

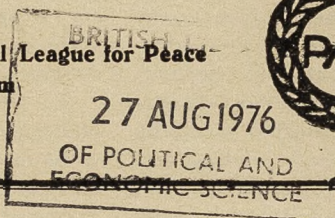
PAX INTERNATIONAL

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom aims at uniting women in all countries who are opposed to every kind of war, exploitation and oppression, and who work for universal disarmament and for the solution of conflicts by the recognition of human solidarity, by conciliation and arbitration, by world co-operation, and by the establishment of social, political and economic justice for all, without distinction of sex, race, class or creed. — The work of all the National Sections is based upon the statements adopted and the Resolutions passed by the International Congresses of the League.

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Jane Addams, Honorary President



GENEVA LETTER

June 23, 1932.

There are certainly more and more people intent on breaking up the "party" of war profiteers and they are causing anxiety to partisans of the war regime. After Professor Einstein's and Lord Ponsonby's statements in Geneva, we now hear that another pacifist, Professor Langevin, is coming to Geneva in July. What is more serious for the militarists is that Einstein and Langevin, together with Romain Rolland, Barbusse, Gorki, Dreiser, H. Mann, Victor Margueritte, John Dos Passos, G. B. Shaw, Upton Sinclair, Mrs. Sun Yat Sen and H. G. Wells have sent out an appeal, which may already have reached you, inviting people of all countries and all opinions to take a stand against war and take part in a huge world congress which will probably be held on July 28th. Applications can be sent either to Henri Barbusse, Vigilia, Miramar par Théoule, Alpes Maritimes, France, or to Félicien Challaye, 11 bis rue Thiers, Le Vésinet, Seine et Oise. Will Romain Rolland's appeal of June 5th, calling on people to

send in their names to Barbusse and Félicien Challaye, be heard?

The press of the munition makers is worried. Moreover a teacher in France at Lille, Camille Rombaud, has just refused to perform his military service, while René Gérin, who published a book on the last war, has sent a courageous letter to Mr. Paul-Boncour, pacifist war minister. Mr. René Gérin not only himself refuses to be mobilised but calls on all war veterans who think as he does to take the same attitude. He has written me that he has had no reply to his letter. I hope his reply will be an awakening on the part of war veterans.

On June 6th, a delegation of our League was received by Mr. Henderson and Mme. Ramondt presented our Manifesto to him.

On June 13th, the international organisations were received by Mr. Henderson who, while recognising the slowness of the Conference, tried to revivify confidence in it.

To-day, June 23rd, there has been a bomb shell in Geneva. The American delegate has been disturbing the "peace" with a declaration, which comes from Mr. Hoover, and which has interrupted the private conversations at Lausanne and Geneva. The American Delegate asks for an important reduction, 33½, in war expenditure and the abolition of a large quantity of armaments. The whole Conference almost seems to have expressed approval of these proposals. Mr. Grandi immediately accepted them and was much applauded. Germany and Russia declare themselves satisfied and it is said that 26 States will support the proposals. But at the meeting there was both expression of support and reti-

cence. Mr. de Madariaga thought the proposals did not go far enough and Mr. Paul-Boncour that the solution was too simple for application. Sir John Simon criticised the method of procedure and the *Journal des Nations*, in describing the 22nd June, said it was only a little "distraction", — when *the masses of all countries are ready to accept real reduction*, even though incomplete and imperfect. Should not the peoples themselves organise more and more significant "distractions" so that the "distractions" of the Geneva Conference may change in character and lead to effective measures for disarmament? This seems all the more possible since all nations' budgets have a deficit and wilynilly expenses must be decreased.

The big manifestation proposed by Romain Rolland can become a magnificent expression of the will of the peoples. It makes no difference whether one opposes war to satisfy one's conscience or one's reason, to save the whole of humanity, or to protect, in the first place, the U. S. S. R., China, one's own country or colonial countries. Let us all unite to stem the flood which threatens to engulf the world. A leader for this world movement against war, demanded by all pacifists, will arise, says Einstein, as soon as the will to oppose war exists in reality. The time has come to make this will known. The voice of war must be silenced, says Romain Rolland. We must all stand together if we are to save our civilisation. *Camille Drevet.*

The Group for Total Disarmament has also sent out an urgent appeal and the War Resisters are using the declarations of Professor Einstein and Lord Ponsonby as the basis for an active campaign.

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RESOLUTIONS VOTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, GRENOBLE

(Continued)

(See *Pax* of June 1932)

Resolution relating to the Far East

The W. I. L. P. F. in accordance with the principles of the Pact of Paris,

Supports the Assembly Resolution of March 11, 1932 unanimously adopted by Representatives of 45 nations which, following on the initiative of the U. S. A. sustained the principle that no situation, treaty or agreement brought about by means contrary to the Covenant and the Pact of Paris shall be recognised.

Declares that this principle should be in force at all times and should be equally applicable to all nations.

The W. I. L. declares that the above principles must apply to other nations as well as to Japan in the event of their being or becoming involved in the present international dispute.

While recognising that Japan is not alone responsible for the present situation, governments and private interests of several other great powers being involved, the W. I. L. P. F. is of opinion that in spite of the causes of complaint, even if legitimate, given by the Japanese Government, there is no excuse for the military and political leaders who, disregarding the peaceful means that exist for the settlement of international disputes, are responsible for the loss of life, suffering and destruction on Chinese territory which has created new bitterness and hatred and has deepened the economic chaos not only of the Far East but of the world.

The W. I. L. P. F. believes that a situation so complicated can only be cleared up with the help of personalities who are friendly to both nations, free from any question of personal or political advantage, and having a true international spirit.

It would support any commission of Russian and American economists, as well as those of other countries including Chinese and Japanese, having these essential qualifications, and whose economic survey would permit of an agreement upon which could be constructed new treaties acceptable to both parties.

Resolution on India.

The W. I. L. P. F. which has always proclaimed its faith in the possibility of finding a peaceful solution for political, social and economic conflicts, and also in the right of self-determination of peoples,

Protests strongly against the policy of repression adopted by the British Government in India, against the imprisonment of more than fifty thousand Indians, guilty only of desiring independence for their country; and particularly against the imprisonment of those who attempt to attain this by strictly non-violent methods of non-cooperation.

Urges immediate liberation of all political prisoners not guilty of criminal acts; the withdrawal of the ordinances; and the return of the British Government in India to methods of law. It also urges the re-opening of negotiations with the true representatives of the Indian people now in prison, who alone can prevent the legitimate indignation of their countrymen from breaking out into violence.

Otherwise, it is to be feared that a conflagration will be started in India which will spread through the East and because of the Sino-Japanese conflict, will inevitably end in a formidable rising of all the peoples who feel themselves oppressed, and in a racial war more destructive to humanity than the great war of 1914.

Syria and Morocco.

The W. I. L. P. F. reminds the French Government of the right of the peoples to self-determination and of the promise implied in the idea of a mandate, and urges that an end be put to the French mandate of *Syria* not for the benefit of another Power, but so that the independence of the Syrian people and their peaceful relations with other peoples may be assured.

The W. I. L. P. F. which has always been opposed to colonial acquisition, oppression or war, makes energetic protest against the recent military expeditions to *Morocco* and urges the immediate cessation of so-called measures of pacification.

PRESENTATION OF THE MANIFESTO TO HENDERSON

Just before going to press last month, we were able to add a few words about the Deputation to Mr. Arthur Henderson, but that was a very brief account of an interview which was of great satisfaction to all W. I. L. P. F. members present.

On June 7th, Mr. Henderson received a delegation of twenty women representing 12 National Sections of the W. I. L. P. F. Mme. C. Ramondt-Hirschmann

headed the deputation, presented to Mr. Henderson the Manifesto of the Grenoble Congress, and, in a brief speech, spoke of the desire of the W. I. L. to see the Disarmament Conference recognise total disarmament as its final goal and establish a programme for the achievement of total disarmament by stages. Mme. Ramondt urged the abolition of state or private war industries, condemned an international armed force and emphasised the necessity of organisation for peace based on international co-operation. In closing, Mme. Ramondt made an appeal that the Conference should not allow itself to be held up by technical questions, and she expressed to Mr. Henderson the warm wishes of the W. I. L. P. F. for the success of the Conference.

Mr. Henderson replied at some length and appeared, in a most gratifying way, to be much interested in the deputation and the Manifesto and to have full time to devote to them. He thanked the deputation for coming to see him and said that, having read the Manifesto carefully, he noted particularly the feelings both of hope and of anxiety which it expressed. Mr. Henderson reminded the deputation that, in his opening speech at the Conference, he had declared that total disarmament should be its goal. He spoke of difficulties the Conference had encountered, including the changes of government in different countries. And he assured the deputation that he would not allow the complexity of the problem to deter him but that he would put his whole faith and energy at the service of the Conference.

Mr. Henderson's obvious deep sincerity made a great impression on the members of the Deputation, who were able, at the end of the audience, to speak to him personally. Mme. Ramondt, in thanking Mr. Henderson, handed him a letter from the French Section, expressing the desire of the French *people* for disarmament.

Several members of the international press were present.

The members of the Deputation were grateful for Mr. Henderson's interest and for the time he devoted to them and were encouraged by the conviction that he truly welcomes expressions of the peoples' desire for disarmament.

Anne Zueblin.

BRING IN NEW MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS TO PAX AND HELP OUR INTERNATIONAL WORK

OUR MANIFESTO

The Manifesto has not only been presented to Mr. Henderson but it was sent with a letter to all the heads of governments and some have acknowledged it (Germany, Cuba, France, Spain, Irish Free State, Great Britain). I was supposed to hand to Mr. Herriot a letter from the French Section, but as I had no reply to my request for an interview, I sent this letter to him on June 22nd.

The Delegates to the Disarmament Conference, international organisations and the press have received the manifesto.

C. D.

VOX POPULI

One is certainly justified in using the famous phrase "Vox Populi" in the plural as far as the Disarmament Conference is concerned. Every day deputations are received and every hour hundreds of voices makes themselves heard through telegrams, cards and letters, all in more or less strong terms, asking for *deeds* as a result of *words*.

It is calculated that by now over half a billion voices from all centres of the world have spoken to the Conference.

Among the deputations, the one that handed to Mr. Henderson the book "Vox Populi" has received duly deserved attention in the press as well as in the Geneva "International".

Mrs. d'Arcis, in a very impressive speech, handed to Mr. Henderson the first copy of "Vox Populi" which contains all the speeches made on the historical 6th of February.

Following the presentation of the book, Mr. de Watteville, on behalf of the organisations represented in the deputation, made the following minimum demands of the Disarmament Conference:

- 1) Substantial reduction of national land, sea and air armaments;
- 2) Abolition of the most aggressive weapons, and
- 3) Rigorous control, if not abolition, of private manufacture and traffic in arms.

Mr. Henderson, in reply, said the Commission on National Defence Expenditure had shown that budgetary reduction was practical; the Commission on Chemical and Bacteriological Warfare had recommended that nations be forbidden to make preparations for such warfare in times of peace; that experts were necessary to a certain stage of the Conference and had done some good work, but that certain elements had crept into their

report which *responsible* statesmen would find difficult of acceptance. Mr. Henderson felt the Conference's position on aggressive weapons was stronger than four months ago, and, in speaking of manufacture and traffic in arms, illustrated some of the underhand methods of this abominable industry and said he was convinced the Conference would take effective steps to lade with it. He added that "in the organised expression of public opinion which you represent lies the real hope for the Disarmament Conference. It is because public opinion in every country has been so deeply voiced that my own hope is still alive."

The President of the Conference spoke as a *President*, yet no one present could fail to feel the presence of the *man* Henderson.

Deputations are common in Geneva but this one had an outstanding character because of the weight of public opinion behind it. Mr. Henderson said that at "no moment since July 1914 has there lain in the hands of statesmen such power to control events for good or ill" and he closed with an appeal to public opinion to redouble its efforts and make its voice heard in the countries themselves and at the Conference. *Thora Daugaard.*

Just off the press: "Vox Populi", a collection of the speeches made on February 6th, 1932, when the petitions were presented to the Disarmament Conference. Price of the numbered edition: 10 Swiss francs. On sale at Kundig's Bookshop, Geneva, and at the Publications Department of the League of Nations.

NEWS OF THE SECTIONS

Canada.

The annual Assembly of the Toronto Branch voted the following resolution which we have just recently received:

"The members of the Toronto Branch of the Women's international League for Peace and Freedom as citizens of a self-governing Dominion wish to express whole-hearted support of the Indian people in their desire to become a self-governing nation within the British Commonwealth of Nations. Our admiration for this people, in the example they are giving to the world of non-violence as a method to secure freedom, is unbounded.

"We endorse the action of the Women's International League of Great Britain in deploring the fact that the government has considered it necessary to rule by

ordinances which allow arrest without charge, penalties without trial and the imprisonment of a number of leaders who stand for non-violence."

The resolution has been sent to the Prime Minister of Great Britain and to the Secretary of State for India.

United States.

Considering the important place occupied by the United States in international politics and the influence that American proposals may have both at the Lausanne and the Geneva Conferences, we have followed the work of our Section with great interest.

At its annual meeting, the Section voted the following text which is a constructive plan for a pacifist policy and was submitted to both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions:

"In the field of Foreign Relations, we stand for Policies aiming to further friendly and co-operative relations between all peoples whose interdependence becomes closer every year.

"To this end we propose to seek a revival of world trade through a lower tariff, cancellation of debts and reparations, and recognition of the *de facto* government of Russia.

"We promise a necessary relief from taxation by greatly lessened expenditure for military and naval purposes which have been greatly increased by One Hundred and Twenty Million Dollars in the last five years.

"We advocate policies of constructive world peace, such as

- (1) Membership in the World Court;
- (2) An agreement to consult with other governments in case of a violation of the Kellogg Pact or other threats to World Peace.

"And finally:

"Legislation to make possible control of traffic in arms as a necessary part of the Outlawry of War."

Hungary.

The Hungarian Section together with the Social Democrats is carrying on a campaign against capital punishment. A first meeting made a great impression on jurists, doctors and young people. A second meeting will be held shortly in Budapest.

Sweden.

Dr. Sahlbom writes that the Swedish Section has sent the Manifesto to the Prime Minister, to the Swedish Delegates to the Disarmament Conference and to the press.

INFORMATION

A Youth Camp will be held from July 15th to August 15th at Morlanwelz, Belgium. Information can be had from Mme. Marcelle Heyligers-Leroy, 1 Rue de l'Aurore, Brussels.

The Austrian Section of the W. I. L. P. F. is organising an international Summer School which will take place from August 29th to September 12th at Grundlsee near Aussee, Salzkammergut, Upper Austria. Information can be had from and applications made to: Frau Yella Hertzka, 19 Kaasgraben, Vienna XIX.

The Congress of the International Federation of University Women will open on July 28th. (For information, write to: Crosby Hall, Cheyne Walk, London, S.W.3).

The International Peace Congress will take place at Vienna from September 4th to 11th. (Write to: Mr. H. Golaý, 8, rue Charles-Bonnet, Geneva).

The International Course for Speakers on Disarmament, organised by the Women's International Organisations, the Christian International Organisations, the Student International Organisations, the C. I. A. M. A. C. and the International Federation of League of Nations Societies, will be held at Geneva from July 10th to 23rd. (Office of the International Course for Speakers on Disarmament, 8, rue de la Cloche, Geneva.)

The International Federation of League of Nations Societies will hold its congress at Paris, at the Sorbonne, from July 4th to 9th.

The Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organisations will meet at Paris on July 9th, 49 rue St. Georges, at three p.m.

Mr. Lehmann-Russbüldt is preparing the publication of a second edition of "War for Profit" with coloured graphs. Subscriptions can be sent to him, Spenerstr. 11, Berlin NW 40 (price 4.50 Swiss francs). A popular pamphlet on the same subject will appear shortly.

The Total Disarmament Group has drawn up a manifesto which can be had in English, through our office: 12 rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva.

An old member of our League, Franziska Ständenath, has just published her memoirs of her four month's stay in the ashram of Mahatma Gandhi. Her book is called "Vier Monate Gast Mahatma Gandhis — Indiens Freiheitskamps 1930-1931" and is published by Leuscher und Lubensky, Sporgasse 11, Graz, Austria.

For sale at Headquarters :

(1) "De Prague à Grenoble", three years of work in the Sections and at Geneva. Report presented by Camille Drevet to the Grenoble Congress. (Price 30 Swiss centimes.)

(2) "Wanted: a new honour among nations", the Sino-Japanese Conflict, by Amy Woods. (Price: 50 Swiss centimes.)

(3) "Désarmons d'abord les profiteurs de guerre", by Camille Drevet. (Price: 50 Swiss centimes.)

(4) "Peut-on contrôler les industries de guerre?" by Camille Drevet. English Summary by Anne Zueblin (Price: 50 Swiss centimes.)

(5) Postal cards about the disarmament petitions: Arrival of the petitions at the Maison Internationale, the truck with the six million petitions; exhibit of the petitions in the building of the Disarmament Conference. (Price: 10 centimes each.)

LATEST NEWS

We have just had good news from Sydney, Australia, of their celebration of Good Will Day, May 18th.

We have been informed that an Education Congress will take place at Nice from July 29th to August 12th. Members of the W. I. L. who are going to take part in the Congress should get in touch with Andrée Jouve, 13 Square du Port Royal, Paris XIII.

The Danish Section's Peace Day on June 2nd was a brilliant success. Mrs. Cederfeld spoke the day before on the radio and on the 2nd of June a celebration was held at the Royal Theatre, by permission of the King, at which the famous actor, Thorkild Roose, recited a poem by the Danish poetess, Gyrithe Lemche.

Thora Daugaard, who is in Geneva, has written to the 1500 secretaries of the groups of the Danish Section, asking them to have as many postal cards as possible sent to Mr. Henderson, urging, in various terms, that the Disarmament Conference achieve disarmament.

An urgency resolution asking that there be discussion of President Hoover's proposals has been accepted by eight members of the Executive Committee, by correspondence, and has been sent to the Disarmament Conference.

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FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

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