

PAX INTERNATIONAL

Women's International League
for Peace and Freedom

12, rue du Vieux-College, Geneva
Switzerland



One is free when one has the courage
to sacrifice everything for the freedom
of one's soul.

Romain Rolland.

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The World Crisis Emily Balch

So much has happened in world affairs since the June *Pax* was issued that it is impossible even to give a summary of world events. We are therefore printing the interpretation of the situation to-day as outlined in the following article by Emily Balch.

It becomes daily more evident how far the war era is from being liquidated—either economically, politically or morally.

Even the self-confident leaders of American big business are asking themselves what is money with our whole planless body of production and distribution. From France, Briand is urging a more or less complete fusion of European interests, and Washington, so determined to keep out of Europe, finds itself inevitably and profoundly involved.

The efforts to deal internationally with the financial catastrophe in Germany, while thwarted by political considerations, testify to the sense of common interests on a wide scale.

The world is divided, and profoundly divided, divided by national sovereignties, by the aspirations of subject

peoples, by conflicting theories of democracy and dictatorial control, of communism, socialism and private business. And these divisions while they lie on different planes cut across one another in great complexity.

In 1914 there was one predominant division—that between the two great political groups that flew at one another's throats in the war.

The fact that the situation is to-day more complex makes the danger of a world war smaller and the danger of chaotic struggle greater.

There is probably not a country except Russia which could become involved in a governmental war and not have more or less difficulty with its own Left.

If a revolutionary movement should get started and prove contagious it would run up against entirely irrelevant and also mutually inconsistent types of opposition based on patriotism, race feeling, class feeling and economic and political theories.

Through all this confusion a new world is struggling for birth, a world in which a far more comprehensive geographical unity and a far deeper and wider sense of common economic interest will form the framework of human life.

We are so close to the stupendous process that it is hard to realize its advance and impossible to analyse or measure it.

It may go wrong and involve a painful phase of chaos and waste. Or the forces of intelligence and goodwill may acquire control step by step.

W. I. L. Telegraphs Hoover

"The W. I. L. greets with satisfaction the delay of one year in debt payments proposed by the President of the United States. It is however convinced that to be of good effect the moratorium must be accompanied by binding engagements to reduce military budgets accordingly, suspending moratorium in case of violation, otherwise money saved might merely swell armament expenditure."

Germany To France

The following open letter has been sent to the French people and the French Government by Lida Gustava Heymann and Anita Augspurg.

"The German Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in common with a large number of men and women pacifists in Germany extend their heartfelt thanks to France for having accepted the Hoover plan for a moratorium with the great sacrifices which it entails.

"We understand perfectly that it was necessary to give the plan lengthy consideration before it could be accepted. We, the conquered, have not forgotten the devastation and destruction suffered by France during the world war and realize that reconstruction is not yet complete and will be delayed by the Hoover plan.

"We greatly regret that in both our countries chauvinistic elements used the time needed for negotiations to sow again seeds of mistrust and hostility.

"We want so much at this moment to explain to the French people that we fight against our provocative press, that we are in no way in accord with our loud voiced chauvinists and egoists who are only interested in enriching themselves through new wars.

"Many German men and women aspire to a reconciliation of all people and have dedicated themselves to this ideal; France and Germany should once again become as they were in the time of Charles the Great, the heart of Europe, a great cultural centre united in strong friendship.

"In this spirit we send greetings to the French people and their government!

"We thank them heartily for accepting the Hoover plan; may it be followed by years of economic reconstruction on both sides and may the peoples of Europe and of the whole world at last live in permanent universal peace!"

WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

Madeleine Z. Doty

The following article is the opinion of the writer and does not commit the W. I. L. to this point of view.

The recent German crisis has made us all stop and think. But do we realize where we are headed? The crisis, for the moment, has been averted. But what of the future? Winter is coming, conditions do not improve, unemployment and depression are the lot of millions throughout the world. Now is the time to do something. But will the financial leaders and statesmen see it? Are they big enough and wise enough? Will they rise above national, financial and self-interest?

If all over the world, the capitalists say we cannot invest money for we may lose it; if the manufacturers say: "We cannot lower tariffs, for we will lose money"; if the bankers say: "We cannot loan money, for we may lose it"; if the statesmen say: "We cannot disarm, for my country may be attacked", then there is no way out. Chaos and revolution lie ahead.

Times have changed and a new economic order exists. Rationalisation, invention and mass production have changed industry. We hear, for instance, that the U. S. has recently manoeuvred a war ship by means of an electric "Robot" which pushes buttons and does the work of 64 men, even turning the boat at full speed. What does this mean? Less human labour, more mechanical labour. A new adjustment. Perhaps a 5 hour working day. A complete change in the social order. Loss of money for the individual. Will the financiers see this? Will they sacrifice their interests for that of world welfare?

And if they do not, what then? Inevitable chaos and revolution. For a worse winter in Germany than the last means revolution. Germany has the largest number of communists outside Russia. Germany may turn to communism. And if she does what will happen? Will the U. S. and Great Britain say: "Our financial interests in Germany are so great, we must go to war to protect them?" Will France say: "I am menaced by a communist neighbour", and demand war?

Revolution or no revolution, communism or no communism, there must be NO WAR. War will not cure communism. It will only bring more chaos, more revolution, more unemployment, more despair. It will destroy by bombardments thousands of cities and murder millions of women and children.

This is the moment to take our stand. Let us adopt Albert Einstein's program:

(1) "In peace time in countries where conscription is practiced, refuse to accept such service.

(2) "In war time refuse to be forced into the army or into any kind of war service.

"If only 2% of the conscripts would refuse to join the mass murder machine the jails would be filled to bursting and the governments blocked."

Let us remember what British labour did to prevent an attack on Russia. It told Lloyd George: "Not a pound or a man for war."

If our leaders of to-day fail us and dare to drag us into a new war men and women the world over must unite in this kind of action.

JANE ADDAMS SPEAKS AT CANADIAN CONFERENCE

The Canadian section, in their campaign for peace, organized the "Institute on the Economic Bases of Peace" which was held in Toronto from May 29th to June 1st under the auspices of the Toronto W. I. L. and the U. S. groups from Detroit and Cleveland. We give below an account of this meeting as described by Agnes MacPhail, M.P., in an open letter:

"For three days a group of Canadian and American women met at 'Wymilwood' to discuss the economic bases of peace. The surroundings were delightful. 'Wymilwood' is the luxurious home of the Women's Union of Victoria College...

The method adopted by the Institute was to have a lecture on a certain subject, with discussions following... Professor Parkinson discussed 'Is the pressure for markets a menace to peace?' E. J. Garland, M.P., spoke on 'Preparing for the disarmament conference of 1932'. Professor Sissons took as his subject 'What part does our present education play in influencing for or against peace?'

"I was much encouraged on this occasion to find that the peace movement is working out a technique; we are bringing the arts to our rescue. The Saturday evening program was opened by a most excellent choir singing the League of Nations Hymn, and later 'Guns' the words and music of which were written by Canadians. Then followed a play, 'The Unknown Soldier Speaks'. This play is based on a sermon delivered by John Haynes Holmes of New York. The curtains parted to reveal the tomb of the unknown soldier. Six military men were on guard, while some one put a wreath on the tomb. Two citizens who chanced to come by just then, stopped to look at the wreath, they began chatting about soldiers, the war, etc., until after a bit one of them moved on. The other was greatly troubled over it all and he sat down on the step of the tomb. Night fell and in pale

moonlight the unknown soldier came out of the tomb to disclose his feelings. It was a deeply stirring thing and I am sure no one left the hall without determining to do much more than they had done before to prevent another war.

"The high light of the three days was Jane Addams' address in the Metropolitan Church which Dr. Pigeon kindly loaned for the occasion. It was filled to overflowing. Jane Addams is easily among the ten greatest women of the world; in many ways I would say she is the greatest. Her speech was a comprehensive review of world conditions."

We regret that we have not a full report of Miss Addams speech and can only give some extracts from newspapers. The Church in Toronto where she spoke held 3,000 people and many were turned away. She was eloquently introduced by Agnes MacPhail, who was chairman of the meeting.

Miss Addams pictured the eventual arrival of world peace as the culmination of public opinion created by little groups of workers already increasing in numbers in every civilized country in the world.

As abolition of slavery came as the result of gradually created world indignation against injustice so abolition of war was on its way.

In the course of her address Miss Addams stressed the necessity of greater effort towards peace than ever before in the face of a growing nationalistic feeling arising from economic depression. Fear of Russia, she said, must not be allowed to hinder social progress. Speaking of the fear that the world had for Russia, Miss Addams drew attention to the French Revolution. Nations had feared that the French Revolution was the opening of a great new order of things and Great Britain had been held back in natural social legislation for 30 years because of that fear:

"Because of panicky fear we allow ourselves to be swept by an unreasoning attitude not worthy of grown-up sensible people... If the nations are ready to consider international disarmament, it lies with us on this side of the water to see what we can do to help them along. It is pointless to hold up World Disarmament because of fear of Russian influence". Miss Addams concluded saying there was a difference between armaments and police; armies would not be able to deal with situations such as were feared; they were matters for the police, and added: "Wars have been shown to be unprofitable. The last war brought profit to neither victor nor vanquished. Nations must look beyond their frontiers in measuring the action and inter-action of their tariff and immigration policies. No nation should build itself up at the expense of another."

England's Disarmament Day And The Declaration

Edith Zangwill

On July the eleventh many people in England realized for the first time that disarmament was a living issue, that the pacifist crank had become an essential part in the machinery of the state. For, on that day, there was no getting away from the subject.

"They cry Peace, Peace, and give us no Peace", a bewildered onlooker grumbled as he was held up in Piccadilly for the passing of half a mile of Peace Procession, tuneful and gay with its four hands and its four hundred pennants and banners. This man in the street must have been still more confirmed in his complaint if he saw the surging crowd trying to get into the Albert Hall an hour and a half before the Meeting began—no wonder the organizers had said that they could have sold out this largest hall in London twenty times over. He must have rubbed his eyes in amazement at the overflow meetings, the small one at the back of the Albert Hall, the large one of many thousands opposite in Kensington Gardens. An attendant had said to me that morning: "It's like suffragette times over again to be seeing all you ladies." The phrase was of good augury. Once they told us that it was impossible to get the "Vote for Women"—and we got it. Now we are again going to do the impossible. We are going to get "Peace for Mankind".

The speakers in the Albert Hall, whose words were relaid to the overflow meetings, were, as every one knows, another surprise. Has it ever happened before that the leaders of the three political parties have stood on one platform voicing the same sentiments and urging the same action in a trio of heavenly harmony? Has

it ever happened before that Mr. Mac Donald, Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Lloyd George have burst upon our astonished gaze as a happy little band of brothers? This universal approval of peace by the "Mighty" of Great Britain seems to me its chief danger. If only the authorities would break up our meetings, if only they would throw a few pacifists into prison, it would feel more healthy, more natural. When reformers are in high places, those high places are apt to be the scaffold and the Cross. Perhaps it is as well that in all countries the work of peace is not thus made easy, and respectable.

The Chairman at the Albert Hall was Field-Marshal Sir William Robertson—a peace-meeting is the proper field for a soldier, the only proper field. But when the soldier stigmatizes war as something that "hurts everybody, benefits nobody—except the profiteer—settles nothing", what remains to be added by the layman?

The Albert Hall and its overflow Meetings were organized by the League of Nations Union representing sixty-two other Societies. For the Procession, the Women's International League was alone responsible. It seemed curious, therefore, that our Declaration was more to the fore in the former than the latter, but this was merely due to a police regulation against circulating literature in the street. At the Albert Hall, both inside and out, we saw to it that the call to "sign up for peace" was unescapable. Over in Kensington Gardens our task was more difficult, for, this time, it was the "Office of Works" that objected to our working. We were only to display the forms on a table, they told us; with difficulty we got

the one table multiplied to six. In the Albert Hall, where we could ask people to sign, almost everyone had already signed. At the overflow Meeting, where almost no one had already signed, we could not ask people to sign. Still, we got three thousand signatures. Including these, our British total of signatures is to-day (July 27th) 1,124,095—a mere 2.2 per cent. of our population. The figure is not as good as in Switzerland. It is not nearly as good as in Wales. For that tiny country has a percentage of signatures to its population of 6.25 per cent. while in some of the Welsh counties a quarter of the whole population has signed; an amazing phenomenon.

In the last number of *Pax*, I was much struck by some word of Clara Ragaz. To make the signatures of one land valid, she said, the signatures of the other lands are needed. Some of us have rather forgotten that this is not an American Declaration, nor a British Declaration, nor a French Declaration, nor a German Declaration. It is an International Declaration. Just as it takes two people to make one sister, it takes two (or more) nationalities to make one signatory. To misquote Tennyson, one can say of the Declaration:—

*Latin and Teuton and Angles are we,
But all of us one in the signing of thee.*

For this disarmament declaration is not a mere declaration, a statement that so many thousands, or millions, of people desire disarmament. It is something more than this. The International Declaration on World Disarmament is an outward and visible sign of that inward world unity to which it is helping us some day to attain.

Disarmament Campaign In Estonia

Dr. Naima Sahlbom has recently been making a trip to Finland and Estonia to start work for the Disarmament Petition. She writes:—

"I went over to Helsingfors and was able to meet a group of our Finnish section. I got a strong impression of their courage and enthusiasm for the Disarmament work in spite of their rather dangerous situation. There is in some circles in Finland an irritated feeling against Soviet-Russia and rumours are current of a possible war. These exaggerated reports have a disconcerting effect on the population. In a Finnish magazine the W. I. L. is attacked as being an instrument of Soviet-Russia and the author regrets that so many highly educated and prominent women are being misled and without knowing it serving the enemy. But in spite of this absurd and unjust attack several well known persons

from different parties have signed the Finnish Declaration; Annie Furuholm, one of the most active pioneers in pacifist and social movements...

"I was glad to get Mrs. Toini Iversen, President of the Finnish section of the W. I. L., to come with me to Estonia. I had accepted an invitation to visit a summer camp of the Y. W. C. A. at Narva near the Russian frontier. It gave us a good opportunity to meet leading women and students from different parts of the country living in Estonia. I spoke in German about our Disarmament petition and Mrs. Iversen continued in Finnish with a short translation into Estonian... We then went to Dorpat (Tartu) where Mrs. Rahamägi succeeded in calling together a group of people interested in peace and willing to help in the work... In Reval (Tallin) we called on Mr. Kiiwet,

inspector at the Department of Education who promised to give us his support and gave us a great deal of useful advice... I also visited one of the islands which has a Swedish population and met the curate of the place who helped me to distribute Swedish leaflets. Finally I saw Mrs. Reisik, the only woman in the Estonian Parliament... and I trust that she will help with the campaign as soon as vacation time is over. We were able to get an Estonian translation of the petition. Our Estonian friends very much appreciated our preparative work and the message we brought from the W. I. L.. I think that the Disarmament action will have a stimulating effect upon them and may lead to the forming of a new section...

We may well hope that by the initiative of our League the people of Estonia will join in the world demand for Peace and Disarmament."

Women's Consultative Committee On Nationality

A new and unusual event occurred at the League of Nations early in July. Women from all parts of the world, from India to the U.S., came together for the first time in history to draft a report for the Assembly of the League of Nations at the League of Nations' request, setting forth the opinion of organized women all over the world on a subject of particular interest to women.

Ever since April 1930, when the Hague Codification Conference under the auspices of the League of Nations adopted a Nationality Convention which dealt unequally with the rights of men and women in the matter of nationality, women have protested to the League and demanded that this question be reconsidered. This protest led the January Council of the League, to adopt a resolution authorizing the creation of the Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality.

On July 2nd this Committee met in a room which had been especially set apart for it in the Secretariat of the League of Nations. The women delegates to the Committee who represented eight of the largest women's organizations, were as follows: International Council of Women, Mme Maria Vérone (France), Miss L. C. A. van Eeghen (Holland); the International Suffrage Alliance, Mrs. Corbett Ashby (England), Mme. Bakker-Nort (Holland); Women's International League, Miss Madeleine Z. Doty (U. S.), Mme. Eugénie M. Meller (Hungary); Inter-American Commission of Women, Miss Alice Paul (U. S.), Miss Doris Stevens (U. S.); Equal Rights International, Miss Dorothy Evans (England), Miss Margaret Whittemore (U. S.); World Union of Women, Mme C. Guthrie d'Arcis, Miss M. L. Nobs (Switzerland); All Asian Conference of Women, Miss May Oung (Burma), Dr. Rosa Welt Straus (Palestine); International Federation of University Women, Miss Chrystal MacMillan (England) Mme. Nelly Schreiber-Favre (Switzerland).

At the opening meeting Mr. G. A. Buero, head of the Legal Department of the League of Nations, gave an address of welcome to the Committee. He said in part:

"The statement of proposals which you draw up and address to the Secretary General of the League will be placed by him before the Assembly in an annex to his report. There is, I believe, no exact precedent for such a procedure and the present occasion is therefore specially interesting."

Mme. Vérone then replied on behalf of the Committee, expressing our appreciation that the Committee had been called and saying in part:

"We are not here as representatives of governments, we are here as women with an international point of view

and we are therefore free to speak on behalf of women the world around as to what we believe is the real wish of women in regard to the question of their nationality."

The Committee then proceeded to business. Mme. Vérone (France) was elected chairman, Miss Dorothy Evans (England) secretary and Miss Madeleine Z. Doty chief of press.

The Committee decided to use as the basis for their discussion a draft report which had been previously prepared by the four members of the Preliminary Drafting Committee: Mme. Bakker-Nort (Holland), Miss MacMillan (England), Miss Paul (U.S.) and Mme. Vérone (France). The Committee sat from Wednesday morning until Sunday afternoon.

The Draft Report as finally accepted opens with a very simple statement saying that the Committee is opposed to the Hague Nationality Convention and states its demand that there shall be no distinction based on sex in the matter of nationality and urges the Assembly to reconsider the Hague Nationality Convention.

Following this opening statement there is a brief memorandum elaborating the Committee's position. The memorandum points out that thus far only two countries, Monaco and Norway, have ratified the Hague Convention. It gives reasons for re-opening the question of the Convention. It states the fact that no enduring Code of law can be built up without the support of women and that women will not support a code which contains discriminations against women in the matter of nationality. The report ends with an appendix containing tables of laws showing the extent to which equality in nationality already exists in various countries.

Final agreement on this report was not reached without considerable discussion for there were many and varied points of view among the women. There were those who felt that equality was the essential and only point. There was the other point of view which, while wishing equality for women, desired that she should not lose any of her privileges: for instance, that the woman who marries should have the right to keep her own nationality if she desires, but that she should also have the privilege of taking her husband's nationality if she wishes; though, to-day there are no countries where by the mere fact of marriage a man is permitted to take the wife's nationality.

The delegates of the W. I. L. stood for both freedom and equality. Their contention was, that there should be the utmost freedom given in the choice of nationality enabling both men and

women to retain or change their nationality freely and that there should be no distinction based on sex. This point was covered by two statements:

(1) "A further objection offered is that equality in nationality might result in husband and wife having different nationalities when it would be to their interest to have the same nationality. In answer to this point, attention is called to the fact that there are countries which have equality in nationality and which also facilitate the naturalisation of a foreigner—whether a man or woman—who marries a national of a country, so that the husband and wife are enabled to have the same nationality if they so desire". The other statement recommended:

(2) "That facility of choice should be given to either spouse on marriage to take the nationality of the other."

Another point which brought forth much discussion until finally an accord was reached on the matter was the question of the nationality of the child. The Federation of University Women gave their support to the report only in so far as it dealt with the woman's nationality and took no position in so far as the report dealt with the derivation of the nationality of the child from its mother, since the Federation had taken no decision on this subject of nationality.

We give below the opening statement in the report:

"Realizing the far-reaching consequences for women—for greater freedom or greater subjection—involved in the project of the League of Nations for the codification of international law, which may lead to the establishing of a World Code of Law, this Committee presents the following Statement concerning the Nationality Convention drawn up by the Hague Codification Conference in 1930, and which was designed to form the opening section of the proposed Code:

(1) This Committee declares that it is opposed to the Hague Nationality Convention inasmuch as it differentiates between men and women as regards nationality.

(2) This Committee wishes to express its support of the proposal put before the Hague Codification Conference by the delegation from Chile for a world agreement on nationality, reading:

"The Contracting States agree that from the going into effect of this Convention there shall be no distinction based on sex in their law and practice relating to nationality.

(3) This Committee, finally, urges the Assembly of the League of Nations to take immediate steps

(a) to bring about the reconsideration of the Hague Nationality Convention, and

(b) to submit to the Governments for ratification a new convention founded on the principle of equality between men and women with regard to nationality."

Women And The International Labor Conference

The 15th International Labour Conference of the League of Nations took place in Geneva from May 27th to June 18th. During this Conference, the revision of the International Convention barring women from paid night work was on the Agenda. The central paragraph of this Convention reads:

"Women without distinction of age shall not be employed during the night in any public or private industrial undertaking or in any branch thereof, other than an undertaking in which only members of the same family are employed."

This Convention was adopted in 1919. The two proposed amendments were: a) That the proposal should not apply to women holding positions of supervision or management; b) The insertion of a clause authorising the interval, from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. instead from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., as the period during which night work should be prohibited.

During the Labour Conference women representatives of the Open Door International came to Geneva and carried on a campaign to protest against the re-adoption of this Convention. They asked the chairman of the Conference for a hearing but this was refused. After the members of the Open Door International had left Geneva women of other organizations got together to discuss the matter. These women felt that it was not a question of whether night work was right or was not right for women but that in no case should the International Labour Conference pass an International Convention affecting women without consulting the internationally organized women on this point. Mr. Arancibia, the Workers'

Delegate from Chile, held the same view. He prepared a resolution on the matter to present to Mr. Thomas, the Director of the International Labour Office. The resolution says in part:

"This Conference requests that the Labour Office create an Advisory Committee of women, charged with presenting to the 1932 Session of the Labour Conference a report in regard to the night work of women."

Mr. Arancibia arranged with Mr. Thomas for a hearing for himself and a Committee of women who supported him and his resolution. Those taking part in the deputation were: International Council of Women, Miss van Eeghen (Holland); W. I. L., Miss Madeleine Z. Doty (U. S.); The Inter-American-Commission, Miss Alice Paul (U. S.), Mme Martha Vergara (Chile) and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, who represented labour women in Great-Britain.

Mr. Arancibia introduced the Committee to Mr. Thomas and gave his reasons for feeling that the Convention barring night work for women should not be rushed through without due consultation. Mr. Thomas replied that there was no way in which the matter could be brought before the Conference and that the proper course was to bring the subject before the Governing Body of the International Labour Office in October. Because of pressure of work he then terminated the interview so that it was not possible to lay before him the feeling of women in this matter. Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence later wrote to Mr. Thomas. She said in part:

"I respectfully suggest it is not enough to confer only with those women who are organized in trade

unions with men. Trade-Unionism is governed by long established traditions, the entrance of women into industry is comparatively modern. Women as new comers are at present very much over-shadowed by the traditions and old-fashioned ideas of women's sphere that are brought over by the men from the past... To-day special legislation does not affect one class of women only. International legislation affects all women. It affects the whole position of women in the economic world... It decides whether equality or permanent inferiority of remuneration is their prospective outlook... To-day women of all classes are beginning to regard international legislation affecting their intimate life and liberty with fear and distrust...

"We ask you, Mr. Thomas, in a spirit of comradeship and friendship... to see that every proposal for special legislation affecting women shall be preceded by a thorough scientific investigation so that in every case all classes of women shall be consulted through their leaders or representatives."

At the final Session Mme. Eugénia Wasniewska, advisor to the Workers' Delegates from Poland and a member of the W.I.L. tried to submit an urgency resolution. It called for the creation of an Advisory Committee on which women should be represented. The chairman of the Conference assured Mme. Wasniewska that though the matter could not be taken up then it would be examined by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

The two amendments for the revision of the Convention were both rejected by the Conference.

Conference On The Limitation Of The Manufacture Of Narcotics

This Conference began its sessions the end of May and sat all during June and on into July. We regret that owing to lack of space we cannot report the very interesting discussions that took place, but must postpone it to another *Pax*. We are, however, glad to be able to report briefly that the Conference for the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotics was a real step in advance. Although the problem of the limitation of the raw material was not touched, for the first time there was a comprehensive plan for the limitation of the manufacture of all narcotics and all derivatives. If the Convention that was drawn up could be put into effect it would be a great thing for mankind, but now that the Convention has been passed by the Committee, it must still be ratified by the governments concerned before it can become effective. It is therefore the business of every section of

the W. I. L. to take the matter up with their own governments and see that this Convention for the Limitation of the Manufacture of Narcotics is ratified by their government.

It will be of interest to the members of the W.I.L. to know that at the opening of the Conference a deputation of the W.I.L. consisting of Emily Balch, Madeleine Doty and Madame Rolli, chairman of the Geneva group, waited upon the chairman of the Conference M. de Brouckère and presented the W.I.L. memorandum on opium and narcotics. The chairman agreed to have this memorandum circulated among the delegates. Further the Conference extended to four organizations the privilege of presenting their testimony in regard to the nefarious effect of the traffic in drugs. Four organizations testified. The W.I.L. was one of them. Madeleine Z. Doty, as the only member of the W.I.L. Opium Commission pre-

sent in Geneva, spoke briefly in behalf of the W.I.L., saying in part that it was not as experts that we came before the Committee but as women the world around who are convinced that the illegal traffic in drugs must stop. That both the production of raw material and the manufacture of narcotics and all derivatives whatsoever must be limited to scientific and medicinal purposes. She concluded by saying:

"We know that public opinion is growing more and more impatient at the lack of results. That the whole League of Nations suffers under the growing suspicion that the internationally organized forces for human welfare are powerless in the face of the great money evils.

"But where there is a will there is a way. If every representative here will place human welfare above financial interest a new chapter may be written."

WORK OF THE W. I. L. NATIONAL SECTIONS

Swiss Section

This section leads all others in the number of signatures it has in proportion to the population, though the actual number it has secured is not nearly as great as England's. In the middle of July, with many petitions still circulating, the total was 190,000 signatures, which is nearly 5 per cent. of the population.

British Section

This section has a far larger number of signatures to the petition than any other country. It has been greatly helped in its campaign by the fact that the leading statesmen in Great Britain have taken up the cause and signed the petition. On another page of *Pax* we give an account of the great mass meeting held in Albert Hall for World Disarmament. There are now 63 organizations cooperating in the campaign in England. Joint Disarmament Councils made up of various organizations have been formed in 25 places, and a house to house canvass is proceeding in 24 towns. As an example of the way the work is being carried on, at the town of Bolton a stall covered with posters and supplied with petitions and leaflets was set up in the Town Hall square on July 16th and workers were on duty from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. During that day 4,500 signatures were secured including those of the Mayor and the Mayoress. The total collected in Bolton is 26,000.

In Bristol, the local Disarmament Council arranged a public demonstration in 6 public parks on July 12th, 30,000 children taking part and about 70,000 people in all being present. A street collection of signatures was arranged for during the week, beginning July 20th. In many towns from 20 to 25 per cent. of the total population signed the petition. In some places the tradesmen are showing the following notice in their shop window: "*Sign World Disarmament Declaration.*" "*Please come in and add your signature if not already given.*"

At the big procession, which was arranged on July 11th by this section and which took place just before the big Albert Hall meeting, 20 societies took part. The procession began at 1.30 p.m. at Victoria Embankment and proceeded to the Albert Hall. Many pictures of this procession have already appeared in the papers.

German Section

Frida Perlen writes from Stuttgart on June 20th that she has been particularly active in creating a Press Committee for Disarmament. She is securing the support of journalists and papers in many countries. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* is acting for the Press

Commission for Germany. She says the publicity in the press has been extraordinarily satisfactory and as a result questions come in daily in regard to the Disarmament Campaign.

A meeting of representatives of 24 organizations representing all parties and tendencies was held in Stuttgart. There were present representatives of the Catholics, Jews, Evangelists, teachers, women's societies, workers' associations, etc.. A great deal of support was shown for the campaign at this meeting.

Frau Augusta Kirchhoff from Bremen reports that the Disarmament Campaign is being carried on there on a large scale. The Free Trade-Unions of the city have taken 800 petitions. The Civil-Servant Trade-Unions have already taken up the campaign. The Democratic-Socialist Party of Germany is another supporter and returned to the W. I. L. not long ago 20 lists filled in. At a meeting of this party a large poster was exhibited ("Sign the petition") and a great number of signatures were secured.

Among the war-wounded and war-victims the petitions are circulated with great results. The campaign has been started in the sea-port towns of Bremerhaven and Vegesack. Recently the German women's organizations in Hamburg and Bremen have cooperated with the W. I. L. This should secure the signatures to the petition of many bourgeois women.

Frau Hoppstock-Huth of Hamburg says that this city has developed as a centre for the Disarmament Campaign in North-West Germany. She writes: "The Peace Cartel in Hamburg has taken hold of the W. I. L. campaign and it is through their keen cooperation that so many signatures in the trade-unions, cultural, political and religious organizations were obtained. Officials of the most different kinds of organizations have offered their volunteer service to carry on the campaign. For instance, the business representatives of the Free-Thinkers, the Young Socialist Party, the Social Democratic Party and the Trade-Unions who go about to the different houses collecting payment on bills, at the same time collect signatures to the petition..."

"We distributed 5,000 Disarmament cards at the performance of the 'Remarque Film'. The Socialist press supports us and in the consumers cooperative an active disarmament propaganda is developing. Centres have been formed in Lüneburger Heide and Schleswig-Holstein and along the whole sea coast as far as the bathing resorts in Pommeren. Although the results do not always justify all our trouble and work, in many cases great eagerness and devotion is shown in collecting signatures which proves that it is penetrating the German understanding that the bankruptcies and emer-

gency measures show the necessity for disarmament. This is illustrated by a letter from one of our oldest members who says: 'I am filled with joy to see that our Disarmament Campaign flourishes. Yesterday, for instance, a dock worker told me he had sent in a list filled in with names. O! We must in some way achieve our purpose!'

Frau Hoppstock-Huth reported on the 16th July that they had secured 50,000 signatures but hopes soon to double this number.

Gertrud Baer, Anita Augspurg and *Lida Gustava Heymann* in behalf of this section sent a letter to President Hoover asking the appointment of Jane Addams as a delegate to the coming World Disarmament Conference in Geneva. There is not space to print the letter in full. In part they said:

"We fully realize the appointment of delegates to the Geneva Disarmament Conference is a purely national matter. We know, however, that the influence of Jane Addams as a woman and as a social and above all as a peace worker gives her personality such a great moral weight that we venture to submit to you this request... More than once in history the success of negotiations has been due to the individual influence and intervention of a wise and noble personality."

French Section

This Section reports that 40,000 petitions have been put into circulation. The Committee of Action for Peace created by the Society of Friends has organized a campaign of propaganda in favour of peace in many of the communes and districts of Gien and has secured 3,000 signatures. In Lyon at the Museum for Peace, nearly 5,000 persons have signed. At Saint-Etienne 900, at Valence more than a thousand, at Bordeaux 5,000. At Paris, Madame Bray, President of the Feminist League, has secured several thousand signatures, Mrs. Pelcot of Auxerre and Mr. Cointat have secured 5,250 signatures. The W.I.L. group of Colmar have published an appeal in German and circulated it in a number of villages and have secured 1,500 signatures. The League of Mothers and Educators and several other organizations are now gathering signatures. Everywhere there is energetic action but this section says that the 30,000 signatures which they now have are entirely inadequate and they are making a strong appeal to everybody to continue their efforts.

On Sunday, May 31st, in Paris, the National Conference of the French Section was held. Madame Duchêne presided. There were delegates from the groups in Rouen, Chartres, Metz, Besançon, Arles, Nîmes, Reims, Bordeaux, Cannes and Colmar. At this Conference further plans were made for the disarmament campaign.

U. S. Section

This section held its annual meeting in Los Angeles, California, and at the close launched a big campaign for Disarmament. As reported in a previous *Pax*, this section had decided to send a Peace Caravan from California across the United States, collecting signatures to the Disarmament petition. The ceremony dispatching the Peace Caravan from Los Angeles was very impressive. It was held in the Greek theatre. The great symphony orchestra and a chorus of 200 voices made it a really beautiful musical event. At the close of the "Hallelujah" chorus there was a beautiful pageant of the nations and then ten lovely young girls dressed in white released 200 homing pigeons, messengers of peace, which circled about the great stadium several times. Then the trumpeters sent forth their appeal and leading the way to the waiting automobiles which were gaily decorated the caravan was off on its homeward trip to Washington and President Hoover. The 1,500 people assembled for the occasion with a unanimous shout adopted the resolution asking President Hoover to appoint peace-minded delegates to the Disarmament Conference in Geneva next February and asking for total and universal disarmament. The caravan proceeded to the north of California before crossing the United States.

At each city the caravan was met with a fleet of cars outside the city lines and then paraded through the city. At Santa Barbara a big luncheon was given to the members of the caravan and later a reception at the Women's Club, where they were greeted by the Mayor who signed the disarmament petition. At Carmel, the beautiful sea-side city, a long procession of cars accompanied the caravan to the city park, where the Mayor with a big crowd of citizens signed the petition and a resolution was again adopted and telegraphed to President Hoover. At Santa Maria there was an evening meeting and the assembled clergy of four churches greeted the caravan. The next day the procession proceeded to Palo Alto where there was a big mass meeting in the city park and the caravan was welcomed by the Mayor. The Ford Agency in that town lent a beautiful new car as a rostrum for the speakers. At San Mateo and Burlingame the twin cities, the Mayor of Burlingame gave a warm welcome. Here also the petition was circulated and a resolution adopted and wired to President Hoover. In this city an escort of the police headed the procession and accompanied the caravan as far as the city lines where it was met, not only by the motor-cycle police but, by a representative of the Mayor of San Francisco and a great decorated police car. Thus escorted the caravan

passed all traffic lines in San Francisco led by the screaming siren of the police car, while all the by-standers stared and read "World Disarmament" on the banners and decorations. In San Francisco the city-band was playing at the City Hall steps where many cars were parked and a great crowd assembled. At the top of the steps Mayor Rossi gave the caravan a warm greeting. Here, there were speeches and the people were appealed to to sign the petition. The Mayor extended the freedom of the city to the caravan, which planned to stay in San Francisco a day and held a big mass meeting on Sunday afternoon. On the following Monday, July 6th, it proceeded across the United States. Further news of the caravan has not yet reached the Geneva Office but it will be published in the September *Pax*. The total number of signatures to the petition in the United States before the Caravan set forth on its trip was 81,000.

Canadian Section

This section reports that on June 12th the number of signatures secured from Alberta to Ontario was roughly 25,000 while the Women's Missionary Society of the United Churches have secured 38,000 making the total amount for Canada 63,000.

They report that the League of Nations Union is now actively interested in the petition. The general secretary of the Union plans to put on a thorough going campaign through all the affiliated organizations and has already prepared a poster to be put in every post office and every bank in Canada.

The Canadian section is planning in October to send Agnes MacPhail, M.P., on a speaking tour to secure signatures, from Victoria, B.C., to Fort Williams, Ontario.

Swedish Section

Dr. Naima Sahlbom reports for this section that on July 14th they had 65,000 signatures. She says in the summer the work goes a little more slowly but in the autumn they are concentrating all their forces for a final spurt. Recently the Socialist Party has officially promised to support the disarmament petition and recommended it to all their local organizations. This section has also had encouraging answers from different Free-Churches. The president of the International Order of the Good-Templars has sent a message to all sections in the different countries urging them to work for the petition.

The Swedish Cooperative Committee, which comprises 16 organizations, has passed a set of resolutions very similar to those adopted by the Executive Committee at Lille which they propose to use as the basis for a propaganda campaign in the autumn. In carrying on this campaign

they will include the disarmament petition and seek to secure as many signatures as possible.

Norwegian Section

This section reports on June 18th that it had 45,000 signatures. They say that several thousands of the petitions are still in circulation which they hope will come in during this summer. In September they are starting a new campaign.

Czecho-Slovakian Section

This group held two fine meetings on May 22nd and 28th on Disarmament. The Bishop Kordac has promised this section the collaboration of the Catholic Church.

On June 9th the Aviation Club of Prague held a meeting in the course of which a demonstration was given of what a future war in the air would be like with the bombardments of cities. The section seized this opportunity to show the public by leaflets and by articles in the press what these demonstrations meant and the horror of another war. On June 22nd the section sent a letter to Lord Robert Cecil who was visiting Prague and planning to deliver a lecture. In it they said:

"You know the W.I.L. is collecting signatures for disarmament. Could you call the audience's attention to this collection and recommend it? It would help us immensely and we would be very grateful to you."

On the 22nd of July Czecho-Slovakia had 25,000 signatures. They are planning a big drive in the autumn.

Australian Section

This section reported on the 20th of May that they had about 6,000 forms in circulation and that they had already registered 7,000 signatures. They say several other societies have taken hundreds of petitions to send to their members and are hoping for good results. One of the prominent people who has recently signed is Sir John Monash who was commander of the Australian Forces in France during the war. He said when he signed that he regretted that the pressure on his time prevented him from gathering other signatures. In one large business house in Australia the manager, who was interviewed, consented to the forms being put before the staff and over 500 signatures were collected in that one business firm. The Australian section is striving for 100,000 signatures.

Other Sections

We have news from other sections as to the work they are doing for disarmament. But we have no space in this *Pax* to print these reports and must do so in September. We estimate now that we have over a million and a half of signatures but we want at least 3 million by November first.

Peace Committee Conference International Suffrage Alliance

Mme. Ramondt-Hirschman was sent as a delegate from the W. I. L. to the Conference of the Peace Committee of the International Suffrage Alliance at Belgrade, Yougoslavia, at the end of May. She has sent an interesting account of the meeting which we regret there is not space enough in *Pax* to print. She reports that it was an extremely interesting Conference and that there were some very important speakers. She felt the best lecture of the whole Conference was that of Mrs. Kathleen E. Innes on the Convention of Disarmament. She said it was rather curious to hear the former minister of Foreign Affairs of Yougoslavia give an address on Disarmament, speaking as a nationalist and constantly talking of security. Mme. Ramondt said she was happy to speak after him on the subject of Disarmament and Unemployment and was able to say that all this talk of "security" made it absolutely impossible to have any security in the world.

After the Conference was over Mme. Ramondt was invited to a session of the Peace Committee where she was told that this Committee had decided to collect signatures on a petition for Disarmament using about the same text as that used by the British W. I. L. The Committee hoped that the W. I. L. would consider this as an aid in the campaign and said they did not intend to work in the countries where we were having great success with our petition but only in those countries where the work seemed to be less effective.

The W. I. L. Congress

It has been arranged now that the Congress will take place in Vevey in Switzerland, in May, 1932. The Casino at Vevey has been placed at the W. I. L. disposal. Vevey is an hour and a half from Geneva, so that it will be possible easily to reach the Disarmament Conference when desired, if that body is still sitting.

People Without A Country

The Hungarian section has been particularly active in dealing with the problem of the Stateless and on May 22nd they held a large meeting in the Hall of Commerce in Budapest in regard to this matter. Unfortunately we did not get their report in time to print it in the June *Pax* and there was no July issue. This month our space is very limited and we urge those interested to write to Hungary and get the full report from Frau Meller. The Hungarian Section of the W. I. L. succeeded in getting the cooperation of the men and women who had come to Budapest to attend the Congress of the Federation of the League of Nations Society. It was in collaboration with this group that a large public meeting was arranged. The Hall was crowded, people listening with interest until midnight to the reports. Mme. Régine Havas was in the chair and gave the history of the W. I. L. Stateless Committee and emphasized the need of remedies to overcome the evils of statelessness which were causing so much suffering.

The speakers were Lord Dickinson of Painswick, Professor Dr. Ruysen, Dr. J. Kunz, Dr. G. Lukacs, Dr. Lilla Wagner, Professor L. Quidde, Dr. S. Beck and Dr. Elisabeth Lüders.

The public was so impressed by the facts and arguments presented that they accepted unanimously the proposals and resolutions of Mme. Eugénie Meller which she suggested should be turned over to the League of Nations with a demand for a speedy solution of the problem.

W. I. L. Summer School

Do not forget our Summer School at the Boberhaus, Löwenberg, Silesia, from August 22 to September 5th. The subject is: The German and Polish problem. This is a matter of the utmost importance in the present world crisis and all members who can possibly do so should attend. For further particulars write Mrs. Kläre Marek, Kurtfürstenstrasse 29, Breslau 18.

W. I. L. Executive

The Executive is to meet in Geneva on the 4th of September and will sit for about a week. The meetings are to be held at the Maison Internationale.

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