

To the members and friends of the Syracuse Peace Council:

This is a condensed report of the program of the Peace Council for the season 1948-1949. The complete program is available on request in our printed folder A YEAR OF GREAT DANGER.

The year's work has been marked by several distinctive features:

I. AN ENLARGED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The enlarged Executive Committee of 20 (formerly 13), authorized at the Annual Meeting a year ago, has been tried with real success and will I hope be continued. It has made possible better division of committee responsibilities and has assured a quorum for business at each of the monthly meetings, which have been held regularly. Appreciation is due all those who have given of their time and effort to this important committee. It is gratifying to find so many able and interested persons willing to serve.

II. FORUM COLLECTIONS. After prolonged consideration it was decided to base the economic support of our Forum Series on a freewill offering instead of on ticket sales. This plan somewhat increases the element of risk and tends to centralize responsibility in the office. On the other hand, it relieves us all of the necessity for ticket selling and of the payment of a federal tax. The plan has succeeded, the offering at each such meeting being slightly above the direct costs. The offerings do not cover the continuing overhead of the office and general promotion involved. Figures for the fall series of three meetings show a total cost of \$225.41; collections of \$238.11; net gain, \$12.70. The average attendance at the public meetings of the year was 125.

III. INCREASED SHARING OF RESPONSIBILITY. In addition to the faithful efforts of the program and publicity committees, the work of two committee chairmen requires special mention:

The Rev. C. Philip Torrance has taken hold of the financial problem and organized a way of dealing with it more vigorous and systematic than anything ever tried before. This willing acceptance of responsibility has relieved the Chairman of a tremendous burden and is greatly appreciated. A budget of \$5,200 was set up. All efforts to date have brought in \$2,140. We have outstanding pledges of \$808, and reasonable expectation of about \$1,000 more "in sight." This leaves \$1,200 to be secured by contributions or by curtailment of our work. The members and friends of the Council will decide.

Mrs. Irlavere Simmons, as Chairman of our Clothing Committee, has given uncounted hours of backbreaking work to sorting and packing clothing. To handle old clothes in such quantity requires real concern which no one who has not done it can fully appreciate. A particular responsibility was supervising the handling of about a ton received from Rotary Old Clothes Campaign. We are also deeply indebted to Mr. Emil Evertz for space in his warehouse for storage, and to the many volunteers who have helped with packing. In all, we have shipped this year about 5½ tons of clothing, shoes, soap, and candles.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF MISCELLANEOUS MADNESS. The following items are representative of the great diversity of activities which makes the Peace Council office a beehive or ant hill, as you choose of industry:

We have been regularly represented on the Board of the Council of Churches; we took part in the International Student Week End on the Campus, and in the University College course on "World Conflict and Politics"; we have benefited by excellent cooperation with student committees and staff at Hendricks Chapel; our Speakers Service has functioned modestly with special interest centering in a few PTA invitations; our library and literature service has been neglected but continues to be a real part of our community offering; we helped the State Baptist Youth Fellowship to make a community survey of opinion on peace and war questions; we shipped overseas 163 individually packed boxes in a teacher-to-teacher project sponsored by the Syracuse Teachers Association; again, the Teachers Association responded to our request and furnished specially prepared gift boxes to 25 needy Hungarian teachers who had been referred to us; we have placed 332 CARE and similar orders; our individual package service has responded to 15 appeals from overseas; we provided film strip on youth programs in Poland for the Onondaga Council of Girl Scouts; we arranged an informal supper conference for church leaders on the Atlantic Pact and arranged the publication of a nationally prepared "Open Letter to the President and Congress" on the Pact, over 17 local signatures; our four Teen-age Conferences have been small but stimulating and appreciated, the interest and enthusiasm of Goodyear-Burlingame and Vocational High Schools is noteworthy; we secured over 240 names and addresses of school children in 5 foreign countries for the World Citizenship program of the University Radio Workshop broadcast over WAER; as features of our educational program WNDR carried the six "Quaker World Service" broadcasts that won first prize in a national competition of 700 radio programs to further international understanding; WFBL has carried a thirty-minute broadcast by Lew Ayres entitled: WHOSE TIME HAS COME. We found ourselves listed in an eight-page directory of world peace organizations and workers published by the Osterichische Friedensgesellschaft in Vienna; the Monthly News Letter and Peace Action Bulletins continue regularly.

We are painfully aware that we are not stopping war and war making; that we move very slowly up the long uphill road of peace building. But we keep on, and we hope that you will keep on with us.

"We will continue....we will strengthen....and we must embark on a bold new program....for the achievement of peace, plenty and freedom," said the President in his Inaugural Address. Peace and Freedom are also our goals. With your help, we will continue, we will strengthen, but we must also embark on a bold, new program.

**TEN DAYS TO REMEMBER** In the good old summer time it is time to think again about vacation with a purpose. What purpose could be better in 1949 than to improve understanding of international relations and study ways to peace? Examine the enclosed program carefully; note all that it has to offer and make your plans to be at Cornell or Albright. Reservations are already coming in but there will be room for more. Let's have a good party this year! Some scholarship-paying jobs are still open. If interested, write "Red" at once.

**OVER THERE** Nothing could be more fallacious than the argument that Western Europe is in the position of a householder who is resolved to protect his possessions by providing his windows with steel shutters. The sort of shutters which the North Atlantic Treaty furnishes are not burglar-proof against Communism. On the contrary, the cost of their erection is likely to make conditions more, rather than less, favourable for the spread of Communist ideas. Through<sup>out</sup> discussions of the Pact there seems to run a confusion between aggression by the Red Army, which (if only from prudential motives) Russia would seem highly unlikely to undertake except under great provocation, and the spread of Communism, which existed before the Soviet revolution, rallied 200 million people behind it after the First World War, some 600 million more after the Second, and will continue to advance wherever, as in China, the old social order collapses. Against such an internal enemy military power is no answer.

--The New STATESMAN AND NATION, The Week-end Review, 3/26/49.

**SUGGESTION TO THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES or TO ANY CHURCH** "Everything possible must be done by the Netherlands people and its Government renouncing all self-interest (our underlining) to restore confidence among the Indonesians, including the Republic, by an unreserved and generous fulfilling of the promises which have been given."

--Declaration of the Dutch Church, 1949.

**SOAP OPERA** We are not selling soap but if you do use Swan you can share each cake Swan Song! with some one overseas. It's this way: for each Swan wrapper turned in, Lever Bros. will contribute a cake of soap through CARE. Few gifts can be more appreciated and its so easy for you to do: Just send the wrapper to us with your name. We'll do the rest. Thank you!

**TIME HAS NOT COME!** The Lew Ayres Broadcast: "Whose Time Has Come" announced for WFBL June 4 was postponed because of a faulty record and through no fault of the station. It will be presented at a later date. Announcements will be sent locally. If you want to be sure of receiving one, let us know.

N. B. The Peace Council office will be closed on Saturdays during July and August.

**BOOK END** How many times have you been asked, "Well, what would you do about it? What would you have done with Hitler or what would you do with Stalin?" Do you want to know how to deal with dictators? How to answer such questions as "Shouldn't we defend our freedom? What if we were invaded? Would you let them walk over you? You have to shoot mad dogs, don't you?"

Here it is in 20 pages with all of A. J.'s inescapable logic in a new approach and fresh, vigorous style. 10¢ each. Order now. Read at once and pass it on to a friend.

Commenting that "the threat to human survival is probably more grave today than at any time since the first atomic bomb dropped," the Christian Century has just completed publication of a highly important series of articles by two atomic scientists who worked on the original Manhattan Project. They put forward a completely new approach to the problem of control and give the layman a greatly needed opportunity to understand the total nature of the problem. If you do not have the Christian Century, reprints from our office 25¢. Order early, please.

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