

OCTOBER  
23  
1940

"To every man, woman and child in the nation I say this -- your President and your Secretary of State are following the road to peace. We are arming ourselves not for any foreign war. We are arming ourselves not for any purpose of conquest or intervention in foreign disputes. I repeat again that I stand on the platform of our party: 'We will not participate in foreign wars and will not send our Army, naval, or air forces to fight in foreign lands outside of the Americas, except in case of attack.'" --- President Roosevelt at Philadelphia.

JULY  
1941

Mr. Roosevelt said that he was defending the United States when he ordered the occupation of Iceland by our naval forces, because by this move he was forestalling German occupation of the island. However, when questioned by newspapermen, he could cite no threat to Iceland on Germany's part and he seemed to overlook the fact that Iceland was already held by a very formidable force. Senator Taft charges that the President has exceeded his constitutional authority and that with Iceland as a fait accompli he can occupy Ireland, Scotland, or Norway.

AT THIS  
VERY  
MOMENT

Engineers and foremen are in Northern Ireland where a U.S. Base is being constructed. George A. Fuller Co., New York contractors, and Merritt-Chapman and Scott Corp., dredgers, have the contract for the building of the base. The Fuller Co. is controlled by Merritt-Chapman; Merritt-Chapman is controlled by J. P. Morgan and Co.

IMPEACHMENT  
OF  
SECRETARIES  
KNOX AND  
STIMSON  
ASKED FOR.

The National Council for Prevention of War is calling for the removal of the Secretary of the Navy Knox because "he has repeatedly intimated that the American Navy should and would start shooting without reference to a declaration of war by Congress. In so doing he shows himself out of touch with American Public opinion, which every poll shows to be from 70 to 80 per cent opposed to our participation in this war. Worse still, he has advocated unconstitutional action and apparently gave the orders which led to the dropping of depth bombs without declaration of war." The depth bombs, he admitted at a closed session of the Senate Naval Affairs Committee on July 11, were dropped over what the commanders of an American destroyer believed to be a German submarine.

Secretary of War Stimson was quoted in Washington dispatches of July 12 as having "informed Congressional leaders that, regardless of legislative hindrances, if the time comes when U.S. security requires that troops be dispatched outside the western hemisphere, they will be sent first and Congress informed of the action later." Because of this "public flouting of the laws of the country", his impeachment is being demanded.

The National Council feels that the "essential thing is that we take the offensive in order to stop the President's confronting us constantly with accomplished facts closer and closer to war".

"NO A.E.F.", WE SAY. General Marshall's appeal for lengthened service on the part of our conscripted army is as one with his request for 3,000,000 men who can be sent "anywhere in the world". Without the lengthened term of service there can be no A.E.F. There is no proposal that could be more hateful to the American people. Oswald Garrison Villard, Honorary Chairman of the Keep America Out of War Congress, says: "General Marshall should be asked to show what possible need there is for three millions of men when, as everybody knows, there are not transports enough in all the merchant fleets of the world to move a million men and their supplies. He should be asked just where these men are expected to fight -- whether in Russia for our new ally, Mr. Stanlin, or in India, under General Wavell, or elsewhere."

SPEAKING OF

RUSSIA . . . "The interesting dilemma raised by the German-Russian war," says Frederick Libby of the National Council for Prevention of War, "seems to have been solved by Prime Minister Churchill and our government on the superficial basis of 'he who fights Hitler, whatever else he may be, for this moment is my friend'. Those who a year ago cheered on the brave little Finns must now rationalize their position so they can stand with Russia against these same little Finns, This predicament, of course, also holds for the other Baltic states, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. We are witnessing, to an unprecedented degree, the total depravity and hypocrisy of the whole war system. France, who was an ally, is now an enemy. Russia, who was an enemy, is now an ally. C'est la guerre!"

**MERRY CHRISTMAS 1942** A Kentucky peace worker is sending out his Christmas cards now, using the message "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in 1942! If you want them, you had better start thinking and DO SOMETHING NOW!"

**STILL TIME FOR CORNELL** Registrations for the Cornell Institute August 1-10 are still coming in, the American Friends Service Committee reports. It promises to be a splendid session. As the world puzzle increases, we need more and more the calm, analytical opinion of experts. They will be there and we hope you will be, too.

**A LETTER FROM FRANCE** "...Adjure the American people for us not to re-enter the war, because this would be an extension of our unhappiness and of yours also."

**AND FROM ENGLAND** "'The evil thing' to be overcome in the minds of many of us is definitely the corrupt form of society existing in Britain and America which permits 80 per cent of the wealth of the community to fall into the hands of less than 10 per cent of the people, most of whom have no real patriotism".

**A SYRACUSE C.O. WRITES FROM CAMP** From Civilian Public Service Camp at Petersham, Mass. come these lines: "The whole thing is very -well-Christian -- everyone wants to help, they are all very friendly and they want to work and find things out. It really is a wonderful thing -- if the morale stays at its present pitch, it will be hard to leave in a year's time". "...the community is a tiny, functioning democracy -- and that's something."

**OUR GRATITUDE** To Miss Jeens and to Miss Schwemmer of the Gloversville Y.W.C.A. go our sincerest thanks for the mimeographing of this issue of the News Letter. It is upon good friends like these that we depend for the smooth-running of the Council.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO DEPARTMENT** Write to the President, first of all, and then to your Senators and to your Representative. You have done that, you say? Do it again - and again. We offer a wide variety of things to ask for: that the President hold to his campaign promises; that Secretaries Knox and Stimson be impeached; ~~that conscription service shall not be extended; that we shall have no A.S.F.~~; that a hearing be held on a war referendum; that there shall be no more bases outside the Western hemisphere; that House Resolution 245 and Senate Resolution 124 which urge the Secretary of State to seek a formula whereby the starving peoples of the small European democracies may be saved be passed. Mail is being more carefully counted and considered than ever before.

**AND FURTHER** The Keep America Out of War Congress proposes a "Citizen's Mandate for Immediate Peace as a means of strengthening public faith in the possibilities of an early peace and to voice the deep longing of the American people for an end to the tragic and destructive conflict across the seas." Would you sign it? If you would, please send us your name and we will forward it to the Keep America Out of War Congress where it will be added to the National Roster.

#### CITIZEN'S MANDATE FOR IMMEDIATE PEACE

**WHEREAS**, We as citizens of the United States of America are unalterably opposed to American entrance into war; and

**WHEREAS**, As human beings, we believe that everything possible should be done to stop the destruction of human values and the slaughter of men, women, and children which this war entails;

**THEREFORE**, We urge the President of the United States to use those vast powers, which he possesses as the elected representative of the American people, to intercede for the immediate achievement of a just peace.

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