

FROM WASHINGTON "I hope that you will tell the women in the Syracuse Peace Council for me that the women can prevent our sending men to Europe, but they must work now and work fast, and always keep in mind that the only way to keep us out of war is to express their opinion."

-- Jeanette Rankin, Member of Congress

"You do not have to defeat the Bill in order to have a profound influence on the policy of our Government in retarding the progress towards war."

-- Frederick J. Libby, N.C.P.W.

"The tide is turning. Mail is 2-1 against the Lend-Lease Bill." - Senator Wheeler

* YOU ARE NOT HELPLESS. EXPRESS YOUR OPINION. *
* The bill has not passed the Senate yet. *

OUR QUESTION BOX The Schenectady Peace Service Bulletin raises these pertinent questions: Is our economic system becoming so geared into the European war that peace would be unwelcome? Is our increasing prosperity based largely upon the hope of continuing war?

2/12/41

From a recent letter in the Post-Standard: "The U. S. is not mad at Russia any more. We have lifted our 'moral' embargo. We are going to start selling them planes and other munitions. Why?" We ask: Where will supplies to Russia go? Against whom will they be used?

The Porter Sargent Bulletin #97 says: The Chief of Staff, General Marshall, has testified that "our army costs twenty times as much in proportion to its size" as the German army. True, there is higher pay, but much of this expense "is due to poor management and inefficiency." We want to know why.

4 1/2 million identification tags to be "worn over the breast or as near as possible," have been ordered by the U. S. Government for use in K. I. A. Killed in Action. Short of War?

~~WE ARE~~ ~~GOING ON~~ ~~We were~~ represented at the Peace Workers Conference in Washington on February 21st by five people. Martha-Anne Keen says:

"Representatives from sixteen states and many national organizations met with Frederick Libby, Norman Thomas, Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Dorothy Detzer and John Flynn to evaluate our past efforts and to make plans for carrying on "for the duration." From every area came news of increasing activities and a growing public sentiment against the current war measures. Despite the fact that we felt ourselves to be a drop of sanity in a sea of hysteria, the feeling seems unanimous that we are going on -- using each new issue as a means of voicing our determination that the United States throw her weight into the international scene for peace, and must aid democracy throughout the world by making it work at home."

ALTERNATIVE SERVICE From an advertisement in the NEW YORK TIMES, by a group of A. E. F. veterans:

"There's no politics in the suffering of children. Babies need not pay for war with their lives -- ." The veterans urge cooperation with "that hard-working, God-fearing American outfit, the Good Quakers - already at work over in France. 'Hurry, please, and thanks, buddy.'" Our office is a collection center for the American Friends Service Committee.

* Have you read the "Lend-Lease" Bill itself? Ask us for *
* a copy. You'll be surprised. We have yet to hear a *
* person who has actually read the Bill express approval. *

COMING The State-wide Mid-Winter Institute of International Relations, to which we were host this month, was a real success. An enthusiastic letter from Utica reads: " - many others are having a variety of speakers, but none can compare with the educational value of your Institute."

Our readers will be glad to know that the American Friends Service Committee will bring a full-length Institute to New York State this summer. We shall cooperate. Detailed program later.

TO
READERS

In November we reported the widely quoted statement of Winston Churchill on war debts. It excited much comment here, as elsewhere.

In fairness to our readers we add: Mr. Churchill is reported to have made the statement in August, 1936. He is reported to have repudiated it in August, 1939. The case is now in the New York Supreme Court, with denials and counter-denials. A full account appears in Scribner's COMMENTATOR for February, page 25. It is on file in our office.

Whatever may in the end prove to be the truth in that controversy, the Congressional Record for October 18, 1939, prints a quotation from page 378 of Mr. Churchill's book "The Aftermath," which challenges American thought now:

"The influence of mighty, detached and well-meaning America upon the European settlement was a precious agency of hope. It was largely squandered in sterile conflicts and half-instructed and half-pursued interferences."

TO
MEMBERS

At its February meeting, the Executive Committee voted that, in view of the splendid series of meetings offered in recent months, and the crowded schedule of the Lenten Season, our next regular meeting be

held after Easter.

COMPLETE

Now on exhibition at the Vatican is the model of a combination church and air raid shelter, built of cement with a V-shaped roof, camouflaged, complete with altar, pews, first aid equipment.

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"A government which goes knight-erranting out of sympathy for foreign nations is like a trustee who subscribes to charities out of the property he has undertaken to administer."

- - ALEXANDER HAMILTON

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