

HE'S FOR IT! "We stand for compulsory military service for every man. If a state is not worth that, then away with it! Then you must not complain if you are enslaved. No one gives you freedom save only by your sword." -- adolph hitler

WE'RE AGIN' IT! The tragedy of the moment is that you gentlemen are sitting here listening to men advocate, for the United States, peacetime conscription, which these same military leaders will want to deny to our defeated enemies. A striking exchange of Hitlerism at home for no conscription abroad. Having won a material victory over Germany and Japan, it is now proposed that we adopt here in the United States peacetime military conscription - the very core of the totalitarianism which it is claimed our men are dying to stamp out abroad. This is a pretty exchange of ideas with our defeated enemies. If you adopt peacetime conscription for the United States of America, Adolph Hitler, although dead, has won a striking victory over us.

-- Testimony of Edward C. M. Richards before the House Select Committee, 6-14-45

Reports from Washington indicate: that principal support for peacetime conscription came from the Army, Navy, Legion, Chamber of Commerce, and National Association of Manufacturers; that principal opposition was from labor, church and education; that in spite of "one of the most impressive coalitions ever assembled to oppose a pending legislation", the Woodrum Committee will probably report favorably to the House. This means that our opposition must be kept solidly organized and ready for action.

If you also are "Agin' it", the NEXT STEP is to write President Harry S. Truman asking him to use his great influence at the forthcoming conference with Churchill and Stalin to urge the universal abolition of peacetime conscription. Watch for the report of the Woodrum Committee on the June hearings and immediately express yourself to the Chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs, Mr. Andrew J. May; to your own Congressman, and to the editor of your local paper. If you need more literature to distribute, we have it.

ANNUAL MEETING Our annual business meeting last month was well attended. The report of the treasurer showed that our receipts for the year were \$6.63 over our estimated budget of \$2,945 and that we have a surplus for the year of \$100. This is good but it is a narrow margin and the payment of pledges or new contributions during the summer months while the Anti-Conscription Campaign must go on will be a big help. The Annual Report of the Chairman indicated a busy, active year of varied effort and achievement and an increased response to our program that is most encouraging. Copies on request. Changes in the Executive Committee for the coming year are: Vice-Chairman, Frederick S. Webster; additions, Rev. Clytus F. Mowry, Mrs. Bernard McGivern. The resignation of the Rev. Harry B. Taylor was accepted with regret.

FREE AD. The film "How to Conquer War" shown at our June meeting makes a compelling argument for democratic, federal world government. It is available to school and church groups or to individuals for a small fee. Write Rev. Paul Husted, R. F. D. 1, Rome, New York.

BOOK END "The Genesis of Pearl Harbor" by William Neumann, the story of the diplomatic maneuvers that led up to December 7, 1941. Told without passion from documents of the U.S. State Department, it explodes the official myth from official sources facts. Of immediate and historic importance to responsible citizens. 25¢, this office.

"The Will of God for These Days" in Personal Relations, Economic Life, Political Action, Race Relations, International Affairs by KIRBY PAGE. \$1.00. On sale here.

CAZENOVIA Through an oversight, no mention was made in the June PNL of the Institute Announcement enclosed in that issue. But the enthusiastic comments on faculty and program and the advance registrations prove that it spoke for itself. It has been endorsed by Bishops Peabody and Ledden, and by Dr. William T. Melchoir for the Council of Churches' Committee on International Affairs for the churches of this area. "Vacation With a Purpose", August 1-10. Additional folders on request, 2-5316.

CALLING ALL

CHILDREN The education of children in terms of the understanding of others is a major responsibility in days like these. Frequently, at this time of year we get enquiries for materials and ideas. If you have occasion to use it, we can supply you with a fifteen page leaflet of "suggestions for Summer service activities for children." It contains helps for mothers and teachers, a list of resource material and a variety of other ideas all centering around the theme of Goodwill. A postal card or a quarter will bring you a copy.

FOR GOD'S SAKE One of our high admirals says "we are drowning and burning the bestial apes all over the Pacific, and it is just as much a pleasure to burn them as to drown them."

A mother wrote Secretary Forrestal: "Please, for God's sake, stop sending our finest youth to be murdered on places like Iwo Jima. It is too much for boys to stand, too much for mothers and homes to take. It is driving some mothers crazy. Why can't objectives be accomplished some other way? It is most inhuman and awful--stop, stop!"

STATEMENT ON THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC

"The European war has ended, not only in the overthrow of Hitler's rule but also in the utter ruin of Germany itself. Statistics are completely inadequate to measure the cost of the war and of the reconstruction of Europe. Must the Asiatic war be fought to the same sort of end? Unquestionably the United States and its allies can win such a war. Japanese defeat is already obvious and certain; her ruin can be made more complete than that of Germany.

"But consider the cost. No one can estimate how many more women and children will be burned alive in the bombing of her cities. Her soldiers fight with fanatical courage. Such resistance as they have offered in Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima will drag tens, perhaps hundreds of thousands of our own sons to agonizing death. In this sort of war, it is not only men but ideals of mercy and kindness which perish.

"The Press has stated, from Japanese sources, that American raids from March first to the middle of April in the four Japanese cities, Tokio, Osaka, Nagoya and Kobe, had destroyed 770,000 homes and made 3,140,000 disaster victims. More recently the papers tell almost daily of large scale massacre as American raids have continued with intensified fury. This bombing and burning of defenseless women and children in the densely crowded cities of Japan cannot be so 'effective' in military terms as to justify itself in terms of humanity and the future peace of the world.

"However far our military leaders may carry their policy of destruction, they know that the 75,000,000 people of Japan cannot be annihilated. The announcement of such an objective is intended to increase the effectiveness of the war's prosecution. But even carried to its worst extreme it will leave a residue of many millions who must somehow be integrated into the structure and pattern of peace.

"The current campaign of organized hatred, involving the denunciation of the entire Japanese people as bestial and depraved, is the denial of the divine spirit in man, and of the brotherhood of man. Out of our deepest convictions rises the assurance that the Japanese are not all entirely evil; that there are millions of men and women of good will in Japan, misled perhaps, but wanting the good life for all; men and women who are a necessary foundation stone in the structure of world peace. Such a peace cannot be built on mutual distrust, on fear and hatred.

"The only sound alternative to this policy of hatred and destruction so costly in American lives, is the clear and immediate formulation of American objectives, a statement by our government of the conditions of surrender, and an effort to put a stop to the campaign of vilification which, great as may be the provocation in war's atrocities, has gone beyond all bounds of reason and humane understanding."

-- Arthur L. Swift, Union Theological Seminary, New York

NCPW Legislative Report for June states that the Kuh report of May 9 of Japanese offers of surrender terms closely approximating the Cairo demands and the Hull ultimatum of 1941 are substantially correct; that grave doubts as to the wisdom of continuing the wholesale slaughter are rising in the Senate; that "tremendous pressure" is being put on the Administration to abandon the "Unconditional Surrender" slogan; that the British and the Chinese, together with our own General Staff, would welcome such a move.

URGENT Neither the people of the United States nor the people of Japan have been told by President Truman what are the specific political objectives for which continuation of the war against Japan is being pressed. Present and future peace in the Orient and democratic open dealings instead of secret diplomacy call for a frank statement of the terms--aside from military ones--on which the United States and its allies are willing to end hostilities and make peace.

If you agree, we believe that now is the time to wire or write the President.