
WEEKLY NEWS
Published by the
NEW YORK LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
5017 Grand Central Terminal Building, New York, N. Y.
Telephone: Murray Hill 6862

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Subscription (weekly except August) \$1 a year
To members, 50 cents

Vol. V. No. 9.

May 28, 1926

THE UPHILL ROAD

Representatives of thirty countries are now gathered at Geneva to consider what steps it may be possible for the nations to take on the road to disarmament.

The business of this Preparatory Commission is to draw up if possible, a set of questions to be brought before the actual conference on disarmament to be held next December. The commission seeks to find the questions on which there is some possibility of united action, and to table questions which will bring only discord. That is, the task before these men is to choose, out of many methods of attempting an infinitely difficult and complicated task, those likeliest of success.

Miss Morgan, speaking at St. Louis on our part on this commission said,—“Now we turn to the great event of the coming year—the proposed Disarmament Conference in Europe. Before coming here, I went to Washington to get the last news before the sailing of the Agenda Committee from this country. If ever representatives of the country have been taught to do or die for a cause, those men have been so instructed. Once more the common sense and determination of this country has made it clear that nothing but a concerted reduction of war preparations can spell success for the conference, and our representatives plainly understand this . . . Half an hour after Congress voted the money and approved the committee a cable was sent saying the men were ready to sail in five days . . . Moreover, the plans of the Outlawry of War group, for debt reduction in exchange for disarmament and reduction of expenses here to meet a similar reductions in other countries, are freely discussed. Bigness of action and policy, as against getting into technical jungles where all will be lost

is the motto of the enterprise. The old American question, ‘why not,’ is once more in evidence. Does this mean that the [Disarmament] Conference will take place? Or that it will be successful? By no means. But it does mean that the American committee and the greater men whom it is rumored will represent the nation in the later conference, need our support and they should have it promptly and heartily expressed. This is the big victory of the last few years.”

Our delegates are especially desirous of extending the scope of the naval limitations arranged at the Washington conference, and of limiting aerial competition. From Belgium comes a plea for the control of chemical industry as an essential step in any disarmament program. It is too soon to make any guess of what may be accomplished, but thus far it looks as though, for Europe at least, disarmament must be linked with some scheme of mutual aid in case of attack.

The position of the delegates from the United States is delicate, for they represent a country that is at once richer in resources and man power and safer by reason of location by any other land. They are, therefore, less affected by the consideration of security that naturally holds the foremost place in the thoughts of delegates from lands whose history is one long series of invasions and counter-invasions.

Our delegation is headed by Mr. Hugh S. Gibson, Minister to Switzerland and includes Mr. J. F. Dulles who was a member of the Reparations Commission; Mr. Dorsey Richardson; Brigadier-General H. A. Smith, head of our war plans department; Major D. E. Nolan of the army staff; Major George V. Strong; Captain Adolphus Andrews; Rear Admiral Hilary P. Jones and Rear Admiral Andrew T. Long.

ALBANY

The thirty days in which the Governor may sign bills passed by the legislature is over. He signed 851 and killed 105. His criticisms of two classes of bills are worth consideration by those concerned for more efficient and responsible government. One class was made up of local bond issues which he maintains could be as properly and more simply

secured by motions to the Supreme Court. Another class includes county measures which with the extension of home rule to counties would be taken care of locally as are now the details of city government under the recent city home rule amendment.

The third were changes in the fish and game laws—fifty-two of them! This class of bills is a part of the tradition of the legislature. The day set apart for their consideration is one of the sporting events of each year. On that day the upstate assemblymen and senators devote themselves to making clear the differences between pike and moose, between muskrats and muskelonge, to the tenderfoot from Manhattan. The governor's suggestion that an advisory conservation council with power to make regulations concerning fish and game generally does appeal to common sense, certainly as a saving in both time and trout. But it would rob the legislators of the merriest day in the calendar and of an education in natural history otherwise unobtainable. Let's think twice before putting this on the L.W.V. program!

Five appointments to the State Crime Commission are announced: David S. Taylor, editor of the Buffalo Courier; Thomas S. Rice of the Brooklyn Eagle; Col. G. F. Chandler of Kingston, who was one of the organizers of our state police; W. L. Butcher, superintendent of the Brace Memorial News Boy's House, New York City; Miss Jane Hoey, head of the Welfare Council of Greater New York. Other members are John Knight of Arcade, majority leader in the senate; Joseph A. McGinies, of Ripley, speaker of the assembly, and two senators and two assemblymen, to be announced later. The commission is to examine into the procedure and methods used in the detection, trial and punishment of criminals and is to report, with recommendations to the legislature, by March 1927.

THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

At the meeting of the board on May 7th Mrs. Samuel Davis of Ardsley, Westchester County, was appointed chairman of education.

Miss Kenyon, chairman of legislation, has sent to the assembly district leaders a request that the legislative program for 1927 be discussed at the

next meeting of every local league and that suggestions of what the members would like included and what omitted be sent to her by July 1st.

The invitations of the Onondaga League and the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce have been accepted and the next state convention will be held at the Hotel Syracuse probably the first week in December.

The June meeting of the Board of Management, at the invitation of the Saratoga County League, meets at Saratoga Springs June 16th. Members from the near counties are invited for luncheon and a regional conference in the afternoon. Miss Ruth Morgan of the National Board will speak on the present outlook on international affairs and Miss Nelle Swartz of the State Department of Labor, will tell of the work of the Women's Bureau of which she is head.

MEMORIAL TO ELLA HAWLEY CROSSETT

The Nurses' Home of the Wyoming Community Hospital is to bear a name known and loved by women throughout the whole State of New York. Mrs. Ella Hawley Crossett's magnificent work as a leader in the days when woman suffrage was winning its way against prejudice and timidity, made her the friend of women from Long Island to Niagara. But in Wyoming County she was the beloved founder and first president of the Hospital Auxiliary.

Its meeting this year is the first at which she did not preside. The proposal of Mrs. F. S. Hayden, the present president, that the enlarged nurses' home bear Mrs. Crossett's name was unanimously adopted by the hospital trustees. The auxiliary is pledged to raise \$5,000. for this memorial and it may well be that some outside of Wyoming County who knew and loved Mrs. Crossett may like to have a share in this tribute. Address Mrs. Frank S. Hayden, Wyoming, N. Y.

MEMBERSHIPS

Is your county entered for the Syracuse prize? To win double your membership and then some! But first see that you and the Stencil Sergeant agree as to the number of members in the county January 1st, 1926.

TOWN AND COUNTY

Dutchess. — At the luncheon on May 15th at Amenia, besides a gain of some thirty new members, fine plans were made for the summer and autumn. First come porch meetings at various homes where matters on the L.W.V. program will be discussed informally. Sometime there will be a luncheon or tea at the Mizzentop, Pawling, and a tea at Hope Farm, Verbank. The county convention is set for October 23rd, at Millbrook. After the primaries a meeting will be held at Millbrook for the discussion of campaign issues, each party being represented by a woman speaker. Just before the election a candidates' meeting will be held at Poughkeepsie in cooperation with the Women's City and County Club.

Erie.—The following directors were elected at the annual meeting May 18th: Mrs. Charles Bock, Mrs. N. H. Burgess, Mrs. Lyman Chandler, Mrs. W. W. Cohn, Mrs. C. P. Franchot, Mrs. L. F. Gilbert, Mrs. C. J. Hamlin, Mrs. M. P. Porter, Mrs. P. B. Smokowski. The directors met May 24th to elect officers for the coming year.

Greene.—The semi-annual meeting will be held June 17th at the home of Mrs. William Spencer Murray, 157 William St., Catskill. Special interest will center in the work now being done for the children in the county.

Suffolk. — Members from Smithtown and St. James met at Smithtown on May 26th at the invitation of the county chairman, Mrs. E. C. Hoyt. The question before the members was whether county government, "the dark continent of American politics," should be taken as a special subject for study during the next few months.

NEW YORK CITY

Headquarters, 37 W. 39th St., Manhattan
(Material supplied by the First Region)

Thrift Shop.—We want to remind you as you are preparing to leave the city and looking over your summer wardrobe that the Thrift Shop will be glad to have any material that you are discarding. Send a post card to the International Sunshine Society, 2073 Seventh Ave., tel., Morning-side 0381, and your package will be called for. Be sure to mark it "League of Women Voters."

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OF WOMEN VOTERS

507 Grand Central Terminal
Building - New York, N. Y.

Vol. V. No. 9. May 28, 1926

Memorial Day

1926

AT GENEVA
REPRESENTATIVES
OF THIRTY NATIONS
ARE SEEKING A WAY
TO DISARMAMENT

Entered as second
class matter Apr. 7,
1922, at the Post
Office at New York,
N.Y., under the Act
of March 3, 1879.

Miss Olive Williams,
59 Irving Pl.,
Erie Co.,

Buffalo, N. Y.