

DEBUNKING PARTY. January has been a busy month for the Syracuse Peace Council. Of course, the **BIG EVENT** was our annual Birthday Party at which Miss Jeannette Rankin, first Congresswoman in the United States, now Legislative Secretary of the National Council for Prevention of War, was our guest of honor and made a brilliant address on "Debunking War Propaganda". She not only did a thorough job of "debunking"; she made constructive recommendations, as well. She advised her hearers to "invest one dollar in peace" by buying 100 postal cards. "Don't write more than once a week," she said, "unless it is an emergency! And don't use them all yourself; get all your friends and neighbors to write. Ask questions until you get a reply. Then say "thank you; and ask another question!"

THE ONLY WAY. All this was to implement her contention: "The only thing that will keep us out of war is **EXPRESSED** public opinion." Challenged with the contrast between the limitless opportunities for war propoganda and the meagre resources of the peace movement, she countered stoutly: "We have one thing that they lack, **DEVOTION**. With it we can win."

QUESTIONS. Among the questions she suggested asking the President were:

- 1 - Which country do you expect will attack us first?
- 2 - Are you preparing for another foreign war?
- 3 - Will these new planes you want be for the Army or the Navy?
- 4 - Why fortify Guam?

Footnote: Remember, this is a democracy. Address your message simply: My dear Mr. President; Dear Senator Wagner; Dear Senator Mead; My dear Mr. Hancock.

100 POSTALS FOR PEACE ! 100

WHY NOT?

100

100

Dear Peace Worker,
Why not act on Miss Rankin's suggestion this month? Buy 21 cards. Send one each week. Get 4 others to send one each week. Use the last card to tell us what you have done. Use the telephone to ask us for help.

Devotedly yours,
The Syracuse Peace Council

January 27, 1939

FORUM. On Monday evening, January 23, Dr. Jesse Holmes launched our Public Forum with an address on the theme "Democracy in Crisis". There was a splendid audience and we are off to a good start. Remember, there are five more just as good to follow. Are these dates on your personal calendar?

RADIO. Do you ever listen to our weekly broadcast, WFBL, 4:45, Friday afternoons? Your comments on this program are needed at once if we are to continue to have free time. Address Mr. U. S. Paxman, WFBL, The Onondaga.

INVITATION. The Middle Atlantic Area of the Institute of International Relations invites you to Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania, June 30 to July 9, 1939. Faculty: Dr. Charles G. Fenwick, Kirby Page, Major George Fielding Eliot, Dr. T. Z. Koo, R. H. Markham, Dorothy Detzer, Dr. Walter VanKirk, and Dr. Karl Scholz. Tuition, room, and board for full period, \$27.50. Spend one week of your vacation in constructive study and recreation combined.

WHAT A NOTED BRITISH AUTHOR THINKS OF THE LAST WAR
"After spending a million lives and eight billion pounds sterling,
what has one to show for it? Free gas masks! That is all."

- EARLY EDITION** We are sending our LETTER out a week early this month for two reasons: (1) to call your attention to the PAUL HARRIS DINNER; (2) in order that you may get your War Referendum Petition in on time.
- DID YOU HELP?** "Guam" not included in Naval Bill. "Despite desperate efforts by the Navy Department, public outcry prevented. All in all, the fate of the Guam proposal is the most reassuring evidence of the American people's distaste for militarism that has come to light this year." Christian Century 5/3/39.
- DID YOU SEE?** The Message to the President from the Executive Committee of our Council re-affirming our belief in mandatory neutrality as a non-participation-in-war policy; but at the same time urging upon him the responsibility for world-leadership in a "peace conference before instead of after war"? It was reported in all three Syracuse papers. Ask us for a copy. Sign and mail it.
- IF YOU ARE WISE** You will work for the War Referendum. It is "Democracy in Action." One man to whom we sent the enclosed petition returned it to us within three days with 63 signatures. See how many you can send us before June 1st.
- BARBED WIRE FOR US?** While we hate totalitarianism abroad and hunt spies at home, nearly 60 bills which endanger our traditional civil liberties have been introduced in the present session of Congress. Two of the worst, the Dempsey and Hobbs Bills, have actually passed the House! Ask your Congressman for copies. Then tell him what you think of them. Freedom Begins at Home.
- THE AMERICAN DREAM** If you believe in aiding the oppressed you should support the Wagner-Rogers Bill to admit refugee children. "Suffer little children"
- GOOD READING** We recommend for your reading in this Memorial Day Season: "We're Blundering into War" by Charles A. Beard. THE AMERICAN MERCURY, April. "Background for War" TIME, May 1 and 22, and "Adolf to Franklin" TIME, May 8. "Gambling with Peace" Demaree Bess, SATEVEPOST, April 8. "Three Families" LIFE April 24. They're worth the trouble it will take to look them up (we have copies) but are an excellent antidote for the high-powered propaganda for war now being poured out by radio, press, platform and screen.
- TEN CENTS** JUST LIKE YOU STORIES for little boys and girls. Books of world friendship for home or Sunday School. At this office.
- PAUL HARRIS** Just back from several months in England and Central Europe, Paul Harris, Jr., will be our guest at dinner at THE SUNFLOWER, Thursday evening, May 25th, at 6:45 DST. Reservations are coming in fast. If you don't want to miss this unusual opportunity, send in yours at once. Price 50¢.
- NEWS NOTES** London, March 9th. - The government tried out today its new gas bags for babies too small to use gas masks. quoted from The New York Post. Air-raid protection drills were interrupted in Yorkshire, England, by the discovery that the 2,000 hurricane lamps to be used were stamped "Made in Germany." quoted from The Cleveland Plain Dealer.
- HELP** Our Town Hall Meeting last month was a great success. Now, we are helping churches and schools to plan appropriate Memorial Day programs. What can we do for you? P. S. Welcome, World's Fair Pencil Sharpener!
- SUMMER SESSIONS** Do you want to invest a part of your summer vacation pleasantly and profitably? Here are two excellent and economical opportunities: (1) "How Can We Make Democracy Work?" - The Summer Institute for Social Progress at Wellesley, Mass., July 8-22. Write: Dorothy P. Hill, 22 Oakland Place, Buffalo. (2) "Toward An Adequate American Foreign Policy", - The Institute of International Relations at Lafayette College, Easton, Pa. Write: E. A. School, 20 South Twelfth Street, Philadelphia.
- SPECIAL EDITION** Our June LETTER (The last for this season) will be a special message entitled What Fools We Mortals Be, which we ask you to read and keep in mind during the summer months. War takes no holiday. So this is our opportunity to thank you for your support during the past ten months; and to ask you to "stand by for further announcements."

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Stop!

~~Thinking~~ that you are licked, that your letters did not count, because we lost the embargo. SENATOR LAFOLLETTE says that the peace forces of this country won a great victory. JESS MACKNIGHT believes that because of our efforts the law, in its final form, "was much stronger than originally intended." JOHN T. TLYNN writes that the campaign "aroused the whole country as it has never been aroused before, and reversed the defeatist sentiment that we cannot Keep Out of War." And FREDERICK J. LIBBY writes from Washington: "We have gained something more important than legislation. 95% of both Houses of Congress have declared themselves against participation in this war. The debate - has been a great educational program!"

Look!

on the label on this LETTER now. Is this little sign * there? It is a MARK OF MERIT; it means "paid subscriptions." A word to the wise is enough!

Listen!

Our fourth annual radio series is now launched under the direction of Mr. U.S. Paxman, Monday evenings at 10:45. The response is far better than ever before. Have you told station WSYR that you appreciate their gift of time? You should do at least that if you believe this to be one of our important avenues toward community education for peace.

Did you know that Congressman Hancock voted for the embargo?
Have you thanked him?

He did.
You should.

To OUR MANY NEW MEMBERS Welcome! and in order that you may know what you are supporting here is a brief partial summary of our recent activities; NEWS LETTER - more than five hundred paid subscriptions; radio - a weekly program; speakers - for more than twenty meetings; Propaganda Analysis Class - thirty enrolled; Play Tournament - first prize to Jewish Community Center; public meetings - three; signatures to Congress on letters and petitions - literally thousands.

FACING FORWARD Our next step is to be Education for Peace Now! Ask us for a copy of David Lawrence's editorial in the UNITED STATES NEWS of October 23rd. He says "Inevitably There Must Be A Just Peace - The Terms and Conditions are Known Now - so why not SKIP THE WAR and go directly to the main issues which are economic?" -He then offers a formula as a basis for discussion. Get your copy and start discussions in your homes. Free for the asking.

HOW TO KEEP AMERICA OUT OF WAR If you haven't seen Kirby Page's new pamphlet on this subject, send us a nickel for a two dollar book. If (or when) you have seen it, send us a dollar for twenty copies. (We pay postage.) Sell or give them to your friends. Help us to distribute 1,000 copies before Christmas. It is packed with factual information about: the causes of war; the consequences of the war; suggestions for national policy and individual action; little-known information not easily available to the general reader; an analysis of the moral and religious issues. This is a simple, specific and inexpensive way for you to help EDUCATE FOR PEACE.

OPPORTUNITY A debate-forum: Oxford University(England)-Syracuse University: WHAT SHOULD BE AMERICA'S POLICY TOWARD THE EUROPEAN WAR?
Sunday, December 3, 7:30 P.M. at The Mizpah. No admission charge.

ON GUARD There are dangerous loopholes in the new Neutrality Law. Extension of credit is not impossible; transfer of American ships to foreign flags is a serious possibility.

The American Congress has abandoned its own policy and adopted the President's program of selling arms to belligerents. From now on it will be harder to keep the United States out of war; to get a peace settlement that will be lasting.

America must be can be kept out of war. But it is no overnight job. It requires educating people toward peace. It requires building public opinion. It requires focusing this public opinion on those public officials whose whose decision as to national policy means peace or war. This job can be done in ONLY ONE WAY - through continuous, well directed, ORGANIZED EFFORT . . .

The Syracuse Peace Council offers you an opportunity to have a share in that organized effort. Let each reader personalize the crisis. If the coming war depends on Me, will there be a war? If My action decides the issue, will there be war? When you have answered that question you will want to join with us. \$1.00 a year will bring you frequent opportunities to help. What not today?

any

Syracuse, New York

NEW
YEAR'S
GREETINGS

May the days of our new year be filled with strength and courage for the unending struggle we must wage together against war and destruction.

COMMITTEE ON
SUFFERINGS

"Not what we give; but what we share.."

Peace and goodwill' require practical expression. Two opportunities are before us; A special committee cooperating with other individuals and groups is investigating the possibility of caring for a refugee family; The Friends Clothing Committee writes us that "the need is beyond realization" in our coal fields; among Spanish refugees in France; in Poland. Last year we sent two large boxes and will be glad again this year to handle anything that is brought to our office for this purpose.

NEW BOOKS
NEW READERS
NEEDED

who never came back."

Intelligent opinion needs the guidance and stimulation of reliable books. One friend gave us four new ones recently, including the "able and a little frightening" PROPAGANDA IN THE NEXT WAR and Kerr ~~By's~~ prints and drawings dedicated to "the men Who will give others? Who will borrow and read these?

CHARACTER
BAD:
a
CHALLENGE

Every young man or woman of military age who considers the possibility of Conscientious Objection to war should read this intimate account of the experiences of one American C.O. in the First World War. We have a new copy and if it is not convenient for you to call for it, we will send it by mail.

OUR BIRTHDAY PARTY

ENTERTAINMENT

DISCUSSION

REFRESHMENTS

PAUL HARRIS, JR.

Monday evening, January 15, 1940

Make reservations now.

TOGETHER
WE STAND

A conference of fifty "leaders of the peace movement" at which our Council was represented, was held in New York on December 19th. Following are high lights of the program unanimously adopted after the group had heard Oswald Garrison Villard, just home from Europe, say "this is not a war but a ~~mass~~ with destruction. Two years of it will mean absolute collapse with Stalin the only victor." 1. We are not isolationists; we are not indifferent; we are convinced that America can best serve both her own citizens and the world by staying out of the war. 2. We support American mediation for peace in conjunction with other neutrals at the earliest practical moment. 3. We oppose any increase in the total military expenditures.

ON GUARD

Congress will be in session soon. Be alert!

OTHER
PEOPLE'S
MONEY

Look at these figures:

Military expenditure

WHAT
PRICE

1934
1938
1939
1940
1941 (estimated)

\$ 490,000,000
1,028,000,000
1,163,000,000
1,760,000,000
3,000,000,000 !!!

ARMAMENTS

Read Villard's recent book OUR MILITARY CHAOS questioning whether the people's money is being spent economically and you are face to face with one of the most serious issues that will come before the next session of Congress: Increased preparedness: National Defense or National Destruction? Which does America need more: Houses or battleships? Remember, ENGLAND EXPECTS EVERY AMERICAN TO DO HIS DUTY.