

A MONTHLY REVIEW OF WORLD AFFAIRS

Vol. VIII. No. 12 [The Journal of the League of Nations Union.] December, 1926 [Registered with the G.P.O. for transmission by the Canadian Magazine Post.] Price Threepence

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

THE important statement drawn up by the Imperial Conference regarding the status and relationships of Great Britain and the Dominions has some bearing on the position of the Dominions in the League of Nations. After this declaration of absolute co-equality, there seems no longer any reason why the names of the Dominions should continue to appear rather mysteriously in the list of Covenant signatories not in the same column as the British Empire, but a little to the right of it, so as to suggest that the Dominions stand in some way on a slightly different footing from Great Britain itself. That is a small point, but there is another of substance. The fact that in future, in the signing of treaties, Great Britain is to append her signature definitely on behalf of those parts of the Empire not separately included in the League appears to make it perfectly clear that, as a member of the Council, "the British Empire" does not directly represent the Dominions at all, a conclusion which removes any technical objection which could ever have existed to the candidature of a Dominion for a Council seat. It is to be regretted that the Conference decided against any immediate action in the direction of ratifying the Optional Clause of the Statutes of the Permanent Court.

The Methods of March

SIR AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN'S decision to devote his Rectorial Address at Glasgow University to the League of Nations was, in one sense, natural and, in another, significant, for it may be read as a tacit recognition by the Foreign Secretary of the outstanding part the League and League work play in his official activities. In the course of a striking exposition of the League's functions and activities one passage may be particularly noted. Sir Austen faced frankly the fact that a certain lack of full confidence between the League Council and Assembly exists, and the events of last March, when the Special Assembly called to admit Germany had to disperse with its task undischarged, did a good deal to accentuate that tendency.

"If," said the Foreign Minister, "the methods employed were open to criticism, if an air of secrecy alien to the general concept of the League appeared to overhang them, if the Assembly was kept waiting in a manner which it might well interpret as disrespectful, this was due to the inherent difficulties of an exceptionally delicate situation, and to a concatenation of circumstances which it may be hoped will never recur."

This unreserved recognition of the undesirability of the methods pursued by the Council last March is of

particular interest in view of M. Briand's equally frank admission from the Assembly platform in September that the methods of March must never be adopted again. Sir Austen's address is being reprinted in pamphlet form by the Union.

Germany at Geneva

THE appointment of Herr Albert Dufour-Feronce, Counsellor of the German Embassy in London, to be the first German Assistant Secretary-General of the League of Nations appears to have given equal satisfaction in London, in Berlin and in Geneva, where it has been noted with interest that Herr Dufour comes of an old Swiss family. The new Assistant Secretary-General did not enter the diplomatic service till 1919, having been till that time engaged in business in Saxony. He came to London immediately after the resumption of diplomatic relations after the ratification of the Treaty of Versailles, and, working as Counsellor of Embassy in the closest co-operation with his Ambassador, Dr. Sthamer, has done everything possible to re-establish harmonious diplomatic relations between his own country and this. It would be fair to say of Herr Dufour that, like many sincere and open-minded Germans, he has moved steadily from a position of hostility to the League of Nations to the conviction that Germany's right place was in the League, and not outside it. He enjoys the fullest confidence of the German Government, and at the same time has a special understanding of Great Britain, based not merely on his seven years' diplomatic experience here, but on the fact that he was educated at Dulwich College. This, of course, is not the only German appointment being made at Geneva, for Germans will at the beginning of January join the Legal, the Political, the Financial and Economic, the Disarmament and other sections of the Secretariat.

Above the Battlefield

A DAILY paper that has rather poured scorn on the recent discussions of the League Transit Section's Railways Sub-committee regarding special measures to facilitate sudden meetings of the Council seems to misunderstand the situation. So long as Article XVI of the Covenant (regarding steps to be taken when a State breaks its agreements and goes to war) remains where it is the necessity for the Council to meet at short notice and act swiftly will exist. The whole question of the rapid and effective application of Art. XVI is under consideration, and it would be strange indeed if the vital question of how Council members are to get to their meeting-place in the shortest time possible at a moment of emergency should be left out of account altogether. Whether much can be done in the matter is another question, though there is a good deal to be said for the suggestion put forward by *The Manchester Guardian* that if members of the Council are willing to entrust their persons to the hazards of the air there should be special aeroplanes marked with the League colours and set apart for League purposes, and so condemned to perpetual neutrality. "So supplied," writes the *Guardian*, "the missionaries of peace could pass literally above the battlefield, leaving the railways to the men of war." M. Unden, of course, flew

part way to attend the special Council meeting called in Paris in November, 1926, to deal with the Greco-Bulgarian dispute.

Congress and the Court

THE results of the American elections, representing, as they do, a distinct shifting of the balance from Republicans to Democrats, but not quite enough so to wipe out the Republican majorities in the Senate and the House, are not likely to mean much change in America's foreign policy. There will, no doubt, be many interesting situations, for the narrow Republican majority in the Senate depends on the consistent support of a handful of Radicals who have never consistently supported anything or anybody yet. But there is no prospect whatever, to touch on an aspect of American foreign policy which arouses rather special interest in Europe, of the Senate being disposed to accept the reply of the Court States to America's reservations to her offer to adhere to the Court statutes. President Coolidge made that perfectly clear in the address he delivered at Kansas City on November 11. That means that the Court must continue to prosper in the future, as it has prospered in the past, without America's official collaboration, though with an American judge on the bench.

That Elusive Easter

ALTHOUGH the League Committee which has been considering the reform of the calendar has wound up its work, demands have been numerous, particularly in a series of letters in *The Times* from bodies as solid as the Federation of British Industries, that, so far as the fixing of Easter is concerned, action should be taken by the different nations at once, though it is recognised that, as regards the more contentious proposal to rearrange the weeks and months of the year, a good deal more discussion may be necessary yet. Schools and colleges want Easter fixed in order to enable them to arrange a regular time-table of terms. Traders, particularly those connected with the clothing industry, want it. Hotel-keepers want it. Travel agencies want it. No one is against it, but the Pope does not desire to give his approval till a Catholic Ecumenical Conference has considered the matter. Action by individual nations is, of course, possible, as with daylight-saving, but clearly uniformity is desirable. At the same time, if Great Britain and France were to take the lead and follow the League Committee's recommendation in fixing as Easter Sunday the Sunday after the second Saturday in April, a great many other States would, no doubt, do the same.

Premiers at Dinner

THE dinner given by the League of Nations Union to the Dominion Prime Ministers at the beginning of November may justly be described as an unqualified success. The function had to be moved from the Hyde Park Hotel to the Hotel Cecil owing to the number of applications for tickets, and the speeches of Lord Grey, Mr. S. M. Bruce and Lord Cecil in particular lent importance as well as distinction to the occasion. Lord Grey emphasised the part played in the outbreak in 1914 by "the division of Europe into groups of Powers each with competing arma-

ments." That is argument both for the avoidance of group divisions in Europe and the competition in armaments, two purposes which the League sets in the forefront of its programme. Mr. Bruce laid stress on the invaluable effect of common membership of the League of Nations in making possible a common foreign policy for the Dominions, and Lord Cecil pointed to the services the members of the British Commonwealth might do at Geneva by carrying thither their native tolerance, goodwill and sense of fair play.

China, Belgium and the Court

AN issue of considerable importance to the League of Nations has arisen between China and Belgium. China, as is generally known, is bound by a series of long-standing treaties to accord what is known as extra-territorial rights to the citizens of a number of foreign States living in China—that is to say, to allow any charge brought against a national of one of these States to be tried by a Consul of that country, not by the ordinary Chinese courts at all. That arrangement could be ended not at the will of China—it was imposed on China against her will in the first instance—but by the consent of the States benefiting by it, and a conference on the abolition of "extra-territoriality" did hold a number of sittings at Peking. The conference was, however, largely futile, owing to the rapidity with which Cabinets succeeded one another at Peking, and the lack of authority with which the Chinese representatives were invested. Since then China has denounced her treaty with Belgium, and declared that Belgians will cease to enjoy extra-territorial rights in China. Belgium, in view of the fact that both she and China have signed the "optional clause" of the statutes of the Permanent Court of International Justice, and thereby agreed that all such questions as this should be referred to the Court, has naturally proposed that the dispute be sent to the Hague. China, however, apparently refuses this, and reaffirms her intention of simply setting the treaty aside. This is clearly a serious matter, even though the Peking Government represent China only in name and not in fact. The League Council may have to take the question up.

A New World Conference

THE influential Committee that has been preparing the ground for the coming Economic Conference met at Geneva in November, too late for any detailed account of its activities to be included in this issue of HEADWAY. Most of the work done in any case was technical, the one important decision being regarding the date of the Conference itself, which has been provisionally fixed for May 4 of next year. All States, whether Members of the League or not, are to be invited to send representatives, who will be nominated by the Governments, but will not necessarily commit the Governments to their views. There will be five representatives from each State, so that the number of delegates is likely to exceed 250. The whole range of economic questions as they affect international relations will be discussed, the two of outstanding importance being tariffs in all their aspects and international industrial combines.

S.A. and I.L.O.

IN its relations with the International Labour Organisation South Africa has something to teach the mother country. The report presented by the South African representatives at the International Labour Conferences of this year has been printed in full in the *Social and Industrial Review*, an official publication of the Union Government. Its writers, Mr. Cousins and Mr. Freestone, lay stress on a point as important in relation to the Assembly or Council of the League as to the General Conference or the Governing Body of the I.L.O., when they insist that delegates to Geneva must always be men of sufficient weight to hold their own with their colleagues there and of sufficient influence and ability to impress the ideals and aims of Geneva on their fellow-countrymen on their return. This is admirable doctrine, and it is satisfactory in the extreme to see expression thus given to it in an official publication. It is satisfactory to note that just as the report of the South African delegates appears *in extenso* in an official publication in their country so the report of the British delegates has been issued as a White Paper here.

Covenant-Breaking

THE proceedings opened by the present Greek Government against the late dictator, General Pangalos, are primarily of domestic importance, but they have at the same time a very definite interest for the League of Nations, because one of the charges brought against the accused politician is that of involving his country in a violation of the Covenant. After a specific reference to Article XII of the Covenant and the obligation it lays on all League Members to submit any dispute to arbitration, judicial settlement or inquiry by the League Council, the charge against General Pangalos continues:—

"Seeing that the Ministers against whom the accusation is directed gave orders for military operations and an invasion of Bulgarian territory without conforming to the provisions of the Article quoted, and thereby provoked a decision of the League of Nations involving the Greek State in the payment to Bulgaria of an indemnity of 30,000,000 leva (£45,000), there is established, on the strength of these facts, a case of violation by the aforesaid Ministers of the law on Ministerial responsibility, and an inquiry into this act must accordingly be held."

Even if it is the case (as it may or may not be) that the new Greek Government was as quite as concerned to find a stick to beat General Pangalos with as to defend the principles of the League, and even if the proceedings result in an acquittal (which is unlikely), it still remains extremely significant that Cabinet-breaking should thus be recognised as an offence against the law and constitution of a League State.

Proportion

THE *Daily Mail Year Book* for 1927, edited by Mr. David Williamson, contains 256 pages, some of them taken up by advertisements. Just a quarter of a column on the fifth page from the end is devoted to the League of Nations. Eight full pages early in the volume are allotted to descriptions of the navies of Great Britain, the United States, Germany, France, Italy, Japan and Russia. There are separate sections in addition for the military and the air arm.

THE CHINESE PUZZLE IS THERE ROOM FOR LEAGUE ACTION?

By H. T. SILCOCK, formerly of the West China Union University, Chengtu

IS the Chinese puzzle insoluble? Speaking at the Lord Mayor's Banquet, the Prime Minister said: "In China we are confronted with a difficult situation, damaging to our interests there, but far too difficult and complicated for discussion in the short time that I have to-night." An hour or two earlier the Earl of Balfour speaking in the House of Lords, referred to the great difficulty of dealing with a China disunited and disorganised. When the Prime Minister and the Lord President of the Council speak in this way, is it any use for the man in the street to try to unravel the Chinese tangle?

Anyone who tries to do so will find as his first difficulty that his mind is bewildered by the names of the various generals who move in kaleidoscopic fashion to and fro across the stage—Chiang Kai-shek, Sun Chuan-fang, Wu Pei-fu, Chang Tso-lin, and Feng Yu Hsiang, who at least has an easily remembered label as "the Christian General." These various leaders and countless others continually group and regroup themselves, and the student of affairs looks on with dismay. But there is one sure clue in all this tangle. It is not by chance that Canton is extending its influence. The Kuo-Min-Tang, or People's Party, and the Kuo-Min-chun, or People's Army, do represent a growing national movement, the only party in China which rises superior to personalities.

Papers like *The Times* and *The North China Herald*, of Shanghai, recognise the growing force of this Young Nationalism. Mr. Sokolsky, of the latter paper, in a series of recent articles, has portrayed the growth in power and prestige, and in enthusiasm akin to religious fervour, of the People's Party, and *The Times* also in a recent leader has commented on the emergence of Canton as a power to be reckoned with. Now, it is significant that when Peking denounces the Belgian Treaty, Canton immediately supports Peking warmly, though in other respects at variance, and almost at war. Whenever any government or personality in China can speak in the name of nationalist sentiment, it has the support of the great mass of the people. Against this background the movements of the rival generals can be seen in their true proportions as of comparatively small significance. The war lords can cause much suffering and do great harm in China, but it is not with them to solve the Chinese puzzle. The solution lies along the line of a developing nationalism, and certainly at present the Kuo-Min-Tang holds the field without serious rival.

The Chinese Renaissance

But if the doings of the generals can be thus dismissed, what of the other grave difficulties to which the Prime Minister and the Earl of Balfour referred? There are, on the one hand, the tragic "incidents" of Shanghai, Shameen and Wanhsien, disasters which have stung and aroused all China into passion, and on the other, the absence of any organised entity which the Powers can recognise as China, and with whom they can negotiate.

The solution of these difficulties is probably twofold; first, a recognition of the fact that public opinion is the real governing force in China, and, secondly, regard for psychological differences between Britain and China in the methods by which conciliation is attempted.

The Chinese renaissance is a profound and far-reaching movement, of which the West knows all too little. The old dead classical written language has

given way before the conscious determination to unify the different dialects and to adopt the vernacular as the medium for *belles lettres* as well as for journalism and commerce. This in itself is a change whose effects may well stagger the imagination, and, incidentally, it has made possible the organised campaign of nationalist propaganda among the people everywhere. In education also surprising results have been achieved; in spite of local set-backs and interference by the military, schools and colleges have sprung up throughout the country, and adult education for the masses is spreading rapidly. This profound movement has, of course, affected politics, and its influence is seen in the depth and volume of the new nationalism.

Tea-cups and Legalism

How then is conciliation to be practised in dealing with New China? The problem is largely a psychological one. Although, as Sir John Jordan was fond of saying, the Chinese are more like the British than any other people, there do remain substantial differences of background and outlook. At the present time, as always, the Chinese are searching for the *reasonable* solution. In China from time immemorial "to drink tea" has been a synonym for settling disputes. A third person is called in as arbitrator, and over a friendly cup of tea the two disputants generally arrive at a reasonable solution. British diplomacy approaches difficulties from a slightly different angle. It would be unfair to describe this as purely legalistic, but there can be no question that the Britisher gives much more weight to precedent and legal right as a means of approach to a problem. But while the two races approach problems from somewhat different points of view, the difference is transcended when negotiators can meet face to face.

In the debate in the House of Lords on November 10, the Earl of Balfour said: "I cannot believe that if there was any frank conversation between a representative of China and a representative of Great Britain, there would be found any difference of principle at all." Here, surely, is the solution of the difficulty. The real problem is the way to secure such frank conversations and it is a problem beset with grave difficulties.

A Case for Article XI?

Mr. Chu raised the question at Geneva, but only for protest, not for discussion. Is there any hope that China will raise the question of Sino-British relations under Article XI of the Covenant? Or is it possible that an understanding could be reached whereby Great Britain and China could raise the question jointly? Or, again, is it desirable that Great Britain should summon a London Conference, apart from the League of Nations, to carry further the work done at Washington in 1921 and 1922? Or, yet again, is it desirable to treat with Canton, either now or in the near future?

Such questions are difficult, and call urgently for discussion. The vital point is that China in her present mood of wounded nationalist pride should realise the sincerity of Great Britain's policy of "patience and conciliation." If that can be achieved there is good ground for the belief that Chinese public opinion will be found solid in favour of a reasonable settlement, and a China with whom we can negotiate will thus have been discovered. Along this line there is some prospect of relief in the present difficult and extremely dangerous tension in Far Eastern affairs.

PROPAGANDA BY FILM THE EFFECT OF WAR PICTURES ON THE MASSES

By E. A. BAUGHAN, the well-known Dramatic and Film Critic

IN his brilliant memorandum presented to the Committee of the League of Nations on Intellectual Co-operation, M. Julien Luchaire covered all that is to be said in a general way of the power of the films. Since then, more than a couple of years ago, there has been a gradual recognition in this country that the kinematograph is not a plaything, and that great efforts should be made to gain a position for this country in the production of films. The Federation of British Industries has recognised the commercial value of films without, perhaps, quite grasping the difficulties with which our industry has to grapple, and certainly without a full recognition of the importance of entertainment values in films.

It is not my intention, however, to enter into the many complex questions which have to be solved before British films can come into their own. I am more concerned with moving pictures as a powerful factor in international education. Those who closely follow the output of the cinema studios of the world know that from time to time subtle influences are apparent. Those influences are not the effect of international propaganda. Indeed, the financial side of the making of films prohibits their use as a medium for propaganda of any kind. The moving pictures depend for their success on an appeal to a mass public. It is at once their strength and their weakness. It is their strength, because they can influence all classes and reach the intelligence of those to whom literature of a higher kind than is to be found in the most popular of Sunday newspapers is a sealed book. It is their weakness, because the lowest and not the highest intelligence has to be taken into account. Films are popular because they present entertainment in a comfortable and easily assimilated form at a much cheaper rate than any other form of entertainment. To insert any propaganda which would lessen their entertainment value would tend to destroy their power. They would then become a kind of tract in moving pictures, and tracts are never popular.

Realism and its Effects

There is, however, an aspect of films which may well engage our attention. Without any intention of insisting on certain national ideals, films do become the medium for a national propaganda. And, to go farther, they inculcate ideas sometimes quite foreign to those of the directors and the firms that make the pictures. The many war pictures which have recently been made by Americans and ourselves afford an example of what I mean. Such a picture, for instance, as "The Big Parade," which has just ended a record run in London, had nothing but entertainment as its inspiration. No doubt there was also a desire to flatter the patriotism of Americans and to make the film a tribute to the power of America. But the desire can be analyzed as having been inspired by the necessity of giving entertainment value to a film. No one could see "The Big Parade," however, without feeling that it was a sermon against the waste, stupidity and cruelty of war. This effect was produced by the essential realism of films. They give you, as it were, the rough

and crude material without any comments but the occasional captions. There have been many novels and other books which have tried to tell the truth about the war. I need only refer to Mr. Mottram's "Spanish Farm" and others of the series. But such books do not present facts with the stark realism of films.

That realism makes every film which deals with the war a plea for international peace, although that may not have been in the minds of those who made it. Our own "Mons" film, for instance, is mainly concerned with the heroism of the "Old Contemptibles." Nevertheless, the film is a tract against war.

At the present moment a film is being made on the subject of the Coronel and Falkland Islands battles. Several distinguished naval officers and the Admiralty itself are co-operating in the making of the picture. There is no desire to make it a jingo film. Indeed, the spirit behind it is the spirit of our Navy, which has always honoured a brave foe. The result cannot help being a vivid sermon against the horror and waste of war. The effect of such films will be as far-reaching as it is subtle. For the first time in the history of civilisation the mass of people are able to realise what war means.

Films and Foreigners

This unintentional propaganda of films is a matter which may well disturb the minds of those who wish to see established a thorough understanding between the nations. I think it is no exaggeration to say that some of the irritation felt in this country against America's post-war attitude to her allies is due to the insidious influence of American films. If an English character appears in an American film he is invariably a monocled nincompoop. And American pictures of their own life show us a society devoted to the most vulgar kind of luxury, and actuated by the ideals of super-crooks. British film-goers who are not sufficiently educated to know that these pictures are false in the main must feel a certain irritation when they contrast the luxury of American life with the restrictions which the war has imposed on every class in this country. It is from these suppressed irritations that war between nations becomes possible. No one, for instance, can quite gauge the effect of the boastful truculence of the ex-German Emperor on this country. Germans as a race had become disliked, although most of us in this country have had German friends we liked and respected.

Films might be a great power in removing or at any rate not increasing such natural irritations, and although the control of any art form by censorship is abhorrent to those who care for liberty of action and freedom of thought, yet the power of the film is so great and so universal that it might be well if it were controlled. I am not thinking of Government censorship. It should be possible for a small committee of the League of Nations to give advice on the international aspect of films. From a commercial point of view this would be welcomed by every nation making moving pictures, for the film trade is necessarily international, and to offend the susceptibilities of any nation is to restrict the market for films.

MANDATES AND MANDATORIES QUESTIONS GREAT BRITAIN DOES NOT LIKE

By WARREN POSTBRIDGE.

THE difference of opinion between Mandatory Powers and the League of Nations Mandates Commission which caused some stir during the September meeting of the League Council has been carried a stage further by the issue of the British Government's comments on the proposals of the Commission regarding the hearing of petitioners in person and the questions to be put to the Mandatory Powers regarding the administration of their trust.

It was then decided that, before any action was taken under either head, the Mandatory Powers should be asked to give their considered opinion on the subject, and the considered opinion of the British Government has been embodied in a note addressed to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations.

With regard to the hearing of petitioners, very little need be said. The Mandates Commission itself only suggested hearing petitioners in very exceptional circumstances, and the British Government is probably expressing the general opinion when it submits that they had better not be heard at all, or at any rate only by the special instruction of the Council. The attitude of the Government regarding the questionnaire is much more debatable. The history and purport of that document is simple. The Permanent Mandates Commission is a statutory body set up by the Covenant, and its functions are clearly defined in the following sentences from Article 22:—

"In every case of mandate, the mandatory shall render to the Council an annual report in reference to the territory committed to its charge."

"A permanent Commission shall be constituted to receive and examine the annual reports of the Mandatories and to advise the Council on all matters relating to the observance of the Mandates."

Facts that are Needed

Obviously, the whole efficacy of the Mandates Commission's work depends on the character of the reports received. Unless either the reports themselves or the representatives of Mandatories who attend each meeting of the Commission to answer verbal questions provide full information on every aspect of administration, the work of the Commission can be of no serious value. At an early stage in the Commission's labours it was found to be desirable to communicate to Mandatories a list of subjects on which information was felt to be desirable. If this was in the form of a questionnaire, that was merely a matter of convenience and argued no desire to put inquisitorial interrogations.

In point of fact, the system worked well, but in course of time, as the Commission gained experience, it was felt that the range of subjects should be enlarged, and a new and lengthened list of subjects and questions was accordingly prepared. It is this list, containing as it does, 118 separate questions, which has caused the present trouble. Why it should have done is not obvious, for it has been found by an analysis carried out in the offices of the League of Nations Union that British and Dominion reports already cover practically the whole of the ground mapped out by the questionnaire itself. This point and others was put by the acting-chairman of the Union, Major J. W. Hills, M.P., in a forcible letter to *The Times*. It is, moreover, an open secret that, so far as British Mandates are concerned, there is no particular disposition to complain of the questionnaire. It is the Dominion Mandatories, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, which take exception to

that document, and Sir Austen Chamberlain certainly displayed quite as much zeal as was desirable in fighting their battles at Geneva in September. It is indeed manifestly unfortunate that when Australia and New Zealand and South Africa could all sit at the Council table as Mandatories and nothing else, when this question was being discussed, Sir Austen Chamberlain who, as a member of the Council, occupied primarily a judicial position in the matter of Mandates, should have felt it necessary to change that rôle and speak simply as an interested party, not so much on behalf of Great Britain as on behalf of Dominions who might have been supposed to be fully capable of speaking for themselves, and did in fact do so.

Great Britain's Protest

The British Government in its reply still takes exception to the questionnaire, which it speaks of as consisting of 230 questions, a figure presumably arrived at by counting all the sub-divisions of the 118 questions as if they were separate interrogations. It insists that it would be better if the list of questions "were limited to its subject headings and the extreme minutiae of the sub-headings were omitted." It apparently desires only a few general heads such as "Education," "Liquor Traffic," etc.

The serious point is that, whether the British Government intended it or not, the emphasis laid both in Sir Austen Chamberlain's remarks at Geneva in September and in the note of November 18, on what the latter described as "a misconception" on the part of the Mandates Commission "of the duties and responsibilities of the Commission and the Council," does undoubtedly tend to impair the prestige of a body that is charged with as difficult a task as any associated with Geneva, and has executed it with great conscientiousness and a very striking measure of success. It is perfectly true that the Council itself is ultimately responsible for the proper administration of the Mandates System. It is equally true that the Permanent Mandates Commission is specifically charged under the Covenant with the task of examining reports from Mandatories, and of advising the Council on all matters relating to the Mandates System. That being so, it would appear to stand to reason that the Commission is fully entitled to make what suggestions it likes to the Mandatories regarding the reports they must render and the information the Commission desires to receive. It must, moreover, create, and has indeed created, an unfortunate impression when the Mandatory Powers on the Council secure, as they did in September, the passage of a resolution which lays it down in effect that the Mandatories themselves shall be judges of what questions they ought to be asked.

An Iraq Report

It should be added that the Permanent Mandates Commission, when it met in its ordinary meeting at the beginning of November, began by re-affirming, in a series of speeches by its members, its rights as it conceived them to exist under the Covenant. The rest of the session was devoted to the examination of a number of Mandate reports, including the first yet submitted from Iraq. Sir Henry Dobbs, the High Commissioner for that area, attended, and made a markedly favourable impression on the Commission by the reports he was able to give of the progress in Iraq, and by his own manifest zeal and sincerity.

A RECORD MIGRATION HOW THE LEAGUE SETTLED A MILLION GREEKS

IT is a far cry from Moses to the League of Nations, yet the League has just triumphantly solved a refugee problem—that of the settlement of nearly a million and a half Greek refugees from Asia Minor—very similar in its essentials to the one which faced Moses when he led the Israelites out of Egypt into the promised land, though the League could not command the superhuman assistance vouchsafed to the prophet.

The tragic migration of the Ionian Greeks dates from the autumn of 1922, when the Turks routed the Greek army in Asia Minor. With the sacking of Smyrna, the great exodus began. Almost the whole Greek population fled before the victors, the majority with only those few possessions which they were able to carry themselves. These Greeks had already suffered ten years of warfare, during which thousands of the younger men had been killed. As a consequence the refugees included an undue proportion of old men, women and children, many of whom were fatherless. In a wretched condition, starving, ill, stripped of all they had, they poured like a torrent into a country which was already exhausted by a ruinous war, and politically was verging on a revolution. At the time of this migration Greece had a population of five million; the refugees numbered roughly a million and a half, of whom approximately only 200,000 had any means of their own.

The Full Story

The Greek Government did what it could. It lodged the homeless in theatres, in public buildings and schools. But the resources of the country were obviously inadequate for such a stupendous task, and in February, 1923, it turned—as is becoming the habit of nations in distress—towards the League for help.

That help was forthcoming, in circumstances now generally familiar, and the work went full steam ahead. Over 60,000 houses have been built, at a cost of between £50 and £70 each; in addition, many old buildings have been requisitioned and repaired, and up to the present approximately 687,000 people have been housed. A full and vivid story of how this has been done is given in the illustrated book, prepared by the Settlement Commission, and just published by the League under the title of "Settlement of Greek Refugees" (Constable, 2s. 6d.). It begins with the exodus from Smyrna, and from there traces the development of the work; how the refugees were fed and housed in the Athens Municipal Theatre (one family to a box and one set of candelabra on which to hang the family pails and other domestic impedimenta not in immediate use—there is an excellent photograph of this refugee occupation); how the League's medical experts were able to stamp out the epidemics of typhus from which the refugees were dying like flies; how the actual settlement was begun, the agricultural workers sorted out and given holdings, and the urban dwellers provided with looms and workshops in the towns.

Only by reading this book can any adequate idea be obtained of the magnitude of the Commission's work. A certain amount of land was available for the refugees; other areas had to be requisitioned. Many required to be drained, while in some districts artesian wells had to be sunk; building material had to be obtained and houses built; cattle, pigs and horses acquired and distributed, and veterinary surgeons employed to prevent the spread of diseases among the animals. The Commission has supplied farmers with seed and

vine roots, and is planting large areas with mulberry trees for silkworm growers, besides establishing demonstration farms where model cultivation is carried on, and providing travelling inspectors to aid the refugees in their affairs.

First Fruits

So far as circumstances have permitted, the land has been apportioned to suit the natural habitat and special aptitude of the immigrants. The refugees from the mountains were settled in the wild hills of Macedonia, the lowlanders in the plains, and the fishermen from the Hellespont in new villages on the shores of Salamis and Crete.

The result has been an astonishing advance in Greek agricultural production since 1923. To take a single figure, the wheat crop in Macedonia has increased by 70 per cent. New industries are springing up. Before the exodus the best Turkish carpets and the finest tobacco were made by Greeks. The settlers have now brought these arts across the Aegean, and the Greek revenue is already feeling the benefit.

The courage of the refugees themselves has been remarkable. For the first year or so the main effort was for families to come together and for villages to re-group themselves. Even now the newspapers contain occasional advertisements searching for a lost member of a family. Once a group has been brought together, efforts are made to renew the communal life, with, of course, the indispensable blessing of the village priest. Speaking generally, the settlers have taken kindly to their new life. In his report to the League Council, the former Chairman of the Commission, Mr. C. P. Howland, says:

"The refugee farming population seems on the whole to be thriving. The people seem well nourished, their flocks and herds have increased, there is a visible air of content and of security about their movements. In one village in Macedonia in April I found nearly all the men gathered in the evening in a smoky café talking with great enthusiasm, while an ancient member of the group played on wailing bagpipes, with his eyes fixed ecstatically upon the ceiling. He was celebrating the successful planting of the seed just prior to a beneficent rain, and the instrument he was playing was the duplicate of one described by Aristophanes."

Stabilising the Balkans

Politically, the results of this huge influx into Greece are far-reaching. To quote Mr. Howland again: "It requires an effort of the imagination to picture the possible political consequences of such a catastrophe as that which befell Greece in 1922—consequence to the nation itself, to its neighbours, and from them to the world at large. Habits of order and respect for law disappear when a man sees his wife and children dying of want, and men become anarchists. There were not lacking those who fish in such waters, and who use for that purpose the poacher's apparatus of dynamite. Relief of despair on such a scale is as much a political necessity as a humane responsibility." Thanks to the League, there is now no danger of revolution. The settlers are rapidly becoming homogeneous in language, habits and loyalties. Macedonia, hitherto a hotbed of unrest, has become Hellenized, and when the people are all settled in their own homes they cannot fail to have a stabilising effect in the Balkans.

Reconstruction, first in Austria, then Hungary, then Greece and now Bulgaria—so the League of Nations is helping to build the new Europe.

DISARMAMENT DIALOGUES—IV

PASSING FROM THE WHETHER TO THE HOW

THE insatiable Patagonian inquirer into the disarmament problem, as mentioned explicitly a month ago, postponed his departure for his native land largely on the strength of the assurance, a little rashly given by our military expert (who may always be applied to equally for technical advice on agriculture, theology, economics and the supply of liquor to native, and any other, races), that developments of importance in the field of disarmament were immediately imminent.

His questions of late have been insistent and marked by a visibly increasing irritation.

"Well," he opened up, abruptly, on the occasion of his most recent visit, "what about it now?"

It happened that he had inadvertently addressed himself to our meteorological expert, who, naturally, put his own interpretation on the query.

"New depressions from the Atlantic expected," he observed, with that studied courtesy for which both—that is to say, all—members of the staff of this paper are notorious, "rain, hail, sleet, and thunder to continue. Channel crossings rough. Further outlook unsettled."

A good deal was then learned about Patagonian expletives, which are, however, not directly relevant here. In response to protests, thus fortified, our military expert adapted himself, with a soldier's sang-froid and promptitude, to a changed situation.

"Ah, disarmament?" he hastily continued. "Well, they are moving along. Not rapid, of course, not rapid, but moving."

"Moving, moving?" broke in an impatient interrogation. "So is the Grindelwald glacier moving. How fast are they moving? Where have they moved from? Where have they moved to?"

Concealing, with a resolute effort, the anguish it caused us to hear two consecutive sentences ended with prepositions, we (why "us" and "we" instead of "our military expert"? To explain that would mean disclosing the most intimate office secrets.) repeated the question with slight, but necessary, amendment.

"Whence have they moved, and whither? They have moved—that is to say, the military experts at Geneva have—from the middle of a sitting to the end of one. In a word, they have finished their job."

"Not a very big job, was it?—just answering seven questions?"

"Oh, well, come. It was a job that practically covered the whole field of disarmament. The Preparatory Commission, which set the experts their task, divided the thing up under seven heads. They might almost as well have divided it up under seventeen or seventy. What matters is that the whole thing is there."

"And what about your time-table? A month ago you told me the experts—both sets, military and economic—would have finished by the end of the year, the Preparatory Commission would meet in January, and the Council in March would be able definitely to fix the date of the Disarmament Conference itself."

"If you remember," replied our Diplomatic Correspondent, whose services seemed to be urgently needed at this juncture, "we said that was what would happen if everything went as it ought to go."

"Well, hasn't it?" snapped Patagonia.

"On the whole, yes. Absolutely yes, so far as the soldiers and sailors are concerned. The economists have almost finished, though not quite. In fact, they may have to meet early next year to deal with one matter that hasn't been referred to them yet. That will push the meeting of the Preparatory Commission later than January, after all. It may push it into March, or even April. Consequently the Conference itself can hardly meet before the Assembly in September. Its date, therefore, will be end of 1927 or very early in 1928."

"And what do people think of that delay? What do the Americans think of it?"

"The Americans want it. They are a good deal impressed by the progress made so far, and have gone home very pleased with themselves and the crowd they have worked with at Geneva. They see that a lot of difficulties can be smoothed out by quiet talk beforehand, and they want a rather longer time to do the quiet talking in."

"I see Lord Cecil has been making a disarmament speech in the House of Lords," broke in the visitor, a little inconsequently, "a lot about adverbs."

"Adverbs?" inquired our Literary Editor (who took over at this point).

"Yes, adverbs. Not 'whether,' but 'how.'"

"Ah, conjunctions," we suggested.

"They're adverbs in Patagonia," snarled the representative of that distant land. "Any way, what do you think of them?"

"Well, after all, it is something when the authorised mouthpiece of the British Government can declare in a formal speech in the House of Lords that for everyone at Geneva the question now is not *whether* to disarm, but *how* to disarm. Cecil said another thing, too, that's worth remembering, 'Disarmament is now on the map in a way it has never been till within the last few months.' And, if you are collecting quotations, here's another, 'All the experts, meeting together, have never contested the practicability of disarmament. They have always said, It can be done in this way, or, It can be done better in that way. Nobody has said it cannot be done at all.'"

"That may sound very nice, but I don't like what Cecil said about control. It looks as if Great Britain was not going to agree to general League supervision. Aren't your hands clean? Have you got anything to conceal?"

"Our hands are clean enough, but we've got a lot of moss-grown prejudices to root out. Public opinion will have to get to work on that. The fact that France advocates supervision of her own armaments and everyone else's, and that Germany is bound to it by treaty, will make it very hard for Great Britain to stand out?"

"I wonder," growled our guest. "Your sailors can lick creation at sticking their toes in."

Two days later we received a telegram, coded "Geneva S.D.N.," and reading, "Have come here to see for myself."

IN THE HOUSE

November 9.—Mr. LOCKER-LAMPSON (to Viscount Sandon): "The Italian Government has assured H.M. Government that there is nothing in the Italian-Spanish Treaty contrary to the obligations of the parties as signatories of the Covenant, which has all the force of a prior engagement."

November 10.—Sir A. STEEL-MAITLAND (to Mr. Rhys Davies): "The Permanent Court of International Justice has stated in an advisory opinion that it is within the competence of the International Labour Organisation to draw up and to propose labour legislation which, in order to protect certain classes of workers, also regulates incidentally the same work when performed by the employer himself."

November 11.—Mr. BETTERTON (to Mr. B. Smith): "I understand that the Commercial Committee of the Senate in France has reported in favour of a Bill which provides for the conditional ratification of the Washington Hours Convention. I am also informed that the German Government contemplates the introduction of legislation designed to carry out the provisions of the Convention. So far as H.M. Government is concerned, the examination of the results of the London Conference on the Hours Convention had necessarily to be postponed owing to the pre-occupation of the Government with the industrial situation. I regret to say that the course of events since that date has not so far made it possible to carry the matter any further."

November 15.—Sir A. CHAMBERLAIN (to Mr. R. Hamilton): "H.M. Government have recently been asked by the Council of the League to express their views on the two specific points raised by the Mandates Commission in regard to its procedure, and, after discussion with the Prime Ministers of the Dominions concerned, a letter has been addressed to the League. The correspondence will be tabled as a Command Paper."

November 17.—Sir A. CHAMBERLAIN (to Mr. Campbell): "Ratification of the International Opium Convention has been deposited on behalf of His Majesty covering all parts of the British Empire with the exception of Canada and the Irish Free State. Of the other signatories, so far as H.M. Government are aware, only the Sudan and Portugal have deposited ratifications. The Convention will not come into force until the requisite number of ratifications prescribed in Article 36 have been deposited. The Government earnestly hope that the remaining signatories will ratify with all possible despatch."

November 17.—Sir A. CHAMBERLAIN (to Mr. Ponsonby): "Since the first Report of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission was published, no further reports have been issued, though a lengthy report by a Military Sub-committee has been agreed upon. As soon as reports are issued, I will consider the suggestion that they should be published."

November 17.—Sir A. CHAMBERLAIN (to Commander Bellairs): "I do not think the delays in calling the Disarmament Conference have been unreasonable or other than might have been expected. Those who take the keenest interest in this subject feel that time must be given for any satisfactory result to be obtained, and that no advantage will be derived by hurrying the matter unduly."

November 22.—Sir A. Chamberlain (to Mr. W. Baker): "H.M. Government is not prepared to instruct the British representative on the Mandates Commission to cause inquiry to be made into the situation which exists in

New Guinea. This territory is administered by the Government of Australia, and I cannot conceive how the hon. Member comes to suggest that we should, as it were, bring that Government as defendant before the League of Nations."

(Some of these replies are summarised.)

THIS MONTH'S COUNCIL

THE League of Nations Council will begin its forty-third session at Geneva on Monday, December 6, having before it an agenda which is of no great length and contains few questions of outstanding importance.

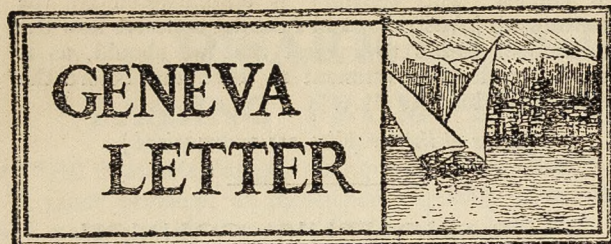
The meeting will, however, have a particular interest for several reasons. It is the first ordinary session (for the Council meetings held intermittently during the Assembly are not quite ordinary) attended by the newly-elected members and, in particular, by the representative of Germany. In addition to Dr. Stresemann, Sir Austen Chamberlain and M. Briand have every intention of being present, and there will also be at the Council table three other Foreign Ministers, Dr. Benes, of Czechoslovakia; M. Zaleski, of Poland, and Jonkheer van Karnebeek, of Holland. The chair would normally be taken this time by Dr. Stresemann, as the representative of Germany, but it is expected that he will endeavour to change places with the next State on the list (Belgium), reserving himself for the chairmanship of the March meeting, which it seems likely will be held in Berlin.

The Council will have, among other things, to consider the legal position of States which leave their contributions to the League unpaid, conspicuous among these being China, which has paid nothing for the last four years, and run up a debt of 4,600,000 Swiss francs. It is possible, moreover, that the difficulty between Belgium and China, over the latter's apparently illegal denunciation of a long-standing treaty between the two, will occupy the Council's attention.

Report will be made on the progress of the disarmament discussions, but it is hardly likely that matters will be sufficiently advanced for the Council to take any action regarding them. An interesting possibility, however, would be some discussion of the position of Russia, which is not likely to attend the ultimate Disarmament Conference unless it can be brought into the preliminary discussions almost immediately. Whether that is practicable or not remains to be seen, but it would be surprising if the Council members did not give some thought to the matter.

The date of the Economic Conference will, no doubt, be definitely fixed, and a report on the recent session of the Mandates Commission is likely to bring up again the subject of the questionnaire to mandatories which was so pointedly criticised by Sir Austen Chamberlain and others in September.

One matter which might yet come before the Council would give this session a capital importance, and that is the assumption by the League of the task of supervising Germany's armaments. This will only be dealt with by the Council when it is certain that inter-Allied control in Germany has ended or is about to end, and matters have not quite reached that point yet. It is, therefore, likely that the League's rôle in relation to Germany will come up at the forty-fourth, and not the forty-third, session of the Council. There will, however, in any case, be the rather delicate question of French troops in the Saar to deal with. There is some ground for hoping that France and Germany may have composed their differences on this point before they reach Geneva.



ARMAMENTS—MANDATES— TARIFF BARRIERS—HEALTH

November, 1926.

SINCE the last Assembly there have been important meetings of the Disarmament Sub-committee, the Mandates Commission and the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Economic Conference now being wound up, as well as a big session of the Health Committee. The work dealt with by all these bodies shows how gradually and "organically" the activities of the League are solidifying and gaining greater weight and scope, for any one of them would have been quite beyond the limits of practicability four or five years ago, whereas all of them to-day are merely part of the League's daily routine, taken in its stride, as it were.

The bulky report of Sub-committee A (Military, Naval and Air) is not likely to be released before it has been considered by the Governments, nor that of the so-called Joint Committee (economic, labour and financial experts) until it has been dealt with by Sub-committee B (the unnecessary connecting link between the Political Preparatory Commission and its advisers on social and economic aspects of disarmament inserted owing to American and Italian insistence). It is already known, however, that it has recommended a most valuable and interesting compromise on the question of supervision of armaments: It will be remembered that one great obstacle in the path of disarmament is the feeling of some nations that, before they dare to disarm, they want to be sure that the other contracting parties are also carrying out their obligations and that for this purpose some form of international inspection is essential, while other nations (notably the American, Italian, Japanese and our own representatives) took their stand on good old-fashioned sovereignty and would not hear of this suggestion.

Control through Finance

The Joint Committee has now recommended that there should be regular reports on the armaments budgets of the contracting parties, framed according to the common method of giving such figures worked out in the League's Military Year-book. This method gives a rough-and-ready, but quite effective, means of checking what is being done in the way of armaments by the nations concerned, while removing all fear of the revealing of military secrets or undue interference, and was declared by the British and Italian representatives to be something to which they could agree, while the French declared that it was an acceptable compromise. America is not, of course, represented on the Joint Committee, and so it remains to be seen what attitude her representatives will adopt, but, in any case, with or without American adherence, it looks as though the proposal in some form would be signed by members of the League as part of a disarmament convention.

The Blocking of Business

It is too early as yet to give the results of the Preparatory Committee for the Economic Conference. But the meeting has gone off very smoothly and well

and has succeeded in eliciting from the bewildering wealth of material before it a programme for the Economic Conference, as well as fixing the date for that Conference on May 4, 1927. Since the last meeting the Secretariat has been very busy collecting information and has been aided in this task by the International Labour Office and the International Institute of Agriculture, as well as big private bodies such as the International Chamber of Commerce and various industrial and other economic organisations. The amount of interest displayed in the economic world and the amount of information freely supplied has been a gratifying surprise and augurs well for the success of the Conference.

A World Stock-Taking

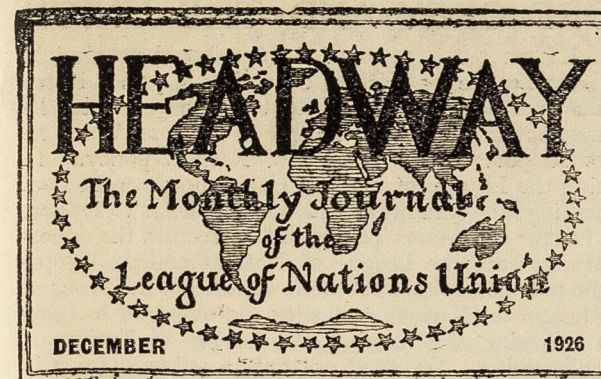
The material already gathered gives a most interesting survey of the main economic problems facing the post-war world and may be grouped under headings such as agricultural questions, currency and finance, population questions, state of industry and trade in general, state of certain industries, special problems concerning production, state of commerce in general, trade barriers and liberty of trade, tariffs, subsidies, distribution of goods and co-operation, special problems concerning commerce, treatment of foreigners, etc. etc.—all being reducible to the five main subjects of transport, tariffs, industrial combines, movements of population and finance. When the programme and report of the Committee comes out there will be a wide field offered for "applied research" and the working out of suggestions and policies by chambers of commerce, rotary clubs, trade unions and, in general, the organised economic life of the world, for the delegations to the Conference will be as representative as possible of all the main aspects of economic life and will have complete freedom to suggest and discuss.

The important meeting of the Mandates Commission need not be touched on here except to emphasise the fact that it shows what a live body the Mandates Commission is and how much genuine internationalism there is in the mandates system in spite of the unfavourable auspices under which it was launched.

Germany and Health

The big meeting of the Health Committee and all its sub-committees, during which more than 50 delegates from countries, institutes and organisations all over the world were present at Geneva, showed what remarkable progress has been made by the Health Organisation during its short life and the extent to which it is an omnipresent factor in public-health problems in every continent. One feature was the meeting of the eight distinguished German health officials, heads of laboratories, etc., represented on Special Commissions of the Health Organisation, under the chairmanship of Dr. B. Nocht, the German member of the Health Committee, to discuss methods of establishing closer contact with the central organisation and discuss ways of further developing their co-operation. It was known in a general way that Germany had long been a member of the Health Organisation, but until this meeting was held it had frequently not been realised how big was the part of German medical science and administration in practically every branch of the Health Organisation's activities.

On December 1 there will be a meeting of the Council Committee to discuss security proposals put forward in connection with the work on disarmament by the Finnish, French and Polish Governments and referred to the Preparatory Committee by the Council. After that comes the Council itself and so to Christmas and holidays.—Z.



EMPIRE AND LEAGUE

THE Imperial Conference which has just closed has been invested with a degree of privacy, in marked and unwelcome contrast to the publicity which prevails in full measure at the Assembly, and in large measure at the Council, of the League of Nations. That is on general grounds a matter for regret, but it does not immediately concern us here, except so far as it veils from public gaze any discussions engaged in by the Prime Ministers on questions directly affecting the League. Such questions must obviously have been numerous. There is disarmament, there are mandates, there is the Optional Clause of the Court Statutes, there is the whole problem of the basis and conduct of foreign policy. Even such matters as migration and economic relations can hardly be raised at all without bringing in the League at once at one point or another.

But there is one question more far-reaching in many ways than any so far mentioned—the relationship of the Dominions to one another and to Great Britain. That is one of those subjects regarding which any pointed query is likely to be not merely embarrassing but unanswerable. What precise degree of independence does a British Dominion enjoy? Or, to put the question a little more accurately, what limitation, if any, is there in a Dominion's independence? General Hertzog, in particular, was understood to have come to London from South Africa anxious for definition on what was to him a vital point. Mr. Bruce, of Australia, on the other hand, headed the school which holds that, though it may be difficult to set out Empire relationships in all their detail on paper, they work efficiently enough in practice, and the best thing is to leave well alone.

That being so, it is significant that Mr. Bruce himself, speaking at the dinner given by the League of Nations Union to the Dominion Premiers, should have pointed to what in his view was a solution of most of the problems confronting the Dominions in the field of foreign policy. That solution is the common membership of Great Britain and Canada, of Australia and New Zealand, of South Africa and India and Ireland, in the League of Nations. What does this common membership mean? It means, to put the matter broadly, that all the Dominions find themselves, quite apart from their membership of the British Commonwealth, pledged to a common policy as members of the League. There is no need for Australia and New Zealand to be spending hours or days or weeks discussing with their sister Dominions and with the British Government what the foreign policy of each and all of them shall be. The foreign policy of each and all of them was laid down in all essentials on the day they signed the Covenant of the League of Nations, and the plain statement of those essentials can be bought for a penny, no light consideration to those who hold that foreign policy

should be no close preserve of a handful of pundits in Government offices.

Such a doctrine as this can no doubt be pressed too far. Even though the essentials, the basic principles, of a foreign policy be accepted by all concerned, there may often be room for sincere difference of opinion as to the detailed application of the principles. But the Covenant, all the same, is a broader, as well as a firmer, basis than is commonly imagined. One of the really vital questions, for example, for the members of the British Commonwealth is whether any of them can remain at peace when one of them is at war. If—to take an up-to-date and pertinent example—Great Britain were involved by her signature of the Locarno Treaty in war with France or Germany, would Canada or South Africa, even though they had not ratified the Locarno agreements, of necessity be at war, too?

It may very well be the wiser course to refrain from pressing for a theoretical answer to such a question as that, particularly since there exists no authority capable of giving a decisive ruling on it. And in reality the question need never be answered at all, as between the several members of the British Commonwealth, so long as the League of Nations works as it was meant to work and the British Dominions remain members of it. For there can, under the provisions of the Covenant, be no war which involves one League member without *ipso facto* involving every other League member, except in the single case of a conflict breaking out (as it is almost incredible that it should), when the League Council, after deliberating for six months on the issue, has failed to reach unanimity regarding it. League members, if they are loyal League members, do not fight about their differences. They engage to settle them by peaceable means, and if one State breaks its pledges, and does wrongfully take up arms, then there is war, active or passive, between it and all other League members, Canada as much as Great Britain, South Africa as much as Australia.

In other words, if the League is what it should be, and still gives promise of some day being, the only war remaining will be a League war, and in that conflict all the League must find itself ranged, by the nature of things, against the law-breaker. If one British Dominion is at war in a League conflict, all the others must be at war, too, either actively or passively, not as members of the British Commonwealth, but as members of the League of Nations. This conclusion, it may be objected, rests on the assumption that League theory and League practice are identical, and that all the machinery will work in action exactly as it professes to work on paper. That is perfectly true, and the objection has undoubted weight. But we have to look to the future even more than the present, and we are justified in believing that, as years go by, and the League gathers authority, practice at Geneva will conform more and more closely with theory. In any case, it is not fantastic to assume that Great Britain and the Dominions, at any rate, will stand by their League engagements so long as the League exists. And, provided they do that, difficulties regarding their external relationships with one another will largely be solved.

On that point Mr. Bruce was beyond question broadly right. Those who desire to pursue the subject further may be directed to a little book by Mr. A. E. Zimmern, "The Third British Empire" (Milford, 6s. net), which has just appeared at an opportune moment. Plenty of thinking on Imperial problems is needed still, and no subject of reflection is calculated to be more fruitful than the idea of loyalty to the Empire through loyalty to the League.

IREEN: AN IDYLL

By H. B.

THE subjoined contribution has caused the Editor of HEADWAY acute perplexity. In considering the crucial question, to print or not to print, many considerations have arisen—the authorship of the idyll in question, the quality of the stanzas, and the fact that HEADWAY has regularly extricated itself in the past from delicate situations by the adoption of a rigid rule against the publication of verse of any kind. Why, then, it may most justly be asked, should so laudable a rule be broken now? That pertinent question cannot be answered adequately here, but some slight indications of the decisive factors in the case may perhaps be ventured on. In the first place, there are reasons for entertaining some doubts—examine, for example, the final line of each stanza—whether what appears at first sight to be verse is verse after all. Secondly, even the vagaries in the spelling of the title cannot veil the appropriateness of the inclusion of a poem on Eirene—Peace—in that issue of HEADWAY which appears in the Christmas month. Thirdly and lastly, the Editor's judgment is final and beyond challenge, and don't let anyone make the mistake of thinking this is going to form a precedent.

IREEN.

Maisie Irene—they pronounce it Ireen—
Whose father struck oil, which they call gasoline,
Was "easy to look at," and rising eighteen,
And had the spondulicks.

Count Enrico de Fontainebleau-Passy, of France,
Met Ireen at the Plaza Hotel at a dance,
And having collated the facts in advance,
Had four Charlestons and took her into supper.

The gasoline Monarch had featured a Prince,
But Momma concurred and Ireen didn't wince;
And, anyway, Princes are seldomer since
The disturbances in Russia.

The wedding came off in the costliest style,
The friends of the bride overflowed in the aisle,
And the gasoline merchant donated a pile,
So Enrico was 9 up and 8 to play.

They bought a magnificent house in the Champs
Elysées, illumined by porphery lamps,
With palms in the passages, just like the vamps'
In the movies.

Her friends and acquaintances come in platoons
To call on Ireen in her gilded saloons,
And though on occasions they "souvenir" spoons
Ireen doesn't kick any.

And when Poppa and Momma reside with Ireen,
To pet little Homer who's come on the scene,
Their only complaint is they think that it's mean
That Enrico is so much away from home.

If you ask if the Countess is merry and bright,
You may search me, for I've nothing further to write,
Though I think I may say that I could if I might.
Good-night everybody.

H. B.

We are very glad to announce that the League of Nations Union has received a donation of £250 towards its Library from the surplus funds of the British Prisoners of War Book Scheme (Educational), the registered war charity of which Sir Alfred Davies was the founder and hon. director. Each of the books purchased from this fund will bear a special label.

LORD GREY AND THE UNION

LET me put it to you: 'Why should people join the League of Nations Union?' A person is free at his own party gatherings to take whatever side he wishes, but in joining the League of Nations Union he gives support to the League of Nations policy. In joining the League of Nations Union, however, he does something more than that; he not only helps to support the League of Nations policy, but he secures the opportunity to learn the League of Nations policy. People ought not merely to do it from sentiments in favour of the League of Nations, but with the object of learning and following closely what the League of Nations is actually doing. We want not only a public opinion in favour of the League of Nations policy, but an instructed public opinion. The more intelligent and instructed the public opinion of this country is about the League of Nations, the more will the British Government be able to do at Geneva. It is quite conceivable that the British Government may have the best intentions in the world, but they are limited to the extent to which the public opinion will go. We do not want our representative to go to Geneva, and to come home and say, 'We could not go further because public opinion in this country would not support us in this matter.'—Lord Grey, *Central Hall, Westminster, Armistice Night, 1926.*

THE BISHOP OF ST. DAVIDS

A HEAVY blow has fallen upon the Welsh National Council in the death of the greatest Welsh Churchman of his generation, the Bishop of St. Davids. He was the President of the National Council for 1924-1925, but his interest in the movement was just as keen out of office as in it. Very rarely through the year did the Bishop miss a meeting of the Executive, and a committee with him in it was a full committee. There was a touch of humour at corners that might have been awkward, a clear-sighted grasp of facts and never the slightest impatience of administrative detail. Whatever progress has been made in Wales is due, in no small measure, to his large vision and high-minded counsels.

One of his last public appearances outside his own diocese was at the League of Nations Union Overseas Reception at the National Eisteddfod at Swansea, and, although obviously very ill he insisted upon attending the International Federation Conference at Aberystwyth, "just," as he put it, "to show my side." Those who were present at the international gathering at Tregaron will not easily forget his chairmanship of the Henry Richard meeting in the village hall. "The League of Nations," he wrote in a letter a few weeks before he died, "is a greater cause than I can say, and makes all who earnestly work for it real comrades."

IN THE PAPERS

"Among other things I found (in America) a most widespread interest in was the League of Nations. The men were not behind the women in wanting to hear and learn about it. There is a far more intelligent interest taken in it in America than here. It is treated more seriously.

"There is a very active agitation, I was surprised to find, among thoughtful people in America, to join the League. And I believe that eventually this agitation will bear fruit and force America in.

"The League to them is a 'Cause,' and they dearly love a cause!"—Mr. Duff Cooper, M.P., in the *Evening Standard*, November 16.

CONVERTING A CAPITAL

WHAT THE LONDON REGIONAL FEDERATION IS DOING

By E. W. MORTON GEORGE (*Chairman of the Federation*)

WHEN the Union was formed, provision was made in the rules for the division of England into nine regions, and the setting up of Regional Councils therein, as and when the branches and districts in each area desired. One of these regions was London and the Home Counties, which was to consist of the Counties of London, Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, Essex and Hertfordshire. It was speedily recognised that this was so large an area that it would probably help the organisation of the Union better if a smaller area were dealt with, at least as a beginning. Consequently the London Regional Federation was formed.

The Federation has for its objects the stimulation and co-ordination of the work of the Union in the Metropolitan area, and contiguous districts; it assists in the formation of new branches and the development of the work of existing branches; endeavours to secure an increasing number of corporate members and corporate associates; and is forming district councils within its borders. It is preparing a panel of speakers for indoor and outdoor meetings, and the arrangement of classes for the training of speakers; while it organises regional and district gatherings of all types; and holds periodical meetings of representatives for the discussion of questions of policy and organisation; it also carries on such other work as can be best undertaken by a regional federation.

How it Works

It covers the whole of the administrative counties of London and Middlesex, and certain portions of Surrey, Kent, Essex and Herts. There are now more than 200 Branches within its area, all of which are entitled to representation on the London Federal Council, while arrangements exist for the representation of junior branches and corporate members and associates, by a system of co-optation.

The general control of the work of the Federation is in the hands of its Executive Committee. Normally the Federal Council meets every other month from October to June, and the Executive Committee every other month from September to July, so that officers and Executive are in constant touch with all that is going on in the branches. At every meeting of the Executive Committee the Regional Organiser reports on what has been carried out in the previous two months, and only those who have listened to the reading of this document can have any idea of the enormous amount of work that is being done constantly throughout the London area, and the many methods employed to bring home to the public at large information concerning the League and its numerous departments. The present Executive is representative of every type of branch, while, like the Federal Council, it co-opts annually representatives having knowledge of the working of junior branches and corporate members and associates.

Special Campaigns

The meetings of the Council serve as opportunities for branch representatives to discuss local difficulties, and hear of successful methods of work adopted in other districts, as well as for considering vital questions of policy which, from time to time, are subjects of general discussion.

During the last twelve months a great deal of useful spadework has been done in the London area in an endeavour to secure the active co-operation of local Labour organisations in the work of the League and the Union. The greater part of this campaign was carried out by Mr. Tom Gillinder, of the Labour Department of the Union, who, during last autumn and winter, addressed many Labour Party and trades-union branches, trades councils, co-operative women's guilds, and women's sections of the Labour Party.

Following on this campaign, the Federation appointed a Labour Organisations Committee composed wholly of members of Labour organisations, which is now actively at work among local Labour branches throughout the Metropolitan area.

Begin with the Children

Some three years ago the Federation appointed an Education Committee to survey the whole of the work being done, and contemplated, among children and young people in its area. While the Central Education Committee of the Union is dealing with the Board of Education and the various education authorities throughout the country, the Federation Education Committee is carrying on the complementary task of getting and keeping in touch with the individual teachers and the individual members of local educational committees, as well as doing a great amount of other work which a central committee could not accomplish.

Much useful work is also being planned in connection with religious organisations, while preparations are on foot for a great campaign among women.

To the Federation has fallen the task of introducing the district councils system into the Metropolitan area, and already such councils are at work with most beneficial results to the branches taking part in their conferences; it is hoped that in the course of the next two or three years the whole of the London area will be covered by a network of such councils.

A London Organiser

The Federation has been fortunate in its Presidents. During its first year, Lord Burnham acted in this capacity, while in the two following years Lady Gladstone held the office with that grace and charm which has made her welcome in all parts of the country. Last year, Labour was represented in the chair in the person of Mr. J. R. Clynes, while this year the honour has fallen to Sir Arthur Shirley Benn, an able representative of the commercial life of the country.

The Federation has always possessed the power of appointing its own organiser, and this is an arrangement the wisdom and value of which has been justified in many ways. It is a measure of devolution which has been wisely used by the Federation Executive Committee, who, with their intimate knowledge of the needs of their varying districts, have been able to select for this important work the most suitable man for the position. At present the London Regional Organiser is housed at the headquarters of the Union, but, with the growth of the work, and the need for additional room, the Federation may have to seek an office which would be more accessible to the majority of its members.

BOOKS WORTH READING

LEAGUE LEADERS

Champions of Peace, by Hebe Spaul (Allen & Unwin. 3s. 6d.). Miss Spaul has distinctly added to her reputation as a writer for young people by her new book. Probably no class of readers is more exacting or more difficult to write for, but Miss Spaul has avoided the temptation of "writing down" to them, and at the same time has produced a book which will hold their interest all the way through. She has put together here the life-stories of eight men who have been leaders in League history. The group is thoroughly international. Mr. Woodrow Wilson represents the United States, Viscount Cecil and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald Great Britain, General Smuts South Africa, while the list is completed by Dr. Nitobe, Dr. Nansen, M. Branting and Dr. Benès. It is not too much to say that each of these characters becomes a live person under the influence of Miss Spaul's pen, and each narrative, with the exception of the first, has had the advantage of being revised by the subjects themselves. Not only, however, are there personal incidents of much interest, but the characters are skilfully used to illustrate aspects of the League's work to which they have made a special contribution. Thus, the earliest stages of the League are linked with Mr. Wilson, Viscount Cecil and General Smuts; Dr. Nansen calls attention to the work for prisoners and refugees; Dr. Benès to the reconstruction of Austria; M. Branting's story naturally leads to the question of the Aaland Islands, and Dr. Nitobe's to the personnel of the secretariat. In closing the book the thought comes to mind that the boyhood of these men is in no wise different from that of thousands of other boys to-day, who in the future may occupy as great positions in history and do as great work for peace as these eight leaders.—H. W. F.

LABOUR IN JAPAN

All who are interested in the development of industrial conditions in the Far East will find much to think about in the new pamphlet on **Japan and the International Labour Organisation**, by Iwao F. Ayusawa, M.A., Ph.D., published by the I.L.O. (price 4d.). The author has achieved the difficult task of making his survey of the labour situation in Japan a living one. The three sections of the booklet leave a striking impression of the immense influence for good that the League of Nations and its International Labour Organisation have had upon the country. First we are introduced to "Japan before the Washington Conference of 1919." Then, in "Japan at the Washington Conference," we see Japan at the cross-roads and the decision to advance. By far the most illuminating section is that which deals with "Japan since the creation of the I.L.O." As the author points out, while every social change in Japan cannot be attributed to the I.L.O. any more than the Organisation can be held accountable for earthquakes in the island of Nippon, yet it has time and again been the direct cause of her decided advance since 1919, and has, moreover, acted as a constant stimulus. Not the least interesting part of the pamphlet is the description of the effect of the creation of the I.L.O. upon public opinion in Japan.

The first edition of "What the League of Nations is," by Mr. H. Wilson Harris (Allen & Unwin, 2s. 6d.), having been opportunely sold out just at the moment when the admission of Germany to the League and the enlargement of the Council necessitated extensive changes in any book on the League, the volume has been revised and in part re-written, so as to make it a complete record of the work of the League to the end of the Seventh Assembly,

READERS' VIEWS
CATHOLICS AND THE LEAGUE

SIR,—In writing on "Catholics and the League," "J. E." says that organs reflecting the views of the Vatican have "rarely and only indirectly" referred to the League, "largely, it is understood," because Germany was outside it.

Is that the reason? Now that Germany is in the League, we shall soon see. Is there any and what foundation for the report that the withdrawal from the League of Spain and Brazil was due in a material degree to Vatican influence or pressure? It is suggested that the Pope, claiming to be the one and only divinely appointed peacemaker on earth, cannot tolerate rivals, especially a purely secular rival like the League; though for tactical reasons he may sometimes appear to support it. Are these suggestions baseless?

I did not invent them, but my very limited experience leaves the quite definite impression that the Roman Church is fundamentally out of sympathy with the League idea, and that Roman Catholics treat the idea of abolishing war, even in the dim and distant future, as a pure chimera not to be taken seriously; at any rate unless and until all nations become obedient followers of the Pope.

If "J. E." can do anything to remove this impression, I shall be pleased.—Yours, etc., F. R.

[This letter has been shown to "J. E.," who writes: "Generalisations are always a little difficult. There are no doubt some Catholics, as there are some Protestants, hostile to the League. The Pope himself emphatically does not want to be in the League of Nations. He is always at its disposal if his help is asked. And meanwhile in almost every public act and utterance he endeavours to instil the spirit of Christian peace into the hearts of his children 'in order to help the League by preparing men's minds for it,' as the Vatican organ, the *Cservatore Romano*, says."—ED. HEADWAY.]

DANCING TO PEACE

SIR,—May I send you the following suggestion for the consideration of your Committees at the appropriate time?

To quote the Sub-Committee of Experts appointed by the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation: "Mutual knowledge and appreciation is the basic requirement of all co-operation, and, in order that this knowledge may be increased, direct or indirect contact should be promoted between young people of different nationalities."

In connection with this, it is an accepted fact that mutual and appreciative knowledge of the history and traditions of other countries, which have formed their national characteristics and international similarities, is the soundest basis for present and future co-operation. To this end, would it not be possible to include in any international gatherings of children small parties of *Folk Dancers* from each country, who would meet—in a spirit the reverse of competitive—to fraternise and learn?

The best method of arranging this would, no doubt, be left to the League of Nations Societies concerned, who, through their Education Departments, could get into touch with schools and other institutions where folk dancing is taught. Each party sent to international camps or holiday colonies would have to contain, of course, an older member who could play the simple music on violin, concertina or other instrument, and who, above all, spoke some "common" language as well as the "native" one, in which to give information as to the origins of the dances, for it is the traditions bound up with folk dancing which constitute its great educational value.

(Continued on page 236.)

CHEAPER HOLIDAYS FOR FOUNDATION MEMBERS.

Are you going away for Christmas?

Are you a Foundation (£1) Member of the Union?

If the answer to these two questions is "yes" and you have not yet made up your mind where to go, read on. It will be worth your while because it tells you how you can spend less on your holidays.

If you are not yet a Foundation Member there is still time for you to benefit under the scheme. Just send your £1 either to the Secretary of your local Branch, or direct to Headquarters, at 15, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.1, and ask for the Special Membership Card.

The attention of members is called to the undermentioned list of hotels, at which all fully-paid £1 members can obtain a rebate on their bills of 10 per cent. at foreign and 5 per cent. at British hotels for themselves, family or party, on presenting their Special Membership Card at the time of paying the bill. These cards are available on application to 15, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.1.

GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

ENGLAND

BRIGHTON

THE KING'S HOTEL.—Reconstruction now complete. Hot and cold water all bedrooms; central heating; lift; electric fires; own farm.

CHESTER

WASHINGTON HOTEL, City Road.—Not licensed; conveniently situated close to General Railway Station; garage adjoining.—G. ERNEST SHARP, proprietor. Also of Cartnell's Hotel, Colwyn Bay.

HASTINGS

THE ALBANY HOTEL (Sir Henry Lunn, Ltd.).—Finest position on Front. 150 rooms. A.A. and R.A.C. Telephone: 761.

MATLOCK

CHATSWORTH HYDRO.—Tel.: 9. Finest position, 800 ft. high. Nearest hydro to golf links. 100 bedrooms. Excellent table and most comfortable. Write for free illustrated souvenir.

PAIGINTON, S. Devon.

REDCLIFFE HOTEL.—Two miles south Torquay. Ideal summer or winter residence, every comfort. Golf, tennis, central heating, 100 rooms, garage.

RYE

GEORGE HOTEL.—The principal hotel, excellent cuisine, service and comfort. Two fine golf links near. Garage. Telephone: 14.

BELGIUM

YPRES

SKINDLES HOTEL.—Opposite station. The leading hotel in the Salient. Hot and cold running water. A.A. and R.A.C. appointed. English speaking staff.

ITALY

BORDIGHERA

HOTEL CONTINENTAL.—First class Family Hotel. Entirely renovated and redecored. The most modernly equipped Hotel in Bordighera. Speciality of serving meals at guests' convenience—not at fixed hours.—V. E. SIMON, proprietor.

OSPEDALETTI (near San Remo)

THE MIRAMARE PALACE AND GRAND HOTEL.—Leading Hotel. Up to date. Excellent cuisine. Glorious position. Large gardens with sunny terraces. Tennis. Orchestra.

SAN REMO

HOTEL DE L'EUROPE ET DE LA PAIX.—First class Family Hotel. Facing sea. Full South. H. and C. running water in every room. American Bar. Moderate terms for families and long visits.—Messrs. CODONI & MONTE, proprietors.

HOTEL MIRAMARE.—The only Hotel on the sea front. First class. Thoroughly up to date: Private Garage. American bar. Orchestra.—Manager Cav. Off. G. MAESTRI.

SWITZERLAND

AIGLE (Vaud)

HOTEL BEAU SITE.—English Family Hotel. Nearest Golf Links and Station. Garage. Large Garden. Pension from 10 to 13ff. Open all year.

BERN

HOTEL JURA.—Comfortable Family Hotel. Near Station and centre of town. Central Heating, Electric Light. Lift. Pension from 12ff. Tariff on application.

CHATEAU D'OEX (Vaud)

GRAND HOTEL, PENSION BEAU-SEJOUR.—Under personal management of proprietress. A first-class hotel which especially caters for a good English clientèle.

GSTAAD B.O.

GRAND HOTEL, BELLEVUE.—(Gstaad on the line Montreux-Interlaken).—First-class Hotel. All winter sports. Private Rooms with Bath. Terms from 20ff.

HILTERFINGEN (Lake of Thun) B.O.

HOTEL BELLEVUE AU LAC.—New Hotel. Rooms with running water. Private suites with bath. Pension from 12.50ff. Open all the year. Garage.

INTERLAKEN B.O.

HOTEL ROYAL ST. GEORGES.—Leading First-class English Family Hotel. All the latest comforts. Running water in all rooms. Garage.

LAUSANNE

LAUSANNE-PALACE AND BEAU-SITE.—Leading first-class Hotels in centre. Magnificent Park. Extensive views. Tennis. Golf-links.—J. Baumgartner, new Manager.

HOTEL VICTORIA.—Only first-class Hotel near Station. Leading Anglo-American Hotel. Every room private Bath or Dressing Room. Large Garden. Moderate charges.

GRAND HOTEL DE LA PAIX.—First class. Finest situation overlooking the Lake of Geneva and the Mountains.

HOTEL EDEN.—Rooms from 5ff. Pension from 12ff. Near the Station.

MONTREUX—CLARENS

HOTEL MIRABEAU.—Well-known house. Excellent French cuisine. Large shady garden on the edge of the lake. Garage.—Madame Béranck, proprietress.

MONTREUX—TERRITET

HOTEL BONIVARD.—First-class English Family Hotel. Quiet and most sheltered position in Territet. Running water in bedrooms. Billiards. Tennis. Pension from 12ff.

MONTREUX

HOTEL CHATEAU BELMONT.—First-class English Family House. Quiet and elevated position. Pension from 14ff. Special arrangement for families.

HOTEL SPLENDID.—Only Second-class Hotel in Central position. Every comfort. Near Station and Landing Stage. Excellent cuisine. Pension from 11ff.—M. Julien, Manager.

HOTEL SUISSE AND MAJESTIC.—First-class Hotel. Most convenient for station, lakeside and pier. Most up-to-date first-class hotel in Montreux.

HOTEL BEAU-RIVAGE.—On Lake. Superior second-class English Family Hotel. Pension terms, 12-13ff. incl. Open all year; central heat; lift.—A. X. CURTI, proprietor.

SPIEZ B.O.

SCHLOSSHOTEL, SCHONEGG.—First-class Hotel. Magnificent position. Tennis. Garage. Golf. Private baths. Pension from 14ff. to 20ff.

HOTEL DES ALPES.—Family Hotel. Open all the year. Beautiful situation. Garages. Central heating. Tennis. Golf. Pension from 11ff.

VEVEY (Vaud)

PARK-HOTEL, MOOSER.—Entirely renovated, running water. Numerous suites with bath. Tennis. Garage. Terms from 13.50ff.

VEVEY—MONT PELERIN

HOTEL DES ALPES.—Hotel Pension des families. Beautiful situation. Comfort and excellent cuisine, combined with very moderate charges.

YVERDON-LES-BAINS (Lake Neuchatel)

HOTEL DE LA PRAIRIE.—Premier family Hotel. Running water and rooms with private baths. Garage. Tennis. Pension from 11-15ff. Booklet on application.

ZWEISIMMEN B.O.

HOTEL BRISTOL-TERMINUS.—Leading English hotel on the Montreux-Interlaken Railway. 3,500 ft. above sea. Summer and winter sports. Tennis.—J. Hubler.

May I add that I am not a folk-dance devotee myself, but I consider the idea combines in an unusual degree the possibilities of fostering the necessary spirit of reverence for both national and international traditions.—Yours, etc.

S. D. C. A.
12, Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1.

LEAGUE TEACHING

SIR,—I read with interest Mr. Jacks' article on the League of Nations in secondary schools, with much of which I agree. On one point, however, he seems to me wrong. Membership of the Union must, of course, be voluntary; it involves a subscription, and opinions may differ as to the efficacy of the Union; but surely the League of Nations is an historical fact. As a nation, we have signed the Covenant, and international politics are unintelligible to-day without a knowledge of the League. Information may, therefore, be given on the aims and working of the League as on any other historical subject, and should be given to those who can understand it, even below the age of 16, as a part of the curriculum. There may be, and doubtless is, the type of parent who objects to the facts of history when they run against the current of his prejudices, as he may object to Latin, but the rising generation is sent to school to be educated, and a knowledge of the League is not the least part of a modern education.—Yours, etc.,

H. B. WIDDOWS.

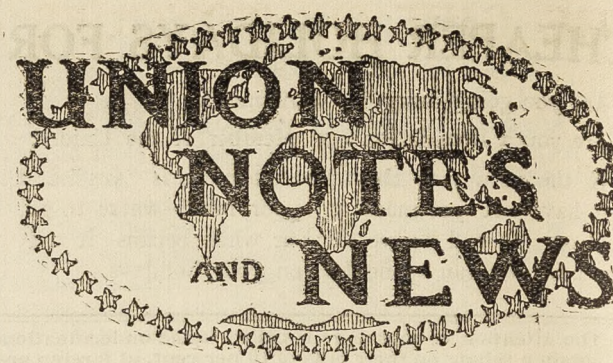
Whitley and Monkseaton High School.

FILMS AND THE YOUNG

In last month's HEADWAY a letter appeared by the headmaster of Mill Hill on the subject of instruction on the League of Nations in secondary schools. A letter on the same subject appears on this page. Some very interesting data is now available in regard to one particular aspect of League teaching—namely, the use of films. The Union film, entitled "The Star of Hope," has been exhibited within the last few months to some 15,000 children in certain selected localities, chosen largely on the grounds of dissimilarity, one, for example, being in the north and one in the south, one mainly rural, another essentially urban. About 240 teachers of the children concerned have sent replies to ten questions put before them by the Union as to their views of the value of the film. In reply to the question "Was your general impression of the film favourable?" 227 answered "Yes," nine replied "No," and four indicated that they had no opinion, a confession which would appear to disqualify them decisively for the office of teaching the young. As to whether the film helped to make the children realise how the League was formed, 185 thought it did, 47 thought it did not, and eight had blank minds. By an overwhelming majority the teachers agreed that the film made the class realise that war was (a) contagious, (b) horrible, (c) expensive. The query "Did the class understand the organisation of the League?" produced 32 affirmative answers and 124 negative, while 44 teachers had no views on the subject. The full list of questions with the figures regarding answers is distinctly instructive, and should be a valuable guide to those to whom it may fall to produce League films for children in the future.

BOOKS RECEIVED

"Must Britain Travel the Moscow Road?" Norman Angell. (Noel Douglas, 5s.).
"Wages and the State." By E. M. Burns. (P. S. King & Son, 16s.).
"Poland: Old and New," three lectures by Roman Dyboski. (Oxford University Press, 3s. 6d.).
"The International Labour Organisation and the Protection of Children." (I.L.O., 1d.)



The Council's Vote

As we go to press the total amount received from Branches towards the Council's Vote is a little under £12,000. This, it will be seen, is less than half the total. Districts and Branches who have not already paid their full quota are urged to do so at as early a date as possible, so that matters may be "all clear" at the end of the year. Unfortunately, the prolonged coal stoppage has seriously impoverished many branches in industrial areas, who in other years have been among the first to demonstrate their loyalty to Headquarters by sending their quota to the Council's Vote. We therefore appeal to those Branches whose finances have not been adversely affected, and who have not yet paid their full quota, to do so immediately. If they can spare some additional amount to help make good the deficit which now threatens, we shall be additionally grateful.

The following Branches have completed their quotas to this year's Council's Vote since the last list was published: Beaconsfield, Benson and Ewelme, Bishops Waltham, Birchington, Bloxam, Brill, Downham, Felstead, East Hendred, Hassocks, Hornsea, King's Sutton, New Malden, Winscombe.

Armistice Meetings

It cannot be doubted that the changed spirit of the nation which led to the last anniversary of the Armistice being devoted wholly to solemn remembrance of the dead, was to some extent responsible for the great volume of support given during Armistice Week to the League of Nations. In a leader published on November 11, the *Manchester Guardian* says: "It is not merely that we must record the end for which the combatant fought and the temper in which he endured to that end, we must serve the purpose ourselves and that purpose was no other than the organisation of peace."

The Union's Branches did their share during Armistice Week towards helping to organise the world for peace. League meetings were held in hundreds of towns and villages throughout the country. Headquarters alone arranged for three hundred speakers, while the number supplied by the Branches from the local panels must treble that total.

Unfortunately, lack of space makes it impossible to publish more than a few examples. The indefatigable Nottingham Branch arranged another intensive campaign during Armistice Week with the object of bringing the membership up to 10,000. The final results are not yet in, but there is every prospect that the organisers' hopes will be realised. At one meeting alone 200 new members were enrolled. Birmingham also arranged a similar week, with equal success. At Ramsbottom's Armistice Night meeting, Dr. Nitobe was the chief speaker. The *Manchester Guardian* sent a special reporter and devoted a column to the meeting in the next morning's issue. At Bradford, 2,000 people heard Lord Cecil's speech, and it is calculated that during Armistice Week 7,000 scholars and adults in the town heard Mr. Whelen.

London for the League

London's most important meeting, organised by the London Regional Federation, was held on Armistice Night at the Central Hall, when Viscount Grey was the chief speaker. He had a large audience with, it was encouraging to see, a big proportion of young people. Many thousands more must have heard Lord Grey's address over the wireless. In a notable passage, he emphasised that the real cause of the Great War was fear. Those enormous armaments which were meant to give a sense of security really created a sense of fear. "Competition of armaments in the future," he said, "will have the same effect; the reduction of armaments will be the one sure test of the success of the League." Lord Grey's earnest appeal for support of the Union is given on another page. Mr. Morton George, Chairman of the L.R.F., presided at the meeting, and the other speakers were Dame Edith Lyttelton and Mr. G. N. Barnes.

Other London Branch Armistice meetings included a mass gathering at Catford, with Sir Assheton Pownall, M.P., as Chairman, and Lord Thomson and the Bishop of Woolwich as the principal speakers. The Bishop also spoke on Armistice

THE GIFT OF TONGUES

By ANTHONY SOMERS

I HAVE discovered a remarkable method of learning French, Spanish, Italian and German. I only wish I had known of it before. It would have saved me much drudgery, toil and disappointment.

It has sometimes been said that the British people do not possess the "gift of tongues." Certainly I never did. At school I was hopeless. When the subject was French, German, Latin or Greek I was always somewhere near the bottom of my Form. Yet in other subjects I held my own quite well. I have now come to the conclusion—my recent experience has convinced me of this—that the reason I failed to learn languages was that the method of teaching was wrong.

Although I never "got on" with Foreign Languages, I have always wanted to know them—especially French. I have wanted to read Racine, Balzac, Proust and Anatole France, and that great critic, whom Matthew Arnold so much admired, Sainte Beuve, in French, and not merely through the medium of a characterless translation. And I have wanted to spend holidays abroad without being tied to a phrase-book. So I have often tried to find a method which would really teach me a Foreign Language. And at last I have found it.

Some time ago I read that the well-known Pelman Institute was teaching French, Spanish, German and Italian by an entirely new method. I wrote for particulars, and they so interested me that I enrolled for a course in French. Frankly, it has amazed me. Here is the method I have wanted all my life. It is quite unlike anything I have ever heard of before, and its simplicity and effectiveness are almost startling.

Consider, for example, this question:

"Do you think you could pick up a book of 400 pages, written in a language of which you may not know a syllable—say Spanish, Italian, German or French—and not containing a single English word, and read it through correctly without referring to a dictionary?"

Most people will say that such a thing is impossible. Yet this is just what the new method enables you to do, as you will see for yourself when you take the first lesson.

One of the most striking features of the Pelman Courses in French, German, Italian and Spanish is that they are given entirely in the language concerned. English is not used at all. Yet, even if you do not know the meaning of a single Foreign word, you can study these Courses with ease, right from the beginning, and without "looking up" any words in a vocabulary. It sounds incredible, but it is perfectly true.

Further, this new method enables you to read, write and speak French, Spanish, Italian or German without bothering your head with complex grammatical rules or learning by heart long lists of Foreign words. Yet, when you have completed one of these Courses, you will be able to read Foreign books and newspapers, and to write and speak the language in question grammatically and fluently, without the hesitation which comes when a Foreign Language is acquired through the medium of English.



This new Pelman method of learning languages is explained in four little books entitled "How to learn French," "How to learn German," "How to learn Spanish," and "How to learn Italian." You can have one of these books to-day, free of cost. Write (mentioning which one of the four you require) to the PELMAN INSTITUTE (Languages Dept.), 114, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1, and the particular book you require (with full particulars of the method) will be sent you by return, gratis and post free. Call or write to-day.

Overseas Branches: PARIS, 35 Rue Boissy d'Anglas
NEW YORK, 19 West 44th Street; MELBOURNE, 396 Flinders Lane
DURBAN, Natal Bank Chambers; DELHI, 10 Ailpore Road

Night at the Citizens' Meeting organised by the Central Lambeth Branch.

Citizens of To-morrow

Among the outstanding features of Armistice Week were the arrangements made to ensure that the children should be taught the real lesson of the War, and the hope which the League of Nations brings as a means of making war impossible. In all probability Mr. J. C. Stobart, the B.B.C. Director of Education, had the greatest audience when he broadcast an Armistice address for young people from 2.L.O. He, too, impressed upon his hearers that the glamour of war was an illusion and appealed to the schools to help to establish peace by supporting the League.

Hundreds of schools throughout the country arranged for the children to be given special League talks on Armistice morning. To quote a few instances—at Bromley 1,300 school children were present at a meeting organised by the local Branch; at Birmingham children representing all classes of schools in the city listened to a League address given by Mrs. Barnes, the wife of the Bishop of Birmingham, and Professor Rees. Nottingham also organised similar gatherings as part of its special campaign, while at Southall 1,500 children saw the Union's film.

Remembrance Sunday

"I am instructed by the Mayor (Captain C. W. Whitworth) to ask you to accompany His Worship and the Members of the Town Council, Officials, and other Public Bodies to Divine Service on Sunday next, the 14th inst.," runs the official invitation received by the Harrogate Branch, in reference to Armistice Sunday. Civic recognition of the Union as a public body with a definite place in the observance of Armistice Sunday forms the keynote of most of the reports received from different parts of the country. In Derby, in fact, the civic observance of Armistice Sunday was actually organised by the Union, the Branch Secretary acting as chief marshal of the procession which was headed by the Mayor, the Mayor-elect and the local M.P.

Scores of local organisations including the Board of Guardians, the Chamber of Trade, the Rotary Club, Co-operative Guilds as well as Churches of all denominations and many schools were all represented in the procession. In Birmingham the Churches seized the opportunity which Armistice Sunday presented of emphasising the aims of the League of Nations, a noteworthy factor in the celebrations being that Anglicans and Non-conformists exchanged pulpits on this occasion.

Equally encouraging reports have been received from Bath, Sheffield, Nottingham, Swindon, Burton and Colne.

Dr. Norwood's Campaign

During the first four weeks of Dr. Norwood's campaign on behalf of the Union, he addressed audiences numbering some 50,000 people, with a result that more than 7,000 enrolled themselves as new members. At the Warrington meeting alone 212 new subscribers were obtained. His Armistice Week engagements included Bolton, Manchester, Stockport, Heywood, Chesterfield and Kettering. Everywhere Dr. Norwood was greeted by large and enthusiastic audiences who were manifestly moved by his sincerity and eloquence. In the latter part of November he was carrying on his campaign in Wales, and at the beginning of the present month he moves across to East Anglia.

Dr. Norwood has undertaken his Peace Crusade for six months. It is evident, however, that if he is to stay the whole course, he cannot continue at the pace he set himself at the beginning of the tour. His enthusiasm for the cause is limitless, and he refuses to spare himself. But he cannot be allowed to run the risk of a breakdown, and it is probable that some of the towns which at one time Dr. Norwood had hoped to visit may have to content themselves with sharing a mass meeting for the district.

The Only Way

The Mortlake and East Sheen Branch held its united meeting on Remembrance Sunday, at the Sheen Picturedrome. A temporary ladder had to be erected to enable the speaker, Mr. Hering, and the chairman, Sir John Martin-Harvey, to get to their seats. This led the chairman, in his opening remarks, to express, as one well accustomed to mounting scaffolds, appreciation of the arrangements made for reaching the platform.

Films Old and New

During the last year the Union's film, "The Star of Hope," has been shown to over half a million people in this country, including 80,000 school-children. Its utility as a teaching instrument was tested by a questionnaire, particulars of which are given on another page. This winter there is a renewed demand for "The Star of Hope" for picture houses and meetings. It has been brought up to date by including the reception of Germany and the last Estimates of John Bull's war burden.

The success of "The Star of Hope" has induced the Union to prepare another film of like character, longer, and, it is hoped, still better fitted to make the history of the War and the League a real thing, comprehensible alike to the man in the street and the child at school. In "The World War and After" a few of the most successful scenes from "The Star of Hope" are reproduced when the story seems best told by them, but most of the scenes are new, even when they show the same part of the League's history. The historical and geographical material is very simply

arranged, and easily followed, and the new scenes are full of live interest. The film of four reels now ends with the League's achievements in preventing wars. A fifth reel, dealing with International Co-operation, is being prepared. "The Star of Hope" takes about half an hour, "The World War and After" about an hour to show.

Oxford Leads

An Oxford correspondent writes: "The new film started on its journeyings in the Oxford area at the beginning of November, and has had not a moment's rest since. Eager requests had been received from towns and villages of every size and description within the Federation. Sometimes the local cinema was requisitioned, sometimes the village schoolroom provided the place of meeting, and then the film was shown on a portable apparatus. A speaker always accompanied it, usually from Barnett House, and supplemented its story by running comments and talks between the parts."

On Armistice Day, 1,240 school children with their teachers were invited to a special performance in the chief Oxford cinema, and two performances were given in the chief picture houses in the evening for the public. After the morning show the secretary of the Oxford Education Committee wrote to the secretary of the Oxford Branch: "I have talked over this morning's revised film with several representative teachers, and they are at one in thinking that it was a great improvement on the original film, and an exceedingly valuable aid to teaching."

November Letter to Branches

In his November letter to Branches, the Secretary emphasises the importance of seizing the present opportunity of beginning the reduction and limitation of armaments. In view of the fact that the fate of the coming Disarmament Conference hangs largely upon British public opinion, every Branch must play its part, and is urged to form study circles for the purpose of getting to understand the problem properly.

With the encouragement of two messages of cordial encouragement recently received from the Prime Minister in a single week, we are asked to try to make 1926 a record year in the enrolment of new members. Only if all Branches do their utmost can this be accomplished, for 50,000 new recruits by December 31 are needed if the Union is to surpass the total of previous years.

Every Branch is also asked to pass a resolution urging ratification by the British Government of the Washington Hours Convention. Such resolutions, the Executive suggests, should be sent to the Prime Minister and Minister of Labour and local Members of Parliament.

The next meeting of the General Council of the Union will be held in the Caxton Hall, at 11 a.m., on December 14. The Westminster Branch is arranging a luncheon at St. Ermin's Restaurant for those attending the Council. Viscount Cecil has promised to be present if he is in England at the time. Tickets, price 4s. each, can be obtained from Miss Munro, 119a, Mount Street, W.1.

For Educators

The programme of the fifteenth Annual Conference of Educational Associations which opens at University College, London, on December 30, includes, as usual, a session arranged by the Union. This will be held on Tuesday, January 4, at 11.30, when Professor Zimmern will lecture on "The Development of the International Mind"; the Chair will be taken by Dr. C. W. Kimmins. Tickets of admission for non-members, price 1s., and also vouchers for reduced railway fares for persons attending the Conference, can be obtained from the Secretary, 29, Gordon Square, W.C.1.

Figures from Northants

Before the Northamptonshire District Council held its very successful membership week there were 15 Branches in the county with a total membership of 5,500. As a direct result of the campaign 30 new branches have been formed and 2,200 new members enrolled. Well over 100 meetings were held and 4,500 school children heard talks on the League.

All Parties Support the League

On the Sunday after Armistice Day an audience of over 2,500 was present at a meeting arranged by the Hull Branch to hear Mrs. Philip Snowden. The Lord Mayor presided. The non-Party character of the Union's work was emphasised by the fact that each of the three candidates, Conservative, Liberal and Labour, who stood in the Hull By-Election, attended, as did also Mr. Linfield, who was the Liberal candidate in the Howdenshire By-Election. All of them spoke wholeheartedly in support of the League.

Kingsway Hall Meeting

A congregation of over 1,500 stayed on after the usual Sunday evening service at the Kingsway Hall on November 7 to hear an address on the League given by Mr. H. Wilson Harris. There is a flourishing Branch of the Union in connection with the West London Mission, and as a result of Mr. Wilson Harris' speech the membership has gone up with a bound.

Minimum Wage Systems

In view of the fact that the 1927 session of the International Labour Conference is to discuss Systems of Fixing Minimum Wages, the Union has decided to convene a Conference on this

subject and also on Methods of Conciliation and Arbitration. Recent industrial events in this country make these matters of vital interest to the national wellbeing, and already an impressive number of prominent men and women, representing all shades of opinion, have promised to speak at the Conference. They include Viscount Burnham, Professor Gilbert Murray, Sir William Beveridge, Miss Constance Smith, Mr. Humbert Wolfe, Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., Sir Ernest Petter, Mr. Arthur Hollins, Mr. G. N. Barnes, Mr. W. I. Hichins, Mr. J. R. Clynes and Major J. G. Astor. The Conference, which will be held at the London School of Economics, Aldwych, opens on February 1, 1927, and closes on February 4. Copies of the provisional programme and tickets, which are free, may be obtained from 15, Grosvenor Crescent.

Christmas Shopping: Some Suggestions

Readers who are in the throes of buying Christmas presents are reminded that the Union's pocket diaries make welcome gifts. Besides containing the usual information common to all diaries, they give 24 pages of League of Nations' facts and figures. The diaries are bound in leather, and measure 4 by 2½. The price of single copies is 1s. 6d. each, net, but a discount of 20 per cent. will be allowed on orders for not less than six.

Although there has been a record demand, copies of the Christ of the Andes calendar, published by the London Regional Federation, are still available, and can be obtained from 15, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.1, complete with envelopes, price 1s. each, or 10s. 6d. per dozen, postage extra. The League Christmas Card produced by the Paddington Branch (price 3d. each) is very popular. Bulk orders should be sent direct to Messrs. Wightman & Co., Regency Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

Has the League Justified Itself?

On December 10, at 7 p.m., in the Oliver Goldsmith School, Peckham, Capt. Flint and Mr. J. C. Whitebrook will debate on whether the League of Nations has justified its existence. The meeting is being organised by the South London Ethical Society Branch of the Union.

When to Listen in

Dame Rachel Crowdy, head of the Social Service Section of the League of Nations, will broadcast from 2LO on the evening of December 13.

A Correction

In the notice of the Autumn School of the Scottish National Council which appeared in the November issue, Miss Lillias Mitchell was mentioned as one of the organisers. Miss Mitchell now writes modestly disclaiming any responsibility for the success of the school, which she says was due to the work of Mr. Crawford, assisted by Mr. Leishman.

New Corporate Members and Associates

The following have been admitted to corporate membership:—
ACTON: Acton Hill Wesleyan Church. **ALPERTON:** Baptist Church. **ARMLEY:** St. Bartholomew's Church. **BARNARD CASTLE:** Barnard Castle and District Association of Teachers. **BATH:** Widcombe Institute. **BATLEY:** Sunday School (Up Lane); Cross Bank Wesleyan Church. **BEARSDEN NORTH:** United Free Church Literary Society. **BOLTON:** Halliwell Road Wesleyan Church. **BRADFORD:** Greengates Wesleyan Church; St. John's Parish Church. **BRIDLINGTON:** National Council of Women. **BROMLEY:** High Street Wesleyan Church. **BURNLEY:** Whittlefield Wesleyan Church. **CHESTERFIELD:** Women's Conservative and Unionist Association. **CLECKHEATON:** Chapel Street Independent Methodist Church; St. John's Church. **COLCHESTER:** National Union of Teachers' Associations. **COLNE:** Trinity Baptist Church. **DUNDEE:** League of Young Liberals. **ECCLESHILL:** Primitive Methodist Church. **EDMONTON:** Parish Church; St. Alphege Mission, Lower Edmonton. **EXETER:** Holy Trinity Church; Labour Party. **FINCHLEY:** East Finchley B.W.T.A. **GREAT HORTON:** Bank Top Congregational Church. **GRIMSBY:** South Parade Wesleyan Chapel. **GUERNSEY:** Capelles Wesleyan Chapel; La Moye Wesleyan Chapel; Sion Wesleyan Chapel; Vale Wesleyan Chapel. **GUILDFORD:** Congregational Church. **HASLINGDEN:** Manchester Road Wesleyan Church. **HEADCORN:** Wesley Guild. **HORNSEY:** Priory Road Moravian Church, Crouch End. **KING'S LYNN:** Labour Party; Lynn District Independent Order of Oddfellows; Union Manchester Unity; National Council of Women; Union Church. **KING'S NORTON:** Watford Road Young People's Class. **LETCHWORTH, HITCHIN AND DISTRICT:** Co-operative Society. **LONDON:** The City Temple; Central Committee of Girls' League; Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society; Elizabeth Whitelaw Reid Club; Time and Talents Guild; Wandsworth Liberal Association. **MIDDLESBROUGH:** Ayresome Street Primitive Methodist Church. **NEWBOLD:** Baptist Combined Class. **PRESCOT:** Parish Church; the National Society of Decorators and Painters; Sion Independent Methodist Church; the Workers' Union; Welsh Church; Wesleyan Church. **PULBOROUGH:** Mare Hill Congregational Church. **ROCHDALE:** Union Street Wesleyan Church. **SHEFFIELD:** Trinity Wesleyan Chapel, Firth Park. **SHERINGHAM:** Co-operative Society. **SOUTHALL:** Villiers St.

Road Congregational Church. **SOUTHAMPTON:** Spiritualist Church. **SPEN VALLEY:** W.E.A. **STALYBRIDGE:** St. James's Parish Church. **STOURBRIDGE:** Hill Street Primitive Methodist Church. **SUTTON COLDFIELD:** Women Citizens' Association. **TORQUAY:** St. Matthias' Church. **WARRINGTON:** St. Elphin's Church. **WATERFOOT:** Newchurch Parish Church. **WHITEHAVEN:** Wesley Guild. **WIMBLEDON:** Merton Road Wesleyan Church. **WITHERNSEA:** Congregational Church. **WOLLASTON:** Wesleyan Church. **YEADON:** Queen Street United Methodist Church.

The following have been admitted to corporate associateship during the last month:—

Women's Institutes at Almeley, Chelford, Exmouth, Hellingly, Hintlesham and Chattisham, Kington, Lavenham, Long Melford, Rous Lench and District, Shadingfield, Sotterley-cum-Willingham and Weston, Sproughton, Tysoe and Compton Wyniates, Weald, Wrotham; Women's Liberal Associations at Bedford, King's Lynn, Southall; Islington: Rupert Road Mission Christian Endeavour Society; S. Kensington: St. Peter's, Cranley Gardens, Women's Fellowship; King's Lynn Women's Co-operative Guild; Lynn Congregational Women's Meeting; Congham Mothers' Union; Brixton Wesley Hall Women's Meeting; Heathfield: St. Mary's Retreat, the Order of St. Elizabeth; Hackney: Grove Mission Sisterhood; Aston: Christ Church Young Ladies' Senior Class.

Welsh Notes

On behalf of the Welsh National Council, the President, Mr. Henry N. Gladstone, Lord-Lieutenant of Flintshire, laid an armistice wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey, the Rev. Canon Donaldson and the Rev. Gwilym Davies taking part in the brief, but impressive, ceremony. A wreath was also laid at the North Wales Memorial, on behalf of the Welsh Council, by Mr. E. H. Jones, M.A.

A number of branches throughout Wales and Monmouthshire arranged meetings and demonstrations during the week of the armistice. In Anglesey a county-wide campaign was organised in which the Rev. D. C. Davies addressed enthusiastic meetings. Anglesey holds, and is likely to maintain, the record for membership in proportion to the population.

Will every Welsh branch bring to the notice of the churches the annual Christmas appeal to all the religious organisations in Wales and Monmouthshire made by the Welsh National Council for its missionary and educational work?

OVERSEAS NEWS

Australia

On October 7 a meeting was held in Sydney, under the auspices of the League of Nations Union, on the occasion of the visit of the delegates of the Empire Parliamentary Association. The meeting was exceptionally well attended, the speakers being the Marquess of Salisbury, Mr. Arthur Henderson, and Mr. Ian Macpherson. The Speaker of the Federal Parliament (Sir Littleton Groom) presided, and others on the platform included the Acting Prime Minister and Federal Treasurer (Dr. Earle Page) and Mrs. Page, the Attorney-General (Mr. McTierman) and the leader of the Opposition (Mr. Bavin). The Chairman, in welcoming the speakers, said that Australia, because of her status and on account of her taking part in the discussions of the League of Nations, was becoming deeply interested in international affairs, and would stand behind the British statesmen in the League of Nations to promote the spiritual welfare of mankind.

Lord Salisbury opened his speech by saying that the League of Nations was not a party question; it transcended all party, and went on to prove how vital the principles of the League of Nations were in maintaining the King's peace in the British Empire. Mr. Arthur Henderson and Mr. Ian Macpherson spoke in the same theme. The vote of thanks was moved by Dr. Earle Page and Mr. McTierman, who said that he thought the addresses that night were the most informative, most encouraging and most inspiring that had ever been delivered from a Sydney platform. He was pleased that the people of Sydney had attended in such great numbers, for the meeting was destined, he thought, to be a great event in the history of the League of Nations Union in Australia.

During the evening an appeal was made to those present to become members of the Sydney League of Nations Union.

Canada

"A League of Nations Sunday" was arranged by the Toronto branch of the League of Nations Society in Canada on Sunday, November 14.

Parnell, Auckland

Membership is increasing and progress, from the point of view of the League of Nations Union, is considerable. During the year a series of fortnightly luncheons have been held, and these functions have proved successful. The Auckland branch, by permission of the Education Board, is holding a competitive essay in the primary schools of Auckland early in the New Year on "The Aims and Objects of the League."

New Zealand

Mrs. Denton Leach (Secretary of the Dominion Council of the League of Nations Union) reports that, following her tour in the South Island, which took two months, five branches of the New Zealand League of Nations Union have been started, in Oamaru, Timaru, Core, Ashburton, and Invercargill. (In the latter place a dormant branch was revived.)

FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Belgium

Sir George Graham, the British Ambassador to Belgium, at an Anglo-Belgian ceremony at Mons on October 17, spoke on the League of Nations and its value.

France

The Federation of French Universities recently sent their expressions of goodwill to Hugo Preuss, the German President of the International Federation of Universities.

Japan

In order to acquaint the children of Japan with the history, customs and the peoples of the various fellow-members of the League of Nations, the children's section of the League of Nations Association of Japan has been collecting material for that purpose during the last two months. Contributions have been received from New Zealand, Finland, Norway and Bulgaria.

On the retirement of Mr. Kato (the former General Secretary of the League of Nations Association in Japan), who has been appointed First Secretary of the Japanese Legation at Peking, His Excellency Mr. Seiji Okuyama, His Imperial Majesty's Minister to Greece, has, at the request of the directors, accepted the post of General Secretary.

Great satisfaction is felt by all members of the Association at his appointment. Mr. Okuyama was formerly the Deputy-Chief of the Japanese Government Bureau to the League of Nations at Paris.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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Foundation membership, HEADWAY, and all pamphlets issued, minimum, £1. Ordinary membership and monthly copy of HEADWAY, minimum 3s. 6d. (in Wales and Monmouthshire, 5s.). Membership, 1s.

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.

HEADWAY is published by the League of Nations Union at 15, Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.W.1.

Telegrams: "Freenat, Knights, London."
Telephone: Victoria 9780.

All communications respecting advertisements must be sent to Fleetway Press, 3-9, Dane Street, High Holborn, W.C.1, and to the offices of the Union.

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FACTS ABOUT THE LEAGUE WHAT IT IS AND HOW IT WORKS

FIFTY-SIX States have joined the League of Nations, 42 as original members, and 14 at different dates between 1920 and 1926. The League comprises all the independent States in the world, except The United States, Turkey, Egypt, Arabia (Nejd), Russia, Afghanistan, Ecuador, Mexico. Three members of the League, however—Spain, Brazil and Costa Rica—have given the statutory two-years' notice of withdrawal.

The Covenant of the League of Nations is an international treaty which defines the League's field of action and binds its signatories, who are the members of the League, to certain specific lines of action.

League States pledge themselves, in particular,

(1) To submit every dispute between themselves and some other State to arbitration, to judicial settlement, or to full enquiry by the League of Nations Council, instead of going to war about it.

(2) To establish a Permanent Court of International Justice. [The Court was created in 1921 and began its work in 1922.]

(3) To bring about a general limitation and reduction of armaments.

(4) To supervise, under the mandate system, the administration of certain undeveloped territories in Africa, Asia and the Pacific.

(5) To register publicly with the League all international agreements and to regard as invalid agreements not so registered.

(6) To co-operate in—

(a) Securing and maintaining fair and humane conditions of labour throughout the world.

(b) Suppressing the opium traffic and the traffic in women and children (white slave traffic).

(c) Effecting the prevention and control of disease.

(d) Securing and maintaining freedom of transit and equitable treatment for the commerce of all States in the League.

In addition, the League is made responsible under the various peace treaties for the government of the **Saar Valley** and the **Free City of Danzig** and for the **protection of racial and religious minorities** in a number of European countries.

The main organs of the League are—

(1) **The Assembly**, meeting annually in September, and consisting of not more than three delegates from each of the States members of the League.

(2) **The Council**, meeting four or more times a year, and consisting of one delegate each from fourteen different States, five States (Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Japan) being permanently represented, while the other nine States are elected from time to time by the Assembly.

(3) **The Secretariat**, the international civil service by which the League is served.

The seat of the League is at Geneva.

Side by side with the League itself, and as integral parts of it, there exist—

The Permanent Court of International Justice, with its seat at The Hague; and

The International Labour Organisation, with its seat at Geneva.

The Permanent Court had, down to November, 1926, decided 7 cases and given 13 advisory opinions to the League Council.

The International Labour Organisation exists to improve conditions of labour throughout the world. It operates through—

The General Conference, meeting annually.

The Governing Body, meeting quarterly or oftener.

The International Labour Office at Geneva (corresponding to the League Secretariat).

Down to November, 1926, the International Labour Conferences had adopted 19 conventions and 23 "recommendations" on conditions of labour in different countries.

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