

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

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



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

THE ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

In accordance with a proposal by Miss Balch at the last Executive Committee meeting, the following letter was sent to all the Governments and to National Sections for presentation to their respective Governments :

"The International Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting in Geneva, April 11-14, and representing women organized in twenty-six countries, desires hereby to call the attention of the Governments to be represented at the Economic Conference to certain points.

"I. The extreme urgency of the situation requires that the Conference should begin its work at the earliest possible moment and without further delay.

"II. The World's necessity should prevail over nationalistic considerations. Each delegation should be prepared to make sacrifices on behalf of the whole. In accord with this, tariffs should be reduced and world trade freed in other ways, the burden of world debts should be got rid of by a policy of generous concessions, the principles of economic nationalism (autarchy) should be repudiated.

CONTENTS

The Economic Conference.

Deputation to the International Committee of the Red Cross. Gertrud Baer. In Connection with Events in Germany. The Situation in Austria.

The Dangers of the Jugoslav Dictatorship. India.

Repression in Indochina.

Anti-War Group of Nurses.

Section News.

W. I. L. Summer Schools. Announcements.

Conference on East Europe.

The Disarmement Conference.

"III. The prosperity of the people, not the advantage of those who direct industry, commerce and finance should be the controlling aim of the Conference.

Die

"Every question should be considered from the point of view of the consumer. How the consumer is affected should be the producer's problem but consumers should also have special spokesmen as such in the Conference, and, in particular, qualified women should be among the delegates.

"We suggest that in countries where there are cooperative organisations of consumers these be asked to name one or more delegates."

DEPUTATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

During the W. I. L. Conference on certain Obstacles to Disarmament held on April 6th and 7th, it was proposed to ask the Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organizations to send a deputation to the International Committee of the Red Cross. The Deputation would ask the Committee : 1) to remind the National Red Cross Societies of the important resolution on the ineffectiveness of any protection of the civil population against chemical warfare, passed at the Brussels Expert Conference in 1928; 2) to ask the National Red Cross Societies not to act against the findings of their own experts but to refrain from taking any part in the ever growing propaganda for protection, which is of use and profit to international war industries alone.

This proposal was supported by the W. I. L. Executive Committee meeting at Geneva, April 11th to 14th, and a resolution was passed to ask the Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organizations to make the necessary arrangements. On May 23rd the deputation was received by the representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross. The members of the deputation, Miss Mary Dingman, president of the Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organizations, Mrs. Marjorie Corbett-Ashby, president of the International Alliance of women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, and Gertrud Baer, joint-chairman of the W. I. L. P. F. pointed out that the civil population in nearly every country of the world was made to believe that protection against chemical warfare was effective—though the Expert Committee had made it very clear that there exist no effective means of protecting mankind against chemical and air warfare.

1,7

Convinced of the fact that a false feeling of security, constant fear of attack, suspicion and a psychosis of war are being spread among the peoples; that great sums of money are wasted for shelters, masks, etc., etc., which do not really provide protection; that the only people who profit from the ever growing propaganda for protection are war manufacturers; the Deputation asked the Red Cross to do all in their power to influence the National Red Cross Societies not to continue to support propaganda for protection of the civil population, so eleverly carried on by those who are interested in War and not in Peace.

The representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross promised to use their influence in the direction indicated, as they fully agreed with the arguments given.

We ask our National Sections to make an urgent appeal to their Red Cross Societies, referring to this interview at Geneva, and to work more energetically than they yet have to make the Experts Resolution of the International Red Cross widely known.

The W. I. L. P. F. combats any attempt to "humanise" war. We must attack the *root* of the evil, and the symptoms will then disappear.

Gertrud Baer.

IN CONNECTION WITH EVENTS IN GERMANY

From the Dutch society "Church and Peace" (Kerke en Vrede) we have received a strong protest which was sent by Dr. G. J. Heering to the German Foreign Minister, signed by 9,000 members, including 380 protestant ministers.

Another protest has been sent us by the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Osterreichischer Friedensvereine concerning pacifists arrested in Germany and kept in concentration camps.

English youth launched an appeal at a meeting held in Queen's Hall on May 16th. The meeting was presided over by Professor Gilbert Murray and the various speakers were Isaac Foot, Miss Margery Fry, Professor John McMurray, Lord Melchett.

An International Committee has been created in Geneva for the centralization of Information, documents and funds and in order to find opportunities of work for German intellectuals in different countries, address : Comité International pour le placement des émigrés intellectuels, League of Nations, Geneva.

THE SITUATION IN AUSTRIA

The Executive Committee, meeting in April, voted to make an appeal to the 2nd International on behalf of Austria and the following letter was sent to F. Adler:

"The Executive Committee of the W. I. L. P. F., deeply distressed by the progress of Fascism and by the situation Salzburg for the Mozart festival, etc.

in Austria, urgently appeals to you on behalf of Austrian Socialists.

"After the tragic breakdown of German Social-Democracy, our hopies lie today in Austrian Socialism, the last rampart against the Fascist invasion of Central Europe.

"We anticipate that the 2nd International will, without delay, do everything humanly possible to bring Austrian Socialists the moral and material support that can help to save them.

"The Executive Committee of the W. I. L. P. F. urges the responsible officers of the 2nd International to make every effort towards close solidarity among Socialists in the various Central European states and between them and their comrades in all countries.

"The members of the Executive Committee of the W. I. L. P. F., confident that you will take immediate and energetic action and persevere in such work, assure you that they stand solidly with you in the fight against the increasing menace of Fascism."

The situation in Austria has continually grown worse. The Hitlerist regime is using all possible methods of bringing pressure to bear on Austria, even by a tourist boycott of Austria effected by putting a tax of 1,000 Marks on all Germans going to Austria after June 1st.

We must give proof of our fellow feeling for Austria and encourage contact with Austria, trips to Vienna, the Tyrol,

THE DANGERS OF THE JUGOSLAV DIGTATORSHIP

The British Section's Monthly News Sheet for May contains an article by Joan Creyke on "Who is Serbia, what is she?" which concludes thus:

"Not only is Jugoslavia earning the uneviable reputation which Austria-Hungary formerly had, of being a Police State; she is fast becoming a menace to the peace of Europe, since her treatment of her minorities has rendered them easy pray for Italian and Hungarian irredentist propaganda. It is profoundly to be hoped that the storm at present brewing will never be allowed to burst."

ANTI-WAR GROUP OF NURSES

The Anti-War Group of Nurses has begun most interesting work. We send warm greeting to this group and want to draw the attention of our Brussels and Paris members to the international Congress to be held in both those cities from July 10th to 15th. As Miss Lotte Boeke writes us, it is extraordinary that thousands of men and women devote themselves daily, with all their strength, to saving and maintaining Life, and yet the majority of them have never taken an active part in work against war.

Those who are interested in the work of the international association of nurses can write to: "The Anti-War Group of Nurses", Leische Gracht 117, Amsterdam

INDIA

In spite of the repeated statements of Sir Samuel Hoare, the Indian National Congress proved, by holding its 47th session at Calcutta on April 1st, that it has been neither crushed nor discouraged by the British policy of repression. Strong measures had been taken by the Government to prevent the meeting's being held. Hundreds of delegates were arrested before arriving at Calcutta, others before the session. Nevertheless on April 1st 250 congress delegates, representing different regions of India, met together by day and publicly in spite of surveillance and deployment of police forces. The Congress was presided over by Mrs. Sen Gupta and voted resolutions reaffirming independence for India, civil disobedience, boycott of British goods, etc. The police charged with lathis and finally dispersed the congressists, several of whom were wounded.

But worse violence was used by the police against delegates arrested after March 30th. This was dealt with in a report by the venerable Pandit Malaviya (of which extracts were recently published in the Manchester Guardian). 89 pacifist delegates, most of them persons highly respected in their own provinces and holding important positions in the Congress, were obliged, after their arrest at Calcutta, to march between a hedge of thirty police sergeants who struck them with fists, feet and sticks with such violence that several lost consciousness and had later to be transported to the hospital were they remained until April 6th when they were released. Considering that the House of Commons at London has just been protesting with justified indignation at the brutalities of Hitlerist Fascism, one has a right to hope that it will express equal reprobation of excesses against peaceful citizens, guilty only of belonging to a national society. Such acts accentuate the discontent aroused, even among the most moderate people, by the publication of the White Paper on the new Constitution of India which withholds all real liberty and is only "camouflage" (according to the word used by the British Conservative M. P. who is the most opposed to independence for India).

There is no doubt that Gandhi's fast, which the Mahatma undertook with the highest motives and in the hope of bringing about a more rapid and more complete solution of a grave social problem, forced the Government to liberate him unconditionally. But after Gandhi's gesture which caused the President of the Congress to decide on a six week's interruption of civil disobedience, it was to be hoped that the Government would make a skillful and generous move in freeing, at least temporarily, the impri-

soned political leaders. The Government did not do this and discussion is therefore impossible. Moreover, some groups of Indian youth and the extreme leftwing of the Congress are more and more inclined, while continuing Non-cooperation, to have recourse to other methods than that of strict non-violence. The majority in Congress and the mass of the people remain faithful to Gandhi, their leader. But if Gandhi should die, British blindness would be responsible for a frightful tragedy, in a country determined to gain the independence to which it is entitled !

Madeleine Rolland.

REPRESSION IN INDOCHINA

The French Section of the W. I. L. has taken an active part in a widespread movement organised in France in opposition to the verdict of the Court of Saigon, condemning 8 Indochinese to death, 18 to forced labour in perpetuity and heavily sentencing 90 others. At one of the protest meetings organised in Paris, on May 16th, Gabrielle Duchêne and Camille Drevet spoke. Mme Duchêne had been a member of a deputation to the President of the Republic and C. Drevet was beginning a series of weekend lectures in the South-East of France.

SECTION NEWS

The British Section sends us the following report: Disarmament. In view of the very serious situation at the Disarmament Conference and the necessity for a wide expression of public opinion the following resolution was passed at a meeting of the Executive and circulated to the Branches

"The Executive Committee of the Women's International League considers that the present difficulties confronting the Disarmament Conference make it all the more necessary that it should not adjourn but should press on with the task of Drawing up a Convention. The Powers which agree to such a Convention would offer it as an alternative in respect of disarmament to the present regime under the Treaty of Versailles. Such a Convention :

"1. Should establish equality of status and provide against the danger of rearmament by the general abolition of the weapons forbidden to Germany.

2. Should guarantee international supervision by means of a Permanent Disarmament Commission with adequate powers

"3. Should include measures to control and limit the manufacture and trade in armaments."

India. The opportunity offered by the release of Mr. Gandhi from prison for an act of conciliation on the part of the Government of India has been realised and the following resolution was passed at the May meeting of the Executive :

"This Committee welcomes the decision of the Government to release Mr. Gandhi, and regarding the suspension of Civil Disobedience as a fresh opportunity for conciliation earnestly hopes that the Government will now release all political prisoners not accused of violence and endeavour to secure the co-operation of all parties for constitutional reform."

China. The following resolution was sent to the Foreign Office :

"In view of the importance of China in the world to-day the Executive Com-mittee of the Women's International League asks H. M. Government to consider the advisability of appointing a representative in China with the rank of Ambassador.

"The Committee further calls attention to the necessity for making Nanking the permanent residence of the British Representative in China, in order that the interests of both countries shall not suffer from the want of contact inevitable under the present arrangements.

Luncheon to proposers of the "King and Country" Resolution passed by the Oxford Union. A highly successful Luncheon was held on April 26th at which Mr. F. M. Hardie and Mr. Dight spoke on the subject of the "King and Country" Resolution-that is "That this house will in no circumstances fight for King or country". Many well-known people were present. Sir Norman Angell proposed the vote of thanks to the speakers and in the course of his speech disposed of the theory that wars were due to the Capitalist system. He said that a more potent cause of war was the presence of independent sovereign states and the lack of a federal bond.

The North Wales Women's Peace concerning organisations for physical culture The Czecho-Slovak Section has taken action various times concerning : nationality of women, the situation of Stateless persons, the Opium Convention, revision of treaties. The Section wrote to Mrs. Ada Wright regarding her deportation from Czecho-Slovakia and protested to the Italian Ambassador in Prague at the maltreatment of women arrested in Italy. Quite recently it sent a protest to Dr. Koch, German ambassador in Czecho-Slovakia, at the inhuman treatment of Jews and pacifists in Germany.

Council sends us the following report : Believing that the British Draft Disarmament Convention could be of real use in bringing the Disarmament Conference to a decision, the North Wales Women's Peace Council has organised a considerable amount of support for the Convention, while at the same time suggesting that amendments in 3 directions widely urged in this Country, should be included in the Convention. The following resolution has been

carried by 104 meetings between April 12th and April 27th in the 6 Countries of N. Wales and Cardiganshire. Most the meetings were Church Meetings, others being public meetings, meetings of Ex-Servicemen's Clubs, League of Nations Union Meetings, Women's Temperance, Women's Institute and Political meetings and Urban Council Meetings. Resolution : "This meeting congratulates the Prime Minister of Great Britain presenting to the Disarmament Conference at this critical moment a Draft Disarmament Convention, which should be of great value in bringing the Con-

on his courage and determination in ference to definite decisions.

"We remember that budgetary limitation of expenditure on armaments has been specially supported by the British Representatives at Geneva, and we confidently trust that this proposal will be included in the Conventions.

"Further, we look for the inclusion in this useful Convention of the two proposals most strongly supported by the people of Great Britain, namely : (1) The abolition of military and naval

air-craft. (2) Strict International Control and publicity with regard to the manufacture of and trade in arms.'

The resolutions have also been sent to Sir John Simon, Captain Eden, the Prime Minister and all local members of Parliament. M. G. Thoday.

The Tunis Section informs us that new groups have been formed at Sousse and at Sfax.

The Havre Group organised a propaganda stand at the exposition and fair at Havre and won a gold medal. The following are extracts from an important report from our Section in Czecho-Slovakia:

Education: On the initiative of the W. I. L. P. F. in Czecho-Slovakia, a pacifist committee composed of all pacifist and cultural organisations is at present working on revision of school books.

The Section has asked the Minister of Education to include in the study of civics, a quarter of an hour of pacifist teaching. A pamphlet with the material necessary to teachers for such instruction will soon be published.

Trattic in Arms: In the March Pax we spoke of the action taken by the Czecho-Slovak Section concerning transport of arms. We now draw to your attention an investigation being undertaken by the Czecho-Slovak Section on export of war materials.

The Czecho-Slovak League has several times protected against the maintenance of premilitary education and has sent in detailed answers to the questionnaire of the Commission on Militarist Education

The Jewish Group of the Czecho-Slovak Section has taken an active part in all the work of the Section and has, in particular, taken up the question of German refugees and of Jews in Russian Carpathia.

At the annual meeting on May 12th. the Section elaborated its year's program, admitted the German Group as a member of the Section and formed two new commissions, one on questions con-nected with the League of Nations and one on minorities.

The Swedish Section has recently organised three meetings (two of them in collaboration with other organizations) for free discussion on Fascism and anti-semitism. The meetings were very well received and most successful.

W. I. L. SUMMER SCHOOLS

Swedish Section

In conformance with the decision of the Executive Committee, the Swedish Section, in collaboration with groups in Baltic countries, is preparing a summer school or study conference which will be held at Riga about the middle of September.

The purpose of the course is to make known the work of the W. I. L. and draw in new members. The following subjects will be studied : The world political and economic situation; war industries as a cause of war; chemical warfare and the civilian populations; organisation of world peace (League of Nations, universal disarmament, world economy); the role of the small nations; cultural exchanges across the Baltic Sea, in former times and today.

Information can be had from the Swedish Section, Torsgatan 8, Stockholm. Belgian Section

The Section, in collaboration with the International Friendship League, is organising a camp for young people of both sexes, at Blankenberghe from August 15th to 31st. All information can be had from the office of the Belgian Section, 1 rue de l'Aurore, Brussels,

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Austria : Pension Frida Richard. Country house near Salzburg, moderate prices: Frau Frida Richard, Parsch 31, Salzburg.

Belgium : Pension At Home. Proprietor : Mme M. Heyligers-Leroy, 1 rue de l'Aurore, Brussels.

France : Hotel Avenida. Proprietor : Mme Marthe Bray, 42 rue du Colisée, Paris.

Balearic Islands: International School of the Balearics, Palma de Mallorca. Roumania: Villa Erna, family boarding house in the south Carpathians. Pro-

prietor : Mme R. de Baiersdorf, Sebes-Alba.

GONFERENCE ON EAST EUROPE

The W. I. L. P. F. intends to organise a Conference on East European questions at Vienna at the beginning of October. The Conference will aim to find a basis for collaboration in peace work by means of discussion with women from different countries. There will be private meetings and one or two public meetings. The economic, social and political situation will be studied. Reports will be presented on the living conditions of peasants, workers and women. It is hoped that a large number of women from East Europe and the Balkans will attend the Conference.

All forms of outside collaboration will be gratefully received: if you have material of interest for the Conference please send it to Geneva Headquarters; if you know of persons who would care to attend the Conference, send in their names; if you can help with publicity, please do so; most important of all: come to the Conference yourself if you ean.

THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

Extracts from the Report of the Study Conference of the Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organisations, May 24th to 27th, 1933.

The Disarmament Committee held a Study Conference from May 24th to May 27th under the special direction of Miss Kathleen D. Courtney. This Conference was designed to bring together a limited number of women seriously interested in disarmament. A group of 37 women represented 10 countries.

The Conference opened with a delightful reception where guests from many lands had an opportunity to meet members of the Disarmament Conference and colleagues working in Geneva.

It had been planned that the work of the Study Conference should be based on the Disarmamant Conference. The time chosen proved an especially fortunate one, since it coincided both with the critical discussions in the General Commission, following the Roosevelt communications and the Hitler address to the Reichstag, and with the May meeting of the Council of the League of Nations.

Mrs. Laura Puffer Morgan gave a résumé of the work of the Disarmament Conference, together with a simple exposition of outstanding problems and difficulties at the present moment. This proved an ideal introduction. Informal discussions under the leadership of Miss Courteny with the collaboration of Mrs. Morgan took place on standardisation of European armies, partial or total abolition of military aircraft, and naval limitation. At the regular meeting of the Women's Disarmament Committee guests brought valuable suggestions as to the future of the Committee.

Two public meetings were held. One evening M. Maurice Bourquin, Delegate of Belgium, spok on "Control as a Measure of Security". At the other meeting, Senor Salvador de Madariaga, Delegate of Spain, spoke on "Military and Civil Aviation", and M. K. Kormanicki, Delegate of Poland, on "Traffic in and Manufacture of Armaments".

The Study Conference ended with a public luncheon at the International Club when about 150 guests had the privilege of listening to an address by Viscount Cecil of Chelwood whose message was one of combined encouragement and exhortation to unremitting effort.

There will be no PAX in July and in August. The next PAX will appear in September.

LE COULTRE TRAVEL AGENCY 24, GRAND QUAI, GENEVA TICKETS IN ALL CLASSES FOR ALL COUNTRIES AT OFFICIAL RATES OCEAN PASSAGE Baggage expressed Furniture moved INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION

PAX INTERNATIONAL

Monthly bulletin of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

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

The undersigned.....

wishes to subscribe to Pax International for one year begin-

ning Please send the English, French, German edition (cross out those not wanted).

Signature :

Address : (please write legibly)

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