

CONGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL ABOLITIONIST FEDERATION.

The 17th Congress organised by the International Abolitionist Federation, took place at Brussels from September 6th to 9th, 1947.

Regulation of prostitution by Public Authorities; compulsory treatment of V.D.; the part played in prostitution—and the administrative detention of people said to be anti-social were the subjects discussed on the various days.

The Congress passed six resolutions. They congratulated the Belgian House of Representatives on having recently voted, unanimously in favour of a bill abolishing the regulation of prostitution. They asked the United Nations Organisation to submit the 1937 convention for the suppression of the traffic in women and children to the different nations for signature, in view of the urgent need to suppress the reviving traffic in women. They called attention to the fact that compulsory measures for the treatment of V.D. can easily degenerate into legislation which discriminates between the sexes or social classes. They denounced the artificial stimulation given to the male sexual impulse by all laws or institutions devoted to prostitution. The Congress begged the Economic and Social Council of U.N.O., which has recently given the I.A.F. consultative status, to undertake research on the psychological, physiological and social characteristics of the habitual clients of prostitutes.

Finally, they demanded education in the facts of sex, which should not be separated from the general training of character. This should be given in the family, but where the family is unable or unwilling to do so, it should form a part of the programme of all those concerned with the education of the young.

AN APPEAL.

We are placing the following appeal before the readers of this Journal. For many years the Press Printers, Ltd., of Odhams Press, Ltd., have been most helpful and sympathetic in the printing and publishing of this Journal, and our late Editor, Ethel Gordon Fenwick, always felt we owed a debt of gratitude to the printers for the splendid work they rendered, which added so much to the value of our Journal.

Any help sent to Mr. Cousins will, we know, be greatly appreciated.

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DEAR MISS ANGEL, October 17th, 1947.

I am now engaged on what is perhaps the most important task of my life, and I want you, please, to help me.

During 1947, I am Festival President of the Printers' Pension Corporation, the oldest charity within our industry, which for 120 years has held out a friendly hand to aged and infirm printers and to printers' widows and orphans.

So inadequate are present resources that at the last election of pensioners nearly half the poor old people who were eligible had to be turned away empty handed. There are now over 600 decent folk patiently waiting for aid. To enable the Corporation to come to their assistance a tremendous sum must be raised.

I am confident that this deserving cause must have your sympathy. More than most men, you and I stand indebted to the skill and industry of the printer. I beg you most earnestly, therefore, to join me in a prompt and generous acknowledgment of that debt.

Please do be great-hearted. Darby and Joan have their hopes fixed on us. We can't let them down, can we?

I cannot tell you how anxiously I shall look forward to hearing from you during the next few days and with what gratitude I shall personally acknowledge anything you may send me.—Yours very sincerely, ARTHUR G. COUSINS.

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