

ANNUAL MEETING The Panel Room at Drumlins was well filled for our Annual Business Meeting on June 1. Reviewing fourteen years of "a continuing program of peace education and action in the community by democratic and non-violent means" the Annual Report said: "Certainly the world is no nearer peace than it was in 1936. Quite probably the climate of opinion in Syracuse on world issues is little changed. And yet, if we may believe at all in what William James called 'the tiny molecular influences' some lives may have been changed and some chain reactions set in motion whose end effects must lie beyond the horizon of our day. At least, during these years of crisis and hysteria the peace point of view has been publicly maintained, and there has existed a free platform for the discussion of controversial issues in a framework of intelligence and good will. I think we may rightly claim this as a contribution to the democratic process."

In making the Financial Report, the treasurer underlined the fact that funds paid in or pledged for 1950 will carry us, with close economy, to about October 31. Approximately \$750 of "new money" will be needed to bring us to the end of the year without a deficit.

Officers and Executive Committee for the year were elected on recommendation of the Nominating Committee, chaired by Ray Fuller. Gunnar Peterson, who has had training in program development and is experienced in YMCA and student work, will be Vice Chairman in charge of local program; Joyce DeLine Ball, who has worked in Cooperatives and for the Federal Council of Churches, will be the new secretary. Among those who left the Committee because of removal from the city or for other responsibilities were William Bien, Eva Frye, Jessie McGivern, Jessie Potts, Charles Shafer, Carolyn Smith, C. Philip Torrance. We appreciate the contributions they have made and we shall miss them from our counsels. On the other hand we are proud of the caliber of the men and women who are willing to serve on the Committee. We look forward to the new ideas and energies of Mrs. Melville Clark of Clark Music Company; Mr. Raymond York, an engineer with General Electric; Mrs. Walter L. Smith, prominent church woman, and Mr. Clifford Cain, instructor in Journalism.

Miss Mary H. Wilson formerly head of the Reference Department in the Public Library has been appointed Librarian. Professor Theron Illick continues as treasurer.

Plans made for the coming year include sponsorship of a booth at the State Fair, and the revival of the Peace Play Tournaments, both under the direction of Irene L. Ford. The Fall Forums will be continued and the Council will again sponsor the Mid-Winter Institute of International Relations for New York State under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee.

It was announced that Henry Hitt Crane has been secured as speaker for the fifteenth Anniversary Dinner and Birthday Party to be held on February 7, 1951. Other plans, including a new seminar series and supper conferences, are under consideration. A new project: Parlor Parties for Peace will be attempted.

Special mention was made of the Summer Institutes of the AFSC for teen-agers and for adults. Members were urged to attend and to get others to attend.

Our loyal friend, Emil Evertz, who has recently visited his birthplace in Xenten, Germany, spoke briefly, giving a vivid picture of the desolation in that area and urging upon the Peace Council a strong sense of responsibility.

For his review of the year the Chairman chose the theme "Communism and Christianity." Defining Communism as a prophetic movement of protest against the human consequences of 19th century capitalism; and Christianity as a prophetic movement of affirmation of the supreme worth and dignity of every human being, he pointed out the striking parallels between the two "religions" and the challenges with which Communism confronts Christianity. He then emphasized their differences, especially in "world view" and in the relation of means-to-end, concluding: (1) that the right of Communists to hold and to proclaim their faith must be jealously guarded in a democratic society; (2) that cooperation with Communists or with Communist-inspired movements is impossible for organizations that would maintain the integrity of their faith and character in processes of freedom and non-violent change.

\$64 QUESTIONS. Recently the Peace Council published the following questionnaire.

A Social Studies teacher in a large senior high school in another city asked for extra copies and used them as a springboard for discussion in her World History class. Fifty-one answers are summarized below:

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IF YOU HAD YOUR WAY

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| 1. Would Truman have authorized the building of the H-Bomb? | Y. 38 | N. 13 |
| 2. Would the United States pool its sovereignty in the authority of a Federal World Government? | Y. 34 | N. 27 |
| 3. Would the United States build air and naval bases on Japan? | Y. 30 | N. 20 |
| 4. Would the United States re-arm Western Germany? | Y. 18 | N. 33 |
| 5. Would the United States recognize the new government in China? | Y. 19 | N. 31 |
| 6. Would the U.S. Military Establishment be used to defend Formosa? | Y. 22 | N. 29 |
| 7. Would the Senate adopt Senator Tydings' disarmament resolution? | Y. 13 | N. 35 |
| 8. Would you place 10% of our national income at the disposal of world agencies in order to raise the standard of living in depressed areas of the world? | Y. 36 | N. 15 |
| 9. Would colored Americans (Negro, Mexican, Oriental) have equal rights to jobs, the use of public places and travel accommodations? | Y. 51 | N. 0 |

10. Would Congress support the proposals of Senator McMahon (Conn. D.) for ending the cold war?

Y. 35 N. 14

The teacher's conclusions are interesting:

1. Democracy works in classes where a minority opinion is so obvious.
2. I am proud of the results on Number 9. Here, we seem to be making a dent.
3. The educative process doesn't seem to develop reasoning power and correlation; see 5 and 6!
4. High school boys and girls follow the tradition and share the fear and hysteria of their elders. (Natural, but discouraging. Something ought to be done about it!)

Here are our suggestions:

1. Obviously these questions provoked serious and stimulating thought and discussion among young people. Why not use them in your school class or church group, and recommend them to teachers. Then send us the results.
2. Teen-agers have opinions-- important opinions. They need opportunities to supplement formal class-room experience by sharing and discussing these ideas with other young people, and with sympathetic and responsible leadership.
3. Teen-agers are important -- about the most important people in the world! The World Affairs Camps (enclosed folder) are just such an opportunity for just such people. Send two (more fun and better follow-up with two) from your community.

THREE BITES AT A CHERRY! By far the most spectacular suggestion to come out of the London Conference of Foreign Ministers last month was M. Schuman's proposal to link the French and German coal and steel industries in one vast international enterprise under U.N. Here is the way it looks to editors in three corners of the world:

From London: "M. Schuman's proposals--probably the most important pronouncement since Mr. Marshall's Harvard speech--offer a way out; or rather, they offer a choice of ways, one full of hope, the other leading straight to disaster. As we have repeatedly reminded our readers, a Franco-German entente based on a revival of the old iron and steel cartel would lead straight to a German-dominated and reactionary Western Union. It would isolate Britain economically and soon ruin our export market. On the other hand, a European Administration of steel and coal, in which Britain participated, might become the nucleus of an independent Western Union--provided always that we were successful in obtaining the proper Socialist safeguards."

From the Soviet side: "The Acheson-sponsored French proposal to pool French coal and German steel in a mighty war combine is the most direct and menacing move that has yet been made toward World War III. Going far beyond cartel arrangements of the past, this move destroys national sovereignty in ownership of industry, and at one stroke puts in the hands of the Nazi industrialists, backed by powerful Wall Street corporations, far greater power than they wielded in the last world war. This is in a direct line with the original policy outlined in January, 1947, by John Foster Dulles, who has close links with the Ruhr bankers, and is now State Department foreign policy adviser, of splitting Germany with the purpose of integrating its iron and steel industries with the industries of Western Europe for war against the USSR. This pool will represent the greatest economic power in Western Europe, and will be in a position to bring into line the British industrialists. It immeasurably increases the danger and imminence of war, for it is also a prelude to the reorganization of the German Wehrmacht which the North Atlantic Pact counts on in its war plans."

From an American angle: "...Its offer is unquestionably, as Walter Lippmann has said, 'the boldest, the wisest, the most far-reaching and constructive act of statesmanship since the end of the war.' If it can be carried into effect, a genuine economic federation of all western Europe will almost certainly follow, and the old festering fears of another German attack on France, or vice versa, will wither away. This French offer has been by far the most important thing to come out of the London meetings. So far as is now known it has, in fact, been the only important thing to come out of those meetings. Nothing should keep the United States and Great Britain from doing all in their power to help the French proposal along. By the large-mindedness of the French proposal, a road has at last been found for western Europe which points in the direction of peace."

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NOTE: As usual, the office will be closed on Saturdays during July and August.

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