

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, 3rd January, 1945, at 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Harrison, Miss Burton, Mrs. Innes, Miss Myrtle Wright, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Dickinson.

Visitors: Dr. Fogelclou-Norlind (Sweden) and Frau Hertzka.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Miss Pye, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Phillips, Miss Anderson, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Beesley, Miss Haughton.

MINUTES of Meeting on December 6th, 1944, were confirmed after "~~on behalf of the India and Colonies Committee~~" had been added to Minute 747 Council Resolution on the Far East, following "Miss Dickinson." In the second paragraph of the same Minute delete "Miss Dickinson suggested" and after "Mrs. Innes" add "was."

BUSINESS ARISING:

756. (a) Co-option to Executive. Reported Miss Myrtle Wright had written to express her willingness to serve on the Committee subject to the acceptance of the following limitations:-

- (1) that she cannot give more time than to the regular Committee meeting and can at present not take on further responsibilities;
- (2) that while expecting to remain in this country until the end of the war she can make no promises further into the future.

Miss Wright added "Perhaps, however, this might not be altogether disconnected with picking up W.I.L. contacts abroad and would be one reason for making a closer acquaintance with the British Committee."

Mrs. Duncan Harris warmly welcomed Miss Wright on to the Committee.

(b) Reported a letter from our Glasgow W.I.L. saying that Mrs. Agnes Hardie, M.P. was not a member of their Branch. Mrs. Duncan Harris undertook to write to Mrs. Hardie, inviting her to join the W.I.L. and to serve on the Committee.

(c) Reported that the Myrtle Wright meeting on December 7th, 1944, had been well attended and much appreciated. The Collection was £3. 5. 3. The cost of the Hall, printing and an advertisement in the New Statesman was £4. 13. 6.

(d) Reported no applications had been received from advertisements for an Office Worker. Agreed to consider the suggestion that a young boy might be possible.

(e) Extra rations. Reported that on the request of the December Executive Committee the following letter, signed by Mrs. Innes, had been sent to the Prime Minister, 13th December, 1944:-

Sir,

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League is deeply troubled at the situation of mal-nutrition which is being uncovered in Europe, especially in relation to the granting of additional rations of our own nation.

We would like to urge that H.M. Government should make it a basic principle that until the rations in Europe have been raised to the level of our own country

there should be no relaxation of our own restrictions,
or enlargement of our own rations.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) K.E.INNES, Hon. Secretary."

Reported receipt of a copy of an appeal, dated 12th December, 1944, for Food for Europe signed by Vera Brittain, Margery Corbett-Ashby, E. Pethick Lawrence, Maude Roydon, Clare Sheridan, Sybil Thorndike. AGREED to send a copy to Branches with a covering letter suggesting the proposals may be of use in the future.

Reported Mrs. Stapledon had got a similar letter to Mrs. Duncan Harris's letter of 1st December into the Liverpool Daily Post and the Hoylake and West Kirby Advertiser.

(f) Reported the following letter had been sent on 13th December, 1944, to the Prime Minister and to Mr. Anthony Eden re the situation in countries "freed from German occupation."

"Sir,

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League reads with dismay of the situations that are developing in the countries of Europe that have recently been freed from German occupation. Through the dark years of war we have believed that in this country at least there was a stand for the basic freedoms even of people with whose views we did not wholly agree.

We would beg that in any policy adopted by H.M. Government the principle of democratic freedom should be maintained, even in the face of the chaos and difficulties of the present situation. With reference to Greece we would urge that its present policy of the use of force be superseded by every effort to reconcile the divergent elements by means of negotiation.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) K.E.INNES, Hon. Secretary."

Reported no acknowledgements received from the Prime Minister to the above letters. A formal acknowledgment received from the Private Secretary of Mr. Eden to the second letter.

(g) Reported Mrs. Grindley had not been able to get a copy of the Chinese proposals to Dumbarton Oaks Conference, so Mrs. Innes had written direct to the Chinese Embassy. Agreed if the proposals were not received from the Chinese Embassy to make inquiries from the Union of Democratic Control and the National Peace Council re summaries of them, and also from the Chinese Ministry of Information.

AGREED to ask Mrs. Innes to write letters to the New Statesman and Time and Tide drawing attention to the Chinese proposals.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations (of which the W.I.L.P.F. was one) are discussing the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals at their next meeting and she is anxious to collect material before the meeting.

757. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood presented the attached Statement of Accounts, which was adopted. She reported a proposal from Mrs. Campbell, a new Headquarters Member, that every member should be invited to contribute to the Funds £5 either as a personal gift or some Fund raising-effort. She did not feel that she could ^{Suggest} ~~this at the moment, but she would like to suggest that at the right psychological moment she should write to members asking them to give £5 as a thank-offering for the end of the war in Europe to enable us to go ahead with work after the war. This would give people time to think of ways of getting the extra donation in addition to their usual subscriptions.~~ ^{but she was prepared to} ^{send contributions}

Mrs. Wood proposed in her appeal for subscriptions to ask for contributions which would enable her to refund the loans amounting to £95 which had been so generously granted from some members of the Committee at very short notice.

The Committee authorised Mrs. Wood to adopt her suggestions for the appeal, which would include a mention of the Penny-a-Week Fund and the Congress Fund.

Mrs. Wood expressed her warm appreciation of the way many of the Branches had sent their Branch quotas in 1944.

Mrs. Wood said she would be very glad to write to any people for contributions whose names and addresses were given to her.

758. LITERATURE. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported she was preparing material for her pamphlet on Dumbarton Oaks Conference, U.N.R.A., Bretton Wood, and the Notes of David Mitrany's speech at the Council Meeting, reported in the November News Sheet, for the use of which David Mitrany has given his consent, on the understanding that he should be permitted to see the form in which they were being used. Frau Hertzka recommended reference to Straight's book "Make this the last War," and the Rev. Henry Carter's book on "Towards World Recovery" was also recommended for reference.

Mrs. Grindley reported that a C.O. ^{Artist} ~~Printer~~ friend was willing to print a pictorial leaflet, on the lines of that printed by the American W.I.L. The cost, including illustrations, all printed in one colour, would be £4 per 1,000 and £2 for a second 1,000 if printed at the same time. He would not make a charge for the artist's fee. After some members of the Literature Committee had studied the proposed leaflet, the Executive agreed to ask the printer to go ahead with the printing of 2,000, and to thank him very warmly for his generous help.

759. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS, 1945. Reported no accommodation was available at York or Godalming. Agreed these should be held in London on one of the following dates:-

April 9th to 11th or preferably April 10th to 12th, or failing either, April 11th to 13th.

Instructions were given for Friends House to be booked provisionally for one of the above times.

760. W.I.L.P.F. NEWS. Mrs. Innes reported that she did not think it would be possible for International Chairmen to meet in this country until after the Armistice, but she suggested cabling to Frau Ragaz, whose presence at any meeting was absolutely essential, to ask her views on the matter.

The Committee agreed this was the wisest thing to do.

News of one of our French members had been received recently. Miss Pye had returned to England after her visit of several weeks to Paris. Agreed to ask her if she would write an article on her visit for the News Sheet, and if she would address a meeting of London members in the near future.

Dr. Fogelclou Norlind, who had been invited to a sandwich lunch, brought greetings from W.I.L. in Sweden, who were very anxious to meet members of other Sections as soon as it was possible to do so. She was asked to convey the Section's greetings on her return to Sweden and our deep appreciation of all they have done during the difficult war years, and to say that we were looking forward with much pleasure to the day when it would be possible to meet, when as neutrals, their influence will be of the greatest value.

It was suggested that it would be advisable if members of other Sections began trying separately to make arrangements for meeting at the end of the war.

Mrs. Duncan Harris expressed, on behalf of the Committee, warm thanks to Dr. Nerlund for giving so much of her time to the Committee, and good wishes for a safe return to her home.

760. INDIA AND COLONIES Miss Burton reported:-

(1) a reply from the Rev. Norman Goodall of the International Missionary Council re the situation between India and South Africa, to the effect that he was taking up the matter with the National Christian Council of South Africa;

(2) No letter had been received from Dr. Ambedkar re women in mines, Miss Harrison was hoping to consult the High Commissioner on the matter;

(3) The India Conciliation Group had printed a leaflet, since the deadlock in the Gandhi-Jinnah talks, entitled "A New Move in India" relating to the formation of a Conciliation Committee in India which will examine the whole communal and minorities question from a constitutional and political point of view, put itself in touch with different parties and their leaders, including minorities interested in the question, and present a solution within two months to the Standing Committee on the Non-Party Conference, which appointed the Conciliation Committee. Agreed to send copies to Branches and to invite them to apply for more, if they can make use of them. The cost is 3/- per 100. It was hoped that the Branches would do what they could in relation to the suggestion made at the end of this leaflet.

The Executive agreed to send a letter to Sir Tej Sapru expressing our best wishes for the success of his fresh effort at conciliation.

(4) Frau Hertzka raised the question of how to arouse the interest of the general public in the Indian situation, and suggested a question to the B.B.C. Brains Trust. It was thought Dr. Joad and Miss Barbara Ward might be able to help, but the matter was left in the hands of Miss Harrison to deal with.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported a letter from Mrs. Hamid Ali in answer to that sent by the Committee. She expressed herself as having lost all desire to co-operate with European people. She says "it is so obvious that we are the slaves and the exploited members of this farcical Commonwealth of Nations." She speaks of the terrible famine conditions "while people in authority in England have been glibly assuring you that conditions are now entirely satisfactory." The Committee was deeply distressed by the hopelessness and bitterness of this letter from one who has been hitherto so courageous in her endeavour to achieve co-operation both within India and with the West, and instructed the Chairman to send a cable of deep sympathy and assured friendship, and to write in the same sense conveying also to Mrs. Hamid Ali the strong sense of the Committee that the problems which the women in India are facing are not peculiar to that country, but that we need their continuing help in finding in all countries the right answer to oppression and domination, if we are to find the way to peace and freedom.

With regard to the article on Palestine, Mrs. Castle was still making inquiries and would report again later.

761. ORGANISATION COMMITTEE. Reported Mrs. James was unable to serve on this Committee, as attendance at meetings would not be possible for some months. She hoped later, to be more free to help with W.I.L. work.

Reported the Committee had not met since the last Executive, but it would be glad of suggestions of dates for the proposed Summer School. The last week in August or the 1st or 2nd week in September were considered good for a School in the Lake District and Mrs.

Mrs. McGregor Ross had sent a number of addresses to which application might be made for accommodation.

The Organisation Committee would consider a draft programme at its meeting on January 4th, and would follow up Mrs. Ross's proposals for accommodation on the dates suggested above.

762. W.I.L. CZECH MEMBERS' MEETING, January 9th, 1945, 6 p.m. in the Office. Reported that invitations had been sent to Czech members living or visiting London to a social hour with London Headquarters members, to be followed by a discussion on the Czech Government's proposed policy of extraditing about a million Czechs from the Sudetanarea.

763. AGREED to send congratulations to Miss Horsbrugh and Miss Ellen Wilkinson on the recent honour conferred upon them, when they were made Privy Councillors, and to express satisfaction that this honour had been given to women.

764. NEWS SHEETS. Suggested articles for forthcoming issues:-
Dunbarton Oaks proposals and alternative schemes.
India. Miss Harrison promised a paragraph.
Edith Pye's visit to Paris.
Myrtle Wright on the conclusions she has reached as a result of her experiences while in Norway.
Anglo-American relations.

765. ANNUAL REPORT. AGREED to ask Miss Hayler if she would prepare the material for Mrs. Innes.

766. BRANCH REPORTS were given by members of the Committee who were also members of Branches.

767. CORRESPONDENCE. Friends Peace Committee. Agreed to consider at the February meeting a Statement of the Friends Peace Committee in regard to the proposed settlement in Eastern Europe, a copy of which should be sent with the Agenda to all members of the Executive.

Reported receipt of an appeal for Clothing for Norway from the Friends Relief Service, Overseas Section. Miss Myrtle Wright C/o Friends Meeting House, Jesus Lane, Cambridge, would be very glad to receive knitting pins, buttons of all kinds, ordinary pins, wool for mending, pieces of cloth for patching and scissors by 20 January. Clothing (mended and cleaned) should be sent to F.R.S. Clothing Warehouse, The Institute, Lemon Lane, Witley, Nr. Godalming, Surrey.

768. Reported scheme for giving hospitality to children from liberated Europe organised by Mr. J.W. Niemann, Reception Committee "Young People Occupied Countries," C/o Messrs. Walter Harriot & Co. Ltd., Lloyds Buildings, E.C. 3. AGREED to insert a paragraph in the News Sheet.

769. Reported request from Stephen Thorne, Recording Clerk of the Society of Friends asking if the W.I.L. thought it would be good to get together organisations to consider the suggested continuation of compulsory military service and the maintenance in some form or another of the auxiliary training units, and asking what the W.I.L. view was towards continuing conscription.

AGREED to reply that we are against conscription and against the training of the young for military purposes.

770. YOUTH TOLD TO LEARN TO HATE Attention was drawn to the press reports of a speech made by Dr. Barbara Simonds at a youth Conference organised by the Council for Education in World Citizenship on January 2nd when more than 2,000 boys and girls from schools in all parts of the country were present. She is reported to have said "Hate is not an emotion we like. It comes with particular difficulty to the young. But it is at present necessary. Without hate I do not think we shall be able to bring this war to a final and

irrevocable end and to build the world for which we are fighting."

Dr. Simonds also quoted a fine sentence from a letter her second husband had sent to her three-year old son before his death at Arnhem:- "Never make courage and loyalty an excuse for war. Make peace an opportunity for courage and loyalty."

Mrs. Grindley was asked to draft two letters, one to Dr. Simonds, and one to the Organisers of the Conference.

771. Frau Hertzka expressed her great concern for the contribution which the neutral countries might make at this time.

Mrs. Duncan Harris undertook to convey the thoughts of the Committee about the decision of the Allied Governments re unconditional surrender and the decision of the Nazis to fight to the last man, to Dr. Norlind.

772. The Pacifist position in an occupied country. Miss Myrtle Wright gave an account of the conclusions she had reached as a result of her experience while under Nazi domination in Norway. She agreed to write an article for the News Sheet on the thoughts she had been expressing.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, February 7th, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

B. Duncan Harris

as for 7.11.45

Statement of W.I.L. Accounts for December, 1944.

RECEIPTS.

EXPENDITURE.

Balances on 1st December 446.14.6 $\frac{1}{2}$

Subscriptions.....3. 1. 6
 Friends of H.Q.....1. 6. -
 Branch Quotas,,,,,23, 8, 7
 News Sheets,,,,,10.15. 8
 Literature..... 1. 4. 9
 Inland Revenue... 4.16. -
 Affil. Fees.....15.17. 3
 Meetings..... 3. 7. 9
 Geneva Subs..... 2. -. -
 Penny-a-Week Fd.. 5. 4.11

71.2.5

Salaries.....25. -. -
 Rent.....15. -. -
 Postage..... 1.15.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
 News Sheet..... 6. 8. -
 Literature..... 1.12. 9
 Inland Revenue..... 3.17. -
 Stationery..... 2. 5. 7
 Meetings..... 2. 7. -
 Geneva Subscriptions..... 6. 5. -
 Travelling expenses..... 2. 9. 9
 N.H.I. & Unemployment Insurs 12. 9
 Office Expenses..... 1.16.11
 Light & Heat..... 16.11

70. 7. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$

Balances:-

Midland Bank:

General Fund.....14.10.4
 India work.....30. -. -
 Loans.....95. -. -

139.10. 4

C.P.Bldg. Soc.

Shrewsbury Fund. 7. -. -
 P.A.W. Fund..... 209. 6.8
 Congress Fund..... 88. -. -

304. 6. 8

Petty Cash..... 3.12. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$

£517.16.11 $\frac{1}{2}$

£517.16.11 $\frac{1}{2}$

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday, February 7th, 1945 at Flat 8,
144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Haughton, Miss Burton, Mrs. Longson, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Miss Anderson, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Myrtle Wright, Mrs. Grindley. Visitors: Lady Unwin, Frau Hertzka, Mrs. Schlossmann (Cambridge Member).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Berwick Sayers and Miss Edith Pye.

MINUTES OF MEETING on January 3rd were confirmed after the following amendments:-

751. Finance. Delete "She did not feel that she could do this at the moment, but she would like to suggest that at the right psychological moment she should write to members asking them to give £5" and insert "She did not feel she could suggest this amount but she was prepared to write to members asking them to send contributions."

758. Literature. In first line delete "Printer" and insert "Artist."

773. BUSINESS ARISING:

Minute 756 (b) Reported a postcard from Mrs. Agnes Hardie, M.P. saying that while agreeing with the Objects of the W.I.L. she was already a member of so many organisations that she did not feel able to join any more at present.

Minute 756 (c) Famine Relief in Europe and extra Christmas rations in this country. Reported circular letter from Colonel Llewellyn of the Ministry of Food expressing appreciation of the W.I.L. feeling that Gt. Britain should not be having extra food when our friends and Allies may be starving. He said "far more food has been set aside here for the relief of liberated Europe than the small amounts needed for the extra Christmas rations... Unfortunately food difficulties in Europe are inevitable at present not because of the shortage of food, but because of the dislocation of internal transport and the shortage of food intake capacity... Please do not think, therefore, that we have had extra food for Christmas at the expense of our Allies." AGREED to reply again urging that the policy of H.M. Government should be to direct available food supplies to those countries of Europe where the populations have suffered shortages until they reach a level comparable with the level of nutrition in our own land before increasing the British rations. AGREED that copies of the letter be sent, for information, to Mr. Richard Law and the American Section of the W.I.L.P.F.

Minute 763. Reported letters of thanks from The Rt. Hon. Florence Horsbrugh and The Rt. Hon. Ellen Wilkinson.

Minute 770. Reported letter from Dr. Simonds saying she thought the Committee quite right to express consternation at the report of her speech. She had no copy of her speech. She never said "we must learn to hate" although she said "that it was necessary to bring war to a final and irrevocable end, to hate; meaning by this, the Leaders of Fascism in any country." With her letter was enclosed an article Dr. Simonds had written for the Reynolds News and a copy of her reply to the Press. In view of the resolution afterwards adopted at a meeting of the Education for World Citizenship Association, Mrs. Innes had

thought it was not necessary to write to them. This was endorsed.

774. FINANCE. The Treasurer reported that the books were with the Auditor and she could not, therefore, present a statement. Her Appeal was about to go out to Headquarters Members. Mrs. Wood said she would like to write to every member in the W.I.L. giving them an invitation to contribute to the proposed Thanksgiving Fund and the Committee authorised her to write to Branch Secretaries for a list of their members' names and addresses, for this purpose. Mrs. Wood also agreed to write a note for the News Sheet about the Thanksgiving Fund.

REPORT OF OFFICERS' MEETING, 31st January.

775. Conscription. Reported an invitation to send a representative to a Conference on Conscription called by the P.P.U., February 13th, 6.30 p.m. Miss Hayler and Mrs. Kinnish had been asked to represent the W.I.L.

Mrs. Innes said the Officers had been considering the possibility of a W.I.L. Campaign against Conscription, particularly since news from our Section in America had come of the pressure for military conscription in some circles in U.S.A. She put before the Committee the attached notes and suggestions, and suggested they might be sent to the Branches for consideration in readiness for discussion at the Annual Council Meeting in April.

After discussion AGREED these should be sent to Branches, Executive Committee, Vice-Presidents and Affiliated Societies.

776. Miss Ruth Fry. Letters from Miss Ruth Fry urging the W.I.L. to make another effort for peace, even at the expense of appearing foolish, had been considered by the Officers and Mrs. Innes, on their behalf, had replied that we should not mind looking foolish if the action judged foolish by some, had any effect, but now the Russian advance on Berlin had developed it was felt no notice would be taken of a cry to stop at the moment, - by our Government or by the Russians. The only hope of anything effective would be a move inside Germany which would cause the Nazi leaders to flee. Then effective support might be given and we could call a meeting to initiate a campaign at once. The Committee ENDORSED Mrs. Innes's reply.

777. Crimea Conference. The Officers were empowered to call a special Officers or Meeting of the Executive if they considered the situation arising out of the talks of Mr. Churchill, Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Stalin now taking place, gave any opening for action by the W.I.L.

778. Office Help. Reported that the Officers had agreed to accept Ivan Cleveland's offer to help in the Office when required. Fares and expenses to be met. He was a C.O. It was a very temporary arrangement to give Miss Horscroft the help she needed at the moment.

779. COLONIES. Miss Burton, on behalf of the India and Colonies Committee, reported that the pamphlet issued by the League of Coloured Peoples gives a list of current Text Books indicating how colour prejudice is taught; it is not for sale but educational Groups or people interested may obtain copies. The Committee recommended this pamphlet to Branches studying the Colonies. The Executive AGREED to make a grant of 24/- towards the cost of printing and to get the number of copies required.

(2) The resolution on the Far East was left over.

(3) Miss Mabel Shaw, O.B.E., had written to express disappointment at not being able to attend meetings of the India and Colonies Committee, owing to illness and then pressure of work, but she would endeavour to fit in some of the meetings during the next six months.

She expects to travel in East and Central Africa later in the year, after which she hopes to be able to help.

(4) The Fabian Colonial Pamphlet "Four Colonial Questions," 2/- each was recommended to Branches and it was hoped a note by Mrs. Ross would be put in the News Sheet. The Executive AUTHORIZED "Four Colonial Questions" to be sent to Branches with Literature Account Credits. Mrs. Ross was asked to write a note on the pamphlet for the March News Sheet.

(5) That the Council of Christians and Jews in England were willing to send speakers to meetings (address 21 Bloomsbury Street W.C.1.)

(6) An interesting "Le Play House Emergency Bulletin" by the Racial Relations Group, Institute of Sociology, Hon. Secretary, E.J. Turner, Esq., 22 Grosvenor Court, London, W. 3.

(7) That copies of Hansard containing a report on the Colonial Development and Welfare Bill was being sent to members of the Sub-Committee, for study. If necessary the Chairman of the sub-Committee will call a special meeting.

(8) Miss Dickinson is watching and will report on the Arab Federation Meeting in Cairo.

(9) Miss Dickinson reported the publication of "Indian National Congress" by Dr. D.R. Trem, 39, Welford Road, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham.

(10) Miss Anderson had received a letter from Miss Balch suggesting the formation of a women's organisation to deal specially with Empire and Colonial matters, with an Office in London and a paid Secretary. The Sub-Committee felt the W.I.L. could not deal with more work at present and that the necessary international contacts were not available now, but it suggested that Miss Anderson should send Miss Balch the Bulletins of Societies dealing with colonial matters, and coloured people.

780. INDIA. Miss Dickinson reported that no reply had yet been received from Mrs. Pandit (now in the U.S.A. where she is attending the Pacific Relations Conference), in answer to the cordial invitation sent to her to visit this country before returning to India. Mrs. Corbett Ashby on behalf of the Liaison Group, had written to Mr. Amery asking him to facilitate this visit and a non-committal reply had been received. Important information has just come from the All Indian Women's Conference with details of the Standing Committee's meeting held last November. This unfortunately had come too late to be included in the Bulletin (issued in January). After discussion the Executive felt the time had come for a more definite move forward to be made. Miss Dickinson suggested that an important deputation should wait upon Mr. Amery appealing for the release of political prisoners. It was decided that the W.I.L. would co-operate with the Liaison Group (the Committee of which was to meet the following week) and any other organisations concerned in arranging the deputation.

Mrs. Innes was asked to write to Mrs. Corbett Ashby, the Chairman of the Liaison Group to this effect.

781. CZECH GROUP OF W.I.L. MEMBERS IN THIS COUNTRY. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on the meeting on January 9th at 144 Southampton Row, when the Czechs put forward some of the problems they would have to face on their return to their own country. They had supported the policy of sending to Germany those Sudeten Germans who had collaborated with the Nazis, and who were not prepared to give loyal support to a Czech State and a Czech way of life. They had asked the British members if at the next meeting they would comment on some of the points raised. This had been agreed to and the meeting was to be held on February 13th at 6 o'clock in the Flat.

782. INTERNATIONAL NEWS. Mrs. Innes reported the postponement of the proposed meetings in this country of the joint International Chairmen and those members of the International Executive who might be able to attend. She also gave news of some fellow members overseas.

Miss Anderson reported on a meeting of the Liaison Committee of the Women's International Organisations, of which the W.I.L.P.F. (International) is a constituent body, at which the Dumbarton Oaks proposals were discussed. She also reported a recent meeting of the Committee for the relief of victims of Nazi terror, at the House of Commons, which considered how to get assurances that people from Europe should be allowed to stay in the country in which they are temporarily resident and also the question of Anti-Semitism. After discussion Miss Anderson was asked to draft any plan she had in mind for possible action, to go out with the March Agenda.

REPORT OF ORGANISATION COMMITTEE, February 6th. Mrs. Phillips, (Chairman of Committee) reported on

785(1) Summer School, 1945. No accommodation had yet been found, but inquiries were still being made. If a place were secured in the near future the following plans were recommended for the School:-

- (a) Title. "A New World and its Citizens."
- (b) Two and perhaps three Lecturers be invited, the following names being suggested:-
 - (i) Dr. Snodgrass of Edinburgh on the educational side;
 - (ii) Miss Joan Robinson of Cambridge, on the Economic.

Failing Dr. Snodgrass, Mrs. Grindley was prepared to consult Raynard West.

- (c) Mrs. Innes to be asked to arrange the day-to-day timetable during the School;
- (d) Miss Hilda Burton to be asked to organise the Social side.

The Executive ENDORSED these recommendations and Mrs. Innes agreed to help to arrange the time-table of lectures and evening discussions, and Miss Burton agreed to organise the social activities.

X Mrs. Phillips reported that Mrs. Lloyd Prichard had expressed her disapproval of a mixed Summer School and was not prepared to help in its organisation, particularly as the inviting of lecturers suggested by the Sub-Committee was, she considered, a matter of office routine. It was being pointed out to Mrs. Lloyd Prichard that the W I.L. had always accepted men as Associate Members and therefore it was in order for them to be invited to the School.

Branches were to be urged to send at least one member to the School.

Several suggestions from the Executive were made re possible accommodation, which Mrs. Grindley as Hon. Organiser of the Summer School undertook to follow up.

(2) "Two Steps Forward." Reported that the next meeting of the Organisation Committee would be considering the replies from Branches to the Questionnaire sent them, and that those Branches which had not yet replied were to be urged to do so without further delay.

Arising out of the Branch Questionnaire Mrs. Stapledon suggested that Speakers' Notes on current events would be valuable. Another suggestion was a One Day School for Teachers. Mrs. Grindley was prepared to ~~compile material for~~ speakers' notes for

bring the matter of before the Organisation Committee

for the use of Branches.

These suggestions were referred to the Organisation Committee.

The next meeting but one of the Organisation Committee would be considering the replies from the Educationists. For information these were to be sent to all those who had sent in their comments.

(3) New Branches. Reported formation of Branches at Nottingham with a membership of 26 and at Mayfield, with the necessary minimum of ten members.

*Suggested that
the W.I.L.
became*

Mrs. Phillips, Hon. Secretary of the Nottingham Branch, said that the Branch, as an educational non-party political organisation ~~had been invited to~~ become affiliated to the Council of Social Service in Nottingham, which has a good many educational bodies affiliated to it and it would be on educational lines that the Branch would work with them. In the event of affiliation the W.I.L. would have the right to send a representative to the ~~Committee~~ of the Council of Social Service which Mrs. Phillips thought might prove to be helpful.

After discussion the Committee AGREED to the affiliation, though it was pointed out that this must not be taken as a precedent, as conditions varied locally.

Official notice of a Branch at Bishops Stortford was expected daily. Mrs. McGregor Wood had recently addressed a prospective Branch meeting at which temporary Officers had been appointed. Miss Myrtle Wright said she was speaking at a meeting arranged by members there in the near future.

Nottingham and Mayfield Branches were cordially welcomed by the Executive.

786. BRANCH NEWS was reported by members of the Committee associated with Cambridge, Liverpool, Croydon, Welwyn Garden City, Manchester and Reading. A letter was read from Mrs. Cameron, the Secretary of the Childwall Branch welcoming the suggestion of a Thanks offering for Peace, but felt strongly that the amount of group or individual contributions should not be fixed, and also reporting one resignation because of views expressed in the News Sheet.

After discussion it was AGREED (1) that Mrs. Wood's corrected Minute re the Thanksgiving Fund answered the point about the amount to be asked for; (2) that a note be put into the News Sheet regularly that signed articles appearing in the News Sheet are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor or the Executive Committee (3) that Mrs. Innes (who had had to leave the Committee early and who had not yet seen the letters) should be asked to reply to Mrs. Cameron on behalf of the Executive.

787. UNION OF DEMOCRATIC CONTROL were shortly sending copies of nine leading article reprinted in pamphlet form from The Times on Greece, and a Greek Diary. ~~which~~ AGREED to send copies to Branches and Executive.

788. MISS SCOVELL. Reported the sudden death in December of Miss Scovell a member of the W.I.L. for years, who had been present at many London meetings of the W.I.L. and who had contributed to the discussions. A letter of sympathy had been sent to her sister on behalf of the Committee, and an acknowledgment received.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday March 7th.

B. Dureau Harris

7. III. 45

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C; 1. TERMINUS 4025.

Branches are asked by the Executive Committee (meeting on February 7th, 1945) to consider the following in readiness for discussion at the Annual Council Meetings to be held on April 11th/13th, at Friends House, Euston Road, N.W. 1.

"MILITARISM IS SUICIDE."

Notes for consideration and Suggestions for an ANTI-CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN.

1. Meetings and resolutions.
2. Letters to press and Members of Parliament. Get into all Constituencies if possible.

LINES TO TAKE.

(1) Threat of conscription strikes directly at liberty of conscience. Wherever it has been adopted this freedom has narrowed to a mere theory, and the individual to this degree has become insignificant compared with the State. Liberty of conscience is a corner-stone of democracy.

(2) Claims of improvement in physique, discipline, etc. employment and safeguarding peace can mostly be disproved and are all disputable.

Army training serves no constructive purpose that could not be served better by a civilian agency.

(3). If conscription is retained, the value of a world organisation, members of which renounce war, is at once lessened. It will be obvious - as in the case of the League of Nations that members do not fully mean what they are professing and will weaken the organisation from the start.

Universal conscription and relief from the crushing burden of armaments (Atlantic Charter Point 8) are also contradictory.

(4) Should we urge an international convention for the abolition of conscription in the interests of Atlantic Charter, Point 8, and the success of a world organisation for the renunciation of war and prevention of aggression?

We realise that, although we are in the main concerned with conscription for military purposes, the W.I.L. will have to consider also the question of industrial "direction."

ATLANTIC CHARTER: Point 8. (Roosevelt-Churchill Declaration, August 14th, 1941).

"They believe all of the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea, or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten, or may threaten, aggression outside of their frontiers, they believe pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that the disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable measures which will lighten for peace-loving peoples the crushing burden of armament."

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Meeting of Executive Committee, Friday, April 13th, 1945,
at Friends House, Euston Road, N.W.I.

PRESENT: Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Beesley,
Miss Burton, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Hayler,
Miss Haughton, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Malcolmson, Mrs. Phillips,
Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Duncan Harris,
Mrs. Innes, Miss Harrison, Mrs. McGregor Ross. *Mrs. Inneson.*

The Committee met to decide on action regarding the
resolutions adopted at the Annual Council Meetings.
AGREED to send the resolutions as follows:-

815. WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE. Prime Minister, Foreign Office,
International Women's News, Standing Joint Committee of
Working Women's Organisations, Women's Group of Public
Welfare, Women Members of Parliament.
816. RIGHTS OF SMALL NATIONS. Prime Minister, Foreign Office,
British Representatives to San Francisco, Russian,
American and Chinese Embassies.
817. FAMINE. The Prime Minister, R.K. Law, Minister of State,
Foreign Office, Board of Trade, Ministry of Transport,
Famine Relief Committee, Friends Relief Service, Women
Members of Parliament, A.P. Herbert, M.P.,
818. CONSCRIPTION. (1) resolution; The Prime Minister, War Office
Mr. Winant - American Ambassador, Russian Ambassador;

(2nd resolution) Prime Minister, War Office,
Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of
Education, Peace Pledge Union, War Resisters International,
National Council for Civil Liberties (last three had all
resolutions)
819. DISARMAMENT. The Prime Minister, War Office,
Dominions Representatives and British Representatives to
San Francisco Conference, Foreign Office, Rhys Davies, M.P.,
R.R. Stokes, M.P. Parliamentary Peace Committee,
Vernon Bartlett, M.P., Sir William Beveridge, M.P.
820. ECONOMIC PLANNING. The Prime Minister, Chancellor of
Exchequer, Lord Keynes, Miss Barbara Ward, Sir William
Beveridge, Economic Reform League.
821. EMPIRE. Prime Minister, Colonial Office, Creech Jones,
M.P., Fabian Bureau, "East and West," Missions Societies,
League of Coloured Peoples, Aborigines Protection Society.
822. TRANSFER OF TERRITORY. The Prime Minister, Foreign
Office, Dominions and British representatives to San
Francisco Conference.
823. CONTROL OF WAR POTENTIAL. Prime Minister, War Office,
Foreign Office, British representatives to San Francisco,
Ministry of Production, Mr. Stokes, Par. Peace Ctte.,
Rhys Davies, M.P., Vernon Bartlett, M.P., Sir William
Beveridge, M.P.,
824. INDIA. Prime Minister, Mr. Amery and The Under Secretary;
Dominions representatives to San Francisco, Secretary to
All India Women's Conference, Five Indian Correspondents
in this Country, Mrs. Handoo of the India League, Women's
Advisory Council on India Affairs, Mr. Sorensen,
Mr. Graham White, Mr. Hynd, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Pethick
Lawrence, all women Members of Parliament. Agreed to ask

~~the Prime Minister to receive a small deputation.~~

825. ENDING OF HOSTILITIES. Prime Minister, Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Missionary Societies, British Council of Churches, Rev. Norman Goddall, International Missionary Society, Religious Dept. of the B.B.C., Women's Fellowship of the Methodist Churches, Dr. Nathaniel Micklem, c/o B.B.C., League of Nations Union, London Regional Fed. L.N.U., British and Dominions Representatives to San Francisco, The Rev. Hickman Johnson. **AGREED** to ask the Prime Minister to receive a small deputation.
826. ALL RESOLUTIONS to Press (except domestic ones) as follows:- Peace News, News Chronicle, Daily Herald, British Weekly, Catholic Herald, American Outpost in Gt. Britain, The Times, The Friend, Manchester Guardian, Methodist Recorder, East and West, Labour Woman, War Resisters' International, The Christian Science Monitor, Press Association, Ltd., The White Ribbon, The New Statesman & Nation, The Economist, The Christian Pacifist, Reynolds News, Woman's Outlook, International Women's News, One and All.
827. WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS: Women's Advisory Council, L.N.U., Women's Publicity Planning Association, Liaison Cttee. of Women's International Organisations, Y.W.C.A., National Union of Towns-women's Guilds, National Union of Women Teachers, International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, Women's Freedom League, British Federation of University Women, Society of Women Journalists, National Federation of Women's Institutes, National Council of Women, Women's Farm and Garden Association Club, International Women's Day, The Association of Assistant Mistresses, Associated Country-women of the World, National Federation of Business & Women's Clubs, National Woman Officer of National Union of General & Municipal Workers, Free Church Women's Guild, London Women's Parliament, Association of Headmistresses, Women's Liberal Federation, National Asscc. of Women Civil Servants, Over Thirty Association; King's College for Women, Women's Adjustment Board, Women Citizens Asscc., Women's Co-operative Guild, St. Joan's Social & Political Alliance.
828. OTHER ORGANISATIONS etc. National Council of Social Service, Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, League of Coloured Peoples, League of Nations Union, London Regional Federation and Women's Advisory Council, Royal Institute of International Affairs, Association for Education in Citizenship, Howard League for Penal Reform, The Fabian Colonial Bureau, Economic Reform League, Commonwealth, Anti-Slavery & Aborigines Protection Society, Union of Democratic Control, British Commonwealth League, American Ministry of Information (Miss Crocke) Mrs. Northcroft, Dame Sybil Thorndike, Federation of scriptmist Clubs, International Labour Office, Central Board of C.O.'s, Miss Lella Florence, c/o American Embassy, Miss Edith Denart, American Embassy, National Peace Council.
829. MISS ELLEN WILKINSON, M.P. Agreed to ask Miss Wilkinson if she would allow Mrs. Duncan Harris to bring to her the Council resolutions, particularly those with special reference to the San Francisco Conference.

This concluded the Business.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, WEDNESDAY, May 2nd, 1945. at 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

*K.P. Jones
Signed as read,
May 2/45,*

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Wednesday, April 11th, 1945, at 11 a.m. at Friends House, Euston Road, London.

PRESENT: Mrs. McGregor Ross in the Chair, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Burton, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Dickinson, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Duncan Harris.

APPOLOGIES for absence received from Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Castle, Miss Pye

MINUTES of March Committee were confirmed having been circulated.

BUSINESS ARISING:

802 Minute 793. Reported that owing to unforeseen circumstances Mrs. Rickman would not be going to America and could not therefore, personally take the Committee's message to the American Section. It, had, however, been sent to Miss Dexter by air mail.

URGENT RESOLUTIONS/ON THE FOLLOWING WERE adopted:- Famine, India and Ending of Hostilities.

The question of moving an addendum to the Council resolution on Empire with regard to the Colour Bar was considered. Agreed that the following resolution be accepted by the Executive Committee:-

"This Executive Committee welcomes and warmly endorses the recent statement on the Colour Bar issued by the Conference of British Missionary Societies, and trusts that the principles involved will be favourably received and promoted by the people of Britain and throughout the Dominions."

803 ANNUAL REPORT. Agreed that the International President's name should be printed on the inside page of the Report and on Letter headed paper.

REPORT OF ORGANISATION COMMITTEE.

804 Mrs. Grindley reported the following recommendations:-

That an extended Executive and Lecture School be held at Lindors, St. Biavels from November 5th/9th (tea-time on the 5th to breakfast time on the 9th); that bookings from the Executive should first be taken, as accommodation was limited to 40, and then from Branches. EXECUTIVE AGREED.

The subject of the School be "The Future World and its Citizens." EXECUTIVE AGREED.

That Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Lloyd Prichard be asked to organise the educational side, i.e. getting the lecturers and arranging the timing of the lectures and discussions. EXECUTIVE AGREED, and Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Lloyd Prichard agreed to undertake this work. The Seminar principle was suggested.

As already arranged Miss Burton would plan the social side of the School.

Asked:- That lecturers be found, if possible, from the nearest educational centres, i.e. Bristol, Cardiff, Birmingham, etc. EXECUTIVE AGREED.

That one lecturer be asked to take the political side dealing with the world organisation and the outcome of the San Francisco Conference, and the second Lecturer be asked to deal with the educational and citizenship side.
EXECUTIVE AGREED.

That Wednesday and Thursday mornings be devoted to lectures and discussion;

That Wednesday and Thursday afternoons be devoted to the social side;

That Wednesday and Thursday evenings be devoted to lectures and discussions.

EXECUTIVE AGREED.

That application, with full fee be sent, but if applicant is unable to attend, the fee less 10/- should only be returned if the place can be filled. Only bookings for the full period be taken.

Executive AGREED. Decided that places be allotted to Branches according to applications and accommodation available *and a last date for receiving applications be announced.*

That Mrs. Phillips make a preliminary announcement at the Council Meetings.

EXECUTIVE AGREED.

805. Essay Competition. Mrs. Grindley reported she had an appointment with Miss Luffman of the World Education Citizenship, which she would report upon at the next meeting.
806. INDIA. Miss Harrison reported (1) that the India and Colonies Committee the previous evening had considered an urgency resolution for the Council; (2) that Miss Dickinson continues to watch the Arab League Federation but has nothing to bring before the Council; (3) Branches and Executive were asked to watch for press reports of the India Statement signed by prominent women.
807. MADAME DREVET. Reported that an Entry Permit had not been granted for Madame Drevet to come to this country by Easter. AGREED to suggest that she come during her summer school vacation, if a Permit is Allowed.
808. Mrs. Innes reported that it had been AGREED THAT Gertrude Baer should be at San Francisco during the Conference, after which it was hoped she would come to England for the International Chairmen's meeting.
809. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Agreed the following should continue to represent the W.I.L. on the N.P.C.:— Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Amy Haughton, Miss Agatha Harrison and Mrs. Longson.
810. WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL, L.N.U. Miss Dickinson agreed to watch during the Council Meetings to see if there was anything that could be passed on to the Women's Advisory Council of the L.N.U.
811. MISS HESSELGREN of SWEDEN. Reported that a good W.I.L. meeting had been held at the Friends International Centre, 37 Gordon Square, W.C.1. on March 23rd, 3.45 p.m.
812. A letter from Mrs. Tessa Cadbury of the Friends International Centre contained the information that the W.I.L. would be welcome to the use of the Centre for afternoon meetings of a similar character. A list of charges was enclosed.

813. WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. Miss Hayler reported on the meeting on March 19th called by the W.F.L. to consider a campaign in support of the "Co-partnership of the Woman Citizen." The Report is in the Office for reference.
814. NATIONAL COMMITTEE AGAINST CONSCRIPTION. Miss Hayler reported on the meeting on March 20th, which she attended on behalf of the W.I.L. This report is also in the Office for reference.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, May 21st.

*signed as read,
R. L. Jones,
May 1/45*

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, May 2nd, 1945,
from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flat 6, 144 Southampton Row,
London, W.C.1.

PRESENT: To commence the meeting Mrs. Innes took the Chair.
Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Burton, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Malcomson,
Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Grindley,
Miss Hayler, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Stapledon,
Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Haughton. Visitor: Lady Unwin, Vice
President.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Mrs. Berwick Sayers,
Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Ineson.

830 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN. AGREED that Mrs. Duncan Harris be
re-appointed Chairman. She then took the Chair saying she
was willing to finish out "the war-cycle of the appointment."
Miss Harrison expressed the gratitude of the Executive which
was cordially endorsed by the whole Committee.

831 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMEN. Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Castle and
Miss Harrison were appointed, Mrs. Castle, Miss Harrison, and
Mrs. Ross were thanked for their services during the past year.

APPOINTMENT OF SUB COMMITTEES.

832 India and Colonies. Miss Anderson, Miss Dickinson, Mrs.
Ross, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Miss Burton, Miss M. Shaw, Mrs.
Malcomson, Mrs. Leakester (Consultative member), Mrs.
Irvine and all officers ex officio.

833 Organisation. Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Miss
Burton, Miss Edith Hayler, Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Mrs.
Malcomson and all officers ex officio.

834 Publicity. Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Miss Dickinson, and all
officers ex officio.

835 Finance. Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Stapledon, Miss Burton, and
all officers ex officio.

836 CO-OPTION TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Proposed to co-opt Mrs.
McGregor Ross. AGREED.

837 MISS VERA BRITAIN. Reported by Chairman that Miss Vera
Brittain, Vice-President, was willing to undertake lecturing
tours in Sweden and elsewhere. The Chairman asked Committee
to agree to send a letter welcoming Miss Brittain to all
Committee Meetings in order that she may be in constant touch
with the work of the W.I.L. AGREED.

838 MINUTES OF APRIL 11th and 13th were signed as read by Mrs.
Innes, as Hon. Secretary, before Mrs. Duncan Harris took the
Chair.

BUSINESS ARISING.

839 ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING. Mrs Innes reported that everything the
Committee had wished to be done regarding the Resolutions
adopted had been carried out. Acknowledgments of receipts of
resolutions had been mostly formal.

840 Resolution 6. International Convention on Abolition of
Conscription. The Committee endorsed Mrs. Innes's proposal
to delete the words "Military Training Act" from the resolution
as her attention had been drawn by an expert to the fact that
the Military Training Act was allowed to expire on 26th May,
1942.

- 841 Resolution 10. Economic Planning. Mrs. Innes reported that a financial expert had pointed out that the proposals for the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development which is an integral part of the Bretton Woods scheme does make provision for that which the W.I.L. asks, namely an international long-term investment plan. Accordingly Mrs. Innes suggested that the last paragraph of Resolution 10 be eliminated in the next News Sheet and in the Annual Report and that a note be sent to all branches to above effect.
- 842 Memorandum to Prime Minister. The Hon. Secretary reported that the Prime Minister had been asked to receive a deputation on the matters of Fraternisation and the Celebration of Peace. The Prime Minister had refused to receive a deputation but had indicated that he would receive a memorandum. Mrs. Wood suggested that representation be made to the Prime Minister on the moral aspect of the fraternisation Order, i.e. that soldiers were allowed to associate with German women for immoral purposes and for no other. Mrs. Phillips supported. Mrs. Innes suggested consultation with the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. After discussion AGREED that we regret the policy of non-fraternisation as announced, and secondly we understand that fraternisation for immoral purposes does not come within this bann, subject to consultation with the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, as suggested.
- Suggested that Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Innes and Mrs. McGregor Wood be appointed to prepare the memorandum on this subject after consultation with the Assoc. for Moral and Social Hygiene.
- 843 PRESS. The Secretary regretted that there were few reports of Resolutions in Press. The Chairman read letter from the Editor of The Friend which pointed out the difficulty arising at the time when so many and long resolutions are sent to Editors short of staff and paper.
- 844 Reported that Miss Ellen Wilkinson had agreed to receive personally the resolutions dealing with questions likely to arise at the San Francisco Conference. Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Anderson took the documents as arranged but Miss Wilkinson had been obliged to go to the House which was at that moment discussing the San Francisco Conference. Her Secretary received the deputation and expressed much interest. It was understood she would report fully to Miss Wilkinson.
- Mr. Winant received resolutions and had sent a letter expressing his interest.
- 845 Training of Women. In accordance with desire of Annual Council, Executive considered Resolution dealing with proposal for one year College Training of Women. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported she had recently seen in "Time and Tide" a scheme for providing education to women by means of a six week's correspondence course at Newnham and Girton. AGREED to write to both Colleges for particulars, including cost, and to ask if the course included International Relations.
- 846 Lady Unwin suggested help to members wishing to re-form Golders Green Branch. Mrs. Grindley reported help as coming from the late Secretary of Leicester Branch, Miss Doreen Packham, who is now living in Golders Green. Satisfaction was expressed by Committee.
- 847 1946 Annual Council. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported possible accommodation at St. Hilda's College, Oxford, for 1946

Annual Council (April 2nd to 4th or 3rd to 5th) AGREED to book date if available, but Wednesday to Friday, if there should be an option.

- 848 FINANCE. The Treasurer suggested that it would be advisable to keep separately the accounts of the Thanksgiving Fund. AGREED that Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Bedford and Miss Horscroft make suitable arrangements in regard to the keeping the accounts of the Fund.

Arising out of a letter from a local Branch the Treasurer asking for support in letters to Treasurers of defaulting Branches pointed out that the Quota is a moral obligation.

The Treasurer pointed out that Thanksgiving Fund subscriptions are being paid to Headquarters by individuals. The Quota is an obligation of the total Branch.

After discussion Treasurer suggested that a list should be kept of Branch subscriptions to the Thanksgiving Fund but as a private matter only to be communicated, if desired, to responsible officers. Mrs. Castle supported. AGREED.

- 849 Penny-a-Week Fund. AGREED Fund remain open.

- 850 NEWS SHEET. Mrs. Innes asked for suggestions for articles. After hearing it read by the Editor it was AGREED to insert a memorandum on behalf of the W.I.L.P.F. drafted by the International Chairman, Gertrude Baer in consultation to Miss Emily Balch and submitted to the San Francisco Conference.

Suggested articles on Organisation and Press Work by Miss Amy Haughton and Mrs. Grindley. Suggested "Famous Women" number-articles by writers not necessarily members. AGREED.

- 851 LITERATURE. Attention was drawn to a pictorial leaflet by the International War Resisters in U.S.A. which might be useful in our Conscription Campaign. AGREED to consult Mr. Runham Brown if he thought we might be allowed to make a reprint of the leaflet.

In view of the coming General Election Mrs. Innes suggested that Mrs. Grindley and Miss Hayler should give special thought to General Election literature. AGREED.

- 852 GENERAL ELECTION. It was suggested that Questions to Parliamentary Candidates be circulated to Branches. Chairman suggested asking Candidates to meet deputations of W.I.L. who would put said questions. Officers to review questions if decisions at San Francisco show they need amendment. AGREED

Suggestions for Questions (Subjects).

India, Disarmament, Conscription, Training of Youth, Limitation of Sovereignty, Colonies, Future of Germany, National and International Controls, Status of Women.

Questions to be drafted by the following members of Committee: Miss Harrison, Mrs. Phillips, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Duncan Harris.

- 853 OFFICE HELP. Reported the engagement of Miss Meriggia at a salary of £2.10.0d per week. APPROVED

REPORT OF ORGANISATION COMMITTEE.

854

Extended Executive and Autumn School. Lindors, St. Briavels, Glos. November 5th/9th. Reported by Mrs. Innes that arrangements for obtaining Lecturers for the Extended Executive and Lecture School not settled. Suggested that choice of lecturers be widened if necessary beyond the suggested nearest educational centres, that two lecturers, supplemented by Mrs. Lloyd Prichard (subject to consent) be secured. AGREED. Vera Brittain and Professor Catlin suggested but no decision taken.

Mrs. Innes was asked to write to Mr. Middleton Murry to be one of the Lecturers and also to write to Prof. Field for advice as to a second Lecturer.

Mrs. Phillips reported the Organisation Committee recommended that the cost should be £2.15.0 per head, that bookings for Executive Members should be limited to end of May and of Branches to end of June on a quota basis. Chances after that would be given to Headquarters members. AGREED. Notice to be put in News Sheet. AGREED.

855

Essay Competition. Mrs. Grindley reported her meeting with Miss Luffman of the Council of Education for World Citizenship. The Organisation Committee recommended (1) not co-operating with the Council of Education for World Citizenship in an Essay Competition; (2) to run its own for three months from the beginning of January in two age groups (16/18 and 19/23); (3) Prizes to be books for the first group and a visit abroad for a week or fortnight to the two winners in the second group. Entrance fee not yet decided; (4) getting into touch with our Swedish Section for their co-operation and making the tour to Sweden and vice versa, each Section to be responsible for fare and hospitality alternately. The prize to operate in the summer of 1946. AGREED.

The Executive decided that the subjects of the Essay should be such as would express the principles for which we stood. It was hoped that the entry fee would make the Competitions self-supporting.

AGREED to consider the matter again after receiving the Swedish views.

856

INDIA. Miss Harrison suggested members of Committee should write to their M.P's and ask quite simply what is happening to the Viceroy's talks - what stage they have reached after six weeks - with view to getting matter raised in the House. She suggested also letters to the Press. AGREED.

857

CZECH GROUP. The Chairman suggested inviting our Czech Group for an International week-end gathering when what the Women's International League stands for could be put before them so that whether they return to their own country or not, they may be able to put over our beliefs and hopes. Fares might possibly be paid from our Czech Fund. Gathering might take place during visit of our International Chairman.

858

CONCENTRATION CAMPS. With regard to press reports of the awful atrocities in these Camps in Germany it was felt that members in the W.I.L. wherever possible should emphasise that the W.I.L. stands for a wide human understanding and that it is unrealistic to condemn the whole of Germany for what is happening in the Camps; some Germans might well have been in these Camps if they had not gained sanctuary in this country, and it is possible that many victims in the camps were there because we had not opened our doors to them.

It was suggested that people should read the White Paper on Concentration Camps, Cmd. No. 6626.

- 859 CORRESPONDENCE. Hon. Secretary read letter from Mr. D. Feat suggesting the uniting of peace societies on a short term common programme. The Secretary was asked to reply that this is being done by the National Peace Council.
- 860 AGREED to order two dozen copies of a pictorial leaflet "Equal Work Deserves Equal Pay" issued by the Equal Pay Campaign Committee.
- 861 ATTENTION was drawn to a meeting organised by the National Peace Council at the Central Hall, Westminster, on May 30th at 7 p.m. Speakers included Dr. Joad, Miss Vera Brittain, Rev. Leslie Weatherhead, the Rev. F.D.V. Narborough and Prof. Norman Bentwich would be in the Chair. AGREED to make this known.
- 862 ATTENTION was drawn to two Dorothy Evans' Birthday Functions: (1) Meeting on 5th May, 6.30 - 9.30 at the Caxton Hall, during which cheques will be presented to women for Westminster and The Equal Citizenship Campaign Committee;
- 863 (2) Private Presentation of the Winifred Holtby film "South Riding" on 6th May at 10.30 a.m. Speakers Mrs. Petnick Lawrence and Vera Brittain;
- 864 Reported a £20 Essay Competition for the best essay setting out a plan of Campaign for Women Citizens, Prize offered by the Ambrose-and-Ann Appelbe Trust.
- 865 ATTENTION was drawn to a Brains Trust on Full Employment on May 16th at 6.30 p.m. at the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London, organised by the Women for Westminster.
- 866 Reported the Annual Meeting of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene was being held on May 10th at Livingstone House, Westminster at 4.15 p.m. AGREED to try to get a representative for the W.I.L.
- 867 REPORT OF OTHER MEETINGS. Miss Harrison and Mrs. Phillips reported an At Home organised by the International Alliance for Women's Suffrage and Equal Citizenship. This was the first International Women's gathering called since the outbreak of the war. Visitors had come from France, Sweden and America for this first Meeting.

Date of next meeting Wednesday June 6th. at Flat 8, 144, Southampton Row, W.C.1.

B. Duncan Harris

5.VI.45

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, June 6th, 1945.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Castle, Miss Harrison, Miss Anderson, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Ineson, Miss Burton. Visitor: Mrs. Negus on Cambridge Branch.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Miss Myrtle Wright. *Miss Philips*

MINUTES OF MAY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING:

868. Miss Vera Brittain. The Chairman reported that Miss Brittain has suggested that a delegation of two should go to Sweden and elsewhere. The purpose would be to spend two to three weeks crossing frontiers and linking up again. After discussion the matter was left for the present without being turned down.

869. Correspondence re Council Meetings. Acknowledgment of Famine Resolution by Colonel Llewellyn, with extracts from Major Attlee's speech in the House of Commons on 26th March on supplies to the liberated countries;

Acknowledgment from Mrs. Roosevelt and family of our letter of sympathy.

870. A formal letter from the Prime Minister reported, acknowledging our Memorandum on Fraternisation in which it was stated that we feel that the maintenance of the absolute rule of non-fraternisation has dangers for peace.

Mrs. Innes reported the report of a letter from Mrs. Crossland, Hon. Secretary, Standing Committee, Manchester, regarding the deletion of the latter part of the Economic Planning resolution without consultation with the framers of the said Manchester resolution, and asking whether this deletion was constitutionally in order.

Mrs. Innes stated that on the advice of an expert to whom a copy of the resolution had been sent the paragraph in question was inaccurate.

Arising from above Mrs. Innes further read two letters, one from Mrs. Lloyd Prichard suggesting that the inaccuracy should have been corrected, not deleted, and another from Mrs. Bolt (Manchester) asking to be allowed to examine letter of aforesaid expert.

Mrs. Innes stated that the letter was marked 'private' and therefore the Executive had decided no copy should be taken, and it should not be sent out of the Office. The Executive confirmed this.

Miss Burton suggested that the resolution should have been printed as passed at Annual Council but with correction added as footnote.

The Chairmen summed up by pointing out that the Conference of Monetary experts had been superseded by the Bretton Woods Conference. Therefore, the second paragraph of the addendum was deleted in the Annual Report. In reply to Mrs. Crossland the Chairman conceded that, though the deletion was not strictly constitutional, the Executive had decided, in a difficult situation that deletion was necessary, since the advice of the expert was that the paragraph was incorrect. Moreover it was not possible to alter the resolution and print it as passed by the Council - as Mrs. Lloyd Prichard had suggested in her letter, should have been done. EXECUTIVE AGREED.

872. Advanced Study Courses for Non-Graduates. Miss Horscroft read letters welcoming enquiries but stating that all Courses for this year are now filled at Girton and Newnham. It was pointed out that there are now Advanced Courses during the Summer Vacation at both Oxford and Cambridge Universities for women in employment, but that no Course on International Relations was included.

AGREED that the Secretary and the Organisation Committee should pursue enquiries and press for the inclusion of a course on International Relations.

873. Essay Competitions. Mrs. Grindley reported that no further advance had been made as a reply must be awaited from Sweden, but that explorations would continued. AGREED.

874. Annual Council, 1946. The Hon. Secretary reported that accommodation had been secured at St. Hilda's College, Oxford for April 3rd to 5th, 1946. General appreciation was expressed.

875. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported that the Penny-a-Week Fund now stood at £230 and she expressed gratitude to Miss Dickinson for the original idea of the Fund and to all who had supported. She reported further that the Thanksgiving Fund stood now at £285.

876. APPOINTMENT OF ORGANISING SECRETARY. In view of this satisfactory statement the Treasurer suggested the consideration of the question of appointment of an Organising Secretary. Mrs. Innes asked if it might be advisable to insert advertisement for same when further demobilisation had taken place - say in September. Mrs. Grindley suggested private enquiries by Committee members, and the watching for developments in Central Board for Conscientious Objectors. Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested preliminary notice in the News Sheet omitting salary. AGREED.

877. STORAGE OF FURNITURE. Reported letter from Miss Ward who suggested using her garage where W.I.L. office furniture is stored as a parking place for friend's car, he to pay the 19/6d per month previously paid by the W.I.L. Treasurer suggested that Miss Horscroft should ascertain whether in the case of this arrangement the furniture would still be covered by insurance. AGREED.

878. EXTENDED EXECUTIVE AND AUTUMN SCHOOL, November 5/9th, 1945. Mrs. Innes reported that no definite appointments of speakers had yet been made but recommended that Miss Margaret Miles, Department of Education, University of Bristol, be approached to speak on Education for World Citizenship, and that Mr. George Davies be asked to deal with Political Organisation and World Peace after San Francisco and with Economic and Social Future. AGREED.

879. GENERAL ELECTION. Reported by Mrs. Duncan Harris that W.I.L. Questions were to be circulated by N.P.C. to constituent societies. Members of Executive reported on various Branch plans for deputations to Candidates and Miss Hayler suggested that local Secretaries be encouraged to find out where candidates' meetings are being held. Miss Harrison suggested that immediate events may affect questions on India but that question re consideration of priority of settlement of India could remain.

Mrs. Innes reported sending of letters to Headquarters Members asking them to take action individually and said that Questions were to be reprinted, and 1,000 copies distributed.

In view of coming Elections it was proposed by Mrs. Innes that the next Executive meeting be postponed till July 25th when it is hoped that the International Chairmen will be present. AGREED.

880. ENDING OF HOSTILITIES. On the suggestion of the Chairman AGREED to put on record our thankfulness for this ending of slaughter in Europe, though the building of peace means much more.

881. JAPAN. Miss Harrison spoke of the terrible nature of bombing in Japan. Mrs. Innes read the attached open letter from Rev. Albert Belden concerning Japan and giving reasons why terms of peace should be stated. AGREED to sign letter.

882. DAILY HERALD. Mrs. McGregor Wood suggested a short letter to the Daily Herald regarding picture of shooting German Youths since these

were horrible in themselves and would act as an incitement to children. Suggested that Miss Harrison and Miss Haughton should draw up same for Mrs. Duncan Harris to sign on behalf of the Executive. AGREED.

883. MADAME DREVET. Mrs. Castle reported Officers' Meeting and spoke of expected (15th to 29th July) visit of Madame Drevet, arising from which Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested that Madame Drevet should meet some educationalists and should visit Branches. Suggested that the Office be informed of dates of desires for visit.

884. GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN. Mrs. Castle further reported that with regard to this, the Officers agreed that Questions be sent to Branches as soon as possible, with Folder containing helpful pamphlets to follow, also notes of suggested procedure during Elections.

885. NEW MEMBERS. Reported Officers recommended that the Branches be encouraged to compete with each other for the largest number of new members, the figures to be printed each month in the News Sheet. AGREED.

886. VISIT OF INTERNATIONAL CHAIRMEN. Arising out of reported visit of Joint International Chairmen, Frau Ragaz and Gertrude Baer on 23rd July, Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed that there should be first a meeting with Executive and London members on Tuesday and on Wednesday a lunch with our own Executive Members, between morning and afternoon Meetings, while on Thursday there should be a tea meeting with the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations and representatives of other organisations. AGREED.

With regard to hospitality it was decided to ask Lady Unwin and Lady Parmoor to assist. Miss Harrison and Miss Anderson offered to meet our visitors.

887. W.I.L. CZECH MEMBERS. Suggested by Mrs. Duncan Harris that a message from the British Section be sent to every Czech Member in view of visit of International Chairmen. AGREED.

888. NEWS SHEET AND LITERATURE. Report was made by Editor, who advised Executive that the proof of May and June News Sheet which was despatched on April 16th had not been returned by any printer. Every effort was being made to secure publication of News Sheet. Suggested that next issue should contain material dealing with San Francisco Conference and the Indian Situation.

The Editor reported following on the decision of the last Executive, that she had written to certain prominent women asking what steps they would take to prevent war and organise for peace, Vera Brittain, Lady Snowden, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence had replied and their replies would be included in a forthcoming News Sheet, for which sufficient material had already accumulated.

Mrs. Innes reported that permission, obtained at last Executive, to use copies of certain illustrated pamphlet on Conscription had been clinched by the permission now obtained from distributors of pamphlet, namely "American Friends' War Resisters' League.

890. "Peace and Bread," by Jane Addams has, Mrs. Innes reported, been reprinted by the American Section. AGREED that we request 50 on receipt of an Import Licence from the Board of Trade, and that we pay when and as payment is permitted by the Authorities.

891. SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE. Miss Anderson reported that the result so far seemed negative. The idea of security appears to have collapsed under the ambitions of the power blocks into which the Conference has become aligned - U.S.S.R. block, Anglo-Saxon block and Small Power block. The proposals with regard to trusteeship deserve consideration.

892. INDIA. Miss Burton reported that Mrs. Innes had agreed to join India and Colonies Committee, if co-opted. AGREED.

A letter received from the India League asking what W.I.L. is prepared to do during Election and offering to find literature and speakers was discussed. Co-operation AGREED upon wherever possible. Attention was drawn to Conference of Friends on "Africa Awakening," July 21st, and attendance was suggested.

Miss Dickinson stressed the importance of watching events in the Levant, especially in view of the recently formed Arab Federation. This situation inevitably links up with the future of Palestine. The Palestinian Jewish Agency has issued an appeal to the British Government.

A letter to Miss Harrison from the All India Women's Conference was reported, expressing hope she would form part of the British delegation to be included in the international delegation that the International Suffrage Alliance has been asked to send to the Annual Conference in December next. The invitation to Vera Brittain has also been renewed. The Chairman registered pleasure of Executive at this invitation.

With regard to the present situation, Miss Harrison reported that the announcement of the Government proposals to end the deadlock was imminent and she was asked to keep the Branches informed as soon as this was made.

Burma. The India and Colonies Committee discussed the situation at length, arising out of the publication of the White Paper and subsequent debate in the House. Draft resolutions from Mrs. Lloyd Prichard and Miss Anderson were considered, but the Committee thought the better plan would be for the Executive to address a letter to Mr. Anery, Secretary of State for Burma. The attached letter was adopted by the Executive.

894. DECLARATION AGAINST WAR. Mrs. Innes reported receipt of letter from Mrs. Corbett Ashby re an ad hoc Conference on June 7th to obtain declaration from women's organisations against war. Committee endorsed the attached draft declaration and Mrs. Duncan Harris undertook to represent the W.I.L. at the Conference.

Mrs. Innes enquired if there had been any contact with women of U.S.S.R. Mrs. Innes reported certain W.I.L. contacts and Miss Burton and Miss Harrison were asked to get into contact with the Dean of Cantebury on his return from U.S.S.R. for purpose of further enquiry.

896. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL re Election of Executive Committee, 1945/46. The Chairman reported that re-election of Executive now required and suggested that our own members of N.P.C. shall nominate same. AGREED.

REPORTS FROM W.I.L. REPRESENTATIVES TO MEETINGS OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS

897. Miss Hayler and Mrs. Grindley reported attendance at an informal gathering called by a number of prominent men and women, on June 2nd, to consider forming a National Council against Conscription. A Committee was formed and Mrs. Grindley was one of twelve nominated. Mrs. Ballinger reported a similar Conference in Birmingham.

898. Miss Harrison called attention to a meeting in Central Hall on "Colour Bar and Race", June 12th.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, Wednesday, 25th July, 1945, at Friends House, Euston Road, N.W. 1.

B. Duncan Harris

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

To be attached to June, 1945 Minutes.

COPY of letter to The Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P. from Mrs. K.E. Innes, Hon. Secretary, dated 22nd May, 1945.

" Sir,

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League at its last meeting had before it the kind invitation in your letter of 20th April to submit representations it wishes to make in writing, instead of by deputation.

On the two points raised when first approaching you we beg to submit the following for your consideration:-

(1) re Celebration of Victory. The course of events has forestalled part of what we wished to convey. But we would like to express appreciation of the emphasis laid on the greeting of victory in a spirit of prayer and thanksgiving. We trust that in the coming weeks, at home and abroad, the spirit of vengeance will be discouraged, and every step taken to discover and encourage the constructive and co-operative elements among the Axis nationals; and that every effort will be made in liberated or conquered territory to prevent any mob-law victimisation, such as has occurred in places.

(2) re the policy of non-fraternisation. We realise the dangers of the early stages of military occupation, but feel that the maintaining of an absolute rule against fraternisation has in it most serious dangers to future reconstruction of peace. The magnitude of the horrors of the concentration camps are convincing evidence of the numbers in Germany who dared to resist and defy the Nazi regime. To meet these people with a refusal of intercourse may well sow the seeds of a despair which will prevent constructive effort. In the building up with them of simple human relationships may be the foundations of German-re-education; of a stable peace; and of success in a political international organisation.

In such fields as the educational, the scientific, and the medical, co-operation seems essential, and especially in the interests of such essential intercourse we hope that travel restrictions may be removed as speedily as possible.

I am, Sir, on behalf of the Women's International League Executive Committee, Yours faithfully, (Signed) K.E. INNES, Hon. Secretary."

Copy of letter to The Editor of the Daily Herald from Mrs. B. Duncan Harris, Chairman of W.I.L. dated 6th June, 1945.

" Sir,

At the Executive Committee of the Women's International League to-day exception was taken to the illustrations in your issue of to-day of the execution of two German boys found guilty of espionage by an Allied Court. It was felt that these pictures will tend seriously to demoralise English young people by leading them to accept such events as right and normal.

Further, that the execution of these boys is a flagrant violation of all the standards which are now being accepted for the treatment of juvenile crime. The youngster of 16 or 17 is still regarded in our country as a delinquent rather than as a criminal and is treated from the educative and not from the punitive point of view.

Yours faithfully (Signed) B. DUNCAN HARRIS, Chairman."

Draft Declaration for ad hoc Conference of Women's Organisations, June 7th.

"Women of the United Kingdom believe that the first obligation of H.M. Government in the new world should be to secure respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Based on equality before the law and equality of opportunity for all, irrespective of sex, race or creed.

Women, therefore, demand that H.M. Government shall enter into full and energetic partnership in those international organisations formed for the purpose of maintaining international security by (a) prevention of aggression; (b) settlement of all disputes between nations by law or conciliation; (c) economic co-operation between nations so that the spiritual and material wealth of the world may be more widely shared."

To be attached to June Minutes, page 2.

Copy of letter to The Rt. Hon. L.S. Amery, M.P., Secretary of State for Burma, from Mrs. K.E. Innes, dated 6th June, 1945.

"Dear Mr. Amery,

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Women's International League I have been asked to write to you. While fully appreciating the difficulties facing the Government in regard to Burma, we regret that the recent White Paper does not give to the Burmese people the promise of swift realisation of self-government.

We would therefore urge:-

(1) That the powers granted to the Governor for a period of three years be shortened and that with the least possible delay democratic elections should take place and normal political life be restored.

(2) That in the interim period the Governor's Council shall include from the beginning substantial representation of Burmese opinion so that they can play a direct and active part in the reconstruction of their political, social and economic life.

Yours sincerely (Signed) K.E. INNES, Hon. Secretary."

COPY of an open letter to The British and American Governments concerning JAPAN, signed by K.E. Innes, Hon. Secretary, Women's International League, 6th June, 1945. (drafted by Christianity Calling -The Rev. A. Belden).

"Dear Sirs,

We, the undersigned, venture to urge upon you the following reasons why Terms of Peace should be stated, upon which His Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States of America, will cease hostilities against the Japanese.

(1) The second World War has already caused widespread destruction and heavy loss of life in every continent. All over the world distress is growing at the slaughter and suffering involved.

(2) Japan does not claim to be a Christian Power, and Britain and America have, therefore, a matchless opportunity to show Japan and the world that Christian mercy and consideration for humanity are not myths, but a reality.

(3) Japanese cities, by their structure, are in no state to offer even the inadequate shelter against modern bombing that the Western cities provided, and our air-operations will be nothing but sheer massacre of comparatively innocent beings.

(4) The Japanese Government must know the hopelessness of its position now Germany is defeated, and, whilst pride may compel it to go on resisting for a long time - time the civilised world can ill spare from the gigantic tasks of reconstruction - and at a great cost in human life - lives that no civilised nation can really spare - consideration at this juncture - an opportunity to save 'face' - might bring her opposition to an end.

(5) It is not suggested that such Terms of Peace should be other than those of justice, though with a prospect of eventual peaceful relief of Japan's difficult economic and population problems.

It would be a happy augury for the future of the world if this war were finished by the Sword of the Spirit rather than by the bomb.

(Signed) K.E. INNES, Hon. Secretary, Women's International League,
June 6th, 1945."

QUESTIONS TO PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES

issued by the Executive Committee of the

Women's International League

(British Section of the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom)

Flat 8, 144, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

May, 1945.

The forthcoming elections are a great opportunity to influence candidates and to educate public opinion in measures which we, in the Women's International League, believe would make for an established peace.

The following questions are issued by the Executive as a guide, under the various headings. It is not suggested that they should all be asked of any candidate, and *certainly not* that the leaflet should be sent with a request for replies. But the Women's International League local Committees should select two or three questions which they feel most useful, and if possible ask candidates to receive a small deputation in their Committee rooms to discuss the subjects with which the chosen questions deal. Each member of the deputation should raise a question, and careful notes of the replies should be taken by one member for use in the report which should go to all the local papers.

Individual members may be able to ask a question at a meeting or by letter, where a deputation cannot be arranged, or to supplement it.

THE QUESTIONS

1. **TRAINING OF YOUTH.**—Will you vote for the abolition of all Officers Training Corps, Cadet Training Corps and similar institutions?

2. **EDUCATION.**—In view of the increased provision for Adult Education which is to be expected under the new Education Act, will you advocate that the duties of Citizenship be given prominence, and also that education in the obligations and responsibilities of membership of the new international organisation for international co-operation be brought home by all available means to the British people?

3. **THE FUTURE OF GERMANY.**—What are your views as to the future of Germany in relation to other countries?

Will you press for such measures as will bring about as soon as possible the active co-operation of the German people by democratic means in all international activities for the common welfare, and the enjoyment of all internal liberties, compatible with the elimination of military might?

4. **CONSCRIPTION.**—Will you press for the restoration of the freedom of the British people, by opposing any attempt to maintain conscription in this country? If not—why not?

5. **REFUGEES.**—Do you think that refugees who have found asylum in this country should be allowed to remain here if they wish, and also be accorded naturalisation?

6. **CONTROLS.**—Are you in favour of national control of essential food and raw material directed to ensure full production and equitable distribution for the purpose of raising the standard of life and abolishing want?

Are you in favour of effective international co-operation:—

- (a) For the speedy and progressive transfer of labour from war purposes to meet human need and to abolish poverty?
- (b) In controlling the production and equitable distribution of food and raw material for the purpose of raising the standard of life everywhere?

7. **THE FUTURE OF THE COLONIES.**—Will you support measures for the advancement of the peoples in the dependent colonial territories, in particular:—

- (1) Schemes of mass education, in order that the peoples may be prepared for the management of their own affairs;
- (2) Economic measures which will enable the inhabitants to enjoy fuller opportunities of life;
- (3) Political rights, particularly in the sphere of local government; and
- (4) Steps to abolish discrimination on racial grounds in the treatment of labour and in the eyes of the law?

8. **STATUS OF WOMEN.**—Will you support equality of status in every field as between men and women?

9. **DISARMAMENT.**—In view of the terribly destructive power of modern armaments, do you agree with the framers of the Atlantic Charter when they state that nations “for realistic as well as spiritual reasons must come to the abandonment of the use of force,” and are you prepared to support all measures which aim at general international disarmament?

10. **SOVEREIGNTY.**—Are you in favour of limitation of the sovereignty of the Great Powers as well as Small Powers in all spheres which affect international relationships?

11. **INDIA.**—Will you support:—

- (1) That India be declared an independent State and that she should be represented in her own right and by her chosen representatives at all international conferences;
- (2) That all political prisoners should be released;
- (3) That Provincial Government should be resumed in all Provinces;
- (4) That a National Government be formed at the Centre.

Signed Minutes from Aug 20th 1945.

to _____

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Special Meeting of Executive Committee, Monday,
August 20th, 1945 at 11.45 a.m. at 144 Southampton Row, W.C.1.

PRESENT: Miss Harrison in the Chair, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Burton, Mrs. Innes, Lady Unwin, Vice President.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. received from Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Stapledon, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Bedford and Mrs. McGregor Ross. *Mrs. Dickinson*

The Chairman said that the meeting had been called to consider the opportunity and challenge of the situation created by the use of the atomic bomb.

Mrs. Innes had received a letter from Mrs. Wood urging the W.I.L. to take the opportunity to express its views and to rejoice that it might be the end of all wars. Mrs. Innes felt she could not quite take that attitude and she drafted a letter to Mr. Attlee for the consideration of the Officers. Before she could send it the war had ended and she drafted another which was sent to the Officers with a request that suggestions and comments on it should be sent to her without delay.

Miss Harrison, Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Grindley met in the office on Tuesday, the 14th August to consider Mrs. Innes's draft, and with the help of Miss Mosa Anderson, who was on the premises, they drafted another letter to Mr. Attlee for the consideration of Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Duncan Harris.

Both drafts were before the Committee for consideration.

Mrs. Innes had agreed to a suggestion that the Executive Committee should be called to consider this matter and accordingly a notice was sent, with an Agenda to all members.

Letters on the subject of the atomic bomb were read from Miss Vera Brittain and Lady Snowden, the former urging a mass meeting of the combined pacifist movements immediately.

Miss Anderson reported the N.P.C. were organising a mass meeting at the Westminster Central Hall on 31st August, and asked for the co-operation of the W.I.L.

Mrs. Innes reported replies from some Committee members referring to her draft letter. These replies were carefully considered and after discussion in which each member present contributed her views, the following letter to Mr. Attlee, based on the draft, was agreed to.

Sir,

We are writing on behalf of the Women's International League to welcome the intention of His Majesty's Government, foreshadowed in the King's Speech, to establish liberty, peace and social justice and to abolish war.

Now that the horror of the destruction to open cities and their populations has led to the surrender of Japan, we would urge that the immediate opportunity be taken to secure from all countries a speedy renunciation of the machinery of war, and to achieve at once and for all that "abandonment of the use of force" in international relations laid down in the Atlantic Charter. This will involve revision of the security provisions of the San Francisco Charter, the curtailment of national sovereignties and the organisation of the world as one whole.

The invention of the atomic bomb has rendered obsolete the weapons, conscript armies and strategic bases to which men cling. We, therefore, urge that they be abandoned now in the interests of peace, instead of being allowed to remain to clog the wheels of progress and to obstruct the path of peace.

Will not His Majesty's Government make a dramatic appeal to the leaders of every country, to turn wholly from the preparation of men and machines for catastrophic destruction, and to seek security in world-wide co-operation for the satisfaction of human need? We believe that such a step taken at this moment would awake a response from men and women everywhere which would carry the world forward into a new and happier era.

Yours faithfully,

B. DUNCAN HARRIS, Chairman,

K. E. INNES, Hon. Secretary.

AGREED that copies of the letter should be sent to

- (1) certain Members of Parliament likely to be sympathetic;
- (2) women's organisations;
- (3) kindred organisations;
- (4) the Press.
- (5) W.I.L. Branches, Affiliated Societies and Headquarters Members.
- (6) Lady Snowden, with a covering note;
- (7) Vera Brittain, with a letter saying that the W.I.L. were co-operating in the N.P.C. Mass Meeting. But if she did not feel this was sufficient would she let us know if she thought another meeting in London so soon after would be a success. Any proposals she had to make would receive the careful consideration of the Committee

921 NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. AGREED to give all possible support to the mass meeting the title of which is to be "Atomic Force! - World Unity or World Destruction?", but to defer consideration of financial help for the time being.

922 W.I.L. AUTUMN MEETINGS, October. AGREED that these meetings should be planned round the title suggested by Mrs. Duncan Harris, as follows:- "The Nations must come to the abandonment of the use of force." It was AGREED to defer the planning of these meetings pending decisions as to co-operation in the other meetings mentioned.

NOTICE.

We are glad to be able to report that Frau Ragaz will arrive in London this week. We shall therefore have the joy of having her at our Executive Committee on September 5th.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, Wednesday, September 5th, at 11 a.m. at 144 Southampton Row, W.C.1.

B. Duncan Harris

5. IX. 45

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1. TEL: TERMINUS 4025.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AT FRIENDS HOUSE, EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, N.W.1. on WEDNESDAY, JULY 25th, 1945.

PRESENT: Executive Members: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the chair, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Castle, Miss Harrison, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Stapledon, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Myrtle Wright, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Ineson, Miss Burton, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard.

Vice-Presidents: Lady Unwin, Miss Vera Brittain, Miss Pyc.

Branch representatives: Acock's Green, Miss Graham, Birmingham, Mrs. Dorothy Hogg, Cambridge, Mrs. Schlossmann, Coventry, Miss Underhill, Harrow, Mrs. Freeman, Leicester, Mrs. Lund, Liverpool, Miss Hickling, Peppard, Mrs. Cooke-Yarborough, Reading, Mrs. Mitchell, Saffron Walden, Miss Latimer and Miss Hodgkinson, Wales, Mrs. Vine and Mrs. James.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Mrs. Brayshaw.

899. WELCOME TO INTERNATIONAL CHAIRMEN. Mrs. Duncan Harris welcomed the two International Chairmen present - Miss Gertrude Baer and Mrs. Innes, while announcing with regret that the third Chairmen, Frau Clara Ragaz, had not succeeded in reaching us up to the present. Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested that when she did arrive members should be notified and a meeting arranged. AGREED. The past help of Miss Gertrude Baer was warmly acknowledged by Chairman. We were now looking to her help in translating yesterday into to-day. The work of Mrs. Innes through all these past years was also recorded with deep appreciation.

MINUTES of MEETING on June 6th. Mrs. Phillips requested that her name be added to "Apologies for absence." The Minutes were then confirmed and signed.

BUSINESS ARISING.

900 Vera Brittain. Reported that the wished-for invitation has come to Vera Brittain from our Swedish Section and they are now arranging her lecture tour. Miss Myrtle Wright is helping with advice gathered from her own travels in Scandinavia.

901. ESSAY Competition. Mrs. Grindley recalled that the Organisation Committee had put before the Executive the scheme for the competition and she recapitulated details previously reported. The Organisation Committee is carrying forward those details as arranged. The Chairman asked the Executive Committee and Branches to have this subject in mind and to forward any suggestions for subjects to Mrs. Grindley, who will put them before the Organisation Committee. The Chairman suggested also that we express our appreciation, through Mrs. Grindley, to the Swedish Section for their help so far and that we ask them also for suggestions of subjects for essays. AGREED.

902. Office furniture in store. Miss Horscroft is dealing with this matter.

903. General Election. Miss Haughton read lists of Branches which have reported on their work during the Election - putting questions based on W.I.L. policy to Candidates, etc. The reading of these Reports showed a curious unanimity of opinion - often in agreement with W.I.L. - among Candidates of all Parties. Mrs. Phillips of the Nottingham Branch reported contact with a Candidate who is a member of the W.I.L. - Mrs. Florence Paton. The speaker regretted the fewness of women candidates.

904. W.I.L.Czech Members. Reported by Chairman that there was as yet no reply from Czech members re the proposed meeting with the International Chairmen.

905. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. Mrs. Innes reported two letters: one from Anne Forsyth, U.S. Section, acknowledging our letter of sympathy on the death of Mr. Roosevelt, the second from the Swedish Section advocating a scheme for getting together experts who could lead discussions, from the scientific angle, on how to prevent war.

906. MISS BAER. The Chairman requested Miss Baer, as a representative of International Headquarters to speak to us under this heading. Miss Baer then reported the great desire of our American Section for an International Conference soon. European Sections were, she admitted, fearful of the difficulties of travelling. Meantime, she suggested, Sections have several tasks in the immediate future. First it will be necessary to consider financial difficulties of International Headquarters. Section affiliation fees, under the present transfer of money difficulties, are very inadequate. (the affiliation fee is 50 Swiss francs per annum). What will have to be done? Jane Addams, in similar difficulties suggested individual International membership affiliated directly to International Headquarters and paying directly. In the U.S.A. Miss Baer and Miss Balch consulted together and got 600 International members. In Great Britain, she said, there were 82. The American Section now holds 10,000 dollars for International Funds. Arising from above Miss Baer advised that a financial appeal be made urging contributions to be paid on a certain fixed date, or, alternatively, that a pledge be given of payment during a stated time. Last, she urged that efforts should be made to increase the number of International Members. The Speaker believed that an International Congress would follow on the success of a financial effort, and that by that International Congress the whole work of the League will be stimulated. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported possession by British Section of the sum of £323 for work abroad including coming Congress. The Chairman asked for expression of opinion on the type of International Meeting to be arranged, either: (a) a meeting of the International Executive with addition of two consultative members from each Section, or (b) a Congress of 10 delegates and 10 alternates from Sections, the 10 delegates having the right to vote. After discussion, and the pointing out of difficulties arising from the post-war situation by Mrs. Innes and Miss Pye, it was AGREED that the smaller body (a. above) be summoned first and not necessarily on strictly constitutional lines. Suggested by Mrs. Duncan Harris after further discussion of difficulties that "we say to the International Chairmen that we visualise the meeting of the International Executive Committee at the earliest possible moment in the circumstances." AGREED. Miss Harrison proposed that Executive urge the International Chairmen to utilise their present permits to extend their journeyings as ambassadors of reconciliation. AGREED. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard proposed that if this country prove the most convenient place for the coming meeting we should declare our willingness to help. AGREED.

907. EXTENDED EXECUTIVE AND AUTUMN SCHOOL. Mrs. Innes reported that we had secured Professor Catlin and Miss Miles (Bristol University) as speakers. She pointed out that Branches still have until the end of September in which to nominate representatives to attend this School.

908. THE COLONIES. On behalf of the India and Colonies Committee Miss Anderson reported that the Committee was in two minds on the subject of the position of Colonies under the San Francisco Charter. Some feel that use should be made of the Charter, others doubt whether we should, as a League, support Trusteeship Chapter of Charter. Miss Baer felt that the Charter made at least a beginning and that W.I.L. must discuss and criticise, in particular, the said Trusteeship section. She pointed out that the I.L.O. goes much

farther in its suggestions for dependent territories and urged study of same. Miss Harrison asked for special time to be allotted to this subject at the September Executive. AGREED. She asked that Mrs. Pandit's report brought by Miss Baer be circulated. AGREED.. Mrs. Duncan Harris in summing up said the India and Colonies Committee should be encouraged to produce a much more detailed report.

909. INDIA. Miss Harrison reported the arrival of pamphlets which had been prepared by the All India Women's Conference and suggested copies be purchased from W.I.L. ear-marked Fund and comment be made upon them in the News Sheet. AGREED. Miss Harrison also called attention to a memorandum prepared by Mrs. Dorothy Hogg summarising the main events of the past year. It was reported that five people were seeking passages to attend the All India Women's Conference in December.

Regarding the general situation, Miss Harrison said there was a pause but in spite of the breakdown of the Simla Conference, there was a changed atmosphere by reason of the Viceroy's attitude and the co-operation of Congress leaders. It was urgent that when the new Government came into being renewed efforts should be made to see that India received immediate attention. The Officers were asked to watch the situation and Branches were asked to get into touch with their new Members of Parliament.

910. REPORT OF AD HOC CONFERENCE TO OBTAIN A DECLARATION FROM WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS FOR A PEACEFUL WORLD. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported attendance at Conference when women of various Organisations answered call of Mrs. Corbett Ashby to meet and consider the endorsement of declaration for a peaceful world. Mrs. Duncan Harris pointed out that the clause (a) "Prevention of aggression" was being interpreted in terms of coercive force, and asked whether Executive wished to put name of W.I.L. beneath this declaration which is to be sent to America, where women's organisations may take parallel action.. After discussion AGREED not to sign and Mrs. Corbett Ashby was to be informed accordingly.

911. UNITED NATIONS CHARTER. The Chairman pointed out that it is necessary to consider the Charter which has emerged from San Francisco since it contains new matter with which the W.I.L. is concerned. Miss Baer spoke at length on necessary work to be done in the study of the Charter and urged practical debate among groups of members on past and future work of the W.I.L. in connection with its various sections. The Chairman suggested that the Autumn School will deal with the Charter and that Officers would, if agreed upon by Executive, prepare concrete suggestions for use of Charter on lines signified by Miss Baer out of which will come the ways of approaching our Government. AGREED. Miss Doty suggested seeking the help of Marie Butts and Gilbert Murray. Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested valuable pamphlets on the Charter issued by U.N.I.O. and published by H.M. Stationery Office and from I.N.I.O. 38 Russell Square, W.C. 1.

Proposed by Mrs. Duncan Harris that Mrs. Innes prepared for next Executive meeting a short statement welcoming with reservations, the Charter as an international document. AGREED. Also proposed that the Officers, aided by Mrs. Phillips, prepare a more detailed directive for examination of and work on the Charter. AGREED. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard agreed to help on the educational side of work on Charter.

912. TRAFFIC IN ARMS. Mrs. Stapledon reported her attendance at meetings in Liverpool, organised by ~~the London Headquarters~~ of the Standing Joint Conference of Women's Organisations when the question of traffic in arms was discussed. Most of the women present disapproved of private profit in armaments. Mrs. Stapledon thought that if this opinion could be worked up among women's organisations, women would support the abolition of the aforesaid private profit.

Liverpool

After discussion Chairman suggested that we request the Editor to devote October News Sheet to the Arms Traffic, Mrs. Stapledon to do research work as to what material is available. AGREED. Various suggestions were made as to valuable literature on Arms Traffic, e.g. Fenner Brockway's "Deaths pays a Dividend." Bookin & Welch, "Germany's Master Plan."

913. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood stated that Branch Affiliation fees of threepence per member per annum to Headquarters were negligible and that borrowings from special funds would be inevitable if work was to continue. If every Branch sent its Quota such a condition could not occur. She thanked those Branches who had sent in their Quota and said that those who believed in the W.I.L. most support Headquarters. The threepenny contribution was established in days different from the present.

914. PROPOSED AUTUMN MEETINGS IN LONDON. Reported at Officers' meeting it was suggested that four or five meetings should be held in October, each at 7 p.m. to get across the constructive side of peace-making during transfer to civil life. AGREED.

915. BRANCH NEWS. Welcome was given to the new Harrow Branch of which a member was present.

916. NATIONAL ADULT SCHOOL UNION. Reported receipt of letter in which it was proposed to consider application for affiliation of the Women's Committee to the W.I.L.

917. NO CONSCRIPTION COUNCIL. Reported formation of No-Conscription Council to which we have been asked to appoint a representative. Mrs. Grindley, who is a member of the new Council, was appointed. After discussion it was proposed that Mrs. Grindley should report details of constitution of the Council, when formulated, to the Executive. Decision then to be taken as to whether we become a constituent body of the Council.

918. ITALIAN 'CO-OPERATORS' IN NOTTINGHAM. Mrs. Phillips reported concern of the Nottingham Branch about the living conditions of Italian 'Co-operators' living in a camp in Nottingham. The Camp rations have been reduced and the food is inadequate. Mrs. Phillips on behalf of the Branch has reported the matter locally and the Town Clerk of Nottingham has written to the War Office. Mrs. Phillips asked whether we could not write as an organisation to Director of Public Relations at the War Office asking for particulars of rationing of prisoners of war. AGREED.

919. STATUS OF WOMEN. Mrs. Longson asked whether we should not be affiliated to an organisation concerned with the Status of Women. AGREED that inquiries be made and report brought to September Executive.

Reported that Women's Organisations were holding a Public Meeting on the Status of Women when newly elected women M.P's will speak. The meeting will be held on 31st July, 7 p. m. in the Central Hall, Westminster. The W.I.L. Office had sent out notices to its London and near London members.

920. The Executive Meeting closed with good wishes for their journeyings to our International visitors and to Miss Myrtle Wright, who is due to leave for Norway in a few days.

VISITORS AT MEETING: Miss Baer, Miss Doty, Frau Yella Hertzka.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. SEPTEMBER 5th, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at FLAT 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

B. D. Harris

5. IX. 45

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, September, 5th, 1945.

PRESENT: Executive Members: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Dickinson, Miss A. Harrison, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Burton, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Bedford.

Vice-Presidents: Lady Unwin, Lady Pethick Lawrence, Miss Vera Brittain.

Branch representatives: Harrow, Mrs. Pinder. Edinburgh, Mrs. Anthony. Croydon, Mrs. Hayes.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS: Miss Gertrude Baer, Frau Ragaz - International Chairmen. Frau Hertzka, Miss Madeleine Doty, Mrs. Rudinger.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Mrs. Longson, Miss Pye, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Phillips, *Mr Lloyd Richard.*

Our Chairman, pointing out that this was the first meeting of the Executive Committee, since the ending of war, recorded our thankfulness that we can start on a new era and a new phase of our work. She remarked with pleasure on the presence of all three of our International Chairmen:- Frau Ragaz, Miss Gertrude Baer, and Mrs. Innes.

MINUTES OF MEETING on July 25th. Mrs. Stapledon requested that the words "organised by the London Headquarters" be omitted from paragraph 912. The Minutes were then confirmed and signed.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING on August 20th. Miss Dickinson requested that her apology for absence be inserted, after which Minutes were confirmed and signed.

BUSINESS ARISING.

923. Miss Vera Brittain. The Chairman reported on the success of the application to the Foreign Office, by which Miss Brittain will be enabled to visit Sweden, Norway, and Denmark on the lecture tour arranged for her by the Swedish Section. Miss Brittain reports that she has had letters also from the "Help Holland Council" asking her to go to Holland for a few days in mid-September, with five other writers, as guests of the Netherlands Government. She has accepted and will go before her visit to Sweden. She will endeavour to make contact with W.I.L. officials in Holland. Miss Harrison proposed that a message of congratulation be sent to Miss Brittain. AGREED.

924. Essay Competition. Mrs. Grindley reported that as yet there has been no further communications from Sweden as to subjects set for essays or other business connected with the Competition. After discussion it was agreed that the prizes be awarded to one boy and one girl, the competition being declared open to "Young people", of the specified ages. Valuable suggestions of titles for essays were read in a letter from Mrs. Phillips. Recommendations were made that the substance of said suggestions be considered, but the forms changed. Final decision of said subjects should be left until further communication with possible suggestions for essay subjects, had been received from Sweden. AGREED.

925. Acknowledgements of letters from some Women M.P.'s. The Chairman reported that letters of congratulation had been sent to all women M.P.'s. Replies had been received from Lady Megan

Lloyd George, Lady Noel-Buxton, Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Shaw, Mrs. Davidson, and Mrs. Ganley.

926. Rationing of Prisoners of War. Report was made that in reply to a letter sent to the War Office by the Town Clerk of Nottingham, following representations, made by the Nottingham Branch of their concern with regard to the living conditions of Italian "Co-operators" in camp in Nottingham; a letter has been received from the War Office enclosing typed details of diet of said Italians. Mrs. McGregor Wood stated that Prisoners of War in Cambridge were well fed. Mrs. Anthony reported similarly of Edinburgh Prisoners of War. It was suggested that the difference was due to the locality, as in districts where more food is available, local inhabitants probably assist. The Chairman suggested that the menu should be handed to the appropriate persons to be analysed into calories and that the Officers should communicate with the War Office if they see a case to make. AGREED.

927. Status of Women Campaign Committee. Mrs. Innes read a letter from Mrs. Hartree giving details and names of "participating societies" enquired for at last Executive Committee. She asked if Executive now wished the W.I.L. to be put among these societies. AGREED.

928. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported that the Finance Committee had met that morning and had raised points she would bring before the Executive Committee. First, she stated that the response to the Thanksgiving Fund reached, with expenses deducted, £374. Fifty-nine Headquarters members had contributed and there were subscriptions from a hundred and one members in the Branches. Our capital in hand amounts to £375. We are now borrowing from our capital though not from the Thanksgiving Fund. The Treasurer then, before proceeding farther, called on the Chairman to report a certain matter to the Executive Committee. Mrs. Duncan Harris accordingly informed Executive Committee that Miss Horscroft, our invaluable General Office Secretary, who had given thirty years of service, - her life in fact - to the W.I.L. had notified her wish to terminate her service at the end of 1945. "Only those of us," said the Chairman, "who see her work in bulk can realise what that work has meant to us. We shall wish later to express our considered appreciation." AGREED AFTER MANY EXPRESSIONS OF REGRET. Mrs. McGregor Wood then summarised points made during Finance Committee's meeting, Namely:- does the amount of money in hand warrant us in appointing an organising Secretary now? Does it warrant appointing an exclusively organising Secretary later on? Should our objects rather be to strengthen Headquarters and to go into more comfortable London Offices? Should we, in fact, be prepared to spend all?

Discussion on these points followed. The Treasurer suggested first that appeal be made to our late landlord, the Duke of Bedford with the object of finding suitable other accommodation in London. AGREED. Suggested that Miss Muriel Lester be approached and asked to get into touch with the Duke of Bedford, further that Glasgow Branch should be asked if they could help to represent our need to the Duke. AGREED.

Mrs. Wood suggested appointment of new officer should be that of organising secretary based on central office with the object of limiting number of persons in office to two. AGREED. Suggestion made by Chairman that Mrs. Wood, as Treasurer, should insert paragraph in the coming News Sheet defining the person needed and asking readers to have the matter in mind. AGREED. Mrs. Innes suggested a later public advertisement for officer required. AGREED. Chairman suggested that Mrs. Grindley, and Miss Harrison should consult re-terms of advertisement. AGREED.

929. AUTUMN SCHOOL. Mrs. Grindley reported that nine names only had been received for attendance. Chairman suggested urgent letter to Branches. AGREED.

Mrs. Innes suggested that exact programme of the coming School be set out and then inserted in News Sheet.

She suggested that payment could be made as late as October. AGREED.

930. CORRESPONDENCE. The Chairman reported a letter from Mrs. White of Women's Permanent Peace League stating that the Sponsors of League wished to meet officials of W.I.L. on October 8th or 9th, with the object of discussing the question of affiliation with the W.I.L. AGREED to meet sponsors on October 8th.

931. A letter from Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, - New Times and Ethiopia News. Suggested W.I.L. write to Miss Blundell, Secretary of Ethiopia Association, stating that the question of the British Occupation of Ogaden has been brought to our notice and that we should be glad to know whether the Association has any comments to make or whether they are taking an action regarding this matter. AGREED.

932. CONSIDERATION OF SIZE OF SUB-COMMITTEES. Arising from concern expressed in a letter from Mrs. Phillips that size of sub-committees be considered, the Chairman requested that the matter be reported to the Organisation Committee. AGREED.

933. INDIA AND COLONIES COMMITTEE. Reported that there had been a full discussion in the committee on the position of Dependent Peoples under the provisions of the San Francisco Charter. Miss Anderson had prepared a rough draft and had been asked, with Mrs. Irvine, to embody the suggestions made in the committee in a statement that would be circulated to the members of the Executive. It had been agreed that the provisions of the Charter required much tightening up and amendment. The India and Colonies Committee urged the Branches to include a study of this question in their programmes of future meetings.

934. INDIA. Miss Harrison suggested that letters be sent to Lord Pethick Lawrence on his appointment as Secretary of State for India. Also one to Lady Pethick Lawrence, as she would be an important factor in the situation. AGREED. Discussions with the Viceroy were taking place; no statement would be made till he returned to India. But the new Government had already taken action

- 1) commuting the death sentences passed on the 1942 prisoners;
- 2) removing the ban on the Congress Party in the Provinces;
- 3) announcement that early elections will take place for the Central and Provincial Legislatures;
- 4) the calling of the Viceroy to London for discussion.

Mrs. Pandit had written that she hoped to return to India via this country. Agreed that a warm letter of welcome be sent to her. The All India Women's Conference had asked Mrs. Lankester and Miss Harrison to give all the help they could to Mrs. Handoo who would be representing Indian women at the coming meeting of the International Suffrage Alliance in Geneva in October. Also, that in the event of Mrs. Handoo being unable to go, that Miss Harrison would act as the A.I.W.C. representative.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

935. National Peace Council's Conference to consider San Francisco and the United Nations Charter, October 5th and 6th. Representatives of W.I.L. requested to attend. Accordingly Mrs. Stapledon, Miss Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Berwick Sayers (by consent), were appointed.

936. Re. Emergency Executive August 20th. Mrs. Innes reported that various letters had been received on receipt of news of dropping

of atomic bomb, two being from Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Grindley. She drafted a letter to Mr. Attlee, but when the Japanese surrender was declared it had to be re-drafted. At the suggestion of Miss Harrison and Mrs. Wood a special Executive Meeting was called to decide on the final form of the above letter to Mr. Attlee and what use to make of it. Mrs. Innes reported that her draft was modified by alterations suggested by post and at Executive Meeting and was sent to the Press, Branches, other women's organisations, sixty well-known individuals, and a selection of one hundred and fifty M.P.'s. Meanwhile the letter was printed in the News Sheet. Mrs. Innes reported Press notices - mainly Provincial - and read a letter from a Russian reader of the News Sheet (Mrs. Moore-Pataleewa) approving the letter, also a letter to the same effect from Lady Snowden.

937. AUTUMN MEETINGS. The Chairman said that these were to be held in the evenings in order that members engaged during the day might attend. Mrs. Innes suggested for October the calling together of women's organisations, W.I.L. taking the lead, to consider the united questions of the Atomic Bomb and the United Nations Charter. AGREED. Miss Harrison made and Mrs. McGregor Wood supported the suggestion that Miss Vera Brittain be asked to speak on her experiences in Scandinavia at meeting in November. AGREED. Suggestion for December a Women's Conference on the changes in world organisation made by recent developments. AGREED.

938. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL'S MEETING AT THE CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER ON AUGUST 31st, to consider the subject of the Atomic Bomb, constructive or destructive, was reported by Miss Haughton who attended as W.I.L. Press Secretary and stated that 2,000 people were present to hear extremely able presentations by concerned persons, including Mrs. Middleton M.P., and Dame Sybil Thorndyke, of the dangers arising from the invention and the means, principally those outlined at San Francisco, which should be taken to ensure its entirely constructive use.

939. Mrs. Rudinger reminded Committee members that all friends interested in Czech Group were invited to the British Czech Friendship Club for a meeting of farewell and thanks to be held on 10th. September. The Chairman welcomed Mrs. Rudinger and spoke of our happiness in having our Czech friends with us during the war.

940. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. After a picnic lunch, a most interesting time of report and discussion, led by our visitors - our International Chairmen and others - followed. Frau Ragaz thanked the British Section for the trouble taken in getting her here and for the warmth of her welcome. She reported how, during the war, the Swiss Sections had arranged various successful week-end summer schools. One such school in 1944 dealt with the formation of a new Peace Order, and was supported by proposals made by our Swedish Section and by International Women's Co-operative Guilds and by the British Section. At another such week-end, a record audience met to consider the Jewish Question. Christian and Jew, including a Jewish Rabbi, joined together to study and report upon this problem. She reported also the work done by our Swiss Section for refugees. Although the work of the W.I.L. is political not charitable, at times, when no other organisation was available, much work was done for refugees in Switzerland. A pamphlet showing the necessity of helping these unfortunate people and objecting to the prevention of admission in certain cases, was circulated by the Swiss W.I.L. A play "Law and Conscience" written by a W.I.L. member was produced widely in small towns and villages of Switzerland.

After the Chairman had thanked the speaker, Miss Madeleine Doty who had lived in Maison International in Geneva during the war, spoke of the "magnificent work" done by the Swiss members for the refugees.

Mrs. Innes (International Chairman) told the Executive of five

days spent by our three International Chairmen, so fortunately met, in discussion and planning for the future.

Miss Gertrude Baer (International Chairman) reported that at the meeting of the Chairmen it had been decided to have the International Congress as the first International meeting. Frau Ragaz had undertaken to organise this, as in 1919. The place of the Congress would be Luxembourg or, failing that, Switzerland. The date, August 4th to August 9th. 1946.

On the agenda were several unexpected items, the first being the question as to whether there is a place for the W.I.L.P.F. The matter of relation of the W.I.L.P.F. to the new United Nations organisations will also call for a settlement during Congress. The reconstruction of Sections will come under discussion. A letter has already been sent out to Sections as to whether we ought not to think of drawing larger membership from working and professional women. Mrs. Duncan Harris pointed out that at the coming Congress the great note women will sound must be one of something deeper than intellectual conviction. The three Chairmen feel unanimously that National Sections must accept International principles as laid down in the Constitution. Criticisms and suggestions by Sections and individual Members, should be sent in as soon as possible, after the receipt of Chairmen's letter.

941. Far East. Miss Harrison asked whether consideration would be given to problems of the Far East. Miss Baer replied that Mrs. Pandit has been invited to the Congress. The Chairman then read a letter from the Chairman of the Danish Section (Mrs. Cederfeld) reporting that the Section has been able to function throughout the Occupation and sending warm greetings. A similar letter was reported from the Chairman of Czechoslovak Section (Mrs. Lola Hanouskova).

Mrs. Rudinger then spoke to us of present conditions in Czechoslovakia. Miss Mosa Anderson said that food should be provided in the British Zone for people being transferred from Poland and Czechoslovakia within that Zone. She suggested a letter to our Government to that effect, linking to it a reference to letters written previously on the food question. AGREED.

942, This concluded a historic Executive Meeting. Tea, kindly prepared by Miss Irene Harrison, followed, giving an opportunity for informal exchange of opinions and friendly conversations with our International Chairmen and other welcome guests from overseas.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. OCTOBER 3rd, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flat 8, 144, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Elizabeth Balemyer Oct 3rd 1945

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, October, 3rd. 1945.

PRESENT: Executive Members: Mrs. Ballinger in Chair, Mrs. Mc. Gregor Wood, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Anderson, Miss Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Stapledon, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Miss Burton, Mrs. Castle, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Malcomson.

Vice-President: Lady Unwin.

Branch representative: Miss Graham, Acock's Green.

Visitor: Frau Hertzka.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Mrs. Grindley.

MINUTES OF MEETING on September 5th. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard requested by letter that her name be added to "Apologies for Absence". This was done. The minutes were then confirmed and signed.

BUSINESS ARISING:

943. Rationing Prisoners of War. Reported that a reply has been received from Professor Marrack. He kindly analysed diet chart sent but said that it was difficult to report calorie value from the details given. He concluded that the amount was insufficient for men doing heavy work. Reported that a formal acknowledgement of letter sent by W.I.L. had been received from the War Office. Mrs. Phillips expressed the wish to pursue the enquiry further. The Chairman suggested that Mrs. Phillips be asked to report to Executive Committee after further enquiries in Nottingham. AGREED.

944. Status of women Campaign Committee. Mrs. Innes reported that there had been no reply to our letter.

945. Women Members of Parliament. Letter of thanks for good wishes from Mrs. E.M. Braddock, M.P. reported.

946. Autumn Meetings. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the arrangements for the meeting at which Miss Vera Brittain will speak have been completed and that the Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 30th at 7 p.m. at the Caxton Hall, St. Westminster. Mrs. Florence Paton M.P. has agreed to take the Chair. Miss Agatha Harrison, Mrs. Benson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. McGregor Wood will support her. On the platform will be also: a representative from the Norwegian Embassy, Mrs. Middleton M.P., Lady Parmoor, Miss Edith Fye, Mrs. Ridealgh, M.P. Mrs. Duncan Harris asked that members should have this coming meeting on their minds as it will be the first public appearance of the W.I.L. since the beginning of the war. Mrs. McGregor Wood suggested that an appeal for new members be made at Miss Brittain's meeting and that membership forms be taken to the meeting. Mrs. Duncan Harris agreed to make this appeal. Mrs. McGregor Wood expressed concern for wide advertisement of Miss Brittain's meeting, to which Mrs. Innes replied that 5,000 notices had been or would be circulated, paragraphs were being sent to Press, notices to certain Embassies (to which one, the Norwegian Embassy, has replied that it is hoped that some member of the Embassy will attend) notices to special organisations and people. Miss Dickinson agreed to make enquiry with regard to

the placing of poster advertisements outside the Caxton Hall.

947. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that preparations were going forward for a Conference on the Charter of the United Nations in December. An attempt was being made to secure the co-operation of those organisations which had assisted in our previous conference.

948. Proposed a Bring and Buy Sale for December. Proposed by Mrs. Duncan Harris a linking of said Sale with a gathering (with tea) to speed Miss Harrison on her forthcoming journey to India, the Officers being empowered to choose a date convenient to Miss Harrison. AGREED. Mrs. Duncan Harris emphasised need for officers to consider an alternative attraction to link with Bring and Buy Sale if Miss Harrison had left England. AGREED.

949. Suggestion made by Mrs. Duncan Harris that we should attempt to strengthen Headquarters by holding more London meetings. Regular monthly meetings might be held on an agreed basis. Suggested: "Peace Making in the Atomic Age" as basis of first four meetings. Mrs. Harris asked for the name of any London member likely to be able to take over the organisation of these four meetings. Chairman suggested that Mrs. Gundry be approached. AGREED. Mrs. Wood proposed four lunch hour meetings during spring. AGREED.

950. Office Accommodation. Reported letter received from the Duke of Bedford to the effect that he had communicated with his steward with regard to the appeal of the W.I.L. for suitable office accommodation. Miss Horscroft reported that the letter from Mr. Upton, the aforesaid steward, stated that practice of letting portions of houses on the Bedford Estate would not be continued, but, later, he reported by telephone that something may be coming along in which case he would inform Miss Horscroft immediately. Reported that the Organisation Committee had agreed to watch for houses offered for sale by any agency with view to reporting to Executive Committee and obtaining agreement to secure house with aim of letting off unrequired portions. Suggested that this matter be left to responsibility of officers and Finance Committee. AGREED.

951. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood, as Treasurer, reported that the Thanksgiving Fund had risen to £357.18.7. while excellent quotas had been received from Branches, in particular from Worthing, Acock's Green, and Reading. At present we had, the Treasurer reported, a small capital behind us, but no income. Miss Horscroft was sending out reminders re. quotas to the Branches. The yearly subscriptions, as paid in from January to September, amounted to £237.9.0. The only expenditure not in routine was payment of £17 from the Penny a Week Fund for Mme. Drevet's visit. Frau Ragaz had contributed £5, half to Thanksgiving Fund and half to the Penny a Week Fund.

952. Report of Joint Meeting of Organisation and Finance Committee. Reported by Mrs. Duncan Harris that the main question discussed was that of office organisation, especially in view to the appointment of a successor to Miss Horscroft. It was proposed to recommend to the Executive Committee that the Officers should be authorised to interview suitable applicants. AGREED. Mrs. Harris further reported that Joint Meeting had stated it to be advisable to get into touch with C.B.C.O. and with Central Registry Office. The chief difficulty would be in finding person to do office work of Miss Horscroft and, in addition, some organising work. AGREED.

953. Branch Subscription Collecting Cards. Mrs. Grindley, supported by Mrs. Phillips, suggested that it would aid our finances if Branches, where members were in agreement, had

membership cards by means of which subscriptions might be collected on a monthly basis. This method, used successfully in other organisations, would, the proposers felt, prove particularly helpful in new Branches. The difficulty in printing such cards might be met by affixing small slips to existing cards. The Chairman, Mrs. Ballinger, proposed that the suggestion be passed on to Branches in order that their opinion be ascertained. AGREED.

954. Autumn School. Reported that 25 names had been sent in and that 14 of these had paid. Suggested that if numbers not complete within a fortnight a free place be offered to a visiting friend from a foreign Section. AGREED.

955. W.I.L.F.F. AFFAIRS. Mrs. Innes reported on the meetings of our International Chairmen, beginning in September. She informed Committee that Frau Ragaz had not solved reasons for her difficulty in travel. She called attention to the report of Chairmen's meetings and their outcome, as printed in October News Sheet, and in particular to the agreed plan of calling the International Congress for August 1946, meeting in Luxembourg or failing that, in Switzerland. The present problem of how to get into touch with our various Sections is being tackled by various members. Frau Ragaz is contacting Holland and Jugo Slavia; a letter has been received from Mrs. Zenthen in Denmark stating that she is attempting to get to work again in that country. Gertrude Baer, through Jan Masaryk, is attempting to renew relations with Poland. From our Swedish Section contact may be made with Russia. Mrs. Stern (Russian Institute for Physiological Research) who corresponds with Mrs. Innes, will do all possible to secure co-operation between the two countries. With regard to Germany any revival must be by approved persons. In Czechoslovakia Frau Hanouskova is assisting Sudeten Germans. Reconstitution of this Section (Czech) has been refused. With regard to this Mrs. Duncan Harris is to get into touch with Horace Alexander on his way to Prague. Czech friends are hoping that Jan Masaryk may be returned at coming election, in which case a permit for restoration of Section may be obtained.

A Statement of Aims, to be put before the Congress, will, it is expected, be drafted by Miss Balch with aid of American Section. All Sections must accept an agreed Statement after the Congress as their own policy.

Maison Internationale. It was decided to leave the Maison, for the present, in its work as a Guest House. For comments on mutual help between the West and the Far East we were referred to the News Sheet. Italy

From Italy a letter has been received from the Italian Federation of Women in Arts, Professions, and Public Affairs, stating a desire to send a liaison officer to contact W.I.L. in England, the said officer to maintain herself in a teaching post, she being a University Graduate. The letter was sent by Mrs. Innes, she reported to Mrs. Castle who stated that she had raised the question of the required post with the Association of Head Mistresses. Mrs. Innes asked for suggestions to write to other agencies etc. and received several.

Mrs. Innes further reported that she had written to the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations asking for good facilities at its Meetings for the W.I.L.F.F. A favourable reply had been received.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported meeting of Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations at which both visiting

W.I.L.P.F. Chairmen were present. The W.I.L. letter on the Atomic Bomb was quoted in full in the minutes and so will go round the world.

956. News Sheet. Mrs. Innes reported that Mrs. Bolt had suggested an article on International Trade by Mrs. Lloyd Frichard. No reply had been received. It had been proposed to devote a whole News Sheet to the private traffic in arms, Mrs. Stapledon assisting in securing articles. Since, however, the atomic bomb had altered the whole suggestion our Editor suggested postponement of the Private Traffic in Arms number of News Sheet. AGREED.

Mrs. Duncan Harris undertook to ask Dr. Alex Wood and Prof. Bernal if they would contribute articles on different aspects of the effect of the Atomic Bomb on problems of peace making.

957. Colonies. Miss Anderson reported a N.I.C. Conference on Colonies would take place at end of week. She therefore wished to delay memorandum until after that Conference had taken place. AGREED.

958. Palestine. Miss Harrison introduced the subject as one of major gravity. Mrs. Castle stated that sending Jews to Palestine is not the solution. Great Britain, the Colonies, and the U.S.A. should take part of responsibility. Mrs. Innes reported a letter from the Federation of Women Zionists, enclosing resolution calling on H.M. Government to accede to the request for the immediate grant of 100,000 certificates of admission into Palestine. Mrs. Phillips suggested a reply showing where we disagree. Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested a letter to the Home Secretary urging admission of those wishing it, to all countries, neutral and allied, including some admission to Palestine. AGREED.

959. INDIA. Miss Harrison suggested that if, as A.I.W.C. representative she goes to India shortly, we should ask Mrs. Irvine, who might first be co-opted on to Executive, to act as Chairman of India and Colonies Committee. AGREED.

960. Co-option to Executive Committee. Mrs. Irvine was co-opted on to Executive, subject to consent. Mrs. Hogg was co-opted member of India and Colonies Committee. Miss Harrison called attention to Dorothy Hogg's book "India on the March" (Peace Committee. Society of Friends) and suggested that the attention of Branches be specially drawn to it.

961. National Peace Council "Save Europe Now" Campaign. Miss Anderson reported that 27,000 people have written down their willingness to accept cut in rations. It is hoped to reach the 50,000 limit. Promises now have to be put into force. N.P.C. hopes to have Government support for using coupons and points, the Government diverting the equivalent supplies to Europe. It is hoped that the stocks would be distributed in Europe by voluntary societies. The Government has yet to be approached.

962. Food for Britain. Reported that National Federation of Women's Institutes of Great Britain has accepted plan, propounded by Countrywomen's Association of Victoria, for the sending from Australia of food parcels for Britain of which 1,000 have already been sent. After discussion it was agreed to ask Lady Unwin to communicate a letter from Finland to Dorothy Detzer, regarding shortage of food; also that a letter should be drafted, Mrs. Duncan Harris assisting, to Miss Zimmern, Chairman of Associated Countrywomen of the World, asking the Association to influence the Australian givers to send

the food to more distressed areas. Lastly Mrs. Phillips was requested to write to the Ministry of Food asking that available parcels be directed to more deserving quarters.

CORRESPONDENCE.

963. Ethiopia. Reported a letter from Abyssinia Association urging the restoration of Eritrea and the Ogaden to Ethiopia. Mrs. Ross and Miss Anderson were requested to seek further information and report to Executive.

964. Letter from National Adult School Union reported a Correspondence Course on "World Planning". Tutor: Mr. George A. Innes. It was agreed that details be requested and sent to Branches. Agreed to send letter of welcome on Affiliation of Women's Committee to W.I.L.

965. Letter regarding International Women's Day reported, inviting co-operation of W.I.L.P.F. The matter was reported as having been raised at Liaison Committee when women's Organisations were asked to co-operate in International Conference to be held in Paris. Frau Ragaz and Miss Gertrude Baer wished to support.

966. Reported letter from "Christianity Calling" regarding action taken by open letter to the British and American Governments on the atomic bombing of Japan. Open letter signed on behalf of W.I.L. Committee by Mrs. Innes.

967. Letter from Anglican Pacifist Fellowship reported as containing acknowledgment of a copy of our letter to Mr. Attlee which had been put before Governing Body, welcoming also our letter on the atomic bomb.

968. Reported letter from Wood Green & Southgate Women's Arbitration Committee, affiliated to W.I.L. notifying that the Committee is disbanded.

969. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Reported meeting of the No Conscription Council on October 13th. Miss Hayler was appointed to represent W.I.L. on said council.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. November 5th and 6th at St. Briavels.

B. Duncan Harris

5. XI. 45

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Minutes of Extended Executive Committee at "Lindors", St. Briavels, Glos. Monday, November 5th and Tuesday, November 6th, 1945.

PRESENT: Executive Members: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger; Miss Hayler; Mrs. Phillips; Mrs. Ineson; Mrs. McGregor Wood; Miss Burton; Miss Amy Haughton; Mrs. Stapledon.

Branch representatives: Mrs. Cameron - Childwall; Mrs. Scott - Childwall; Mrs. Ashworth - Harrow; Mrs. Kay - Liverpool; Mrs. Greenhalgh, Mrs. Paine, Miss Webb - Manchester; Mrs. Bailey - Nottingham; Mrs. Ash, Mrs. Cooke-Yarborough - Peppard; Mrs. Kemp - Reading; Miss Berlak - Welwyn Garden City.

Headquarters Members: Miss Achurch; Miss Vally Heuer; Miss Horscroft; Miss Lester; Mrs. Montgomery, The Misses Woodall, Frau Hertzka, (Associate Member).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mrs. Grindley; Miss Dickinson; Mrs. Innes; Miss Harrison; Mrs. Castle; Miss Anderson; Mrs. McGregor Ross; Mrs. Malcomson; Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Longson.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON OCTOBER 3rd. signed as correct.

BUSINESS ARISING:

970. Report of Vera Brittain's Meeting made by Miss Haughton who said that the Coxtan Hall was filled and that great interest was shown in the speaker's account of her visit to Scandinavia. A representative of the Swedish Legation was present. Reported that Vera Brittain has undertaken to speak for the Liverpool and Manchester Branches. Chairman reported Miss Brittain willing to speak for Branches whenever possible.

of

971. Arising out of report/Miss Brittain's Scandinavian visit the Chairman stated that a letter had been received from Miss Zeuthen of the Danish Section asking for the support of the British Section of the W.I.L.P.F. in approaching the Nobel Institute of Norway, asking it to establish a Scientific Institute having for its object the examination of the causes of and the remedies against war.

Mrs. Duncan Harris asked if the Section favoured this request.

Discussion followed in which points for and against the project were raised.

Frau Hertzka favoured an international body. Miss Muriel Lester supported the idea as one likely to lead to findings which needed publication. Mrs. Phillips also supported stipulating that findings should be circulated widely.

The Chairman then asked whether as the British Section we are prepared to support our Scandinavian Section in preparing for the establishment of this Institute. AGREED. The Chairman then reported a second suggestion from Scandinavia - from the Swedish Section. A letter had been received proposing a meeting
972. of Chairmen of the different Sections to take place before the next Congress of August 1946. The Chairman suggested that representatives should be "an officer from each section" and proposed that the matter be communicated to our International Chairmen before action was taken.

After discussion in which it was laid down that International Chairmen should be advised that this gathering was not intended to take the place of their meeting before Congress of

1946, the Section agreed, subject to these two suggestions, to support the Swedish Section in their suggestion.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that Mrs. Sigrid Lund had written saying that she hoped to be in England in the spring. The committee extended a warm invitation to Mrs. Lund to attend the Annual Meetings next April in Oxford, and the branches were invited to arrange visits for her.

973. Rationing of Prisoners of War. Mrs. Phillips reported further correspondence with War Office on this matter. A letter had been received from the War Office stating that rations of Prisoners of War had been reduced at end of May and that there was no intention of increasing them. The letter stated that the Geneva Convention still applied. Mrs. Phillips reported further that a reply had been sent to War Office asking how the present rationing system could be said to comply with the Geneva Convention since the Convention stated that Prisoners of War rations should be same as those of Depot troops. No reply had yet been received. Mrs. Paton M.P. on being approached has sent the whole correspondence to a member of the War Office. No reply. Discussion followed after which arrangements made for sending letters to local M.P.s and press.

974. Autumn Meetings for Members. The Chairman reported that a group of London members were organising a Bring and Buy Sale for November 28th. The Chairman further reported that at a meeting of the Committee of ad hoc Conference of Women's Organisations it was agreed that W.I.L. should be asked to call a conference of Women's organisations to consider the United Nations Charter and the Atomic Bomb questions, this conference to take place after the first meeting of the United Nations (December). The officers have endorsed that agreement and recommend that W.I.L. set about organising conference. After discussion re possible speakers at Conference (Mrs. Joan Robinson, Mrs. Margaret Cole for Charter, Capt. Blackburn M.P. and Prof. Oliphant for weapons including the atomic bomb.) the organisers were instructed by the Executive Committee to proceed with arrangements. Mrs. Duncan Harris further reported that four Lunch Meetings had been suggested by Officers and that suggestions were also made of Group Meetings in London private houses for evenings. AGREED.

975. Office Accommodation. Miss Horscroft reported that the Agent for the Bedford Estate has telephoned that he has nothing to offer. There is therefore no likelihood of new premises for the time being.

976. Successor to Miss Horscroft. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that some applications had been received following on paragraph in News Sheet but that advertisements in public journals were to appear shortly.

977. Save Europe Now Campaign. Local Branches reported that meetings were being arranged for the purpose of informing and converting public opinion. A long discussion followed arising out of which it was suggested that the British Red Cross be approached regarding distribution of parcels. Suggested also that Lady Falmouth be approached on the subject.

978. Food for Britain Campaign. Following the information at last Committee, that the Women's Institutes of Australia were collecting parcels of food for Britain the Chairman had written personally to Miss Zimmern, Chairman of the International Countrywomen of the World, suggesting she convey to the Australian and New Zealand Women's Institutes that such parcels were more urgently needed in Europe. Miss Zimmern had replied that parcels could not be diverted without the consent of senders. The Chairman wrote again to Miss Zimmern pointing out that it might be

suggested to senders to address the parcels to Europe. Mrs. Phillips reported a similar letter sent to the Ministry of Food. No reply.

979. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood began her report as Treasurer by saying first that we are alive and holding our own, secondly that we have behind us £224.2.0. in our Penny-a-Week Fund, £97 as a nest egg for Congress funds, over £400 in the Thanksgiving Fund and £7.9.7. as balance from Vera Brittain's meeting, and last, that our income is not sufficient for our expenditure. Mrs. Wood then referred to the scheme sponsored by Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Grindley and supported by the Executive - namely that members be asked to make a monthly contribution to be recorded on back of membership cards. This scheme to be entirely voluntary and seems particularly adapted to new Branches. A letter has been sent to all Branches explaining the scheme. We must, concluded the Treasurer, attack the money question with ingenuity and enthusiasm at this time of the ending of war and the emergence of new lethal weapons.

Discussion followed, representatives of Branches detailing their experiences. Miss Horscroft asked that reports from Branches be forwarded to the Office. Mrs. Phillips asked the Treasurer the minimum sum required for running Headquarters. The answer was £60 per month.

980. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. The Chairman reported greetings from Mme. Drevet. She referred Committee to the letter of International Chairmen published in the October News Sheet. Mrs. Innes had drafted a letter to the Branches drawing attention to matters on the Agenda for the International Congress, which would require consideration. This draft together with the statement of aims of the W.I.L.P.F. was approved for circulation. Mrs. Innes had also suggested that Branches should now be considering their choice of delegates to Congress for the consideration of Executive. International members, we were reminded, may go as visitors. Branches should start fund for expenses of delegates. The British Section is entitled to send 10 delegates and 10 alternates. The Treasurer suggested that a letter be sent to the International Chairmen asking them to define the British portion of Congress Fund (£1,200). Mrs. Phillips asked if it were possible to make a public appeal for Congress Fund. Such an appeal would bring W.I.L.P.F. before public. Frau Hertzka suggested that refugees in this country should be asked for contributions. She was sure such a request would be welcomed. The Press Secretary was asked to explore the possibility of the public appeal in the Press. The Chairman asked that any letters from Branches, suggesting resolutions or any other points regarding the Congress should be received in time for meeting of February Executive.

981. NEWS SHEET. Reported that the Officers recommend that the December News Sheet would be a Vera Brittain issue. Miss Hayler suggested that picture post card should be printed from the photograph of the Conference of Scandinavian Sections. It was agreed to find out from the printer if block would be of a suitable size for picture post card.

982. ESSAY COMPETITION. Reported that the Swedish Section was organising the Essay Competition - advertising it in Schools Youth Groups and similar bodies. Mrs. Phillips reported that a leaflet had been drafted for advertisement in this country and read it to Executive Committee. She reported that the organisation committee urged that the competition be limited to girls since the Swedish Section considered this would make the problem of hospitality less difficult. In view of the information from Sweden the former decision to include boys and girls was rescinded and the committee agreed to the suggestion.

983. APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION FROM WOMEN'S PERMANENT PEACE LEAGUE. This League, reported the Chairman, is a Bradford organisation. Three of its officers had come to London to meet officers of the W.I.L. The result of this visit was a wish to affiliate with the W.I.L. without, however, losing their identity. AGREED TO ACCEPT AFFILIATION.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

984. India and the Colonies. In the absence of Miss Harrison, Miss Burton reported that a memorandum on San Francisco and the Dependent Peoples had been sent to all Executive Members. Miss Mosa Anderson had suggested suitable other Societies to which to send it. MEMORANDUM ADOPTED.

It was reported that a delegate meeting would be held in London to welcome Raj-kunari Anrit Kaur who would speak of the possibility of women's work in India. Mrs. Irvine was suggested as W.I.L. delegate subject to consent.

985. Miss Burton further reported that the Committee had written to the Colonial Office regarding the possibility of suitable persons visiting the disturbed areas and assessing the difficulties. A letter had been received from Mr. Hall stating that British territories in the Far East are not disturbed and that our letter had been sent to Foreign Office.

986. Palestine. Liverpool reported that the Branch had held meetings on the Arab-Zionist difficulty. The matter was referred to Colonies Committee with a view to considering support of the Palestine Economic Commission which was seeking to find out how many Jewish immigrants Palestine could support. Miss Hayler suggested that the American Section be approached on this matter.

CORRESPONDENCE. A letter was read from Miss Dickinson suggesting 987. that a letter be sent to the World Youth Conference encouraging them in their work. Mrs. McGregor Wood suggested personal contact by asking some member to deliver the message. Miss Muriel Lester agreed to take the message.

988. A letter from Mrs. Lloyd Prichard reported her wish to resign from Executive Committee since she is now working in Cambridge. The Officers have recommended asking her to remain in membership until the next Council. AGREED.

989. A letter from Joint Standing Parliamentary Committee in reply to letter asking if the W.I.L. would be a suitable organisation to be represented on that body. W.I.L. agreed to affiliate. Fee £2.2.0.

990. A letter from the No Conscription Council suggested W.I.L. become one of constituent bodies. AGREED.

991. The Chairman suggested a letter be sent to Mrs. Grindley, of sympathy and appreciation of all she had done to make the St. Briavels meeting possible. AGREED.

992. The Chairman reported that a Reception to Miss Eleanor Rathbone to celebrate the passing of the FAMILY ALLOWANCES ACT would be held on November 13th. Agreed that Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Haughton represent W.I.L. at that Reception.

This concluded the business.

B. Duncan Harris

5. XII. 45

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Wednesday, December 5th, 1945.
at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Castle, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Longson, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Innes, Miss Harrison, Miss Wright, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Anderson, Miss Hayler, Miss Burton, *Mrs. Bedford.*

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE from Mrs. McGregor Ross.

MINUTES of meeting on November 5th and 6th were signed as correct.

BUSINESS ARISING:

970. Rationing of Prisoners of War. Mrs. Phillips reported that she had sent further information gathered on this subject to Mrs. McGregor Wood and Miss Muriel Lester. Miss Lester had sent a letter to the News Chronicle and Mrs. Phillips had written to the New Statesman. Neither letter had yet been published. Letters to the War Office from Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Paton, M.P. had not yet been answered.

Mrs. McGregor Wood reported that she had been advised by responsible opinion that certain facts referring to caloric value were omitted in our report. Mrs. Phillips replied that that point had been taken into account but our strongest case lay in the Geneva Convention, which stipulated for rations to P.O.W. equal to that of troops in barracks.

The Chairman expressed the Committee's gratitude to Mrs. Phillips for the way in which this matter had been followed up.

971. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard. The Chairman reported that a letter has been received from Mrs. Lloyd Prichard in which she states that since her resignation from the Executive Committee is a matter of urgency owing to personal circumstances, she does not feel able to remain on the Committee until the Annual Council Meeting as suggested at the last Committee. The Chairman reported her intention of sending a personal letter of regret and acceptance to Mrs. Lloyd Prichard.

972. Mrs. Stapledon inquired whether food parcels can be sent to Europe now via Red Cross. Mrs. Phillips reported the receipt of a letter from the Ministry of Food stating that no food parcels can be sent to Europe.

973. A discussion followed on the question of the possibility of German children being received into homes in England. Mrs. Innes concluded the discussion by suggesting that though the W.I.L. is not a relief Organisation we could feel sure members in our Branches would be alert and inform themselves locally and centrally of this possibility so that the children may be received into sympathetic homes. Practical offers might influence the Government in this matter.

974. World Youth Conference. Mrs. Innes reported the receipt of a letter from the World Youth Council acknowledging our cordial message.

975. No Conscription Council. Mrs. Grindley raised the question of the W.I.L. affiliation fee to Council, reporting that such fees were ranging from £10.10.0d to £2.2.0. Suggested by Treasurer fee of £2.2.0 **AGREED.** Mrs. Grindley further suggested that we bring the Council's appeal for funds to the notice of Branches. **AGREED.**

976. Essay Competitions. Mrs. Grindley reported that leaflet dealing with Competitions was now in proof. Additions were suggested and adopted. Also a letter had been sent to the Swedish Section agreeing to confine the competitions to girls. Adjudicators, subject to consent were Mr. Innes for the Senior Competition and Miss Beatrice Baker or Miss Beoforth for the Juniors. **AGREED.** Suggested

preliminary adjudicators should be

/ Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Grindley. Suggested limitation of number of words - up to 5,000 for senior group and up to 2,500 for juniors. AGREED. Suggested issue of 10,000 leaflets to be distributed to Branches, Local Press, Youth Organisations, Women's Colleges, Universities, sympathetic organisations for their Branches, Girl Guides Association, etc. etc. Chairman suggested notifying Branches of the part undertaken by Head Office and asking them for their further co-operation. Miss Haylor agreed to send notices to Public Libraries. Miss Haughton agreed to notify Youth Hostels Association.

977. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood made an encouraging report as Treasurer. Our Thanksgiving Fund, she reported, now stands at £430. During the last month or two a number of Quotas which are, she stated, "our bread and butter" have been received. The Bring and Buy Sale realised £50 for which she thanked the organising efforts of Miss Dickinson and Miss Ruth Harrison particularly. Some new Branches were reported to have sent handsome sums - especially Farnborough, Harrow and Childwall. The Penny-a-Week Fund was reported as very satisfactory, while the Congress Fund stood at £97.

Our Treasurer commented that the old motto of the W.I.L. - 'live dangerously' - had been justified by our recent efforts which proved that it pays to do things. Our Autumn School had profited us by £15 while the Vera Brittain Meeting had realised £7. The Treasurer concluded by stating that the whole financial position was most encouraging for the future of the W.I.L.

AGREED that Mrs. Duncan Harris be empowered to sign cheques on the Women's International League account in place of Miss Horscroft on her retirement.

978. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Report of India and Colonies Committee. Miss Burton reported that the Committee had discussed the question of a message to the All India Women's Conference. The Executive agreed that a Message should be sent ^{by airmail} and a copy given to Miss Harrison to take with her. The Message was as follows:- To the Hon. Secretary, The All India Women's Conference, Bomb

"Dear Friend,

We are glad to be able to send greetings to the All India Women's Conference and to wish you success in your work for the betterment of life, for wider opportunities for women and in the larger sphere of the struggle for freedom.

For these last years it has been a sorrow to us that it has not been possible for a British woman to accept the kind invitations which have come to be present at your Conference, nor for you to visit freely in this country.

Now we have had the privilege of a visit from Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, and Agatha Harrison will be with you as a living message of our friendship and goodwill.

The whole world is suffering now from the war years which have brought not only destruction and death, poverty and famine, but also a heritage of bitterness and violence. We, in our W.I.L. groups, have watched with the deepest interest the way in which your country has from time to time shown to the world a non-violent way in the fight for freedom. We look to you, the women of the East, to teach the world this truth.

We view with humility and a sense of grave responsibility the wrongs of the past and we realise that in this era of reconstruction the great need of all mankind is to lay aside bitterness and the tradition of coercion, and to find the way to use the mighty forces of truth and friendship.

We send to you our warmest wishes that in your struggle for

982. Report on Norwegian Women's Meeting at Friends International Centre, December 3rd. Miss Myrtle Wright reported that the Norwegian women present represented the whole of the Women's Organisations in their country. Their account when they return will be of great help to the W.I.L. in Norway. Their visits while with us included one to Poplar and one to the House of Commons. Miss Wright further spoke of her contact with the W.I.L. while on her own recent visit to Norway. At a packed meeting addressed by Miss Wright numbers of new members were enrolled. Reported also, other W.I.L. meetings which drew large audiences:- Miss Vera Brittain's meeting at the Nobel Institute and a meeting on the Death Penalty, when a resolution was sent to the Government appealing for repeal.

Miss Wright suggested the sending to our Norwegian Section of copies of our present literature. AGREED. Mrs. Duncan Harris asked Miss Wright to keep us brief on future happenings in Norway.

The Chairman asked whether Executive agreed that Mrs. Innes write in the name of W.I.L. and express our pleasure in hearing that women are again stirring on W.I.L.P.F. lines, stating also that we shall be glad to help them if a way to do so opens. AGREED. Mrs. Innes then led a discussion on the subject of discussion 983. which we should consider at the Luxemburg Congress. Mrs. Innes had suggested "Steps towards World Unity." Chairman suggested phrase of Atlantic Charter: "that all of the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force." Mrs. Ballinger suggested:- "Peace through the Four Freedoms." Mrs. Innes reported that Miss Balch and Miss Baer had written protesting against Headquarters of U.N.O. being in U.S.A. We suggested that an international area be created within one of the small countries of Europe. AGREED also to send a letter to the Chairman of the Preparatory Commission on these lines. Mrs. McGroger Wood stressed the need for closer correspondence with U.S.A. and Miss Hayler was suggested as correspondent with Dorothy Detzer. AGREED. Notice was given that any resolutions for Congress should be sent to International Headquarters by April 15th.

984. CZECH MEMBERS. Reported that Lisa Weissova had rung up to thank the W.I.L. for all it had done for the Czech Group on the eve of her departure.

985. NEWS SHEET AND LITERATURE. Mrs. Innes, as Editor, adopted various suggestions for forthcoming numbers of News Sheet, e.g. a New Year Message from our Chairman, a report from Miss Myrtle Wright re visit of Norwegian women, a report from Mrs. Corbett Ashby on the Women's Conference recently held in Paris, a communication from Miss Harrison from India for the February number. An article by Mrs. Lloyd Prichard would appear in January. AGREED.

986. NEW SECRETARY-ORGANISER. Mrs. Innes reported that the Officers had interviewed four candidates. Two more remain to be interviewed, one in Manchester. The Chairman reported that the Committee has asked Miss Horscroft to postpone her rest until her successor has been found. Miss Horscroft has agreed.

987. BRANCH REPORTS. Reported that Peterborough Branch would like advice for Study Groups. AGREED that first Annual Report of Child-wall Branch be sent.

988. Plans for Conference of Women's Organisations on the United Nations Charter and the problem of Weapons of War:- Swedenborg Hall, Saturday, January 26th, 1946, 2.30 to 4.15 p.m. and 4.45 p.m. to 6 p.m. Captain Blackman, M.P. speak^{er} at first session with Mrs. Lucy Middleton, M.P. as Chairman. No speaker yet named for second session. W.I.L. delegates appointed, subject to consent: Mrs. Grindley and Miss Doreen Packham of Golders Green. It was hoped that as many members of the W.I.L. would attend as visitors. Branches near to London were to be invited to send delegates, who

independence and for freedom, you may be able to help the world to realise this, for we know the great contribution the women of India have to make, and we long for the time when you can take your place with women of other lands in constructive work for peace, as representatives of a free and independent India. Yours sincerely,

(Signed) B. DUNCAN HARRIS,
Chairman."

Miss Burton also called the attention of Executive Committee to the fact that the names of delegation to be sent by the Empire Parliamentary Association to India would be published shortly, upon which all Branch and other members should write to such of the delegates as are known to them and give information as to what, as W.I.L. members, we wish them to do. Miss Burton reported that, in the absence of Miss Harrison, Mrs. Irvine had agreed to take the Chair at meetings of the India and Colonies Committee, although unable to accept co-optation to Executive Committee. Miss Burton expressed the wish of the Committee that all members would buy books drawn up by the All India Women's Conference of which Headquarters has a supply. She called attention also to Dorothy Hogg's book "India on the March."

Speaking of the present situation, Miss Harrison said it was grave in the extreme - tension was high, the Indonesian situation and the trial of the I.N.A. prisoners of war heightening the tension. She urged members to obtain a memorandum on India-China and Indonesia published by the Union of Democratic Control, 34 Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1. price 6d.

Reported that Committee had expressed the hope, subject to the consent of the Executive, that £10 from Penny-a-Week Fund might be given to Miss Harrison for use in India by any method which might help the objects of the W.I.L. AGREED. With regard to this grant, Miss Harrison reported she would like to use the money in order to visit Mrs. Hanid Ali.

Miss Harrison expressed the wish that the W.I.L. may be able to take whatever action she will suggest as possible and she stressed the necessity of keeping in touch with Lady Pethick Lawrence. She suggested further, after discussion, that a letter should be sent by the Executive Committee to Lord Pethick Lawrence taking for granted that a woman should go with the forthcoming delegation. AGREED.

Miss Dickinson proposed that one pound be allocated from Special India Fund to assist meeting organised by Liaison Group. AGREED.

979. Mrs. Innes reported that she had received a letter from Mrs. Obase of Nigeria, which stated that she receives the News Sheet regularly, and is very interested in all our work.

980. Status of Women Campaign Committee. Mrs. Longson, as W.I.L. representative attending a meeting that evening of this Committee, asked if W.I.L. agreed to holding a Conference on the Social Insurance Bill which she suggested, should pay for itself out of tickets. AGREED. Also she reported that the Status of Women Campaign Committee proposed the publication of a publicity booklet. Would the W.I.L. agree to use of this avenue of publicity if cost not exorbitant? AGREED.

981. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. Mrs. Innes reported the starting of a Women's Club in Bremen on lines of W.I.L.P.F., members to be only such persons as have never worn a Nazi badge.

would report back to Branch. Mrs. Bertram Pickard was suggested as a speaker for the second session.

989. LUNCH MEETINGS. Reported booking of large tea room at Friends House. As yet no speakers had been secured.

Dates: Wednesday, 13th February, 13th March, 8th May and 12th June

Titles suggested:-

1. Women's Part in the New World;
2. The World Passes by;
3. Human Rights in Many Nations.

Speakers suggested:

Minna Sprecht, Maude Royden Shaw, Grace Coleman, M.P.
Sir Wyndham Deedes.

990. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Miss Anderson reported a statement of Professor Valentin to N.P.C. on the position of women in Germany. Miss Rose Macaulay, Miss Pearson, Lady Snowden, and others were present as possibly able to give publicity to the statement.

Five points were made by the Professor:-

- (1) German women are not being given posts in the administration or in higher educational system;
- (2) Housewives are allotted the lowest (the fifth) ration. This is starvation ration. Professional women allotted higher ration.
- (3) Women are being forced to heavy labour on demolition;
- (4) On question of sex-relations: (a) Soldiers allowed to fraternise but not to marry; (b) Rape, murder and violence appalling, principally in Russian Zone where many soldiers are from Asia;
- (5) Drink frequently the cause of rape and assault by Americans, particularly at weekends.

Professor Valentin suggested:-

- (1) Men should be left in areas of occupation for three months only;
- (2) Drink should be rationed.

Miss Anderson reported that another meeting on above lines would be arranged.

Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested trying to find persons who can report from first hand knowledge from varying zones, more especially the British Zone. AGREED.

Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested also appointment of members of Executive to represent W.I.L. in above work. AGREED. Appointed were Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Haughton, Miss Anderson.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. January 2nd, 1946 at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM BRANCHES WELCOMED.

B. Duncan Harris
2.1.46

FOR STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FROM JANUARY TO NOVEMBER, see overleaf.

W.I.L. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, January / November, 1945.

RECEIPTS.

<u>Balances 1st January, 1945.</u>		
<u>C.P.B.Soc.:-</u>		
Shrewsbury.....	7.	- - -
Penny-a-Week Fund.....	209.	6. 8
Congress.....	88.	- - -
<u>Midland Bank, Ltd.</u>		
General.....	14.10.	4
India.....	30.	- - -
Loans.....	95.	- - -
Petty Cash.....	3.12.	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Rent in advance.....	15.	- - -
Reserve Fund In C.P.B.Soc.	353.14.	-
	816.	3 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Subscriptions. 255. 1. 6		
<u>Donations:-</u>		
General.....	35.18.	6
Branch Quota.....	204.	9. -
Thanksgiving		
Fund.....	430.	2. 7
T.R.L.....	48.14.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Penny-a-Week.....	41.	6.10
<u>Bring & Buy</u>		
<u>Sales:-</u>		
April Sale...	20.16.	-
November.....	47.19.	6
News Sheets.....	47.13.	6
Literature.....	30.18.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Autumn School.....	95.15.	-
Inland Revenue		
(P.A.Y.E).....	53.12.	-
Affil. Fees.....	11.19.	-
Meetings.....	32.10.	6
Geneva Subs.....	63.	6. 6
Refund from		
Liaison Ctte.		
of Women's		
Inter.Orgs.....	2.	2. -
	1,422.	5. 1
	£2,238.	8. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$

EXPENDITURE.

Loan refunded.....	95.	- - -
Salaries.....	317.10.	-
Postage.....	70.19.	5
Office Expenses.....	27.18.	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
<u>Insurances:-</u>		
Workmen's Compensation.	1.12.	6
N.H. & U. Insurances..	5.14.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Inland Revenue (P.A.Y.E)	50.15.	-
Rent.....	45.	- - -
Stationery.....	47.18.	11
News Sheets.....	66.15.	8
Travelling Expenses.....	58.	3. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mno. Drevet (to be re-		
funded from P.A.W.Fd.)	22.	1. -
Literature.....	76.10.	2
Affiliation Fees.....	8.	7.10
India work.....	10.	- - -
Telephone.....	17.14.	3
Lighting and Heating....	3.11.	6
Meetings.....	29.19.	10
Press Cuttings.....	2.	2. -
Autumn School.....	80.13.	-
B & B. Sale (Nov).....	2.14.	6
Geneva subscriptions.	60.	6. 6
Balances:-	1,101.	8. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
<u>Midland Bank:-</u>		
India.....	20.	- - -
P.A.Wk.Fd..	9.	3. 6
Thanksgiving		
Fund.....	389.	- .10
	418.	4. 4
<u>C.P.B.Soc.:-</u>		
Shrewsbury.	7.	- - -
Congress.....	97.	- - -
P.A.Wk.Fd.	241.10.	-
Reserve Fd.	353.14.	-
	699.	4. -
Rent in Advance	15.	- - -
Petty Cash in hand.	4.11.	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
	£2,238.	8. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$