

IN REPLY

In reply to our pre-election letters, Congressman Hancock sent us a very carefully thought out statement of his position. He called attention to his vote against "the construction of two new battleships", his opposition to the May bill--"designed to conscript everything and everybody in time of war". He does not favor the Ludlow resolution, thinking it "impracticable and dangerous". He says that the "sentiment of the country against war" is based "not only upon humanitarian grounds" but "because most intelligent people believe that if this country were involved in war the result would be a radical and permanent change in our form of government which might very well lead to the end of democratic institutions." This is one of the best reasons we have seen for our campaign to Keep America Out of War. Thank you, Mr. Hancock -- and thank you, too, for recognizing the "sincerity and patriotic purpose" of our letters. One other sentence deserves quotation: ". . . I have not the slightest intention of voting for any war . . . as a result of any conditions now existing or as a result of anything that it is possible for me to see or imagine." We can continue to rely on Mr. Hancock's courteous attention to our point of view.

WE BUILT THE GERMAN AIR FORCE

In spite of repeated rulings of the State Department that export of American arms and airplane equipment to Germany are in direct violation of treaty rights, the United States furnished airplane engines for almost one-seventh of the German military aviation forces in 1938. We are also JAPAN'S ALLY. . . In July, Japan got airplane parts and other war materials costing \$1,125,492.65; China, materials worth only \$164,698.13. In view of these facts, What Price Rearmament? What For Rearmament? We agree with the Washington Post: "The nations will have more in their hands when they put less into their arms."

WRITE THE PRESIDENT THIS WEEK

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE!

It is reported that there are 136 anti-Semitic organizations now functioning IN THIS COUNTRY. We are properly shocked and horrified at what is happening to Jews in Germany. Are you sure that "It Can't Happen Here"? One thing you can do to prevent it is to join the American Civil Liberties Union. We are glad to quote a recent letter from its chairman: "The rights of all minorities, however unpopular or insignificant, must be protected if democracy is to survive." . . . The Syracuse Peace Council has always advocated "watchful maintenance of the constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech, press, and assembly." Here's a chance to show that we mean it. The ACLU is the one national non-partisan agency defending civil liberties. One dollar does it - through this office.

AFTER MUNICH -- WHAT?

To Remove War Causes, the U. S. Should in collaboration with other governments, call a worldwide disarmament and economic conference; clearly define its military and naval policy as one of defense from invasion only; seek trade agreements with all nations;

consider ways of using gold reserve to strengthen position of all nations.

To Keep the U. S. Out of War Appointment of a "general staff", under the State Department, to make plans for keeping this country at peace if war occurs elsewhere. Consultation with Western Hemisphere nations for this purpose and with other powers, such as Oslo group, already united in neutrality plans.

Bringing foreign policy more closely under democratic control by (a) strengthening present mandatory neutrality, (b) adoption of the referendum on foreign wars, (c) adoption of an all-time embargo on export of arms.

To Defend Democracy Education urging citizens to accept their responsibilities for safeguarding civil liberties, removing conditions tending to produce communism or fascism, such as unemployment, poor housing, lack of health protection, unfair taxes; and the conservation of natural resources for the benefit of all the people.

ALERT THINKERS!

As a part of the Council's "continuing program of community education," its Forum Committee will sponsor, during January and February, another League for Industrial Democracy lecture-discussion series. Following are the subjects and speakers: Democracy in Crisis (Dr. Jesse Holmes); The Middle Class and Organized Labor (Dr. Joel Seidman); Homes for America - A First Line of Defense (Rev. John Paul Jones); Problems of the New Mexico (Frederico Bach); World Trends Toward Democracy and Dictatorship (Ludwig Lore); Democracy and Social Planning (Norman Thomas). As one of the active cooperators in the Council's program, YOU CAN HELP in this educational program. Detailed information on request.