

PAX INTERNATIONAL

Published by
 the Womens' International League for Peace
 and Freedom



International Headquarters:
 12 rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva

665

Editor: KARLEEN BAKER

Subscription price: 2.50 Swiss francs, \$1 or 2/6 a year — Chèques postaux: I. 1869

LA SIGNIFICATION DES ÉLECTIONS EN TCHECOSLOVAQUIE. Lettre de Prague:

Hier—(le 29 Mai)—a eu lieu en Tchécoslovaquie le second tour des élections communales. Le calme dans lequel ces élections se sont déroulées prouve, une fois de plus, que par ses méthodes démocratiques, la Tchécoslovaquie est capable toutes les questions compliquées qui se rattachent au problème minoritaire. A l'exception d'un petit incident entre des allemands nazistes et des allemands démocratiques, le calme n'a cessé de régner toute la journée. C'est un nouveau succès de l'Etat Tchécoslovaquie de sa discipline et de sa population de toutes les nationalités. Cette dernière a prouvé sa maturité politique.

Le calme dans lequel les élections, des deux derniers dimanches se sont déroulées, a produit une influence favorable même sur le développement de la situation internationale. Les milieux britanniques, qui ont dépêché le chef de la section de l'Europe centrale du Foreign Office, M. William Strang à Berlin et à Prague, considèrent ce fait ainsi que le contact établi entre le gouvernement tchécoslovaque et les représentants du parti des allemands des Sudètes de M. Henlein, comme signifiant la possibilité d'une solution du problème minoritaire et d'un développement ultérieur favorable en Europe centrale.

Les résultats des élections de dimanche passé prouvent que les institutions démocratiques de la Tchécoslovaquie savent assurer l'expression libre de la volonté du souverain qui était ainsi à même de choisir ses représentants selon son opinion. Les électeurs du 29 mai n'ont presque pas apporté de changements spéciaux dans la répartition des forces politiques des populations de n'importe quelle nationalité, comparées aux élections du 22 mai. La population a manifesté sa volonté de se grouper autour des grands partis et d'éviter la dispersion des forces politiques.

Quant au camp tchécoslovaque, tous les grands partis de la coalition gouvernementale enregistrent des gains. Dans les villes celà est surtout le cas pour les socialistes-nationaux (ancien parti de M. Bénès) et dans les campagnes pour les agrariens (parti du président du Conseil, M. Hodza). Ce résultat est la preuve que le travail positif de la coalition gouvernementale porte ses

fruits et trouve une large compréhension dans les masses électorales.

Dans le camp allemand, le parti des Allemands des Sudètes de M. Henlein a eu la majorité attendue. Toutefois, il n'arrive pas à la totalité des voix, parce que les éléments démocratiques allemands se sont groupés autour de la sociale-démocratie allemande, ce qui leur a permis de résister dans toutes les localités où se trouve une minorité allemande. Quant au parti de M. Henlein, son gain est plus fictif que réel comparé aux résultats des élections parlementaires de 1935. Depuis cette date, ce parti a fusionné avec deux partis allemands qui, en 1935, posaient encore leurs candidatures. Pour juger des gains de M. Henlein, nous devrions additionner les voix obtenues par ces parties en 1935 aux voix des agrariens allemands et des chrétiens-sociaux allemands obtenues aux mêmes élections, afin de les comparer aux voix actuellement obtenues. De cette opération, il apparaît que les gains réels du parti de M. Henlein ne sont que de 3 à 8%. Dans les communes mixtes, l'élément tchécoslovaque s'est mis en valeur et enregistre un gain, grâce surtout à l'appareil des listes de tous les partis tchécoslovaques.

Il faut mentionner spécialement le résultat de Prague où la population était appelée de procéder à des élections d'arrondissements. Lors des élections d'hier, le parti des nationaux-socialistes (ancien parti de M. Bénès) a gagné de nouveau 9170 voix de sorte qu'il enregistre le chiffre record de 151.600 voix. Les communistes, qui, à Prague ont fait une campagne patriotique, enregistrent aussi de larges succès. Les autres partis maintiennent leurs positions, sauf le parti d'extrême droite, la Ligue nationale qui perd 8005 voix, comparées à celles de dimanche passé. De même, le parti des Allemands des Sudètes de M. Henlein, perd un tiers de ses voix, 4544, de sorte qu'il n'enregistre que 10.079 voix, contre environ 15.000.

Pour se rendre compte de la position du parti Henlein, il faut examiner ses résultats dans les grandes villes des régions sudéto-allemandes. Dans la ville industrielle Aussig et Dux ce parti reste en dessous de 80% des voix totales. A Dux il reste même en minorité. Une des plus grandes villes de la Bohême du Nord, Jablonetz (Gablonz) n'a donné au parti de M. Henlein que le 79% des voix, contre le 77% aux dernières élections. Dans une autre ville industrielle d'importance du Nord de la Bohême, Frydland, les Henleinistes n'ont obtenu que le 83% des voix exprimées.

A CRITICISM FROM OUR POLISH SECTION

In her article on the European situation in our last issue Mme. Duchêne commented:—

"It appears also that Poland may have received—no doubt in exchange for the surrender of the Danzig corridor—freedom to 'annex' Lithuania."

Our Polish Section, writing to register a protest, adds:

"The so-called 'corridor' means Polish Pomerania-Pomorie, inhabited by Poles from the remotest times, and for many centuries part of the Polish state. An English book *Eagles Black and White* by Augur would be very helpful to understand this problem.

"As to Lithuania, facts themselves have proved how fantastic and untrue are the suggestions of the article. The lack of relation between Poland and Lithuania, this dead point in political relations in Europe, was a cause of deep concern, not only in Poland and partly in Lithuania, but of all politicians of good will in Europe. Now the relations, political and neighbourly, are reestablished, just what was required."

REPONSE AUX CRITIQUES DE LA SECTION POLONAISE

Les "droits" de la Pologne sur le territoire du "Corridor" n'ont pas été mis en question par moi, mais on sait que le Gouvernement Allemand n'a pas abandonné son projet de reprendre ce territoire et l'on sait aussi comment il s'est comporté à l'égard de la "Ville libre de Dantzig".

On sait, également, que la Pologne revendique un accès à la mer et que l'annexion de la Lithuanie—à laquelle l'Allemagne réclame le territoire de Memel—lui donnerait les ports qu'elle demande.

Les causes officielles du différend Polonais-Lithuanien, nous les connaissons:

En 1921, le Général polonais Zeligowski, annexait Wilno, ancienne capitale de la Lithuanie.

Depuis, la Pologne et la Lithuanie n'entretenaient plus de relations diplomatiques.

Que ceci ait été un état de choses regrettable, personne ne le conteste.

Mais des "faits", que nul ne saurait nier, demeurent:

Le Jeudi, 17 Mars 1938, à 22 heures, à la suite d'un incident de frontière, le Gouvernement Lithuanien recevait du Gouvernement Polonais un ultimatum.

La note Polonaise précisait qu'en cas de refus, le Gouvernement saurait en "tirer les conséquences les plus énergiques, y compris une action militaire. . . ."

Le 19 Mars 1938, en présence de l'important déploiement de troupes polonaises à sa frontière, la Lithuanie, sous une énergique pression de la France et de l'U.R.S.S., acceptait les conditions de la Pologne.

Si les événements out, heureusement, pris un autre cours que celui qu'on était en droit de redouter alors, cela ne prouve nullement que mes suppositions étaient "fahtaisistes".

Encore deux remarques d'ordre général:

1° Le témoignage d'Augur ne peut pas être invoqué comme un témoignage d'un caractère indiscutable;

2° Je ne crois pas conforme aux principes et traditions de notre Ligue qu'une Section défende aveuglément la politique de son Gouvernement.

G. DUCHENE.

ISOTYPE

A collection of Isotype-Material brought from the International Foundation for Visual Education in Holland, lies before me. With growing interest I am turning over the tables which illustrate economic, social and political problems.

The Isotype method is not confined to these branches, but this material will specially interest W.I.L.P.F. Sections and members.

Let us, for instance, assume that a Group organises a study course on economic and social relations. The referent will have to collect and prepare a great deal of statistical material in order to illustrate her statements. The hearers will note the figures given—a few days or, at best, a few weeks later when trying to recollect the figures in order to base further investigation or discussion upon them, they will find that they have forgotten them.

This will not be the case if the lectures are illustrated by Isotypes (Isotype material, in two-colour prints is also available as lantern slides). To quote a simple example:

An Isotype table illustrates how by increasing mechanisation and in spite of higher production the number of workers is reduced and, in consequence, unemployment increased.

We see:

1923 3 coal-carts filled by 9 workers with shovels.

1928 4 coal-carts filled by 5 workers with mechanical aids at their disposal.

A footnote indicates the number of tons, and of thousands of workers which every symbol represents. The meaning of this picture is obvious at first sight without comment and it remains in the memory.

This is only one example of many tables which make even complex problems real and easily understood.

Isotype has further advantages: It stimulates reflection and further enquiry. Pictures call forth other pictures. Moreover, it gives a deeper—a more human meaning to facts which, explained in dry words or figures are accepted as such. If we read, e.g., "increased mechanisation increases unemployment by x per cent." we may simply register this statement without giving further thought to the "per cents." If we look at the Isotype table: at the nine men with the shovels, the five helped by machines, the question immediately arises in our minds—although the symbols are reduced to the fewest lines—what will happen to the four men, the four thousand or forty thousand they represent, who stood in the gaps. The little symbol "man" reminds us over and over again of what one easily forgets when bent on the study of facts: that all problems are related to man and that their repercussions on him should be taken as measure for their judgment.

It would, however, be entirely wrong to believe that the material is compiled according to a certain "tendency." The contrary is true: it is absolutely objective and that is just why it makes such a strong and lasting impression.

This material will prove of much value for lectures, study circles, people's universities, etc.

Further information and material may be had from: The International Foundation for Visual Education. Headquarters: 267 Obrechtstraat, Den Haag, Holland.

L. B.

FROM U.S.A.

The following resolution of the National Convention of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, U.S. Section, sent to the League of Nations Council is of interest to all our Sections, as a reflection of the feelings of those beyond the Atlantic, as they look at Europe.

"In reference to the recent signed agreements between Lord Perth of Great Britain and Count Ciano of Italy the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, United States Section, in Annual Meeting assembled at Minneapolis, April 30, points out to the Council of the League of Nations these shameful facts:

"(1) That these two Imperialist nations are bargaining with each other concerning the disposal of territories belonging to neither;

"(2) That representatives of neither Spain nor Ethiopia were present during the negotiations to protect their own interests;

"(3) That the point at issue between the two major powers is that dominance recently won through force of arms by Italy in both Ethiopia and Spain threatens the continued dominance by Great Britain in the more remote parts of her great empire, a dominance also won in the past by force.

"In view of these facts the W.I.L. protests to the Council of the League of Nations, meeting on May 9, 1938, the flagrant sacrifice by two major League powers of the manifest interests, independence, even the very life of two of the minor League powers—Ethiopia and Spain.

"The W.I.L. further points out to the Council that these bargainings betray the very principles upon which the League of Nations was founded, the territorial and political integrity of independent nations, the right of people to determine their own form of government, and the sanctity of treaties.

"We reaffirm our steadfast opposition to Imperialism as a system and a method—even when it poses under the guise of Democracy."

NEWS FROM SWEDEN

The "Northern Peace Day"—(Goodwill Day)—was, in Sweden, a glorious success. More than 400,000 of our "Peace-flower", the white narcissus, were sold in places all over the country. Speeches by four of our prominent members from the point of view of the mother, the teacher, the Christian and youth were "broadcast." A special radio programme for the children also including the greeting of the Welsh Children, was performed, at which children of several different nationalities performed songs and recitals in their native languages. Sermons on peace were delivered in Cathedrals and Churches all over the country. In many places our local branches had arranged public peace-meetings, or, where this was not possible, collected members and sympathisers for domestic solemnities. At the morning prayers in the schools a special peace-pamphlet edited by "The Schools' Federation for Peace" was widely used.

The Section is happy to state a great increase in members during the last year, almost 40 per cent.—27 new groups or branches have been created, thanks to the many and long lecturing tours undertaken by some of our

members. A very successful course for leaders and speakers was held at the beginning of the year and the Executive Committee of the Section is planning new courses for the autumn. Also several local branches have arranged courses for the study of peace problems.

The Executive Committee of the Section protested to the Government against the recognition of Italy's conquest of Abyssinia, and when, nevertheless, this recognition was proclaimed, the Committee sent to the Government an address, expressing our deep disappointment and pointing to the dangerous precedent for the future of the weaker States, created by this sanctioning of the breach of treaties and the results attained by the use of a superior military power and war-machinery.

The Executive Committee of the Section also presented to the Government the resolution on Neutrality, passed by the Executive Committee at the meeting at Basle, with the following addition:—

"The Swedish Section of the W.I.L.P.F. further appeals to the Northern Governments to make the new rules on Neutrality" (such rules being, as you know, now under the consideration of the Northern States) "not only an expression of the will of the Northern peoples to escape war and its ruinous consequences, but also a measure for impeding economic gains from war, in the first place by cutting off all direct or indirect exportation of war materials to both the fighting sides."

NEWS FROM NORWAY

The Norwegian Section of the W.I.L.P.F. had their annual meeting in the Nobel-institute on the 27th and 28th of May. Representatives from the different groups were present.

The reports gave evidence that the interest for peace work is increasing all over the country, and the new journal "Peace and Freedom" has proved to be important to the members.

Various resolutions were adopted, including one to the Norwegian Storting which urgently requested the Storting "to sanction the Odelsting proposition nr. 40 (1938) regarding the admittance of women to all the offices of the State."

Another to the Norwegian Government profoundly regretted that the Norwegian Government, in spite of its previous declaration against such a step has found it necessary to recognise Italy's conquest of Ethiopia.

"We are aware," it ran, "of the fact that this recognition is due to practical reasons, but we are of the opinion that the previous position of the Norwegian Government has been a support to justice and a help to the small nations in their fight against the mentality of violence which is spreading in many countries."

A third protested against support of the Olympic games in Japan, while she is a belligerent country.

A declaration regarding the position of our League towards the Dictatorships was issued:—

"In view of the uncertainty which seems to exist in certain circles regarding the position of the W.I.L.P.F. towards the Russian Dictatorship, the annual meeting

of the Norwegian Section of the W.I.L.P.F. want to make the following statement :

“ We repudiate any form of dictatorship, whatever its colour may be.

“ Dictatorship means a violation of human rights. The freedom of thought, the security of justice and the respect for human life is neglected. The militarization of children and young people brutalizes them and creates contempt for humanity.”

The Chairman, Marie Lous Mohr was unanimously re-elected.

(Signed) SIGRID HELLIESEN LUND.

COURS DE VACANCES INTERNATIONAL A PARIS, du 12 au 20 Juillet, 1938

“ LE VRAI VISAGE DE LA FRANCE CONTEMPORAINE ”

Soit dans les réunions internationales, soit à l'occasion des visites que nos amis de l'étranger ont faites à l'Exposition 1937, les membres de la Section Française ont été frappés du manque d'informations sur notre pays, ou même des informations malveillantes et erronées qui sont répandues de tous côtés par une propagande mensongère habilement camouflée.

La Section Française de la L.I.F.P.L. a donc pensé qu'il serait utile d'organiser un Cours de Vacances International où seraient étudiés les témoignages de l'esprit français et de l'activité française montrant le vrai visage de la France contemporaine.

Ce Cours aura lieu à Paris du 12 au 20 Juillet 1938, au Cercle des Nations, 21 rue Casimir Périer, Paris 7^e.

Nous invitons à y participer, non seulement les membres de la Ligue, mais tous ceux qui s'intéressent à certains des sujets traités. Nous souhaiterions toucher, en particulier, des jeunes que peut attirer pendant les vacances, les échanges de vues avec des camarades de diverses nations.

Une conférence, suivie de discussions, aura lieu chaque matin. La vie sociale, la vie artistique, la vie littéraire, la vie scientifique, la vie politique, la vie économique seront, successivement, étudiées.

Les après-midi seront consacrés à des visites de réalisations sociales (groupes scolaires, dispensaires, organisations de loisirs, etc.) due Palais de la Découverte, de Musées, d'expositions artistiques contemporaines ou à des promenades dans Paris et ses environs.

Le journée du 14 Juillet sera libre afin de permettre aux participants d'assister aux démonstrations de la Fête Nationale qui a pris un éclat nouveau depuis le Serment du 14 Juillet 1935.

Selon la tradition des Cours de Vacances de la Ligue, la critique la plus libre sera admise dans la discussion mais un effort de compréhension et de vie fraternelle sera demandé de chacun.

Divers conférenciers particulièrement compétents ont déjà accepté de traiter la plupart des thèmes d'étude.

Un versement de 30 francs français est demandé pour les droits d'inscription.

Adresser toutes demandes de renseignements à Mme Andrée Jouve, Secrétariat Central de la L.I.F.P.L., 2 rue Gaston de Saint-Paul, Paris, XVI^e.

Compte-Chèque Postal : Melle Y. Garreau—N^o 1344-23 Paris.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Geneva, September 6-11 inclusive, 1938

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

1. Political Situation : Action at Geneva Headquarters since Basle Executive meeting, January, 1938.
2. 10 Minutes' Reports of National Sections on their activities in connection with the political and economic situation in their countries since January, 1938.
3. W.I.L.P.F. Representatives' work in International Federated Bodies :
 - (a) R.U.P. (I.P.C.).
 - (b) Peace and Disarmament Committee.
 - (c) Liaison Committee.
 - (d) Women's Consultative Committee.
- Proposals.
Discussion
4. Can the W.I.L.P.F. contribute towards co-ordinating women's efforts for the Defence of Democracy, Freedom and Peace—Marseilles Conference.
5. Report of the Administrative Secretary.
6. Activities of Standing Commissions and Referents.
7. Treasurer's Report—Finance.
8. *Pax*
9. Maison.
10. Resolutions on Political Situation and others.
11. Next Executive Meetings, 1939 :
 - (a) Zürich (National Exhibition, 1939).
 - (b) Liège (Exposition Internationale de l'Eau).
 - (c) New York (World Fair, 1939).

ESSENTIAL FACTS ABOUT THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. 9th Edition (Revised)*

This very small, but closely packed book, now in its ninth edition, has become one of the indispensable and most frequently consulted of the standard works of reference. It is in constant use in every part of the world amongst statesmen and officials, journalists, teachers and persons interested in international affairs. Within its small compass are to be found all the essential facts about the League.

The book has the advantage of being always up to date. A noteworthy feature is the conciseness with which the facts are given and the ease with which the reader can find what he wants. Precise information is given about the States Members of the League, the constitution and organisation of the principal and the subsidiary organs of the League, with sections on the International Labour Organisation and the Permanent Court of International Justice.

There are a number of sections dealing with the League's political and technical activities in many fields of international life. There are chapters devoted to a number of activities related to the League, like the refugee problem. A section is devoted to relations with the outside world.

The volume is completed by several annexes and a number of useful plans and charts.

* 349 pages, illus., 1/-; \$0.25.

of the Norwegian Section of the W.I.L.P.F. want to make the following statement :

“ We repudiate any form of dictatorship, whatever its colour may be.

“ Dictatorship means a violation of human rights. The freedom of thought, the security of justice and the respect for human life is neglected. The militarization of children and young people brutalizes them and creates contempt for humanity.”

The Chairman, Marie Lous Mohr was unanimously re-elected.

(Signed) SIGRID HELLIESEN LUND.

COURS DE VACANCES INTERNATIONAL A PARIS, du 12 au 20 Juillet, 1938

“ LE VRAI VISAGE DE LA FRANCE CONTEMPORAINE ”

Soit dans les réunions internationales, soit à l'occasion des visites que nos amis de l'étranger ont faites à l'Exposition 1937, les membres de la Section Française ont été frappés du manque d'informations sur notre pays, ou même des informations malveillantes et erronées qui sont répandues de tous côtés par une propagande mensongère habilement camouflée.

La Section Française de la L.I.F.P.L. a donc pensé qu'il serait utile d'organiser un Cours de Vacances International où seraient étudiés les témoignages de l'esprit français et de l'activité française montrant le vrai visage de la France contemporaine.

Ce Cours aura lieu à Paris du 12 au 20 Juillet 1938, au Cercle des Nations, 21 rue Casimir Périer, Paris 7^e.

Nous invitons à y participer, non seulement les membres de la Ligue, mais tous ceux qui s'intéressent à certains des sujets traités. Nous souhaiterions toucher, en particulier, des jeunes que peut attirer pendant les vacances, les échanges de vues avec des camarades de diverses nations.

Une conférence, suivie de discussions, aura lieu chaque matin. La vie sociale, la vie artistique, la vie littéraire, la vie scientifique, la vie politique, la vie économique seront, successivement, étudiées.

Les après-midi seront consacrés à des visites de réalisations sociales (groupes scolaires, dispensaires, organisations de loisirs, etc.) du Palais de la Découverte, de Musées, d'expositions artistiques contemporaines ou à des promenades dans Paris et ses environs.

Le jour du 14 Juillet sera libre afin de permettre aux participants d'assister aux démonstrations de la Fête Nationale qui a pris un éclat nouveau depuis le Serment du 14 Juillet 1935.

Selon la tradition des Cours de Vacances de la Ligue, la critique la plus libre sera admise dans la discussion mais un effort de compréhension et de vie fraternelle sera demandé de chacun.

Divers conférenciers particulièrement compétents ont déjà accepté de traiter la plupart des thèmes d'étude.

Un versement de 30 francs français est demandé pour les droits d'inscription.

Adresser toutes demandes de renseignements à Mme Andrée Jouve, Secrétariat Central de la L.I.F.P.L., 2 rue Gaston de Saint-Paul, Paris, XVI^e.

Compte-Chèque Postal : Melle Y. Garreau—N^o 1344-23 Paris.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Geneva, September 6-11 inclusive, 1938

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

1. Political Situation : Action at Geneva Headquarters since Basle Executive meeting, January, 1938.
2. 10 Minutes' Reports of National Sections on their activities in connection with the political and economic situation in their countries since January, 1938.
3. W.I.L.P.F. Representatives' work in International Federated Bodies :
 - (a) R.U.P. (I.P.C.).
 - (b) Peace and Disarmament Committee.
 - (c) Liaison Committee.
 - (d) Women's Consultative Committee.
- Proposals.
Discussion
4. Can the W.I.L.P.F. contribute towards co-ordinating women's efforts for the Defence of Democracy, Freedom and Peace—Marseilles Conference.
5. Report of the Administrative Secretary.
6. Activities of Standing Commissions and Referents.
7. Treasurer's Report—Finance.
8. *Pax*
9. Maison.
10. Resolutions on Political Situation and others.
11. Next Executive Meetings, 1939 :
 - (a) Zürich (National Exhibition, 1939).
 - (b) Liège (Exposition Internationale de l'Eau).
 - (c) New York (World Fair, 1939).

ESSENTIAL FACTS ABOUT THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. 9th Edition (Revised)*

This very small, but closely packed book, now in its ninth edition, has become one of the indispensable and most frequently consulted of the standard works of reference. It is in constant use in every part of the world amongst statesmen and officials, journalists, teachers and persons interested in international affairs. Within its small compass are to be found all the essential facts about the League.

The book has the advantage of being always up to date. A noteworthy feature is the conciseness with which the facts are given and the ease with which the reader can find what he wants. Precise information is given about the States Members of the League, the constitution and organisation of the principal and the subsidiary organs of the League, with sections on the International Labour Organisation and the Permanent Court of International Justice.

There are a number of sections dealing with the League's political and technical activities in many fields of international life. There are chapters devoted to a number of activities related to the League, like the refugee problem. A section is devoted to relations with the outside world.

The volume is completed by several annexes and a number of useful plans and charts.

* 349 pages, illus., 1/-; \$0.25.