

STATEMENT In response to numerous enquiries and suggestions:

OF POLICY The Syracuse Peace Council is a local, wholly autonomous, organization supported entirely by voluntary contributions. From the time of its first published announcement in January, 1936, it has invited into its membership "individuals and groups who sincerely believe in democracy and peace, and who are working for this ideal through non-violent action."

We share the concern of all our fellow citizens for the preservation of freedom and democracy but we also feel a deep sense of responsibility for the means employed as well as for the ends sought. Accordingly, we reject totalitarianism of every kind. Moreover, it has been and now is our policy to defend the civil rights and liberties of all individuals and groups, even those who most strongly disagree with us. It has never been and is not now our policy to support or work with any political party. We are, therefore, not only non-sectarian but politically non-partisan.

We shall continue to do all we can to encourage objective consideration of the facts about the Russian people, the government of the USSR, and the Communist movement, believing that such study is essential to an effective and informed defense of Democracy. Moreover, we shall continue to combat anti-Communist and anti-Russian hysteria which leads to measures undermining our democratic way of life. We note with approval Senator Herbert Lehman's statement: "Certainly I do not propose to let my zeal against communism lead me into a sacrifice of the very principles which the communist conspiracy seeks to undermine, namely of democracy and freedom for the individual."

As a result of our strong peace position we may sometimes appear to advocate, or advocate, the same proposals as do Communists or "fellow-travellers." We regret the possibilities of misunderstanding but, clearly, we can not alter or "tone down" our message out of timidity or fear. Our protection must lie in the integrity with which we maintain our character and witness in the community.

--Adopted by the Executive Committee 17 October 1950.

4 SCORE AND 7 YEARS AGO Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here; but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

--A. Lincoln, Gettysburg, Pa., 19 November 1863.

NEXT Those of you who heard Mordecai Johnson's penetrating analysis of "The Challenge Today" at our last forum session must have been impressed with the need for some basic re-thinking of American foreign policy. Further support for this view comes from widely separated sources. For example, the famous Evangelical pastor, Martin Niemöller, has sent an open letter to Chancellor Adenauer denouncing efforts at remilitarization of Germany. It was signed by thirty-seven pastors. Again, the New York Times reports that the recent meeting of the Institute of Pacific Relations in Lucknow spent most of its time vigorously criticizing U.S. policies in Asia with special attention to North Korea, Formosa and Indo-China. This was a distinguished gathering and its complaint against American policies can not be safely ignored.

THERE WILL BE A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE OF THIS PROBLEM ON MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 4, AT THE Y.W.C.A. WHEN DR. EDDY ASIRVATHAM OF MADRAS WILL DISCUSS AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY AS SEEN IN ASIA. DR. ASIRVATHAM IS A CLEAR THINKER AND A POPULAR SPEAKER; YOU WILL ENJOY HEARING AND QUESTIONING HIM.

FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING LIST To widen the world horizons of children, to encourage world friendship among children, to give pleasure and create lasting impressions of other lands; these are among the purposes of the United World Library for which the Peace Council has just accepted the local agency. Sets of the books, purposely inexpensive to permit wide distribution, are on display at the office. See enclosed announcement. Place your order WITH US early. It will help three ways: you, the children, and the Peace Council.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH "The time is past for us to try to save face. Now we must try to save our necks."--Mme. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, Indian Ambassador to Washington and Nehru's sister.

Executive Com. S.P.C.

Selections for Memorizing - A. W. Shuman, p. 63

Open Sesame" Christian Century Nov. 1, 1950 P. 1283-84 Books Pastors enclosed

SHOP TALK In Berlin this summer it took a man three weeks to earn a pair of shoes. A suit would take his earnings for from two to four months if accompanied by 80 clothing ration coupons out of the yearly allowance of 100. Under such circumstances there are not many customers and you can see why we still need shoes and clothing of all kinds. There is not much we can do about the foreign policies of governments but there is something we can do about our own foreign relations. The warm Gulf Stream of humanity's concern for humanity must be kept flowing. It can be done only by individuals. Won't you send us at least one article of clean, warm clothing this month? Better still get your church to cooperate in a collection for us. We do not charge shipping costs. The address is still 722 North Salina St.

U.M.T. is a political issue again largely because the Korean war gave the military, the Legion and some other proponents the emotional opportunity to promote an issue which Congress would not in its more temperate moments accept. Hearings are scheduled to begin when Congress reconvenes on November 27, to rush U.M.T. through.

Congressmen should be encouraged to prevent action on U.M.T. until the State Department makes some effort in the United Nations to compose the differences that now divide the great powers. Until such an effort is made in good faith, proponents of U.M.T. are guilty not only of militarism but of preparing for a war they will not try to prevent. Raise this issue with your Congressman NOW.

LAUGHS IN LIMBO To get a laugh today, a German nightclub comedian has only to step on the stage of, say, the Alkazar in Hamburg and ask, "Well, ladies and gentlemen, how are you getting on under our fine new democracy?" The Germans know that "democracy" is a laugh cue, as surely as Jack Benny's audience knows that his toupee is. The comedian doesn't disappoint them. "Basking in the sun of democracy," he continues, "is having a remarkable effect on us Germans. It's turning some of us brown again, and the rest of us red." --from U.N. World.

PRAYER IN WALL STREET What Mr. Matthews suggests is nothing new; even in democracies wars have been provoked in order to get things settled. . . Whether we like to think on it or not, there can come a time--if we are stupidly led--when the existing state of affairs becomes so intolerable that even war is welcomed by many people as a relief from tension. . . .

It is a popular fallacy that a democracy cannot be aggressive. . . . But a free people can be pushed to aggressiveness. And they can also be led to it. . . . One does not have to look far in Washington to find stoical acceptance of the prophecy that the third world war is inevitable if, in fact, it has not already begun.

Well, the people have already been told that however the Korean business ends the country is going on a war footing. We are told to expect years and years of little wars and half-wars, perhaps fighting here, perhaps there, but anyway never free to go our own way in peace. . . .

We pray that the American people will be spared the moral insanity of ever believing that war is preferable to peace or that war is a way to peace.

--from the Wall Street Journal

HOPE FROM DETROIT The News continues to feel that a disarmament proposal should be made by the United States. The idea may seem odd, with guns flaming in Korea and the possibility present of the whole world being aflame tomorrow. Yet we feel that it can never be too late or too early to try this untried avenue to peace.

If peace is possible, this will be the route. If "the issues" are soluble, they will be solved only by first abolishing the means and the danger of armed aggression. Even assuming the best will on both sides. . . there can be no reliable settlements while these must be made in terms of the strategic requirements of a possible war. Disarmament offers the one trustworthy hope of peace.

--from the Detroit News.

A NEW PAGE IN HISTORY Is the title of the President's address before the U.N. General Assembly on October 24th as published by the State Department. If taken seriously and acted upon promptly, the President's proposals for disarmament might, indeed, begin "a new page in history." But the President and the State Department will need strong encouragement to act. There is much in the picture to raise doubt as to the serious intent of the proposal, but the President is reported to be personally interested in it. No doubt Mr. Truman would be complimented if you were to write and ask for a copy of his speech. The State Department might take note.

Seyd Pogue
Friends Intelligence
month March 29 1950
(P.N.X. material)

nat'l Council
Against Concription
After P.N.X. material
est: 1950

U.N. World
June 1950
P.N.X. material

St. Journal
Oct. 29 1950
(P.N.X. material)

Wall

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Foundation letter
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Detroit 26 Mich.
(P.N.X. material)

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