

PEACE, PROSPERITY AND PROMOTION

FOOTBALL teams from the University of Mexico and Mississippi College recently faced each other in Jackson, the state capital. Contrary to what would ordinarily be expected thousands of the Mississippi spectators enthusiastically cheered the Mexican team. So anxious were our people to give our neighbors a hospitable reception that many even hoped that the Mexican boys would win. Everywhere Mexicans went, they impressed our Mississippi citizens with their genial, friendly personalities.

The elements of good sportsmanship can go a long way toward creating friendship and understanding. It proves that there is a common ground upon which people can agreeably meet despite difference in national viewpoints.

Sir Thomas Lipton, now heralded in history as the world's noblest loser, with his fine conception of sportsmanship, brought America and Britain closer together. The American who last beat him in his famous yacht race won a rather empty victory, for Americans were cheering the Britisher. Then when Mayor Jimmie Walker suggested a cup to Sir Thomas, the American public responded. This newspaper is glad that it sent a contribution toward the purchase of this significant cup. Two nations imbued with the spirit of that yacht race cannot go to war. Herein is one of the great lessons of true sportsmanship.

An editorial published December 25, 1931, by John Oliver Emmerich, editor and publisher, *The McComb Enterprise* McComb, Mississippi.

Under the terms of the will of the late George Fort Milton, publisher and editor of the *Chattanooga News*, a cash award of \$500 is made annually for the best editorial advancing the cause of International Peace. The University of Tennessee administers this award, which is open to newspapers and periodicals published in Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Maryland. In the course of the year 1931, one hundred forty-five editorials were published and submitted from these states, and this is the winning editorial.

II

Col. Charles Lindbergh's reception in Europe revealed emphatically a spirit of international friendship which points indisputably to durable world peace, if only this spirit is cultivated. Our gala receptions tendered oceanic flyers from Europe has evidenced our ability to reciprocate.

In 1929 fifty thousand boy scouts representing 42 nations gathered in England for a great Jamboree. Isn't it reasonable for any sound-thinking man to deduce that the spirit which animated these boys is the spirit in which can be constructed permanent world understanding which can further the economic and spiritual welfare of all people everywhere? Yet there are those who insist that only through strong armaments can world respect be maintained for any nation.

And the Boy Scout Jamboree is but one of many examples of international friendship based on a common understanding. Four hundred and forty young people held their own "World Youth Peace Conference" in Holland in 1928, and 32 countries were represented. Rotary International which has over three thousand branches in sixty-two nations has as one of its objects "to encourage and foster the advancement of understanding, good will and international peace." And less than two years ago the International Chamber of Commerce at its meeting issued a statement "that the world of business must devote itself zealously to promoting the conception of peace summed up in the words Security, Arbitration and Disarmament, and must exert its influence to prevent causes of economic friction which may result in war. Nations failing to adopt these methods should have no support or encouragement from the commercial world."

III

Innumerable instances could be cited to prove that the world has been brought definitely to a plane of thinking whereon people of all races and nations can find a common

ground for understanding and friendship. Despite these facts, there still exists a school of thought which dogmatically contends that war is the only true basis for settling disputes between nations. This type of thinking is one of the greatest menaces to the progress of World Peace.

Throughout history two forces can be traced, one leading to the union of men in larger and larger co-operative groups, the other to conflict between the groups. Progress thus far indicates that ultimately the tendency toward union will result in world organization, world peace, and world prosperity. The result is certain, but the time required to obtain this certainty is the uncertain factor. Every week's delay means added cost and suffering; tribulation rightfully laid at the door of those who say, "It can't be done."

IV

This force leading to the union of men was observed in early American history. George Washington stated that his "first wish" was to see war abolished. Benjamin Franklin suggested to his friends in Europe that the nations of that continent might organize a federal union in the interest of peace. In 1815 a society in New York was organized to encourage peace, and this was promptly followed in ten of the thirteen original states. Thomas Jefferson, himself, was a member of the Massachusetts society. Almost at the very birth of our nation our forefathers recognized a common ground for friendship between all nations, that same whole-hearted and unselfish spirit revealed at the recent Mexico University-Mississippi College football game.

V

But America has not been alone in encouraging World Peace. This is the most encouraging indication that the force toward union will triumph over the force toward conflict. The peace movement is world-wide, indisputably so.

A declaration on "The Schools of Great

Britain and the Peace of the World" has been adopted as a guide to teachers, and an elaborate school program is directed to the end that a spirit toward world co-operation may be developed. The largest organization in the world directing its efforts exclusively toward peace is the "British League of Nations Union" which has a membership exceeding 700,000.

Forty-one organizations in France are engaged in selling the idea of World Peace. Perhaps the most striking of them all is the "Volunteers of Peace," a young people's organization which annually holds a friendly gathering of hundreds of young people of Germany and France. Teachers in French schools are promoting better international understanding.

Contrasted with the old "Might makes right" doctrine, the German constitution of today suggests the educating of children "in the spirit of German national culture and international conciliation." In Germany alone are forty-six organizations, all co-operating through a central office and directing their activities toward the abolition of war. One hundred and fifty thousand German teachers participate in the work of the International Federation of Associations of Teachers and collaborate with the teachers of France, England, and other European countries in "the promotion of peace."

And Japan. That country in the eyes of the world today. Even though struggling under a delicate Manchurian situation, Japan is lending aid to the cause of peace. The Japanese Department of Education has introduced into all textbooks a chapter on international co-operation and the League of Nations, and has undertaken not only to eliminate unfriendly references to other countries, but to include an account of their great men.

VI

We must conclude that the facts immeasurably reflect the truth of World Peace possibility. With our pioneer forefathers years ago centering thought on this goal;

with other nations evidencing aggressive cooperation toward the same end; with a common international understanding evidenced as an actual, existing fact in other avenues of thought; with this whole background of encouragement and proof, certainly we should diligently press toward the coveted aim of lasting peace.

We must cultivate the spirit of the gridiron; must rehearse the elements of fair play and good sportsmanship. We must know that other people have virtues, must convince others that we're not all bad ourselves.

People must be sold to this cause. The pulpit should preach it, the schools teach it, the newspaper publish it. By word of mouth, the cause of understanding must be spread. Our patriotism must be broadened, our scope of thinking enlarged to include the world.

No other form of mental or moral discipline can accrue greater profit to any of us. Certainly no argument can logically be offered against this plan. In encouraging peace we have all to gain and naught to lose. Certainly with the fruitful possibilities ahead we can well afford to direct our thought to the constructive effort to defeat the destructive forces of the world.

JOHN OLIVER EMMERICH

THE NEWBERRY AWARD

Waterless Mountain, the story of a Navajo Indian boy, by Laura Adams Armer, has just been awarded the Newbery Medal for the most distinguished contribution to children's literature published in 1931 by the Section for Library Work with Children of the American Library Association.

The book, published by Longmans Green, is the story of Younger Brother, a young Navajo boy of the present day who learns the ancient secrets of his tribe, and the mysteries of the medicine men, in the sun-parched desert places of Arizona. Mrs.

Armer is a widely recognized authority upon Navajo legends, symbolism, and ceremonials, and an artist whose paintings of Navajo mythology have brought her national recognition. Into the tale of Younger Brother, she has woven many illuminating glimpses of the domestic and religious life of the Navajo people.

Concerning the choice of the title, *Waterless Mountain*, Mrs. Armer explains that her inspiration for it came during a trip to the Navajo country to copy sand paintings for the new Rockefeller Museum in San Jose. Her travels took her to a remote section of the country where there was a mountain topped by a large flat mesa upon which there was not a drop of water. This waterless mountain is made a symbolic theme throughout her book.

Illustrations for *Waterless Mountain* were made by Mrs. Armer and her husband, Sidney Armer, San Francisco artist. The publishers have given the book a distinguished and unusually beautiful format in keeping with its subject matter.

The Newbery medal, which is awarded annually at the conference of the American Library Association, was established in 1922 by Frederick G. Melcher, of New York, in honor of John Newbery, one of the first publishers to appreciate the value of good books for children. Other books which have won the award have been *The Story of Mankind* by Hendrik Van Loon in 1922; *Voyages of Dr. Dolittle* by Hugh Lofting, 1923; *The Dark Frigate* by Charles Boardman Hawes, 1924; *Tales from Silver Lands* by Charles Finger, 1925; *Shen of the Sea* by Arthur Bowie Chrisman, 1926; *Smoky the Cowhorse* by Will James, 1927; *Gay Neck* by Dhan Gopal Mukerji, 1928; *Trumpeter of Krakow* by Eric P. Kelly, 1929; *Hitty, Her First Hundred Years* by Rachel Field, 1930; and *The Cat Who Went to Heaven* by Elizabeth Coatsworth, 1931.

14