

# WAR RESISTERS' INTERNATIONAL

LANSBURY HOUSE, 88 PARK AVENUE, BUSH HILL PARK,  
ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX, ENGLAND

*Spring 1954*

Dear Friend,

"THEY HAVE GIVEN YOU YOUR TO-MORROW, BY GIVING  
YOU THEIR TO-DAY"

We venture to send this appeal to you, following our custom of writing to you in such a way about this time each year. This year the appeal is more urgent than ever; in fact, the response you give to it is vital to the continuation of the extensive programme we have before us. We have lost by death quite a large number of old supporters, and although we are making every effort to get new ones to take their places we have to face the fact that we cannot fulfil our programme without all our friends' constant help.

May we briefly outline that programme? First, it is our duty to discover war resisters in every part of the world, through our 43 affiliated Sections in 28 countries, and individual contacts in 60 other countries, 88 countries in all. In some of these countries are the war resisters who have given you their message in the folder we send you with this letter. Of great importance is the publication of literature and news-sheets, which are sent throughout the world to make our message known. Another very urgent task, in which we are constantly engaged, is to try to secure the legal recognition of conscientious objection in countries where it does not yet exist. In this connection we keep a carefully revised record of Military Service Regulations and Provisions for Conscientious Objectors all over the world. (We believe this record is unique.)

We have to keep in mind also that the principles in which we believe have big implications; we seek to make known the way of non-violence as well as the application of pacifism to many phases of life, including the "Colour Problem", Imperialism and the State, and Social and Economic change. Above all, we are considering what has become known as "The Third Camp". This

[P.T.O.]

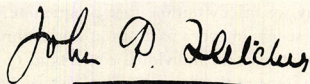
does not mean another "Power Bloc". We aim to bring together those individuals and groups from all countries, who, believing in non-violence, will withhold support from the power struggle yet attempt to create a new political, economic and social pattern, a new spiritual basis and the new vision that our anxious world so urgently needs.

This subject is to be the main theme for discussion at our Triennial Conference to be held in France from July 29 to August 3, 1954. Our Conference can only be held once in three years because of the great expense of bringing together members from all over the world.

We are confident you will appreciate the importance of all this work. We are ready to do it, but we cannot do so without your help, so we beg you most earnestly to send us your gift. Whether it is large or small it will be equally welcome and equally blessed. Your help now will bring us one step nearer our goal; the peace of the world and fellowship between all men.

Could we find anything better for which to strive?

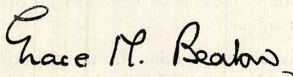
Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John P. Fletcher". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored paper.

Hon. Treasurer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold F. Bing". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored paper.

Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Grace M. Beaton". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored paper.

General Secretary