

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday,
January 7th 1948 at Friends' International Centre, 32,
Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Present: Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger,
Miss Bourne, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan
Harris, Mrs. Gill, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs.
Hughes, Mrs. Kemp, Lady Mayer, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall,
Mrs. Schlossmann, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon and
Frau Niemann of Bremen.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs. Bedford,
Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Franklin, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Hayler,
Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Malcomson, Lady Parmoor, Mrs. de Swiet,
Lady Unwin.

1266. The minutes of the last meeting, having been
circulated, were amended as follows, and signed as a correct
record:-

Minute No. 1249. Add point 5: To organise an
arrangement whereby every Branch in the British
Section "adopts" a group in Germany.

Arising out of the minutes.

1267. Affiliation to U.N.A. Reported letter from
Brighton Branch requesting permission to affiliate
to local branch of U.N.A. The following state-
ment of the position with regard to affiliation,
drawn up by Mrs. Innes, was read:-

1. Broadly, the argument that has always convinced
me, is that affiliation implies being committed to
the entire policy, and that is always unwise, when
you have no control - or very little.

2. We are an international body, ruled by the
resolutions etc. of our Congresses. Conflict
with these should be scrupulously avoided.

3. Sometimes a Branch would prefer not to affiliate
but would like to co-operate, and does not want to
appear stand-offish. A rule helps them and is
understood by all, and the way to co-operation "ad
hoc", which is often very useful, remains. Co-op-
eration where possible should always be encouraged.

4. I never forget that a ruling I gave on the
above lines saved us from affiliation to "The Link" -
a Nazi-Fascist Society, masquerading most cleverly
as a peace and reconciliation group, between the
wars.

5. Finally, also important, our money is given to us
by subscribers for our work, not the work of another
Society to which they can send direct. It should
not be handed on to the work of another group.

1268. Report of Planning Committee.

Reported that the final document was in process
of being drafted for distribution among the Branches.

1269. United Europe Movement. Mrs. Wood reported

an interview with Mrs. Newcombe. Literature from U.E.M. was distributed for consideration by Executive members before the next meeting, and it was AGREED that absent members of the committee should also be supplied with copies.

1270. No Conscription Council, Delegate Conference. Reported that the Conference was intended for London groups, who were entitled to send six delegates each, but there was no provision for representation of national organisations as such.

1271. Dismantling in Germany.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that no action had so far been taken in making further protests to the Government. After a lengthy discussion, to which Mrs. Cusden contributed her experience in connection with the contacts between Reading and Dusseldorf, it was AGREED

1. To send a new letter to the Foreign Office, on the grounds that the British Government is now responsible for decisions, and that an entirely new set of circumstances is operating.
2. To arrange if possible for a group of M.P.'s to ask questions in the House.

1272. Report of Organisation Committee.

Reported that the Committee met to consider

Subject for Annual Council 1948.
Possibility of Autumn School 1948.
One-day Conference or Conferences in London.

The subject suggested for the Council Meeting was "Freedom in a Planned Economy", but it was hoped a better title might be found. If an Autumn School on international lines could be arranged, the Committee suggested that it should deal with World Government. Anti-Semitism was suggested as a subject for a One-day Conference to be held in London between April and June.

Miss Harrison suggested that the Council Meeting should deal with the problems of the Far East, and that Dorothy Woodman should be approached to speak on her return from Burma. After a long discussion it was agreed that this should be the subject for the Council and it was left to the Officers to work out details with Miss Harrison.

With reference to an Autumn School this year, it was felt that 1948 is too soon after Swanwick, and the organisation would involve too much work. As an alternative suggestion, it was unanimously agreed that an Extended Executive Meeting be arranged in Manchester in October, - Manchester Branch to be asked to be kind enough to arrange hospitality for visitors. It was agreed that an International School be planned for 1949.

The suggestion of a one-day Conference in London was approved, and after discussion of suitable topics (e.g. Anti-Semitism) the Committee was instructed to proceed with plans.

The Organisation Committee also put forward the suggestion that Miss Hayward's services be used in the organisation of new groups in the environs of London, and this was approved.

1273. Publicity Committee. This Committee had not met since the last Executive. It was decided that the reprint of "Calling All Women" could be sold at 4d per copy (instead of 6d as previously).

1274. Meetings of other organisations.

N.P.C. Conference on East-West relations: Mrs. Wood reported briefly on the conference held in October, and further impressions were contributed by Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison and Miss Haughton.

1275. Chairman's New Year Message.

The Chairman, after wishing all the Executive a Happy New Year, spoke of her hopes for the development of our work. Quoting two examples of friends who had not felt at home amongst us during recent months, she stressed the necessity of making women feel that every gift they possessed could be used in the W.I.L. Quoting Stephen Spender about Germany and Raymond Mortimer about France (in each case the writer ascribing the salvation of his country to the work of the middle-aged women) Mrs. Wood emphasised that in our own society, where for economic reasons we had no longer the services of experts to the same extent, the difficulties women are facing in running their own homes give a peculiar and sacrificial quality to the work they give to the W.I.L. We could only keep going by expanding our membership. Could we not make this a Membership Year, and find out by January 1949 which branches have doubled their membership, and which Headquarter member has obtained most new recruits?

The Chairman said that she felt sure she was expressing the feelings of all the Executive when she said how grateful they were to Miss Hayward and Miss Moriggia for their work throughout the year. Personally, she felt ashamed of the conditions in which they worked every time she went into the office, and she said how very good our two helpers were to carry on with so little complaint. It must be the responsibility of all Executive members resident in London to do everything possible to secure better quarters. In this way we should be able to offer satisfactory surroundings not only to Miss Hayward and Miss Moriggia, but also to our voluntary helpers upon whom we depend so much, and upon whom we shall depend even more when Miss Hayward enters upon her organising work in the environs of London.

Miss Harrison expressed the thanks of the Committee to Mrs. Wood for taking on this arduous task. She will have the loyal co-operation of the whole of the Committee in a year that is going to be difficult, but perhaps a year that is going to be very worth while. Miss Harrison was supported by Mrs. Duncan Harris, who spoke of Mrs. Wood's social sense and sense of humour, both of which would be valuable assets to the W.I.L.

... have raised only 191 of the £200 promised to the International.

There was considerable discussion of how the deficit of £232. 6. 10 should be dealt with, and it was finally AGREED that the Thanksgiving Fund be drawn upon to clear it off.

The following resolution from Croydon Branch was

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1276. Finance.

Mrs. Stapledon presented the financial statement for the whole of 1947, and compared the excess of expenditure over income with that for the year ending 31st December 1946. Branch quotas had saved the situation - they were up by 50%. Subscriptions had gone down, in spite of the increased minimum; Donations were up. The News Sheet showed a profit. The result of the Christmas Appeal had not been nearly so good as we hoped. We must not rely on sudden appeals to redeem our finances, but must make sure of an adequate income to correspond with our expenditure, which brings us back to the point of the necessity for increasing our membership. The figures for the Penny-a-Week Fund were quoted, showing that so far we have raised only £91 of the £200 promised to the International.

There was considerable discussion of how the deficit of £232. 6. 10 should be dealt with, and it was finally AGREED that the Thanksgiving Fund be drawn upon to clear it off.

The following resolution from Croydon Branch was

reported:-

"As the utmost is done to meet our Quota, the Committee feel that further demands should not be made."

It was felt that this protest was not unreasonable, and we greatly regretted the necessity for special appeals such as that made at Christmas, but in the absence of any satisfactory alternative, we were compelled to use this method of raising funds.

1277. Current Affairs.

The Chairman reported that, if the Executive approved, Mrs. Dorothy Warner, Information Officer of the N.P.C., would be kind enough to attend for a short period at each Committee meeting to give a talk on current affairs. This suggestion was welcomed with enthusiasm, and it was agreed that Mrs. Warner be asked to attend in February.

1278. News Sheet.

Miss Haughton, as new Editor, paid a warm tribute to the work which Mrs. Innes had put into the News Sheet for so many years, particularly during the difficult war years. Miss Haughton wished for the co-operation of the Committee in producing an up-to-date and vital News Sheet, and would always welcome suggestions for articles, which should not be longer than about 1000 words. All articles should be signed, as they expressed personal opinions of the writer. Branch news was required regularly, containing hints to other Branches on successful activities.

1279. India & Pakistan.

Miss Dickinson reported the message received from the newly elected president of the All India Women's Conference Mrs. Kale, in which she spoke of the urgent need to work for international goodwill and world peace. Miss Harrison called attention to the reprint of "Germany To-day" by Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Duncan Harris, in "Roshni".

Miss Dickinson proposed and it was AGREED that a letter be sent to Mr. Noel-Baker urging that if the United Nations should decide to set up a three-power Commission to go to Kashmir to investigate the situation there, one of its members should be a qualified woman, because women and children are so seriously affected by the present troubles.

Miss Harrison gave a brief survey of the present situation in India. She spoke particularly of the British Women's Appeal for aid for women and children in India, which has been issued under the auspices of the Red Cross, and hoped that it would receive all possible publicity and attention from our Branches.

1280. W.I.L.P.F. News.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported a letter from Miss Balch, suggesting that all communications to the United Nations should be sent through our Liaison Officer in New York, Miss Gertrude Baer. This practice was not felt to be acceptable, but it was AGREED that Miss Baer should be kept informed of all communications we may send to the United Nations, and as far as possible she should also be kept in touch with our delegates to U.N. It was agreed that we should make use of our delegates to the General Assembly and proposed that a tea meeting should be arranged for Mrs.

Florence Paton, M.P., as soon as practicable. It was also decided to ask Miss Baer for permission to reprint in the News Sheets paragraphs from her letters about proceedings at the United Nations.

With regard to the visit of Frau Meng, of Stuttgart, Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed and it was AGREED that, in view of the financial situation and also of the difficulties of arranging travel for visitors from the American Zone, we should send Frau Meng a warm invitation to our Annual Council Meeting in April, asking her to make her own arrangements for the visit.

We were glad to welcome Frau Niemann, of Bremen, to the Committee, after the long delay in her visit to us. She was to spend a week at Brighton and a week at Leicester, and it was hoped to arrange a visit to Coventry Branch also, as they have "adopted" the Bremen group of the W.I.L.P.F.

1281. Date and Place of next meeting: February 4th 1948,
Friends' International Centre.

J.R. Anderson Wood

Feb. 4th 1948

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: Chancery 7233.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday,
February 4th 1948 at Fellowship House, Gordon Square, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger,
Mrs. Bedford, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill,
Miss Hayler, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs.
Kemp, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Lady Parmoor, Mrs. Schlossmann,
Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. de Swiet,
and Mrs. Warner.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs. Castle,
Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Malcomson, and Mrs. Franklin.

1282. The Minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated,
were amended by the addition of the name of Mrs. Innes to the
list of apologies, and signed as a correct record.

Arising out of the minutes:-

1283. Adoption of German branches. Reported that the Organ-
isation Committee had discussed arrangements for the
adoption of German groups by Branches in the British Section,
and decided upon the details of a circular to be sent out
at an early date.

1284. Dismantling in Germany. Mrs. Cusden read draft of
letter which it was proposed to send to the Foreign Office;
this was welcomed by the Committee as an admirable letter
and referred to Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Ballinger, and
Mrs. Ineson for further consideration. Mrs. Duncan
Harris suggested consultation with Prof. Mitranj, if
possible.

1285. FINANCE.

The Treasurer reported a very satisfactory response to the
request for subscriptions for the New Year, and also gave the
result of the Christmas Appeal to date - £44. Mrs. Duncan
Harris reported that Miss Schiller was available for services
in the office, and she had collected £5 in order to pay her a
small honorarium. It was AGREED that we ask Miss Schiller to
assist in the office on two days a week during the rest of her
stay in this country.

1286. CURRENT AFFAIRS.

Mrs. Warner, Information Officer of the National Peace
Council, received a warm welcome from the Chairman on her first
visit to the Executive. She gave an instructive and inform-
ative review of current events, in which she dealt with recent
developments in India, Germany and Palestine, and referred in
detail to the United Nations Status of Women Commission,
International Children's Emergency Fund and United Nations
Appeal for Children and the United Europe Movement. Her talk
was followed by detailed discussion of the points raised and was
greatly appreciated.

The death of Gandhi.

After several members had spoken with feeling of the world-
wide influence for peace of Gandhi's life, the Committee stood in
silence as a tribute to his memory.

Referring to the suggestion made by Mr. Brailsford in
Reynolds News, Miss Harrison said that it had met with con-

siderable support, including many people in Parliament. She felt that time was necessary for consideration, and that action should not be taken too hastily. She suggested a carefully worded letter from suitable organisations to Mr. Bevin, and it was AGREED that we should approach the National Peace Council in this connection. It was also AGREED that letters should be sent to Krishna Menon, to the All India Women's Conference, to Pandit Nehru, and to Mrs. Pandit, expressing our sympathy and condolence.

1297. Report of Finance and Organisation Committee.

Reported that the Committee had discussed plans for an Extended Executive Committee to be held in Manchester in October 1948, and recommended that the main subject for discussion should be World Government, that a public meeting should be arranged, that the date should be the first or second week in October, and in order to make hospitality more easily arranged, should be held mid-week. In discussion of these suggestions, Mrs. Needham said that previous meetings on this subject in Manchester had not met with success. It was agreed that the work of the Food and Agriculture Organisation might make a suitable subject, and the Organisation Committee was asked to look at the matter again.

The Ford Memorial Fund had also been considered by the Committee, and the following plan was recommended - that we offer a fortnight's holiday (e.g. at guest house of C.H.A. or H.F.) to two students to be selected by the French Section - to be chosen specially from families who would not normally be able to include a visit to England in their education, and for their ability to benefit from the visit. Subject to the approval of the Trustees, and to legal opinion as to the validity of such use of the Fund, these suggestions were approved by the Executive.

The Committee also recommended that the London sub-committee be asked to proceed with arrangements for one or two Conferences on such topics as Anti-Semitism and World Government, and suggested that Saturday might be the best day.

1288. Annual Report 1947-1948.

Mrs. Ineson said that the report was not yet available, because Miss Kay Bourne, who had undertaken to draft it, was unavoidably out of London. She raised the question of what form this year's report should take and after a long discussion it was AGREED that we should omit the Rules and Constitution, and the stiff cover. It was also decided that we should enquire into the cost of 2,500 such reports, to enable us to decide whether it could be given to every member.

1289. NEWS SHEET.

The Editor appealed to all members of the Executive for suggestions for suitable articles, and also for the names of people competent to write them. She also spoke of the need for regular brief reports from Branches, and their value to other Branches.

1290. "Women of the World Unite."

Mrs. McGregor Wood reported correspondence in the columns of the Christian World and the Friend, and our subsequent interview with Rev. Constance Coltman. We await developments after Mrs. Coltman's interview with the Women's Co-operative Guilds.

1291. W.I.L.P.F. NEWS.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the International Executive will meet in Geneva from July 8th to 13th. She hoped it would be possible to send Mrs. Warner as one of our consultative members. We were asked to prepare documentation on the subjects which are to appear on the agenda.

Reported a letter received from Frau Niemann on her return to Germany.

Mrs. Stapledon reported that she was going to France with her husband, where she proposed to give several lectures.

1292. Correspondence.

A letter from Miss Dickinson was read urging that the British Section should take the lead in preparing a manifesto against the present war psychosis and getting all other Sections to adopt it and work for publicity for it. This suggestion was received with approval and discussed at some length. No immediate action was decided upon, but the matter was referred to the Officers.

A letter from the Swiss Section, included in the last International Circular, was read announcing that a Summer School would be held at Schiers from July 17th to 24th. It was agreed that we should ask for further information to be circulated to Branches and interested members. It was also suggested that we consider the possibility of using part of the Ford Memorial Fund interest in order to send the Organising Secretary to the School.

Childwall Branch had applied for permission to affiliate to the Wavertree Community Association, which was granted.

Letters from Gertrude Baer were read dealing with

1. The possible formation of a United Nations Commission to visit Kashmir, and the desirability of including a woman in its personnel.
2. The International control and administration of the Polar Regions - urging us to request our Government to see that this question be put on the agenda for the next General Assembly of United Nations. AGREED that we should ascertain from United Nations Information office the date by which recommendations for the agenda must reach the Secretary General.

1293. Reports of meetings held by other Organisations.

Mrs. Nuttall reported on the meeting of the Status of Women Committee, Miss Hayward on the Fabian Colonial Bureau's Conference on "Has there been a new approach to the Colonies?". Mrs. Holland's written report of the conference on Colour Discrimination convened by the National League of Young Liberals, was also read.

1294. Annual Council 1948.

AGREED that the Officers should be appointed to the Agenda Committee.

Plans for the Council were going ahead, including a visit to Cambridge Branch.

AGREED that the following addition to the Rules and Constitution be submitted in the name of the Executive to the Council -

Rule III. Membership. (b) add - The subscriptions of new members joining from 1st October in any year shall cover the period to 31st December in the following year.

1295. Any other Business.

Mrs. Ballinger asked whether it was possible for us to support the work of the National Council for the Abolition of the Death Penalty, financially or otherwise. It was felt that we could not depart from our usual rule about financial contributions to other organisations, but AGREED that a letter be sent to the Council expressing our whole-hearted approval and support for their work.

1296. Date and Place of next Meeting. March 3rd. at Friends' International Centre.

C. P. McNeegood.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

104 Southampton Row, W.C.1.

Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, March 3rd 1948 at Friends' International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Miss Balk, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bodford, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Sutherst, Lady Parmoor and Mrs. Warner.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs. Graham White, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Schlossmann and Mrs. de Swiet.

1297. The minutes of the last meeting having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

1298. Arising out of the minutes:-

- 1) Dismantling in Germany. Reported that the letter of protest drafted by Mrs. Cusden, (with slight alteration) had been sent to the Foreign Office, and so far only a formal acknowledgment had been received. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported correspondence with Professor Mitrany in which he suggested that we should combine with progressive groups in France and the Benelux countries to produce a policy document on Germany, taking into account all factors which make economic agreement difficult. AGREED that we should approach the National Peace Council to take the initiative, and that our Sections in these countries be asked to assist wherever possible. Lady Parmoor reported that the Friends' Peace Committee are hoping to send to Germany two young economists, to study the whole situation; they might possibly give help in the scheme.
- 2) Suggestion by Mr. Brailsford in Reynolds News. Reported that our letter to the National Peace Council had been considered and that steps were being taken on the lines we had advocated. Further development would be reported in due course.
- 3) Death of Mr. Gandhi. Replies were reported to our letters to Mr. Krishna Menon and to the B.B.C.
- 4) Ford Memorial Fund. Mrs. Innes, in approving - subject to legal confirmation - the plans proposed for the use of the interest on this fund, asked that we should bear in mind the original connection with Leeds, and if possible link up the proposals with Leeds.
- 5) National Council for Abolition of Death Penalty. Reported a letter expressing approval of their work, on the lines agreed at the February Executive.
- 6) International Children's Emergency Fund. Reported that a letter had been sent to the Prime Minister and Mr. Hector McNeil urging the Government to rescind its former decision to make no contribution to this Fund, and a reply had been received saying that the question was under consideration. Subsequent announcements indicated that the Government had decided to make a limited contribution, proportionate to the amount raised by the Lord Mayor's Fund for the United Nations Appeal for Children.

1299. Current Affairs.

Referring to her comments last month regarding the supply of British arms to the Arab States, Mrs. Warner reported that on enquiry she had been informed that the military mission to Iraq is not large, and will probably be withdrawn very shortly, the mission to Saudi Arabia is very small (a handful of officers and N.C.O's.) and there is no mission at all to Transjordan. During the course of an interesting review of events, Mrs. Warner referred to the new Italian Constitution, with its provision for economic and political equality for women; the position with regard to the use of Prisoners of War in preparations for the Olympic Games; the report of the United Nations Status of Women Commission, at which Miss Mary Sutherland had played an active part - a feature of this was the active participation of Soviet Russia; and she touched upon the recent events in Czechoslovakia.

These points were discussed by the Committee and on the question of American support for the supply of arms to the Jewish forces in Palestine - which has been very prominent in certain American political periodicals - it was AGREED that we should communicate with the U.S.A. Section

1300. Annual Council, 1948.

Reported the arrangements made to date, approximate cost £3, and details of visit to Cambridge. The Executive heard with regret of the death of Miss E. M. Smith's Mother, and AGREED that a letter of sympathy be sent to her forthwith. It was decided that the Organising Secretary should go to Cambridge before the Council Meeting to discuss with the Branch Committee the final arrangements. It was reported that Canon Raven, Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, had kindly promised to speak at the Cambridge meeting and it was hoped that Mr. Kingsley Martin would speak at High Leigh on his recent visit to India. The question of further speakers was referred to the Agenda Committee.

Resolutions for the Council were considered in detail, and various suggestions for alterations where necessary were recommended.

1301. Reports of other Organisations.

1) World Union of Peace Organisations. Lady Parmoor gave a most interesting report of the recent meeting in Geneva, at which Madame Jouve and Mdlle. Louisa Jaques were present. She also reported the visits of herself and Mr. Gerald Bailey to several large political and religious organisations in Geneva, all of which are anxious to co-operate in some way. A round-table conference was to be held in May to discuss methods. The next big meeting of W.U.P.O. is to be held in Paris in September, just prior to the General Assembly of United Nations.

2) Save Europe Now.

Mrs. Ineson gave a comprehensive report of the Conference on the German situation held on February 10th. She summarised the points made by the main speakers in criticism of Government policy. The Conference decided to send a memorandum to Lord Pakenham suggesting immediate measures of reform. A printed report would be available shortly.

3) National Council of Women.

Mrs. McGregor Wood reported a meeting, at which fifty women's organisations were represented, which had been called to consider

the desirability of drawing up a list, for submission to the Government, of the names of able women of all parties who would be of assistance to the nation in different fields - education, health, industry, etc. as members of Royal Commissions, or the various special Commissions of United Nations. Each organisation was asked to send in suggested names, with the prior consent of the person concerned, and branches are therefore requested to submit to Headquarters the names of suitable women. The following list of Commissions etc. may be of assistance:-

International.

UNESCO. (inc. Media of Mass Communication, Arts, Social Sciences, Education).
WHO. World Health Organisation.
FAO. Food and Agriculture Organisation.
ILO. International Labour Organisation.
IRO. International Refugee Organisation.
Social Commission.
Status of Women Commission.
Human Rights (2 sub-committees).
Economic and Employment.
Economic Commission for Europe.
Population Commission.
Trusteeship.

National - in the following spheres.

Arts.
Broadcasting.
Cinema.
Colonial Welfare.
Child Welfare.
Economics.
Education.
Home and Housing.
Industrial and Insurance.
International Questions.
Legal questions and Status of Women.
Moral Welfare.
Public Health.

4) Meeting of Lady Astor's group on Germany.

Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Mitchiner reported on a recent meeting of this group. Emphasis was laid on the interchange of visits between Universities. A delegation to Lord Pakenham was to be arranged by several organisations and we were asked to suggest any points of particular importance we would like to raise.

5) Association for Moral & Social Hygiene.

Mrs. Nuttall reported the recent Conference called to deal with "third party profit" from the traffic in women and children. The Conference had also considered certain invidious clauses in the new Criminal Justice Bill.

Mrs. McGregor Wood drew attention to a paragraph in the "Observer" of February 29th, in which it was reported that women M.P.'s are to raise questions on these clauses, particularly that providing for differentiation between the sexes. AGREED that we should consult with the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene as to what action should be taken.

6) No Conscription Council.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on the meeting of the Trade

Union and Political Committee on February 12th in the House of Commons when the discussion dealt with the best methods of bringing the military conscription issue prominently before public and candidates in any future by-elections.

1302. Annual Report, 1947-1948.

Mrs. Ineson read the draft of the Annual Report, which had been prepared by Miss K. Bourne in the absence of the Organising Secretary, and with suitable amendments it was accepted by the Committee. Thanks were expressed to Miss Bourne for the work she had put into this report.

1303. International Control of Polar Regions.

A letter had been drafted by Mrs. Innes, urging the Government to bring the proposals previously submitted to them by our International Executive before the Security Council of United Nations without delay, in view of recent happenings in the Antarctic. This letter was approved, and it was AGREED to send it to the appropriate quarter.

1304. News Sheets.

Miss Haughton stressed that Branch News, and other items for the News Sheet, should arrive at the office no later than the 15th of the month, for insertion in the next month's issue. Branches were particularly requested to include items of interest which may be helpful to other branches.

1305. Branch News.

Croydon. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported a most successful meeting on the Social and Economic Implications of the Discovery of Atomic Energy, at which the speakers were Dr. Kathleen Lonsdale and Professor Dingle.

Manchester. Mrs. Needham said how pleased the Branch had been to have a visit from the Chairman. The Council had considered arrangements for the Extended Executive in October, and suggested that the most suitable dates would be October 5th-7th. They recommended calling a delegate conference of women's organisations, on some such subject as "Women and World Peace" or "Women in International Affairs".

Farnborough. Mrs. Sutherst hoped the W.I.L. would take some action with regard to members in Austria, about whom little appeared to be known. Mrs. Duncan Harris recommended that we get in touch with Miss Marie Louise Moll, who had recently visited Vienna and renewed W.I.L. contacts.

Cambridge. Miss Balk said the Branch were very much looking forward to the visit of the Council, and particularly to the opportunity to meet members from different parts of the country, and hoped to arrange a very pleasant and interesting day for all concerned.

1306. W.I.L.P.F. News.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the very welcome news that the W.I.L.P.F. has been granted consultative status at the United Nations. AGREED that we write to Miss Gertrude Baer to express our gratification.

1307. Correspondence.

Miss Dickinson's letter, mentioned at the February Executive, was raised, and after some discussion she agreed to look at the matter further and consider whether she could

feel that her point was covered by the resolution submitted by Coventry Branch for the annual Council.

Mrs. Ineson read a letter from Mrs. Grindley tendering her resignation from the Executive on grounds of inability to attend meetings owing to home ties. Her resignation was accepted with deep regret, and Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed that she should be nominated by the Executive Committee for election as a Vice-President at the forthcoming Council. Seconded by Miss Haughton and carried.

Mrs. Ineson read a letter from Mrs. de Bunsen resigning from her Vice-Presidency. Her resignation was accepted with regret and appreciation of her past work was expressed.

A letter had been received from Mrs. de Swiet urging that we should take action about the prevention of German children from accepting hospitality from Swiss families. It was decided to ask Mrs. de Swiet to give further details of her information on this subject.

A reply was read from Lady Rama Rau to our letter of November last.

1308. Any other business.

Appointment of Sir Oliver Franks as Ambassador to Washington - AGREED that we write a letter of congratulation.

The late Dr. Ethel Williams. The Executive heard with regret of the death of Dr. Williams, one of the early members of the W.I.L., and of the suffrage movement. It was agreed that a short notice be inserted in the News Sheet, but as there appeared to be no relatives, we could not send a letter of sympathy.

1309. Date and Place of next meeting. High Leigh, Hoddesdon, April 16th.

G. R. McNeer Wood.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of Executive Committee held on Friday, April 16th 1948, at "High Leigh", Hoddesdon, Herts.

Present:- Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Cusden, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss McAra, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. de Swiet.

1310. Reported a cable from Miss Gertrude Baer urging that we take immediate steps to request the Government to apply to I.C.E.F. for supplies of food and drugs for Arab and Jewish children in Palestine. AGREED that a letter be sent at once to the Colonial Office. Mrs. Duncan Harris agreed to write such a letter.

1311. RESOLUTIONS.

It was AGREED that the resolutions, as amended and finally passed by the Council Meeting should be sent to the various Government Departments, organisations and individuals, as indicated in each case - as follows:

Palestine.

Secretary General, United Nations.
United Nations Association.
Council of Christians & Jews.
British Association for Jewish National
Home in Palestine.
Arab Information Office.
Jewish Agency.
Imam of the Woking Mosque, Dr. Abdulla.

Women of the World Unite!

Mrs. Coltman.
International Council of Women.
Mary Sutherland.
Women's Standing Conference.
United Nations Association Women's
Advisory Council.
Dr. Maude Royden.
Women's Co-operative Guild.
Business and Professional Women's
Association.
Woman's Outlook.

Atomic Weapons.

Prime Minister.
War Office.
Association of Atomic Scientists.

House of Lords.

Prime Minister.
Lady Rhondda.
The Observer (Alison Settle)

World Government.

Crusade for World Government.
Campaign for World Government.
Federal Union.
Dr. Belden (Christianity Calling)
Rev. Henry Carter.

Civil Defence.

Minister of Defence.
War Office.
Atomic Scientists Association.
Association of Scientific Workers.
Stella Frank (of The Leader)
Jane Sheldon (of The Christian World)
Alison Settle (of The Observer)

Conscription.

Prime Minister.
War Office.
Minister of Defence.
No Conscription Council.

Atomic Energy.

Prime Minister.
Home Secretary.
Lady Cripps.
Society of Civil Servants.
Union of Post Office Workers.
Civil Service Clerical Association.

Copies of all the resolutions were sent to all women M.P.'s, to International Headquarters, and to the Joint International Chairmen, and Miss Getrude Baer.

1312 ~~1152.~~ Election of Representatives on the National Peace Council.

A letter had been received asking for the names of our representatives for the coming year. The following representatives were unanimously re-elected:

Mrs. Duncan Harris.
Miss A. Harrison.
Miss A. Haughton.
Mrs. Longson.

1313 ~~1154.~~ Organising Secretary.

The Committee was informed that Miss Hayward had told the officers that she had another post in prospect at a higher salary. The Committee decided to offer Miss Hayward an increase of £50, making her salary £350.

1314 ~~1155.~~ Date and Place of next meeting. May 5th 1948.

GR McCreery Wood.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at Friends' International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1. on Wednesday, May 5th 1948.

Present:- Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Camfield, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Lady Parmoor, Mrs. Schlossmann, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. de Swiet, Lady Unwin and two visitors - Frau Hertzka, Mrs. Weiss (of Farnborough Branch).

Apologies for absence were received from: Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Butcher, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Franklin, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Miss McAra, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Warner.

1315. The Minutes of the March meeting, having been circulated, were adopted and signed as a correct record.

1316. The Minutes of the April meeting - the following addition to the minutes was agreed, and they were then signed as a correct record:

"At the close of the meeting, Mrs. Stapledon asked whether the Committee would approve of an immediate appeal for funds to launch the Peace Crusade. AGREED."

1317. Election of Chairman. Mrs. Stapledon asked the Committee to confirm the action of the meeting which was held at High Leigh and which re-elected Mrs. McGregor Wood to the Chair for the ensuing year. This was AGREED. Mrs. Stapledon expressed on behalf of the Committee the pleasure they felt in having Mrs. Wood as Chairman.

1318. Election of Vice-Chairmen. Mrs. P. E. Cusden, J.P., was proposed by Mrs. Ballinger, seconded by Mrs. Duncan Harris, and elected unanimously. Miss Agatha Harrison was proposed by Mrs. Duncan Harris, seconded by Miss Dickinson, and elected unanimously. Mrs. Ballinger was proposed by Mrs. Duncan Harris but she felt unable to accept nomination. She pointed out that it was not always possible for her to attend meetings. The Committee expressed appreciation of Mrs. Ballinger's services and the hope that she would see her way to accept office for another year but after discussion the matter was referred to the next meeting of the Executive, with a view to ascertaining whether a new nomination from the Midlands could be found. Lady Mayer was proposed by Mrs. Nuttall, seconded by Miss Dickinson, and elected unanimously, subject to her consent.

1319. Election of Sub-Committees.

Finance & Organisation. The following were elected, with power to co-opt if necessary:-

Officers.
Miss Crocker,
Mrs. Davies.
Mrs. Dayan.
Mrs. Kemp.
Mrs. Percy.
Mrs. Sutherst.
Mrs. de Swiet.

Publicity. The following were elected:-

Officers.
Miss Dickinson.
Mrs. Sutherst.
Mrs. de Swiet.

India. Miss Harrison proposed that the Committee be now dissolved. Any matters which might come up could be reported direct to the Executive Committee. AGREED.

Colonies. It was agreed that the members of Liverpool and Childwall who constituted a fact-finding committee last year be thanked for their work and asked to continue. It was further agreed that we ask Mrs. Irvine and Miss Mabel Shaw, O.B.E. to attend the Executive Committee from time to time, to provide us with additional information on colonial problems.

1320. Appointment of Representatives to other Organisations.

The following were appointed:-

Abyssinia Association	- Miss Dickinson.
British Commonwealth League	- Mrs. de Swiet.
Joint Standing Parliamentary Committee	- Miss Hayler.
United Nations Association, Women's Advisory Council	- Miss Dickinson.
No Conscription Council	- Miss Hayler & Mrs. Nuttall.
Status of Women Committee	- Mrs. Nuttall (deputy: Mrs. Wood)
Women's Group on Public Welfare	- Mrs. Ineson (deputy:- Mrs. Wood)
Liaison Group of World Government Organisations	- Mrs. McGregor Wood and Miss Haughton.
Equal Pay Campaign Committee	- Mrs. de Swiet

1321. Annual Council 1948. Members from several Branches and from Headquarters reported on the success of the Council Meeting at High Leigh and made valuable suggestions for future occasions. Arising out of the Council:-

- 1) World Government Resolution. It was agreed that the Executive should give time at a future meeting to consideration of the content of this resolution. In the meantime, the Chairman announced the details of a Conference on the various approaches to World Government which the London sub-committee had arranged for May 22nd, and at which we were to hear a number of distinguished speakers from organisations working for World Government in their different ways.
- 2) Peace Crusade. Mrs. Cusden told the Committee of the discussion at High Leigh which had indicated the profound desire of all present to embark upon some definite action to stop the prevailing feeling that war is inevitable. She summarised her proposals as follows:-
 - a) Approach women M.P.'s.
 - b) Make personal contact with the leading members of large women's organisations.
 - c) Invite these organisations to send two, three or more representatives to a Conference on the problems of women's responsibility and contribution to world peace.
 - d) Organisation of Peace Crusade throughout the country, in all towns and villages, leading up to a great demonstration.

A lively discussion followed, in which all points of

view were expressed. Finally Mrs. Cusden proposed that the whole question be referred to a sub-committee to take the necessary steps, to think out the lines on which we should work and to carry out the preliminary work as set out above in a), b) and c). This was unanimously approved, and the officers agreed to act as the sub-committee, with the inclusion of Mrs. Ballinger to represent the Midlands.

- 3) International Congress 1949. Results were reported of our enquiries for accommodation at

Nownham College, Cambridge.
Girton College, Cambridge.
Bedford College, London.
Holloway College, London,
Westfield College, London.

None of these colleges could accommodate two hundred at the present time, and most of them were unable to give us a definite reply until later in the year.

1322. W.I.L.P.F. International Executive, July 1948.

Election of Consultative Members: Mrs. McGregor Wood was unanimously elected as the first Consultative Member.

Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed that the officers be empowered to appoint the second member. **AGREED.**

Mrs. McGregor Wood asked if the Executive would give its approval to the forwarding of our Annual Council resolution on World Government, suitably amended, for consideration at the International Executive. **AGREED.**

1323. Swiss Summer School. **AGREED** that the Branches be asked if they have any young people who intend to visit Switzerland this year, preferably between the ages of 18 and 25. Grants of £5 to be offered to not more than three, to enable them to attend the School. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that she had received a letter from Dr. Stahelin asking if the British Section would forego their subvention of Sw.Frs.150 in favour of more needy Sections (Germany, Grance, etc.) **AGREED.**

1324. "Adoption" of German groups and towns. The Chairman reminded the Branches of the plan to adopt German groups, and also of the point raised at the Council Meeting when Mrs. Cusden urged members to approach their local Mayor to take the necessary steps for the civic "adoption" of suitable German towns.

1325. The Chairman suggested that a letter of congratulation be sent to Dr. Helen Cam, a member of the Cambridge Branch, who has been appointed Professor of Sociology at Harvard University - the first woman to be appointed to a full professorship there. **AGREED.**

1326. Extended Executive Committee, October 1948. The Organisation Committee suggested that we should try to get Sir John Boyd-Orr to speak at a public meeting, to be arranged by Manchester Branch. **AGREED.**

1327 Publicity. The Publicity Committee had not met recently but several Branches had intimated that new literature would be very helpful, and the Committee was therefore asked to produce suggestions for a suitable new leaflet about the aims and activities of the W.I.L.

1328. India. Mrs. Harrison gave a comprehensive survey of current events. She asked the Executive to send a letter to the High Commissioner expressing appreciation of the action taken in applying equal pay for equal work at India House. This principle will be written into the new Constitution of India. She urged members to support the meeting to be arranged by the Liaison group for Begum Hamid Ali, who would be spending about a month in London from the middle of May; also that she and her husband be invited to the functions arranged for Miss Balch. She spoke of the new Governor General of India, his personality and political background, and said his appointment was one of the most interesting things in history. She reported hopeful news from Sudhir Gosh in the Punjab and from Agnes Maclean in Madras, and dealt briefly with the U.N. Commission shortly to go out to Kashmir.

JAMMU
GREGOR WOOD

1239. Chairman's visit to Branches. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported on the five meetings held in the previous week in Liverpool, Childwall, West Derby and the Wirral, and the enthusiasm shown everywhere. Mrs. Stapledon expressed the appreciation of the branches for Mrs. Wood's visit.

1240. Visit of Hon. International President. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the arrangements for Miss Balch's visit, which include a public luncheon at Crosby Hall on June 3rd, a meeting in Birmingham on June 7th and a reception for W.I.L. members and others at the Cora Hotel on June 8th. Several members emphasised the necessity of making things as easy as possible for Miss Balch, who must be tired after her travelling on the Continent. It was agreed that all necessary expenses incurred during her visit be charged to the Penny-a-Week Fund.

1241. Resignation of Organising Secretary. The Chairman announced Miss Hayward's resignation from the post of Organising Secretary and explained that when this had first been made known to the Officers they had agreed to offer her a small increase in salary, in the knowledge that she had found it difficult to live in London on the salary she had been receiving. A further small increase had been offered after consultation with other members of the Executive, but when it was realised that the financial consideration was only part of Miss Hayward's reason for withdrawal and that her chief motive was to leave London, at any rate for the time being, and take up some different work in the country, her resignation was accepted with regret.

Mrs. Hughes spoke of "a branch Secretary's consternation" at Miss Hayward's going and recalled the ready help she had always received at her hands. Mrs. Stapledon as Treasurer thanked Miss Hayward for the valuable work she had done in connection with the finance of the Section. Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison and the Chairman joined in expressing the appreciation of the Executive for the contribution that Miss Hayward had made to the organisation and in wishing her invigorated health and satisfaction in her new work. Miss Hayward thanked the Committee for their appreciation and good wishes and said that, for many reasons, she was very sorry to be going, and hoped to maintain her connection with the W.I.L.

1242. Date and Place of next Meeting. Friends' International Centre, Wednesday, June 2nd 1948 at 11 a.m.

G R McGregor Wood

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at Friends' International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1. on Wednesday, June 2nd 1948 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Present:- Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Miss Balch, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Butcher, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Nuttall, Lady Parmoor, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. de Swiet, Lady Unwin and Miss Myrtle Wright. ~~Mrs. Gil.~~

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs. Graham White, Mrs. Kemp, Miss McAra, Mrs. Schlossmann. ~~Mrs. Castle.~~

1333. The Minutes of the meeting on May 5th were confirmed after inserting "Jammu" for "Madras" on page 4 under "India", and after authorising the insertion of a paragraph re letter from the Ministry of Defence, in reply to our letter re the Annual Council resolution on Conscription. The paragraph to be inserted is as follows:-

"A reply was reported from the Ministry of Defence, dated April 27th re the Council resolution on Conscription. This raised several controversial issues, and Mrs. Nuttall and Mrs. Ballinger were asked to draft a further letter to be signed by Mrs. Duncan Harris as President."

1334. Conscription. Reported that in reply to the President's letter dated 10th May, the Ministry of Defence had written on the 14th May stating that although Mr. Alexander would grant that National Service is an unpleasant necessity, he was convinced that the Government was determined to make the best possible use of the twelve months by training the boys in mind, body and soul and making them more fit than when they came in. On the dangers of sending National Service men to Germany, Mr. Alexander has no wish to conceal his own serious concern, but he and his Service colleagues accept full responsibility for the welfare of these men and intend that no effort shall be spared to combat the moral dangers associated with conditions in present day Germany. AGREED that a letter of thanks be sent to the Ministry of Defence and copies of Mr. Alexander's reply of 14th May be sent to Miss Hayler, Mrs. Hughes (Brighton Branch Secretary) and to Miss Haughton for the News Sheet.

1335. Election of Vice-Chairmen. Reported a letter from Lady Mayer regretting she could not accept the office of Vice-Chairman owing to pressure of work. Officers were asked to consider again the question of appointing Vice-Chairmen.

1336. Proposed Women's Peace Crusade. The following reported on the preliminary Conference of Women's Organisations held on May 21st.

Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Stapledon and ~~Mrs. Nuttall~~.

Fifteen Societies sent representatives as observers, to report back to their organisations.

It was evident that the resolution sent out with the invitation to the Conference as a feeler to get their co-operation did not mean the same thing to other organisations as it did to the W.I.L., but there was obviously support for the

idea of a peace campaign as it was felt that in some way an outlet was needed to voice the thoughts of women that war is not inevitable for settling disputes between nations.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"This informal gathering of women from various organisations declares that it is in favour of exploring the possibilities of a special effort for peace being made at this time by the women of this and other countries. Without being committed in any way to participation in any particular scheme those present agree to go back to their organisations and to talk over the idea, and to ask those organisations to appoint official representatives to attend a further meeting, with power to take part in implementing the next stage of the campaign."

Later Miss Harrison and Mrs. Wood had talks with several women Members of Parliament who expressed their views on the proposed campaign.

A follow-up conference is to be held in a Committee Room at the House of Commons on July 1st at 5.30 p.m.

Mrs. Ineson reported a letter from the Secretary of the Standing Conference of Women's Organisations of Doncaster and District, informing us that she had been in communication with Miss Vera Brittain with a view to forming a great Peace Movement of Women, and that she is speaking at an inaugural meeting in the Autumn. Miss Brittain had informed them that the W.I.L. was working very much on the same lines. Support from the W.I.L. would be welcome and also suggestions as to procedure. AGREED that particulars of the W.I.L. should be sent in reply.

1337. Appointment of Secretary. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported that the Officers had interviewed several Candidates and they considered Miss McLaren the most suitable. She had been working with the Christian Science Publishing Society for nineteen years as Secretary to the Advertising Manager, and she had also worked for a short time with the Fellowship of Reconciliation. It was unanimously AGREED to offer Miss McLaren the post of Secretary at a salary of £300 per annum. Hours 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., with alternate Saturdays off; holidays - three weeks in the year, in addition to Bank holidays. Miss McLaren accepted the post and was given a welcome by the Chairman.

1338. Extended Executive Committee - Autumn 1948. In the absence of Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Garnett reported the pleasure with which the Manchester Branch were preparing for the Extended Executive Committee in the Autumn. It was reported that Sir John Boyd-Orr would consider speaking at the meeting, on his return. The following were suggested in case Sir John found he was unable to speak:- J.B. Priestley, Richard Calder and Dr. Kathleen Lonsdale.
Ritchie

1339. Miss Emily Balch received a warm welcome from Mrs. McGregor Wood on behalf of the Committee. She said it was like "coming home" to be with the British Section again.

Miss Haughton reported that Miss Balch had met seventeen Press representatives at the Press Conference on June 1st at the Y.W.C.A. and the B.B.C. had arranged for her to broadcast in the "Woman's Hour" to-day (June 3rd). Reported arrangements were completed for the Luncheon at Crosby Hall on June 3rd when over fifty people well known to Miss Balch would be

present. Arrangements were also well in hand for the Reception at the Cora Hotel on June 8th.

Miss Balch was visiting our Birmingham Branch and would be given the opportunity of meeting our students there. A reception in her honour was being given by the Mayor.

1340. Report of World Government Conference, May 22nd, by Mrs. McGregor Wood, who laid emphasis on the spiritual contribution made by Hugh Schonfield. Other speakers were Mr. Keith Killby who made a constructive opening speech, Mr. Andrew Boyd of the United Nations Association, Mrs. Ganley, M.P., and Dr. Belden. The Rev. Claud M. Coltman M.A., chaired the first session. Miss Haughton reported that Mrs. McGregor Wood chaired the second session.

1341. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS.

International Executive Committee, Geneva, July 1948.
Reported that Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Stapledon were attending as members of International Executive.

Consultative Members:

Mrs. McGregor Wood and Mrs. Cusden J.P. appointed.
Mrs. Warner will attend as the representative of the Liaison Committee of the W.I.L.P.F.

Mrs. Duncan Harris read the following draft resolution which she had submitted to the International Executive:-

"This meeting of the Executive Committee of the W.I.L.P.F. in Geneva July 8th - 14th 1948, considering the effect of the development of atomic energy and other scientific discoveries for the purposes of war; has realised that in this era the outbreak of armed conflict is a menace, not only to the security and power of one nation or group of nations, but to the survival of civilised life in any part of the planet; considering also that the efforts of the United Nations to secure control of fissionable material and the manufacture of atomic weapons have so far failed; urges its sections in every country to work unceasingly while there is time for the complete abolition of the war method for any purpose and the universal acceptance of disarmament as the only assurance for the preservation of the human race and of that measure of dignity and achievement to which humanity has attained; and to support vigorously all those international organisations which are seeking to build up the life of the common man everywhere by co-operative action."

Mrs. Innes reported on the re-starting of the Hungarian Section of the W.I.L.

Miss Balch reported the great need for a paid Secretary of the Geneva Office.

Immediately after the break for Lunch the Committee "listened in" to Miss Balch's broadcast.

A request was reported from the Geneva Office asking the British Section to find a delegate to the War Resisters' International Conference in August. AGREED to ask Mrs. Mary Phillips.

1342. The Council of Christians and Jews. Mrs. Ineson reported a resolution on Human Rights adopted by the Executive Committee of the Council of Christians and Jews on May 11th, 1948.

The resolution placed on record its appreciation of the efforts of the United Nations, through the Commission on Human Rights, to secure an International Bill of Human Rights. It welcomed the comprehensive character of both the Draft Declaration and the Draft Covenant and hoped that in any revision or redrafting of these documents nothing would be allowed to limit their present scope. AGREED to support their work and to make known to London members any public meetings they are arranging.

Agreed to ask our representatives at the W.I.L.P.F. Executive Meetings to support any action proposed on the lines of the resolution referred to above.

Reported that Mrs. Innes had gone through the draft International Declaration on Human Rights and had made notes on the various Articles but she did not consider trivial alterations would be effective. Mrs. Innes was thanked for her careful study and notes on the Declaration. Brighton and Worthing Branches agreed to undertake further study of the Draft Declaration.

Reported an invitation to send a representative to a Conference on Group Tensions at Pendley Manor, Tring, from June 14th to 18th, of the Council of Christians and Jews. AGREED to ask Mrs. Dyer or Mrs. Dayan if they could attend.

1343. Adoption of German Branches. A letter was reported from Mrs. Niemann of Bremen expressing disappointment that the German women, whose names and addresses had been sent to the Office, had not been put in touch with pen friends from Great Britain. A list of these German women had been sent to the Secretary of the Coventry Branch who had "adopted" the Bremen group. AGREED to look into the matter.

1344. International Children's Emergency Fund. Reported a letter from the Foreign Office of 18th May, in reply to our letter of the 16th April, in which we suggested that His Majesty's Government should request the International Children's Emergency Fund to send food and drugs to Jewish and Arab children in Palestine. The letter stated that the International Children's Emergency Fund was set up by the General Assembly of the United Nations a) to help children and adolescents of countries which were victims of aggression;

b) to help children and adolescents of countries which had been receiving assistance from U.N.R.R.A., and

c) for child health purposes generally.

It was therefore conceivable that the I.C.E.F. might be able to help children in Palestine in accordance with category (c). The letter further stated that any application to the I.C.E.F. must be made by the Government of a country, and it will be for whatever Government or Governments emerge in Palestine after May 15th, to make application to the I.C.E.F. if they so desire.

Reported a telegram on the same subject from Miss Gertrude Baer. AGREED to send Miss Baer a copy of the Foreign Office Letter.

1345. Reported a Mass Meeting on Equal Pay for Equal Work on Thursday, June 10th at the Central Hall, Westminster. It was hoped that members would make this meeting widely known.

1346. Reported the National Peace Council had issued their first Publication List - "World Affairs". Prices - £3 for 1,000 copies, 8/- per 100 and 1/3d for 12. AGREED to order 100 copies and to send two free copies to the Branches.

1347. World Union of Peace Organisations. Reported receipt of Observations on World Union of Peace Organisations, by Mr. Gerald Bailey. AGREED to defer consideration until the July meeting when Lady Parmoor would be present.

Reported an International Conference in Switzerland, September 14th to 17th on World Union. AGREED to ask Lady Parmoor to act as W.I.L. representative.

1348. Appeal of the National Crusaders of Greece reported. Left on the table.

1349. British Commonwealth League. Reported a Buffet Luncheon on June 14th at 1 p.m. at the Minerva Club. Speaker: Mrs. Hannah Sen, Tickets' 2/6d each. Mrs. de Swiet consented to attend.

Mrs. Innes reported that Mrs. de Swiet had received a letter expressing great appreciation of her co-operation in their work.

1350. Palestine. Mrs. Wood reported that during the meeting for Miss Balch at her house on May 28th a cable was received from Miss Gertrude Baer suggesting the British Section, W.I.L. take immediate action with the Foreign Office. A cable was immediately sent to her saying that in the swiftly moving situation we were endeavouring to act in the spirit of her cable. A letter signed by Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Wood on the same day (May 28th) was sent to the Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, Foreign Office, expressing warm appreciation at the statement of policy on Palestine made at Lake Success on May 27th by Sir Alexander Cadogan, and urging the Government to take every possible step to secure an immediate truce, to refrain from giving military or financial aid to either side, and to strive to obtain the adherence of other nations to this policy.

AGREED letters of encouragement be sent to Mr. Harold Evans, in Jerusalem, and a friendly letter to Countess Bernadotte.

1351. At the close of the business Miss Balch reported on her visits to the Scandinavian countries and to the American and British Zones of Germany.

1352. Date and Place of next meeting. June 30th 1948, at the Friends' International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1. at 11 a.m.

G. M. Innes

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at Friends' International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1. on Wednesday, June 30th, 1948 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Present:- Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Miss Balk, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Camfield, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. de Swiet, Lady Unwin, Miss Myrtle Wright.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Miss Mosa Anderson, Miss Agatha Harrison, Lady Parmoor, Miss Stansfield and Mrs. Graham White.

We were glad to welcome Frau Hoppstock Huth from Hamburg, and appreciated her valuable contributions to various discussions connected with German Problems.

1353. The Minutes of the meeting on June 2nd were confirmed after making the following alterations: Insert Mrs. Gill as being present: Mrs. Castle's name under Apologies for absence: and take out Mrs. Nuttall's name as being present at the Conference of Women's Organisations held on May 21st. (Minute 1336). In Minute No. 1338 alter "Richard Calder" to "Ritchie Calder".

1354. ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

1) Appointment of Vice Chairman. Mrs. de Swiet was welcomed as a new Vice Chairman. It was decided to leave the number as it stands, namely Mrs. Cusden, Miss Harrison and Mrs. de Swiet.

2) Women's Peace Crusade. It was announced that a meeting is to be held on July 1st at the House of Commons. There will be three speakers: Lady Parmoor who will speak on "The World Mind for World Peace": Mrs. Leah Manning M.P. on "A Practical Peace Plan for Women" and Mr. Andrew Boyd of the United Nations Association on "Peace through the United Nations".

Twenty five Women's Organisations will be represented, and it is hoped that considerable time will be given to the discussion of a possible united movement.

3) Visit of International President. A few members were asked to report on Miss Balch's visit. Mrs. Ballinger spoke of the value of her visit to Birmingham, where in addition to a talk given by her at Woodbrooke, a Lunch Hour Meeting was held in the Friends' Meeting House. 150 people were present, including representatives of various Branches. The Lord Mayor later received Miss Balch at the Council House. Miss Balch was interviewed by press men, and one or two papers printed her photograph.

Several Headquarters members then spoke of the happy and inspiring events in London at which Miss Balch was present. A letter from Miss Balch was read, telling us that the money received from the B.B.C. for her broadcast was to be given to the W.I.L. - half to go towards expenses incurred through her visit, and the other half to be used for a subscription to periodicals to be sent to the German Section for circulation amongst their members. Mrs. Innes and Miss Haughton were asked to select suitable papers.

4) Extended Executive Committee. It was AGREED that Sir John Boyd Orr again be asked to speak, and that the actual date of the meeting should be left until we heard from him. Failing Sir John, it was decided to approach in the following order: Lord Bruce, Dr. Kathleen Lonsdale, Ritchie Calder. It was further agreed that an Agenda Committee composed of the Officers and Mrs. Needham should meet and make all necessary arrangements. The question of inviting visitors from abroad to the Extended Executive Committee was then discussed. Arising out of this discussion it was generally felt that if in the future, as a result of the adoption scheme, it was desired to have an interchange of visitors with the Branches, it might be advisable to approach the Educational Interchange Council with a view to the possibility of their financing the project.

1355. CURRENT AFFAIRS.

It was agreed that a letter of congratulation should be sent to Lady Mountbatten for the splendid work she has done in India.

Genocide. Mrs. Castle in a letter to the Executive reported on the work of the United Nations Commission on narcotic drugs, especially on the resolution claiming that the use of narcotics is a powerful instrument in the crime of genocide. As unfortunately there was no time on the Agenda for this important subject to be discussed, it was referred to a future meeting of the Officers.

1356. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS.

In answer to a Questionnaire from Headquarters, reports were given from various members of the Executive on their work for U.N.A.C. Two points on the final Agenda were discussed:-

1. Our relationship to W.U.P.O. Agreed that we were already an integral part of this organisation.
2. European Federation as a step towards World Government. The general feeling was in favour of World Government but not military alliances.

1357. CORRESPONDENCE. *Regional*

World Conference for Peace arranged by the Daily Worker. Pending further discussion it was AGREED that only observers should attend the Conference on July 17th.

No Conscription Council. AGREED to send donation of £1.1.--.

Women's Freedom League. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported that at a meeting held by the W.F.L. it was decided that 14 societies should watch the B.B.C. Home and Light programmes to see if a fair share is being given to women on serious items, and to see if enough consideration is given to women's work and viewpoints, and whether sufficient contributions are made by women on such subjects. July 19th was allotted to the W.I.L. and members were asked to offer their services in covering the two programmes that day.

The Quest Peace Procession. Miss Dickinson was asked to undertake to look into the question of the W.I.L. presenting a tableaux in the Peace Procession arranged by the Peoples' Trust Association.

The case of Peter Green. It was agreed that a letter be written to the Home Secretary deploring the sentence passed on him as a

result of his refusal to serve in the armed forces.

1358. Discussion on World Government. Following on the resolution passed at the Annual Council, a discussion took place on World Government. Mrs. Innes who opened the discussion made the following points:-

- 1) There is a growing demand for a change in our political system.
- 2) Many people are beginning to see that only world organisation can prevent the next war.
- 3) That World Union implies the setting up of a world wide legal order wherein disputes between States of whatever outlook can be solved by legal methods.

In view of the urgency of the need it was felt that we should continue to exert political pressure and use every means to further political education.

Mrs. Gill speaking of the Henry Osborne Plan, made the following points in its favour:-

- 1) That it takes into account the time factor, and arranges for the first World Constituent Assembly, elected by the people to be held in 1950.
- 2) That concerted action will be taken by means of an appeal to all nations to get a mass demand for World Government.
- 3) That their proposed Charter and legislative authority, if ratified by 50% of Governments, will then be set up,
- 4) That it gives something concrete to work for in the Branches.

This led to a discussion, during which it was suggested that a letter should be sent, hoping that a greater proportion of women candidates would be nominated for the World Constituent Assembly. Stress was laid on the necessity for a great educational effort, and one member hoped that we should be able to publicize the idea of World Government much more.

The following resolution was then passed:-

RESOLVED: "That having carried out the instructions of Annual Council, to discuss and consider World Government, the Executive are of the opinion that the W.I.L. should make World Government in general, one of its major projects for work in the coming winter, giving special attention to the Henry Osborne Plan."

It was decided that a letter be sent to the Branches asking them to make World Government one of their first subjects for study and work during the winter.

1359. Date and Place of next meeting. September 1st, 1948, at the Friends' International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1. at 11 a.m.

Asitha Amsley
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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at Friends' International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1. on Wednesday, September 1st, 1948 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Present:- Mrs. McGregor Wood in the chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Cusden, J.P., Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, J.P., Miss Agatha Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Schlossmann, and Mrs. Sutherst.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Graham White, Mrs. Ineson, Lady Parmoor, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Twiston Davies and Mrs. K. Butcher.

We were glad to welcome Miss Mosa Anderson; Frau A.Krebs from Germany; Mrs. M.Stevens from Reading and Dr. Dorothea Rambousch from Vienna.

1360 The Minutes of the meeting on June 30th were confirmed after making the following alteration: Insert the word "regional" in Minute No. 1356, par. 2, before the words "military alliances."

1361 ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

- 1) Women's Freedom League. The W.I.L. was represented at the meeting organised by the Women's Freedom League in connection with the scope given to women in B.B.C. programmes and the findings were fully reported to the Committee.
- 2) Report on "The Quest" Procession, August 2nd. Miss Dickinson reported that it was found too costly to prepare a tableau for the procession. It was decided, however, that our banners should be got out of store for future use.
- 3) The Case of Peter Green. As Peter Green had now been sentenced to twelve months in Wormwood Scrubbs, it was decided that we should not appeal to the Home Secretary, as a judgement cannot be interfered with for several months.
- 4) World Government. Following on the resolution passed by the Committee a letter has been sent to the Branches asking them to make World Government their first study during the coming months. Literature on the subject has been sent to them, and Tony Gibson in thanking the Executive for their co-operation, says he will send us fresh pamphlets for distribution.
- 5) Extended Executive Committee Meeting - Manchester, Oct. 5th-7th.

The speakers arranged for the public meeting to be held on Wednesday, Oct. 6th. at 7 p.m. were Lady Parmoor and Miss Muriel Lester. With regard to the pool of fares for the Branches, it was decided that on this occasion, the fares of Executive members only should be paid, if the member so requested; but that the whole question of future pooling of fares might quite usefully be brought up at the Extended Executive Committee.

The time table, agenda and all other arrangements were left to the Agenda Committee.

1362 W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS.

W.U.P.O. It was decided to leave this subject to the Extended Executive in Manchester.

Report of Summer School at Schiers. This report was left on the table for any members to see if they wished. It will be brought

up at the Extended Executive. It was, however, noted that Gertrude Baer had expressed the hope that our Summer Schools might become our training centres and our reservoir of "new blood", and it was decided to send a letter to International Headquarters saying that we would support similar ventures.

Report on Executive in Geneva. Mrs. Wood felt that clearer instructions should be given beforehand on the making of reports. She felt very strongly that the League needed more politically conscious women in its ranks - people who were sure of their facts. It was also apparent that we needed to get more youth into our movement, as the average age of the W.I.L.P.F. was going up. Mrs. Wood drew interesting comparisons between the similar trends that she found in the Executive in Geneva, and the Congress of the World Council of Churches she had recently attended at Amsterdam.

With regard to the political situation, the tension between the East and West was strongly felt, and though the report from our Prague representative told us what she obviously felt to be true it was perhaps noticeable that our Austrian representative gave a more balanced view of things.

Mrs. Cusden felt it was a great privilege to have been present. She was concerned chiefly about two points - the East and West tension which had entered the ranks of the W.I.L.P.F. and the resolution that was passed on Palestine. However difficult, the W.I.L. must find a way to reconcile the position between East and West. In regard to Palestine there was much discussion on the resolution and as in her opinion it ran counter to the basic aims of the W.I.L.P.F. she felt that the Executive Committee should understand its implications.

Mrs. Stapledon described several of the members present and detailed some of the discussions that took place. She said that there were great heart searchings on the part of many people over some of the resolutions - Palestine in particular - but she felt that it had been a very worthwhile gathering and agreed with Dr. Bussey who had said in her letter to the Executive that the task of the W.I.L. was to try to combine far sighted idealism with courageous political realism.

Mrs. Duncan Harris said that Mrs. Stapledon had made a considerable contribution in being responsible for making a report of the decisions taken at the Executive. Two important administrative decisions had been taken - the appointment of a salaried secretary, Mrs. Bloch, for a year; and the decision to hold the Congress in Copenhagen in 1949. This will be a closed Congress when our Constitution and basis of work will be discussed.

In regard to the Palestine resolution, Mrs. Harris reminded the Committee of our International aims. The resolution that was passed and telegraphed to the Security Council and to Count Bernadotte was she felt, a contradiction of our aims, as it urges the Security Council to proceed, if necessary, under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, which sanctions the use of force.

She would like the Executive to face this situation quite clearly and discuss what should be done.

A full discussion followed and it was finally decided that the following resolution should be sent with a covering letter to the International Chairmen in Geneva:

"That this Executive Committee, having heard the report of its members of the International Executive at Geneva, regrets that the resolution on Palestine should have been passed, as it feels that it is contrary to the aims and objects of the Constitution of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, in that it invokes the use of armed force."

It was decided to take advantage of the visit of Miss Marie Lous Mohr to London on her way to America, to discuss the whole situation. It was also decided to insert the resolution passed, on a printed slip, to be stuck on the page in the News Sheet where the Palestine resolution was reported.

1363 BRANCH NEWS AND REPORTS. Miss McLaren read extracts from the interesting reports she had received from Glasgow, Peterborough, Sheffield and Oberhausen and at the same time welcomed the formation of a new Branch at West Derby, Liverpool. Mrs. Hughes - Brighton, Mrs. Ballinger - Birmingham, Mrs. Needham - Manchester, also gave short reports from their Branches, while Mrs. Cusden - Reading, reported her visit to Germany. Mrs. Malcomson gave the Executive a first hand account of the recent tragic riot situation in Liverpool; and Mrs. Schlessmann - Cambridge, asked that a letter should be sent to the Minister of Food requesting that "off points" goods should be allowed to be sent in food parcels to Germany. This was agreed.

1364 Finance. After commenting on the July statement of accounts, Mrs. Stapledon suggested that more effort should be made to get members for the International. It was decided to mention this in the News Sheet. It was also proposed that the suggestion thrown out by the Treasurer - namely to use the Penny-a-Week Fund for those members who would like to get the International Circular, but who were not prepared to pay the £1 per annum - should come up at the Extended Executive. It was agreed that the Auditor should be asked to get out the monthly statement for the next six months.

1365 Italian Colonies. Mrs. Malcomson reported the present situation in regard to the future of the Italian colonies. Miss Dickinson felt that the W.I.L. should protest against these being handed back to Italy, and that we urge that these colonies be placed under the United Nations Trusteeship Council. After discussion it was felt that no action should be taken at the moment. An important Colonial Conference was being organised by the Fabian Society in the near future and Miss Mosa Anderson, who would be attending this Conference, promised to bring back to the Executive any useful suggestions on which action could be taken.

1366 Cyprus. This item on the Agenda was left to the Extended Executive.

1367 UNITED NATIONS.

- 1) It was decided that the subjects of Narcotic Drugs and Genocide should come up at the Extended Executive, when it was hoped to have more time to deal specifically with these important questions.
- 2) The highly unsatisfactory remarks made by Mr. Morgan, a Minister of Labour official, in connection with the resolution on human rights passed by the United Nations, were reported on and Mrs. Nuttall was asked to get in touch with other women's organisations on this question and to encourage them to take action with our full support.
- 3) On Miss Gertrude Baer's recommendation, a letter is to be sent to the Foreign Secretary urging His Majesty's Government to support the proposal to internationalise the Antarctic; also to appeal to them to support U.N.A.C. in 1949, which will come to a close unless the United Nations General Assembly decides in favour of its continuance.

1368 Report of Publicity Committee. Three decisions were taken.

- 1) To type a draft of Miss Dickinson's proposed leaflet, duplicated copies of which should be shown at the Extended Executive.

- 2) To get Sir John Boyd Orr's permission to use extracts from his broadcast and from his speech at the Joint Luncheon in July.
- 3) That we ask our members to help us in the preparation of leaflets suitable for attracting the ordinary woman with a view to increasing our membership. It was felt that different kinds of leaflets were needed that would appeal to all types of women.

Report of Organisation Committee. After welcoming Mrs. Twiston Davies as the Honorary Secretary of the Organisation Committee, it was decided to ask Mrs. Castle to continue the valuable work she has been doing in keeping us in close touch with the work of the United Nations and that a letter should be written to her to that effect. It was suggested that Miss Gertrude Baer, as consultative officer, should send her such information as she sends the office from time to time. Mrs. McGregor Wood then outlined the suggestions made for holding London meetings. She gave a full report of the meeting held at the House of Commons on July 1st at which 25 organisations were present and at which the following resolution was passed:

"That a Co-ordinating Committee be formed composed of representatives of Women's Organisations in order to make women's will to peace vocal."

She said a further meeting was to be held on September 16th at Friends' House, when the implementing of this resolution would be discussed. Mrs. Cusden consented to take the Chair at this meeting, when the details of carrying this resolution into effect will be thoroughly discussed by the representatives of the organisations present.

1369 CORRESPONDENCE.

The petition which we had signed on Genocide, was put on the table for members to read.

It was decided to send a message to the Conference of German church women being held at Royal Holloway College by "Christian Reconstruction in Europe", by our Chairman, who hoped to spend one day there.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. Mrs. Duncan Harris was asked to draft a letter to the Health Minister saying that the League, having followed the public discussion concerning the treatment of V.D. as provided for in the National Health Service Act, urges the reinstatement, by an amendment thereto, of the statutory obligation to maintain complete confidence in this matter.

League for Democracy in Greece. It was decided to write to Miss Colman and ask if she thought it advisable to put a question to the House regarding the arrest and trial of Mme. Svlivos.

1370 Date and Place of next meeting. October 5th - 7th, 1948 at the Friends' Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester.

G. R. McGregor Wood.

File with Minutes

1948

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of the Extended Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, October 5th ¹⁹⁴⁸ Thursday, October 7th, at Friends' Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester.

Present: Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Castle, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Malcomson, Miss McAra, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Schlossmann, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, and Mrs. de Swiet. *Lady Pearson*

Mrs. Davidson, President of the Manchester Branch extended a very warm welcome to those present, after which the Chairman, Mrs. McGregor Wood, expressed her pleasure at seeing so many members there, and gave a concise historical survey of international events since the Annual Council at "High Leigh", Hoddesdon; stressing the importance in this socialized regime of small societies which gave personality full scope, she emphasized the importance of co-operation with other like minded groups so that effective pressure might be exercised where and when it was needed.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Butcher, Mrs. Cusden J.P., Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Graham White, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Hughes, Lady Mayer, Mrs. Nuttall and Lady Unwin.

1371. The Minutes of the meeting held on September 1st were confirmed.

1372. ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

1366. Cyprus. It was decided that the question of the constitution of the island was too complex and involved for us to take any action at present. The Officers were asked to keep a close watch on the subject.

1367. United Nations.

- a) A reply from the Foreign Secretary was read and noted.
- b) Mrs. Castle consented to act as United Nations consultant, keeping us informed of important matters on which we could take action. She reported on the enormous progress made on the subject of bacteriological warfare, and suggested that we should send a resolution to the United Nations urging them to guarantee that all atomic and bacteriological research should be used only for peaceful purposes. It was decided to frame an emergency resolution to be brought before the meeting later.

1369. The letter from Mr. Bevan in reply to ours in connection with the statutory obligation of secrecy in interviewing V.D. patients was not considered satisfactory, and was left to the Officers to take further action upon it.

League for Democracy in Greece. Many members felt that we should obtain more definite information about the case of Mme. Svolos before taking any further action, and it was agreed that we should write to Mme. Andree Jouve asking her to communicate with the International Red Cross; to the Friends' Service Council; to the Greek Ambassador and to Mr. Francis Noel-Baker M.P. The Officers were asked to act on the information obtained from these sources.

1373. CORRESPONDENCE.

It was decided with regret that Mrs. Butcher's resignation from the Executive Committee should be accepted, and that a letter of good wishes should be sent to her.

Arising out of the reading of a letter from the Childwall Committee informing us that Mrs. Ferguson and Mrs. Propert felt they did not possess sufficient expert knowledge for acting as a sub committee on the Colonies, the question for the need for a competent sub committee was discussed and the following suggestions were made:-

- 1) that individual members of the Executive should be responsible for the study of particular subjects;
- 2) that they should each make contact by correspondence with a small group of Branch or Headquarters members who would in a similar way collect information on the particular subject they are studying;
- 3) that the findings of these groups should be sent to the interested Executive member in time for every monthly Committee.

Thus a network of live sub-committees would be set up.

Tuesday Evening Session, Mrs. Garnett in the Chair.

1374. International Executive in Geneva. Mrs. Garnett welcomed our President, Mrs. Duncan Harris, who then reported on the work carried out at the International Executive in Geneva this summer. She spoke particularly of the resolution passed on Palestine, and of the protest sent to Geneva by the British Section. The letter in reply from Mme. Jouve was then read and discussed. This was followed by reports from Mrs. McGregor Wood and Mrs. Stapledon, and the Chairman thanked them for the clear thoughts they had brought to the Executive. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that a special meeting of the International Executive may be called in April to discuss the question of aims and Constitution of the W.I.L.P.F.
1375. War Resisters' International. Mrs. Phillips gave us a most interesting report of the Conference held at Shrewsbury this year. She spoke of the inspiration gained through talks with those pacifists who had suffered for their principles during the war, and ended with the interesting comment that she came away from the Conference feeling that pacifism in itself was not enough; and that pacifists should work in connection with other organisations, propagating their ideals through a process of penetration.
1376. World Council of Churches, Amsterdam. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported on the Conference held in Amsterdam this year; she was impressed with the entire lack of bitterness throughout all the discussions. She gave a brief resumé of some of the outstanding speeches and said that in spite of the differing angles and approaches - tension between East and West was not absent even at Amsterdam - the impression which remained with her was one of a beautiful spirit of understanding.
1377. W.U.P.O. Lady Parmoor reported that the Officers met for a threefold programme.
- 1) To hold a two days' conference on the tension between East and West.
 - 2) To hold conversations with the major international organisations which have their Headquarters in Geneva.
 - 3) To conduct their business meetings.

She told us that they have substituted a new set of rules which will be sent round to all the big international organisations. She said that there was room for a uniting international movement much freer and much more flexible than any existing

at present, which would bring people together to discuss burning questions of the hour. The Chairman spoke with great warmth of the tireless persistence of Lady Parmoor in this great work, and of her frequent visits to the Continent in this connection. She felt that the W.I.L. should indeed be proud of a member who gave so generously of her time and ability to the cause of peace.

1378. Italian Colonies. Miss Mosa Anderson's notes on the Future of the Italian Colonies were read, and fully discussed. It was agreed to study the matter further and express views when possible.

Wednesday, October 6th, morning session, Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair.

1379. Genocide. Mrs. Castle outlined the different forms genocide might take and gave the main points in the draft convention on Genocide which is due to be considered by the United Nations Assembly now meeting in Paris. She said that if United Nations decide that Genocide is a "grave crime against mankind" a considerable step forward has been achieved. Logically, according to the terms of the convention, the use of weapons of mass destruction, atomic or bacterial, being found to bring about genocide, should also be considered to be a crime. Thus warfare waged by these means would also stand condemned. The petition which we had already signed was then read. It was decided to inform our Government and the General Assembly of the action we have taken.

1380. World Government. Mrs. McGregor Wood felt that the subject of World Government interested almost every section of the peace movement and that other societies were also studying the question. She innumarated seven approaches. Henry Usborne's "Plan" was actively supported by an hundred M.P.s and another hundred were favourably impressed. The door must always be kept open for U.S.S.R. Mrs. Wood suggested that as members had agreed to study World Government this winter, the next item on the agenda should be taken. Agreed.

1381. Women Peace Movement. Mrs. de Swiet outlined the steps taken in the formation of a Women's Peace Movement, reading the resolutions passed at the Annual Council, the Liverpool public meeting, the preliminary meeting at the Y.W.C.A. in May, in the House of Commons on July 1st, and finally the one passed on September 16th at the Friends' Meeting House, London. Mrs. de Swiet also read a list of organisations already participating.

Mrs. Ineson reported the meeting held on September 28th and read the Constitution which was adopted. She stressed the importance of the forming of local groups in towns and villages.

Mrs. McGregor Wood then read the immediate steps which participating organisations were being urged to take:-

- 1) to send a copy of the Constitution to their branches.
- 2) to urge branches to set up local committees and to co-operate with other organisations in arranging meetings and demonstrations.
- 3) to bring pressure to bear on their local M.P.s.
- 4) to make as much use as possible of the local press by writing letters and getting in reports.

The National Committee has already set up a Publicity Committee, is drawing up a panel of speakers (names invited), and hopes to organise a public meeting shortly. Mrs. Wood pointed out that we did not want to overlap with International Women's Day who were already getting up a petition to be signed by next March, but that we wished to co-operate with them and to carry on the work after their petition was completed. An interesting

discussion followed, and all felt that a very definite step forward had been taken. Warm appreciation of Mrs. Wood's indefatigable work in this direction, was expressed.

Afternoon Session - Mrs. Garnett in the Chair.

As it had been previously agreed that this was to be a hard working Executive, we met again in the early afternoon, to continue our normal business.

1382. Protection of civilians in war time. Mrs. Schlossmann drew our attention to the enlarged sphere of the Red Cross, in their efforts to obtain adequate protection for civilians in wartime. It was pointed out that the only real protection from atomic warfare would be in the dispersal of the population. It was agreed that the Officers should write to the Red Cross expressing appreciation of their work. It was also suggested that the B.B.C. could give more publicity to this question, and Mrs. Ineson proposed that this idea should be brought up at the next meeting of the Women's Peace Movement.

1383. Discussion on action to be taken on the present crisis.

1) A letter was read from Mrs. Olga Misar suggesting mediation on the Berlin crisis. It was decided to send the following letter to Mr. Trygve Lie:-

"I am writing on behalf of the British Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom on a matter which has been before a representative gathering of our organisation.

I am to ask you to consider whether there are any steps which could be taken to secure the services of a person or group of persons who would essay the task of mediation between the four Powers at present at variance over the question of Berlin."

- 2) A letter was read from the Croydon Branch requesting that a resolution be sent to the Foreign Secretary and Mr. McNeil asking them to continue to examine and re-examine the proposals put forward by Mr. Vyshinsky for total disarmament, and international control, and prohibition of atomic weapons.
- 3) A letter from Mrs. Halloran of Sheffield asking for a protest to be made against the training of our conscripted boys in Germany and Austria was read and noted. This matter had already been taken up with the Minister of Defence, in June.
- 4) A letter from Miss M.L.V. Hughes, a Headquarters member, was read, suggesting an Embassy to Stalin to be undertaken by Peace Organisations.
- 5) Letter from Mrs. C. Snodgrass of Edinburgh with a proposal which had been sent to the Secretary General of the United Nations to settle the dispute over Berlin by introducing a new capital of the Canberra type on the margin between Thuringia and Hesse.

A long discussion followed on the framing of a suitable resolution expressing the urgency we felt, and our concern for continuing negotiation. The following resolution was finally adopted and passed with a large majority:-

"This Extended Executive Committee of the Women's International League, realizing the danger of continued tension between East and West, reiterates its belief that

this can be resolved only round the Conference table and therefore appeals to His Majesty's Government to continue with patience and determination to seek agreement on the problems involved, and to express willingness to reopen discussion of the whole German problem.

Further it urges the Government to take the initiative in renouncing the use of atomic and bacteriological weapons, and to accept - as a basis for discussion - the latest proposals of the U.S.S.R. for disarmament and the control of atomic weapons with a view to achieving not only the control of atomic energy for peaceful ends, but also with a view to the abolition of all weapons of mass destruction and the progressive reduction of all other arms."

It was decided to send a copy to the Government and to our British Representatives at the General Assembly in Paris. It was also agreed that a resolution in simplified form should be put at the public meeting to be held that evening. This was drafted as follows:-

"This meeting of citizens of Manchester and others, deploras the dangerous tension between East and West. In the belief that the problems involved can ultimately be solved only by conference, it appeals to His Majesty's Government to continue with patience and determination to seek agreement in this way.

In furtherance of this end, it expresses the fervent hope that the latest proposals of the U.S.S.R. for disarmament and the control of atomic weapons may be accepted as a basis for discussion."

and subsequently passed unanimously.

1384. INDIA. Miss Dickinson reporting on India, read part of Her Excellency Shrimati Vigayalakshmi Pandit's address at the Plenary Assembly. Miss Dickinson thought we would be interested to know that not only is Mrs. Pandit leading the delegation, but that there are two other women as alternate representatives - namely Shrimati Lakshmi Menon, whom some of us know as the Editor of "Roshni" and Miss Leilamani Naidu. It was agreed that we should send a letter of welcome to Pandit Nehru, and a letter of good wishes to Mrs. Pandit for the work she is doing in the General Assembly.

1385. Significance of recent Liverpool riots. In speaking about the recent riots in Liverpool, Dr. Joseph Mitchell, Secretary of the League of Coloured Peoples, filled in the background of the negroes amongst whom these riots had taken place. He pointed out that the seafaring men - mostly social rejects inhabiting the ports of England, were descendents of those slaves who had helped in the development of our country, and unconsciously they felt they had certain rights, which however, when it came to the allocation of jobs amongst the white men, were not fully recognised by the Labour Exchanges. With the fluctuations of unemployment, large groups were thrown on the Public Assistance Board. Out of a population of 8,000, 30% were seamen; 10% were gainfully employed, and the remaining 60% were more or less permanently unemployed, mainly as a result of racial discrimination. Dr. Mitchell hoped that the W.I.L. Branches existing in towns where this problem is most acute, would forward resolutions to appropriate quarters, urging that employers of labour should give more opportunities to the negroes. He also hoped that interested friends in the W.I.L. would feel able to send financial support for the legal appeals which his organisation was sponsoring. For this object a collection was taken on the spot and realized nearly £5. Dr. Mitchell was very grateful.

Thursday, October 7th. Mrs. Stapledon in the Chair.

1386. Publicity. Miss McLaren reported on the Publicity Committee held in London some weeks ago, and detailed the three decisions taken:

- 1) to set out and duplicate a pamphlet drafted by Miss Dickinson, to be put before the Executive at this meeting for discussion and approval;
- 2) to request Branches to send in ideas for a small and popular form of leaflet and
- 3) to produce a more educational leaflet composed of the most important points in Sir John Boyd Orr's speeches.

Discussion of the various leaflets then followed. Manchester's new leaflet (3,000 at about $\frac{3}{4}$ d per copy) was shown and a very "snappy" little leaflet from Orpington. Branches were urged to send in further suggestions quickly.

Discussion followed on the question of our name and our aims, and these points it was decided to discuss at the Annual Council. It was pointed out that the whole question of our aims would be coming up at the Congress in Copenhagen, but in the meantime it was suggested that a letter should be sent to Branch Secretaries, asking them to put the difference of the two sets of aims before their members for discussion. The final decisions re the pamphlets are to be left to the Publicity Committee.

1387. Finance. The Hon. Treasurer presented the financial statement and drew members' attention to the necessity of obtaining new members in order to bridge the gap between our receipts and expenditure. She also gave an account of the Ford Memorial Fund and described the steps taken to carry out the original purpose of the Fund.

1388. Annual Council, 1949. - March 25th - 28th, at "The Hayes", Swanwick. The Officers would be glad to consider any ideas that members might like to send in. Mrs. Garnett suggested that very definite study should be undertaken at these Councils and the Executive were asked to look into the question.

1389. International Congress. Any member of any Branch who is also an International member and who pays the annual subscription of £1 has a right to attend this Congress as a visitor. The date is fixed provisionally for August 15th-19th, 1949, and the Congress will be held at Copenhagen. (Insert in Circular Letter).

Summary. Our Chairman said that one word summed up all we had been discussing - the word "expansion". Mrs. Phillips had brought out the idea of expansion in the work of peace making from the Pacifist point of view; Mrs. Wood had felt the expansion of ideas at the World Council of Churches; Lady Parmoor had spoken of the expansion in the work of peace making at the highest level, and Mrs. Schlossmann had drawn our attention to the way in which the Red Cross was expanding the sphere of its influence and activity. It had been shown how World Government offered a field for the expansion of our work and efforts. Our influence had expanded in London through the formation of the Women's Peace Movement which brought together in one body, representatives of 18 women's organisations. Our sympathies and knowledge had been expanded enormously by Dr. Mitchell's address and at the public meeting we had had two fine addresses from Miss Muriel Lester and Lady Parmoor. The latter, combining scientific knowledge with spiritual fervour, made a contribution that was unique in our Movement and was an inspiration to us all. Mrs. Wood felt that we could all go home feeling that our feet and our minds had been set in a large place.

To Mrs. Garnett, Mrs. Needham and Mrs. Turkie, our especial gratitude was given, for the very hard work which they had under-

taken with so much grace and goodwill. All the members of Manchester Branch were thanked warmly for their hospitality and for the splendid way in which they had organised the three days' meetings. Other votes of thanks were passed to all who had made the meetings so successful.

1390. Date and place of next meeting. Friends' International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1., on Wednesday, November 3rd at 11 a.m.

G R McInerney Wood

1948

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHA. 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 3rd, 1948, at Friends' International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Present: Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Malcomson, Miss McAra, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Lady Parmoor, Mrs. Schlossmann, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon and Mrs. de Swiet.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs. Bedford, Miss Camfield, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Innes and Lady Unwin.

1391. The Minutes of the Extended Executive were confirmed with the following alterations: In Minute 1379, in the 8th line, the word should read "bound" and not "found", and Lady Parmoor's name should be added to those Present.

1392. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letters were read:-

1. From the President and Chairman of the Manchester Branch expressing much appreciation of the Extended Executive Meeting. It was agreed to thank Mrs. Needham for the harmonious way in which all arrangements were carried out.
2. From the Government and the British delegates to U.N.A. Most of these were formal replies, but Sir Hartley Shawcross in replying said the following:- ".....You may rest assured that His Majesty's Government will continue with 'patience and determination' to seek every possibility of securing agreement on the various outstanding problems which are under discussion at this Assembly. I am afraid, however, that the latest proposals of the Soviet Union in regard to disarmament, control of atomic weapons and other matters, are not really put forward with the intention that they should provide the basis of any agreement at all. None the less we shall not be deterred in our efforts to seek whatever reasonable accommodation of our views is possible." This was considered most unsatisfactory and it was suggested that a reply be sent pointing out that the W.I.L. feel the proposals should be considered on their merits without any pre-judgement of the sincerity of the member State introducing them, and that this is the only attitude which is in keeping with the constructive peace making aims of the United Nations.
3. From Mrs. Bloch, the new Secretary General at Geneva Headquarters. It was agreed to co-operate as far as possible in the scheme to report the Committee's reactions each month on certain current political problems put to them by Headquarters, but it was felt it would be a pity to make a hard and fast arrangement to this effect.
4. From Mrs. Bedford, sending her resignation from the Executive. Agreed to write accepting this with great regret, and to express deep appreciation for all the excellent work Mrs. Bedford had done in the past. It was hoped she would still be able to attend some meetings.
5. From Mrs. Warner regarding her future attendance at Executive meetings. It was decided that Mrs. Warner be asked to become a member of the Executive, or failing that, to attend whenever possible, thus continuing to give us her valuable contributions on current international affairs.

It was agreed to write a letter to Mr. Schaeffer, whose Peace Cantata was shown to the Committee, thanking him for sending it to them, and appreciating his having commended it to the care of the W.I.L. Every effort will be made to try to get the work performed.

1393. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Organisation Committee. A brief report of the work done by this Committee in organising London meetings was read. Arrangements had been made for the meeting on November 5th at which Dr. Olaf Stapledon was speaking on "East and West and the Wroclaw Congress"; the Bring and Buy Sale on December 9th, and the Annual Social on January 15th, 1949.

Publicity Committee. Miss McLaren reported the decisions taken at the meeting the previous week.

1. To order 1,000 copies of the Summary of Sir John Boyd Orr's speech given at the Royal Society of Arts in July, which has kindly been prepared by Mrs. Weston.
2. To order 1,000 copies of the pamphlet "Pax" compiled by Miss Dickinson.
3. To ask the Orpington Branch to make arrangements for the printing of the leaflet drafted by their members.

It was hoped that the Summary of Sir John Boyd Orr's speech would be in print by November 29th, when a jointly sponsored World Government meeting, to be addressed by Sir John, is being held.

1394. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

W.U.P.O. Lady Parmoor reported that she had been in Paris from October 28th-31st as a member of a small committee of W.U.P.O. to arrange for the holding of a World Conference next summer. Mme. Jouve was invited to join the committee and she sent her cordial greetings to W.I.L. The provisional programme for the Conference was as follows:-

Strategy for Peace.

Food:

The material resources of the world.

Weapons:

Atomic and bacterial warfare.

Psychological and spiritual factors:

Clash of ideologies - Survival.

It is hoped that the Conference may consist of about 200 representatives of the leading international organisations working for peace, including the National Peace Council, and that it may be an annual event, strengthening and consolidating the peace movement. It was suggested that speakers should include well-known experts and authorities on the various subjects.

Great interest was expressed in the forthcoming Conference, and Miss Harrison hoped that the East would be incorporated.

Status of Women Committee. Owing to the sudden resignation of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary, due to a feeling that most of the functions of this Committee were being carried out by other organisations, affiliated societies were asked to state in writing whether they felt this Committee should remain in being. Mrs. Nuttall reported that already several other organisations had voted in favour of its continuance, and after a short discussion it was agreed to write expressing the earnest desire that

the Status of Women Committee should continue its excellent work.

World Movement for Federal Government. Great disappointment was expressed that Miss Stella Frank was unable to read the report of the Conference held in Luxembourg this year, in person. As there was not time to read this in full, Mrs. Stapledon undertook to summarise it. It was felt that as it had not been possible to read the whole report, permission should be obtained from Miss Frank to have it reproduced in the News Sheet, and it was left to the officers to decide the form in which this should appear.

1395. SCHEME TO SET UP SUB-COMMITTEES. It was agreed to write a letter to the Branch Secretaries, asking whether there is already in existence in their Branch, a group of people studying one particular subject, or if no specialised work is being done, whether a group could be formed. Such a group could then be linked up with Headquarters by correspondence, suggesting action to be taken by the Executive.

1396. FINANCE. The monthly statement was read by our Treasurer and gratitude was expressed for the money which had already been received in response to the appeal. It was pointed out, however, that more liquid money was needed in the current account of the W.I.L., and for this purpose it was agreed unanimously, that the Treasurer be authorised to transfer £200 from our capital funds in the Co-operative Permanent Building Society to our General Account.

It was also agreed that the £66.5.1. held in the Congress Fund should be transferred to the International Account.

1397. W.I.L.P.F. Affairs.

Mrs. Duncan Harris in reporting messages from Germany, said that warm greetings had been received from Frau Cossmann who wrote asking for reports, leaflets and any news we could send her. It was agreed that her name should go on our Free Mailing List. A letter from Miss Sheepshanks was read in which she asked us to send papers and books etc. to Frau Keller of Tülingen University, as she and others were more in need of mental than physical food. Mrs. Schlossmann very kindly undertook to do this. It was decided that the postage of our now growing Continental Free Mailing List should come out of the Penny-a-Week Fund.

Looking further afield, the report that there was a revival of the League in Japan, Italy and Palestine, was received with great interest.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the postponement of the Congress was under consideration because there did not seem to be a general desire to discuss the Constitution at this juncture. Miss Balch had suggested that instead there might be a re-affirmation of the present Constitution. In view of this information the Executive welcomed the postponement of Congress for one year.

1398. Women's Peace Movement. Although the Council had not succeeded in getting a large number of names as sponsors, plans were going ahead to have a big public meeting in February. It is hoped that people from all over England will attend, and that after the meeting a delegation will present a resolution to the House of Commons. All Branches and groups are urged to write postcards to their Member of Parliament, worded personally but intimating in as strong terms as possible, their desire that the Government should continue working patiently, through the United Nations Organisation, by negotiation and reconciliation, to find points of agreement on which to work, until a universal permanent peace is assured.

1399. UNITED NATIONS.

Repatriation of Polish Children. It was agreed to set up a sub-

committee to study this question, composed of Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Mosa Anderson, Mrs. Ineson and Mrs. de Swiet. Thanks were expressed to Miss Pye for her letter on the subject.

India. A letter had been received from Mrs. Pandit which read as follows:-

"I am most grateful for the support which I have received and continue to receive from the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (British Section). Please convey my thanks to your Organisation."

Miss Harrison said there was a likelihood of Mrs. Pandit being in London in her personal capacity, after the United Nations Assembly, and that she would try to get a few people together in her flat to meet Mrs. Pandit.

Pakistan. A cable had been received from the Muslim Women's League in Lahore, urging the help of the W.I.L. personally through United Nations for the abducted Muslim women not yet returned to Pakistan. Miss Harrison said that she, Mrs. Lankester and Miss Dickinson had the matter in hand, and as soon as information was obtainable, they would draft a letter in reply to be sent by the Executive. Care must be taken to give no publicity to the matter as it only revealed one side of this tragic situation, as there had been a two way abduction of women from India and Pakistan.

1400. NEWS SHEET. Miss Haughton in expressing thanks for the contributions received spoke of the happy contacts that had been made with visitors this summer, and of how grateful she had been for the articles they had sent in. Our Editor was thanked for the hard work she puts in over the News Sheet, and it was hoped that she would run two months together to enable her to have a holiday from the work at Christmas time. Mrs. Innes's kind offer to give 2/- to the funds of the W.I.L., on each copy of "A Hampshire Pilgrimage" sold, was much appreciated, and a note of this is being put in the next News Sheet. This book will also be on sale at the Bring and Buy Sale in December.

1401. BRANCHES. A new Branch is being formed at Long Eaton, Notts. and the Committee asked that warm congratulations should be sent to them and good wishes for the success of their work in this new field. It was hoped to get a member from Liverpool to speak at their first meeting.

Sheffield. The Secretary having resigned, there is a possibility of the Branch closing down. The Executive decided that the Manchester Branch should be asked to send someone over to Sheffield to speak at a gathering, with a view to putting new life into this Branch. Mrs. Cusden suggested a possible new member in Dr. Joan Platt, and it was agreed to get in touch with her.

Liverpool. Mrs. Malcomson reported that they had held a very successful meeting at which the speaker was Dr. Olaf Stapledon. Referring to the trials of the coloured people in connection with the Liverpool riots, it was reported that although several men were released, many others got heavy sentences, and it had been stated that the allegations against the police had been more than substantiated.

Manchester reported two or three new members in Stockport, and it is hoped that a group will soon be formed in Rochdale.

Reports were received from Cambridge and Reading.

1402. Date and place of next meeting. Friends' International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1. on Wednesday, December 1st. at 11 a.m.

G. R. McCregh Wood

1948

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHA. 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, December 1st, 1948 at Friends International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1. at 11 a.m.

Present: Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Miss Mosa Anderson, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Komp, Miss McAra, Mrs. Malcomson, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Lady Parmoor, Mrs. Schlossmann, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. Warner.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Miss Camfield, Mrs. Gill, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Ineson, Lady Mayer, Lady Pethick Lawrence, Lady Unwin, Mrs. de Swiet and Mrs. Graham White.

We were glad to welcome as visitors Gräfin Baudissin of Lübeck and Frau Meng of Stuttgart. Both these members will be taking back interesting reports from this country. Mrs. Goring was also warmly welcomed as our new representative for Brighton.

1403. The Minutes of the last Executive were confirmed and signed.

1404. ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

1392. Mrs. Warner. Mrs. Warner expressed her willingness to attend the Executive Meetings as a consultant, and subject to her professional duties, would be glad to put in some study on subjects that arise out of our work, and which might be given her before an Executive meeting. The Executive are most grateful for this offer of help.

1405. CORRESPONDENCE.

Women's International Democratic Federation. Agreed to write regretting that no representative could attend the conference at Budapest, but asking for a report to be sent in due course.

International Secretary General, Geneva. With regard to Mrs. Bloch's desire to get the reactions of the Sections on certain problems, Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that she had invited Miss Jean Thompson, a well known broadcaster on social subjects, to write an article for the International Circular Letter on social and economic conditions in England at the present time. Mrs. Bloch had warmly welcomed the idea. It was also agreed to write to the Secretary General informing her of our interest in the care of refugees, and telling her of our coming Conference.

International People's College. A letter was read from Mr. de Bevere with reference to the possible founding of an International College in England. The Executive, while welcoming the idea, made several constructive suggestions.

Mr. David Peat. A copy of Mr. Peat's letter to Mrs. Akersen was brought to the notice of the Executive and it was agreed to write encouragingly to Mrs. Akersen, and the matter of India was passed to Miss Harrison.

1406. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Sub. Committee on the Repatriation of Polish children. The Polish Embassy has been asked for specific cases of children who it is alleged are being held in the British Zone, but no exact response to this request has been forthcoming. Further enquiries in five directions are being pursued, and an appointment with Brigadier Greenslade of I.R.O. had been arranged.

London Group of Organisation Committee. This committee met to make the final arrangements for the Bring and Buy Sale to be held on December 9th.

1407. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

Women's Peace Movement. Sir John Boyd Orr met representatives of the W.P.M. together with members of the W.I.L. Executive, for tea at the Westway Hotel, on November 29th before the World Government meeting held that evening. Sir John put forward many helpful ideas regarding the lines on which the W.P.M. might work and representatives came away feeling stimulated and encouraged. He specially stressed the necessity for united work between sympathetic movements, and said that the matter of peace and war could be settled by the women of the world.

The full Council would meet on December 14th, and arrangements for the big meeting in the Central Hall on February 10th would be discussed. It was hoped that Branches might be able to send up parties to this meeting. It was pointed out that all members must realize what tremendously hard work would have to be put in to make a meeting of this size and scale a real success, and all were asked to co-operate to the fullest extent. Miss Vera Brittain, Mrs. Ann Fry and the Rev. Elsie Chamberlain were amongst those who have promised to speak.

Reading reported that a conference of women's organisations was to be held. Those attending would be asked to join up with the Women's Peace Movement in the locality, and to arrange a big meeting in Reading. At this conference the Central Hall meeting on February 10th would be boosted, and representatives would be asked if arrangements could be made to bring contingents up to London by motor coach.

No Conscription Council. As the bill to extend conscription was coming before Parliament the next day, Mrs. Nuttall telephoned the No Conscription Council during the Executive. She was told that as the news of the extension had come through so late, it had not been possible to circularise all the M.P.s, though they had been in touch with Victor Yates, M.P. At a meeting to be held the following day, consideration would be given as to what steps should be taken before the third reading of the bill.

After discussion the following telegram was dispatched to every woman Member of Parliament:-

Deplore extension conscription. Please oppose.

1408. INDIA AND PAKISTAN.

Cable from Muslim Women's League. An informative reply had come from Mr. Leslie Cross of the Friends' Service Unit, who has been helping workers in both Dominions over abducted women. In his opinion intervention from this end could not help and it might easily do harm as the situation is so complicated. It was agreed that a careful letter should be drafted by Mrs. Lankester, Miss Dickinson and Miss Harrison to the sender of the cable.

Mrs. Pandit. Miss Harrison reported that Mrs. Pandit's plans had been changed and she would only be in London for a couple of days. If it was at all possible she would try to arrange for one or two people to meet with her for a short talk.

Miss Harrison said she would be leaving for India in January as she had been invited to stay with Rajkumari Amrit Kaur. She also hoped to attend the All India Women's Conference; she expected to be away for about three months.

Attention was drawn to the new edition of Carl Heath's "Gandhi" that first came out in 1944 when misunderstanding of India's leader was at its height. A Postscript bringing the booklet up to date had now been added, and Miss Harrison urged W.I.L. members to obtain this (price 3/6 to be obtained from the Friends' Book Shop.)

1409. TRIBUTES TO FRAU HERTZKA. Moving tributes to Frau Hertzka, her work and her personality, were read by the Chairman, Lady Pethick Lawrence, and Lady Unwin, both of whom were unable to attend the Executive. Miss Catherine Marshall then gave us a vivid picture of her early associations with Frau Hertzka, and deep regret for the loss of this valued friend was expressed.

1410. FINANCE. Our Treasurer reported on the arrangements made to administer the Ford Memorial Fund.

Arising out of a letter received from the Brighton Branch it was decided to discuss the question of Branch Quotas at the Annual Council.

The Treasurer reported with gratitude that the Autumn Appeal had brought in nearly £180 but reminded the Executive that expenses were going on all the time, and that £80 had to be returned to the two friends who had loaned £50 each, so that our position showed only a slight improvement.

1411. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. As a result of the postal vote which was taken, it had been decided to postpone the Congress for one year. The 35th Anniversary of the W.I.L. falls in 1950 and this was felt to be an added reason for holding it in that year.

Reports from German Groups. Lübeck. We had the pleasure of hearing a report from Gräfin Baudissin in person. She told us that their Branch had grown from 12 members in 1944 to 103 today. It was encouraging to know that three members of the group are on the Town Council, and two on the County Council.

She also reported on the very distressing conditions under which they are living, owing to the enormous number of refugees which have poured into their town. The currency reform had inflicted great hardship on old people and refugees. Even if they had brought money with them, they now had only one fiftieth left. The Gräfin said that they had been glad to do all they could to help the homeless, and gratitude was expressed for the parcels which had been received, some of which had been distributed amongst members of the League. She said they would very much like young English girls to correspond with their young girls. She brought greetings from Dr. Ohnesorge-Voss.

Stuttgart. Frau Meng also gave us a most interesting report of the activities of the League in her town. She mentioned the extensive anti-conscription movement which is being fostered by women's organisations, and said that in one region the position of conscientious objectors had been secured by law.

Much research work had been done on World Government, and a big meeting is to be held in Stuttgart. She was glad to report that the W.I.L.P.F. co-operates with other women's organisations in their town, and in that way was able to spread its ideas amongst these other women.

Frau Meng felt she had learned much through her visit to England and hoped that this will be fruitful of further co-operation between us.

It was agreed to send warm greetings to the Lübeck and Stuttgart

groups from this Executive meeting, and to express much appreciation both of the work they are doing against such heavy odds, and for the splendid reports of the two visiting members.

1412. BRANCHES. Interesting communications had been received from Coventry and Nottingham of their activities. Reports were also given by representatives from Manchester, Reading, Cambridge and Liverpool.

1413. Date and place of next meeting. Wednesday, January 12th at 11 a.m. at Friends' International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

G R McQueen Wood