

do what little we can to bring a little joy into the world. Believe us, you will be repaid a hundredfold. It is much more blessed to give than to receive and there is no joy like the joy of giving happiness to others. To all our readers, we wish a Very Merry Christmas and may you make it merry for as many as you can!

The League Expels Russia

UPON the motion of Argentina, both the League Assembly and Council voted in favor of the expulsion of Soviet Russia from the ranks of the international body, in indignation against the Soviet attack on Finland. The speed and decision with which the League acted was most surprising after the experience of the long-drawn and controversial discussions which have marked meetings of such nature in the past. Hardly more than two weeks after the launching of her attack on Finland, Soviet Russia finds herself already outside the League. Whether the League acted wisely in so summarily expelling Russia from its ranks is an open question. Some critics have complained that the League is a peace body and that, according to its covenant, it should have exhausted all means to secure peace between the two countries before taking such drastic action. Apart from the request to Russia to attend the League meeting, which was politely refused, no attempt was made to mediate between the belligerents. There is also the argument that it is rather late in the day to begin expelling a law-breaking member, when three other much more recalcitrant members, namely, Japan, Germany and Italy, have been allowed to flaunt the authority of the League at will during the past eight years and then to walk out when it suited them. On the League's side, it may be said that the great indignation aroused by the ruthless Soviet invasion of Finland and the threat of the South American nations to leave the League if Russia were not expelled, made drastic action necessary unless the League was to forfeit its last vestiges of self-respect. The enforcement of economic and military sanctions against Russia being out of the question, in view of the difficulty in securing the participation of all nations in such a measure, the League took the only step that was left to it, namely, the expulsion of the offending member. In expelling Soviet Russia, the League has passed moral censure against that country, while upholding Finland's cause. It has also urged all member states to give as much material assistance as possible to the brave little state. Already world-wide sympathy for Finland is bringing to her aid war materials from various countries, not merely from those who are members of the League, but also from Italy and the United States, where the pro-Finnish sentiment is very marked. While there is the widest sympathy and admiration for Finland's courageous stand throughout China, the international position of the Chinese Government *vis-à-vis* the conflict is not an easy one. Herself a victim of aggression, China can hardly attempt to condone what Russia has done. On the other hand, to have voted against the Soviet Union in the League meetings, when that country has been rendering her valuable assistance in her resistance to Japanese aggression, would have placed China in an embarrassing position with her helper. In order to extricate the Government from a very delicate situation,

the Chinese delegate abstained from voting in both the League and the Council. China, after all, is an Asiatic and not a European power. If Soviet Russia pursues one policy in Asia and another in Europe, then it is to China's interest to shape her policy accordingly. In refraining from voting on the League resolution, China has adopted the only stand compatible with her national interests.

Character Building

A NEW kind of school is taking shape in Chungking, the capital of Free China, which will be completely different from any other educational institution ever opened in this country. The distinguishing feature of the college will be the emphasis which it will place upon character building rather than mere book knowledge. The idea of the new school is an outgrowth of the cultural reconstruction movement, which is being promoted by General Chiang Kai-shek to encourage the development of spiritual qualities among the people. The college will be known as the National Cultural College and the building is already under construction. Mr. Chang Chuan-li, a noted scholar, will be its president, while General Chiang Kai-shek, Mr. Chen Po-li, well-known writer and scholar and former newspaperman in Shanghai, General Chang Chun, former foreign minister and vice-president of the Executive Yuan, and Mr. Chu Chia-hua, general secretary of the Central Executive Committee, are on the board of directors of the new school. It is understood that the school will not follow the ordinary college curriculum at all and that no courses in social or natural science will be offered. Morality, physical development, thrift, honesty, readiness in helping others, to honor one's self and one's work, to obey collectively enforced disciplinary measure, patriotism and other non-academic courses are mentioned on the curriculum. It is stated that the school will emphasize both morality and knowledge, which should go hand in hand in order to make a perfect citizen. Another interesting point is that the college will attempt to do away with provincialism and prejudice among various groups of people and the common practice of making attacks on private persons. Since there is no school exactly of this nature anywhere in the world, it will be interesting to watch the future developments of this novel scheme. Unbound by tradition and conventional modes of approach, unlimited fields of experiment lie open to the promoters. Mr. Chang Chuan-li, the president of the new college, is understood to have national socialist leanings. Whether he envisages an educational system on German Nazi lines, has not been revealed. Carried to its logical conclusion, the Nazi system is still far from the ideal, since it aims at the regimentation of the individual to the point of losing his character as such. However, the Chinese character differs far from the German-Japanese type, which easily submits to such regimentation. The Chinese are first and foremost individualists.—too much so, at times, for the good of the nation. Training in co-operation and discipline will be all to the good. The Nazi emphasis on physical fitness could be well copied with advantage. There is very little danger of German National Socialism ever taking root in China, just as Russian Communism is an impossibility here.