

Far-called, our navies melt away;  
On dune and headland sinks the fire;  
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday  
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!  
Judge of the nations, spare us yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

The announcement in the Chicago Press on August 19 that essentially the same terms acted on by President Truman and Prime Minister Atlee at Potsdam were offered by the Japanese Government through General MacArthur and received at the White House seven months earlier is a sobering one. The report states that the offer was given casual attention and brushed aside with the remark that "MacArthur is our best fighter and our worst politician." The offer was not even taken to the Yalta Conference. What political purpose was served by the seven months of slaughter and sacrifice that followed before V J Day? Think again of Okinawa and of Hiroshima! Can it have been worth the price? These are questions the American citizen needs to ponder carefully as he looks ahead to the possibility of World War III.

JOHN Q. PUBLIC SPEAKS: PNL quotes without comment four observations on the news-of-the-month:

1. A window washer in a Philadelphia office building (on the atomic bomb): "Maybe they had it coming to 'em; I don't know. I just know this ain't the kind of thing the United States ought to be doing."
2. An executive of one of the most essential war plants in the country, in New York City: "This (the atomic bomb) makes it final. Either complete destruction by war or complete abandonment of war. There is no other alternative."
3. A public school teacher in Syracuse: "My mind is all mixed up. I'm happy that the actual fighting has ceased but heartsick when I think of the suffering the world over, - suffering created in the name of Christianity. I'd like to be hopeful of the years ahead but instead I'm filled with fear of an even more terrible age. What do you do with a mind like that?"
4. A stranger in an Ohio restaurant as the V J whistles began to blow: "It's a cockeyed world. If the American people would work as hard for peace in peacetime as they do for war in war time, they could have it anytime." Will you?

FILL 'ER UP! Out in Ohio they tell about a man who drove up to a gas station, cried exuberantly, "Fill 'er up," and blew his false teeth out on the pavement! Can't blame him, but as Major George Fielding Eliot and Sumner Welles have warned us--Victory must mean more than freedom from restriction or it will mean utter defeat.

PEACE OR ARMISTICE? The war is over, - but the peace is not won. That is the continuing responsibility of every man and woman in the country. We believe that the Syracuse Peace Council offers you an opportunity and a challenge. You have kept our organization and program vigorously alive during the hard war years. We are grateful for your loyal support. But now is a time for growth. We are beginning our tenth year of "a continuing program of peace education and action in the community" with a splendid conference on Latin American Affairs. They have a vital bearing on the peace of the years ahead. Ask for additional copies of the enclosed announcement. Help us fill every seat at the tables!

Read carefully the sober words of military experts, school teachers and window washers quoted in this LETTER. Is there really anything more important for you to do right now than to enlist in the good fight for peace? Accept the offer below; help us to double now our outreach into the community. Peace or just Another Armistice? By your action or your inaction you make a choice.

ENCOURAGEMENT: Some of the very best writing on the ambitious theme known as It Works Both Ways! International Affairs during the late war years appeared in the pages of that sprightly journal, THE NEW YORKER. This may seem mildly surprising to some but this "Talk of the Town" has one advantage in comparison with much otherwise excellent thought on the subject: it is highly readable. This seems to us such a virtue that we wish to mail free (courtesy of THE NEW YORKER) a sixteen page reprint of these articles on "World Government and Peace" to

- (1) each new paid subscription to this NEWS-LETTER (esteemed contemporary of the NEW YORKER!) 25¢ each, 5 for \$1.00, including your own; and
- (2) to each new or renewal membership (one dollar, better more!) to the Peace Council. Offer good until November 11, 1945.

MAJOR GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT, warning that Terrible Dangers Face this Victorious Nation quotes Army General Arnold as saying that future wars will involve explosives 'destructive beyond the wildest nightmares of the imagination,' and adds: "This the world in which our children must grow up. This is the world which we have made...This is the world in which we must now find some means of controlling the monsters we have created, or be destroyed by them."

**GENERAL MacARTHUR**, Tokio, Sept. 2: "Military alliances, balances of power, leagues of nations all in turn failed, leaving the only path to be by way of the crucible of war. The utter destructiveness of war now blots out this alternative. We have had our last chance. If we do not now devise some greater and more equitable system, Armageddon will be at our door.

"The problem basically is theological and involves a spiritual recrudescence and improvement of human character that will synchronize with our almost-matchless advance in science, art, literature and all material and cultural developments of the past 2,000 years. It must be of the spirit if we are to save the flesh."

**REMINDER** The following message was dated London 8/17. We received it 9/4:

"Can you please send me some second hand clothes such as coat, suit, shirts, socks, shoes, underwear. Sick and unemployed. Urgently needed." The fine response to our "Needles and Pins Shower" prompts us to share this appeal. We are still collecting clothing.

**GENERAL EISENHOWER** states the main objective of peace-time-military training:

"Psychological indoctrination and moral training requires the longest time, but fortunately it is never completely forgotten. This type of training is of incalculable importance. There is no possibility of overemphasizing the value of intelligent training of this kind. Integration of the means for waging war is a psychological problem as well as one of mere organization. The national mass, civilians and the uniformed services, must have a common understanding of the ideals and reasons for which the United States will fight a war, and the training in this regard must be intelligent and incessant."

This means mass psychological indoctrination. In a democracy? What happens to free institutions? If you don't want it, say so, out loud, now. The danger is not past. The President has announced his intention to recommend a military training program.

At the same time remember: (1) The English Labor Party is known to oppose peace-time conscription. (2) Representative Joseph W. Martin's resolution calling on the administration "to work unceasingly for an immediate international agreement whereby compulsory military service shall be wholly eliminated from the policies and practices of all nations." Have you supported this with your approval to Mr. Martin and Mr. Truman? Have you written your newspaper about it?

**LAST WORD** A Peace Council staff member was accosted in the elevator the other morning by a fellow-traveller who occupies an office down the hall.

"I suppose," he said, with obviously satiric intent, "that you people will close up shop now that the United Nations Charter has been signed."

The UNC has been signed. The SPC has not closed up shop.

During the progress of the debate from Dumbarton Oaks to San Francisco the State Department urged the widest and fullest possible discussion. We accepted our responsibility, as an organization devoted to peace education, for a small share in this process. We gave the Plan the best and most careful study of which we were capable; we adopted a point of view; and we undertook to provide our readers with honest criticism and information on which to base judgments and arrive at intelligent positions.

Now the Charter has been approved by the Senate. We did not approve but we accept the verdict loyally. We have a last word to say to our constituents. The best comments on San Francisco have been brief and revealing:

"Sound without fury, signifying nothing."--Anonymous.

"The difficulty is that we are trying to make an international omelette without breaking any of the eggs; and the eggs are all hard-boiled."-- T.Z. Koo.

"Some incidental good may, much major harm will come from such bald and precarious balance of military power.--Dan West, a leader of the Church of the Brethren.

"San Francisco will keep the mice in order, but never the lions."

--A Latin-American View.

"To expose the discrepancy between an idealistic phrase and an unsavory reality is the first step toward making the reality a little less unsavory."

--W. E. Chamberlin.

This is our 'last word'; we continue to take these 'first steps.' **GOING OUR WAY?**

**BOOK END** **PUERTO RICO: UNSOLVED PROBLEM.** Here is a little book of one hundred pages written by two of the Civilian Public Service men engaged in relief and rehabilitation work in that troubled island. The authors are students of economics and government and present the problems against the background of the Island's environment and culture. An excellent introduction for the American citizen to the unsolved problems of our own "possessions." In our free loan library or postpaid for \$1.00.