

VIENNA, AUGUST 3 A member of SPC writes, "After reading stateside papers, I often wonder how you poor unfortunate U.S. residents stand the propaganda barrage! I'm allegedly sitting right in the midst of all the trouble but the only time I get upset is when I run across a U.S. paper with ominous headlines which blow up some minor incident all out of proportion to its real importance."

CAZENOVIA, SEPTEMBER 8-11 At the Annual Institute of Community Leadership of the New York Citizen's Council, speakers and discussion leaders like J. A. Linen, Publisher of Time, Shepherd Witman of the Cleveland Council on World Affairs, and Dr. E. C. Solomon, Director of Field Service in Sarah Lawrence College, have united in emphasizing the importance of an alert and informed public opinion in protecting civil liberties and promoting peace. This is the task of community education which is the job of the Syracuse Peace Council and every one of its members and subscribers.

WHAT CAN DO
THEN YOU NOW ?

1. Be a one man "Committee of Correspondence." Write letters to ten friends or relatives expressing your concern and asking for comments. Start people thinking.
2. Form an informal discussion or study group on international relations, meeting in someone's home.
3. Arrange for your class or club to make a study of some current issue of importance to world peace. For example, world government, civil liberties, disarmament. Remember our Program Service is available to help.
4. Read, and encourage others to read, important new or older books from our free library: Gollancz, Our Threatened Values; Lattimore, Solution in Asia; Muste, Not By Might; Flynn, As We Go Marching; Hoylan, They Saw Gandhi; Edgar Snow, Stalin Must Have Peace. And remember we have the complete "Headline Series" of the Foreign Policy Association (new titles, Face to Face with Russia and Does Our Foreign Policy Make Sense?), also the independent "Human Events Series," e.g., Devere Allen's What Europe Thinks About America. Any of these, and others, at our office or my mail.
5. Buy at least one dollar's worth of literature and distribute it among your friends; for example, Twelve Atomic Facts, Einstein and Others; A Disillusioned Veteran, Jones; The One hope of Peace, (Universal Disarmament), Norman Thomas, or one of the Kirby Page pamphlets: How Jesus Faced Totalitarianism, What Does God Want Us To Do About Russia?, The Meek Shall Inherit the Earth; or News and How to Read It, by Harrop Freeman, 25¢. All others 10¢ each. Let us send you a package assortment.
6. Get your minister to preach a sermon on religion's responsibility for peace and war.
7. Send \$1.00 and the names of three friends who ought to know about your Peace Council. We will send each of them the NEWS-LETTER for one year.
8. Send the next friend whose birthday you want to remember a year's subscription to FELLOWSHIP magazine. (\$2.00)
9. Ask your pastor or Sunday School teacher to subscribe to the Memorandum on National Legislation of Interest to Religious Groups, published monthly by the Friends Committee on National Legislation. For \$2.00 it will keep your church leadership informed on what's going on in Washington during the momentous year ahead.
10. Support our Fall Forum Series on CONDITIONS FOR PEACE. Here is a chance for you, through the Peace Council, to make a significant contribution to the thought of the community. Here is the advance schedule; detailed announcement to follow.

FRIDAYS at 8 PM--

October 29: DR. AMIYA CHAKRAVARTY, friend of Gandhi and Tagore--

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Museum of Fine Arts.

November 12: ROY McCORKEL, AFSC, now returning from Finland and Berlin--Y.W.C.A.

November 26: REGINALD SORENSON, M.P., fifteen years in House of Commons---

Museum of Fine Arts.

You can be proud of this offering in your name and you can help in two equally important ways. Bring people to hear the addresses and share in the discussion; contribute to the cost of this community service.

If each of the one thousand readers of this bulletin would do one of these things this month, and another the next, and another ~~the~~ next! ~~that~~ would be 3000 steps toward a changed climate of opinion and it would make a difference. You can count; when you cooperate with others, you COUNT DOUBLE!

In the HEARTLAND "Germany is still a prison. The psychology of its people is still that of men behind bars. The mentality of the occupying forces suggests even more strongly the prison analogy." So wrote a mature, restrained and competent observer last month. He is one of the editors of the Christian Century. Another summer visitor to Germany, Director of the Quaker work there, supplies some of the factual evidence. The average day's ration in almost any zone is roughly: two bowls of soup and five pieces of bread. Once a week a tenth of a pound of meat, once in six months, perhaps, an egg. There is a black market but not a great deal of food on it. Prices are prohibitive for all but the very few: Eggs \$8 each, coffee \$50 a pound, fat \$35 a pound.

Why?

The terrible drought of 1947 resulting in less than half a crop; shortage of fertilizers, seeds, machinery, and labor; in her best years Germany never produced all her own food. Now she has lost 25% of her best farm land and 13 million homeless "expellees" have been added to her hungry population; one million occupation forces in Germany requiring housing and transportation. Russian and French troops "live off the land."

1550 calories is the official ration in Germany, and has been so for the last three years. 1500 calories is, medically, the point at which the body begins to eat itself up. Most people in Germany today would be glad to be assured of even 1550 calories. Millions are living on 1100 and 1200 calories, and millions are living below 1000 calories. Some of these millions will die of starvation.

65 of Germany's 70 chief cities are from 50% to 90% destroyed. A construction engineer in Berlin calculated the amount of rubble in Berlin alone and said, "If you would give me 5 trains with 50 cars on each train, that is, 250 freight cars, and give me the coal to run these in and out of Berlin all day long, 365 days of the year, I could clear the rubble out of Berlin in 15 years. This does not mean rebuild Berlin, but merely clear the rubble out in 15 years. And now," he said, "we are clearing Berlin with wheelbarrows and small carts!"

This is not the kind of news from Germany that appears in our press; indeed, it is not "news" in the sense of being new at all. But it is quite as significant for the future of peace in Europe - and in America - as the wordier matters that do excite us. Peacemakers will do well not to forget the grim "news" behind the news.

A LITTLE CHILD

Toronysko. Dnia 29.

"Hochana koleronko. W piewszych stowach majego lisciku skladam pigkne podriekawanie ra nasiona ktore Wy r pewnoscig r ckgcig ncamreescie porystali. Tevas choc tvoche Wam spizze onoczszym kvayu i powo dreniu Hochana Koleranko....."

which means

"Dear friend:

In the first words of my letter I express beautiful thanks for the seeds which without doubt You have send us with pleasure. Now, at least in short, I will write a little about our country. Dear Sister or Brother, we do not fare as well as You because on our soil there have been constant wars and constant ruin so we can't compare with You. Maybe Lord will allow us to await better times when it will be possible to live in peace. Then no one will torture us. With great pleasure we would like also to send You something but this now in Poland is for us impossible. Perhaps there will come a moment when we too will be able to send you a present. Later I will write You more how our crops grew. I hope that I may become friends with You... we can correspond together. If you receive this little note don't forget to answer through courtesy."
/s/ Janina Kot

The Peace Council is interested in helping parents and teachers to help their children relate current world happenings and needs to the children's own sense of responsibility and usefulness, that "social studies" may take on new meaning and "appeals" become more than "appeals." Through AFSC we are able to offer three attractive projects for children this fall: GIFTS THAT GROW, FUN FOR HALLOWE'EN, and SCHOOL PACKS. Ask us for full information about one or all of these as you plan the new school year.

BOOK END: "We of America and Europe can help intelligently to direct or blindly to destroy the power civilization we have so largely helped to build," concludes Cyril J. Bath, a Cleveland manufacturer, in EUROPE IN THE MODERN AGE, published by the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace of the A.A.A.P. Inc. 1941.

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