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# HEADWAY

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## MATTERS OF MOMENT

**T**HE Mosul settlement, lengthy though the negotiations have been from first to last, must be regarded as an extremely successful piece of work on the part of the League. There has, of course, been considerable controversy, and will no doubt be more, in this country on the desirability or otherwise of Great Britain's continuing responsibilities in the Middle East. With that question the League could have no concern. Its position was that the British Foreign Minister and Dominions Minister were at Geneva urging that the whole of the Mosul vilayet should be allotted to Iraq. That had of necessity to be regarded by the Council as the authentic voice of Great Britain. Under all the circumstances, the Council had little choice but to follow the broad recommendations of the able Commission it had sent out to investigate the situation on the spot, and pronounce for the unity of Mosul with Iraq conditionally on Great Britain agreeing to stand by the latter until the new State was settled firmly on its own feet. That this decision was delayed until every avenue of conciliation had been explored, and that then it was taken by unanimous vote, is all to the credit of the Council. It is, however, an obviously dangerous practice for negotiators to do as the Lausanne negotiators did and place a final decision in the hands of a body which has to act unanimously, and, therefore, can give no final decision at all if a single vote is adverse. As things are all has turned

out well, but there is much ground for the criticism that the Treaty of Lausanne ought to have contained provision for a majority decision.

### Law and Fact

**O**NE aspect of the Mosul controversy, so far as it is being waged in different camps in this country, calls for a moment's attention. It is still being argued, on the strength of an imperfectly translated observation in the report of the Commission of Inquiry that visited Iraq, that Great Britain can have no legal right to Mosul till Turkey renounces her rights over the province, which she has not done and does not propose to do. The word in the report is "juridiquement" of which the official translation is "legally." A better rendering would have been "as a legal technicality." Moreover, the Commission of Inquiry speaks with no authority on legal matters, and the one body which does speak with supreme authority in that sphere—the Permanent Court of International Justice—ruled specifically (pages 21 and 22 of its Advisory Opinion) that by Article XVI of the Treaty of Lausanne, Turkey definitely renounced all rights whatsoever over any territories lying outside the new frontiers as they were fixed by the Treaty, *or might subsequently be fixed*. The moment, therefore, the Council gave its ruling any Turkish rights over territories assigned by it to Iraq disappeared both in law and in fact.

### Germany's Entry

IT is curious how completely the prospect of Germany's application for membership of the League was overshadowed at the recent Council meeting by the Mosul problem and the Greco-Bulgarian dispute. One reason no doubt was that there was at the moment no German Government in existence, so that an application from Berlin at that moment was out of the question. As things are, Germany is not likely to be a member of the League before March. A Special Assembly will, of course, be convened to elect her, and it will then be necessary for the Council to propose to the Assembly that she be given a permanent seat on the Council. Her representative will then be qualified to take his place at the ordinary March Council meeting, when, among other business, one matter of much interest to Germany, the appointment of members of the Saar Valley Governing Commission, will be dealt with. The idea of holding that meeting at Madrid has very wisely been abandoned, and it will take place, as usual, at Geneva. Since some weeks' notice is necessary for the convocation of a special Assembly, the event could not in any case take place before February, and it would be an obvious convenience to all concerned to call the Assembly for a few days before the opening of the Council meeting on March 8.

### New Talent

THE extreme efficiency with which General Laidoner carried out his special mission in Mosul labels him as essentially a man of whom the League ought in the future to make further use. The Estonian General was in no way concerned with the merits of the main dispute. He was sent to Iraq simply to investigate the raids which the British representatives declared had been made by Turks across the northern frontier of Iraq, and in particular, the deportations of Christians which were said to have taken place in that region. The investigation was carried out with thoroughness and expedition, the report of General Laidoner and his fellow commissioners substantiating to the full all the facts Mr. Amery had laid before the League Council in September. While there is no reason to suppose that the Laidoner Report seriously influenced the Council in arriving at its decision, it would be surprising if it did not strengthen the feeling in this country that to have seen any part of Mosul restored to Turkish rule would have been matter for profound regret.

### No Offers

MOST people will feel a good deal of regret that by December 15, the date fixed last September, no offers for the purchase of the League of Nations Secretariat had been received. To be quite accurate, one tentative offer was put forward, but it failed palpably to conform with the conditions laid down. It will be remembered that the last Assembly, while deciding on the construction of a new Assembly Hall, agreed at the same time that if the existing Secretariat building could be sold by December 15 for a sum of not less than 4½ million

Swiss francs (£180,000), a new Secretariat building should be erected adjacent to the Hall, the whole thus promising to form a block of buildings worthy of what the League is and will be. As things have fallen out that idea has to be abandoned, never to be revived, for the Assembly Hall will now be erected on a site where there will be no room for a new Secretariat, and the existing Secretariat is at once to be extended by the addition of about a hundred rooms. That will make it even more difficult than it is now ever to dispose of the building. It is fair to say that many of the occupants of the present Secretariat are extremely satisfied with their quarters and pretend to no regret at the fact that the idea of a new home for them has fallen through.

### Locarno and Geneva

THE little ceremony at Geneva when Sir Austen Chamberlain handed to the President of the Council and the Secretary-General the original text of the Locarno agreements, to be deposited in the archives of the League, emphasised very desirably the closeness of the association between what took place at Locarno in October and what had taken place at Geneva in previous months and will take place there year by year as the League continues. The Foreign Secretary performed a useful service by showing how completely the Locarno agreements fulfilled the desires expressed by the Assembly last September, and how intimately the League would be associated with the execution of those agreements. There seems a good deal of reason for believing that the immediate path of progress towards Security and Disarmament will be through the application of the Locarno principles in other regions of Europe. It is likely, in particular, that similar accords will before long be concluded between the Little Entente States, Czechoslovakia, Jugo-Slavia and Roumania, and their former enemy, Hungary.

### A Change at Danzig

THE High Commissioner of Danzig, Mr. Mervyn Macdonnell, after serving for three successive years, is to be replaced in February by Dr. van Hamel, at present Director of the Legal Section of the League Secretariat. It has been understood for some time that Mr. Macdonnell's third term of office would be his last, not from any lack of satisfaction with Mr. Macdonnell—precisely the contrary is the case—but because it was felt to be quite time that some representative of a State other than Great Britain should be appointed at Danzig. Since the Free City was constituted all the High Commissioners have been Englishmen: Sir Reginald Tower under the Allies, and Sir Richard Haking and Mr. Macdonnell under the League. It is clearly undesirable that any one nation should seem to have a monopoly of such posts as the High Commissionership of Danzig or the Chairmanship of the Saar Valley Governing Commission. In regard to the latter, the French President is likely to give place after March to a successor of another nationality. While Dr. van Hamel will no doubt carry out his duties at Danzig with fairness and efficiency, the Council

has shown extremely doubtful wisdom in appointing him, for the German and Danzig Press has justly or unjustly strongly opposed his candidature. With all the world to choose from, there is no particular sagacity in selecting a man shown to be *persona non grata* to the Germans just on the eve of Germany's entry into the League.

### Russia's Intentions

THE attitude of Russia towards the League has been a matter of general speculation in the past few weeks. Germany's impending entry has naturally raised the question how far that step will affect the policy of Russia, while at the same time some have seen in the presence of a Soviet delegate at the intrinsically unimportant League Conference at Paris on Measurement of Tonnage in Inland Navigation, a straw in the wind which means just a little more than nothing at all. Meanwhile, however, M. Tchitcherine, Commissar for Foreign Affairs, has been giving interviews right and left expressive of general feelings of hostility and contempt for the League, which he likes little better than he likes Locarno. This probably means nothing, but it is quite clear that Russia has no intention of seeking formal League membership for some time to come, though it will be surprising if she does not co-operate increasingly in special activities such as those in connection with the new Disarmament Committee or the proposed Economic Conference.

### Another £7,000,000

THE battleship "Rodney" has just been launched from Messrs. Cammell Laird's yard at Birkenhead. Since this vessel, like the "Lord Nelson," is built in accordance with the terms of the Washington Naval Treaty, it cannot be contended that her construction is any part of a race in naval armaments. But she costs £7,000,000, again like the "Lord Nelson," and each vessel will take £450,000 a year to maintain. It is a sobering reflection that these two ships alone will be costing the British taxpayer just about as much annually as the League of Nations costs the whole world—for the League's budget, as an instructive article in another column shows, totals just £920,000. If there were no moral argument for disarmament, there would be a decisive enough financial one.

### A Call to Action

THE following passage from the speech made by the Treasurer of the League of Nations Union, Lord Queenborough, at the Union Council Meeting in December, is deserving of a wider publicity than its delivery on that occasion could secure it. It is an admirable comment on the tasks before the Union in the coming year.

"As the cumulative result of a long effort to attain arbitration, security and disarmament, the League's Sixth Assembly and the Locarno Conference give good reason to hope that we are not far from agreements between most of the Governments that matter (except the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Republics, Mexico and Turkey) to get rid of war between civilised States. But to make any great change in human institutions involves a two-fold process. There must be an *external* change in the

rules or laws of society, and an *internal* change in the minds of men. If you make the first change without making the second, you will get laws that cannot be enforced and treaties that are only scraps of paper.

"If, therefore, our generation is to put an end to war before another war puts an end to Europe, it is not enough to outlaw war by treaties and pacts and protocols. We have also to produce the internal change in the hearts and minds of the people. To make that change, and to make it in time, is the main business of the League of Nations Union and of the other League of Nations societies abroad.

"We in the League of Nations Union are trustees of a gospel, and our responsibility is great. We know the truth that can make the world free from war. The world must learn or perish. But how can it learn if there is no one to teach? Ours then is a sacred trust to complete the work of those who died to end war so that they shall not have died in vain."

### Lord Grey and the Union

THERE is no man who weighs his words more carefully before they are spoken, or whose speeches carry more weight with their auditors than Lord Grey. The unswerving support which this greatest of our modern Foreign Secretaries gives to the cause of the League of Nations is not, perhaps, sufficiently appreciated. As its President, he has been a source of strength to the Union, and the notable speech he made at the Caxton Hall during the meeting of the General Council of the Union last month cannot fail to spur both its hearers and its readers to fresh efforts, particularly in the matter of disarmament. Those who were not privileged to hear the speech will be able to read it, as it is to be published immediately as one of the Union's pamphlets.

### Across the Atlantic

JUST in time for the December Council Meeting of the League of Nations Union Dr. Garnett returned from a rapid but extensive tour in the United States. Accompanied by Mrs. Garnett, the Secretary of the Union crossed the Atlantic at the invitation of the American League of Nations Non-Partisan Association, and during a stay of little over three weeks on the American continent he travelled over 3,000 miles, passing through 18 States of the Union and two provinces of Canada. He has brought back the impression that a proposal that the United States should definitely enter the League of Nations would command a good deal more acquiescence in America than is commonly supposed.

### The First Half Million

THE Union now numbers over 500,000 members. That is a milestone, not a resting-place. It has, in fact, taken us far too long to reach half a million, and our total now ought to be much nearer four times that number. Till it is, the Union will not be in a position either to give proper support to a Government doing its best by the League, or to bring necessary pressure to bear on a Government conspicuously failing in that duty. When it is added that out of the 500,000 less than 10,000 manage to send that £1 subscription which the Union so urgently needs, it will be seen that while we have much to be thankful for there is a long road still to travel.

## THE END OF A DRAMA

### BULGARIA, GREECE, AND THE LEAGUE

ON December 14 there was played out at the Council table of the League of Nations at Geneva the last act of a drama that opened on October 19 on the wild mountain frontier that separates southern Bulgaria from northern Greece. Exactly how it began no one quite knows yet. One story has it that the trouble began over a game of cards between Greek and Bulgarian outposts fraternizing across the line. According to another, a woman was at the bottom of it all. At any rate, shots went off. A Greek sentry was killed. The Greek Government sent up reinforcements, demanded an indemnity, apologies and punishment of the Bulgarians concerned, all within 24 hours, and then proceeded to invade Bulgarian territory and shell the town of Patrith.

How the League dealt with that situation is known in detail to readers of the last issue of HEADWAY. The Council met at three days' notice in Paris, secured an immediate cessation of the fighting and then appointed an able commission to go forthwith to the Balkans to investigate the whole incident, decide which country should pay an indemnity to the other, and how much, and—what was considerably more important—consider what steps could be taken to prevent a repetition of such incidents in future. The members of the commission were five in number. Sir Horace Rumbold, British Ambassador at Madrid, was the chairman and he had with him a distinguished French officer, General Serrigny, an Italian officer, and a Swedish and a Dutch civilian. The commission held its first meeting at Geneva early in November, secured there the assistance of three members of the League Secretariat, and went on at once to the Balkans.

#### Quick Work

It was extremely desirable that the League Council when it met on December 7 should have all the facts before it, and so quickly did the commission work that before the Council opened the report was finished and in print. As a consequence the Council was able to deal with the commissioners' recommendations immediately, representatives of the Greek and Bulgarian Governments being present as temporary members of the Council while the matter was discussed.

The report itself is a most business-like document, and full of interest. All that is possible here is to set out the definite recommendations the commission made to the Council. Briefly they are as follows:—

(1) Greece should pay Bulgaria a sum of 20 million levas for the actual damage done by her invasion of Bulgarian territory, and a further 10 million levas as a penalty for the moral wrong done. The latter figure would have been higher but for the fact that a Greek officer had been shot while carrying a white flag, and allowance was made for some payment to Greece under this head. The total of 30 million levas equals £45,000.

(2) To ensure that the frontier guards are kept under proper discipline, two neutral officers, of the same nationality, should be appointed to organize them on either side.

(3) To prevent "incidents" from developing into serious disputes a permanent Conciliation Commission should be appointed, consisting of one Greek, one Bulgarian, the two neutral officers, and a chairman representing the League.

(4) Certain measures should be taken to diminish the discontent felt by Bulgarians formerly settled in Greece who had returned to Bulgaria, leaving their property behind them.

These proposals had been communicated to the Greek and Bulgarian Governments, and when they came before the Council the Greek representative, M. Rentis (a former Foreign Minister) demurred to the payment of the indemnity, and the Bulgarian, Col. Kalfoff (Foreign Minister) demurred to the appointment of a neutral officer. Under those circumstances the whole matter was referred to a small committee consisting of Sir Austen Chamberlain and the Belgian and Japanese members of the Council, M. Hymans and Viscount Ishir.

#### Towards Agreement

A few days' conversation sufficed to smooth out all difficulties. First of all, Col. Kalfoff agreed to the appointment of the two neutral officers. It was decided that Swedes would be particularly useful for this purpose, and on behalf of the Swedish Government M. Unden promised to do his best to get good men chosen. Then both sides declared they would do all in their power to work out arrangements whereby Bulgarians who had gone back to their country leaving farms or other property in Greece should get proper compensation for it. The proposed Conciliation Commission had been accepted by both parties from the first. There remained only the indemnity, and this, naturally, the Greek representative did his utmost to avoid paying. That, of course, was inevitable. He was bound to make the best fight he could for his country. Finally, however, he gave way (in point of fact both sides had undertaken before the Rumbold Commission went out to accept the commission's findings whatever they might be), and the whole question could, therefore, be settled finally before the Council rose. It was laid down that Greece should make her payment to Bulgaria within two months and report to the League when she had done so.

Before the whole dispute is forgotten there are certain features of it that deserve special notice.

(1) Bulgaria took a great risk in trusting her fate to the League at a moment when her territory was actually being invaded, but she found her faith fully justified.

(2) A disarmed State has been defended by the League against one fully armed.

(3) The doctrine is definitely laid down in Sir Austen Chamberlain's report to the Council, and unanimously approved by the Council, that if a country violates the territory of another it ought to pay an indemnity, even though it believed its act was justified by circumstances.

(4) The experiment of neutral officers of similar nationality to organize the two frontier forces is one to watch with great interest.

(5) The League, not content with clearing up this particular incident, has taken positive and fully-considered action to prevent similar trouble in the future.

Altogether the astonishingly smooth and efficient working of the League's machinery at every stage of the dispute has infused a new confidence into friends of the League and members of the Council itself.

## THE EFFECT OF THE O.T.C.

By J. H. BADLEY

*In an article in the last issue of HEADWAY, Dr. Lyttelton, formerly Headmaster of Eton, gave reasons for believing the Officers' Training Corps in Public Schools to be in no way incompatible with training in the ideals for which the League of Nations Union stands. The article printed below contains a statement by the Headmaster of Bedales of another side of the question. We have received a number of letters on this subject, and shall publish some of them next month.—Ed. HEADWAY.*

GRANTED that education must include a sound physical training, that it must inculcate discipline, and that it must inspire an ideal of national service, are these ends best attained by means of an O.T.C.? I believe that they are not, for two reasons: The one, that the training so given, in the degree that it is military, is a bad one; and the other, that the indirect results of such training are still worse. The latter point may be briefly touched on first.

Whatever the advocates of military training may say, can you give such training to a boy without encouraging the militarist spirit? By the militarist spirit I mean a particular outlook on life by which to judge of national aims and conduct, and the acceptance of certain conditions as the means by which these aims are to be achieved. It is based on the assumption that in any conflict of wills or interests force is the final arbiter. That is an idea which seems natural enough to the growing boy. He finds it easy to make those smaller and weaker than himself do what he wants. It seems to him that this is what we grown-ups are doing when we make him do what *we* want; and we are only too ready to encourage this idea by the nature of our punishments, by the way we enforce our authority, and by our presentation of history, which, as we learn and teach it, is one long record of the appeal to force. And if to these unconscious or half-conscious influences on the boy we also, in these school years when habits of thought and motive are being shaped by his daily experience, add a military training, on the ground that in the future as in the past nations will have to settle their differences by fighting, we are re-enforcing the principle that might is right and force the ultimate appeal. And, further, the very means that such training employs, the uniform that marks the soldier off from all others, and each rank from the rest, the pride in personal smartness, the hierarchy of command, from absolute obedience to autocratic rule, all tend to produce the unintelligent and irresponsible spirit, the swagger, the contempt for "inferiors," whether native races, women, civilians or subordinates, that have always been conspicuous in any military caste, and are only too readily imbibed by the growing boy. Instead of encouraging this, we teachers have to do all we can to replace it by intelligent co-operation for mutual help and by the appeal to impartial justice rather than to force.

The advocates of a military training at school insist on the value of the physical training that is thus given and of the discipline that it involves. But military drill is so unscientific and mechanical that much of it is not merely useless for this purpose but actually harmful. Its aim is rather to turn human beings into machines capable of great endurance and giving automatic obedience to the word of command. Even for fighting such mechanical obedience is no longer the best instrument; for any other of the needs of life it is an obstacle to every kind of progress. It is true that for any kind of co-operation—and three-fourths of life is co-operation in some form—discipline is necessary. But there are different kinds of discipline, and military discipline—the real article, of the old regular-army kind, best Prussian brand—is the worst kind of all. During the war officers who could look at things with new eyes made this discovery. The commander of the Australian Army, for instance, in his book describing the wonderful

victories in their last year's fighting in France, roundly expresses his contempt of the discipline that suppresses individual reason. "True discipline," he says, "does not mean lip-service nor obsequious homage to superiors, nor a suppression of individuality." But this is just what is meant by the discipline that is the aim of every drill-sergeant. And so when we are told that military training in the school is good for discipline, I reply that the discipline that it is good for is just the kind that we don't want, and the enemy of the discipline that we do want, which is the outcome of self-control and realisation of the part that each has to play in carrying out a common purpose.

For such reasons I believe that military training in the school is a bad thing, bad in itself, and bad in its results, an obstacle instead of a help to education as well as a means of encouraging the militarist spirit.

The purpose of school is to give a sound physical training that serves equally to fit for all the claims that life makes upon our health and endurance and bodily skill. Such a training is given best of all by active games. Amongst these I should certainly include the wide range of activities that go by the name of scouting; not in the least for any directly military value it may have, or for the sake of any of its semi-military trappings and organisation, which seem to me to lessen rather than increase its value, except in so far as they utilise and give an outlet to instincts and impulses that are natural to a particular stage of growth, the "drum and trumpet" phase that individuals, like nations, have, it seems, to go through, and to outgrow. But the greatest value of scouting is that it recognises what one may call the Red Indian stage of development that all children pass through, and utilises it in all sorts of activities that are most truly educational. This, then, in some form, I should like to see made an integral part of the physical training given in the school, together with games, Swedish gymnastics, dancing (also one of the innate impulses in human nature that can be put to the greatest educational use), and many kinds of manual work, outdoor as well as in.

Then, too, besides giving a sound physical training the school must also inspire an ideal of public service, not merely by occasional lip-service, or as a moral lesson for future use, but in the daily life of the school. National service has been thought of and talked of so exclusively in connection with military service that it is often taken to mean little else than conscription. We have got to rescue it from this degradation. We have got to show that national service is no less possible, and no less necessary, in every kind of productive work and in trade and commerce, if we can only replace the notion that the ruling motive must be personal gain, at the cost of the consumer, by the conception of a service to be rendered to the community; and in good citizenship, by taking an active and honest part in functions of self-government. And we have got to make this not only a matter of instruction, but still more a matter of practice, in the organisation of the school work and school life.

In such ways let us try to fit the boy for service of any kind in later years, whether in war or peace. If we have to give a special training for service in war, let that come later. But on the school *Lang* the destinies of the world. Those years at least let us save from the deadening touch of militarism, and devote them only to the quickening influences of all that makes for life.

## MOSUL: THE END AT LAST

THE eternal Mosul question was, to all intents and purposes, disposed of by the League of Nations Council on December 16, though the decision will not be made absolutely final till the British Government has informed the League whether it accepts the conditions the Council has attached to its award.

Two separate questions arise in regard to the whole course of proceedings before the League. The first is whether the League is well advised in giving the decision it has given. The second is whether the British Government will be well advised in accepting the responsibilities laid on this country by the League's award. This latter is a matter of British domestic policy and as such will not be discussed here. The position of the League, on the other hand, needs explaining, for the negotiations have been lengthy and often difficult to follow.

What actually happened on December 16 was that the League Council decided unanimously (the vote of Great Britain, as an interested party, not being counted) that the boundary between Turkey and Iraq should remain permanently fixed on the line of demarcation temporarily laid down by the Council at Brussels in October, 1924, but that this decision should be conditional on Great Britain's undertaking to maintain, for a period not exceeding 25 years and terminating, in any case, when Iraq is admitted to the League of Nations, the relations now existing between her and Iraq. These relations are in all essentials those of a mandatory, though, out of deference to the sensibilities of an Arab population which does not understand the meaning of the term mandate, the relationship is fixed by a treaty negotiated between Britain and Iraq and approved by the League of Nations, instead of by an actual mandate. What the decision means, in effect, is that the province of Mosul is allotted to Iraq and not to Turkey.

## A Long Story

This is the end of a long story which needs to be very briefly summarised in order to make the League's position clear. The Mosul problem was one of those unwelcome legacies handed over, like Upper Silesia, to the League as a result of the treaties of peace. Before the war, Mesopotamia, or Iraq, was under Turkish sovereignty. It consisted, and consists, of the three provinces, or vilayets, of Basra, Baghdad and Mosul, Basra lying on the Persian Gulf, Baghdad to the north of it, and Mosul farthest north of all. North of Mosul is territory still undisputedly Turkish. During the war British forces occupied Basra, Baghdad and part of Mosul, where they found themselves at the time of the armistice. They then advanced to the northern boundary of Mosul, and that province has ever since been administered along with Basra and Baghdad as an integral part of the new kingdom of Iraq.

The relationship of Iraq to the British Empire has already been explained. The country has been given as sovereign King Feisal, son of King Hussein, late King of the Hedjaz, who was approved by an almost unanimous vote of the people in 1921. There is a Parliament with a Senate and a Lower House and a Cabinet on Western models. Apart from a High Commissioner and his immediate staff, there are no British officials in Iraq, though there are many Englishmen serving under the Iraq Government itself. A substantial British air force, and one or two battalions of Indian regiments are temporarily stationed in the country for defence purposes.

## What is Iraq?

So much for Iraq generally. But till the middle of last month no one knew what Iraq actually consisted

of. Did it include the northern vilayet of Mosul, or did it not? That was what the League of Nations had to decide. When Lord Curzon was making peace with Turkey at Lausanne in 1923, he claimed Mosul for Iraq, but the Turks, while prepared to surrender the two southern vilayets of Basra and Baghdad, as they were surrendering Palestine and Syria, refused to abandon Mosul at any cost. Agreement proving absolutely impossible, both sides consented in the end to leave the decision to the Council of the League of Nations.

That was how the matter came ultimately into the hands of the League in September, 1924, after negotiations for a direct agreement between Britain and Turkey had been carried on for nine months in vain. The Council took the matter up and both the British and the Turkish representatives agreed to abide by its decision. The Council sent out to Mosul a Commission of three members (a Hungarian, a Belgian and a Swede) to examine the whole situation and report. After an exhaustive study, the commissioners concluded that the right course would be to give Mosul to Iraq, provided that Great Britain would agree to stand by Iraq for some time longer till the country had settled down and developed an efficient Government of its own.

That recommendation did not, of course, bind the League Council, though it naturally carried great weight with Council members. The Council studied it at its meeting in September this year, when the whole situation was suddenly changed by the announcement of the Turks that, in spite of their former pledges, they now maintained that the League Council could only give a decision in which both Turkey and Great Britain concurred, not an arbitral ruling which would be binding on either party against its will. That made it necessary for the Council to ask the Permanent Court of International Justice to determine exactly what its duty was under the clause in the Treaty of Lausanne which referred the matter to it. The Court ruled in November that the Council was required to give an arbitral decision that would be binding on the parties and that the decision must be unanimous apart from the votes of the two parties themselves.

## Attempts at Agreement

With that clear guidance, the Council was in a position at its recent meetings to clear the whole matter up finally, provided all its nine members (for the tenth, Great Britain, could not vote on this issue) were unanimous on what verdict to give. As has been stated, they were unanimous, and the verdict is therefore binding. One point on which a difference of view existed for a time within the Council was as to the lengths to which it should go in its endeavours to obtain a settlement by agreement. That is in any circumstances far better than any decision imposed against the will of either party, and in this case, where there was at least the possibility that Turkey would attempt hostile measures rather than accept an adverse verdict, there was a double reason for pressing conciliation to its furthest limit.

M. Uden, the Swedish member of the Council, who is Foreign Minister of his country, felt that most strongly, and while most or all of his colleagues would probably have been willing to decide for Britain, or Iraq, the first day they met, M. Uden insisted on exploring every possibility of agreement right down to the closing days of the Council meeting. It is hard to see how anyone imbued with the spirit of the Covenant can take exception to his attitude. As things are, the Council is in a very much stronger position for the efforts it made to secure agreement by consent before it gave in the end its binding arbitral verdict.—H. W. H.

## THE LEAGUE IN 1925

## A DIARY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS

**February.**—The Opium Conferences adopted two draft conventions. The first applied to countries where opium is habitually smoked, and provided that such countries shall abolish smoking within five years of the date when a League commission declares that producing countries have so limited their production that there is no risk of smuggling. The second dealt with the traffic in manufactured drugs, and set up a Central Commission of Control, which is to receive annual estimates from the different Governments of their legitimate requirements of drugs and to supervise all international transactions.

An Epidemiological Intelligence Bureau for the Far East was opened at Singapore.

**March.**—At the Thirty-third session of the Council the British Government definitely rejected the Geneva Protocol. The Council replied to a note of the German Government regarding Germany's obligations under Article XVI of the Covenant, pointing out that all members of the League must assume the same obligations, but at the same time explaining that the League's procedure in case of the application of sanctions leaves it to the member-States themselves to determine how much assistance they are able to give. The members of the Saar Governing Commission were re-appointed for one year.

The Special Committee on Road Traffic drew up an international convention regarding motor-cars.

The Permanent Court of International Justice gave judgment in the case of *M. Mavrommatis*, a Greek subject who claimed damages from the British Government in connection with certain concessions in Palestine. The Court decided that Great Britain had not acted in conformity with the mandate, but declined to award damages to *M. Mavrommatis* on the ground that he had suffered no loss.

**April.**—The Committee for the Progressive Codification of International Law held its first meeting, and laid down its general programme of work.

The Health Committee, at its fourth session, examined the work of its various commissions on tuberculosis, cancer, malaria, the standardisation of sera and public health instruction; authorised investigations into smallpox, Mediterranean leishmaniosis, abuses arising from patent medicines and sanitary conditions of emigrants; and received the report of an investigator sent to Persia in response to an appeal from the Persian Government.

**May.**—At its seventh conference, the International Labour Organisation discussed night work in bakeries and workmen's compensation for disease and accidents, and decided to hold inquiries into the coal-mining industry and into conditions of labour in Oriental countries.

The Economic Committee appointed two experts to investigate conditions in Austria, and discussed the question of import and export restrictions.

A conference on sleeping sickness in equatorial Africa met in London, and decided to send a mission of inquiry to spend a year at Entebbe.

The Committee on the Traffic in Women and Protection of Children held its first meeting since it was extended to cover child welfare, and drew up a programme of inquiry.

The Permanent Court of International Justice decided that the Polish Government was entitled to set up letter-boxes in the Free City of Danzig.

**June.**—The International Conference on the Arms Traffic drew up a Convention for the control of this

traffic, which establishes a general system of control and publicity, with special measures for certain parts of Africa and the Red Sea. It also adopted a protocol prohibiting the use of poisonous gases in warfare.

The Council discussed the reconstruction of Austria and Hungary, dealt with various minority questions affecting Lithuania, Greece and Rumania, and appointed a commission to delimit the Port of Danzig.

The Financial Committee continued its studies of double taxation and fiscal evasion.

**July.**—The Mandates Commission examined reports on the "B" and "C" Mandates, received a number of petitions from South-West Africa, and discussed certain problems regarding investments in mandated territories.

The Temporary Slavery Commission published a report on slavery in all its forms, including forced labour, with detailed suggestions for remedying the different abuses which it had found existing.

The Paris Institute of International Co-operation was finally constituted. Among questions which it has been asked to study is the possibility of creating an international university.

**August.**—The Mosul Commission issued a detailed report, in which it recommended that the vilayet of Mosul should become part of Iraq, on condition that the British mandate over Iraq was prolonged for 25 years; otherwise the territory in question should be awarded to Turkey, with special guarantees for the protection of the British population.

**September.**—The Sixth Assembly decided on a detailed study of practical schemes for disarmament, to be made in preparation for an international disarmament conference, and to have the ground prepared for a conference on international economic problems; approved a draft convention on slavery, in which the signatory States agree to abolish slavery as soon as possible, to co-operate in putting down the slave trade, and to prohibit forced labour for private profit except on Government authority and with certain safeguards; agreed to the termination of League control in Austria; approved a scheme for the settlement of Armenian refugees in the Caucasus; adopted a number of new health proposals, including one for the establishment of an Epidemiological Bureau on the West Coast of Africa.

The Council referred to the Permanent Court the question whether the League's decision in the Mosul dispute was to be binding on both parties.

**October.**—The Treaties of Locarno provided for the entry of Germany into the League, and for a regional arbitration and security agreement limited to the Rhine frontier, on the lines of the general agreement envisaged in the Draft Treaty of Mutual Guarantee and the Geneva Protocol, together with arbitration treaties between Germany and her Eastern neighbours.

A frontier incident between Greece and Bulgaria led to an outbreak of hostilities, which threatened to become serious. Bulgaria appealed to the League. The Council ordered the cessation of operations, and sent a commission of inquiry to the spot. Quiet was restored within five days from the receipt of the Bulgarian appeal.

**November.**—The Court decided that the League's decision in the Mosul question would be binding.

**December.**—The Council decided that the frontier between Turkey and Iraq should be the provisional line fixed in Brussels in September, 1924; and adopted the report of its commission of inquiry, stating that Greece had violated the Covenant of the League and awarding £45,000 damages to Bulgaria.

## CAN EUROPE DISARM?

## THE LEAGUE'S NEW ATTACK ON THE PROBLEM

THE League of Nations has decided to tackle the armaments problem afresh. That is the result, in the first instance, of a resolution of the Sixth Assembly last September, which called on the Council to appoint a committee to advise it on how the first steps towards a disarmament conference could be taken. Less than a month after that the Locarno agreements were signed and the statesmen who set their names at the foot of the treaties put on record their conviction that enough security had thus been obtained to make a beginning of disarmament possible, and their undertaking to do all in their power to bring disarmament about through the League of Nations.

At the beginning of December the committee that was to advise the League Council met, Lord Cecil being appointed by the Cabinet as the British representative. The French produced definite proposals, which were taken as the basis of discussion. After detailed debate a plan was proposed to the Council, and the Council in its turn applied its mind to the whole problem. The result was unanimous agreement regarding the scope of the work to be done and the nature of the committees to do it. One thing is quite certain. There can be nothing sudden or spectacular about land disarmament. The whole question will have to be thrashed out in long and patient discussions, partly by experts, partly by practical politicians not professing to be experts, before any general agreement is possible.

## What is Disarmament.

After all, what does disarmament mean? To reduce the size of armies? But a small and efficient force may be a more powerful military instrument than a large and ill-disciplined one. To reduce the amount spent on armies? But one country may be able to provide twice as efficient a force out of the same money as its neighbour next door. And how in any case can you limit poison-gas, which is made in factories used normally for quite legitimate industrial purposes? Or aeroplanes, which can be converted in a few hours from commercial to military services? All these problems and many more like them have made a great many people feel that so long as nations want to fight they will quickly enough find means of fighting, and that, therefore, the main task of the League is to drive further and further into the background the desire to fight.

But to do that—and the League is doing it all the time—does not make it the less necessary to try and get armaments steadily reduced by common agreement. And that is what the League is going to attempt once more on new lines. The task is enormous—which is why the first step must be to get the opinions of, if possible, all the Governments of the world, as to the steps they believe to be practically possible. That is being done by the circulation of a most carefully-compiled set of questions, covering, as will be seen, a vast field.

## New Machinery.

Before dealing with the questionnaire, however, the new machinery just created must be examined. What the League Council has done is to set up a large general committee, consisting of the representatives of nineteen States, with two expert sub-committees, one of soldiers and sailors, the other of financial, economic and industrial authorities, to advise it. The main committee—its full name is "The Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference"; but it is likely to be known simply as "The Preparatory Committee"—will consist of representatives of the ten Council States, and of nine

others selected by the Council. The full list is as follows:—

BRITAIN	UNITED STATES
FRANCE	GERMANY
ITALY	RUSSIA
JAPAN	BULGARIA
BELGIUM	FINLAND
BRAZIL	HOLLAND
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	POLAND
SPAIN	RUMANIA
SWEDEN	JUGOSLAVIA
URUGUAY	

The ten Council States are in the first column. Of the others, the United States, Germany, and Russia, are, of course, not members of the League. Germany, however, soon will be, and it may be taken for granted that she will accept a place on the committee. The United States and Russia are much less certain. It is obvious that no great progress can be made towards agreed naval disarmament without the one, or towards agreed land disarmament without the other. It will be observed that in Germany and Bulgaria the committee will include the largest and the smallest of the States which were compulsorily disarmed by the Peace Treaties, and which, therefore, have a special interest in prevailing on other States to disarm likewise.

## Help from the Experts.

So much for the main committee, which is to hold its first meeting at Geneva on February 15. Of the two sub-committees one will be the existing Permanent Advisory Commission on military, naval and air questions. It consists of officers appointed by each of the ten Council States. The other is a new committee, made up of representatives of the League's financial, economic and transit organizations and the International Labour Office (which will appoint two employers and two workers).

In diagram form, therefore, the machinery is as follows:—

## PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

## MILITARY EXPERTS

## CIVIL EXPERTS

That explains the mere mechanism. Now for the field that has to be covered. Space forbids the reproduction of the armaments questionnaire in full, but summaries of each of the seven questions now addressed to governments will give a sufficient idea of the work before the committee.

(1) What does the expression "armaments" mean? What are the factors (military, economic, geographical, etc.) on which the power of a country in war-time depends? How can you measure a country's military (including naval and air) strength in peacetime?

(2) Can you limit the *ultimate* war-strength of a country, or only its peace-strength? What forms can "reduction and limitation" of armaments take?

(3) By what standards can you measure the armaments of one country against another? By numbers? Length of service? Equipment? Cost, etc.?

(4) Is there any real distinction between offensive and defensive armaments?

(5) On what principle can you draw up a scale of armaments reasonably permissible in each country, taking into account such factors as its population,

resources, situation, and the degree of security it derives from membership of the League or from special agreements [like the Locarno Treaties] with other States?

(6) Can any real distinction be drawn between civil and military aircraft? And ought any value to be attached to commercial fleets in measuring the naval strength of a country?

(7) How far will regional security make regional disarmament possible? Or is any scheme of disarmament impossible unless it is general? And would regional disarmament lead up to general disarmament?

Such, in brief, are the questions sent out to Governments by the League. On the answers to them the Preparatory Committee will have to base its plans for a Disarmament Conference. The work before the Committee is enormous, and no one expects the Conference can be held before the middle of 1927 at the earliest. It may indeed quite well be that as the subject is thrashed out various local agreements will be concluded between groups of neighbouring States which will make a reduction of armaments so far as those States are concerned possible at an earlier date. In any case the Committee's discussions will keep the subject constantly before public attention, for since men like Lord Cecil, M. Paul Boncour and Dr. Benes are likely to sit on it, the Press of the world will not fail to give its deliberations proper notice. A definite step forward has been taken, but it must be realized that rapid results are not to be expected.

## THE CHRIST OF THE ANDES

By S. G. HEDGES.

PABLO ESTABAN, Chilian orator and outlaw, stepped on to a boulder, and waved his hand proudly at the clustered tents below, on the Andean slopes.

"My army," he said, to his older companion. "Five thousand men—and we shall descend into the Argentine lands like a thunderbolt."

"But the peace between our countries?" murmured Don Carlos, dubiously.

"It is sentiment—nonsense!" Estaban sneered. "All Chile will acclaim me hero when we take the first town. These Argentinians are fools, as we are, to have disarmed their frontiers."

"But the pass?"

"It is open. Their guns are melted into that stupid monument. They are a country unarmed, with glittering prizes for our swords—defenceless!"

At daybreak the wild army gathered on the mountain-side, while the oratory of the leader fired their eyes and roused anew a mad, unthinking hatred of the Argentine peoples.

There was no obstacle, Estaban declared; they were lions with the sheep at their mercy, and no shepherd to fear.

So the march began. Pablo himself rode at the head of his legion on a safe-footed mule, and Don Carlos at his side, gloomy and unconvinced. Behind strode the eager hordes of men. They climbed ever higher, the pass becoming rougher and steeper. Among the big rocks and lonely silences of the peaks the noisy adventurers became quietened.

Pablo Estaban whistled as he rode, and twirled his proud moustachios—plunder, rapine, conquest lay ahead!

"What is that figure in the sky?" said Don Carlos, suddenly, pointing ahead.

"The figure standing for peace," laughed Estaban.

The trampling host behind the outlaw quickened their march as they, too, sighted the statue that marked the Chilian boundary. As they came nearer the solitary

figure grew recognisable, and the cross in its left hand became clear. The sun was gilding it with brightness.

Pablo Estaban spat.

"A stupid thing!" he declared.

"A sentinel of the pass," said Don Carlos, uneasily.

"No sentinel could stop us now, least of all one of bronze without a weapon," said Estaban.

The towering figure was quite near, glittering with unearthly brilliance in the clear mountain air. A stillness had fallen on the invaders. Some were crossing themselves wishing they were already past this watcher.

Their leader sneered. He was right beneath the statue.

"Come," he shouted, jeeringly, to his followers. "Will you fear a thing of bronze? Once it might have stopped you—as guns—but now—"

His mule reared, startled by a sudden beam of reflected light from the tall cross, and Estaban was shot from its back, to fall as if at the foot of the monument. His followers stopped in unconcealed awe.

Estaban lifted his head, but did not rise. Above him, in the brilliance of the midday sun, he saw the great Christ shining down on him in fearful majesty. Pablo was dazed and dumb—as once had been another Paul. And as he lay he saw the words which he had known from youth engraved at the base of the figure:

"These mountains themselves shall fall and crumble to dust before the people of Chile and the Argentine Republic forget their solemn covenant sworn at the feet of Christ—He is our peace who hath made both one."

Pablo Estaban stumbled blindly to his feet.

"Back, back!" he cried. "We cannot pass!"

## THE YOUNG IDEA

READERS of HEADWAY are already familiar with the interesting experiment being made at Geneva in the inauguration of an "International School," on special lines. The school has now completed its first term, and some attempt can be made to estimate its success or failure.

So far as numbers go fewer boarders have so far been obtained than had been hoped for. There are actually only eight, though several more are in immediate prospect. The eight cover four nationalities—American, Russian, Polish and Swiss. All are boys. The day scholars on the other hand—boys and girls, for the school is co-educational—number over eighty, so that the boarders are members of a society of quite reasonable dimensions except out of school hours, when the fact that they are few in number gives a good deal of the aspect of family life to the circle in the boarding-house. The housemaster, M. Brunel, is a Swiss who speaks perfect English, and Mme. Brunel is an American.

For teaching purposes a large flat in Geneva, with many airy rooms, provides excellent temporary accommodation, while the playing-fields and workshops adjoin the boarding-house, which is situated at Onex, on the outskirts of the city, and whither the children are taken in the afternoons in two large motor-buses. No better position could well be imagined, for the boarding-house, in large grounds of its own, looks across a level plain to the well-known Mt. Salève, which spreads its whole length before the windows, showing, indeed, to far better advantage than it does from any point in Geneva itself. Even amid December snows the site appears ideal, and it can well be imagined that in spring and summer it seems very near perfection.

So far 15 different nationalities are represented in the school, and the experiment of using English and French indifferently for teaching purposes is working well.\*

\* More particulars, if desired, from Mr. Arthur Sweetser, League of Nations, Geneva.

## HARD WORK AT GENEVA THE LEAGUE COUNCIL'S LONG SESSION

THE League of Nations' Council met, in all probability, for the last time as a Council of ten, in December. Except for one purely formal meeting, when a resolution will be adopted appointing Germany a permanent Member of the Council, the number of members will in future be eleven, until, indeed, it rises to some higher figure.

Things being as they are, it is fortunate that the last regular Council meeting held before Germany's entry should have been in many ways the most important and the most successful of the whole series of the past six years. At this, the 37th session, it was the turn of the Italian delegate to preside, and the chair was, therefore, filled by Signor Scialoja. The British Foreign Minister was present, as usual, and he was accompanied this time by two other Cabinet Ministers, Mr. Amery, who sat when Mosul was under discussion, and Lord Cecil, who was in Geneva as British representative on the Armaments Committee of the Council. M. Briand was detained in Paris by Cabinet anxieties, his place being taken by M. Paul Boncour. The other eight States with seats on the Council were represented by their usual delegates.

Apart from Greece and Bulgaria, Mosul and armaments, which are dealt with elsewhere in this issue of HEADWAY, the most important question dealt with was that regarding the Economic Conference, proposed by M. Loucheur on behalf of the French Government at the last Assembly. It was then agreed that the Council should take the final decision regarding the calling of the Conference. What it has now done is to appoint as strong a committee as could well be got together, consisting not of representatives of Governments, but of the highest experts in different countries on finance, economics, industry, labour and the like, who will meet at an early date to work out their plans for the coming Conference. Invitations are being issued immediately, but the names of the experts are not to be announced until it is known which of them will accept the invitation. In view of certain suggestions that the field of discussion at the Conference should be rather severely limited, it is important to observe that the report adopted by the Council spoke of the experts' committee as being "entirely untrammelled in its discussions."

### Opium in Persia

A second decision of interest, though of very much smaller importance, was the resolve to send a Commission of Enquiry to Persia to advise the Persian Government what steps could be taken to substitute some other crop for the opium poppy, which is being grown in Persia on far too large a scale. The League has been fortunate in securing the services of a particularly highly qualified Frenchman, an American and an Italian, recommended by the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. It was estimated during the last Assembly that the mission would cost 200,000 Swiss francs, but the Assembly, under the influence of an economic impulse, cut down that allocation by 50 per cent. Since then, however, the American Bureau of Social Hygiene has offered to give 100,000 francs for this purpose, so that the amount originally desired is now in hand, thanks to one more instance of unofficial American co-operation with the League.

One more fixture which will appeal to popular interest is the decision that the Passport Conference, for which a committee of the Transit Organisation has been preparing for some time, should be held about the end of April. It is confidently expected that considerable simplification of Customs formalities will result from the agreements there reached.

### A Job Finished

As usual, the Council had before it reports on the progress of its reconstruction schemes in Austria, Hungary and Greece. In Austria the period of League control is at an end, and the Commissioner General, Dr. Zimmerman, attended the Council to take his leave of its members and to express thanks for the support he had received in the past both from them and from members of the League Secretariat. It will not be long before the Commissioner-General in Budapest, Mr. Jeremiah Smith, is doing the same, for all the reports from Hungary suggest that that scheme, too, is progressing so successfully that the Hungarian patient, like the Austrian, will soon be convalescent, and will have no further need of the physician's constant attendance. With regard to the refugees in Greece again, the report may be summed up in the three words: "All going well."

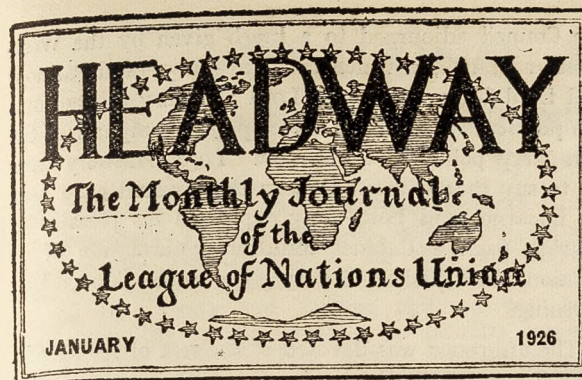
One small Danzig question, a discussion as to whether Poland should be allowed an armed guard of 88 officers and men over her munitions depot at the mouth of Danzig Harbour, was decided in Poland's favour, and a more important step was taken when Dr. van Hamel, Director of the Legal Section of the Secretariat, was appointed High Commissioner of Danzig for three years from March next in succession to Mr. M. S. Macdonnell, who has held that position for the last three years. Dr. van Hamel's candidature was strongly attacked in advance by German and Danzig papers.

Certain minority questions of no great importance were disposed of, the most interesting of them being a complaint by a Jewish organisation outside Hungary that Jews were being unfairly penalised by a limitation of their numbers in the Hungarian universities. The Council, after carefully considering the matter, decided that the Hungarian Government had made a sound defence to the charge, and that no action should be taken at the moment.

### Locarno and the League

Two other Conferences foreshadowed in the indefinite future are those on Press Co-operation with the League and on the Private Manufacture of Arms. In regard to the former, preliminary inquiries are still proceeding and some of the great Press organisations in different countries have shown a lively interest in the work. As regards the manufacture of arms, the Council has appointed a committee of three members to draft a Convention, which it is hoped may later be laid before an international conference.

The rest of the business transacted by the Council hardly calls for mention, except for one striking and unexpected incident. On the second Monday of the meeting, Sir Austen Chamberlain formally handed to the President and Secretary-General the original copies of the various Locarno Treaties, which, as the Treaties themselves provide, are to be preserved in the archives of the League. This was followed by speeches from every member of the Council emphasising the closeness of the association between Locarno and Geneva. Speaker after speaker emphasised the part the preparatory work done by the League in the past six years had played in making the Locarno Agreements possible, and most of them emphasised equally the responsibilities that would rest on the League in the execution of those agreements. "Neutral" members spoke as warmly as those more directly concerned, and one of them, Señor Quiñones de Leon, revealed the hitherto unpublished fact that his country, Spain, was engaged in working out compulsory arbitration treaties with a number of other States, among which Great Britain and France are believed to be included.



## LOOKING AHEAD

EVEN if the New Year were not consecrated by tradition to the task of surveying the future, such a survey would in any case be forced by the circumstances of the moment on everyone interested in the League of Nations. For the League as it enters its seventh year is undergoing developments that cannot fail profoundly to affect its destinies. The entry of Germany is in itself an event of greater moment than any yet recorded in the League's annals. What that will bring of good or ill cannot yet be accurately foreseen. That the good will vastly outweigh the ill, and that the latter will consist of no more than passing unsettlements and inconveniences, there is every reason to be convinced. Much will depend on the attitude of the German delegates to the Council and other organisations of the League. On some of those organisations, indeed, Germans have worked from the first, and neither they nor their colleagues have felt that the smallest distinction existed between them and the members in whose midst they sat. It is certain that unless the Germans on the Council or at the Assembly themselves emphasise such distinctions, no one else will be in the least disposed to do so. We need not even speak of German co-operation with the League, for that almost suggests community of effort between the separate entities, and Germany at Geneva will be a part of the League itself exactly as Great Britain and France have always been. Its interests will be her interests, and for its failures and successes she will share full responsibility.

With the gap in the midst of Europe closed, the League itself will be far better able to go forward to its next great task of assimilating in due course the Union of Soviet Republics, when policy in that evolving country should have so far developed as to dispose its representatives to seek admission as Germany is about to do. One other matter for satisfaction the beginning of 1926 may bring. So far as can be seen, the League by its settlement of the Mosul dispute, has disposed of the last of a series of singularly difficult problems bequeathed to it by the various Treaties of Peace. Upper Silesia was one, Eupen and Malmédy was another, Mosul is a third, and there have been more. Even now there remains for a period the Saar and, without time limit, Danzig, while the question of the control of armaments in Germany, Austria, Hungary and Bulgaria, has still to be dealt with. None of these matters falls within the four walls of the Covenant and it has been an undoubted handicap to the League to have to deal with them at all. So far as one chapter of them, that of the settlement of questions left definitely open by the Treaties, is now closed, the League is to be congratulated on its release from embarrassing responsibilities.

There still remain certain great tasks immediately impending, to say nothing of others bound to emerge

out of the incidents of the future. The most important and the most immediate is that of armaments, and Lord Grey of Fallodon was abundantly justified in emphasising, at the meeting of the League of Nations Union Council in December, the necessity of an immediate concentration of energy and effort in every country on the problems the League has set before it in this field. An article in another column gives some indication of the difficulties attendant on the task. It has yet to be discovered whether reduction of armaments can be most effectively brought about by the Locarno method of Security agreements between groups of neighbouring States, or by the more universal method which has hitherto been regarded as orthodox at Geneva. The Committee that is to handle the Armaments question will not lack in competence, but there is an undoubted danger that if the experts are divided, as they well may be, decisions will be hesitant and action stultified. In regard to Armaments, more perhaps than in any other sphere, Governments regard themselves as trustees for the safety of their peoples and hesitate to take a step incurring the smallest risk until some movement of popular opinion drives them. Yet some element of risk must be a feature in every national policy. In the days when this country insisted on a two-power standard for its fleet, there was always the possibility that not two Powers but three might combine against it. You cannot make provision against every eventuality. All that can be said is that some risks are so remote as to be negligible and that no sane government could ask for money from the taxpayer for fleets and armies to protect them against some danger so remote as to be almost imaginary. The League of Nations is slowly but steadily reducing in every State the dangers of external attack. If any Bulgarian were asked to expound that thesis at this moment, it would probably fire him with a singular eloquence. If, moreover, the reduction of armaments can somehow be made uniform in a number of countries in the same region of the world, no one of them will increase its risks by diminishing its forces. That should be sufficient in itself for that singularly constituted school of critics which harps constantly on the so-called risks of disarmament and is apparently blind and deaf to the incomparably greater risks of war.

But when all is said, the force behind a disarmament movement will be in the first instance not the force of governments but of peoples. The best that can be hoped of governments in this matter is that they will not resist an expression of the popular will, but they must be given the mandate. If some of them are willing to take the lead, so much the better, but it must frankly be recognised that in most cases that is not to be expected. If the people of a country insist that the burden of armaments should be lightened and declare themselves ready to take whatever risks that step may involve—and it is hard to say what additional risk there will actually be—then the League of Nations machinery provides a means for bringing the needed reduction about, not in one country, but in many or in all. That fact clearly imposes one outstanding task on the League of Nations Union in this country and on like bodies elsewhere throughout the world. Their mission it is in the immediate future to stir popular interest in this question and, without forcing on governments concrete plans which most of us have not the technical knowledge to construct, to insist that the governments meeting as they have pledged themselves to do at Geneva, should press this urgent matter forward in real earnest and see to it that the work initiated in this field by the League of Nations in its seventh year shall yield results far different in their value and importance from any it has achieved in the largely unsuccessful efforts of the first six years.

## THE COUNCIL OF THE UNION

THE December meeting of the Council took place on the 16th at the Caxton Hall. There was an especially large attendance and every seat was filled.

After half-an-hour of routine business, Lord Grey arrived and took his place on the platform beside Professor Gilbert Murray, amid the affectionate and enthusiastic cheering which our Presidents never fail to evoke. Lord Grey is one of the few speakers who should always be reported verbatim. Every word is worth recording and studying. Space, unfortunately, forbids it here. But one part must be quoted. "What is the paramount reason for the existence of the League of Nations Union? It is this: It is absolutely essential when a League of Nations policy is now the predominant and most important thing in foreign affairs that just as each Party finds it necessary to have an organization to advocate its own political policy, so there should be in this country an organization which will inform and educate and instruct public opinion on the subject of a League of Nations policy. It is for that that this organization exists. And that is a function which is absolutely essential because public opinion is not something which necessarily comes into being of its own accord. It very often springs up in a moment and then dies down. To have a really sound public opinion it has got to be constantly organized and its attention directed to matters of importance."

Lord Grey went on to speak of Locarno, and to urge that the time may come when the occupation of Germany may be limited, not by the strict letter of the Versailles Treaty, but by the spirit of the Locarno Treaties. On disarmament we must quote: "So long as Europe is a great powder magazine people will not feel comfortable simply because the various Governments have agreed not to put a match to it. Nothing will make for security except the removal of the powder magazine."

After Lord Grey had spoken, and had impressed upon the Council the fact that the League's great advance at Locarno as well as at Geneva rendered the League of Nations' Union more than ever necessary, the Council decided that there must be no falling-off in the Union's work. They, therefore, decided that the head office expenditure of the Union should be the same as in the last three years. The Council's Vote was fixed at £25,000. This is £5,000 more than last year's vote, but as the "capitation fees" are now to count as part of the Council's Vote, the result is approximately the same. After some more domestic business had been transacted,

the Council adjourned to a lunch given by the Westminster Branch, at which Lord Salisbury, Lord Parmoor and Lord Grey spoke. As Lord Salisbury pointed out, the political views of the three speakers emphasised the non-party policy of the Union. Lord Salisbury went on to say that without Geneva there would have been no Locarno, and Lord Grey expressed his pleasure at hearing from a Cabinet Minister confirmation of an opinion which he had already given to the Council that morning.

The afternoon was devoted to the rest of the agenda. The Report of the Economics Committee was accepted with its findings, among which are "that the work of Headquarters and of the Regional Representatives cannot be carried on efficiently at a less cost than that at present incurred"; "that care should be taken that Financial Appeals are made at the right time of the year"; "that a similar investigation into Economics be made in the Spring of 1927." The Council accepted the invitation of the Bristol District Council to hold its seventh annual meeting in Bristol in 1926.

Several important resolutions of policy were passed. One dealt with the Limitation of Armaments and urged the Government to put this question in the forefront of its political programme, and stated that the Council "is convinced that unless drastic steps are soon taken to effect general disarmament, the whole work of the League is likely to be undone and the future of civilization imperilled."

Another urged the Government to sign the "Optional Clause" of the Statute of the Permanent Court and make arbitration settlement the basis of its foreign policy.

A third, moved by Mr. G. N. Barnes, advocated "the necessary negotiations for obtaining the general ratification of the Hours of Work Convention in the interest of British industry, and in order to promote more humane conditions of labour."

The Executive Committee were asked to revise and bring up to date the Declaration of General Policy of the Union, and lastly the warmest thanks of the Council were tendered to the Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard for the action he took in connection with the postponement of the Armistice Night Ball. There followed a Special Meeting of the Council, which revised the rules of the Union, so as to fit the Royal Charter and the new by-laws. Thus the old set of "Objects and Rules" is now replaced by "The Charter, By-laws and Rules." So ended a particularly interesting meeting.

## A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

*From the Chairman of the Union Executive*

LET me take this opportunity of thanking the staff, the branches, and innumerable individual members throughout the country for the faithful work which they have given to the cause, and in ways more extensive and varied than I can personally thank them for, or even hear about. The past year seemed at one time to offer a threatening prospect, but the results have proved strikingly good. I would suggest as a measure of the change that has taken place in the general atmosphere of Europe the final answer given in the House of Commons by Mr. Chamberlain to a question about the old war legend of the German "corpse" factory: "I have asked the German Chancellor, and he assures me that there was never any truth in the story." And there an end!

Next year should bring us Germany on the Council, a large development of the principle of Arbitration and of the jurisdiction of the International Court, and the beginning at least of a general reduction of Armaments. Let us continue to work as in the past for a happy New Year for the world.

GILBERT MURRAY.

## INSURING THE WORKER

### VALUABLE DISCUSSIONS AT L.N.U. CONFERENCE

By ONLOOKER

BEFORE this issue of HEADWAY appears the Government's Pension Scheme will have come into operation. January 4th is the date on which widows and orphans' pensions become payable, and over 196,000 widows and 336,000 children will be entitled, according to the estimate, to benefits, while 10,445,000 men and 4,645,000 women are altogether covered by the Act. It is a measure, therefore, which will change, perhaps to an unexpected extent, the social life of the country. Whatever its shortcomings, the Act gives benefits to new classes of the community; it makes daring administrative changes by swallowing up a non-contributory old-age pensions scheme in a contributory widows, orphans, and old-age insurance; and ultimately, as a stimulus to other countries struggling with the same problem, it will have international bearings. It was, therefore, of particular value that the Conference on Social Insurance organized by the League of Nations Union at the end of November at the London School of Economics should open with a discussion on the new scheme, supported by Sir Kingsley Wood, M.P., and attacked, on behalf of the opposition, by Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P.

The Conference was attended by representatives of Government Departments, Insurance Companies and Societies, Employers' and Workers' Organizations, Political Societies, Welfare Societies, and individuals interested in Social Insurance, and it was addressed by distinguished speakers representing these different interests. Its function was to focus public opinion on an important field of work being tackled at the moment by the International Labour Office, and each session of the Conference was devoted to a different aspect of this subject.

Widows' and Orphans' Pensions have not yet been considered by the International Labour Conference, it is true, but the question will be on the agenda of some future session, and the Office is collecting material for an international survey of all such systems now in operation. The experience of Great Britain will be an important part of such a survey.

The Unification of Insurance Schemes, the subject next discussed, is naturally of the utmost importance in any attempt to secure international standards of workers' insurance. Our own system, which has provided for contributory Health Insurance administered by the Friendly and Approved Societies, contributory Unemployment Insurance administered by the Labour Exchanges, non-contributory Workmen's Compensation Insurance borne by employers alone, non-contributory old-age pensions provided by the State and administered through the Post Office, no Burial Insurance, and provision for dependents only in the case of Workmen's Compensation and Unemployment Insurance, might well prove the despair of any international labour legislator! This subject, unimpassioned as it sounds to the uninitiated, aroused the most lively if not stormy debates in the Conference, the supporters of a unified scheme battling with the more conservative elements. Health Insurance gave rise to another keen discussion. This subject has been definitely placed on the agenda of the 1927 Session of the International Labour Conference and is, therefore, already of an international importance. The administration of the scheme, the value of preventive health measures run in connection with the issue of benefits, and the maternity benefits it allows, were among the points discussed.

The session on Workmen's Compensation was given some dramatic interest by the meteoric appearance of Sir Henry Slessor during his defence of the Communists at the recent trial in order to outline the compensation laws to the Conference. An employer, a trade unionist, and a representative of the Insurance Companies also spoke, so that a diversity of interests was represented. Accident prevention in relation to Workmen's Compensation was the main theme of the Conference. The fact that Conventions on Workmen's Compensation for Industrial Accidents and for Industrial Diseases were adopted by the 1925 Session of the International Labour Conference made this discussion of particular interest.

The largest audience, however, had assembled to hear Sir Alfred Mond describe his scheme for the use of Unemployment Insurance funds to stimulate trade in depressed industries. Unemployment Insurance was discussed by the League of Nations Union Conference on Unemployment last year, but the changes in administration which have taken place since then and the unprecedented and prolonged trade depression from which Great Britain has been suffering, made the discussion even more topical this year than it was last. Mrs. Barbara Wootton joined issue with Sir Alfred Mond on his scheme, and was followed by Colonel Pownall, M.P., who gave a Conservative point of view on the question.

Family Insurance, or Family Endowment in relation to Social Insurance, was expounded at another Session, the Conference thus making a very complete survey of the different risks to which workers are exposed and the different schemes by which they can be covered. Family Endowment has aroused great interest in this country lately, but the study of the possibility of a contributory scheme of family allowance and insurance is only in its infancy. This opportunity for discussion was, therefore, a valuable one.

Last, but perhaps most important, the international aspects of Social Insurance were discussed by Mr. H. B. Butler (Deputy-Director of the I.L.O.), Doctor Stephan Bauer, of the International Association for Labour legislation, and Doctor Foscoli Bargoni (Director of Social Insurance at Rome). It had been hoped that Doctor Lamasure, of Berne, and Doctor Grieser, of Berlin, would also have been present, as well as representatives of the members of the Federation of League of Nations Societies, but this proved later impossible. The Conference nevertheless had the opportunity of having a full account of the work of the I.L.O. on Social Insurance, the difficulties of framing an international standard of insurance laws, and, at the same time, the vital importance of such a standard.

The full report of this Conference will be published by Messrs. Faber & Gwyer, price 5s. net, and may be obtained from the League of Nations Union.

### Labour Laws for Turkey

Though not a member of the I.L.O., Turkey has shown considerable interest in the work of the organisation, and has been in constant communication with the Office. This month she has forwarded to Geneva the text of a new Labour Code recently passed by the National Assembly, and in close accord with a number of the Conventions already adopted by the I.L.O. It prohibits the work of children under 12 in industry, and the employment of persons under 18 in the mines.

## OVERSEAS NOTES

**Visit of Mr. Delisle Burns to the Riviera.**—Mr. C. Delisle Burns, M.A., D.Litt., is giving a week's lecture tour on the Riviera beginning on January 10. His subject will be "International Intercourse and the League of Nations." His programme is as follows:—

Mentone ...	Monday, January 11
Bordighera ...	Tuesday, January 12
San Remo ...	Wednesday, January 13
Monte Carlo ...	Thursday, January 14
Nice ...	Friday, January 15
Cannes ...	Saturday, January 16

All lectures will be held in the afternoons.

**South Africa.**—A large meeting organised by the local branch was held at Pretoria on Armistice Day, when General Smuts and the Administrator of the Transvaal were the chief speakers. The Governor-General of the South African Union, the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, and Princess Alice were also present. General Smuts gave some account of the history of the League, and after pointing out the great services it had rendered to mankind, said: "I unreservedly welcome the fact that the execution of the Locarno Pact is placed under the League, and that it will, therefore, be a reinforcement of the League and not a derogation from it. I also welcome the fact that Germany will take her rightful place as a Great Power on the League and in its Council. It is the most considerable event in the history of the League since its inception, and it will bring very great additional prestige and strength to the League."

**Australia.**—The annual meeting of the Congregational Union, held at Adelaide, October 20—27, unanimously passed a resolution expressing thankfulness for the Locarno Pact, and determination to support any Government of the Commonwealth in any policy contributing to the success of the League of Nations.

**India.**—Mr. F. S. Marvin and Dr. Kenneth Sanders arrived in Ceylon early in November. During their tour in India they are proposing to lecture on the League of Nations and to show the League of Nations Union Film, "The Star of Hope."

**Federation Bulletins.**—The International Federation of League of Nations Societies (whose headquarters is at Brussels) issues bulletins from time to time during the year, giving some account of the work of the Federation and of the meetings of the Plenary Congress, the Representative Council and the Permanent Commissions.

To all these meetings the Union—in common with some thirty other League of Nations Societies—sends delegates, who speak in the name of the Union, and as many of the resolutions voted on cannot be carried into effect without the co-operation of the Branches of the Union, it is of great importance that they should have some knowledge of what the Federation is doing, and what line the Union's delegates are taking.

Branches are, therefore, urged to obtain the Federation Bulletin regularly. The annual subscription is 7s. 6d., and any Branch Secretary or member who wishes to subscribe should communicate with the Secretary, 15, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.1.

The Secretary of the L.N.U. has received the following letter from General Smuts:—

Dear Dr. GARNETT.—I am deeply gratified to hear that my old friends of the League of Nations Union are still remembering me and that the General Council has elected me a Vice-President. Please convey to them my sincere thanks for their kindly thought.

As for me, my faith in the League remains unabated. The desperate search for other less promising alternatives

only proves to me how deeply-rooted the League already is in the necessities of things, and how it is sure to prevail in the end. In the meantime there will certainly be disappointments, set-backs and loss of time.—Ever yours sincerely,  
Irene, Transvaal. J. C. SMUTS.

## LEAGUE L. S. D.

THE League's finances rarely come into prominence until some anti-waste critic—generally ill-informed—makes an attack. Actually the League's expenditure is controlled by rigid economy, and practically every item is closely examined by the Assembly before the annual budget is passed. The 1926 budget was no exception, and as it is a document of 70 pages, a summary of the chief figures may be useful. Anyone sufficiently interested can obtain copies from the usual agents. The reference number of this document is (C. 619. M. 201. 1925 X.)

The total expenditure for this year is limited to £920,000. This is divided among the three organisations as follows: The League £494,103, the International Labour Organisation £272,416, the Permanent Court of International Justice £153,481.

Of the League's allowance, £34,800 is ear-marked for the cost of the next Assembly. This includes £8,000 for special printing, £5,500 for additional clerical assistance, and £1,400 for the hire of the Salle de la Reformation; the last item will disappear from the budget when the new Assembly Hall is built. The Council's allowance for expenses is a modest £3,600, a contingency fund of £20,000 is provided for unforeseen expenditure, but this cannot be touched except by a special vote of the Council.

Salaries and wages of the officers of the Secretariat are naturally a heavy item, and will total £176,400 this year. This sum includes the salary of the Secretary-General, which amounts to £4,000 a year. The Deputy Secretary-General and the two Under Secretaries-General each receive £3,000.

Documents and letters in practically every known language are received at the Secretariat, and it will easily be understood that this necessitates a considerable sum being spent on the services of interpreters and translators. Moreover, the fact that the League carries out its work in two languages—English and French—makes it essential that the majority of the shorthand-typists should be bi-lingual. During 1926 there will be twenty-nine translators and interpreters on the staff, and the estimate for their salaries is £19,800. In addition to the secretary-shorthand-typists, sixty-one typists are employed in the central "pool," and the total of their salaries is £18,300.

A regulation, not likely to be very popular, provides that a portion of the salaries of officials with long-term contracts varies with the cost of living; it is estimated that about £4,000 will be saved by this means during the next twelve months. All salaries are revised annually. As a model employer the League has a Staff Provident Fund, to which it will contribute £9,000 during 1926. The staff pay 5 per cent. of their salaries, monthly, towards this fund.

The League corresponds with every country under the sun, and it is surprising that its postage bill does not exceed £5,000. A year's stationery costs £5,200. The account for this year's publications is estimated to total £31,000, but about £5,000 of this will be returned by the sale of documents. It is interesting to note that the number of copies of the official Monthly Summary sold in this country is sufficient to cover their cost.

The British Government's contribution for 1926 towards the upkeep of the League is just £103,000. Readers of HEADWAY who follow the League's work month by month will be able to judge if this money is well spent.

## BOOKS WORTH READING

IT may be sometimes questioned how far it is well to discuss at the present moment the causes of the Great War, and thus arouse mutual recriminations as to the responsibility for its outbreak. The past is past, and cannot be undone; it is no use crying over spilt milk, and discussions on responsibility are not likely to promote the spirit of peace. But when the time comes for a dispassionate consideration by the historian of the future, the facts which Miss Edith Durham has made available for the English reader in *The Serajevo Crime* (Allen & Unwin, 7s. 6d.) must be very carefully weighed. The statements which she publishes tend to show that the actual incidents which led to the outbreak of war were only part of a policy long pursued, though this is true of other countries besides Serbia. In her chapters she not only sets out this general policy, but in particular she has collected the statements made by the Serb Professor Stanojevitich and by Mr. Ljuba Jovanovitch, at one time President of the Serb Parliament and a leader of the Radical party, as well as evidence given at judicial trials, all of which go to show that the head of the Intelligence Section of the Serb General Staff was responsible for the plot of murdering the Archduke and that the Serb Cabinet was cognizant of the plot. Incidentally, Miss Durham points out that "the question how far one country may be permitted to undermine another, with a view to producing ultimately a war for acquiring territory, is now one of the most urgent questions of the day," and that one of the tasks before the League is to find the means for remedying grievances of this kind. The whole book leaves a clear impression on the mind that Balkan mentality differs profoundly from that of Western Europe, a fact which is too seldom recognized in apportioning blame or formulating policy. In spite of being rather badly written and carelessly punctuated the book forms an interesting study for the discriminating reader.

A great subject is packed in small compass in Mr. F. J. Adkins' *Europe's New Map* (Noel Douglas, 1s.), but it is thoroughly good value for the money and contains a mass of useful information. Mr. Adkins knows his Europe well both in pre-war and post-war days, and has travelled with wide-open eyes. He deals with the new territories in Central and Eastern Europe as they have been created since 1918, but, what is more important, he shows the geographical, historical, political and racial reasons which have led to the present delineation of frontiers. There are few members of the L.N.U. who will not profit by reading what Mr. Adkins has written, and it will serve as an admirable book for study groups. It is to be hoped that he will find time to expand his subject into a considerably larger book.

Written by an American, dedicated to a Swiss, published in England, printed in Saxony, its title originally spoken in Belgium, Mr. J. H. Holmes' *Patriotism is not Enough* (Allen & Unwin, 5s.), bears at once on its surface an international character. Mr. Holmes writes quite sanely, if perfervidly, on a subject which is often deemed highly controversial; he does not quote Dr. Johnson's apothegm, but he says that "any ideas and practices which move outside the beaten path of nationalistic self-interest are described as 'unpatriotic,' and the men and women responsible for them denounced as 'traitors.'" He makes use of what he calls the "logic of history" to show that it has been practical for the deeper love for a larger unit to go beyond that for a smaller. The United States and the Swiss Confederation, to say nothing of the British Commonwealth, are examples. In fact, this larger, wider patriotism which shall embrace mankind

is only part of the process of social evolution in which the final purpose of the universe is being worked out. Mr. Holmes does not make light of the difficulties in the path of this progress, but it is in time of peace and not of war that these difficulties must be faced and overcome. So long as "that appallingly indecent sentence 'My country, right or wrong,'" holds sway as "the orthodox democratic version of the old orthodox monarchical maxim, 'The King can do no wrong,'" but little can be done; ethically either maxim "is immorality." Mr. Holmes, however, does not only dissect and expose the horrid body of the old patriotism; he constructs a new body inspired by a new idea, and he rightly emphasizes the fact that it is by the work of the Churches and the schools that this new body must take life and shape.

The new edition of *Greater European Democracies* (Humphrey Milford, 8s. 6d.), by President Lowell, of Harvard University, is to all intents and purposes a new book. The changes which have taken place in Europe since the first edition appeared in 1918 have necessitated the addition of much new material regarding the four principal countries—England (*sic*), France, Italy and Germany—while the substitution of a new chapter on Switzerland for that on Austria-Hungary somewhat belies the title of the book. The constitution and the governmental practice of these countries are dealt with rather than their history, and the reader can gain a very good general idea of their national and local administrations. President Lowell is chary of expressing his personal opinions; that is not his main object, but he permits himself to quote aptly the Chinese proverb in reference to the present ruler of Italy, "He who rides on a tiger cannot dismount."

*Fulfilment* (National Adult School Union, 30, Bloomsbury Street, W.C.1, 2s. 6d. and 1s. 3d.), the Adult School Lesson Handbook for 1926, keeps well up to the standard of previous years, and contains a most useful series of outlines for addresses and sermons. As usual, a section is devoted to a special international subject, which is here the Race Problem, and in one of these five special outlines illustrations are largely drawn from the work of the Health Organisation of the League and of the I.L.O.

The World Peace Foundation of the United States has this year taken over the publication of the *Year Book of the League of Nations, 1925* (P. S. King & Sons, 2s.), for which Dr. Charles Levermore has hitherto been responsible. It has very largely changed its character, and is now little more than a manual of the work and organisation of the League from its beginning until July, 1925; it appears to be accurately compiled, but it is no better and no worse, except that it is paper-stitched, than the many other hand-books on the subject which have appeared.—H. W. F.

*Beyond the Baltic*, by A. MacCallum Scott (Thornton Butterworth, 12s. 6d.). This is an account of travel in Russia, Poland, and the Baltic States. It is pleasantly written, and makes easy reading. Mr. Scott has jogged from place to place with his eyes open and his camera handy. Naturally, he does not pretend to be an expert on any of the places he visited, and a certain air of superficiality is inevitable. Inaccuracies creep in, and many picturesque details are left out. For instance, the description of Kovno does not mention the Russian fortress which dominates the town, nor can anyone really think that the Russian Church in Warsaw stood for the "splendid ideal of the unity of the Slav races," or anything else but the triumph of Orthodox Russia over Catholic Poland. The habit of ending every chapter in a "purple patch" grows tiresome; nevertheless, the book is a pleasant, uninspiring record of an interesting journey.



READERS' VIEWS

GREECE AND BULGARIA

To the Editor of HEADWAY

SIR.—The account in the December number of HEADWAY of the intervention of the Council in the dispute between Greece and Bulgaria mentions only six out of the ten members of the Council. Do six constitute a quorum, or had Japan, Brazil, Uruguay and Spain signified their willingness to agree to what ever should be decided by the other members of the Council? The Council acted promptly when they received an appeal, but that was not till four days after the incident which caused the trouble, and much might happen in four days.—Yours, etc., INQUIRER.

1. Actually every member of the Council was represented at the special session called to consider the dispute between Greece and Bulgaria. In last month's article pressure of space allowed mention by name of only the most prominent delegates.

2. We do not know that it has ever been suggested that the Council should have a quorum. Any such arrangement would obviously tend to stultify the rule laid down by the Covenant that the Council's decisions must be unanimous.

3. So far as the Council is concerned it can do nothing to insist that members involved in a dispute must immediately refer it to the League. As the "League habit" gets more and more established, no doubt the tendency to delay an appeal to the League, even for a few days, will disappear.—Ed. HEADWAY.]

THE OPTIONAL CLAUSE

To the Editor of HEADWAY

SIR.—I have read with much interest the correspondence in recent numbers of HEADWAY with regard to the question of Great Britain signing the Optional Clause of the Statutes of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

I am not sure whether Professor Murray, in continuing to urge that Great Britain should sign this clause, has taken sufficient account of the peculiar state of the relations *inter se* of the various component parts of the British Empire. While the self-governing Dominions and India are separate members of the League of Nations, Great Britain is at present responsible for the foreign policy of the whole Empire, and if Great Britain were to sign the Optional Clause, her signature would no doubt be held to be binding on all the States of the British Commonwealth of Nations. This might well lead to serious complications between Great Britain and one or other of the self-governing Dominions. Suppose a dispute were to break out with a foreign State affecting directly or indirectly some one of the Dominions, which could be held to be covered by the terms of the Optional Clause, Great Britain would be called upon to honour her signature, while the Dominion Government might strongly dissent from having the dispute in question referred to the Court, and demand that it should be dealt with by some other method. If the foreign Government persisted in its view Great Britain would find herself in an impossible position, faced with the alternatives of repudiating her signature of the Optional Clause or of flouting the views of one of her daughter States.

In these circumstances it seems that the cause of peace might be better served by Great Britain holding herself free to consider any method allowed by the Covenant for dealing with disputes which might directly or indirectly affect her relations with her own family, of whose interests she is the trustee.—Yours, etc., ANOTHER UNION MEMBER.

[Is it so certain that the Dominions are against signing the Optional Clause? The only one which has definitely declared itself—Canada—is in favour.—ED. HEADWAY.]

THE LEAGUE AND LIFEBOATS

To the Editor of HEADWAY

SIR.—There are many outlying aids to peace which the League of Nations has still to recognise. Of these, few are more interesting or useful than the great movement for saving life at sea. The report of the National Life Boat Institution, issued last month, should be studied by all promoters of International friendship. One aspect of this connection was emphasised by Lord Grey on Monday at the Alnmouth and Boulmer Branch meeting of the Association.

"This," he said, "is called a National Service and it is a National Service; but it is a service which is rendered without distinction of nationality. If a foreign ship is wrecked, the same qualities of courage and self-sacrifice are shown as if it were a British ship. It is a service which is not limited to national needs; it is a real service to humanity at large."

Another proof of the international character of this work is given in this Report. The work of the French and Belgian Life Boat services are recorded in this English Report, so the three play into each other's hands.

May I mention, in conclusion, the consideration which first led me to subscribe to this Institute. I think that all workers

for peace should endeavour to consider how to utilise those qualities of courage and self-sacrifice which so many used to associate with war-like efforts. Here is a splendid voluntary association which calls out these noble qualities quite as fully and far more usefully than any war could ever do.—Yours, etc., C. F. MAURICE.

[The League has already recognised the importance of the work done by the various Lifeboat services. At an international conference held last year as part of the centenary celebrations of the Royal National Life Boat Institution, it was decided to form an international lifeboat organisation on the lines of the Red Cross Society. The League has now taken the matter up and a sub-committee of the Communications and Transit Commission, which met in Paris last November, discussed what measures the League might take to further the project.—EDITOR.]

THE PAY-LATES

To the Editor of HEADWAY

SIR.—Some of us feel very keenly that in the matter of unpaid quotas there is a great deal of injustice. For the failure of many Branches to pay their share of the Council's Vote throws a heavier burden on the shoulders of those who have kept faith, and the repeated appeals that are necessary are extremely chafing and discouraging, in view of the fact that if we each shouldered our bit the burden would fall heavily on none.

In our hottest moments we are tempted to urge the publication of a black list in HEADWAY as a means of bringing delinquents up to the scratch! It is not merely a question of unpaid debts, but of disloyalty to the League ideal of *pulling together*.

The League asks its members for co-operation and confidence, it acts for the good of the whole, and expects those who join it not to consider themselves as self-contained units, but parts of a whole. We are dishonouring League principles if, while seeking to encourage the sense of interdependence in our wider relationships, we fail in this matter at home.—Yours, etc., A BRANCH DELEGATE.

THE MEMBER STATES OF THE LEAGUE

In response to frequent requests, we give below a list of the 55 Member States of the League:—

ORIGINAL MEMBERS

Argentine	Denmark	Persia
Belgium	France	Peru
Bolivia	Greece	Poland
Brazil	Guatemala	Portugal
British Empire	Haiti	Rumania
Canada	Honduras	Salvador
Australia	Italy	Serb-Croat-Slovene State
South Africa	Japan	Siam
New Zealand	Liberia	Spain
India	Netherlands	Sweden
Chile	Nicaragua	Switzerland
China	Norway	Czecho-Slovakia
Colombia	Panama	Uruguay
Cuba	Paraguay	Venezuela

ELECTED MEMBERS

Albania	...	...
Austria	...	...
Bulgaria	...	...
Costa Rica	...	...
Finland	...	...
Luxemburg	...	...
Esthonia	...	...
Latvia	...	...
Lithuania	...	...
Hungary	...	...
Abyssinia (Ethiopia)	...	...
Irish Free State	...	...
San Domingo	...	...

ELECTED BY

First Assembly, 1920.

Second Assembly, 1921.

Third Assembly, 1922.

Fourth Assembly, 1923.

Fifth Assembly, 1924.

BOOKS RECEIVED

"Co-operation in Soviet Russia." A study compiled by the International Labour Office, giving an account of the important part played by the Co-operative movement from 1917-1925 in the application of Communist principles. Price 6s.

"Occupation and Health." The second series of an encyclopedia of hygiene, pathology and social welfare now being published by the International Labour Office. A complete set of this series costs 32s.; separate parts can be obtained at 2s. each.



Much of the time now wasted at International Conferences will be saved when the delegates have learnt foreign languages by the New Pelman method

THE "BEST WAY" OF LEARNING LANGUAGES

Distinguished Generals and Others Praise the New Pelman Method of Learning French, German, Italian and Spanish

"I find that the Pelman Method is the best way of learning French without a teacher."

So says Lieut.-Gen. Sir Aylmer Haldane, K.C.B., writing of the new Pelman "direct" method of learning Foreign Languages without using English.

Another distinguished military officer who recommends this method is Major-Gen. Sir Arthur Dordane, K.C.B. He writes:—

"Since I began the Pelman Course I have learnt more French than in eight years spent at school and college. The Course is without doubt the best method of learning a Foreign Language. The study has been a pleasure."

"The study has been a pleasure." This is a highly important point in favour of the new Pelman method. Many people start to learn languages. They attend a class or they purchase a grammar and a dictionary. But after a time they get tired. They cease to attend the class. They leave the grammar and dictionary on their bookshelves. Why is this? In nine cases out of ten it is because they have found the study dull, and particularly have they been bored by the grammar—by the pages and pages of rules and exceptions which they have been asked to plough through before the doors and delights of French, or Italian, or German or Spanish literature can be thrown open to them. And so they give up.

Dreary Grammar Avoided

The new Pelman method avoids this great difficulty. When you take up a Pelman Course in French, or in any other language, you are introduced to that language straight away. You learn to speak, write, read, and understand it. Formal grammar is avoided. You pick up the grammar almost unconsciously as you go along. If, later on, you would like to study the grammar you can do so. But the grammar comes last, the living Language comes first. That is why the new method is so interesting—and so successful.

Here are a few examples of the thousands of letters received from people who have learnt languages by this method:—

"In sending in the last paper to the Institute I must congratulate it on its splendid method. I have only been learning German for five months; now I can not only read it but also speak it well." (G.M. 148.)

"I can read and speak with ease, though it is less than six months since I began to study Spanish." (S.M. 181.)

"I have learnt more French during the last three months from your course than I learnt during some four or five years' teaching on old-fashioned lines at a school." (S. 382.)

The "Direct" Method

An important feature of this new method is that it enables you to—  
—learn French in French,  
—learn German in German,  
—learn Spanish in Spanish,  
—learn Italian in Italian.

And it enables you to do this even if you do not possess the smallest previous acquaintance with any of these languages.

By the Pelman method you can learn any one of these languages without using a single word of English. You can take up a

book written entirely in French, German, Italian, or Spanish, and read it right through without making a single mistake. It's very amazing. Yet it is quite simple. And so you will find it when you take up one of the Courses. Many advantages follow. There are no vocabularies to be learnt by heart. The words you need you learn by using them, and in such a way that you never forget them. There is no translation (either mental or on paper) from one language into another. By learning a language as a native learns it you learn to speak it more fluently; there is none of that hesitation (due to translating mentally words of one language into words of another language) which is almost unavoidable when you learn French or Spanish or German or Italian by the obsolete and unscientific old-fashioned way.

By learning languages in this way you will be able to read the leading French, German, Italian and Spanish newspapers and reviews, and thus keep in close touch with Continental opinion on subjects connected with the League of Nations.

The New Pelman method is taught by correspondence. There are no classes to attend. You can study by this method in your own home, or when travelling (the books are provided with a plain cover, so that no one need know what you are doing).

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# UNION NOTES AND NEWS

## The December Branch Letter

Here is a summary of the letter sent from Headquarters to all Branch Secretaries at the beginning of December:—

Branches are asked to bring the following resolution, which has been passed by the Executive Committee of the Union, before any public meetings they are organising, in order to help create public opinion in favour of the policy it expresses: "The committee respectfully urge His Majesty's Government to bring before the other Naval Powers, without delay, proposals for the complete abolition of armed submarines, and a concomitant reduction of Naval armaments."

It is suggested that Branches might arrange to have the Union's literature distributed outside cinemas where the Ypres film is being shown, and, if permitted by the management, for an appeal on behalf of the Union's work to be made inside the cinema. One of our Branches has already distributed leaflets on such an occasion with considerable success.

## Success at Wembley

A review we have received of the five years' work of the Wembley Branch is a record of which the officers may well be proud. The Branch now has a membership of 850, with a Junior Branch membership of 300. A great measure of its success is no doubt due to the fact that the Wembley Urban District Council was responsible for its formation, and the Branch still maintains its popularity with the civic authorities. Of the seventeen Councillors and chief officials, fifteen are members of the Branch, in addition to which all the resident magistrates have joined. For two years past the Chairmen of the Council have held receptions of the members, when such eminent men as Dr. G. P. Gooch and Professor Gilbert Murray have been present. A similar function is being held in February.

The Branch makes a special feature of its work in schools, and has secured the co-operation of the Local Education Authority and the principals of several private schools. Lectures are frequently given to the children, and 800 essays on the League were written at the beginning of 1925 by Wembley scholars. The Educational Committee of the Branch, which is the guardian of the Main Junior Branch, keeps a watchful eye over young people who leave school, and are not eligible for the Adult Branch. For this purpose a "Headquarter group" has been formed with a small membership fee. The members are supplied regularly with League news for the Young and the Quarterly News Sheet, and they are entertained occasionally by members

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**INSURANCES.**—M. W. BLOOM, 14, Queen Street, Glasgow.

of the Branch. An excellent service is rendered by the girls of the Sudbury Hall School. Whenever communications are sent to the Branch members, envelopes are addressed and delivered by the girls. The only difficulty experienced by the Branch is the collection of the annual subscriptions. The district is divided into areas, each of which is allotted to a collector. The great problem is how to enlist the services of a sufficient number of collectors.

## Scotland Goes Ahead

The development of the Union's work in the East of Scotland is an object lesson of the value of District Councils. For a considerable period the League movement over the Border lagged behind, but since the East of Scotland District Council was formed in June, 1923, the officers have done their best to make up for lost time. When the Council was first established it represented eight Branches, with a membership of barely a thousand. Now there are forty Branches with a total of over 5,000 members. This extension of its work is the result of an enormous amount of labour and self-sacrifice ungrudgingly given by voluntary workers.

## Dundee's Great Concert

Over two thousand people attended a concert organised by the Dundee Branch in aid of its funds. The programme afforded a delightful evening's entertainment. Orchestral music was provided by the Dundee Orchestral Society, whose playing of Haydn's Symphony No. 4 was greatly appreciated. A choir of sixty voices, under the conductorship of Mr. J. Baird, sang madrigals and a Bach Chorale; the soloists were Miss Charlotte Craig and Mr. A. J. Forbes. A part of the entertainment much to the taste of the audience consisted of dances given in costume by Miss Bell's pupils. One of the most charming was a Minuet danced by little girls in crinolines and poke-bonnets. The Branch produced an attractive programme, on the cover of which appeared the well-known world and stars design, and an appeal for members. From every point of view the concert was a triumphant success, and we should like to offer our congratulations to the organisers, of whom Mr. Blackwood, the indefatigable Branch Treasurer, was the chief.

## League v. Anti-League

A crowded audience at Rotherfield last month was enlivened by a debate on the League, in which the protagonists were Sir George Paish and Mr. T. Swan. After Sir George had put the case for the League with his usual ability, the attack was opened by Mr. Swan. He relied mainly on the old arguments about idealism proving ineffective against "grim realities." Apparently the audience did not find his case convincing, for when it came to the vote he had only one supporter.

## WORLD FELLOWSHIP

"I lift myself to the vision of the future and behold the people rising in its majesty, brothers in one faith, one bond of equality and love."—(*Mazzini*.)

This vision of unity and international friendship can only be realized in a world fellowship which is based on the FATHERHOOD OF GOD and the DIVINE PURPOSE for all mankind.

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## Blackburn's Fair

The winter activities of the Blackburn Branch were inaugurated a few weeks ago by a most successful Demonstration and International Fair lasting two days. A feature of the opening ceremonies was the reading of an admirable Prologue written by Mrs. Boddy. Among the stalls at the Fair were two with attractive peasant handicraft from several countries, for which there was a ready sale. During each afternoon and evening addresses were given on the League by Mr. J. H. Harris, Sir Arthur Haworth, Mr. Wynch, Mr. Graham White and Mr. Cuthbert Clayton, who was also responsible for much of the organisation. A number of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides carrying national flags were much in evidence, and helped to steward at the meetings.

The lighter side was not neglected, and between the speeches entertainments consisting of plays, concerts, and dances were given. A charge of 6d. was made for entrance, but there was a good demand for "seasons," which gave admittance at any time. The whole affair reflected great credit on the organisers, who have the satisfaction of knowing that their efforts have resulted in a substantial increase in the branch membership. We commend Blackburn's example to other branches who are seeking new methods of arousing interest in their work.

## Sunderland Conference Developments

The Conference on International Relations recently organised by the Sunderland Branch had an interesting sequel on Armistice Day, when a Reunion was held, and Mr. James Welch gave an address on the Lacarno Pact to an enthusiastic audience. The excellent chairman of the original conference, the Rev. Malcolm Spencer, had urged that study groups should be formed. His words have already borne fruit, for three groups are in full swing; the subjects that are being discussed are Education, Industry, Disarmament and Security.

## More Armistice Week Results

We have not yet received full details of the results of the special Armistice Week campaigns in the Manchester and Birmingham Districts, but both were very successful. Manchester gained over 5,000 new members, and more are still coming in. Birmingham's increased membership is equally satisfactory.

Congratulations to Mansfield Branch on a successful membership campaign in Armistice Week. Many meetings were held, and an attractive feature of the campaign was a recruiting kiosk in the Market Place. Before the end of the week the branch membership was doubled, and the honorary secretary, Mr. J. Harrop White, reports that 600 new members have been enrolled, and that names are still coming in. A mass meeting held during the week, at which the principal speaker was Dr. Nitobe (Deputy Secretary-General of the League), was said to be one of the best meetings ever held in Mansfield. The campaign reflects great credit on the energetic band of workers who contributed to the result.

Readers will be interested to hear that on Armistice Sunday the Union's Secretary, Dr. Maxwell Garnett, preached a sermon on the League in Emanuel Church, Baltimore, U.S.A., to a congregation of 1,200. Reference is made on another page to Dr. Garnett's visit to America.

## An Auctioneer Bids for Members

The *Estates Gazette* is not a publication in which one expects to find news about the Union, but an interesting item is contained in the issue for December 5. After an account of the sale of some property by a Hampstead firm of estate agents, the report states that one of the partners, Mr. Louis Goldschmidt, "made an eloquent appeal from the rostrum on behalf of the League of Nations Union, which was not in vain, as several gentlemen went up and became members."

This is a new and welcome development in Mr. Goldschmidt's campaign to obtain £1 members for the Union. Incidentally, it affords another proof of the fact that business men are very ready to appreciate the value of the League's work.

## League News in Small Doses

Most people who at any time have endeavoured to persuade non-members to read the Union's pamphlets have met the man who "simply hasn't time." The Flixton Branch is trying to overcome this objection by administering League news in tabloid form. They are issuing periodically in the local paper a synopsis of the outstanding facts about the League, together with particulars of the Union's work and its membership. This novel educational "stunt" deserves every success.

## Camberley's Ballot

Local tradesmen provided the prizes amounting to £10 which were awarded as a result of the ballot organised by the Camberley

Branch. Voters were asked to choose which were the ten most attractive shop windows in Camberley during Christmas. The ballot paper contained the names of forty firms, so that the competitors had a wide range from which to select their ten. This enterprising effort has succeeded in creating considerable interest in the branch's work.

## A Fine Example

A special effort was made on Sunday, December 13, at St. John's Church, Cattord, to bring the work of the League of Nations before the members of the congregation. At the early morning celebration prayers were offered for the League, and special League sermons were preached at the morning and evening services. The Union's membership forms were distributed in the pews. The support of this Church is especially welcome as the parish includes Bellingham and the new L.C.C. housing estate in that district, where the population is at present increasing at the rate of thousands each year.

## Labour Support for the Union

A most encouraging sign of the times is the way in which organised labour is backing the Union's work. There has been a notable increase shortly in the number of Trade Union Branches that have become Corporate Members. A further example of this support is given in an article written by Mr. W. Keay, the General Secretary of the National Federation of Professional Workers, in which he emphasises that any Government action towards international peace needs to be supplemented by a better understanding between the peoples themselves. In a list of societies in this country which he commends to his readers for the work they are doing to encourage international friendship, he includes the League of Nations Union. As a copy of this article has been sent to each member of Mr. Keay's organisation, we hope his recommendation will result in many joining the Union.

## Tamworth's Programme

"Nationalism" was the subject of an address given by Mr. W. Johnson at the first of a series of meetings organised by the Tamworth Branch. The Chair was taken by the agent for the Warwickshire Miners' Association, which has just joined the Union as a Corporate Member. The next meeting is to be held at the Assembly Rooms on January 10 at 3 p.m., when the principal speaker will be the Bishop of Lichfield, Mr. G. Bullough, of the Tamworth Grammar School, is to give an address on "Europe in the Far East," on March 4.

## The Young Idea

Headquarters frequently receives reports from Junior Branches of the keenness and interest in international affairs shown by its members.

The Branch at the Dartford County School for Girls has sent a letter of congratulation and thanks to Sir Austen Chamberlain for his splendid work at Locarno.

A few weeks ago a large number of children from the Birmingham Secondary Schools willingly gave up a half-holiday to attend a Model Assembly. In view of the sacredness of half-holidays, this seems incontrovertible proof of real enthusiasm.

## League Howlers

Some amusing howlers made by the children attending the Whitstable Council Schools who entered for a prize essay competition on the League have been published in the *Whitstable Times*. Here are one or two:—

"George Washington did not want America to join the League."

"America has not yet forgiven us for ending the war so abruptly."

"The League came to an agreement: 'If, in order to lighten a ship, merchandise is thrown overboard, it shall be replaced.'"

"The League is trying to insure loss of life and goods at sea."

It is only fair to add that these extracts are not typical of the accuracy of the essays. The examiners have been much impressed by the way the children have, as a whole, grasped their subject.

## Educating World Citizens

Every year the Union takes part in the Conference of Educational Associations. The forthcoming Conference is being held at University College, Gower Street, London, from December 31 to January 8. The Union's Session is on Tuesday, January 5, at 11.30 a.m., when Professor Webster will speak on "The Teaching of World Citizenship," after which our film will be shown.

The Union is affiliated to the Conference and this entitles every member to attend any of the public sessions. We hope many of our London Branches, at any rate, will be represented at Professor Webster's lecture.

#### The Youth of France and World Peace

The "Centre International des Jeunes," whose headquarters are in Paris, has issued a second appeal calling upon young people to organise themselves into committees in every town, village and school, for the purpose of promoting ideas of international peace and co-operation. The appeal advocates the formation of Study Circles on the League of Nations, peace movements in other lands, and Esperanto.

#### A Students' Model Assembly

At the Universities Congress, to be organised by the National Union of Students at Cambridge during the Easter vacation, 1926, a special feature will be a model League of Nations Assembly with Viscount Grey of Falodon as President. An address will also be given on the International Labour Office.

#### Philosophers to Discuss the League

"The Theory of Sovereignty and the League of Nations" is the subject of a discussion which will be opened by the Master of Balliol, Mr. A. D. Lindsay, on January 19, at the Royal Society of Arts, 18, John Street, Adelphi, at 8.15. The meeting is being arranged by the British Institute of Philosophical Studies. Members of the Union and their friends are invited to attend, but as the accommodation is limited, it is hoped that they will advise the Secretary at 88, Kingsway, W.C.2, in order that seats can be allotted to them.

#### The Council's Vote

As has been the practice in previous years, the list of contributions to the Council's Vote for 1925 will be kept open until the end of January. Those Branches and Districts that have not as yet paid the whole of their 1925 quotas are urged to make special efforts to complete payment by the end of this month. A pointed letter on this subject appears in our correspondence columns.

In addition to those mentioned in previous issues, the following Branches have completed their 1925 quotas:—

Berkhamstead, Bideford, Brill, Chester St. Andrew, Chinnor, Chipping Norton, Christchurch, Dalston, Danbury, Gomersal, Hastings, Helston, Gledholt Wesleyan Church, Huddersfield, Keyworth, Kimpton, Knebworth, Knockholt, Niton, Penn and Tylers Green, Reigate and Redhill, Skipton, St. Austell, Silverdale, Lancs., Southend, Teignmouth, Thaxted, Tintagel, Uppminster, Ventnor, Warminster, Witney, Wokingham, Yelverton.

#### New Corporate Members

The following have been admitted to Corporate Membership since the publication of the December HEADWAY:—

BEDWORTH: Sisterhood. BILL QUAY: Sisterhood. BRADFORD: Bethesda Wesleyan Young Men's Class; Frizinghall Congregational Church. BURSLEM: Ex-Service Men's Institute. CALCUT (India): Zamorin's College History Association. CASTLETON: Congregational Church. CHATHAM: Women's Co-operative Guild. CHELTENHAM: Charlton King's Brotherhood. CHESTERFIELD: Calow Congregational Church. COTHERSTONE: Congregational Church. EAST GRINSTEAD: Moat Congregational Church. ELSWICK: Memorial Church. FARNWORTH: Market Street Congregational Church. GLASGOW: Hillhead Parish Church Girls' Auxiliary. GOATLAND: St. Mary's Church. GT. HARWOOD: Free Church Council. GT. SANKEY: St. Mary's Church. HITCHIN: Brotherhood. HOLLINGREAVE: Congregational Church. HORSHAM: Brotherhood. HOVE: Cliftonville Congregational Church. HYDE: P.S.A. Brotherhood. HYPHE: Congregational Church. HUCKNALL: Co-operative Educational Committee. HUDDERSFIELD: Colcar Baptist Church. HULL: Wycliffe Congregational Church. KEIGHLEY: Lund Park Wesleyan Church. LANCASTER: P.S.A. Brotherhood. LINCOLN: Newport Branch Women's Co-operative Guild. LIVERPOOL: Sefton Park Presbyterian Church. LONDON: BATTERSEA PARK ROAD: United Methodist Church; HAMMERSMITH: Ruri-Decanal Conference; HAMPSTEAD: Heath Street Women's Guild. LOUGHBOROUGH: Congregational Church. LUTON: Waller Street Brotherhood. MADELEY: Baptist Church. MANCHESTER: Victoria Park United Methodist College. MILFORD: Congregational Church. NORTHAMPTON: Adniff Road Baptist Church. NOTTINGHAM: Mansfield Road Baptist Church. OUNDLE: Congregational Church. REDLAND: Highbury Congregational Church. ROTHERHAM: Masebro' Independent Chapel. SITTINGBOURNE: Holy Trinity Church. STAFFORD: Congregational Church. TAMWORTH: Miners' Association. WARRINGTON: Bold Street Wesleyan Church. WATERFOOT: Bethel Baptist Church; Mount Zion Baptist Church. WATFORD: Beechen Grove Baptist Church. WEL-LINGBOROUGH: Victoria Congregational Church. WEST PELTON: Women's "Bright Hour." WHITEHAVEN: Y.M.C.A. WOLVERTON: Wesleyan Methodist Church.

#### NOTES FROM WALES

The Rev. Gwilym Davies, M.A., Honorary Director of the Welsh League of Nations Union, left Southampton in November *en route* for America, conveying with him a memorial in the interests of international peace from leaders of religious bodies in Wales to the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. A cablegram from Detroit, Michigan, states that the memorial was received by the Federal Council at Detroit on December 10, amid a scene of great enthusiasm. Bishop Herman Page presided, and at the close of the Rev. Gwilym Davies's address the delegates rose *en masse* as the President extended the hand of fellowship to the Welsh visitor. They remained standing while the text of the memorial and the names of the signatories were read.

There is no more enthusiastic worker on behalf of the cause of world peace than the President of the Welsh League of Nations Union, Mrs. Peter Hughes Griffiths. During December she spoke at crowded and enthusiastic gatherings at St. Davids, Solva and Newport in Pembrokeshire. She is also due to address further meetings in January and February in the industrial area of South Wales. Another indefatigable worker for the League is Professor C. K. Webster, M.A., Professor of International Politics at the University College, Aberystwyth. He has recently addressed meetings of teachers and others interested in educational work at Cardiff and Barry, and arrangements are already made for him to speak at similar meetings at eight different centres in Carmarthenshire and Glamorganshire during January and February.

The Welsh League of Nations Union has sent to the Churches in Wales and Monmouthshire again this year an earnest appeal for a collection or a retiring collection towards its work. It is sincerely hoped that this urgent appeal will meet with a generous response, as the Council is sadly in need of funds.

We derive great encouragement from the fact that the number of Junior Branches in Wales and Monmouthshire is increasing rapidly. This is due to a great extent to the interest shown by our teachers.

The Welsh Council now possesses its own sets of the League of Nations Union lantern slides. The lantern lecture is very popular, and the demands for the slides are numerous.

During 1926 it is intended to concentrate again on the holding of Daffodil Days throughout Wales and Monmouthshire, and it is sincerely hoped that committees which so generously organised Daffodil Days during last year will take steps immediately to obtain the necessary consent to hold Daffodil Days in their respective localities this year.

The President of the Welsh National Council has addressed a New Year Message to all the Branches in Wales and Monmouthshire.

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All subscriptions run for 12 months from the date of payment, and become renewable on the first day of the month in which the first subscription was paid.

Applications to join the Union should be made to the Secretary of a local Branch or to the Secretary, League of Nations Union, 15, Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.W.1. Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to "League of Nations Union" and crossed Midland Bank.

Particulars of the work in Wales and Monmouthshire may be obtained from the Honorary Director of the Welsh Council, the Rev. Gwilym Davies, M.A., 10, Richmond Terrace, Park Place, Cardiff.

Please forward your copy of HEADWAY to your friends overseas. Also see that your Public Library has one.

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