. Now sorrowfully I must admit there is a good deal of truth in them."

Herr Ramarque says "My book was not political nor pacifist nor militarist in intention, but simply human. It does not desire to preach resignation but rather to be an S.O.S. call."

Sir Ian Hamilton urges Mr. Ramarque to write another book.

Five Power Naval Conference

Madeleine Z. Doty

I arrived in London the day after the Naval Conference opened. But the first meeting held in the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords was merely one of spectacular interest. It was for the public. The speeches were broadcast over the world and listened to by millions of people. Perhaps the King's speech was the best of all. It was simple and direct. One paragraph in particular stands out:

"All nations have varying needs demanding special considerations, but if each is equally determined to make some sacrifice as a contribution to the common good, I feel sure that your deliberations will confer a great and lasting benefit not only upon the countries which you represent, but upon mankind generally."

After this brilliant beginning, the real work of the conference started. Not speeches but deeds now faced the delegates. The life of the delegate and diplomat is not easy to-day. There is no chance of running away into corners and making secret treaties unobserved.

The conference meets in St. James' Palace. It is an old building dating back to the 12th century. It has not been used as a palace since it was nearly destroyed by fire in 1809.

The meetings are held in what is known as Queen Anne's Drawing Room, a great reception hall in red silk hangings. The walls, the curtains the carpets are all red. Leading from this is a large room known as the Armory. The walls are covered with swords and daggers.

In here the three or four hundred correspondents crowd each day for the news. During the first two plenary sessions of the conference, the press was not admitted. To pacify them, first Mr. MacDonald then Mr. Stimson came out from the conference into the Armory and consented to questions.

On the floor below the Armory is another long room devoted to the press. This has been fitted up with extra electric lights, desks, typewriters, multi-graphing machines, telephone booths and a constant supply of telegraph boys to carry messages. It is a new era in an old palace.

For the press is important these days. The delegates fear us more than they fear each other. We represent public opinion. Through the press and the radio, the public waits eagerly for action. Three hundred reporters hungering for news are not easily suppressed. At last on Thursday, January 30th, a plenary session is arranged to which seventy press correspondents are admitted, the rest sit in an adjoining room and listen to speeches through the microphone. The women correspondents are lucky.

As they number only four, including myself, they are allowed to stand in the open doorway of the Conference Hall and both see and hear.

What a business it is this lengthy discussion as to whether the navies should be limited by global tonnage or by category; as to whether there should be parity between England and America and parity between France and Italy; as to whether Japan's demands for a 70 per cent ratio in cruisers as compared with England's is to be granted. Why all these technical discussions? Why these debates on the Naval menu?

Do the delegates to the Conference really believe they need their navies for home defence? If so, why doesn't every country with sea ports need protection and the smaller the country the greater the Navy needed? The truth is, the fear that one nation will deliberately attack another is gone. The nations knew this when they signed the Kellogg Pact.

What then is at the bottom of Navies? Let us be frank. It is trade and commerce, colonial imperialism, investments abroad. Take England for example. It has 26 naval bases scattered throughout the world. It has 13 in the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean. It has four in the North Atlantic, four in the South Atlantic and five in the Pacific Ocean. In some cases the Naval bases protect petrol stations, in others trade routes. To a smaller extent the same situation is true of France. It has five Naval bases. Japan also has five while the United States has seven.

How can a country like England with its sons and its money scattered over the earth do without its Navy to protect them? As long as the flag and the battleships follow the investor, the situation is hopeless. The Naval Conference discusses the size and number of vessels and needs of each country all with a view to protecting the trade and commerce and investments of their countries.

The United States has nearly doubled the size of its Navy since 1914.

That Navies are back of investments and imperialism is illustrated by an interesting story told of President McKinley. It was at the time the U.S. was debating what to do about the Philippines. President McKinley says he walked the floor all night praying to God; should he or should he not take the Philippines. Towards morning God told him to take the Philippines and so he did, and of course the U.S. had immediately to increase its Navy. This is the way Navies grow. Let us not blame the Naval delegates if they do not get very far in the reduction of Navies.

Some of the delegates are extraordinarily fine. There is Ramsay MacDonald every inch of him an idealist. He comes out of the Conference from time to time to talk to the press, and is so human and simple and charming that he wins all our hearts. If he had his way, I am sure the British Navy would disappear to an incredible extent. Already the order has gone forth that four cruisers planned for are not to be built. And it is to the credit of the British that their Navy has greatly decreased since 1914. The French Navy has also slightly decreased but the American, Japanese and Italian have been on the increase. The only hope for the world is that by common consent all will disarm. If it could be established as law that no flag and no battleship was to follow the dollar, the pound, the franc, the lire, and the yen a new day would dawn.

The atmosphere of the Conference room Thursday morning January 30th was expectant and eager. Mr. MacDonald presided. The delegates sat around a large table with experts on either side. There were perhaps five hundred men present with only six women visible.

The great discussion before the Conference was, shall navies be limited by global tonnage, that is each nation be allowed to have any number of ships of any kind it likes as long as the total tonnage does not exceed a given amount, or shall the navies be limited by categories such as battleships, cruisers, air craft carriers, and submarines? The first plan is better for nations with a small navy while the latter is better for those with big navies. Britain, America and Japan prefer the limitation by categories. Said Mr. Hugh Gibson in regard to this matter:

"Limitation by categories is better calculated than any other method yet devised to reduce international competition in armament building and remove the feeling of mistrust, suspicion and insecurity inevitably attendant upon such competition. If the system of global tonnage limitation were applied to all navies, no nation would know exactly what its neighbour was contemplating.... It is fear of the unknown that engenders distrust.... We recognise however, that the smaller navies have inevitably a tendency towards specialisation and we are not disposed to press our methods for the purposes of preventing such specialisation."

Into this discussion as to whether limitation shall be by global tonnage or categories, the French introduced a compromise proposition, which provided both for global tonnage and limitation by category with a possibility of transferring tonnage from one category to another under certain conditions." (Continued March Pax.)

The League Of Nations

Activities Of The League Of Nations

The information Section of the League of Nations has issued a report on the activities of the League in 1929. The most striking progress was in the field of organisation for peace and international co-operation and in the social and humanitarian work. Very briefly some of these things are:

ORGANISATION FOR PEACE

A collective treaty on conciliation, judicial settlement and arbitration, of international disputes known as the General Act for the Pacific Settlement of Disputes came into force.

Another important event was the signing of the Optional Clause of the world Court Statute by a large number of nations. This recognizes the Court's compulsory jurisdiction in legal disputes.

Still another event was the preparation and signature of texts designed to facilitate the accession of the United States to the Court and to confer on that body the character of a permanent international tribunal composed of specialists.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

The Economic organisation prepared various conventions but after a survey of the situation it appeared that the recommendations of the 1927 Economic Conference, which had been approved in principle by the Governments had not been sufficiently general nor strict enough to result in putting an end to the increase in tariffs. As Dr. Breitscheid the Rapporteur said: "There has been up to the present no change in the fundamental conception of the commercial policy of States."

This failure has given rise to the idea of a Customs Truce. It was suggested that the signatories of the truce would undertake not to increase their tariffs during a certain period, which would be considered as a preliminary to a reduction of tariffs.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

The work included schemes for financial reconstruction and the settlement of refugees in certain parts of Europe. A new organisation has been created in relation with this Committee namely the Fiscal Committee, whose principal duty will be to advise the Council on all questions concerning taxation.

HEALTH ORGANISATION

It organised a Conference on anti-tuberculosis vaccination and sleeping sickness and undertook research work concerning syphilis, infant mortality and cancer. But the outstanding new feature in this work is its cooperation with certain governments (Greece, Bolivia, and China) in the re-organisation of all or part of their health departments.

International Limitation Of Dangerous Drugs

The most important event in the social activities of the League during the past year was the acceptance at the September meeting of the Advisory Commission on Opium of the principle of international limitation of dangerous drugs. This Commission is now sitting again in Geneva. It opened its session on January 21st. Some very telling figures were given the Commission during the first days as to the extent of illicit traffic in drugs. The Central Narcotics Intelligence Bureau financed by the Egyptian Government and established at Cairo primarily for the benefit of Egypt has revealed to a number of European Governments illicit drug traffic in their countries of almost incredible magnitude. Russell Pasha, commandant of the Cairo city police, says in his report, that while the countries suffering from the drug traffic think in grammes and kilogrammes, the manufacturing countries talk of narcotics in tons. He gives the history of an Armenian organization and a gang of Poles working in Vienna, which led to investigation in Austria, Switzerland and France revealing a state of affairs far graver than any yet brought to light. In Alsace it was found that in one factory enough heroin was manufactured in 1928 to supply two and a half times the legitimate needs of the entire world for a year. The figures of heroin manufactured in this one factory far exceed the entire total French exports of drugs given in the French official report.

Monsieur Bourgeois, the French delegate explained this by saying that the figures in the factory's books represented not only the exports passed through the Customs, but also the smuggled drugs. That such a huge amount could be smuggled out of France does not speak well for the French police.

Russell Pasha made a passionate plea for his people. He said among the Egyptian population of 14,000,000, there are probably 560,000 drug addicts who are spending £13,500,000 annually.

The Advisory Commission on Opium is listening to proposals as to the best way to carry out the limitation of manufacture of drugs. Sir Malcolm Delevigne for the British Government felt there should be a definite limit placed on the world's manufacture of narcotics based on an estimate of the world's medical requirements. The total figure thus arrived at should be divided between the manufacturing countries and a quota arranged for each consuming country according to its legitimate medical needs. Other proposals have been made by other

nations but beyond considering the problem on the most general grounds nothing definite had been put forward at the end of January.

International Penal Reform

In the November Pax there was a little story about the terrible conditions in prisons all over the world and the work of the Howard League of Great Britain.

Thanks to the splendid work of the Chairman of the Howard League, Miss Gertrude Eaton, the matter was put on the agenda of the Council of the League and was discussed at the meeting in January.

The delegate from Cuba Mr. de Agüero y Bethancourt presented the report and suggested that the Council should request the Assembly of the League to put the improvement of penal administration on its agenda. He said the public has become deeply interested in the possibility of improving penal administration through international action, that this was borne out by the fact that the Secretary-General of the League had received not only the petition from the Howard League with its numerous and representative signatures but letters from the *Womens International League for Peace and Freedom* and from its *British and German branches*, from the International Federation of League of Nations Societies and from a number of national organisations. He proposed therefore that the organisations which were in a position to advise on the matter be consulted i.e. the International Prison Commission, which, though hit has only 27 members and is not therefore adequately representative, is the only international government body dealing with penal reform, and the Howard League. That when the memorandums of these two organisations were received, the views of the International Labor Office, the Economic Committee, the Health Committee should be obtained. Once in possession of all these views the Governments of the members of the League would be in a position to judge what action by the League was desirable.

He asked the Council therefore to pass the following resolution, which it did.

"In view of the fact that the improvement of penal administration is at present occupying the attention of many of the peoples of the world and that there are certain international aspects to the question.

The Council requests the Assembly to place the question on its agenda with the object of deciding the best way in which the League of Nations can cooperate with the International Prison Commission and other interested organisations in their efforts to assist in the development of prisons in accord with modern economic, social and health standards."

Political Situation In Austria

Yella Hertzka

The situation in Austria has taken a happy turn towards the re-establishment of internal peace. The Austrian Constitution has been amended by parliamentary methods and this shows that democracy has already taken deep root. Those points in the Constitution on which the parties could not agree were not even brought before the plenary session of the Parliament, because the present Constitution provides that a two thirds majority is required for the passage of such points and such a majority could not have been obtained for reactionary measures. The points of disagreement were:

(1) The question of the schools: the Heimwehr demanded the abolition of some progressive school laws.

(2) The position of Vienna as an independent country which is a thorn in the flesh of the Heimwehr and the Christian Socialists because the taxes collected in Vienna represent a great sum and in conformity with the existing law, are used solely for the benefit of Vienna.

The Social Democrats were very conciliatory and in my opinion this was due not to weakness but because they hoped thereby to gain for them-

selves the votes needed to give them the four seats which they must have if they are to get a majority in Parliament.

The Christian Socialists on the other hand, gave in on some points because they feared that some day they might be in the minority and then they would suffer from those very points in the Constitution which they themselves proposed in order to oppress the minority.

Thus these two parties united, so as to show the population of Austria that the will of the people would be carried out, and so that each member of Parliament might appear well in the eyes of his constituents.

It was really due to the dexterity of Schober, the chancellor of the Republic, that the Heimwehr were persuaded to believe that they played an important part in the question of the Constitution, when all the time the real object of the Heimwehr, that is the creation of a "Ständeparlament" (a parliament of class representatives, workers, industrialists, etc.), was not even brought before Parliament. The Heimwehr had not worked out their proposal in detail and could not tell their own people what their idea of a

"Ständeverfassung" really was. This lack of preparation (for all that was done was to campaign with the slogan "Ständeparlament") was used very cleverly by Chancellor Schober as the reason for turning down the wishes of the Heimwehr as immature.

Much to the sorrow even of the Christian Socialists, a reactionary press law, which they themselves had proposed regarding obscene literature was passed with deleterious effect on journalism in general.

The result of the newly adopted Constitution should naturally be complete inner disarmament of both the Heimwehr and the Schutzbund as well as of all illegal military groups. But so far nothing of that kind has occurred.

Meanwhile the peasants have separated from the Heimwehr and created another organisation for the defence of the fatherland, the "Landbund", which signifies a split in the Heimwehr and may become an obstacle in the way of dictatorship.

The economic cost of the campaign to enforce the change of the constitution must be calculated in many millions of shillings.

Two Peace Movements

Lucy O. Kingston

The following is an extract of a speech given over the radio in Dublin by one of our Irish members Lucy O. Kingston.

When we talk of the unity of mankind we are not calling out of nowhere a vague ideal of Utopia, a Kingdom of Heaven... Through our trade, our air-ships, our newspapers, this unification is growing...

Now this linking up of the human family is more or less automatic and inevitable: but it will not in itself bring what we all desire—peace upon earth, unless while we draw near to our brotherman we bring with us the will to peace, the desire to live without war...

There are two movements trying to build for peace, two constructive attempts, one of them ten years old, the other fifteen.

The League of Nations on which I would first like to touch briefly came into existence in 1920. When the idea of the League was taking root, it was considered almost revolutionary. The possibility of a group of Germans English and French sitting down in conclave at a table was still so rare that it constituted quite an item of news in itself...

The League of Nations today is subscribed to with more or less interest and enthusiasm by fifty-four nations, which when one looks into it, means most of the population of the world. Its chief and to some minds most

important work is the calling into being of the Permanent Court of International Justice, and the International Labour Office....

The second organisation for World Peace which I want to mention is the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Five years before the League of Nations arose this League came into being.

In the spring of 1915 when all the world was as Armageddon, a little group of women from America, Germany, Holland, England and other lands believed that there was a better and quicker way of gaining peace than by years of slaughter, insisted on coming together at The Hague. It was not easy to speak of peace then though the word is now in everybody's mouth. It was difficult too, to do what those women did, interview every prominent statesman in Europe who would see them, yet they delivered their message with such conviction that one statesman made the remark "You are the first deputation I have heard within the last six months who has come with a sensible suggestion".

From such a small beginning the W. I. L. has developed with great rapidity into a world-wide organisation having Sections or affiliations in forty countries, and working through an

international Headquarters in Geneva.

People have sometimes called our League the "Women's League of Nations" but we do not agree to such a description, for there are very radical differences in our aim. The role of international policeman assigned to the League of Nations and the threat of resorting to arms is a point not approved of by us.... We want to try what organised non-violence can do. We know now that the next war will be almost universal suicide... Mankind had got into its hand for the first time tools by which it could accomplish its own extermination.... We must resolve that such a thing shall not be.

We workers in the cause of peace have been called optimists. But I say we have every reason for hope. Never before in the annals of history have we seen the defeat of secret diplomacy so nearly accomplished; never before have there been such a number of genuine rapprochements through conference and consultation; never before have so many books been allowed to appear which tear the last remnants of the veil from the stark reality of modern warfare!

Let us therefore work, organise, and above all, hope for, Peace.

WORK OF THE W. I. L. NATIONAL SECTIONS

British Section

This section has been engaged in manifold activities. It has been carrying on active propaganda to secure the acceptances of the General Act for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes and has prepared an excellent leaflet on the subject entitled "Security against War".

This section is working against the militarisation of young people. It has formed a sub-committee to deal with the question especially with regard to the Officers Training Corps in the schools.

Perhaps the most important activity of this group is in connection with the Naval Conference. It has been working in collaboration with the U. S. W. I. L. The American section has pointed out that the British and U. S. Governments have agreed to parity in strength of cruisers, and as the U. S. is at present inferior in strength it may result in the U. S. Government increasing their cruisers to equal the British, unless the latter cut down the number of their cruisers. The Executive Committee of the British section of the W. I. L. therefore passed the following resolution:

"This meeting expresses its deep sense of satisfaction at the friendly negotiations between the Prime Minister and the U. S. President, of which the Five-Power Naval Conference in January will be the outcome; welcomes the thrice-repeated American offer to reduce her naval strength in proportion to any standard, however low, which the other Powers will accept, and urges H. M. Government to use all its influence to ensure that the Conference results not merely in an agreement for limitation of ships (which would probably mean an actual increase in the world's armaments) but in a radical reduction of existing vessels.

"It calls upon H. M. Government to implement its signature of the Pact of Paris for Renunciation of War by proposing a further reduction of cruisers, especially of the larger type, and the total reduction of battleships and submarines, as instruments of offence rendered obsolete by the Pact and a grave menace to that sense of security which is a condition of the lasting peace of nations."

Beside collaborating with the U. S. section in the matter of Naval Disarmament, this section is working with the Women's Peace Crusade and is one of the organisations in that association which is planning a deputation to the Naval Conference. A full account of this is given on the editorial page.

Miss Kathleen Courtney, the chairman of the section, has gone to America to attend a Conference on the

"Cause and Cure of War". She will speak in various parts of the United States for the U. S. W. I. L.

United States Section

This Section is taking an active interest in the Naval Conference and has passed a resolution which it is sending to the Naval delegates. It has sent Madeleine Z. Doty to London to watch proceedings. For an account of this see editorial page.

Philadelphia Branch

In giving an account last month of some of the activities of this group, we did not have space to relate the work of the inter-racial Committee. This Committee is endeavouring to get a thousand Negro women to join the great peace caravan. A luncheon was given on December 6th as a part of this campaign with both white and Negro speakers. In the invitation sent out to this luncheon was the following statement:

"It is interesting to know that two colored women were numbered among the official American delegates to the International Congress of the W. I. L. held at Czecho-slovakia last summer.

Mrs. G. Edward Dickerson one of them in her report of the Prague Congress, written for the Associated Negro Press, says: "At no time was any race prejudice shown. The colored delegates were numbered among the speakers and as great an ovation was given them as to any other participants. The Women's International League demonstrated its creed "Peace, Freedom, Goodwill" in its every act and utterance. To the women of America, white and colored alike, I commend the work of the Women's International League and urge their participation therein."

New-York Branch

This group has been doing splendid and adventurous work. The Chairman Mrs. John Jay White and Mrs. Edward Thomas member of the Executive Board have been touring New York State in an automobile, campaigning for the W. I. L. making speeches and canvassing for international members, leaving the polyglot petition on disarmament at schools, colleges and libraries and asking that signatures be secured. They went first to Poughkeepsie, then to Albany and then to Syracuse. At Syracuse they were met by Mrs. Eaton and Miss Balch. Here a series of meetings and luncheons were held. Mrs. White, Mrs. Thomas and Miss Balch all speaking. Mrs. Hazard of Syracuse, widely known and loved, has consented to be the Honory Chairman of the New York State Branch.

A trip was then made to Cornell University, Ithaca, and plans made for W. I. L. speakers to appear there and organize a college W. I. L. The automobile party then continued to Oneida

where more meetings were held. On the return trip to New York a stop was made at Far Rockaway and a meeting held there.

Later another automobile trip was undertaken and conferences were held in Elmira, Bath and Rochester.

Mrs. Thomas has recently prepared a poster for the W. I. L. for distribution in the schools of New York. It has been accepted by the Board of Education and will be placed before a million school children in 900 schools.

It is a pledge in which the children promise support to the World Peace Pact. The pledge is accompanied by the statement of President Hoover: "If this agreement is to fulfill its high purpose, we and other nations must accept its consequences. We must clothe faith and idealism with action".

Western Branches

Miss Anne Martin reported on her work of organisation in the far West. She stated that in three years with work done at such odd times as she could spare, 16 new groups had been formed in the 8 Pacific Slope States with an increase of about 1000 new members.

Miss Martin said her experience showed women are waiting to be organised and are eager to work for peace, if only we can send out organizers.

Czechoslovakian Section

The Czech group of this Section has recently passed the following resolution.

"From all parts of Russia come accusations of assassinations which are committed daily, while the civilized world remains silent in the face of these cruelties.

"The official reports of the G.P.U. of Russia for 1929 state that 605 persons were executed in March, 111 in June and 2,250 in July. In reality the number of persons shot was much greater. Recently on the Manchurian frontier 170 peasants have been shot, among them boys of ten and old men of seventy.

"These cruelties towards people without defence are only a continuation of war in times of peace and since the Czech Section of the W. I. L. as a pacifist organization is not only against war but against all violence it condemns most categorically these cruelties committed against defenceless people and begs the International Headquarters to take the matter up most energetically with the League of Nations so that an end may be made of these executions. At the same time we wish to draw attention to the legal proceedings about to be begun in Kieff against the Ukrainian intellectuals, and the scientific workers, who are accused of being anti-revolutionary."

WORK OF THE W. I. L. NATIONAL SECTIONS

French Section

This section has held its annual exhibition sale to secure funds for their work. The preparation for the sale fell largely upon Madame Duchêne but she had the aid of many members on the day of the sale. Artists and writers gave autographed copies of their work which brought high prices. Big dress-making establishments sent contributions which were greatly admired. Perhaps the exhibition of children's drawings gathered from many countries drew the most attention, and in particular, one set of decorated letters. Sometime ago, the German section arranged a competition among school children for the best paper on "Peace Heros". The second prize was a trip to France. As it was at the time of summer vacation, and the French section was unable to find a family in Paris who could receive the prize winner, Madame Duchêne agreed to take the little 13 year old German boy into her own summer home in Switzerland. The small boy won everyone's sympathy and affection, and he in turn greatly enjoyed himself and when he returned to his home and his comrades in Berlin gave an enthusiastic account of his visit. His school friends moved by his story decided that each one should write a letter of thanks to Madame Duchêne. This they did decorating their letters in harmony with their words of peace.

This Section has just begun publication of a French News Bulletin called S. O. S. Those wishing more news of the French Section are urged to subscribe.

Lyon Branch

This Branch had a big meeting on January 11th. Prof. Challaye gave an exposé of Colonial Imperialism and its dangers and criticized the film "Shanghai" which is censored in France, while it is given in other countries without any cuts. Prof. André Phillip told about his journey to British India and confirmed, by what he said, the dangers of Imperialism to the Peace of the World.

Tunis Branch

On December 9th, this group arranged a Conference on Gas Warfare in the Tunis cinema theatre "The Regent". The place was crowded and Madame Fichet, chairman of the group, presided. Monsieur Pignon, professor of history, talked for an hour on the modern methods of warfare. His subject was "Peace or Extermination". He gave the story of what had happened in the war from 1914-1918 and the development of different kinds of gas. He then pointed out what would happen if there was another war. He made it plain that the civil population could not protect

themselves, that a few aeroplanes with poison gas bombs could destroy the entire population of a big city. He concluded by pleading for an end of war saying that national sentiment must give place to international love for all humanity. At the end of the Conference terrible pictures of war wounded were thrown on the screen.

This Conference was attended by many young people. Seventy students from the Normal School for Teachers were present as well as a delegation of Arabian college students. The meeting was reported at great length in all the papers and the W. I. L. was congratulated on the fine work it had done.

Hungarian Section

The members of the Hungarian Femisták Egyesülete have been celebrating the anniversary of their foundation. These women form not only the Hungarian Section of the W. I. L. but they are also the Hungarian representatives of the International Suffrage Alliance.

In December they held a jubilee celebration to commemorate 25 years of existence. The Hungarian Feministák Egyesülete came into being a few months after the foundation of the International Suffrage Alliance. Madame M. Meller has written an interesting account of the celebration in which she says:

"Our celebration was clouded by our sorrow at the absence of three of our pioneer women, our dear Vilma Glücklich departed for ever, Rosika Schwimmer now living in another part of the world and Madame Szirmai prevented by her mourning from being present, but the jubilee was a fine demonstration of the strength of our ideals and a tribute to the enthusiastic work done in the past quarter of a century. The celebration lasted three days. The first day Dec. 14th was devoted to business followed by a concert and the recitation by Piroska Szabados of Jenny Varnai's poem "The Pioneer Woman".

In the evening there was a dinner with greetings of welcome by Dr. Gold in German, Madame Glücklich Major in French, and Mrs. Mary Fodor in English.

The big public meeting was held in the Budapest County Hall, which was crowded with an interested and attentive audience. Mrs. Meller presided and in her opening address compared the Hungarian mentality today with that of twenty five years ago.

Her speech was followed by a stirring one from Mrs. Corbett Fisher who brought greetings from the English branches of the W. I. L. P. F. and the I. W. S. A. She assured her audience that the pioneer work of

the Hungarian women had aroused the sympathy and interest of women all over the world.

Greetings were also brought by Mrs. Eugenie Von Palitschek for Austria and Madame Laczko for Czechoslovakia. Other speakers were the Countess Apponyi, Countess Teleki, Mrs. Augusta Rosenberg the only Hungarian woman lawyer, Dr. Vági Ungar, Mrs. Kosma, Mrs. Rosa Latinovich, Professor Max Havas and Professor Fenyvessy. The meeting was much touched by greetings from Mrs. Mary Szivesi-Karasz who spoke for the women in the country saying it is not lack of interest but conditions, which prevent country women from participating in politics. Mrs. Melany Vambéry the Secretary gave an excellent resumé of the work of the Feministák Egyesülete during the past 25 years. Professor Beke spoke of Feminist progress from the man's point of view.

The most stirring speech of the occasion was made by Anna Kéthly the only woman member of Parliament. She brought greetings from the labour women and emphasized the importance of our work for civil liberty and peace.

On the 16th there was another public meeting when Mrs. Corbett Fisher spoke of the English women's struggle for political freedom, Frau von Furth of the Austrian women's work in politics, Madame Zsuffa of the Czechoslovakian women's political rights and Frau Cerf of the Austrian Section of the W. I. L. of the women's work for peace. The celebration was in every way a great success."

Yugoslav Group

This newly formed group held its annual meeting in the Girl Student-Building, Miss Mileva Petrovitch acting as Chairman. A letter was read from Madame Karaveloff, chairman of the Bulgarian Section, which came in answer to the congratulations sent her by the Yugoslav group on the jubilee celebration of her fifty years of public service. Madame Karaveloff said how happy she was that the women of the two countries, formerly quarelling neighbors, had come to an agreement to live in peace. It was decided to adopt a Patron Saint each year who stood for peace. This year it is to be the monk St. Savor, who lived in the XI Century, was of royal blood but renounced all worldly power in order to live in a monastery and develop his ideas of peace and good-will. On January 12 there was a celebration in honor of this pacifist, carried out in a truly international spirit. The students in the German, French, Czechoslovak and Russian schools were invited to take part and also members of the American and British colonies

Swedish Section

This group has been holding its annual peace week or "Information Week" as it is called, which has been a huge success. This week was as usual subventioned by the Government. For five days the meetings were held in Stockholm and for two days in Upsala. Many prominent people spoke and in Upsala, which is an old University town, prominent lecturers and professors at the University gave their services; among them (Esten Unden, formerly a delegate to the League of Nations and well known for his splendid work.

In Upsala, one of the big lecture halls of the University was placed at the disposal of the Conference and the meetings in both Stockholm and Upsala were always well attended. The week ended with a beautiful Vesper Service arranged by the Upsala Cathedral Council and which the Archbishop and his wife attended.

Camille Drevet who went to Sweden for the "week" spoke twice, once, on her trip to the Balkans and once, on her trip to China. Her assistance was greatly appreciated and she made a deep impression on her audience and opened the eyes of many people to the importance of the international work of the W.I.L. Madame Drevet was the guest while in Upsala of the Archbishop Soderblom and his wife, who one evening gave a great reception to the members of the W.I.L. and other pacifists. The Swedish Section hopes and expects that Madame Drevet's visit will result in substantial assistance to her for her coming trip of organization in the Balkans.

W.I.L. International Opium Conference

A tentative programme for the international Conference of the W.I.L. on opium and dangerous drugs has been drawn up. The meetings are to be held on the 28th and 29th of April, directly after the meeting of the executive committee. At the morning

session on the 28th there will be reports on conditions in their respective countries, from England, France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

In the afternoon the session will be devoted to the medical aspects. At the morning session on the 29th there will be further reports, this time from the U.S.A., China, Japan, Egypt and India.

In the afternoon the political and economic aspects of the manufacture and traffic in dangerous drugs will be dealt with. Mr. A. E. Blanco, of the Anti-Opium Bureau in Geneva, will be one of the speakers. On the evening of the 29th, there will be a big mass meeting at Plainpalais, Geneva. This will be a propagand meeting and the speeches will be in French or translated into French. Marcelle Capy (France), will be one of the speakers. Meantime, a committee of Patrons is being formed with distinguished names already on the list. Other names are desired. Members are urged to help with this Conference by suggesting names of patrons, names of speakers and by financial contributions to cover the cost of halls and posters—send all communications to the chairman of the Committee, Lida Heyman, Kaulbachstrasse 12, Munich, Germany.

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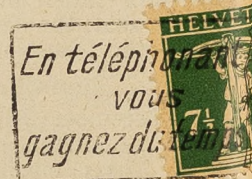
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