

LET'S GO ! Remember the days when we used to say "SEPTEMBER IS STAMP MONTH"? Your Peace Council has long since grown beyond the point where it can be financed by such simple lures, but stamps are still a prime essential of our work and a most convenient form of remittance. A twenty five cent book or a \$3 sheet--whatever you send will be put to work for you at once; and every renewal made this month is a help and encouragement as we swing into our fall stride. The Executive Committee meets this afternoon and we shall have important program announcements for you in the weeks ahead. ALL SET?

FURY OF V-DAY America is scanning the headlines; listening to the broadcasts; laying odds on when "it will be over". We are making plans to "curb the fury of V-Day"; demobilization is a campaign issue. But it is tragically significant that no one is talking about peace.

On the contrary: Mr. Sumner Welles and Mr. Hugh Gibson, two of America's most distinguished diplomats, are recently described as "obviously frightened men. . . . (who) both fear that we are stumbling ahead into disaster. . . .worse than that which followed the other war." Secretary of War Stimson says: "We must not accept the philosophy that this war will end all wars. . ." The argument for permanent peacetime conscription forecloses the possibility of peace. Educators, historians, economists, leaders of public thought and opinion are agreed in their analysis: "This is not the last world war but only the second of a series that will outlast the century"; "we may expect succeeding chapters in a new hundred years war."

In such a climate of opinion peace lovers and peace workers will do well to turn away from the headlines, stop gazing longingly at blueprints of a brave new world which every one in authority ignores, and look at the basic realities of the situation.

WHY, as we approach the end of one stage of the war do we despair of peace?

The answer, we believe, is revealed in the dramatic moment at the Paris peace conference described by that eminent American journalist, Lincoln Steffens, in his Autobiography.

#### PRESIDENT and PREMIERS

As they sat down at the table one morning and were about to proceed to business "M. Clemenceau, who was fiddling with his gray silk gloves, said, 'One moment, gentlemen. I desire before we go any further to make clear one very essential point.'

"The President and the Premiers halted and looked up expectantly at M. Clemenceau, who said: 'I have heard something about a permanent peace. There has been a great deal of talk about a peace to end war forever, and I am interested in that. But I would like to know--all the French would like to know--whether you mean it, the permanent peace.'

"He looked at his colleagues and they nodded.

"'So,' Clemenceau said, 'you really mean it! Well, it is possible. We can do it; we can make the permanent peace.... But we French cannot quite believe that you, our friends, neighbors, allies--that you really mean what you say. Do you, Mr. President?'

"Mr. Wilson did.

"'And you, Mr. Premier?'

"Mr. Lloyd George did.

"'Very important,' M. Clemenceau muttered, as if convinced, as if the whole prospect were changing, and his whole policy. 'Very important. We can make this permanent peace; we can remove all the causes of war and set up no new causes of war.'

"Clemenceau clucked in his throat, he pressed tight down the fingers of his gloves. 'And you have counted the cost of such a peace?' he asked.

"There was some hesitation at that. 'What costs?' they asked.

"'Well,' said the French intelligence, 'if we give up all future wars--if we are to prevent war, we must give up our empires and all hope of empire. You, Mr. Lloyd George, you English will have to come out of India, for example; we French shall have to come out of North Africa; and you Americans, Mr. President, you must get out of the Philippines and Puerto Rico and leave Cuba alone--and Mexico.

"'Oh, we can all go to these and other countries, but as tourists, traders, travelers; we cannot any more govern them or exploit them or have the inside track in them. We cannot possess the keys to trade routes and spheres of influence. And yes, we shall have to tear down our tariff walls and open the whole world to free trade and traffic. These are some of the costs of permanent peace; there are other sacrifices we, the dominant powers, would have to make. It is very expensive, peace. We French are willing, but are you willing, to pay the price, all those costs of no more war in the world?'

". . . the President and the Premiers protested that they did not mean all that, that that was not necessary, not all at once. No, No, they did not mean exactly that.

"'Then,' said Clemenceau, sitting up straight and fisting the table sharply once, 'then you don't mean peace. You mean war.'"

THE KEYS TO Here is the open secret which every one knows and few dare to face.  
THE KINGDOM Here is the reason why we are now planning, not for peace but for another armistice. Let the Christian Century have the concluding word: "It is virtually impossible. . . to place any reliance in such an armed peace, either for approximate justice or for durability. Is it too late to hope for something else? For the period immediately following victory, it probably is. Nevertheless, we believe. . . need not yet give up hope. . . despite such arrangements as the victorious powers may enter into in the moment of triumph, sober second thought may soon thereafter be appealed to effectively to persuade the masses. . ."

WE BELIEVE that this is the job of the Syracuse Peace Council in 1944-45:  
To keep alive hope;  
To strengthen and support the makers of peace.  
To challenge contemporary minds with incompatible ideas;  
To extend, even farther, the channels of peace education and action.

Are you GOING OUR WAY?

BOOK END Peace is the Victory-- in one volume, the most recent thinking on problems of peace by such Americans as De Vere Allen, Harry Emerson Fosdick, John Haynes Holmes, E. Stanley Jones, Kirby Page, Clarence E. Pickett, Oswald Garrison Villard; edited by Harrop A. Freeman. A very valuable contribution to the literature of peace. Price: \$1.50 postpaid.

The Gist-- in convenient "Readers Digest" size-- a digest of books, speeches, and articles "for the common man and woman who have no time for long articles," dealing with: Why We Are Where We Are; What War Does to Us; Some Religious Points of View; and Must We Stay Where We Are? Represents the varied thought of Congressmen and Senators, churchmen and journalists, lieutenants and educators, Quakers and Catholics. Highly informative and most convenient for reference. Price: 25¢ postpaid.

BRIBE In view of his prominence in current political discussion of international affairs, and as a "frequently mentioned" future Secretary-of-State, the views of Mr. John Foster Dulles are of special interest right now. A copy of his article PEACE WITHOUT PLATITUDES will be sent free for each new or renewed membership (one dollar or more) received this month.