

A MESSAGE FROM CORNELL By all reports the N.Y. State Institute at Cornell this month was an outstanding success. The following message was written especially to PNL readers by a member of the faculty, the Rev. L. B. Moseley, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Pittsburgh.

HOPE FOR THE HARD PRESSED

"Arnold J. Toynbee's A Study of History is a source of hope and inspiration to all hard pressed and challenged people. To those who believe in non-violence in a time of world-wide wars, who believe in inter-racial brotherhood in a world of prejudice and persecution, who believe in world government in a world of intense nationalism and imperialism, there is need of hope grounded in history and verified by experience. You believe in these great principles in a world opposed to you and your principles. Toynbee offers hope to you. Liberals today are tired. Some of them are cynical. A tired person accomplishes little, a cynic nothing. All liberals need hope

"You are to be congratulated if you are severely challenged today. Creative achievement, insists Toynbee, comes only from the stimulus and acceptance of a hard challenge. Your answer to the hard challenge in these times may significantly advance brotherhood, the way of gentleness, and world community through world government.

"In a time of fatalism, doubt and despair it is encouraging to believe that civilizations never die save from suicide. Only creative leadership by minorities can save a civilization.

"The greatest hope to be found in Toynbee is his emphasis upon the creative genius of Jesus in his choice of the cross and his rejection of the sword. In the way of Jesus, this top^{the} historian maintains, is our true hope. Do you know of a better hope for justice and peace that can stand only on the foundation of goodwill?"

A CHALLENGE FROM CORNELL Another member of the Institute Faculty, Alphonse Heningburg, wrote: "I have been greatly pleased by the earnestness of those who attended the Institute. Both faculty and students have applied themselves to important and challenging problems. My great concern is that we make it possible for at least 30 college students to attend next summer. I shall be glad to work with any group which may be appointed to raise money for scholarships for such young persons."

It is not too early to begin discovering and interesting young men and women who can plan their 1949 summer schedules to include this experience.

COLD WAR BERLIN CRISIS, ISRAELI ISSUE, DANUBIAN TALKS, KREMLIN CONVERSATIONS; RUSSIAN SPY CASE, SOVIET DUE FOR STERN U S REBUKE: summer morning after summer morning the headlines scream across the country; in the evening the commentators take up the chant. It is vacation time; for the most part the American public turns away from the news of the day in an apathy born of disillusion or despair, and concentrates on the important business of finding a fortnight's relaxation and release. Meanwhile we wage a kind of war on ice. How long can the current conflict be kept under any degree of refrigeration?

A former New York State pastor named Eaton, now Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, tells the press: "The breed I come from never lets the other fellow shove him off the sidewalk. We've a right to be in Berlin and we're going to stay there. Period." Period!

Apropos of this, the Richmond News Leader entitles its editorial comment: "Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad." The writer, Douglas S. Freeman, is perhaps America's most distinguished military historian and a regular lecturer at the War College of the U.S. army. He wonders if the real capital in Washington is in the Pentagon Building; he doubts if the Russians are the only people afflicted with mad leaders; he points out the geographical impossibility of the American forces in Berlin. He suggests three possible lines of action: (1) letting the Russians feed the Berliners, as they have offered to do, while maintaining the American garrison; (2) opening the road to supply the western sectors of the city, by force if necessary; (3) reopening negotiations "in the knowledge that the Russians are ready to discuss deceitfully and interminably the future of all Germany."

Dr. Freeman strongly favors the third course and warns urgently against the second proposal, with which so many minds in Washington are toying. He suggests some of the consequences: "the most serious and most doubtful conflict": "hardening of the hearts"

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And then this distinguished historian and editor concludes: "Call it what you please--cowardice, lack of patriotism, anything--the fact remains: there are millions of us who say, Take the third alternative; negotiate with Russia; we favor remaining in Berlin if we can, but we would rather be pushed into the gutters of Berlin by a big Russian we cannot resist there now than put our children's children in economic bondage by completing the destruction of their inheritance."

Editor Freeman believes that peace loving Americans may yet be called on to make a vigorous anti-war demonstration.

So Do We!

VIA
WESTERN
UNION

During the brief special session of Congress the Citizens Committee on Displaced Persons sent out a telegram calling attention to the "DISCRIMINATORY PROVISIONS OF 1948 DISPLACED PERSONS LEGISLATION WHICH FOR THE FIRST TIME HAS WRITTEN INTO OUR LAWS SPECIFIC ANTI-SEMITIC, ANTI-CATHOLIC MEASURE. IN FULFILLING HUMANITARIAN RESPONSIBILITY TO DISPLACED PERSONS OUR LAWS MUST NOT BE PROSTITUTED TO SPREAD HITLER'S DOCTRINE..... PLEASE HELP!"

GOOD COUNSEL
FROM THE NEW YORKER

To date some 30 or 40 people have had their names published as alleged accomplices of the Communist Party. Among them is the President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. The New Yorker says wisely: "What everyone should keep in mind is that none of the major and minor characters in this lurid tale has been indicted, that none has faced his accuser in a court room, that the Congressional-committee device of implying guilt by association is most certainly inconsistent with the spirit of the Bill of Rights---because once a man is an alleged spy on the front page of a newspaper, he's always an alleged spy. There is no known cleaning fluid that removes that kind of stain; it lingers the rest of a man's natural life."

SIGNS OF
THE TIMES

Lake Success. (AP)--A United Nations commission decided yesterday Russia's scheme for slashing the world's armaments cannot be put into effect under present international tension.

London. (AP)--"Dr. Hewlett Johnson, the 'Red Dean' of Canterbury Cathedral has been refused a visa to enter the U.S." He was to have lectured under the auspices of the National Council of Soviet-American Friendship. The distinguished prelate's comments seem well taken: "It seems that no steps must be taken in the U S to cultivate American-Soviet friendship or understanding...." He points out that speech about friendship with the Soviet Union does not come under our definition of free speech and adds: "As someone has said, the Americans are adolescent and very violent in their loves and hates and fears and hopes."

WESTERN EUROPE'S
DILEMMA

On Monday, August 16, The Christian Science Monitor carried on its distinguished editorial page a letter from the Duke of Bedford which speaks to our condition. Here are some excerpts. The whole letter is available for readers, at this office.

"When the atom bomb was first dropped in Japan, a number of people everywhere were ready to admit that something epoch-making had happened, altering the whole strategy of warfare. There is now, however, a very dangerous tendency to ignore the new situation....The majority of people in Britain...feel that they cannot take the advice on unilateral disarmament...for they fear that if they did so their country would be annexed by Soviet Russia.

"If, however, they fight in self-defense and their country becomes a battle-ground, they must be destroyed by the new weapons, even though their allies in the U.S.A. and the Dominions of the British Empire might ultimately win the war. Surely there is a way out of this very grave dilemma which has not received the attention it merits.

"The governments of the democracies, recognizing that western Europe can no longer be defended by the old methods of military strategy, should announce that some nations, at any rate, will disarm completely. They will not be used for any kind of military preparations prior to a war, nor, if war should break out, will they be used as a base for military operations.....

"The demilitarized areas, freed from the burden of armaments, could direct their energies into constructive channels and could be turned into a kind of cultural and economic showpiece for the whole world, advertising both the benefits of disarmament and the possibilities of democracy working under really favorable conditions.....

"Today, when so much is at stake, the only issue which has any semblance of adequacy as a final war issue, is that of total world disarmament.

"If negotiations are, at all stages, conducted with the most scrupulous fairness and never with a suggestion that the Soviet Government should do anything which the governments of the democracies would not be prepared to do, even if they were in the Soviet Government's place, it would provide the latter with the poorest material for war propaganda with their own people.

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"That the governments of the democracies might feel unable to trust the Soviet Government's promises is a matter of very little importance. If words cannot be trusted, deeds can. Progress would, therefore, be achieved as often as the Soviet Government was observed to do what was required of it and trouble would only threaten if, and when, it failed to do that which was completely reasonable."

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