“People cannot guess before what terrible danger humanity stands in case of a new war”—writes Prof. Andre Meier. “The poison gases of the last war are child’s play in comparison with what we shall see if a new war breaks out”—adds another expert, Prof. Cannon of Columbia University. According to Dr. Hilton Jones of New York, a newly invented gas can destroy a whole army as easily as “blowing out a candle”.

Truth! The inventor of poison believes that he creates truth. The makers of guns are proud that their tools will annihilate a man even beyond the horizon. The forger of the sword anticipates that his steel will penetrate all hearts......... Such are the thoughts of man!

Hélas, not such a truth is needed! “Mankind needs another Truth” says Gorky: a Truth which would blissfully strengthen creative energy”. A Truth is needed, which would stimulate mutual trust and striving towards goodwill.

Others make impenetrable armour and shields. Perhaps they hope to create a defence against all evil influx? Let it be so.

The defence of culture, the defence of the motherland, the defence of human dignity does not think of violent usurpation. The armour of defence is not the poison of destruction. Defence is justified and attacks are condemned.

It has some special meaning that in Russian Mir is synonymous for peace and for the universe. This synonym is not due to a poverty of the language. Indeed, the language is rich. They are synonymous in their essence. Verily, the universe and a peaceful creativeness are indivisible. From ancient times this salutary synonym had a special mission.

Mir—the universe and mir—the peaceful universal labour; a creative sowing, the beauty of the world—the conqueress.
"Through the Iliad—the war of Troy—begins endless war, which throughout ages lasts until our days"—exclaims Merej-kovsky in his "Atlantis." There are many soul-stirring lamentations. And Dante has found infernally burning abodes for murderers and all malefactors.

And there are also other testimonies.

On the Eastern shore of Crete in Palaicastro—the ancient Heleia, which was the capital of the island about 1400 B.C. there was found an ancient hymn, one of the most beautiful and simple prayers of humanity:

Great Curos, rejoice,
Oh Ruler of joy—rejoice!
Thou proceedest
Leaving the spirit.
Come to us, on the mount of Dictea
And rejoice in song and dance!
Let us greet Thee on lutes
With flute accompaniment,
And let us sing, encircling
The infallible Altar.
For here, Thou, The Immortal Child,
Was hidden by shield-bearing guardians
Who accepted Thee from Rhea.
And many fruitful years commenced
And mortals cognized the truth,
And even wild beasts were tamed
By all-blissful Peace!

"Mir"—Peace—in this one word is expressed the whole essence. "To live in peace means never to raise arms against each other" this commandment was given in all languages, at all ages.

And on the Eastern side is—Curos, and on the Western Quetzalcoatl—both are messengers of peace; they both "close their ears when they hear of war". In Kanaan Melchizedek the King of Salim—the King of Peace—blesses Abraham in the name of Adonai, the God of Peace. Thus in all religions, the first word is "peace".

When one studies symbols and tablets, one will find in all images and hieroglyphs the same desire—the sacred prayer for peace.

"Do not do evil to animals" is the ordainment of Triptolemus, the messenger sent by Demetra to savage people after the great flood; Triptolemus was to teach people agriculture and to uplift them from the bestial to human life. "Do not do evil to animals" in Biblical language means; "Blessed be those who have pity for everything living" because "all living beings together suffer and wail up to now"—they suffer together with man, they perish with man, or they are saved with him.

Should man kill animals in order to feed on meat? No, by no means ordains Demetra, the fruit-bearing goddess. With bloody food there enters into man the spirit of killing, the spirit of war, but the spirit of peace enters only through bloodless food.

And Hesiod, the shepherd on Mount Helicon sings:

"God made it a law for beasts, birds and fishes
To devour each other—because they do not know the Truth.
But to man God gave the Truth!"

The truth: do not kill! For everybody it is always possible not to kill—not to make war. "If you shall kill—you will die; give life and you will live: a child understands this, and yet this is mystery of mysteries!"

Should one defend Culture? Yes, one should, always and in everything.

Should one help the workers of culture, the depressed and burdened? Yes, one should, always and in everything.

Should one unite around the sign of culture, in order to conquer the attempts of destruction and decay? Yes, one should, always and in everything.

Perhaps culture, knowledge and beauty are sufficiently guarded and affirmed? No, they are not.

Perhaps everywhere the foundations of culture are already strongly fortified? No, unfortunately they are not.

Perhaps the workers for culture are especially safeguarded by law and in the consciousness of the people? We wish it were so!

As before, the League of Culture, as the voice of public opinion, is indifferently needed!

We have to invoke peace-non-killing. What does this mean? Is it possible that milleniums have not taught people that which has been ordained by all Commandments? But what do we see? The further we go, the more one has to reiterate the necessity of peace.

Where is evolution, when a monster gun is already loaded and death-bringing poison is madly sown? People became so skilful that poison and death already fall from the blue sky.

From the same blessed sky, from whence was bestowed only blissful prana—the panacea.

What has happened? Under the ground there are explosive mines and threatening gangways! From the blue sky comes poison and death! The barrels of gigantic guns are proudly raised. Probably there will soon be a "festival of the shell", when it will accomplish a flight around the world. When it will destroy everything that can be destroyed.