

The Arbitrator

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International Arbitration League

53, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

Telephone : Abbey 5334.

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THE NEW ORDER.

AS the war proceeds towards its climax the demand grows more urgent for a definition of its aims by our Government. Is it merely to defeat the dictators? Is it even to restore to conquered peoples the right of self government, including the right as before to exploit the poor for the benefit of the rich and to treat minorities as e.g. the Poles then treated the Jews and the Germans now treat the Poles?

Is the war to end in a restoration or a renewal, a return to the old world of 1938 or a new start in a new world? Both sides have proclaimed a new order as their ultimate aim.

A SHAMELESS AND BRUTAL ADMISSION

One side has specified its nature and its method of achievement. An important Nazi spokesman, Herr Darre, German Minister of Agriculture, disclosed both nature and method to a private meeting of fellow Nazi officials in May, 1940. This has now become public and is reproduced on page 84. It is simplicity itself. Britain and America are to be conquered, their land and goods confiscated, i.e., stolen, and given to the thieves, and the owners handed over to the gangsters as slaves under a system of mediæval bondage. By cheap slave-labour Germany is to ruin competitors, monopolise world markets and world wealth. "These slaves will by no means be denied the blessings of illiteracy." They are to be denied education, kept ignorant and thereby made impotent ever to achieve freedom.

The Nazi Aim—world dominion based on wholesale robbery.

The Nazi Method—world conquest by wholesale murder.

The New Order—a world peopled with ignorant slaves owned by brutal German slave-drivers.

In such a world peace could not live. Only one thing can make peace possible, the utter defeat of Nazism. No compromise with it is possible to peace lovers.

THE OPPOSING ALTERNATIVES

Now our professed aim is the exact opposite of all this. We say we are out to vindicate democracy, as opposed to dictatorship; not only to deliver conquered nations from their German tyrants, but to bring justice and freedom to the common people and to minorities within the enfranchised states. As against slavery and exploitation our watchwords are liberty and justice to men as men, regardless of race, colour, language or religion.

Responsible leaders have repeatedly declared our peace aims, but in terms too general to mean much to the man in the street.

Following the Pope the heads of the English Churches have issued a Statement summarised on page 84. Note especially points 6 and 10.

Mr. Churchill ended his broadcast to the French people with "Long live the forward march of the common people in all lands towards their just and true inheritances."

But what is their just and true inheritance? And what steps towards it is our Government prepared to take? That is what 'common people in all lands' long to learn. Is it not time they were told, not in detail, which the circumstances at the time must determine, but in principle and direction?

Mr. Roosevelt defines the fundamental forms of freedom to be freedom of speech and of worship, freedom from want and from fear. True democracy involves individual freedom in all these respects. Democratic countries have achieved the first two but never the last two. Want and fear can never be absent from the mind of the non-propertied wage-earner until all are free to find employment and to reap its fruits without deduction by way of tribute to a fellow mortal for permission to make a living. Democratic freedom already won in the spheres of politics and religion are precious beyond compute; extended to include economics and industry, freedom would be complete.

INSPIRATION OF NEW HOPE AND ENTHUSIASM

Such a prospect if made known to the oppressed of all lands including our own underpaid and unemployed as the intended and certain fruit of victory would create hope, wake enthusiasm and stimulate effort. The first steps towards it would increase production, and its completion would multiply wealth and distribute this among its actual producers, not equally but equitably, not as dole or subsidy, but as wage or salary, the

natural, just and legal reward of each one's labour, talent and merit.

It would bring not equal fortune but equal opportunity, abate privilege and solve unemployment which, even in the freest countries, is at once the nightmare and the enslaver of the workers. By gradually increasing earned wealth at the expense of unearned wealth huge fortunes and grinding poverty would merge into general well-being and divisions based on class into brotherhood based on common interest, the foundation and guarantee of permanent peace.

If the defeat of Nazism is to mean full democratic freedom, including economic freedom, why delay telling this to the oppressed the world over! Such a prelude might hasten, even insure the victory without which there can be no peace!

H.G.C.

ABYSSINIA

The answer given in the House of Commons on Tuesday, February 4th, defining the policy of our Government marks a new departure in the relations between advanced and backward nations. The pitiful story of the conquest of Abyssinia, and of our recognition of the Italian King as Emperor in pursuit of the policy of appeasement after recommending and half-heartedly applying, then withdrawing the sanctions approved by the League of Nations will be recalled. Now Mussolini's treacherous war has forced on us the duty of emancipating Abyssinia and expelling her conquerors. But we have disclaimed all territorial ambitions, re-recognised her Emperor, Haile Selassie, and instead of annexing his country promised him "outside assistance and guidance" both during and after the war.

But the British Government will not seek dominance even in tendering "assistance and guidance in economic and political matters" when the war is over. Instead these are to be "the subject of international arrangements."

That can only mean one of two things. Either the Abyssinian Government can choose its own advisers, but not exclusively from one country or race, or it may apply for help in solving its problems to some international body who shall choose advisers for their fitness irrespective of nationality. This precedent applied to backward peoples everywhere should enable them to evolve their own culture along the lines of their own traditions, with friendly aid but no compulsion from peoples more advanced, and secure the development of their natural resources primarily for the benefit of the native inhabitants and after that of the world at large. The old Colonial order, conquest, expropriation, practical enslavement, exploitation of one people for the profit of another would gradually give place to the New Order, education in freedom and self government under enlightened guidance and disinterested leadership rise in standards of life and conduct, and such an impartial world is sharing of raw materials and resultant wealth as would make international and inter-racial brotherhood based on common interest real, forcible conquest unthinkable and peace permanent. The native will be a man, not a chattel. His country's resources will be his to be bought and paid for, not stolen and monopolised. His customs will grow into law, his rights be legalised and judicially protected and he himself evolve from a white man's drudge, a mere inhabitant, into a citizen.

H.G.C.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

A Free Press The suppression of the two Communist papers—"The Daily Worker" and "The Week"—

has raised the question whether freedom of the press should be absolute or limited. Can a democracy fighting for freedom from foreign attack consistently defend itself from such of its own citizens as attack it from within by encouraging fellow citizens not to do their duty, thereby weakening its defence, jeopardising its life and inviting defeat? We merely state the problem. Our readers must solve it for themselves. To every true democrat suppression is hateful. Are these times when suppression is justified? And is this such a time?

National Peace Council The National Peace Council, which consists of fifty affiliated peace societies and represents the peace movement as a whole, held a

Peace Aims Conference in Oxford, January 10-13. It was addressed by many eminent speakers who introduced the discussions, which ranged over a large number of subjects. The main speeches at the Oxford Conference are to be published in three 4d. pamphlets, which our readers would do well to obtain from the N.P.C., 39, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Nazis Versus Knowledge M. Jan Masaryk (Foreign Minister of the Czecho-Slovak Provisional Government) met with a hearty

and sympathetic response when, in the course of a presidential address to students at Aberystwyth, he described the brutal Nazi efforts to crush intellectual freedom in Czecho-Slovakia and abolish Prague University which had existed for more than 500 years. He felt that hard as had been the sequence subsequent events had justified his country's policy of not fighting. Mistakes had been made by many countries concerned, but he had no doubt about the final outcome of the conflict. One of the cardinal errors committed after 1918 was the division of Europe into little economic units. He was glad that steps had been taken for the unification of Polish and Czecho-Slovakian interests and hoped that the example of those two countries would be extensively followed.

The Future of Abyssinia It was well that the question of the future of Abyssinia should be raised in Parliament, even at this early stage. In this way the Government has been given the opportunity of disclaiming any intention of using for imperialistic aggression its operations in Ethiopia. While the war is actively in progress this country must, of vital necessity, take an exclusive part in military direction and control, but when the settlement comes international representatives will have to be called in to aid and advise the Emperor in what will inevitably be no easy task. All that this country will require of Ethiopia is that she will be a peaceable neighbour. Haile Selassie will have to control unruly tribes with their well-known partiality for engaging in the slave-trade. He had already commenced to take steps in this direction when he was raided by the Italians, who also had a partiality for slavery but of a different type.

The Churches and Peace One of the signs of the times is the tendency of the churches generally to take a more definite and detailed interest in the peace movement. In the

past there has been on the part of most of them an attitude of general nebulous approval with little inclination to urge a study of vital matters which so deeply affect a practical world. After all, European politics are quite as important to us as a lot of the national politics recorded in the Old Testament, leaving out of account the social politics of the minor prophets which some people might consider much too "red" for ordinary civilised consumption. Now that stained-glass windows and Gothic architecture are flying to bits all over the place, we do not hear quite so much of that scornful reference to "politics" often made by people who have no room for a religion that will make them do a bit of solid thinking or interfere with their pet sins. If we had had a level-headed, well-instructed public opinion after the last war we might not be in the mess that we are in now.

There is an urgent need of a campaign for education in international politics and the churches should give it all the help in their power, but many of them don't. We know a town in which a series of addresses of that type are given by a man who is a thorough master of his subject and "puts it over" to his audience in a most attractive way. Nevertheless, the attendance is less than two dozen and the local churches do not seem to take the slightest interest in it.

Tangier not to be fortified. Mr. R. A. Butler, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said, in the House of Commons on 26th February, that the British have

recognised the special interest of the Spanish Government, and that "The Spanish Government have given an assurance that there will be no fortification of the Tangier zone." Arrangements now concluded safeguard the rights of British subjects in Tangier, and guarantee the functioning of British institutions and of the British Press. It has also been agreed that, if the mixed tribunal cease to function, the Consular Court will be re-established and fully recognised.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

To the Editor, *The Arbitrator*.

There are probably few influences more antagonistic to international understanding than differences of languages. In these days and in this country more than ever before people of various nations and speaking different tongues are being thrown by force of circumstances into close relation with one another. Every opportunity of learning or teaching someone else another language should be seized. True it is that teaching requires patience but the sacrifice is worth making. Our educational system has been woefully lax in these matters. It is to be hoped that in the post-war educational reconstruction efforts will be made to remedy the shortcomings of the past in this respect. The establishment of series of popular foreign language lectures in our large towns, assisted by lantern slides could be managed at a comparatively low cost and would be of immense assistance and encouragement to students who have already made progress in language and need a considerable amount of hearing practice to secure practical efficiency.

An interesting incident recently came to my notice. A friend of mine received into her home a Polish officer and his wife and two little girls. Added to the hardships of exile the lady, who could speak French but not English, fell ill and had to go away to a sanatorium. My friend's knowledge of French, although not extensive, must have helped the mother to understand the atmosphere of the home and the loving care with which her children would be surrounded while she was away from them.

Yours, etc.,

"CROWSTONE."

THE NEW ORDER

NAZI

The Statement on Nazi Aims made by the German Minister of Agriculture to high Nazi officials in May, 1940:

"It may be assumed that before the autumn sets in we shall be absolute masters of two continents with the exception of Soviet Russia.

We shall introduce in our new living space completely new methods. *All the soil and industrial property of inhabitants of non-German origin will be confiscated without exception* and distributed primarily among the worthy members of the party and soldiers accorded honours for bravery in this war. Thus a new aristocracy of German masters will be created.

This aristocracy will have slaves assigned to it, these slaves to be their property and to consist of landless non-German nationals.

Please do not interpret the word 'slaves' as a parable or as a rhetorical term. We actually have in mind a modern form of medieval slavery which we must and will introduce because we urgently need it to fulfil our great tasks.

These slaves will by no means be denied the blessings of illiteracy. Higher education will in future be reserved for the German population of Europe.

We have selected this form of slavery for several reasons. The most important reason is that we are abolishing the gold standard and replacing it by work. This work must be as cheap as possible so that our economic conquest may spread extensively and rapidly.

HOW NAZIS ARE GROWN

Mr. Herwald Ramsbotham, President of the Board of Education, speaking on Saturday at the annual meeting of the Surrey branch of the National Union of Teachers at Surbiton, said that all German teachers had to swear the following oath:—

"Adolf Hitler, we swear that we will train the youth of Germany that they grow up in your ideology, for your aims and purposes, in the direction set by your will. This is pledged to you by the whole German system of education, from the primary school through to the university."

Could a more effective contrast be found than that oath and the complete freedom which teachers in this country enjoyed? There was the poison that had spread throughout the life of the German people, through the prostitution of its educational system, from infancy to manhood.—*The Times*.

CHRISTIAN

A Statement on Peace aims issued before Christmas, signed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York (Anglican), of Westminster (Catholic) and the Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council.

This Statement adopts one issued by the Pope containing five points on the right relations of States to one another and to their own citizens, and adds five points on their own account. The Ten Points are:—

1. Nations have right to independence.
2. Progressive disarmament.
3. A juridical institution to guarantee or, if necessary, to revise agreed conditions.
4. Just demands of nations, populations and minorities to be treated sympathetically.
5. Development of universal love.
6. Extreme inequalities in wealth and possessions should be abolished.
7. All children should have equal opportunities of education.
8. The family as a social unit must be safeguarded.
9. The sense of a Divine vocation must be restored to man's daily work.
10. Earth's resources should be used as God's gifts to the whole human race.

These great ecclesiastics, who are looked to for guidance by millions within and without the churches, seek to lead the peoples into the way of peace, and through the people to guide the Statesmen who will have the making of the peace to adopt methods and devise machinery for putting the principles into effective operation.

In his New Year's Eve broadcast on the last Sunday of 1940, the Archbishop of Canterbury said, "To secure real justice and freedom for all our own people will mean many sacrifices of prejudices, of customs, of vested interests. But if we are to be honest we must be ready to make them."

AMERICA'S AIM

Mr. Roosevelt's message to Congress on Monday, January 6th, ended thus:—

"In future days they would look forward to the four essential human freedoms—freedom of speech and expression everywhere, the freedom of and the right to worship God in their own way everywhere, freedom from want, and freedom from fear.

"This nation has placed its destiny in the hands, heads and hearts of millions of free men and women and its faith in freedom under the guidance of God," he concluded.

"Freedom means the supremacy of man's rights. Everywhere our support goes to those who struggle to gain those rights or keep them. Our strength is in our unity of purpose. To that high conception there can be no end save victory." (Reuter).

"Democracy is the progress of all through all, under the leadership of the best and wisest—*Mazzini*."

JOHN JOY

Our readers will learn with sorrow of the death, on Wednesday morning, January 8th, of the Chairman of the Council, Alderman John Joy, J.P., C.C., after a long illness at his residence, Walden, Meadway, Southgate. He was cremated on January 11th, after a memorial service at the Bowes Methodist Church at which he and his family had been members for many years. At this service, which was attended by hundreds of his fellow citizens, the International Arbitration League was represented by our President, the Rt. Hon. C. W. Bowerman, P.C.; the Treasurer, Mr. G. Morriss; the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. G. Chancellor; Mr. R. W. Buss and Mr. E. R. G. Brown (members of the Council).

Mr. Joy had been a resident in Southgate for forty years. He had given himself in public service on the U.D.C., of which he was Chairman, and after incorporation in 1919 on the Borough Council of which he was made Alderman at its first meeting, and Mayor three years later. His chief local interest was in the provision of open spaces for recreation. As Chairman of the Parks Committee, from the day on which he was elected in 1919 to the day of his death, he led the



movement which has secured open-air facilities, and clubs to make use of them in many forms of healthy sport, all of which he encouraged, many of them as an active member.

In 1939 he was elected to a seat on the Common Council of the City of London.

To us he has been known best for his interest in the Peace Movement. He joined our Council on September 1st, 1911, and for many years was a regular attendant at its meetings with his friend—the late John Morgan—on whose death on November 21, 1932, Mr. Joy was unanimously chosen as his natural successor. As Chairman he was unremitting in his devotion to his duties until failing health confined him to his house. Mr. Joy paid visits abroad in the interests of the Peace Movement as a delegate of the International Arbitration League, notably at Locarno and Geneva in 1934 the year of the Locarno Treaty. He also, in the same capacity, visited the U.S.A.

The feeling of his colleagues for their Chairman was one not merely of respect but of deep affection, and we tender to Mrs. Joy and her two daughters our respectful sympathy in their great loss, which to us as to them is irreparable.

FREEDOM UNDER DEMOCRACY

AN AMERICAN VIEW.

Democracy has given a truly thrilling exhibition in the British House of Commons. In the very heart of an empire that is battling for its survival, in a country whose leaders and people have vowed that they would die rather than surrender, three pacifist members of Parliament brought forward a motion calling for immediate peace "in a spirit of compromise." They were not beheaded for high treason. They were not flung into a concentration camp. They were able to argue their case freely and their speeches were reported in the newspapers, because they were simply exercising their rights as the elected representatives of free men. The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, replied to them, and the House then voted by 341 to 4 against the motion. That was all. The four who wanted peace will be back in the House to-morrow, taking part in debates on the conduct of the war.

What now becomes of the fatuous idea that British democracy is dead or dying? Can any free country do better than this to prove that its freedom still lives? The British Parliament, it is true, has entrusted the Government with immense wartime powers affecting the life and property of every British subject. Yet the immemorial liberties still remain: the freedom to speak, to criticize, to worship, to think. The British people are free to listen to German broadcasts and to read German communiqués in the newspapers. The processes of law and order continue. If the Government seems guilty of arbitrary injustice, it is attacked from press and public platform. If the Government proposes a tax which seems unfair or a law which seems uncalled for, it can be forced to yield. And if Parliament could vote almost unanimously against a "peace" resolution yesterday, it would be perfectly free to vote in favour of peace and compel a new Government to make peace, if Parliament chose to do so.

It is important for the world to be reminded that the British Parliament and people are resolved to continue their struggle until victory is won. There is no chance of peace, no serious talk of peace now, for the British people know perfectly well that any compromise with Hitler is equivalent to defeat and surrender. But it is just as important to know that a "peace" resolution, however it may outrage the most sacred convictions of the British people, can be discussed openly and freely in the midst of war. As Mr. Attlee truly said, the debate "would not be tolerated in any other country at war." "I believe," he said, "it will show our strength."

He was right. It will show again that democracy lives in the flesh and blood and soul of the British people. It will show that totalitarian ideas have no more chance of crumbling British resistance than a wind that blows against a towering mountain side.—*The New York Times*

A MOVEMENT has been organised among German-speaking nationals in Great Britain to assist the liberation of their own countries. Its progress is shown by the announcement that a German newspaper (*Die Zeitung*) is to be published by the Maxwell Publishing Company (1915) in co-operation with a group of former German newspapermen. The paper will appear daily, and the first issue will be on sale on March 12—*The Times*.

THE INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION LEAGUE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1940.

RECEIPTS		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	PAYMENTS		£ s. d.
To Balance at 1st January, 1940—				By Salaries	98 10 0	
At Bank on Current Account ..	179 17 10			.. National Health and Unemployment Insurance	4 4 0	
Cash in hand	5 5 0			.. Rent, Telephone, Insurance and Office Expenses	139 17 11	
				.. Printing and expenses of Publishing "The Arbitrator"	61 7 2	
.. Subscriptions and Donations	290 3 5	185 2 10		.. Postage, Telegrams, etc. (including postage of "The Arbitrator")	17 14 8	
.. Cremer Trustees	240 0 0	290 3 5		.. Expenses of Cremer Commemoration Dinner	10 16 0	
.. Sales of Publications, etc.	17 0	17 0		.. Subscription—		
				.. National Peace Council	1 1 0	
				.. Balance at 31st December, 1940—		
				At Bank on Current Account ..	377 7 1	
				Cash in hand	5 5 5	
					382 12 6	
					<u>£716 3 3</u>	

AUDITORS' REPORT

We have examined the above Account of Receipts and Payments with the books and vouchers submitted to us by the International Arbitration League and certify the same to be in accordance therewith.

7 and 8, Norfolk Street,
Strand, London, W.C.2.
24th January, 1941.

EDWARD MYERS CLARK & CO.,
Chartered Accountants,
Auditors

THE
INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION LEAGUE
(Founded 1870)
REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1940

The members of the Council of the International Arbitration League and their supporters are second to none in their hatred of War and in their belief in peaceful methods of settling international disputes: their motto is still—

"Arbitration not War."

Our Prime Ministers, Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Churchill, have each in their own way held out the olive branch to the enemy. One may approve of or disagree with the policy of appeasement; but Mr. Chamberlain's action in trying to avoid war by that means must be recognised as the effort of a statesman, made sincerely and heroically in spite of failing health. Its initial success was greeted with enthusiasm by many British people, with doubt by many others. That effort will remain in the annals of history. Its subsequent failure, and the futility of appeasement as a policy in the circumstances, was acknowledged later by Mr. Chamberlain who, on resigning, ranged himself among the supporters of his successor, Mr. Churchill.

The War has prevented much of our normal activities. Since the raids on London and all over the country, it has been almost impossible to hold meetings in the evenings on account of lighting restrictions and difficulties of travel. Council Meetings were held during the year at the office, both in the evening and in the afternoon, but Members living at a distance were unable to come in the evening and others could not leave their work to attend in the afternoon. Members have been kept in touch by a circular letter giving some of the details of work attempted. Even the annual "Cremer Commemoration" was held in the afternoon, on a Saturday, and took the form of a lunch at the National Liberal Club, when a good gathering was addressed by the Hon. Lady Barlow, Mr. T. Asheroft (of the "Railway Review"), the Rev. A. M. Brakenrig and the Hon. Secretary.

Other meetings, addressed by the Hon. Secretary, included the Feltham Pottery Club on "The Peace

Outlook"; the Peace Society Memorial Service for the Rt. Hon. G. N. Barnes, at which the Rt. Hon. C. W. Bowerman, P.C., also spoke; "The World Congress of Faiths" at Bedford College, organised by Sir Francis Younghusband; and, on Sundays, at Church services and brotherhoods, etc.

Our own special work has been supplemented by co-operation with other societies whose objects include peace and social progress; such as "Consideration of the Blockade Policy" (National Peace Council) at the Caxton Hall; "Free Trade and the Peace Settlement" (Cobden Club, Liberal Free Trade Union and Dunford House); "Peace Aims and Economic Disarmament" and "Colonial Mandates" (Cobden Club); the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Society, who arranged a meeting to celebrate the "Centenary of N.Z. Maoris"; our delegates have attended Conferences of the National Council of Civil Liberties, and of the N.P.C. on "Peace Aims." In addition, a representative was appointed to the American Academy of Social and Political Science, held at Philadelphia.

Five issues of *The Arbitrator* have been published, and letters of appreciation received and the resulting enrolment of new supporters testify to the usefulness of this branch of our work. One Public Reference Library recently wrote asking that they might still receive for their work the "Eight Copies of the paper as usual."

Though London as a whole still looks like the old London of the past, there is no doubt that much damage has been done by raids to public buildings and private houses—large and small; and to shopping centres, schools and various institutions. Many roads and public services have been injured, but rapidly reconstructed and repaired in a truly marvellous manner; and the traffic arrangements have been dealt with so as not to stop or greatly hinder ordinary vital business, nor greatly restrict travelling facilities.

At the building in which this Office is situated, the Sixth and Seventh Floors have had to be evacuated and closed for a time. Our own Office has suffered by having the door and windows broken—not by a direct hit, but as the result of the blast from a nearby

explosion. But in spite of all this we are able to continue our work from the same address.

It is a matter of deep regret to us that one of the youngest and most promising members of our Council—Albert Bate Evans—a grandson of the late Howard Evans, one of the founders of this League, was killed by a bomb while on duty at a fire when he was serving as a member of the Auxiliary Fire Service. We also record with sorrow the death of Mr. G. E. Gilpin, F.C.A., the senior member of our firm of Auditors, whose house received a direct hit in a raid on Watford.

We are glad to say that subscriptions are maintained, with fluctuations due to the passing of old subscribers and the increased expenses of workers. But we welcome the aid of new supporters, for the war entails various extra contributions such as the provision of Air-Raid Shelters, Fire Watchers, postage, and other war-time costs.

Our sincere thanks are due to those friends at home and abroad who send us their publications, gifts which we find most useful. Amongst those most appreciated are the books, pamphlets and papers of the Carnegie Endowment; also magazines from societies in the United States of America, from Australasia, and still even from Sweden—the “Mellanfolkligt,” and from Switzerland, the “Friedenswarte”; nor must we forget to include those sent from societies issued here at home.

In spite of the terrorism of nightly bombing of the civil population in London and in many other great centres public opinion is almost unanimous in the view that until the Nazi power is removed neither liberty nor peace is possible, and is determined at all costs to resist aggression until this is achieved. Civilian courage in military danger has been a revelation. Much as our people long for peace they are willing to continue to suffer danger until peace can be made real and just. In this attitude the League fully concurs.

C. W. BOWERMAN, President.
H. G. CHANCELLOR, Hon. Sec.

NOTE.—Since the period covered by this report the League has suffered an irreparable loss by the death on January 8th of the Chairman, Alderman John Joy, C.C. An appreciation appears on page 85.

A WORLD LEAGUE OF FREEDOM

Mr. Leonard F. Behrens in a letter to “The Times” says: “In this country we have been apt to under-estimate the power of ideas; this is a mistake for which Hitler is innocent. He has won more and greater victories by politics than by war. Is it not time that we fought him with his own weapons? Is it not time that we gathered together the overwhelming political forces that oppose him and formed here in Britain a Common Council of representatives of the States of the British Commonwealth, of the Allied Governments, and of the Free French? It might be possible to complete such a council by including in it representatives of Hitler's and Mussolini's earliest and bitterest enemies, the freedom loving Germans, Austrians, and Italians. Surely free Frenchmen and free Germans can work together more happily and more fruitfully than Berlin and Vichy?”

Urgent tasks await such a council; they include the prosecution of the political war in Germany, in Italy, and in the countries under Nazi and Fascist domination; support of Mr. Bevin's opportune plans for mobilizing international labour; the preparation, which you, Sir, have advocated, of the reconstruction of Europe on the cessation of hostilities; and, above all, the demonstration to friends, neutrals and enemies alike, that this war is not, as the Nazis pretend, a war to establish British overlordship, but, as we are told and believe, a struggle to liberate the victims of oppression and to establish them once again as free men and women in a free and peaceful world.”

ITALY'S AFRICAN WARS

EGYPT AND LIBYA

1940.

- Dec. 9.—*Sidi-Barrani* (Egypt) taken by British.
- .. 18.—*Sollum* (Egypt) occupied by British; also *Fort Capuzzo*.
- .. 20-22.—British attack *Bardia*.

1941.

- Jan. 31.—*Bardia* (Libya) taken by British.
- .. 21-23.—*Tobruk* (Libya) attacked and taken by British.
- .. 28-29.—*Derna* captured.
- Feb. 4.—*Cirene* (Libya) captured.
- .. 4.—*Appolonia* (Libya) taken; troops press on to *Barce*.
- .. 7.—*Benghazi* captured by British. (170 miles covered in 7 days.)
- Mar. 2.—Free French forces take *Kufra* (S. Libya).

ABYSSINIA.

- Jan. 13.—Revolt spreading: Emperor Haile Selassie in Khartoum.
- .. 19.—British officers and N.C.O.s training and organising Abyssinian patriots.
- .. 19.—In *Gojjam—Enjabara*, and many Italian prisoners taken.
- .. 24.—Haile Selassie in Abyssinia.
- .. 22.—*Boma*, on the Blue Nile, attacked.
- Feb. 24.—Abyssinians and S. Africans re-capture *Moyale* (Somaliland) lost in July, 1940.
- .. 25.—*Mega* captured.

SOMALILAND (ITAL.), ERITREA, AND SUDAN

1940

- July —*Moyale* (Somaliland) taken by Italians.
- Aug. 6 —Italians occupy *Zeila*, *Hargeisson* and *Odweina*.
- .. 19.—Brit. evacuate Brit. Somaliland safely; made necessary by loss of French support at *Jibuti*.
- Nov. 7.—*Gallabat* (Sudan) held by Italians since July, taken by British and Indians.

1941

- Jan. 19.—Italians driven from *Kassala*.
- .. 24.—Italians retreat in Eritrea: Brit. cross Ital. Somaliland frontier.
- .. 26.—*Biscia* (Eritrea) captured: 700 Italians prisoners.
- Feb. 1.—Brit. troops cut road between *Acordat* and *Barentu* (Eritrea).
- .. 2.—*Acordat* captured.
- .. 10.—*Afmadu* (Ital. Somaliland) captured.
- .. 15.—*Kismayu* on the river *Juba* (Ital. Somaliland) captured by S. Africans.
- .. 22-23.—*Cub-Cub* taken.
- .. 22.—*Jelib—Jumbo* North of river *Juba*. African troops co-operated.
- .. 25.—*Brava* (It. Somaliland) taken.
- .. 26.—*Port of Mogaadishu*, capital of Italian Somaliland; on the Indian Ocean.

ETHIOPIA'S INDEPENDENCE.

The Foreign Secretary's reply to a question in the House of Commons on Tuesday, February 4, 1941.

“The Government would welcome the reappearance of an independent Ethiopian State, and recognises the claim of the Emperor Haile Selassie to the throne.

“The Emperor has intimated to the Government that he will need outside assistance and guidance. The British Government agrees with this view, and considers that any such assistance and guidance in economic and political matters should be the subject of international arrangement at the conclusion of peace.

“The Government reaffirm that they have themselves no territorial ambitions in Abyssinia. In the meanwhile the conduct of military operations by Imperial forces in parts of Abyssinia will require temporary measures of military guidance and control. These will be carried out in consultation with the Emperor, and will be brought to an end as soon as the situation permits.”

