

ECHOES from the first NATIONAL ANTI-WAR CONGRESS
May 28-30, Washington, D. C.

The significance of the Congress was in the representative character of the delegates (there were 1226 officially accredited representatives of organizations: Labor, Farm, Church, Peace, Youth, Women); in the unanimity and determination of purpose that marked all the proceedings; in the fact that for the first time organized labor (343 delegates) joined in a most impressive way in a national peace program.

The dramatic highlight of the Congress was the Dedication Ceremony at the TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER at which 1200 persons highly resolved "that these dead shall not have died in vain." Senator Capper (Kansas) presided; Congressman Bigelow (Ohio) spoke. And a young man in "The Unknown Soldier Speaks to the Nations" challenged:

"Because you would not think, we had to die."

SENTENCE SUMMARIES

Stephen Raushenbush (Investigator for the Nye Munitions Inquiry): "You can't take the profit out of war; therefore, to save democracy, you must prevent war and keep out of war."

Philip S. Bernstein (Educational Chairman, Central Conference of American Rabbis): "Perhaps the one unique thing I can say is this: As a Jew, I wince physically and spiritually at every new evidence of fascist aggression. But as a pacifist, I know that you cannot destroy Fascism by force. Therefore, keep out of war while there is still a chance."

Norman Thomas (National Leader of the Socialist Party, speaking on Civil Liberties): "I am thankful with all my heart that I am an American, but I am ashamed of our boastfulness when I view our own conditions. What do they worse than we? Our greatest contribution toward making the world safe for democracy would be to set our own house in order."

Sherwood Eddy (Internationally known traveler, author, lecturer): "I could cooperate for non-violent change on two conditions: that the democracies should unite and unite on a democratic basis. This they cannot and will not do. The next war will not be Democracy vs. Fascism but between two rival imperialisms."

S. de la Selva (Guest from Nicaragua, speaking on the Good Neighbor Policy): "Keep America out of war, for if war comes the Good Neighbor Policy will go out the window."

Dr. John A. Lapp (Prominent Catholic layman; labor arbitrator, National Chairman of the Congress): Called the Congress to order and presided at its sessions with a gavel made from wood of the childhood home of Jane Addams, founder of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Hubert C. Herring (Director of the Council for Social Action of the Congregational-Christian Churches): "The world is headed for hell, with all flags flying. Only an alert and active public opinion can save us."

Homer Martin (President, United Automobile Workers of America): "The defense of democracy begins at home. It is not 'foreign devils' but some of our own native variety that we need to fear. The wall against war must be built out of pay checks and dinner pails."

Norman Thomas (Introduced by Doctor Lapp as: "That great American institution, the one and only, Norman Thomas!"): "Roosevelt's war will not cure what Wilson's war did so much to cause."

Snedley Butler (Major General USA, Retired): "When the flags begin to wave and the bands begin to play, we have government by sound, not sound government."

Chairman Lapp (In adjourning the Conference): "In a life-time of conferences, I have never seen its equal. But its significance is that it is a beginning; its success will depend on taking it home to the 'grass roots' of the country."

Will you help us "take it home"?

READ OUR SIX POINT PROGRAM ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS SHEET,
AND THEN DECIDE WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP AMERICA OUT OF WAR.
Tell us you are with us!

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THE SIX POINT MINIMUM PROGRAM

1. The immediate removal of American ships and marines from belligerent zones and the evacuation of American nationals who, if they stay, stay at their own risk; opposition to every expression of American imperialism.
2. No increase in the Army and Navy budget; work toward reduction of the present excessive military machine.
3. The democratic right of American citizens to vote on a declaration of war.
4. Abandonment of all existing plans for industrial mobilization and defeat of all new plans for universal conscription and regimentation, thus warning our militarists that the American people will not tolerate American participation in war abroad and war dictatorship at home.
5. No alliance or joint action with any nation or group of nations for war, or which is likely to lead to war, declared or undeclared, under any name or pretext.
6. At home, concentration on the struggle against injustice, unemployment, bad housing and poverty, and determination by means of that struggle to seek our prosperity rather than to find it in war trade; abroad, increasing solidarity with the people of all nations in the struggle to abolish economic injustice and colonial oppression, and to remove the causes of dictatorial militarism.

WE'LL BE WITH YOU AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER!
Will You Be With Us?