

PAX INTERNATIONAL

The W. I. L. P. F. 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.

Published
by the Women's International League for Peace
and Freedom



International Headquarters:
12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva
Jane Addams, Honorary President

THE AUSTRIAN SITUATION

A clear picture of the Austrian situation will only be possible a few weeks from now, for at present, in August, the country is still feeling the beneficial influence of an extraordinarily favourable influx of tourists. This demonstrated strong sympathy for the endangered country and disapproval of the attacks of Hitlerist Germany. Certainly those towns which are not benefited by tourist trade are still susceptible to political and National-Socialist influences, but Vienna maintains the balance with its increasingly powerful "Fatherland Front", which fights for Austria's independence, and with the Viennese Anti-Nazis, the Social-Democrats. Those regions where the Christian Parties were formerly the strongest, that is, in towns far from cities, are now opposed to the Christian Socialist Government Party. It is the unemployed young people among the peasants who make up

the majority of the "Austrian Legion"; they go into Germany secretly and return, according to plan, having become militants, to introduce by so-called legal methods National-Socialism of the German type. An emergency decree which was recently passed deprives Austrians who secretly cross the border of their Austrian citizenship but it is doubtful, given the extremely difficult border conditions in the mountains, whether all those who have gone or have been drawn over, will be caught.

Many of the mountain peasants live from trade in lumber. They can be helped through an increase in exports but the Government on the whole can carry through its policy and better ward off German Nazi influence by the creation of work. In this connection, France and Italy can be effectively helpful.

Hitler's Germany will not give up Austria. Radio speeches from Germany to this effect continue despite the protests of the Great Powers. And Austria is only the immediate object, the German-speaking regions in neighboring countries are also on the program. If Nazi Germany meets with defeat through the strengthening and stabilising of Austrian independence, the peace of Europe will be momentarily safe.

Unfortunately it is to be feared that the damage which will result from the struggle to ward off National Socialism in Austria will not be quickly repaired. There has been for example the complete immobilisation of Parliament. For months the Government has ruled by dictatorship, by means of emergency decrees, and has created harsh laws which are a severe menace to freedom....

Among the decrees there are the laws for the obligatory censorship of the press, for the complete abrogation of liberty of assembly for political meetings, and for the proposed replacement by a system of a Council of Corporations, of a Constitution based on liberty. The law which will bring about this change is as yet not known to the people but it is expected that severe restrictions of citizens' liberties is contemplated. Even the constitutional Law Court, which is the supreme court, is not functioning. The Communist and the National-Socialist Parties were dissolved as enemies of the State... The Police is making every effort to trace the attempts of the Austrian National-Socialists to undermine the Government and their actions hostile to it. But the Police is not capable of carrying out all the demands made on it, since its forces are too small for present conditions.

Reduction of unemployment would be the best means of bringing political peace to the country. Economic measures, which could be taken abroad for the same purpose, would be a great help to the Austrian Government in establishing peace at home.

Austria, grateful for the help already given, looks confidently to support from the Great Powers. She hopes for complete agreement between Italy and France, which would be of the greatest importance for years to come. Little Austria is the corner-stone for the world's hope of peace since her fate will decide whether there shall be war or peace, the barbaric system of national isolation or the preservation of human progress and civilisation.

CONTENTS

- The Austrian Situation.*
The World Crushed by Materialism.
East European Conference.
Against all Forms of Fascism,
Luigi Campolonghi.
India, by Madeleine Rolland.
Section News: British Section, French
Section, U. S. Section.
Matilde Widgren.
Geneva Headquarters.
Meetings in Geneva.

If Austria is not strengthened in her superhuman efforts for independence and, if possible, guaranteed neutrality, she will with difficulty be able permanently to withstand attacks and violence on her western frontier. Z.

At the moment we receive this article, we learn of the measures for re-armament of Austria consented to by the signatories of the Treaty of St. Germain.

Is this the way in which agreement among the Great Powers is to be realised? This is not the kind of agreement demanded by those who work for peace.

Once again the interests of the industrialists are triumphant. And this happens at the eve of the re-opening of the Disarmament Conference. C. D.

THE WORLD CRUSHED BY MATERIALISM

Munition makers are everywhere triumphant. In all countries press campaigns point to the necessity of arming. Armament continues and the peoples are shown airplanes, ships, tanks and cannons.

What will the Disarmament Conference do in face of the growth of militarism and the conspiracy of the munition interests?

The aspect of the present-day world grows more and more terrifying. The London Conference accomplished nothing and the economic war continues with poverty and unemployment.

Anxiety grows in the face of the American "experiment"; the Cuban tragedy; Indian events; the progress of Japanese imperialism; the return of the U. S. S. R. to European politics, marked by the pacts of non-aggression, the definition of the aggressor and Franco-Soviet rapprochement; the increasing menace of Hitlerism in and near Germany; and the difficult situation in which Austria is put by the intrigues of the Great Powers.

In the phrase of the philosopher Bergson, the world is "crushed by its material progress" and cannot make the effort to free itself from rationalised and standardised violence. The duty which falls on us grows heavier and heavier.

Our Chairmen have sent an urgent appeal to the Sections to do everything possible for the coming Executive.

The situation is most serious and we must draw together and redouble our efforts.

EAST EUROPEAN CONFERENCE

After the meeting of the Executive Committee, the W. I. L. P. F. will hold a Conference on East Europe in October at Vienna. As in 1929 the Conference will try to reach a better understanding of the economic and political problems of Central and Eastern Europe and to draw up a program of work that can be undertaken in common by the women of those countries.

In full awareness of the difficulties and dangers, we must keep firmly to W. I. L. principles and to our personal faith.

The International Executive Committee of the W. I. L. P. F. will meet in Geneva from September 23rd to 27th.

AGAINST ALL FORMS OF FASCISM

Fundamentally all forms of Fascism are one and the same: a regime against which all free men in all countries should range themselves, remembering that the best method of fighting this enemy of progress and civilisation is first by barring the road when it attempts to cross the frontier into countries where a semblance of liberty still exists, and then by helping oppressed peoples to recover, along with their liberties, the right to life, work and peace. Luigi Campolunghi, President of the Italian League for the Rights of Man.

INDIA

The news of India published in the European press is often confused and contradictory; it stresses especially the apparent defeat of Congress and the alleged impopularity of Gandhi. However, recent news from India, from various reliable sources, states that the Congress is still very much alive despite persecutions, that Indian nationalists are still as determined as ever to obtain their independence and not to be content with the promise of an uncertain Constitution, and that, at the last conference in Poona in July, where all the Congress leaders who were at liberty met together, the great majority of the meeting found itself in agreement with Gandhi on all the important points.

At that meeting the abandoning of Mass Civil Disobedience was decided on; and this decision has been widely interpreted in Europe as a fatal blow to Civil Resistance and Non-Violence.

In the spirit of the Congress this is not at all so; the masses are to be allowed a much needed rest after their valiant struggle of over a year and this will allow them to recuperate their strength and to prepare for a new campaign later on which will be still bigger and more effective than the preceding ones.

Disobedience is only to be carried on by individuals (this was Gandhi's opinion which the Congress Members have adopted), ready for extreme sacrifices, which cannot be demanded indefinitely of the masses, and these individuals will show the world and the British Government that the methods of Satyagraha have not been foresworn.

The other Congress Members and sympathisers are to devote themselves to constructive activities according to a plan drawn up by Gandhi in a statement published at the end of July before his last imprisonment: work against untouchability, Hindu-Muslim unity, intensifying and perfecting of national industries in particular *khadi*, boycott of foreign industries which could harm them, amelioration of methods of agriculture and breeding, organisation of workers' associations, etc. Such activities are not *legally* forbidden even under the Ordinances.

As in any truly representative assembly, the Congress has an opposition, a minority of "young Indians" who, under the leadership of Subhas C. Bose, former mayor of Calcutta, accuse Gandhi of compromise and criticise the slowness or ineffectiveness of his methods. But this minority does not appear to wish to hinder the action of the majority, and would be more likely to undertake parallel action; besides that Bose has so far accepted the Congress tactics of non-violence.

Moreover Jawaharlal Nehru, who before his imprisonment was the idol of young India, is to be liberated and if, as he has done before, he rallies to Gandhi's party, perhaps the majority of the "Young Indians" will follow him.

In any case, minority or majority, all are in agreement in their faith in India's final victory.

Madeleine Rolland.

The annual meeting of the International Committee for India will be held at the Friends Centre, Tacconnerie 5, Geneva on September 19th. M. Bhulabhai Desai will bring to the Committee a message from the Indian Congress and from Mahatma Gandhi.

Information can be had from the Honorary Secretary: Mrs. Ellen Horup, Pension Sergy, chemin Krieg, Geneva.

SECTION NEWS

British Section.

The British Section is concentrating all its efforts both at headquarters and in the branches on an eleventh hour campaign to push the Disarmament Conference, when it meets on October 16th, to take real decisions in the framing of a Disarmament Convention. It is urging its members and branches to organise meetings during the week preceding the re-opening of the Disarmament Conference and a special leaflet for use at such meetings, and in other ways, has been printed, entitled "Essentials of Disarmament". It is hoped that resolutions and messages will be sent to the Mass Disarmament Demonstration which is being held in Geneva in the evening preceding the re-assembly of the Conference.

The W. I. L. is convening a meeting of representatives of Women's Organisations who will discuss with Miss Horsburgh, M. P., (a member of the British Delegation to the XIVth. Assembly) questions of special interest to women which which are likely to come before the Assembly. This to be held in London on Tuesday, September 21st. at 5 p.m.

Bombing of Native Village on the Indian Frontier.

The Executive Committee of the British Section has passed the following resolution:

"The Women's International League deeply regrets the recent bombing of a native village on the Indian frontier, especially in view of the efforts made at the Disarmament Conference to prohibit altogether bombing from the air."

Resolution passed by Executive Committee of the British Section on August 1st, 1933

"That the Women's International League, while welcoming the foundation of the International Bureau for the Unification of Penal Law and the research which it is promoting, is convinced of the necessity for an agreed standard of justice, humanity and efficiency in the treatment of all those under arrest or detention, whether convicted or unconvicted, in police cells or prisons, and appeals to H. M. Government to propose that the Assembly should recommend to the Governments of all States Members of the League of Nations the observance of the Standard Minimum Rules of the International Penal and Penitentiary Commission, and their observation in the police, judicial and penal administrations of their respective countries.

The French Section sends us the following note in reply to the letter of Baden-Powell to the Dutch Section

Following on the publication of the letter received by the Dutch Section from General Baden-Powell, the French Section wishes to draw attention to an omission made voluntarily or involuntarily by the founder of the Boy Scout movement regarding its origin.

The 1st paragraph of the letter reads: "The... Movement was designed... to help the school education in building up Healthy, Happy, Helpful Citizens."

In order to refute this, it suffices to read the number of August 2, 1929, page 5, of "l'Animateur des temps nouveaux", a reactionary publication which cannot be accused of partiality where militarism is concerned, and which attempted to throw light on the Scout Movement. As said, it suffices to open this publication and reprint:

"Birth and First Steps of the Scout Movement" the idea of General Baden-Powell.

"With its essentially educative doctrine, the Scout Movement was born in the army. This explains that originally it served almost exclusively as preparation for military life. This it is no longer, in France at least.

"In 1900, during the African war of Transvaal, General Baden-Powell, head of the English forces in South Africa, called for the full resources of the city of Mafeking (Transvaal), in order to save the city, worn out by a long siege, and in order not to use any soldiers for side issues.

"He called together the young boys, enlisted them for military service of different kinds: scouts, signalmen, liaison officers, etc....

"He was astonished by the results obtained."

Comparison of these texts shows clearly that the object of the Scout Movement was in the first place *solely military*. The Movement was later modified, but it remains tainted with militarism. It retains the framework and external aspect of a military organisation.

2) Paragraph 3.

It is incontestable that "International friendship is promoted by constant interchange of visits and correspondence". But this "international friendship" is worth nothing when war breaks out. Furthermore the scout is obliged, by his oath, to "serve his country", which means service in case of conflict: war making, even the killing of his brother scout, his friend, his affectionate correspondent. Therefore the argument of

"international friendship" promoted by the Scout Movement is very feeble since it cannot withstand slight examination. Even more than other boys, the Scout must defend his country, for scout law is explicit on this point.

To be convinced of the militarism of the Scout Movement, if only as far as military preparation is concerned, no more is needed than to refer to the documents and publications of the Movement, quoted in the report of the French Section presented on April 6th and 7th.

United States Section.

The United States Section organised a Conference on Cuban-American affairs last year and has been able to rouse interest in these questions. Now, after the fall of Machado, it has sent a letter of congratulation to Mr. Sumner Wells on his diplomatic work in Cuba.

Special attention has been paid to the Liberian situation and the Section is now endeavouring to stimulate opinion in favour of the appointment of a Chief Advisor to Liberia whose nationality is acceptable to the Liberians—not an American.

In view of Roosevelt's statement that the marines would be withdrawn from Haiti in 1934, Dorothy Detzer has written to the President on behalf of the U. S. Section urging immediate withdrawal of the marines.

The Section took part in the Congress against War, meeting in New York on September 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

U. S. Headquarters have been moved to 532 17th Street, N. W., in the same building with the National Council for Prevention of War.

We have as yet had no detailed report from the Section of the celebration of August 27th as the 5th anniversary of the signing of the Kellogg Pact, but we have received the message sent by Mr. Hull, Secretary of State, to the Section. read at all the meetings marking the anniversary and widely broadcast. The message, which was also quoted in "Œuvre", is the following:

"The five years that have elapsed since the signing of the Pact of Paris have fully vindicated the lofty principles set forth therein and at the same time have demonstrated the importance—already emphasized by its initiators—of insuring their practical realization through engraving them in the hearts and minds of all mankind. The simple phraseology in which they are couched makes them as easily understood by the man in the street as by the statesman. When its essence has become a commonplace

throughout the inhabited world, then war will indeed have been banished and permanent peace assured. To bring this about is one of the happiest tasks of all men and women of goodwill.

"In the meantime, it is the duty of governments to mitigate the causes that have in the past led to armed conflict and to strengthen and build up the machinery for peaceful settlement of international controversies. A limitation and reduction of armaments by international agreement is the logical sequel to the Pact of Paris. Unless we do violence to the spirit of the Pact, we cannot permit the obstacles and difficulties facing the Disarmament Conference to discourage us from efforts toward bringing it to a successful conclusion. The anniversary of the Peace Pact's signing must, on the contrary, lead us to strengthen our faith in the possibility of a world in which armaments are reduced to a minimum and to dedicate ourselves anew to the task of achieving this goal by successive stages through common understanding."

.....

MATILDE WIDEGREN

Matilde Widegren, beloved Chairman of the Swedish Section and devoted member of the W. I. L. P. F. since its organisation in 1915, celebrated her seventieth birthday on August 7th. Miss Widegren has been an active peace worker for many years and a few years ago was awarded a prize of 1000 Swedish crowns by the woman's magazine "Idun".

GENEVA HEADQUARTERS

On June 14th the International Secretary of the W. I. L., Camille Drevet, found that her permit to reside in Switzerland was not to be renewed since her "political activity rendered her undesirable in Switzerland". Thereupon Jane Addams, the chairmen of the W. I. L., several members of the Executive and many Sections sent telegrams and letters to the Swiss Government. The Chairmen and Mme Ragaz took the necessary steps and went to Berne. Camille Drevet appealed against the decision and the chairmen presented a memorandum. They also engaged a lawyer in Berne.

The Federal authorities first accorded a delay and then informed C. Drevet that she could remain in Switzerland until a final decision was reached by the Federal Government. C. Drevet wrote to the Federal Government stressing the W. I. L. program and her work which had conformed to that program.

In the next number of "Pax", after the meeting of the Executive Committee, we shall give a full report of this affair which, it is to be hoped, will by that time have been satisfactorily settled.

HELP US GAIN SUBSCRIBERS TO PAX

MEETINGS IN GENEVA

September 23rd, Meeting of international peace organisations, organised by the *International Peace Bureau*.

Meetings of the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations in Geneva.

Friday, September 22nd, 10 a.m., Meeting of the Liaison Committee at 25, Quai du Mont-Blanc.

Monday, September 25th, 4 p.m., Open Meeting, in the Athénée, by kind invitation of the International Council of Women. Tea and Reception followed by discussion on the Agenda of the Assembly.

Friday, September 29th, 4 p.m., Open Meeting, at 25 Quai du Mont-Blanc, by kind invitation of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship. Tea and Reception followed by discussion on the future of the Disarmament Committee.

* * *

Sunday October 15th, on the eve of the re-opening of the *Disarmament Conference*, a big public meeting will be held in Geneva organised by the Consultative Group, of which the Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organisations is a member.

LE COULTRE TRAVEL AGENCY

24, GRAND QUAI, GENEVA

TICKETS IN ALL CLASSES FOR ALL COUNTRIES AT OFFICIAL RATES

OCEAN PASSAGE

Baggage expressed Furniture moved
INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION

PAX INTERNATIONAL

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

published by the Headquarters Office of the
W. I. L. P. F., 12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva.
International Secretary: Camille Drevet.

The undersigned.....
wishes to subscribe to *Pax International* for one year beginning.....
Please send the English,
French, German edition (cross out those not wanted).

Signature:

Address: (please write legibly)

Subscription price: 2.50 Swiss francs, 50 cents or 2/6 a year.