

END and BEGINNING On the eve of the one thousand nine hundred and forty-eighth anniversary of the birth of a Jewish boy who was to become the saviour of the world, fierce fighting broke out in the desert of southern Palestine, in the immemorial conflict between Jew and Egyptian; the wife of the leader of Nationalist China was in Washington begging desperately for a last chance; in Indonesia the Dutch Empire, with resources made possible by American aid, were once more throttling the aspirations to freedom of a less-known area and people; the colossi of the modern world glared at each other across the grim barriers of blocaded Berlin. And all these were but symbols....

"The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils Himself in many ways,
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

WATCHWORD for 1949 At the beginning of a new year in which we are swept by a wave of fear and hysteria; in which liberty is in danger of being done to death in the house of its friends; in which the defenders of freedom make the mistake of commanding loyalty, forgetful of the simple fact that it can not be commanded but can only be deserved; we are grateful to so dignified a journal as the BULLETIN of the American Association of University Professors for reminding us (and themselves!) of Jefferson's great sentence on the right of dissent in the First Inaugural: "If there be any among us who wish to dissolve this union or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it."

This is true Americanism from an unimpeachable source; this is the faith that removes mountains of fear.

PLYMOUTH ROCK 1949 Not many of the Twentieth Century Pilgrims called D P's are being allowed to set foot on our famous rock of liberty. Fortune magazine calls the present legislation "frankly discriminatory on racial lines" and goes on to point out "there is every reason to boost immigration." The Christian Century illustrates the bogged down state of the administration of the law by reminding us that only 802 refugees arrived in November; 850 in December. With almost one quarter of the time for admission of the authorized 205,000 gone, less than one twentieth have been admitted.

AF of L, CIO, Church World Service, the Federal Council of Churches, the United Council of Church Women, are calling on the new Congress for amendments in the law and improvement in its use.

Will you?

By proclamation of the Mayor, January 9 - 15 will be

WORLD GOVERNMENT EDUCATION WEEK

Among the organizations cooperating under the general chairmanship of Mr. Everett W. Hatch, vice-president of the Syracuse Savings Bank, are: the Council of Churches, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Federal Union, Inc., the United World Federalists, Rotary Club, and Syracuse Peace Council. Major public events of the week are:

Monday, Jan. 10, 8 p.m.--Dean Paul Shipman Andrews, "A More Perfect Union" at Edward Smith School. Admission free.

Tuesday, Jan. 11,--Cord Meyer, Jr., at the annual Civic Award Dinner of the Junior Chamber of Commerce at Hotel Syracuse. \$4.50 per plate.

TUESDAY, JAN. 11, 6:15 p.m.--JOHN S. HOLLISTER, JR., of the INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

THIRTEENTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER of the SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PARISH HOUSE. \$1.00. FOR RESERVATIONS,
CALL LENA GRAY, 2-5316.

Thursday, Jan. 13, 8 p.m., at the Y.W.C.A. -- Panel discussion--
"Peace and Freedom - the Federal Union Way"

Moderator: Headmaster Charles Bradlee

Speakers: Mrs. Ruth Redington, Mr. Theodore Simonton, Col. C. A. Edson.
Admission free.

Friday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m., at the Art Museum--Mr. Edgar Ansel Mowrer--
"World Government Now." Admission \$1.00.

For speakers or general information call United World Federalists office, 136 S. Salina St. 3-8213.

Supplementary to this intensive program will be an address by Clarence Streit, President of Federal Union, Inc. at the Museum of Fine Arts, on Thursday evening, Feb. 3, at 8 p.m. General admission \$1.00; high school students, 50¢.

52-1=51

Our Christmas Campaign got started ahead of itself with a Christmas card containing a check for \$100 given by her daughter in memory of Florence Vann Fowler, a founder and enthusiastic supporter of the Peace Council in its early years. This not only represents a week, 1/52 of our 1949 budget; it represents the kind of continuing loyalty and confidence that encourages us to go forward into all the weeks of a new year.

Remember, the Finance Committee wants to make a complete report at the Birthday Dinner on January 11.

CURRENCY REFORM IN GERMANY So many questions are asked about the effect of the currency reform in the Western Zones of Germany that the following information from a Memmonite paper may be useful:

32 million savings bank accounts existed before the reform of June 1948. 19 million of these accounts were wiped out. Millions of owners of these small accounts have lost all their savings in one day. Those able to work are still able to make out but there are 14 million refugees squeezed into rump-Germany. Of these not more than 15% are able-bodied men; the others are women, children and old-age people. These require assistance but the reform, considering economic factors only, wiped out the reserves of charity organizations like Hilfswerk and left them without resources. They have appealed to the authorities in vain. This is the human side of the situation.

There is a political angle. The gap between rich and poor has been widened and the masses are apt to blame the Western Democracies for it. It supports the Hitler teaching that England and America are plutocratic countries without social conscience. Now they hear the same propaganda from Communism. Economically the reform has been a success but something ought to be done to correct the social mistakes.

GUNS OR BUTTER Discussing the admittedly serious but little understood or realized relation between world population and food supply which is undoubtedly a basic factor in the war problem, a publication of the National Peace Council of Britain quotes Sir John Boyd Orr, the world's chief food expert, as saying that we can solve the problem only if we abandon war preparations and throw the world's steel and industrial resources into the effort to double world food production in twenty five years. The choice of "guns or butter" has become a bitter reality for half the world's people. It is a stark truth that the world can no longer exist half stuffed and half starved.

IT'S AN ART On October 16 Prime Minister Nehru flew from London to Paris and spent two and one half hours in conference with Secretary of State Marshall. He also met Andrei Vishinsky, Eleanor Roosevelt, Trygve Lie, and others. On October 18 the New York Times headlined: "Nehru Goes to See Vishinsky in Paris" and, somehow, omitted the fact that Nehru met the U.S. Secretary of State. Why?

THIS IS YOUR CHOICE From Parliament, pulpit and press, we are told that the West must choose between preparation for war and submission to Communist dictatorship. **THIS IS NOT TRUE.** The choice today is between war AND communism, on the one hand; peace AND democracy on the other. --London Peace News.
This is your choice, too.

A LITTLE STATE SHALL LEAD THEM The sovereign state of Costa Rica has disbanded its army! The president proposes to have more school teachers than soldiers! Before you smile at the insignificance of the little country's act, read twice what the United Press said: "the edict dissolving the army came as a bombshell to the diplomats." Not funny! And let your mind play with the magnificent possibilities if the example should spread.

W C F M A justifiable lack of confidence on the part of the American public in the channels of information provided by our commercial press, radio and screen is evident (e.g. the recent election). It is noteworthy, therefore, that on October 20th the nation's first cooperatively owned radio station, WCFM, the "Spokesman of American Liberalism," broadcast its initial program from its studios located in the heart of downtown Washington. An open channel for liberal thought and expression--WCFM presents an entirely new concept in radio. It is owned and controlled by the listening public, the two thousand people throughout the nation who have subscribed.

The names of Marquis Childs, Leon Henderson, Mordecai Johnson, Eduard C. Lindeman, Jerry Voorhis on its masthead are an index of the character of the new cooperative venture. Express your interest to your local station. Ask when and where you can hear WCFM.

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