

# PAX INTERNATIONAL

## Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva  
Switzerland



Among other deflations that have taken place... there appears to have been a very wholesome deflation of a spirit of too much arrogance. Individuals and nations are not so self satisfied as they were... An excessive nationalism and excessive individualism... if they are not yet entirely discipated, have been modified by the more reasonable attitude of concession and cooperation.

*Calvin Coolidge, U. S.*

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### Budgetary Limitation Of Armaments

The Committee of Experts of the League of Nations on budgetary limitation of armaments met in Geneva during the month of February. The report they adopted is to be forwarded to all Governments.

The report in the first place deals with the manner in which the principle of limitation of expenditure on national defence and publicity is to be applied.

In accordance with the instructions of the Preparatory Commission on Disarmament the experts made a model statement of expenditure on national defence. This statement is intended to show in simple form the military expenditure of all countries not withstanding the diversity of their methods in presenting their budgets and accounts. It takes into account the possible differences in purchasing power of the various currencies with particular reference to the cost of war material.

The Committee proposes that in the budget estimates of the various states, limitation and publicity should be based on the payments made in the course of each financial year.

The Committee has endeavoured to devise a system which would enable the various Governments to agree to a fixing of the limitation of armaments at a level corresponding as closely as possible to reality.

In the first place it recommends that the limits apply to the average expenditure for four consecutive years rather than that they should be measured by the requirements for a peak year, on the understanding that the expenditure in any one year should not exceed a certain percentage to be fixed by agreement for each country.

In view of the difficulty of giving an accurate statement of expenditure in regard to armaments in the different countries, the Committee proposes entire publicity in doubtful cases. In its opinion these measures would contribute to inspiring confidence in the system of financial limitation.

### Scientific Disarmament

A remarkable book with the title "Scientific Disarmament", by Major Victor Lefebure (Mundanus Ltd, London, 5s) has recently been published. Major Lefebure began his career as a young chemist and became one of the principal officers in the Chemical Warfare Service on the Allied side during the war. He knows what he is talking about. His chapters about gas, poisons, bacteria are terrifying. He argues that it is folly to limit international competition in soldiers guns etc. and allow free competition in scientific devilries. The Budgetary Scheme to limit expenditure on armed forces or the Esher proposal to limit the number of land forces, the curtailment of rivalry in the old-fashioned armaments and leaving the door wide open for a race in scientific monstrosities is futile and crazy. Major Lefebure's contention is that it takes from 9 to 12 months to turn an ordinary factory into a poison gas factory *unless the requisities for conversion have been provided beforehand*. It is our business to prevent this anticipatory provision. He believes this can be done and unless

it is done the kinds of disarmament over which Geneva has come to a deadlock are futile.

### Danish Disarmament

Again Denmark has passed in the Lower House of the Danish Parliament a bill reducing the Danish Army to a mere police force. This bill has been passed every year for several years by the Lower House but the Upper House always prevents its becoming law. There are only two or three votes in the Upper House against it but they still hold out.

### Church Goes Pacifist

The entire congregation of the Central Christian Church of Van Nuys, California, unanimously adopted at its annual meeting the following resolution:

"We hereby go on record, in case of any future war in which this country may be engaged, that this congregation will refuse to sanction such a war, or to have a part in it, for we dare not give the name of Christ to that kind of bitter struggle which grows more horrid with each conflict, and likewise more ineffective to promote the welfare of mankind."

(Reprint "World Tomorrow").

### A Plebiscite On Disarmament

Constant Petit, a farmer of St. Sauveur-de-Nuailly, France, obtained the permission of the local mayors in his own town and five other towns in the same province, to take an unofficial plebiscite of all the voters in this district. They were asked to state whether they were in favour of complete and immediate disarmament and as a first step, the abolition of military conscription and the destruction of all war materials on a given date. The date of 1st April, 1932, was proposed. Ninety per cent, voted in favour of total and immediate disarmament. This plebiscite was carried out by Constant Petit without any support. The success is so gratifying that he is anxious to attempt similar action on a much larger scale.

(Reprint "The War Resisters").

## WORLD PATRIOTISM

Camille Drevet

Almost simultaneously two men both Frenchmen, but men of very different types, both possessing friends and admirers all over the world have issued a public appeal calling for a larger patriotism than that of one's own nation. At the moment at which Victor Margueritte published his book "La patrie humaine", Romain Rolland wrote for the "Nouvelle Revue Mondiale" an article calling on Europe to expand, to break down its frontiers, or it would die.

During the same week I met both these men Victor Margueritte had come up to Paris from his home at St. Maxime-sur-Mer to see to the publication of his book. In a few days 30,000 copies had been sent to all corners of France and across the frontiers. In his book Victor Margueritte gives a big place to the W.I.L. He spoke with sympathy of our work and efforts.

"One must give up the idea of 'my fatherland' says Victor Margueritte, 'an idea which is hardly more than 140 years old in France. In the evolution of mankind 'my country', is only one step in development and not the end. One must enlarge one's vision from that of 'warring fatherlands', to a world at peace. And one must face the present situation squarely and not accept the *status quo* of a 'warring peace' a map of Europe torn apart and patched together by men of a by-gone day. In Eastern Europe new sovereignties rule with iron hand, while the heart of Europe, Germany, has been torn to bits and ruined.

"What would France have said in 1871 if Germany had imposed on her the conditions which she France is imposing on Germany. And Austria, to-day is only one big city surrounded by bleeding suburbs and a few mountain districts; while Hungary reduced in size sees her capital threatened on all sides.

"Everywhere there is danger of war and preparation for war. Everywhere there are diplomatic intrigues and military treaties more or less secret. The national defense of France extends from Warsaw to Prague and from Belgrade to Bucarest. And everywhere one has reason to fear the manoeuvres of the capitalists, those rulers without a country, those men who during the last war though enemies sold ammunition to one another."

Victor Margueritte asks the people if they really understand what the next war will be like. He quotes the warning of the W.I.L. in our disarmament petition and he adds:

"If everyone was really persuaded of the truth of these things the matter would be settled". He speaks of our conference at Francfort and quotes the preface of our report on Scientific Warfare, and praises our initiative.

"We are to-day in an impasse", declares Victor Margueritte, "We can either make peace through a revision of the treaties and disarmament, or continue a policy of security through armaments which will break and ruin us."

Praising the Joint Peace Council, and speaking especially of the W.I.L., he says: "Honor to those brave spirits who daily work for total and universal disarmament on sea, on land and in the air, and who try to develop political, social and economic cooperation on a world scale, and seek for political and social equality for all and to promote spiritual disarmament. "It is largely due to your zeal that the new system of internationalism has been inaugurated.

"If the peace forces are to-day still weak they will end by triumphing over the belief in a warring patriotism."

Every member of the W.I.L. should read "La patrie humaine" and recognize the great support given us by such a writer as Victor Margueritte. I wish to give to every member of the W.I.L. his message: "The 'Fatherland of Humanity' will be achieved, do not forget it by an appeal to women."

### MARGUERITTE'S APPEAL TO WOMEN

"You who have fashioned little human bodies, you who with suffering have brought them into the world, you who have nursed baby forms and watched baby souls develop, will no longer permit your children to be degraded by superstitions of the past. Instead of teaching your children or permitting them to be taught over and over by those interested, that war is inevitable and noble, tell them it can always be prevented and that the hideous glorification of all sorts of crimes and vices is worthy only of dried up philosophers, major-generals and hirelings. Teach without ceasing that peace alone is fertile, and that above the "Moloch Fatherlands" there is the religion of life, the law of love and creation, there is "World Patriotism."

"Henceforth let mothers not imitate the ancient fierce Libyans who, in what pertains to be a confession, rejoice when their sons fall in battle that they have been wounded in the front.

"Let them instead persuade their little ones that the only death that is glorious, is that of the sacrifice of oneself for the benefit of all and not to service the interest of a few. Above all let women be frank with themselves. Nearly all if they search their own hearts know that in time of mobilization their principal thought is for those they love. They think there may be protection in barricades and bobbed wire entanglements.

"Women, henceforth there will be no protection even under ground. Fire, asphyxiating gas, epidemics, famine,

madness, will be everywhere, in the towns and in the country, on the summits and in the caves, destroying every living creature. And if in the face of this all pervading death it no longer seems of any use to you to throw yourselves on the rails in front of the trains of mobilisation as some Italian women did at the time of the expedition to Etruria and as I dreamed in "Le Couple" all the heroic mothers would one day do, at least resist by every means in your power from now onward, by education, by tenderness and reason, and refuse to be led onward, to the dreadful fate to which in murderous insanity we are marching....

Notify the nations that from now on they must regulate their differences without recourse to violence which only breeds violence, so that at last the law of nations like that of individuals shall be respect for life."

*La Patrie Humaine*. Ernest Flammarion, Paris, price 12 fr. frs.

### Jane Addams' New Book Gertrud Baer

Closing this book, one is filled with the atmosphere that pervades it, filled with the richness and colour of the life that flows through it. Here is a person who is wholly at one with her work. And this has made it impossible for her to give a chronological report of the second 30 years at Hull House, Chicago. Her book is largely a summary of an epoch, as seen in the interplay of forces between the community and the individual. As scarcely any other person of our time, Jane Addams lives in full consciousness of the continuity and interdependence of humanity, and she experiences and expresses the awakening world consciousness. Every chapter, every page of the book is proof of this, whether she is treating the woman's movement, peace work during and after the war, the post-war generation, prohibition, immigration under the quota, attempts to humanise justice, the instinct of play, artistic expression, or problems in education; questions which lead her far from the corner of Halsted and Polk Streets, Chicago, but which unite Hull House with the world, as the world is reflected in Hull House itself. One has only to read the delightful chapter on "The Devil Baby at Hull House" to meet as one does on the door step of Hull House, Jane Addams' personality with her fine sense of humour, the charm and extraordinary vivacity of her mind, her all-embracing knowledge, her inborn ability to raise little, human trivialities to a level of universal philosophical and psychological meaning. Always quiet, always unassuming, ready for every new comer and every new event, Jane Addams makes Hull House a home and a world in itself for all who live there.

### SWISS SECTION.

We have had a very interesting report from the Chairman of the Swiss Section, Clara Ragaz, who says:

"The W.I.L. has never started any activity which has been taken up with so much interest in Switzerland as the disarmament campaign. Not only do the groups work hard to get signatures, as for instance in Bienne, which alone secured 12,000, as was reported on in last month's "Pax," but through this campaign the League has secured many new friends and helpers. The total number of signatures in Switzerland up to date is now 50,000. A great number of petitions are still circulating and new ones are asked for daily. Propaganda is carried out in many different ways. Petitions are put up in grocery stores where working women do their shopping, signatures are gathered in restaurants, small posters are put up in the office of the large organizations. Zurich

"Second Twenty Years at Hull House" Mac Millan Co., New-York.

## News Of The W. I. L. Disarmament Campaign

From now until the Disarmament Conference of the League of Nations in February, 1932, we shall print news of the W. I. L. Disarmament Campaign in *Pax* for this is one of the most important pieces of work the W. I. L. has ever engaged in. We wish every town and village would send us news of what they are doing to secure signatures to the disarmament petition. Every story is of interest. We earnestly beg the Sections to keep us up to date on the number of signatures they have secured.

### BRITISH SECTION.

As already stated in a previous "Pax", this section leads all the others in the campaign for disarmament. It has now secured 337,000 signatures, nearly one thousand of which are Welsh. The League of Nations Union is co-operating with the W.I.L. and in two towns they obtained the signatures of one in twenty of the total population. The Bishops of Bangor and St. David's have sent disarmament petitions for signatures to every clergyman in their Diocese. The Dean of Hereford has secured the signatures of all the clergy in the Deanery of Hereford. The Primitive Methodists in Sunderland and Newcastle have sent for 1,800 forms. This Section is arranging a house to house canvas for signatures in Sheffield, Wimbledon and a part of Golders Green. In Birmingham a number of organizations have combined and are arranging for a "disarmament month" in May with a series of open air meetings to culminate with a mass meeting in the town hall at which Mr. Arthur Henderson, Prime Minister, is being asked to speak. A member of the British Section writes us: "I would like to have you tell the organizing secretaries of the wonderful results that can be obtained by talking to people and asking for signatures when they come out from cinemas where war films are exhibited. In three evenings (not full time) in a London suburb my friend and I obtained 500 signatures and had a golden opportunity to talk to all on the possibilities and values of gradual disarmament."

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has had the distinction of getting General B. von Deimling to speak for a meeting on disarmament. In several towns, both big and small, opportunity was taken of the film "All Quiet on the Western Front" to distribute petitions for signatures.

A troop of actors has offered to act the play "The Grave of the Unknown Soldier" in several of the Swiss towns and give the League the opportunity to making propaganda on disarmament. It is to be hoped that news such as this will come in from all the countries, because through showing an international desire for peace, the solidarity of the pacifists all over the world can be made plain.

### FRENCH SECTION.

The Lyon Branch of the French Section has just had a most active week campaigning for disarmament. On Saturday the 14th the Lyon Branch of the W.I.L. in conjunction with the representatives there of "The League for the Rights of Man", "The League for International Democratic Action for Peace", "The National Syndicate of Teachers", "The Esperantists" and "The League of Young Volunteers for Peace", organized a big demonstration in the city of Lyon. They hired a large number of automobiles and covered the cars with great white placards on which were inscribed appropriate mottos in big black letters. The first car which bore the name of the Women's International League had such signs as the following: "Total and Universal Disarmament," "Sign the World Petition of the W.I.L." and another: "15,000,000 men were killed in the last war. Disarm!" The other cars had similar signs all asking for total and universal disarmament. These cars then paraded very slowly through the town, in the crowded shopping district, in the business area, in the resident and working class quarters and out to the "Fair" gates. It took two hours and a half to make the trip and the automobiles went slowly enough to be able to hand the people on the sidewalk leaflets on disarmament and the announcement of the big disarmament meeting to be held that evening. This demonstration really caused a great stir in Lyon. A newspaper account says: "Without doubt the number of courageous and strongheaded militants (if one can use these words in describing those who wish peace with all their heart, and mind and force) is not great in the different countries and especially in France compared to the indifferent multitude. But we take pleasure in

saying that in Lyon at least this action for peace ended by stirring the inert mass and awakening in the conscience of many people a great anxiety and a real concern over the present situation."

Those who took part in the demonstration in Lyon felt that it was a splendid way of reaching a great number of people very quickly and recommend it to all the other groups and sections of the W.I.L.

In the evening after the demonstration there was a large mass meeting on disarmament at which representatives of different organizations spoke. For the W.I.L., Leo Wanner the chairman of the Lyon branch and Camille Drevet and Madeleine Doty, who had come from Geneva for the purpose. Another speaker was an Alsatian who asked for moral disarmament between France and Germany. A thousand signatures were secured to the disarmament petition as a result of this meeting.

### OTHER SECTIONS.

We regret we have no new statistics from the sections on the number of signatures secured during the past month. We have word from Germany that in Wurtemberg 34 women's organizations with a membership of 18,000 are cooperating with the W.I.L. and they hope to report great results soon. The total number of signatures in Germany is 25,000. Our Czech friends say they have secured 7,000 signatures in the town of Bratislava alone. Their total number of signatures is 14,000. Sweden has 15,000 and Holland 12,000. We hear also that a real campaign has begun in Ireland and Norway. The number of signatures already in Ireland is 1,650. The disarmament petition is now printed in 18 languages as follows Bulgarian, Czech, Chinese, Danish, Dutch, English, Flemish, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Roumanian, Serbian, Spanish, Swedish and Welsh.

We had hoped to print the names and addresses of the secretaries or chairmen of the different national sections, but there is no space in this issue. We wanted to do this that anybody with friends in any of the different countries might write to those friends and put them in touch with these secretaries.

As we cannot give these addresses we urge every one who has friends anywhere, who would be willing to undertake work in this campaign, to please send their names to Headquarters to Camille Drevet, International Secretary, 12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva.

# Colonization And Indo-China

Felicien Challaye

The members of the W. I. L. who attended the Summer School at Gland in 1927 will remember Prof. Challaye, his splendid lectures and the discussions which he lead. Prof. Challaye is a Frenchman who has given much study to the problem of colonization. The following article is taken from a paper which he gave at the Congress of "The Rights Of Man" recently. Prof. Challaye has visited Central Africa, British India, Dutch India, French Indo-China, the French Congo and Japanese Korea.

In the first place colonial imperialism the moment it begins and as long as it continues violates the right of people to self determination. The colonizers impose their domination on the colonies sometimes by ruse and nearly always by force... The colonies when they are conscious that they are already a nation suffer cruelly at being subjected to the domination of strangers. This is the case with the Annamites for example :

The Annamites have a civilization of their own, characterized among other things by a language which has furnished no small number of literary works, by a social organization which gave to everyone an education and by the special form which that great and philosophical religion of the extreme Orient, ancestor worship, took. When Admiral Réveillère at the head of French troops invaded the Province of Go-cong in 1862, the chieftains of the Province sent him the following declaration :

"In losing the Government of our king, we are in the same despair as a child would be who had lost his father and mother. If you desire peace give back to our king his country. If you refuse we shall not cease to fight..."

Admiral Réveillère pays this homage to his adversaries :

"Their words were not vain for never did a people resist so long under such distress..."

Numerous revolts which have agitated and shaken Indochina on several occasions testify to this same patriotism.

One of the most significant examples of what colonization may be like when applied to primitive people, is that in the French Congo, now French Equatorial Africa.

Since the beginning of the 20th century the colored race of the Congo has been subjected to forced labour, which may be compared to slavery, and is even worse than slavery according to some reports...

Concessions are granted foreign companies for 30 years... during this period all the natural wealth of the country belongs to the concessionaires; ivory, precious wood, rubber etc... The concessionaires cannot count on the voluntary work of the colored people and from the beginning have claimed the right to force the natives to work for them...

Certain companies equip themselves with armed workers, others use and pay regional police lent them by the State. The armed workers and the regional police terrorize the natives with their guns. When threats are

not sufficient they use violence to force the colored people to hunt for rubber. They imprison them, beat them... arrest them... They seize the women and children as hostages, they give the natives no peace until they deliver a certain quantity of rubber or ivory. The rebels are shot. When a village continues to manifest rebellion a punitive expedition is organized against it, the huts are burned, the plantation destroyed and men, women and children massacred...

In the case of people infinitely more developed than the natives of the Congo, in the case of old civilizations like the Annamites, colonization brings other injustices.

In general the French colonizers find the Annamites human material which can be used to great advantage both for collective and private interests...

The natives are a great help in creating material wealth for others than themselves. They are the peasants who cultivate the rice, the workers who weave the cotton, the coolies who tend the rubber plants, the docile and un-exacting servants, the taxpayers, who pay without complaint the heavy taxes imposed, the soldiers, who are ready to die for France...

To these serfs no political rights are accorded. No real representation, either in Indochina or in France... No liberty of press... In order that a paper can appear it must be authorized by the Governor General and each issue must be previously approved by the censor. It is forbidden to write on any political question...

There is no liberty of political association... no liberty to travel... One ought really to describe in detail the regime of police and judicial dictatorship to which the Annamites are subjected; the fiscal regime of which they are the victims, the insufficiency in education of which they particularly complain. One should stress the suffering of the exploited workers in factories and on the plantations and above all that of the coolies of Tonkin... Some of the horrors of which the natives of the Congo are victims are also imposed on the Tonkin coolies...

There are many among us who think that the only way to establish permanent peace in the world is to disarm. But how can the colonial powers abolish or seriously reduce their armed forces or navies which permit them to keep in subjection the colonies.

The French government justified its demand for increased naval armament at the London Naval Conference by its need of maintaining communication

between the different parts of its Empire. Disarmament is impossible as long as colonial imperialism exists. One must choose between maintaining it or establishing permanent and durable peace in the world.

To sum up the colonial system... is not a humanitarian enterprise, it is essentially a system of political domination for the purpose of economic exploitation... It cannot be denied however that this regime has certain advantages for humanity in general and even for the natives of the colony. The advantage to humanity is the great circulation of wealth and ideas. The advantage to the natives, the forced contact with science and the powerful white race which may have as consequence, improved hygienic conditions and a more complete intellectual development.

But the recognition of these advantages does not justify the theory that colonization is a philanthropic enterprise... We must extend to the dark races the right to self determination and we must free the colonies. Certainly it is necessary to foresee what steps must be taken in this *revolutionary evolution*... The primitive people who have no notion as yet what a state implies, as for instance the colored races of Central Africa, cannot in 24 hours be treated in the same way as the old civilizations of India and Indochina. For the people of the Congo for instance one can foresee and even wish an intermediate step; their deliverance to an international authority, provided that authority carries out honestly the "mandate" ideal. Even in the case of Indochina an international solution, as an intermediate step presents certain advantages; it would permit the protection of the independence of Indochina from covetous designs. It would permit the establishment of harmonious relations between the Annamites, the Cambodgiens and the Laotiens who do not wish to be abandoned to a people stronger than they are. Finally it would permit the respecting of the rights of the white people, acquired by real labor... If one is not to ignore these necessary steps however, neither must one, because of the desire for total liberation despise certain immediate realizable reforms, such as the liberty of press, the right of association, the right to organize, universal education, etc.

It must be plainly understood that such reforms are conceded that by raising the material and intellectual level of the natives, the domination may end.

# All Asian Women's Conference

The All Asian Women's Conference took place at the end of January at Lahore City, Punjab, North India. It proved to be a great success, though only eight of the original Indian women who called the Conference, were able to be present. The others were either in prison or carrying on the non-violent campaign for independence for India and were unable to take the time for the Conference. Mrs. Sarojini Naidu was still held as a political prisoner and was not able to be present but was made the President "in absentia" of the Conference.

Nineteen women came from Java, Japan, Burma, Afghanistan, Ceylon, and Persia and there were cables and letters from Palestine, Syria and Siam wishing the Conference success, in some cases saying that illness alone prevented the delegates from coming. On the final day a cable came from Moscow stating that Soviet Russia was sending three women to represent Siberia and Russia in Asia and that they were waiting the visas from the British Embassy, but nothing more was heard from these women.

In addition there were a number of European and American women who were particularly interested in the conference and fifty Indian women who came from every corner of India.

It had been planned to hold the meeting in the town hall, but there was such a rush for invitations, that in a day and a half arrangements were made to put up the splendid Dubar Shamiana (or great tent). The walls were of yellow with green hangings behind the Dais, on which was hung a large red Khaddar greeting saying "Welcome from India". In opening a chorus sang a beautiful Vedic hymn whose words are : "United in progress, United in expression, United in thought, Let our minds approach Thee".

A young royal princess, the daughter of the Maharani of Kapurthala, read the address of welcome.

At this opening session there were at least 1200 men and women present. The chief language of the Conference was English, though invitations had been sent out in thirty different vernaculars.

The sessions of the Conference were presided over by a member from each of the different countries. The first day Lady Bandarnayaki, of Colombo, was the President.

The Conference lasted for six days. The speaking was of a very high order. The resolutions were formulated on the fourth day in private sessions and passed later by the whole Conference.

It was felt that the most important work of the Conference was the development of affection, understanding and friendship between all present. The financial response was extremely

generous especially from the Indian States. The total sum amounted to 9,000 Rs., while the expenses were only between 4 and 5,000 Rs.

It was decided that another Asian Conference would be held at the end of two or three years. A secretary and a small committee were appointed to carry on the work until that time. It was decided to create a Liaison Officer between the All Asian Women's Conference and the League of Nations and other International Organizations. Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy was selected.

One of the subjects that was of a special interest to the All Asian Women's Conference was the Nationality Rights of women. The Conference took the matter up vigorously and cabled to the League of Nations, urging that the women's associations be consulted in drawing up laws on Nationality for the World Code. As a result of their activity they were made one of the six international organizations appointed by the League of Nations to formulate the point of view of women in the matter of nationality and to present their opinion to the next Assembly. Below is a summary of the resolutions.

**CULTURE.**

This Conference urges the necessity of retaining the high spiritual consciousness which has been the fundamental characteristic of the people of Asia throughout the centuries and desires that the women of Asia maintain that high standard, uninfluenced by the materialistic modern trend.

**EDUCATION.**

In view of the high rate of illiteracy in Asia it is urged that the Governments of the countries concerned follow the precedent of Japan and institute and enforce free and compulsory primary education for every boy and girl.

**RELIGION.**

This Conference realising the important part that religion plays in the moulding of individual and national character, is of opinion that the lives and teachings of great religious leaders should be taught in schools, and a comparative study of the great religions of the world should find a place in college curricula.

**CHILDREN'S RIGHTS.**

This Conference urges upon the Governments of the various Asian countries the urgent necessity for : (a) the introduction and enforcement of a suitable Children's Act for each country in order to safeguard the interests and rights of all children; (b) the abolition of Child Marriage.

**EQUALITY OF SEXES.**

This Conference realising the inherent equality of women and men demands that efforts should be made to give women equal opportunities in life with men :

(a) by the abolition of polygamy; (b) equal rights over the guardianship of children and property; (c) equal rights of divorce; (d) equal adult franchise; (e) equal rights of nationality for married women.

**HEALTH.**

In view of the appalling mortality among men, women and children in all Asian Countries (except Japan), this Conference calls upon the Governments of their respective countries : (a) to spend more money on all health measures; (b) to institute researches into the causes of diseases peculiar to the East; (c) to provide facilities for the development of medicine in the light of modern science.

**DRINK AND DRUGS.**

This Conference urges the prohibition of drink and drugs... and immediate steps to limit the production of alcohol, opium, and other drugs to the quantity needed for scientific and medicinal purposes.

**EQUAL MORAL STANDARD.**

This Conference of women demands a high and equal moral standard for both sexes. It recommends that each country initiate or amend its laws so that : (a) brothels and all forms of legalized vice may be abolished; (b) minors may be protected; (c) the age of consent raised to 18 years; (d) victims (children and adults) may be rescued from vice; (e) procurers and those living on immoral earnings may be penalized; (f) maintenance may be secured for the unmarried mother and her child from the child's father and the legitimization of the child.

**LABOUR.**

This Conference, realizing the wholly unsatisfactory condition of women wage-earners in Industry and Agriculture, demands legislation to regulate : hours of work and wages, provision for illness, accidents, old age, maternity-benefits, proper housing, medical inspection, prohibition of child-labour, compulsory primary education, facilities for adult education.

**RIGHT OF SELF-EXPRESSION.**

In order that every individual and every nation may have the unfettered right of self-expression for the enrichment of the human synthesis, this Conference considers it imperative that each country shall have full responsible self-government.

**WORLD PEACE.**

The women of this Conference, realizing the evils and horrors of war, give their whole-hearted support to the work of the League of Nations and other allied organizations in their efforts to promote world-peace, and pledge themselves, belonging as they do to a continent renowned for its love of peace, to do their utmost both individually and collectively for this great cause.

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

### British Section

This Section held its Annual Council Meeting on March 3rd and 4th at Denison House, London. Mrs. Barbara Wootton, a distinguished young woman economist, spoke on Industry and Gold. Mrs. Wootton believes that the shortage of currency is certainly one of the causes of our present troubles and hinted that an international solution will have to be found. Other speakers were Mrs. Waern-Bugge, who had returned from her trip for the W.I.L. in Palestine, and Mrs. B. Nehru, who was present as a delegate of the All Indian Women's Association. A series of resolutions were passed dealing with Disarmament, Military Training, India, War Debts and Reparations, Tariffs and World Peace, Nationality of Women, Compulsory Repatriation of Prostitutes, Forced Labour and East Africa. Part of the resolution on Disarmament follows:

"The Annual Council of the W. I. L. desires that the British policy at the Disarmament Conference should be directed to securing such a definite reduction in armaments as will make clear that the Treaty is a step towards a degree of disarmament at least as great as that imposed on Germany in the Peace Treaty; (1) that budgetary limitation should take the form of a 25 per cent. reduction of all expenditure on armaments; (2) that the Convention should provide for the specific limitation of expenditure on air as well as on land and on naval armaments; (3) that warships above 10,000 tons should be abolished; (4) that direct limitation (by enumeration of the larger weapons of land warfare (such as tanks and big guns) should be brought within the framework of the Convention."

The following telegrams were sent by the Council. One to the two Indian women delegates to the Round Table Conference: "Warmest congratulations on new hopes of peace". The other to Lord Irwin Viceroy of India, and Mahatma Gandhi: "Annual Council British W.I.L. sends congratulations on success in bringing peace to India and deep admiration for the method and spirit through which it has been achieved."

On March 10th, this Section held an executive meeting and Miss Courtney was unanimously appointed chairman. Several resolutions were passed at this meeting. The one on India follows:

"The Executive Committee expresses its appreciation of the support given by the Government to the substitution of cooperation for conflict in India which has been achieved through patient negotiation, and rejoices that the peace now established has resulted in the withdrawal of the special ordinances and in the release of political prisoners.

It is thankful for the support given by prominent members of all political parties to the resumption of meetings of the Round Table Conference which are to

include representatives of the Congress Party, and earnestly hopes that no effort will be spared to avoid a party conflict on this question.

It demands that full attention shall now be given by all who are responsible for the personnel of any further Conferences to securing adequate representation of women whose part is essential in the constructive work of Constitution building for India."

This Section has gotten out a little leaflet on India headed "India What Must We Do?" It points out that the Round Table Conference agreed upon three principles, "Federation", "Indian Responsibility" and "Safeguards" and says upon the foundation of these principles acting in a spirit of cooperation and goodwill, Britons can help Indians to establish an Asiatic Dominion within the Commonwealth. It ends saying: "The choice lies before us. Repression means Terrorism and Hatred, Freedom means Peace and Goodwill. "Which Do You Stand For?"

### Australian Section

An interesting letter has been received from Miss Eleanor Moore, the Secretary of the Australian Section. Extracts are as follows:

"Months ago I had it in mind to write to you about my journey to Honolulu to the second Pan-Pacific Women's Conference, and my meeting by the way with our W.I.L.P.F. groups in Newcastle, Auckland, and Honolulu... By this time it is all rather ancient history as a news item, but the Pan-Pacific Women's Association, which was formed as the outcome of this second Conference, is a great fact. In its statement of objects, it places peace in a foremost position, but rather as assuming this as a necessary basis for social work than as an object in itself. The Conference did not discuss means of attaining peace, nor did it inquire what the existing obstacles are. It did, however, with remarkable unanimity agree on the general sentiment, and the point of interest about this is that it was in marked contrast to the psychology of the Conference of 1928, at which Miss Addams presided, where acquiescence in peace sentiment could by no means be taken for granted.

Another change, and a less agreeable one, was the evidence of economic depression everywhere more or less noticeable. The fall in the price of copra has adversely affected trade throughout the Pacific Islands. New Zealand has had its own serious unemployment problem, and has had since, the additional catastrophe of a terrific earthquake, while here in Australia we are in the midst of a financial crisis of the gravest kind. At the time of writing, it is impossible to send money abroad except at ruinous rates of exchange, amounting to nearly fifty percent... unless some arrangements of a different kind is soon made, Australia will become

economically isolated from the rest of the world. Of course we can and do produce here in quantity all necessary foodstuffs, but we are in loan difficulties with England and America, with the enormous interest accruing all to be borne by a comparatively small population, so that per head we are under a heavier liability than the people of Germany with their war expense, indemnity and all. Of course our liability is principally war debt, and it is just beginning to dawn on some people that to have rushed into a war which was really no concern of ours, to have lost such a large number of our finest young men, and to be permanently crippled to pay interest for the privilege of having incurred these losses, was not after all very sound business... Attempts are being made to retrieve the situation and help local distress by heavy taxation, increased tariffs, reduction of wages, etc.

Meanwhile we are organising a campaign for signatures to the Disarmament Declaration, and hope soon to have a solid contribution in names of supporters."

This Section held a Women's Peace Demonstration" on November 16th at the Bijou Theatre, Melbourne. The meeting was arranged in collaboration with 35 other organizations. The speakers represented five of the leading women's organizations, Miss Eleanor Moore (W.I.L.); Mrs. Alicia Katz (Australian Labour Party); Mrs. Britomarte James (Women's Citizen Movement); Mrs. G. G. Henderson (National Council of Women); Miss Nora Collisson (League of Nations Union).

### Czecho-Slovakian Section

This Section has asked us to correct the statement from them published in the November "Pax". It seems that the statement was cut by the editor of "Pax" and in so doing changed the meaning which this section wished to convey. What they meant to say is as follows:

"The W. I. L. in Czechoslovakia protests bitterly against the unworthy direction given to expressions of so called patriotism and made use of by irresponsible elements to injure foreign property, thus harming the good reputation of the whole population.

"We also declare, however, that we do not agree to the showing of the very immoral Brack Films, no matter what version is used.

"We demand that the citizens of our country should not be incited against each other in the interest of profiteers."

This Section further adds that as far as the use of the word "pseudo-fascism" in the covering letter sent to Geneva is concerned, they wish by it only to express disapprobation of all blackguardly acts under whatever title. No matter how conservative one's ideals they should not permit of the destruction of cultural or other buildings, to whomever they belong.

### New Zealand

This section generously undertook to help the Samoans. Samoa is a Mandate of New Zealand. Mrs. Gibson, the Secretary, writes: "The Government here forwarded our petition on Samoa to the League of Nations but I do not suppose it arrived in time for the sitting of the Mandates Commission in November and will probably be postponed until the next sitting."

The letter goes on to say: "There was a dreadful earthquake out here, last week. We had only a slight tremor in Auckland but two towns on the East coast about three hundred miles from here Napier and Hastings are levelled to the ground, and as far as we know at present about 250 people killed. Hundreds more are injured and it is estimated that the damage runs into millions. Napier was quite a large town and the port of all the rich sheep country that lies at the back. Now the freezing plants, wool sheds and all the rest of it have gone down in the general ruin and the bed of the ocean in the harbour has risen nearly twenty feet, so that a man-of-war (something they call a sloop) which was lying at the wharf has been left high and dry."

A letter from Mr. Charles Mackie, the Secretary of "The National Peace Council", New Zealand, says: "In your November issue of 'Pax' (just to hand), there is an account of the suspension of the compulsory clauses of the Defence Act... which says: 'the exception is that our secondary school boys are still compelled to train,'

"The author of this statement evidently did not then know that secondary school cadets are NOT compelled to train. The Government made the announcement that secondary school cadets corps would receive the same practical support as at present, and this was taken by many to mean that the training was still compulsory. We approached the Minister of Defence and received a definite statement from him that "Service among the Secondary School Cadets is on a purely voluntary basis for the time being.

"It is very important that this fact should be made clear to the public as there is no question but that the true state of affairs has been kept more or less secret. There is very little doubt that the conscript system has ended in this Dominion after 20 years of very precarious existence and great opposition from both lads and public. We have worked strenuously for its abolition every year since its inception... We believe that the excuse of financial stringency is put forward for its abolition, rather than the actual reason — unpopularity. There have been probably 40,000 prosecutions under the Defence Act since 1911 and this fact alone entirely refutes the argument that it is favoured by the lads."

### Hawaiian Branch

#### U. S. Section

This Branch has been holding a series of most interesting study meetings during the winter. Three women's organizations in Honolulu, the W. I. L., the University Women and the League of Women's Voters have combined in carrying on a course of study. For this year there were two general topics "Present World Problems" and "New Trends in Political Development". During the first part of the year the subjects were "The Philippines", "Great Britain and India", "Development of China", "Central and South America". During the second the following subjects were considered: "Minorities Mandates and Revision of the Versailles Treaty", "A Review of the World Court and Protocols", "Immigration and Population", "World Cooperation", "Military and Naval Policy", "Disarmament", and on March 27th "The Foreign Policy of the U. S.". Other subjects have been outlined for the following months. On January 10th, Mrs. George F. Straub, chairman of the Branch, gave a tea to the three women's organizations in honour of Miss Martha Root, well known lecturer and world traveller. Miss Root gave a general outline of the activities of women in various parts of the world.

This Branch has been working very hard this winter to secure the ratification by the U. S. of the proposal for the entry of the U. S. A. into the World Court. This Branch sent a letter to the twenty Senators to the Foreign Relations' Committee and to the Hawaiian delegate in Washington with an accompanying resolution part of which reads as follows:

"Whereas, we citizens and residents of Hawaii, in the Cross-Roads of the Pacific, living in friendship and harmony with the people of many races do understand fully the significance of this great measure as an instrument of peace, strengthening the means that will enable us to continue to live in justice and harmony with our fellow-men; therefore

Resolve, That the Hawaii Branch of the W. I. L. P. F. expresses its most earnest hope that you may do all in your power to give the Senate at this session an opportunity to act upon this measure in order that American adherence be not indefinitely delayed."

On February 5th to 7th the Territorial Conference of the Women's Legislative Council was held in Honolulu. 34 women's organizations make up the Council and the Hawaiian Branch of the W. I. L. is one of them. Mrs. George F. Straub was the chairman of the Conference. There were many interesting subjects discussed at this Conference. The resolutions passed deal with the "World Court", the "Opium Problem", the "Nationality of Married Women", and "Military Training". We quote here a portion of the latter resolution:

"We, member organizations of the Women's Legislative Council of Hawaii, living in a spirit of understanding and in friendly co-operation with all races, and earnestly wishing to strengthen the bond of unity, that a permanent universal peace may be established and,

Whereas measures for eliminating military training from high schools and compulsory military training from non-military colleges and universities, have already been taken in many educational institutions on the mainland,

Resolved, That we make every endeavour to substitute adequate physical training and supervised sports for the present military training in our high schools both public and private and that in the University this be offered as an optional course with military training."

### Bulgarian Section

Madame Lydia Chichmanova, the vice-president of this Section writes of the splendid results created by the W. I. L. Summer School in Bulgaria last summer. She says: "The success of the W. I. L. Summer School in Sofia which excited so much interest among our people and aroused so much public sympathy proves that the ideal of peace, grows and is growing more and more among us... The program of the school was made without any official supervision and the lectures freely delivered without hindrance from any authority whatever. An official government paper which appears in French even published a report of all the lectures, meetings and interviews..."

Shortly before the Summer School, there was also held at Sofia a most impressive manifestation to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the League of Nations. The superb meeting was held in the Royal Theatre.

The Archbishop Stefan of Sofia, the most prominent personality in the Bulgarian church spoke first. A convinced pacifist he has worked for the rapprochement of the churches in all international congresses. At this meeting he spoke on the importance of peace to humanity, and the role which the churches should play to bring it about...

Other speakers at the meeting were Prof. Kirov president of the Peace Cartel and Mr. Bourov, Minister for Foreign Affairs... and Prof. Guenov...

Other peace demonstrations less known have also been held. For instance last month there was given a private performance at the Stoitchev Theatre, Sofia, of Maurice Rostand's play "I have killed". Rostand's extreme pacifism is known but our public both in the balconies and parterre applauded warmly every attack against war, and hatred between nations. This is only a symptom but not a small one. And last but not least we have just received the first number of an Esperantist Balkan review which indeed helps to destroy the thick walls that separate the people of the Balkans.

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Dr. Jakob Marschak : "International Rationalisation and an International Social Policy".  
Mrs. Tumlirova Engineer : "The Agrarian Question".  
Dr. Hermann Scheibler : "A Statistical Survey of the World Economic Situation".

**ATTEMPTS TO SECURE ECONOMIC STABILITY**

- Prof. Brouckère : "War debts, Young Plan and the International Bank".  
Dr. Elisabeth van Dorp : "World Economic Conference and Tariff Conferences".

**PRICE AND MONETARY STABILITY, GOLD STANDARD**

- Henri Füss : "Unemployment and Fluctuation of Gold".  
P. W. Martin : "Rationalisation and Purchasing Power".

**SUGGESTIONS FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANISATION**

- Prof. Dr. Franz Oppenheimer : "Methods of Settlement".  
Emmy Freundlich : "Ways and Means of Economic Stability".  
Roger Franq : "Conditions of World Economic Organisation".

The following experts are also to be present as delegates : Mr. Rive, International Labour Office; Dr. Hans Simon, International Bank, Basle, and Mr. Edwin Wimber, delegate from the *Freiwirtschaftsbund*. There will also be some other speakers not yet announced.

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