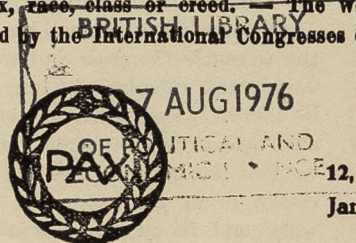


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PAX INTERNATIONAL

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

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and Freedom



International Headquarters:
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Jane Addams, Honorary President

CONTENTS

- Editorial Note.
- Geneva Letter, Camille Drevet.
- Work in Geneva, Anne Zueblin.
- Work in the Sections.
- News Items.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The two previous numbers of *Pax* which were devoted to Miss Addams and the Nobel Peace Prize, our Gandhi meeting and the presentation of the petitions, were larger than usual and we are now obliged, for financial reasons which are easily understandable, to limit ourselves to a very small issue. We are all so actively engaged in work against war, that we cannot take much time for words alone, and I am sure that this brief summary of our work, will bring the essentials of our doings to everyone.

GENEVA LETTER

Due to the very grave situation in the Far East, our Sections have been extremely active. In England, where 238 meetings were held, in Germany, France, Holland, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and the United States, our Sections have tried, by means of meetings, protests and press campaigns, to exert an influence on the policy of their country. We have done what we could in Geneva. The attention of the public has been drawn to the complicity of various countries which send war materials to the Far East. I hear from Belgrade, that the womens's peace group there

has sent a letter to the Chinese women.

We pacifists must realise that if the conscience of the Peoples had been sufficiently aroused, Japanese militarists would never have been able to carry on an action which is universally disapproved. We are partly to blame that the conflict was able to break out and threaten to spread around the Pacific and the whole world. All our countries have to some extent helped on, or at least pretended to be unaware of the danger in the Far East and thus made present events possible.

War munitions, from all the industrial centres, are being sent to the war zone. Munitions are accumulating in other countries and we must keep watch; tomorrow conflicts may break out in those places where munitions are accumulating today. Press campaigns, similar to those of September against China, are today developing against Soviet Russia with accounts of incidents in Bessarabia.

Some people say that workers should refuse to manufacture or transport arms. How can we ask workers to endure the distress of unemployment, if we cannot succeed in forming a united front against war, with pacifist, educational, youth and workers' organisations, and if we do not declare our support for all those who refuse to do war work?

We must declare that we refuse to take part in warfare and we must give moral and material support to all those who refuse their participation. There is no other sincere way of working against war and I noticed, during my recent lecture tour in Holland with Mrs. Hoppstock-Huth, and later in France, that the

public agrees to and approves of a firmer attitude in these questions. The public shows much more enthusiasm for such a stand than for one of prudence and moderation.

It seems to me that all those who talk peace, must today understand their responsibility and work with young people and workers' organisations to form a *united front against War*, for true solidarity between those who are opposed to war.

The *International Group for Total Disarmament*, which has been formed in Geneva, works daily and tirelessly in favour of total disarmament and we hope that the *Youth Crusade* which will be in Geneva soon will effectively serve the cause of disarmament.

A non-political *Disarmament Conference* is soon to be held in Paris, on the initiative of Madeleine Vernet, with militant pacifists, intellectual and manual workers, delegates from organisations, teachers, artists and writers, who will discuss the proposal presented by Mr. Tardieu to the Disarmament Conference at Geneva, and will make specific statements on French pacifist opinion.

Andrée Jouve, Gabrielle Duchêne and Camille Drevet will present reports to this Conference. Andrée Jouve proposes that similar conferences be held in other countries and also that we organise at Geneva, after the Congress, a manifestation against scientific warfare with one or two day meetings where some of the great men of the world can be heard: great thinkers, great moral leaders, representatives of great movements. This proposal will be discussed and worked out.

Every country has special tasks, but since we all consider that France has great responsibilities in the questions of peace and war, we are glad that the proposed Disarmament Conference in France will give expression to the public opinion of the country.

Those people who have been able to observe France and have been working there, feel that French opinion has lately become conscious of the gravity of events and we may hope that, at the elections, there will be a strong movement for peace and disarmament.

The funeral of Aristide Briand was the occasion of a real popular peace demonstration. The political parties in France have commented in various ways on the character and work of Briand, but popular feeling, unaware of the complexity of politics, sees Briand as a symbol of Peace. This fact is significant.

It is the task of militant pacifists in all countries to enlighten the sentimental pacifism of a section of public opinion, to educate it and show that the only just and logical disarmament is *total disarmament*.

A letter was sent by Geneva Headquarters to Mr. Vandervelde, president of the International Federation of Trade Unions, regarding collaboration between workers and pacifists in combatting war.

The letter said in part: "Could not the big associations of organised workers and of convinced pacifist women take some action in common, before it is too late, to prevent the dangers that menace us? Do you intend to expose to the Disarmament Conference the relations between governments, banks, heavy industries and armaments industries and the press and thus touch the vital point of the whole armaments problem?"

"We are ready, Mr. President, to collaborate in any way we can to save humanity from the terrors of war, on condition that the basis for action be a demand for total disarmament.

"Countless lectures and discussions with the working masses of our countries have made us acquainted with the atmosphere of desperation in which live the millions of unemployed and those who may any day suffer the same fate. We urge you to take into consideration the possibility of some common action which would go to the roots of the problem of armaments and would help to bring about a solution of the problem of disarmament, satisfactory to those who demand, and have the right to demand, *disarmament on land, on sea and in the air.*"

Mr Vandervelde replied as follows: "I beg to draw your attention to the

fact that I spoke, in Geneva, in the name of the Mixed Committee of the Workers and Socialist International (political) and the International Federation of Trade Unions, which was more particularly represented by Mr. Léon Jouhaux. I am sending on immediately to these two organisations the important proposal which you have made and I expect to be able to send you soon an official reply based on our common desire to do the most that we can for disarmament."

All these questions will be discussed at the *Grenoble Congress* and we hope that very many members of our League will be there. Faced with the danger of war and the very grave situation at present, we feel the need of meeting together to settle, more precisely, our program of work and to gain moral strength from each other.

The gravity of present events makes it necessary for us to act as quickly and as energetically as possible in all countries and taking as our essential basis: a united front of all true pacifists with workers', educational and youth organisations against war. *Camille Drevet.*

WORK IN GENEVA

INTERNATIONAL GROUP FOR TOTAL DISARMEMENT

An International Group for Total Disarmament has recently been formed in Geneva. Donald Grant of the Fellowship of Reconciliation is the Chairman, with Miss Sinovitch as Secretary. The W. I. L. P. F. is represented by Camille Drevet and Cor. Ramondt-Hirschmann, as well as by Hannah Clothier Hull and Amy Woods for the United States Section. Mrs. Engkvist of the Swedish Section also attended some meetings. Dr. William Hull represents the American Society of Friends, Honora Enfield the Women's Cooperative Guild, Alice Desceoudres the Centre suisse d'action pour la Paix, and Bart. de Ligt the International Antimilitarist Bureau. At one meeting the Anciens Combattants Pacifistes were represented by M. Morellet and M. Secretan.

The object of the Committee is to carry on action in favour of total disarmament in Geneva during the Disarmament Conference. The Group is informally constituted. Members of organisations sit in their personal capacity and the action taken by the Committee does not bind the various organisations. Members are free to support one line of action and not another.

In the few weeks of its existence the Committee has been active. It sent a

letter to Mr. Henderson and to the President of the League Assembly urging an embargo on arms and munitions to China and Japan. Miss Woods and Mrs Engkvist, on behalf of the Committee, called on the delegates to the Assembly of South Africa, Canada, the Irish Free State, Panama and Columbia and urged them to propose an embargo on arms. The Committee has edited a pamphlet in English and French containing quotations in line with total disarmament taken from speeches made in the general debate at the Disarmament Conference. These brochures are intended for general use, and will also be sent to the Delegates themselves with covering letters, congratulating those Delegates who spoke in favour of total disarmament, and encouraging those who did not, to follow the example of their colleagues. The brochures will be sent to the press.

The Committee is following closely the work of the Commissions of the Conference and different members have been designated to attend the different Commissions. Letters have already been sent to Delegates in the various Commissions, thanking them, in some cases, for their firm stand for disarmament; regretting, in other cases, that Delegates have taken positions which do not tend towards disarmament and are in opposition to previous declarations made by their Delegations.

The Committee is making arrangements for the reception of the Youth Crusade organised by the Fellowship of Reconciliation on its arrival in Geneva on April 2nd. The Crusade will bring young people from England, France, Holland, Germany and Switzerland to Geneva. Many large and very successful meetings calling for total disarmament have already been held along the various routes. Receptions will be given the Crusaders on April 2nd, and on April 3rd, when still more Crusaders will arrive, there will be a meeting at the Salle Communale de Plainpalais with speeches by members of the Crusade themselves and by a few well known persons. There will be group singing, refreshments, and a final plea for disarmament before the majority of the Crusaders set out on their homeward way. Mr. Henderson has promised to receive a delegation of the Crusade, but since the Disarmament Conference has been adjourned until April 11th instead of the 4th, the date is as yet uncertain. Altogether the Crusade will bring some 300 young people to Geneva, many having walked long distances, to give expression to their will to total disarmament.

Anne Zueblin.

WORK IN THE SECTIONS

CAMPAIGN FOR THE PETITIONS

(Continued)

Austrian Section

The Austrian Section's Disarmament Campaign began relatively late and met with special difficulties created by the economic crisis. People were hopeless and indifferent. Nevertheless 23 organisations united to work for the campaign. Many young people helped though the greater part of the work was done by women. Forty thousand signatures were presented to the Disarmament Conference; since then the total has risen to 47,351.

All circles of society signed the petition; many women, even unpolitically minded, worked for it, and the workers were especially interested. Work done in the country had special value. Teachers and civil servants and a few priests signed in the Tirol. In Steirmark, a house-to-house canvass was made in many villages which resulted in signatures from peasants, servants and farm laborers.

Belgian Section

The Belgian Section collected 15,000 signatures, almost exclusively in Brussels itself. The campaign was begun rather late and in spite of the strong feeling for "national defence" was a real success.

The three big stores in Brussels allowed the petition to be circulated among their employees and one brought a result, in a few hours, of 1041 signatures. The newspapers gave very one-sided reports about this. Theatres and cinemas were not helpful with the exception of one cinema. Signatures were collected in the markets. Factories gave no reply when asked to allow the circulation of the petitions. The head of the Department of Education in Brussels refused to allow the petitions to circulate in the secondary schools of the city.

The W. I. L. members in Liège, Seraing and Grand Reug were most helpful and sent in quite large numbers of signatures. The Section is very grateful to those who aided with the petition and hopes that this beginning will make more active work possible in future.

Czecho-Slovak Section

The campaign for the petitions was so organised in Czecho-Slovakia that the whole population was given an opportunity to sign. The Prague Group with its branches in Brunn and Bratislava, the German Group and the Jewish Group,

sent the petition to all cities, and communities, ministers of all religions, to all schools and all cultural centres. Some communities and towns sent in collective signatures. The result was 545,560 personal signatures, and collective signatures representing 844,831 persons.

The campaign brought home the idea of peace to hundreds of people and the Section has received many touching letters. It is making a collection of these letters which will be sent to the Government and to Dr. Benes. Many new members have been won and some organisations wish to join the Section.

A Committee of 43 organisations was formed to work for the petition and this committee will be continued on a more formal basis to carry on joint peace work. Three lectures and one large public meeting were organised during the campaign by this Committee at which Lida Gustava Heymann, Cor. Ramondt-Hirschmann and Marcelle Cappy spoke.

Headquarters Note. — Mr. Benes' signature was among those to the petition in Czecho-Slovakia. After the petitions were placed on exhibition at the Conference Hall in Geneva, we had the sorry surprise of seeing that the signature had disappeared, doubtless taken by some collector of autographs. Two weeks ago I wrote to Dr. Benes to tell him that the signatures had disappeared and ask him to give it again as we were very proud of having it and I hope that Mr. Benes will reply to my letter. *C. D.*

Danish Section

The Danish Section began its campaign in March 1931 and closed on March 2, 1932 with 450,000 signatures.

Many organisations, the press, schools and churches helped with the campaign but nevertheless the greater part of the work was done by the W. I. L. Section which has groups in almost every county and several in each town. The campaign was a joy and inspiration to the whole country and the Section has learned that with good organisation, much work can be done with comparatively little money.

The Section made a drive for funds; one Copenhagen merchant promised 1000 Kr. if the bi-annual conference could raise the same amount. The conference raised 1700 Kc., and the Section received the promised contribution, but even so it has a deficit and is making a further drive.

Finnish Section.

In 1930, when the W. I. L. P. F. began its campaign for the petitions, Finland

was in the throes of Fascist terrorism. Peace work would have gone under if the Section had begun its campaign then. It waited until the spring of 1931 when conditions had quieted down. Many organisations refused to cooperate and the newspapers made strong opposition, accused the Section of being Communist and tried to drag in the police. A few well known women lent their names to the campaign and the Finnish Peace League, the Women's Social Democratic Organisation and some Free Churches did, however, help the Section.

All the work was done by unpaid helpers. There was little money for propaganda and the Section had to rely on articles in the liberal and workers' press and the two Finnish peace papers.

The Section collected 93,987 signatures. At a visit made to the Minister of State, the Section was warmly congratulated on its work.

The Finnish Section is very happy, in spite of all obstacles, to have taken part in this campaign: its first big work for peace.

BIANNUAL REPORT OF THE GERMAN SECTION

The report on the work of the German Section from January 1929 to December 1931 has appeared. The cover carries a reproduction of a Daumier drawing. Lida Gustava Heymann has written an impelling "S. O. S." as introduction.

The central office in Berlin has been intensely active as usual, many interviews with government officials, many manifestos published.

The general work of the office calls for fortnightly press notices, lecture tours, meetings, the publication of reports and leaflets.

The Section cooperates at times with other organisations. Unfortunately the German Peace Cartel broke up, and the attempt of the German Section to form a new cartel was fruitless. This means that any joint peace action now necessitates previous appeals to the 20 German peace organisations. The German Section is represented on the Committee against Military Service and the Militarist Education of Youth (branch of the Joint Peace Council) and on the Education Committee of the German League of Nations Union which comprises 60 organisations.

The Section carries on special work, with special committees, for Polish-German Understanding, against Scientific Warfare, against Opium and Noxious Drugs, against Anti-semitism, and in

the fields of Economics, Minorities and Education. It counts 95 local groups.

The "Frau im Staat", edited by Dr. Anita Augspurg and Lida Gustava Heymann, though independent of the Section, devotes a page to activities of the German Section.

The program of the Section is 1) to further the unbiased political education of women; 2) to secure posts for women in all governmental departments; 3) to support and aid in the formation of all educational, political, legal, social and economic groups which will hinder international or civil conflicts and allow the free cultural development of the peoples; 4) to support and encourage better inter-

national relations; 5) and to stand at all times for non-violence in all spheres of life.

NEWS ITEMS

Brazil. Congress of the Federacao Brasileira Pelo Progresso Feminino, held in 1931. The Peace Committee was very interesting. The resolutions included national, international and educational measures. The international ones for Government action were suggested by ex-president J. Lamartine and asked for reduction of armaments to a minimum, for free trade between nations, continental courts, a supreme World Court with judges of both sexes, for arbitration in international disputes. Miss Lutz presented resolutions asking that the new constitution include an article forbidding war for conquest and forbidding the Government to declare war before trying every means of a peaceful solution; also a resolution outlawing war as a crime. Other resolutions were voted asking for a reduction of the war budget, for fusion of the Ministry of War and of the Navy in a

very reduced Ministry of Defence; asking that soldiers be educated for other useful work; that mothers, educators, churches and state authorities should cooperate in Peace Education and that Brazil should return to the League of Nations. One of the most interesting resolutions was an appeal to scientists to take an active part in securing world peace.

Japan. Madeleine Rolland has brought to our attention a beautiful letter written by Tomi Wada Kohra of Tokio to the Chinese women, which has been published in *Die Friedensfront* and reproduced in "*Die geeignete Menschheit*". We are sorry that we have not yet received the text of this letter.

Mediterranean Coast

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