

PEACE NOTES

The peace mentality of all nations is full of contradictions, which the cynical ridicule, but which those who look at the world as it is, keeping in mind the world which they hope one day to see, and which they believe that men can in time work out, find ^{it} pitiful and tragic. Here is our own position. The declaration that we have had from our President - those of our Delegation now in London - are hopeful in the extreme. Yet, we who are the author of the pact, which the two nations have signed to abandon war completely as an instrument of international use - we are devoting now seventy two percent of our yearly income to war purchases. It is the greatest sum that we have ever devoted in our history. And in one breath we abandon war - and in another breath our truly peace loving President devises measures to make war more tolerable, when it comes, such as resenting of food-bearing vessels from seizure. The League of Nations has been recently making a comparative study of the amount of money which the world is spending on the ^{means of} disarmament and schemes of more effective armament. Here the world spent \$160,000.00 on the ^{armament} for every dollar which it spent on disarmament. Someone has estimated also that what the world spent on arms in 1929 would support the League of Nations - the Worlds Court and the International Labor Office for six hundred and eighty-five years. Those figures illustrate ^{the} comparative place that war and peace have in the minds of the nations of the world.

But that demoralizing fact is sadly discouraging. Let us not for a moment weaken the resolution of the world - change all this to bring the preserving peace to the nation, so that they will be willing from time to time to come to spend this money, as much to preserve it as they now spend to prepare themselves in case of war.

MEMO ON THE PRESS AND WAR

The newspaper keeps alive fears - suspicions - intangible and perhaps more listened to because they are intangible - makes her talking point from bare facts. Not a few of our newspapers act a good deal like the man who opened a restaurant in New York City and finding that he was not attracting attention, bought the biggest fish bowl he could find and filled it with water and put up this sign, "Filled with invisible gold fish from Argentine." It took seventeen policemen to handle the crowd. Now fill our newspapers with invisible gold fish from Argentine and this matter of ^a peace Conference and everybody will read - everybody will discuss. The fact that they are progressing at the Conference is not ^{news} that scares people. The fact that they are disagreeing that there are unseen and unknown dangers in the way of progress, becomes news that attracts the world, and sells the paper.

One of the dangers from the public in these Conferences ^{from} is - that section of it interested in the success of the gathering. There are some point which they can easily understand and make fact the in their minds of the whole matter. Mr. MacDonald, on January 15th, announced that the British Government desired that battleships should be eventually eliminated from all seas ^{navies} in the world. This was something everybody could understand - no more battleships became the end of the Conference in certain minds and last night I was asked to sign a petition, being prepared now by women interested in peace, to send to the Naval Parley. An inconsistency in our own attitude is shown in our impatience towards the French insistent on security and our ^{hesitation} taking it for granted that ^{in the} it is a matter of the World Court. We must insist on our own security. That is, we required the members of the World Court to accept our own ^{or} resignations. Take no risk, has been our point of view, no matter what the other nations think or do. I see no difference in this attitude towards the Worlds Court than France's attitude in the matter of security.

A dangerous inconsistency in the peace people is the jealousy that breaks out, even among the best and most devoted of the peace workers. They attempt to claim for their own achievement the chief credit, though we find the advocates and

workers of the League of Nations declaring that it has built the new world system - and certainly they have much to show, but the League is devoted to presenting irritations, not ruffling the vanities of others. There are in this country not a few who rise up when they hear the League praised and say that it is we who have put over the Kellogg pact that have done the most for peace. You will find that the Locorno Conference is hailed by others as the beginning of peaceful negotiations, but so far as many people in this country are concerned no Conference, no League, no peace existed before our famous Washington Conference in the winter of 1921-22. How all of this discussion is claiming of credit is

puerile and it is dangerous in so delicate and vast an undertaking.