

WILPF 2/21

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
FOR PEACE & FREEDOM
BRITISH SECTION



THIRTY-SIXTH
ANNUAL
REPORT

MARCH 1951
FEBRUARY 1952

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM, BRITISH SECTION

WILPF International Headquarters: 12, Rue du Vieux Collège, Geneva, Switzerland.

International President: Miss Emily Greene Balch.

Formed at the Hague Congress of Women in 1915 to bind together women in every country who desire to promote the following objects:—

I. The Settlement of Disputes by some means other than War.

II. The Emancipation of Women.

At present there are National Sections or Correspondents in Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Iceland, Israel, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the U.S.A.

Headquarters Office: Flat 16, 144, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
Terminus 4116.

President: Lady Parmoor.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1951-52.

Chairman: Mrs. L. de Swiet.

Individual Members.—Mrs. P. Cusden (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. Isabel Davies, Miss Doris Hargreaves, Mrs. G. F. Muirhead, Mrs. M. Nuttall (Vice-Chairman), Dr. Lloyd Prichard (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. Walter Ayles, Mrs. Olive Sutherst.

Branch Representatives.—Mrs. Ashworth, COVENTRY; Mrs. E. Ballinger, BIRMINGHAM (Vice-Chairman); Mrs. G. L. Barber, READING; Mrs. D. A. Beard, LONG EATON; Miss A. M. Bales, WORTHING; Mrs. Goring, HASSOCKS AND DITCHLING GROUP; Mrs. N. Greaves, CHILDWALL; Miss McAra, GLASGOW; Mrs. Malcolmson, LIVERPOOL; Mrs. Needham, MANCHESTER (Mrs. Hartley, alternate); Mrs. Pick, LEICESTER (Mrs. Binns, alternate); Mrs. Schlossmann, CAMBRIDGE; Mrs. Wickham, OXFORD; Mrs. N. Weiss, ORPINGTON; Mrs. A. Llywelyn-Williams, N. WALES.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. E. F. Ineson. *Hon. Asst. Secretary:* Mrs. Mitchiner.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. A. Z. Stapledon. *Hon. Asst. Treasurer:* Mrs. D. Holden.

News Sheet Editor: Miss Amy Haughton.

Vice-Presidents.—Miss B. M. Baker, Miss Vera Brittain, Lady Boyd Orr, Rev. Constance Coltman, M.A., B.D., Mrs. B. Duncan Harris, J.P., The Hon. Mrs. Franklin, C.B.E., Miss Agatha Harrison, Mrs. K. E. Innes, Lady Mayer, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Lady Pethick Lawrence, Miss Edith Pye, Mrs. Graham White.

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

March, 1951 — February, 1952

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we look back over the the past twelve months the outstanding public event has been the death of King George VI, a lover of peace, whose loss we all deplore. The accession of his daughter, Elizabeth II, brings a woman to the throne, a fact which should stimulate all the women in these islands to equip themselves to understand and influence public policy, and should rouse members of the British Section of the WILPF to increased efforts to attain our object of peace and freedom for all peoples.

The Korean war drags on month by month, and the UN Powers have added napalm bombs to the list of horrors. War on the mainland of China has been averted so far, and the WILPF with other bodies working for peace can, I think, claim some credit for this mercy. But eternal vigilance is the price of peace, and we must increase our efforts to bring the war to an end, and establish a just peace in S.E. Asia.

The armaments race is piling up figures to fantastic amounts. This country is now producing atom bombs and the whole world is becoming an armoury of the most deadly weapons. Meanwhile the standard of living is going down as men, materials and money are swept into the war machine. This policy will lead both to the increase of fear and hatred, and to the increase of destitution, thereby sowing the seeds of war. We must therefore protest with all our might and show the alternative way.

The activities of the Technical Assistance Board of the United Nations show a promising beginning, which it is the duty of members of the WILPF to study. As Mr. Ritchie Calder showed in his fascinating lecture recently to the All Nations Group, international teams of experts can at the same time develop the backward areas of the world, and create friendly relationships between people of different races, cultures and beliefs, thus cutting at the roots of war. The newly appointed Disarmament Commission is another sign of hope, and we must follow their proceedings with care. Mr. Acheson has said that America is ready to cut down her forces if an agreement can be reached on an effective plan of balanced disarmament. There are voices in every country demanding a reversal of the present policy of a mad arms race. The WILPF stands for total, universal disarmament. We must redouble our efforts to relieve the world from the burden of armaments.

All this and much besides means work for every member, remembering our fifty thousand colleagues in different parts of the world. By study and discussion we shall train ourselves to take our part in bringing about that mighty change of thinking which is essential for the attainment of peace and freedom. Our work needs the devotion of time and effort, and a fresh vision of spiritual realities. It may seem unspectacular. Earthquakes and volcanoes are spectacular, but the secret growth of the seed, the silent rising of the sap, are more powerful because they are the forces of life.

COMMITTEES

1. EXECUTIVE.—During the year ten well-attended meetings were held in the NPC Committee Room presided over, with two exceptions, by the Chairman, Mrs. de Swiet. Action taken on world affairs was based on reports of the Parliamentary Committee, the Committee on Race Relations and the material received from those who attended the United Nations' Sixth Assembly in Paris.

The business affairs of the British Section which needed special attention included the unfortunate necessity to postpone the International Congress to 1953,

the question of finance, recommendations of the Publications Committee with regard to the *News Sheet*, affairs relating to Branches and to the running of the London Headquarters Office.

In *May* a valuable discussion took place on the tension between East and West.

In *June* a welcome was given to Mrs. Hannah Sen, President of the All India Women's Conference, on her return from the United Nations' Status of Women Commission at Lake Success. A helpful interchange of ideas on the possibility of co-operation with Indian women in the work for peace followed her account of her experience at the United Nations.

In *October* an Extended Executive was held at Friends' House and was addressed by Mr. Leslie G. D. Smith, Director of the NPC. Fourteen Branches sent delegates and Headquarters members were well represented. The main themes discussed were the coming Election and the holding of the International Congress in Britain in 1952, which was then considered to be possible.

In *November*, Dr. Dorothy Broome, late Chief Officer Women's Affairs, CCG, Land Rhine, Westphalia, spoke on the work of the Women's Affairs Section in Germany.

January 8th, being the 85th birthday of the International President, Miss Emily Greene Balch, a letter of greeting was sent on behalf of the British Section by the President, Lady Parmoor.

2. SUB-COMMITTEES.—

(a) **Parliamentary.**—This committee has met weekly except when Parliament was not sitting. Its concern has been to keep a watch on matters brought up in the House or reported in the press. In cases where a quick response was necessary the committee has taken action. Otherwise it has made recommendations to the Executive.

(b) **Race Relations.**—This is a small committee of those who have expert knowledge of the Colour Problem in world affairs. Their advice is available when discussions on these problems arise or action is contemplated. Much of their work is done by correspondence and telephone.

(c) **Organisation and Finance.**—These two committees were merged into one and dealt with the urgent need for funds. Headquarters Week was arranged in which Branches and the London Group undertook to raise a sum to pay off the deficit on the current account. The total raised was £114 15s. 3d. Under the guidance of Mr. Gordon Muirhead an application was made to the Inland Revenue Office for permission to form a Charitable Trust on the grounds of the educational side of the work. It was decided that the treasurer should appeal to certain Trusts and to interested individuals outside the League and that in 1952 a still wider appeal should be made for financial support.

(d) **Publications.**—The two main questions faced by the committee were the financial position of the *News Sheet*, which was being run at a loss, and the need for new pamphlets. It was decided that the pamphlet "Calling all Women" needed revision in the event of a reprint. A new pamphlet for wide distribution to prospective members, "We Ask You," was drawn up by Mrs. D. C. M. Warner. Recommendations regarding the *News Sheet* for 1952 were—

(I) that there should be six issues only;

(II) that Headquarters members should continue to pay 3s. a year; and

(III) that the price of single copies should be threepence instead of twopence.

These changes were adopted to meet the rising cost of printing and paper.

3. LONDON GROUP.—This committee was responsible for arranging monthly meetings in which London Headquarters members joined with the All Nations Group. Speakers included Mrs. Ganley, former M.P., Lady Mayer, a group of students of different nationalities from London University and Mr. Ritchie Calder. A successful New Year's party was held in January. In connection with Headquarters' Week a Sale of Work was organised which raised £52 14s. 10d.

THE YEAR'S WORK

A Summary

HOME AFFAIRS.—In an organisation like the WILPF it is not very easy to draw a clear line between "home" and "foreign" or "international" affairs. But in this section of the report will be given a brief account of the work carried out dealing both with matters only concerning this country and also those which, while international in their scope, have been tackled in relation to our own government, press and fellow citizens.

Looking through the minutes of the Executive and Parliamentary Committees and through the reports of the Branches, it is evident that, despite its small membership, the Section has taken informed and, to a certain extent at least, effective action on a wide range of problems and has kept a close watch on current developments at home and abroad.

1. Political activities.—One of the first and also the most important achievements of the year was the meeting of a deputation of the Parliamentary Committee, led by Lady Parmoor, which on April 19th, 1951, waited on Lord Henderson, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who was deputising for the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Bevin. A copy of the resolutions passed at the 1951 Annual Council had previously been sent to Lord Henderson with the request that three specific points contained in them might be discussed with him, namely: Korea, The Colombo Plan and the possibility of a Four-Power Conference. For nearly two hours the deputation talked with Lord Henderson on these and other related problems. Afterwards a Foreign Office précis of the discussions was sent to HQ and was subsequently circulated, marked "not for publication," to all Branches. While realising how little impact such a deputation can hope to make on the Foreign Office, it was felt that this meeting had been of real value, and not only to us.

In June, a deputation waited on the Secretary of State, Mr. James Griffith, following up a request previously sent to the Colonial Office for reconsideration of the decision to close British Council Hostels for Coloured Students. This deputation was led by Mrs. Malcolmson.

Three particular matters in Germany have been given a good deal of time and careful study both at HQ and in some Branches. Early in the year we received a copy of the "Black List" which was being circulated in the British (and American) Zones of Germany and which incited citizens to denounce as enemies of the state all persons of liberal and progressive thought. Copies of the list were sent to certain M.P.s and members of the Parliamentary Committee also lobbied a number of M.P.s with a request that a question be raised in the House, and in due course it was learned that the Foreign Office had taken the matter up.

When it was announced that the Women's Affairs Section of CCG was to be closed an immediate protest was made by HQ, and at the same time *S. Devon Branch* wrote to Mr. Herbert Morrison. Later in the year when it became evident that there was no possibility of the decision being rescinded, the Executive Committee invited Dr. Dorothy Broome, former Chief Officer of Women's Affairs, Land N. Rhine, Westphalia, to advise them and then wrote to the Foreign Secretary (Mr. Eden) to press for an assurance that the one woman to be appointed to the new Embassy in order to take over responsibility for what had hitherto been the care of Women's Affairs Section, should be as well qualified as possible for the onerous and important post and should also be given such standing in the Embassy that her recommendations and advice would receive prompt attention. This assurance was given.

The question of the rearmament of Germany and the fact that there is strong and intelligent resistance to the policy in Germany itself is a matter on which the Section is now working. So far no action has been taken beyond that of trying to get reliable information and advice from Germany and from Germans visiting the UK.

The Section has viewed with grave concern various developments in Africa. In September, a letter was sent to the Chairman of the UN Ad. Hoc Committee on

S.W. Africa on the failure of the South African Government to accept the repeated recommendations of the General Assembly and the International Court of Justice. This letter, of which a copy was, of course, sent to our own Government, was circulated in the Report of the Ad. Hoc Committee to the General Assembly.

In June letters were sent to Mr. Attlee and Mr. Gordon Walker pressing for an independent enquiry into the administration of Bechuanaland. *Childwall Branch* made a vigorous protest at the treatment of Tshekedi Khama at about the same time. At the end of the year a letter was sent to Lord Ismay expressing satisfaction at the decision to permit the return of Tshekedi Khama and the hope that in due course a solution might be found to the problem of Seretse Khama.

Headquarters sent a number of letters to HMG on specific subjects; for example: the Internationalisation of the Suez Canal; the firing of a live 21-gun salute into enemy lines to mark the accession of the Queen (*Manchester* also sent a protest on this occasion); on the importance of giving any suggestion or gesture of goodwill from the USSR full and fair consideration; deploring the cuts in allocations to the British Council and the BBC Overseas Service; urging proper financial support of the United Nations and in particular of the High Commissioner for Refugees and the Technical Assistance Fund.

The General Election (October 25th) gave the whole Section an opportunity for constructive work which was carried out all over the country by the London Office, Branches and individual HQ members. The NPC leaflet, prepared for the occasion, was taken as a basis for our work, and more than 4,000 copies were distributed before the Election, while the main points it contained were used at public meetings of various kinds and in the many deputations sent by Branches to local candidates. It also served as a source of material for the letters sent to candidates both by Branches and individual Branch and HQ members. After the Election a letter was sent from HQ to all new M.P.s and several Branches followed the example of Liverpool and wrote to their own new members.

Headquarters, in particular the Parliamentary Committee, took an active part in the campaign—a successful one—to mobilise public opinion against the decision of Southend Town Council to debar conscientious objectors from service in any of its departments.

The work outlined in these paragraphs has usually been further supported by letters to the press, both national and provincial. The most recent example of effective action by the Section as a whole was the immediate response of Branches and of Executive members and others to the HQ request for individual or joint protests to be made to the "Manchester Guardian" on their editorial attitude to the Napalm Bomb.

2. Keeping ourselves informed; informing public opinion.—A remarkable amount of work has been done during the course of the year, both in Branches and at HQ, designed on the one hand to make ourselves, as members of the WILPF, better able to act wisely in our attempts to achieve our goals and on the other to help to inform and educate public opinion.

Birmingham made a special study of problems concerning East-West relations and in particular of conditions in the Far East. *Cambridge* was invited by the Mayor to co-operate in organising a mass meeting, called at the instigation of UNESCO, in connection with a project on Human Rights. *Childwall* formed a study group under the auspices of WEA to take a three-year University Tutorial Course on World Affairs. Throughout the winter *Croydon* held a series of public meetings dealing with the tragic problem of the Homeless Children of the World. At the last of these meetings, which was held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, Lady Allen of Hurtwood and Mr. Ritchie Calder were the speakers. *Edinburgh* and *Glasgow* arranged a joint meeting with two sessions, one on "Palestine and the Arabs" and the other on "Yugoslavia," and *Glasgow* held a week-end school on "The Psychology of Peacemaking" led by Mrs. Mary Phillips. *Leicester* studied problems connected with Refugees, Atomic Energy and World Government. *Orpington* heard Mr. Ritchie Calder on "Food from the Deserts." *S. Devon* made a special study of the American Friends Service Committee pamphlet on the USA and the USSR. *The London Group* had two meetings dealing

with aspects of the work of the UN Special Agencies with Mr. Ritchie Calder speaking at the second on his recent journey to study the working of Technical Assistance in the East. This group also decided to embark on a project: "Human Rights: Focus on London."

Headquarters activities under this section include the meeting of the Executive at which Dr. Broome spoke (see Political Activities), and another at which Mr. Greenidge, Secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society and Rapporteur of the UN Commission on Slavery, spoke on the present state of the problem throughout the world. Miss Monica Felton gave her impressions of the situation in N. Korea to the Parliamentary Committee. The Parliamentary Committee besides taking action already reported under "Political Activities," has tried to keep itself fully informed on other matters upon which it may be called to take action in the near future. The problem of Corporal Punishment in Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and the present position and the future of Cyprus are two such questions.

During the early part of 1952 two papers were issued from the London Office; the first dealt with the Refugee Problem and suggested ways of making this problem our own and the second was an introductory and brief note on Disarmament, intended to encourage Branches and HQ members to take advantage of the new turn in events in the UN and the newly formed NPC Commission on Disarmament.

3. Co-operation with other organisations.—The British Section as a whole has actively supported the work of the NPC by attending its conferences, circulating its papers (for example the Election leaflet and the paper on the situation in Egypt) and has, when possible, sent delegates or observers to the meetings arranged in London by a number of other organisations. The Branches have maintained or developed close contacts and active co-operation with many local sections of other organisations. *Birmingham* sends representatives to a number of local bodies with similar aims to our own. *Bromley* has sent representatives to local peace meetings and two of its members belong to the Race Relations Association. *Croydon* has initiated a Council of Peace Groups which includes a number of organisations with a wide range of political opinion. *Liverpool* has worked with the Peace with China Council, the East-West Friendship Council and the League for Coloured Peoples. *Manchester* played an active part in local Festival of Britain arrangements, staging and maintaining a stall displaying information about the WILPF which aroused much interest; the Branch also sent speakers to meetings organised by other societies and has co-operated with the Peace with China Council. *Nottingham* helped with local work in the early stages of Mr. Gollancz's Association for World Peace. A member of the *S. Devon* Branch was one of the delegates from the Plymouth Peace Committee who visited Poland.

INTERNATIONAL WORK.—Much of the political work already mentioned earlier in this report has been on international affairs and in connection with the United Nations. Besides these activities, however, the Section has taken advantage of our Consultative Status B (with ECOSOC and UNESCO) in other ways as well. During the General Assembly HQ was kept well informed of developments by Miss Agatha Harrison who was present for almost the whole period, while Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. Weiss and Lady Mayer all attended some of the sessions as our observers.

A Regional Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations, convened by the UN Department of Public Information, was held in Paris in the autumn. Mrs. Sutherst and Mrs. Warner attended as representatives of the Section, Miss Baer being present as representative for the International WILPF. Besides taking active part in the work of the four committees and plenary sessions of the Conference, Mrs. Sutherst and Mrs. Warner were able, during their stay, to meet Miss Baer and also members of the French Section in Paris.

The Zagreb Peace Conference, organised by the Yugoslavia National Committee for the Defence of Peace, was attended on our behalf by Lady Mayer, who went as a full representative and acted as Chairman of one of its sessions. On her return Lady Mayer gave an interview in BBC Woman's Hour on her impressions of the Conference. Contact will be maintained with the Liaison Committee which has been formed.

The 1951 International Summer School was held in Switzerland at Filzbach. The Palo Alto Branch of the American Section most generously offered to meet the expenses of an English girl to attend it; and Miss Sheila Russell—a girl of 17 who plans to take up international children's work—was chosen to take advantage of this enterprising offer.

The XII International Congress of the WILPF was due to take place in 1952 and it was hoped that it would be held in the United Kingdom. Much preparatory work for it was done at HQ during 1951. There were, however, a series of delays, at an international level, in vital decisions concerning dates and acceptable venues for the Congress so that in December, 1951, the Executive felt obliged to convey to the International Executive, with grave disappointment and distress, a recommendation to postpone the Congress until 1953.

During the course of the year there have been a number of contacts with women of other nationalities, for the most part members of the WILPF, who have been passing through this country; among them were Mrs. Hannah Sen, Mrs. Dorothy Robinson, Miss Gladys Walser, Mrs. Toni Iverson, Mrs. Gage Colby and Dr. Fasshaender. An attempt to get in touch with the group of Japanese women who visited the UK at the end of 1951 was unsuccessful. There have also been several useful bits of "inter-sectional" work carried out or at least started; for example, the French Section submitted a resolution on the revision of all existing agreements or treaties between colonial powers and dependent countries to our Executive before taking further action on it; the Norwegian Section made an enquiry into statements made on their radio and in their press about the existence of "concentration camps" in Malaya, and the Danish Section have asked for advice about English children's books suitable for translation into Danish. The American Section has kept us up to date with its work and resolutions and we have sent them copies of all documents produced by us and likely to be of value to them.

BRANCHES.—Total membership 1,128.

This year has been marked by closer co-operation between Headquarters and Branches and united action has been possible on several occasions. It is hoped to develop this practice further.

- BIRMINGHAM Secretary: Miss Dorothy Robinson, 651, Shirley Road, Birmingham 28.
- BROMLEY - Secretary: Miss Rommel, 132, Murray Avenue, Bromley, Kent.
- CAMBRIDGE Secretary: Mrs. Schlossmann, 8, Latham Road, Cambridge.
- CHILDWALL Secretary: Mrs. N. Greaves, 60, Woolacombe Road, Liverpool 16.
- COVENTRY - Secretary: Miss A. Underhill, 28, Holyhead Road, Coventry.
- CROYDON - Secretary: Mrs. E. Ecroyd, 2, Benhurst Gardens, Selsdon.
- EDINBURGH Secretary: Mrs. Nelson, 53, Spottiswoode Street, Edinburgh.
- GLASGOW - Secretary: Mrs. Shanks, 32, Crompton Avenue, Glasgow S.4.
- LEICESTER - Secretary: Mrs. Pick, 80, Letchworth Road, Leicester.
- LIVERPOOL Secretary: Mrs. McWilliam, West House, Walton Hospital, Liverpool 9.
- LONG EATON Secretary: Mrs. Beard, 142, Derby Road, Long Eaton, Notts.
- MANCHESTER Secretary: Mrs. Needham, 11, Windsor Avenue, Flixton, Manchester.
- N. WALES - Secretary: Mrs. Llywelyn-Williams, Pen-y-Lan, Belmont Road, Bangor.
- NOTTINGHAM Secretary: Mrs. B. Wilde, The White House, Lambley, Notts.
- ORPINGTON Secretary: Mrs. Weiss, 10, The Avenue, Orpington, Kent.
- OXFORD - Secretary: Mrs. Wheeler Booth, 14, London Road, Oxford.
- READING - Secretary: Mrs. Mitchell, 19, Kidmoor Road, Caversham, Reading.
- S. DEVON - Secretary: Mrs. Holmes, 8, Honicknowle Lane, Plymouth.
- WARRINGTON Secretary: Mrs. Aspden, 130, Padgate Lane, Warrington, Lancs.
- WEST KIRBY Secretary: Mrs. Mason, 2, Victoria Road, W. Kirby, Wirral, Cheshire.
- WORTHING - Secretary: Miss Bailes, 41, Balcombe Avenue, Worthing, Sussex.

It is hoped that the Group at Hassocks and Ditchling will become a Branch in the near future.

We regret to report that Branches at Acocks Green, Brighton, and Sheffield have closed down during the year.

The Polish Group, while no longer officially attached to the WILPF, British Section, looks forward to co-operation with us during the coming year.

HEADQUARTERS MEMBERS.—Total membership 393.

These individual members have been kept in closer touch with the work of the Section than previously and as a result they have co-operated in combined action with the Branches and HQ. It is hoped that they will become even more active in 1952.

LONDON OFFICE.—In July, 1951, Mrs. Dorothy C. M. Warner was appointed as General Secretary. Previous to this the office work was carried on by a temporary worker—Miss Betty Baker—to whom the thanks of the League are due. She took the place of Mrs. Lydia Dennis whose engagement terminated in April quite suddenly for family reasons.

At first Mrs. Warner faced tremendous difficulties single-handed in the office, but the two secretaries are gradually building up a system under which they and the voluntary workers work happily and efficiently together. While this has been in process, plans have also been evolved with the aim of drawing more closely together the whole membership of the British Section so that concerted action can be undertaken which will pave the way for a forward move. The scheme for sending out to all members from the office, material on which to base their study and work for peace has made a start with the January letter, the paper on the Refugee Problem, the note on Disarmament and the emergency appeal for action on the Napalm Bomb.

The voluntary workers who are giving generously of their skill and time are Mrs. Boaden, who is responsible for typing and duplicating, Miss Ruth Harrison, who packs the *News Sheet* parcels, Miss Gill who addresses envelopes, despatches *News Sheets* and helps in many other ways, and Miss Hinton who now looks after the membership cards and receipt books.

Great disappointment has been felt in the continuing inability of the NPC to find a suitable Peace House with permission to turn into offices. The search continues with unabated determination.

ANNUAL COUNCIL, 1951.—The Annual Council was held at Reading, March 16th to 19th, under the presidency of Lady Parmoor. There was a record attendance and excellent arrangements made by the Reading Branch which included a Civic Reception, Tableaux and Sale of Work.

Two lectures given by Dr. Lloyd Prichard on "Britain's Rearmament Expenditure" and "World Rearmament Expenditure" were keenly appreciated and resolutions passed were included in last year's report.

NEWS SHEET.—Paper and printing difficulties, shared by all publications as members will know, have made it necessary to issue the *News Sheet* bi-monthly in 1952. The price also has been affected. For further details see report of Publications Committee. It is earnestly hoped that members will endeavour to assist by procuring more subscribers.

During the past year we have, however, continued to receive letters of appreciation from far and near, the last from the Secretary of a Californian Peace Committee, which in these difficult times is encouraging and helpful. The editor is grateful also for valuable articles contributed by request, and perhaps it may be permissible to mention the one, in particular, from Professor Kathleen Lonsdale, entitled "We Visited Russia." This article, our permission having been requested and duly recorded, has been reprinted as a pamphlet by the Northern Friends Peace Board and ten thousand copies are in circulation.

A. HAUGHTON,
(Hon. Editor).

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE ANNUAL COUNCIL, 1952, LEICESTER, MARCH 28th-31st

RESOLUTION ON DISARMAMENT.

This Annual Council of the British Section of the WILPF, meeting in Leicester, March, 1952, believing that the arms race is not only failing to provide the security which is its avowed objective, but is drastically lowering the standard of life and is threatening to disrupt the economy of the whole world, urges Her Majesty's Government to *halt this madness* and to inaugurate forthwith measures whereby money, men and materials released from the arms programme may be used to bring help to under-developed areas of the earth;

to support, and take a responsible share in expanding, the services of such International Organisations as FAO, WHO, ILO, UNESCO, UNICEF and especially the TAB, and so to establish the foundations of a peaceful, co-operating and disarmed world;

further, urges the Government to support in every way the use and development of international law, engendering respect for the decisions of impartial tribunals, so that law may grow to replace methods of violence in international as in national conflicts.

Also, recognising the increasingly significant part which the method of conciliation is taking in the settlement of national divergences, it commends to Her Majesty's Government the consideration of its wider use and acceptance.

RESOLUTION ON ARMAMENTS BUDGETS.

This Annual Council of the WILPF, British Section, believes that the planned expenditure of over £3,000,000 per day, from the national income for the next three years, on armaments and the Defence Services, is seriously unbalancing to both national and international economy. It supports wholeheartedly such statesmanship as will lead to wider international understanding, believes that a reduction of armaments would result in a firmer confidence in peaceful aims and suggests an immediate reduction of at least 10 per cent. and the deflection of the resulting savings to achieve and maintain standards of life elsewhere which in this country are safeguarded by the Social Services.

RESOLUTION ON REFUGEES.

This Annual Council of the WILPF, seeing in the plight of refugees, following the termination of the IRO in December last, not only a threat to peace in many parts of the world, but also an outrage to the conscience of humanity, urges Her Majesty's Government to give full support to any measures designed to reintegrate these men, women and children into the normal life of communities, and especially to give to the High Commissioner for Refugees appointed by the UN every possible assistance, both by financial contributions and by encouraging the reception and absorption of such migrants by the countries of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

RESOLUTION ON PRACTICAL MEASURES FOR WORKING TOWARDS WORLD UNITY.

This Annual Council believes that the following measures if universally adopted would make for world unity:—

- (a) Uniform rule of road for driving (R. or L.).
- (b) Decimal system for measures, weights and money.
- (c) General use of centigrade thermometers.
- (d) A common logical language, everyone using his own as well.
- (e) An astronomic agreed system for Time.
- (f) Uses of all forms of energy for peaceful purposes without secrecy.

RESOLUTION ON RULE V(d) OF THE CONSTITUTION.

That V(d) 1 shall read: "The Executive shall meet at least every two months." That V(d) 5 shall read: "It shall have power to elect sub-committees with authority to transact routine business. They shall meet at least once between any two executives and shall have at least two officers regularly serving on each."

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON ATROCITIES IN KOREA.

This Annual Council wishes to record an expression of its horror at the atrocities committed in Korea by the United Nations' Forces on the civilian population, and especially to protest against the use of the Napalm bomb.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON BRITISH COUNCIL.

This Annual Council of the WILPF strongly deprecates the recent cut of 10 per cent. amounting to £241,000 in the financial allocation to the British Council. In view of the budgeting of £1,462,000,000 for defence measures in the coming financial year, the Government appears to underestimate the valuable and positive contribution to international goodwill and peace which the British Council is making with already depleted funds. We therefore urge Her Majesty's Government to assist the positive side of peace-making by restoring this cut at the earliest possible moment.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON KOREA AND CHINA.

The Annual Council of the WILPF, British Section, calls for the earliest possible termination of the Korean war, and affirms its conviction that permanent peace cannot be established in S.E. Asia until the People's Republic of China is admitted into the United Nations, and all encouragement withheld from the forces of General Chiang Kai Shek.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON FEDERATION OF THE RHODESIAS AND NYASALAND.

The Annual Council of the WILPF is greatly concerned by the proposal for the Federation of Northern and Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, and believes that the removal of British protection would leave the Africans of N. Rhodesia and Nyasaland at the mercy of less liberal policies. It therefore urges Her Majesty's Government that no change be made without full consultation, co-operation and consent of the Africans concerned.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON EXCLUSION OF SERETSE KHAMA FROM CHIEFTAINSHIP OF BAMANGWATO TRIBE.

This Annual Council of the WILPF meeting at Leicester on March 28th to 31st, deplores the decision of Her Majesty's Government to exclude Seretse Khama from the Chieftainship of the Bamangwato Tribe; believing that the election of their Chief should rest with the members of the tribe. We urge that a hearing be given to the delegation of his countrymen and that the present decision be reviewed in the light of that hearing.

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1951

A glance at the Balance Sheet for the year ending December 31st, 1951, shows that we are still on the wrong side of the balance though, owing to several favouring circumstances which we must not count on being repeated, the position does not look as bad as it might have done.

We have an excess of expenditure over income of £62 7s. 3d.

The income received from subscriptions of Headquarters members, Branch affiliated members and donations from all sources is slightly higher than last year, £653 as against last year's £629. This does not include the additional generous donation of £100 from Lady Parmoor which was given specifically towards the Secretary's salary and is shown on the expenditure side of the accounts reducing what would have been an annual expenditure of £1,227 13s. 5d. to one of £1,127 13s. 5d.

It will be seen that in spite of a saving of over £150 on last year's figures for rent and salaries, affected by the removal to the new office and the reduction in staff, the increases in general expenses of printing, postage, travelling, etc., have swelled our deficit and there is also a loss of over £40 on the *News Sheet*.

To get a general picture it is useful to omit from both sides of the Balance Sheet such items as "*News Sheet*" and Meetings," etc., which may be expected to cover their own costs.

There still remains a gap between the ordinary income from members contributions, £650 odd, and an expenditure of just under £1,000, which is too alarming for any Treasurer, or indeed for any members of the WILPF to envisage with equanimity.

It must be remembered also that the figure for "salaries" this year is not at all a normal one since for many weeks the office was staffed by temporary or voluntary workers. Gaps today tend to widen, and unless our gap can be bridged by the introduction of more members or more money or both, the effort of bridging it by special money-raising events and appeals will become more burdensome and less likely to succeed.

This year the gap has been reduced by those favouring circumstances which I mentioned—Lady Parmoor's donation, the later contributions to the 35th Birthday appeal (which properly belonged to the previous year) and the proceeds of Headquarters' Week £114. It has been further reduced by the generosity of our auditor, Mr. Dayan, who has given us his audit and accountancy services free of charge. We have indeed been fortunate this year and yet it is a serious and challenging financial position.

Will the WILPF rise to the challenge?

Will an organisation which believes in itself and believes in its cause allow itself to go under for want of funds?

The answer is with the members.

Mrs. Dora Holden has acted throughout the year as Assistant Honorary Treasurer, and it is entirely due to her conscientious and careful work and to the kind and invaluable help of Mr. Dayan that the present Treasurer is still in nominal sway.

My best thanks and those of the whole organisation are due to these two friends.

AGNES Z. STAPLEDON.

POST SCRIPT.—After receiving the above Report at Leicester on March 28th, 1952, the Annual Council was greatly moved and encouraged by the announcement of the splendid donation from the Barrow Cadbury Trust just received—£200 as a "special donation" and £100 as a subscription.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1951

1950	To	EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.	1950	By	INCOME	£	s.	d.
130	Rent	...	135	3	2	254	Subscriptions	...	284	9	0
32	Lighting and Heating	...	2	11	2	162	Donations	...	178	19	4
72	General Expenses	...	104	7	8	213	Branch Affiliation Fees	...	189	12	8
2	Insurance	...	1	14	6	14	Sales of Literature	...	4	0	7
	Salaries & National Insurance	423 11 10				152	Sales of <i>News Sheets</i>	...	94	8	3
	Less Donation towards Secretary's Salary	100 0 0				27	Meetings	...	7	4	0
552			323	11	10	192	Proceeds of Birthday Appeal	...	174	16	5
74	Travelling Expenses	...	116	18	0	19	Building Society Interest	...	17	0	8
8	Affiliation Fees	...	5	5	0	—	Proceeds of Headquarters' Week...	...	114	15	3
78	Postages	...	86	17	11	37	Proceeds of Christmas Appeal	...	—		
110	Printing and Stationery	...	164	17	6	11	Sale of Office Equipment	...	—		
14	Literature	...	21	3	2	80	Legacies	...	—		
108	<i>News Sheet</i> —Cost of Printing	...	136	1	3		Balance—Excess of Expenditure over				
24	Meetings and Hire of Rooms	...	8	12	0	79	Income	...	62	7	3
27	Telephones	...	20	10	3						
9	Audit and Accountancy Charges	...	—								
£1240			£1127	13	5	£1240			£1127	13	5

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31st, 1951

CURRENT LIABILITIES		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	CURRENT ASSETS		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Accounts and Accrued Expenses	...	42	0	4				Balance at Bank	...	118	12	8					
Loan	...	100	0	0				Cash in Hand	...	3	15	4					
					142	0	4						122	8	0		
Affiliation Fees received in advance	...				7	17	6	Less Amount due to International Account	...	37	12	4					
CAPITAL FUND—										84	15	8					
Balance, January 1st, 1951	...	487	10	9				Co-operative Permanent Building Society—Deposit	...	459	10	4					
Add Transfer from Special Funds—								Sundry Debtors	...	37	15	4					
Shrewsbury	...	7	0	0										582	1	4	
		494	10	9				SPECIAL FUNDS—									
Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year	...	62	7	3				Co-operative Permanent Building Society—Deposit	...						315	1	9
					432	3	6										
							582	1	4								
SPECIAL FUNDS—																	
Congress	...	32	4	1													
Ford Memorial	...	95	17	5													
Penny-a-Week	...	187	0	3													
					315	1	9										
					£897	3	1						£897	3	1		

I have audited the accounts of the Women's International League for the year ended December 31st, 1951, and certify that, in my opinion, the foregoing accounts are properly drawn up so as to exhibit the position of affairs in accordance with the information given me and as shown by the books.

13, Womersley Road,
Crouch End, London, N.8

March 18th, 1952

M. DAYAN, Incorporated Accountant,
Hon. Auditor

Printed by
H. G. MATHER LTD.
(T.U. throughout)
Lower Green
Mitcham, Surrey