

MONTH of April has been a busy month in our calendar. April 5, Bishop William A. **MEETINGS** Lawrence of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts on "The Necessity for Faith in Times of Change"; April 17, Frederick J. Libby, Executive Secretary of the National Council for Prevention of War on "The Road from War"; April 29, Dr. S. Ralph Harlow of Smith College on "Education and Religion in War Time." We didn't plan it this way, but the genuine success of each of these meetings on a crowded schedule is abundant and encouraging evidence of the vitality and interest of our Peace Council. Plan now to attend our Annual Business Meeting at 8 o'clock Tuesday Evening, June 1, at the Y.W.C.A., for the Report of the year's work and for the election of officers. This is your Peace Council. Know what it is doing; take a responsible share in shaping its program. The Executive Committee extends an urgent invitation.

TAKING PROFITS Wall Street publications admit that many of the nation's largest **OUT OF WAR** corporations earned profits in 1942 greater than those of 1941. A recent analysis of the profits of eight major corporations in 1941 as contrasted with the pre-war average for the years 1936-39 shows the following increases:

General Motors	20%	Consolidated Aircraft	962%
Curtiss Wright	994%	Glenn Martin	177%
Bethlehem Steel	123%	N. Y. Shipbuilding	2420%
Douglas Aircraft	930%	Lockheed Aircraft	961%

The Office of Price Administration, after surveying the records of 200 important war contractors, found that their 1941 profits after taxes "were about 80 per cent above the pre-war average."

CHILLS MRS. ROOSEVELT The following paragraph is from a letter from Mrs. Roosevelt **TO THE SOUL** to J. Y. Sakamoto, officer of the Seattle Chapter of the Japanese-American Citizens League, which was published some time ago in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer:

"It is still difficult for me to see any reason for a war among peoples in this twentieth century, when human beings are supposed to have progressed in intelligence and civilization. The ramifications of War are so enormous, many innocent people will suffer and we will all pay the price in one way or another. It chills me to my soul to think of the best of our young men going off to die or to return crippled in mind and body."

COMICS Margaret Frakes a few months ago discussed the effects of the 15,000,000 **NO LONGER** copies of comic magazines sold each month in this country; she wrote: **COMIC** "The real effect can be obtained only from taking in the garishly colored pictures on the horror-packed pages; long-fanged and sharp-horned 'Japs' (snarling monsters with brilliant yellow skins, leering eyes, cavernous jaws); machine guns mowing down hordes of Japanese attackers; flames consuming men and ships and cities; bodies from which flesh is being torn by strange 'scientific' monsters; grisly skeletons leering even in death; and through it all, superhuman heroes defying the laws of nature to gain final victory..."

"The nightmarish fears being engendered," she continues, "along with the wishful thinking aroused by the dependence on miracles as the way of escape from all danger, are tragic enough. But even more terrifying is the prospect of a young generation being inculcated with a hate and color prejudice which will make post-war tolerance and understanding a practical impossibility. We looked with revulsion a few years ago at the primers created for German children, with their grotesque pictures of Jews as half-monsters, and decried the depravity which could place them in the hands of children whose concepts of people and events were just being formed. But those primers have nothing on the comics which today are eagerly devoured by most American school children."



LESS FOOD A well known financial newsletter from Washington says food facts are not as good as the official statements indicate; the officials cannot speak out fully for fear of frightening the public, and of course they can't be absolutely sure. But regardless of weather, farm help, farm machinery, transportation, fertilizer, and prices, it is certain that less food will be produced in 1943 than in 1942 and the demand will be greater.

SLAVE LABOR The Austin-Wadsworth Bills now before the Congress provide for drafting **LAW** men and women roughly between the ages of 18 and 50 for work wherever the government sees fit to place them. They would give the President complete control for the next two years or so of the lives of nearly

70 million free men and women of the United States. This power would be wielded the head of the War Manpower Commission, now Paul McNutt; he would have legal authority to tell each man and each woman what work he must do and where he must go to do it under penalty of a fine of \$1,000 or six months imprisonment or both.

OPPOSED BY ORGANIZED LABOR All of organized labor is against this bill. The statement of William Green, head of the A. F. of L., is typical of this opposition: "Soften the provisions as you may," he says, "these bills impose involuntary servitude in violation of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, and in violation of our basic and most cherished concepts of freedom. The American Federation of Labor must be and is unalterably opposed to these bills. Are we to say that free labor has lost its crucial battle? I say to you that enactment of this proposal into law would take from millions, both on the battle and production fronts, the very essence and meaning of this war. This proposal is predicated on the assumption that there is a dire necessity for compulsory labor in order effectively to prosecute the war. I categorically deny the truth of that assumption."

HUGH JOHNSON'S COMMENT When a similar proposal was sent out last year as a trial balloon the late General Johnson termed it "a complete Nazi pattern of forced labor." "The direct draft of labor," he said, "comes very close to the Supreme Court's definition of slavery under our Constitution - enforced employment for a private master, not in punishment for a crime."

WILLIAM HENRY CHAMBERLAIN This famous foreign correspondent, for many years connected with the staff of the Christian Science Monitor, writes of the Austin-Wadsworth bills: "Any mass mobilization of men and women for industrial or farm labor, therefore, violates the fundamental American principle that a job must be a matter of free agreement between worker and employer. Under a barracks regime of forced labor it would be impossible to preserve the freedom of collective bargaining and the labor standards that are an integral part of progressive democracy."

You can help prevent these bills being enacted into law by writing your Senators and Congressman that you are strongly opposed to them. There is powerful support and backing for them from the War Department and the Administration generally, so we urge you act at once.

IMMEDIATE PEACE ADVOCATED BY QUAKERS Without a dissenting voice the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends sent this Message to each member of the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives on March 30, 1943:
"The Quaker faith in the universal responsiveness of men to good will enables us to declare that it is never too late to apply reasonableness and reconciling love to any human problem. In the present war situation, we can best express this faith by urging an immediate peace based on mutual concessions in the cause of international justice. To this end we declare to our government and to our fellow citizens that an immediate peace-by-consultation can be made morally better and more permanent than any peace which might be won by continuing the war. We urge that peace aims be redefined, giving special emphasis to the contributions which the United States is prepared to make to the cause of international justice, and that these be offered to the world as the basis for an immediate peace conference."

THE BOOK END Best selling pamphlet of the month has been Dorothy Hutchinson's **A CALL TO PEACE NOW** published by A.F.S.C. with a Minute from Falls Monthly Meeting of Friends (Pa.), and with the endorsement of a distinguished list of Quaker leaders. Paul Hutchinson, managing editor of Christian Century, is reported to have called this the best statement on the subject to date. Single copies 15¢; two for 25¢, postpaid.