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Pamphlet

BRITISH-AMERICAN WOMEN'S CRUSADE

For the mutual renunciation of war as an instrument of national policy in favour of the pacific settlement of all international disputes.

SOCIETIES IN GREAT BRITAIN CO-OPERATING IN THE CRUSADE:

Adult Schools, Women's Section; British Federation of Youth; British Women's Total Abstinence Union; Congregational Union of England and Wales Women's League; Conservative Women's Reform Association; Ethical Union, Women's Group; Fellowship of Reconciliation; League of Nations' Union; L.C.C. Women Teachers' Union; National Council of the Evangelical Free Churches, Women's Council; National Council of Women; National Council for the Prevention of War; National Sisterhood Movement; National Women Citizens' Association; National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship; National Union of Teachers; Society of Friends (Peace Committee); Standing Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organisations; Theosophical Order of Service; Women's Co-operative Guild; Women's International League; Women's Liberal Federation; Union of Democratic Control; Young Women's Christian Association of Great Britain.

Chairman of Central Committee: LADY ACLAND.

Hon. Secretary: MISS KATHLEEN COURTNEY.

Hon. Treasurer: MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

AMERICA'S OFFER—A NEW HOPE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WORLD PEACE.

A great new hope has risen for Peacemakers of all Nations, and the women of the United States and Great Britain are going forward together in a **British-American Women's Crusade** to spread that Hope, and to do all in their power to ensure its early and complete realisation.

This new hope comes to us in the shape of a **draft Treaty for the renunciation of war as an instrument of National Policy**, which has now been submitted by the U.S.A. Government for consideration by the Governments of France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, and Japan.

THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF THE PROPOSED TREATY ARE:—

1. That the high contracting parties (namely Great Britain, United States, France, Germany, Italy, and Japan) solemnly declare, in the name of their respective peoples, that they condemn recourse to war for the solution of international controversies, and renounce it as an instrument of national policy in their relations with one another.
2. The high contracting parties agree that the settlement or solution of all disputes or conflicts, of whatever nature or of whatever origin they may be, which may arise among them, shall never be sought except by pacific means.
3. When it comes into effect the Treaty, it is added, shall remain open as long as may be necessary for adherence by all the other Powers of the world.

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What does this proposal (the Kellogg proposal as it is called) **really mean?** If accepted by the Great Nations now called upon to consider it, how would it advance the all-important work of providing world security against the outbreak of war?

WHERE DO WE STAND TO-DAY?

Still facing possible war. All the nations who signed the League Covenant have curtailed, to a great extent, their right to declare war upon any other nation for their own ends (Article 12 L. of N. Covenant). But even within the League that right is retained under certain circumstances and after certain delays (Article 15).

IS THIS ENOUGH? OBVIOUSLY NOT.

The power of each nation to threaten war for private ends and to carry out the threat still stands. The fear of that threat still poisons the atmosphere in which international affairs are conducted. Hence it comes that, in the ten years since the "War to end War," successive attempts by the League of Nations to achieve disarmament have failed, increasing rather than allaying the fear of war which haunts the minds of the Governments and peoples of the world.

THE VALUE OF THE UNITED STATES PROPOSAL.

The United States proposal—bold in its simplicity—if carried into effect would create a **real change in international atmosphere.**

These points are specially to be noted:—

1. That the renunciation of war as an instrument of national policy is to be made **without reservations of any sort.** The idea of settling any dispute by a competition in massacring each other's citizens is, once for all, ruled out in the dealings of the signatory nations with each other.
2. That no country is excluded. Treaties of peaceful settlement between two countries only are sometimes regarded as a veiled threat by those who stand outside it. This Treaty is offered to a group of great nations at once. All are invited to follow.

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3. That the Treaty proposes the renunciation of war as an instrument of **national** policy. What we are to renounce is the right to use war as a means of forcing our national will upon other nations. Thus the American Treaty would not conflict with our obligations, either under the Treaty of Locarno or under the Covenant of the League, by which we may be called upon to take measures against a Covenant-breaking State.

A CHALLENGE TO ALL PEACEMAKERS.

Here, then, is a new hope, and after the disastrous failures of the last ten years to produce a sense of world security, we stand in need of a new hope. The United States proposal, described by Monsieur Briand as "**arresting and appealing in its purity,**" is a challenge to all peace-lovers to be up and doing.

THIS CHALLENGE COMES HOME WITH ESPECIAL FORCE TO THE WOMEN OF GREAT BRITAIN FOR THESE REASONS:—

First.—This is a great year for the women of this country. It is as certain as anything in politics can be certain that by the next election we shall have five million new women voters.

Second.—A great organisation of women in the United States (The Conference on the Cause and Cure of War), including at least ten million women, have decided to carry out a Crusade throughout the United States in favour of Mr. Kellogg's proposal, and, through their President, have asked the women of Great Britain to organise a similar movement on this side of the Atlantic.

This invitation was sent in January, 1928, to the Peacemakers' Pilgrimage Committee, which was responsible for the Pilgrimage in the summer of 1926. They at once set to work. The Pilgrimage Committee has been revived and enlarged, and under the title **British-American Women's Crusade** has been engaged on working out plans.

OUTLINE OF THE CRUSADE.

1. **Public Meetings** to be held all over the country, at which a resolution will be put heartily welcoming the pro-

posal that as many nations as possible should jointly undertake to renounce war as an instrument of national policy in favour of the peaceful settlement of all disputes.

2. **Every member of Parliament and every Parliamentary Candidate** to be approached by a deputation of voters in his constituency, asking him what action he proposes to take to forward the acceptance of this proposal by Great Britain.

3. **A great Demonstration in the Albert Hall**, to be addressed by leading Statesmen of all parties in this country and by some prominent speakers from the United States.

Co-operation between the women of the U.S.A. and of Great Britain will be the inspiration of our work. We are working in close touch with one another. Leaflets, press cuttings, &c., are to be exchanged, and full information as to the progress of the Crusade on both sides of the Atlantic.

AIM OF THE CRUSADE.

If the Governments of the Great Nations sign this proposed Treaty, its real, lasting strength will depend upon how thoroughly **the heart and mind of the peoples are behind their respective Governments**. Our aim is to enlighten and awaken the public mind and conscience.

WILL YOU HELP IN THIS URGENT TASK?

You will see by the heading of this leaflet that a great number of organisations of women [political and religious, social and industrial] are co-operating in our Crusade. Will you use your influence with the Local Branches of some of these Organisations?

Will you help them to form a **Joint Local Committee** to take action in your district? Will you give a donation towards the cost of our Crusade?

ELEANOR ACLAND.

All inquiries and offers of help will be welcomed by our Secretary, **Miss Gordon, 55 Gower Street, W.C.1**. We are prepared to help with **speakers, literature, posters, &c.**

Further copies of this leaflet can be obtained from the British-American Women's Crusade, 55 Gower Street, W.C.1, at ½d. each or 50 for 1/6, 100 for 2/6, 500 for 10/-.