

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Flat 16, 144 Southampton Row, London W.C.1.

January 1951

Terminus 3977

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held at
144 Southampton Row, London W.C.1. January 9th 1951.

The following members were present:

President	Lady Parmoor.
Vice-President	The Rev. Constance Coltman.
	Mrs Duncan Harris J.P.
Hon. Secretary	Mrs Ineson.
Hon. Treasurer	Mrs Stapledon.
Executive	Mrs Ashworth.
	Mrs Ballinger.
	Mrs Barber.
	Mrs Brailsford.
	Mrs Cusden J.P.
	Miss Agatha Harrison.
	Miss Haughton.
	Mrs McGregor Wood.
	Miss McAra.
	Mrs Mitchiner.
	Mrs Needham.
	Mrs Nuttall.
	Mrs Sutherst.
	Mrs Schloßmann.
	Mrs Weiss.
Observer	Mrs Wallis Hayward.
Consultant	Miss M. Dickinson.
	Dr. Lloyd Pritchard.
Visitor	Mrs Phillips.

Apologies were received from Miss Camfield, the Hon. Mrs Franklin
Mrs Goring, Mrs Greaves, Mrs Malcomson, Lady Mayer, Mrs Twiston
Davies, Miss Myrtle Wright.

A message was received from the Chairman, Mrs McGregor Wood, to say
that, owing to a slight indisposition she would be unable to attend
till later in the day. Mrs Nuttall, one of the Vice-Chairmen, took
her place.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and the following alter-
ations made:-

1610. "Suggested" to be substituted for "decided", "group" for
"committee", and "put" for "remain".

1611 "The" before "extra responsibility" to be omitted. "If..help"
to be omitted and the following sentence substituted: "As far
as finances were concerned Mrs Dennis would be responsible
only for the 'Day to Day' book and other arrangements were to
be made for keeping the Account Books. Mr Dayan was to be
applied to for advice regarding the book keeping."

"The Jane Addams Fund" to be substituted for "A private fund".
"Hands of" to be omitted and "P.O. Savings in the names of"
to be substituted.

1613. "At the next Executive" to be added after "Commissions".

The Minutes were then signed.

Matters Arising.

1610a Greek Prisons. The Foreign Office reply to our enquiry on this subject was read. It was decided to enquire further into the matter. It was reported that the N.P.C. hoped to send a delegation to Greece but needed more funds. It was agreed that, with permission from the N.P.C., the matter should be mentioned in the News Sheet.

1610b The Circular Letter to the Branches, drafted by Mrs Duncan Harris, was read. This letter contained extracts from Miss Agatha Harrison's communication from Lake Success and urged each Branch to do all in its power to support the W.I.L. policy of "negotiate now" on the question of Korea and China. The representative of the Croydon Branch reported that they had fixed a meeting on the lines suggested for early February.

1621 W.I.L.P.F. Affairs.

a. 1952 Congress. It was reported that Lady Margaret Hall had accepted a provisional booking. It was agreed to enquire what accommodation was available at Ashburne Hall, Manchester.

b. All India Women's Conference. A message to the Conference, drafted by Miss Dickinson, was read. The Executive agreed to send it by Air Mail to the President, Mrs Urmilla Mehta. It read as follows:- "With friendly greetings the British Section of the W.I.L.P.F. sends sincere good wishes to members of the All India Women's Conference for a successful 22nd Session, and hopes that 1951 will provide fresh opportunities to work for the welfare and progress of their country.

It appreciates greatly how India 'has laboured with all earnestness of purpose in the cause of peace', in particular the important part she has played and is playing at Lake Success, and assures the Conference of its heartiest co-operation and continued efforts in this cause so vital to all peoples."

1922 Commissions. It was decided to leave the discussion of this question till later so that Mrs McGregor Wood could take part.

1923 Annual Council.

a. Agenda. Dr. Lloyd Pritchard agreed to speak on the economic implications of the rearmament programme with special reference to the under developed areas.

It was strongly suggested that there should be no overall title for the Council this year, but the final decision was to rest with the Agenda Committee.

The following members were elected to form the Agenda Committee:

Mrs Cusden J.P.
Mrs Duncan Harris J.P.
Mrs Ineson.
Mrs McGregor Wood.
Mrs Mitchiner.
Mrs Nuttall.
Mrs Sutherst.

It was decided that the Agenda Committee should deal with Resolutions before they were circulated.

b. Pooled Fares. It was suggested that:-

1. We might take advice as to whether it would work out more advantageously if every delegate who attended the Council shared in the pooled fares.
2. We might consider leaving out the Hostess Branch which in any case incurred expenses in running the Council.

These suggestions to be discussed at the Annual Council.

It was decided that this year we would carry out the rule as it stood. Reading, though the Hostess Branch, expressed the wish to be included in the pooled fares.

Dr. Lloyd Pritchard agreed to help Mrs Stapledon to determine which way of arranging the pooled fares would be most fair and efficient.

Branch Representatives were asked to bring the present rule to the notice of their secretaries.

1924. Finance. No financial statement was given, but Mrs Stapledon announced that the Birthday Appeal stood at the excellent amount of nearly £250. This would almost wipe out the 1950 deficit which was about £300, not £200 as previously announced. The Executive voiced its thanks to all those who had contributed.

1925 News Sheet. Miss Haughton asked specially for material from the Branches. She would always be glad to have any information that they wanted circulating.

1926 Correspondence. A letter was read from Mrs Sussams to announce the dissolution, owing to lack of workers, of the Folkestone Branch. She, Mrs Hester and Mrs Birch would become Headquarter Members. The news of the dissolution was received with great regret, and it was agreed to send a letter to Mrs Sussams to thank her for all the work that she and others had done to keep the Branch going.

1927. Branch News.

Manchester. It was reported that, at the W.I.L. 35th Birthday Party, in Manchester, Mrs Vipont Brown had told them of the early days of the League. Manchester was holding a "Festival of Women" during the Festival of Britain, and it was hoped they would gain publicity for the League by joining in it.

Coventry. It was announced that, in Miss Underhill, the Coventry Branch had a very keen new secretary.

Birmingham. Mrs Ballinger reported that Lady Parmoor was coming to speak to one of their meetings in March.

Headquarter Members. Mrs Sutherst announced that a Plymouth Headquarter member was trying to start a Branch in that town.

It was agreed that the names and addresses of members of the W.I.L. should not be given to chance enquirers. Such enquirers should first be personally contacted. Miss Haughton suggested that we might ask for volunteers in each district to carry out this work.

At the Afternoon Session Lady Parmoor took the chair and voiced, on behalf of the Executive, a very warm welcome to the Chairman, Mrs McGregor Wood, on her return from her tour in America. She also welcomed back Miss Agatha Harrison who, when her time allowed, had co-operated with Dr. Bussey and Mrs Walser in acting as our liaison officer at Lake Success. Both Mrs Wood and Miss Harrison were assured of our keen interest in their strenuous work in America, and our appreciation of the strengthened ties we now had with the American Section.

1928 Talk by Miss Agatha Harrison.

Miss Harrison gave a report of her work with the small international Quaker Team, who, with other Non-Governmental Organisations, attended the sessions at Lake Success. Here she was in close touch with Dr. Bussey and Mrs. Walser and was deeply impressed by the work done by the WILPF at Lake Success.

Miss Harrison said she felt there was a value in working, as she did, with a small international team, and that, if the next Assembly were held in Europe, it might be possible for the WILPF to find such a team.

Miss Harrison spoke of the present tension in Anglo-American relations, and felt our British Section should keep very closely in touch with the American Section in these days, when we were working against such odds.

Finally, in regard to the situation in the Far East; our League, in common with other organisations, had been too little in touch with this part of the world, (with the exception of India and Pakistan.) The new situation in China had been described as "an historic tidal wave", which peace organisations were unprepared to meet, either with information or contact.

Over twenty years ago the WILPF sent Miss Pye, Madame Drevet and Mrs. Grover Clark on a visit to the Far-East. Miss Harrison hoped that, at the coming international Executive, the Far Eastern situation would be taken very seriously into consideration.

Lady Farmoor then called on Mrs. McGregor Wood to describe her visit to the States which had proved, from all accounts received to be a "triumphal progress".

1929 Talk by Mrs. McGregor Wood.

Mrs. Wood described her stay of ten weeks in the States. She had addressed a hundred meetings and had travelled as far west as St. Cloud. Throughout her tour she had been impressed by the size and importance of that section of American opinion which might be said to share in the objects and ideals of the WILPF and kindred societies.

The majority of the audiences she addressed were not those belonging to WIL Branches, but meetings in schools, universities, women's groups, Rotaries, church organisations and World Federalists. Though she hesitated to generalise, she felt that she must say that amongst all these people she had found no war hysteria, but a very general desire that Great Britain should shoulder that moral leadership that American Statesmen did not seem to be undertaking, and that untrammelled by natural feelings of gratitude, our statesmen should take a bolder stand at the United Nations and vis a vis the State Department.

Mrs. Wood spoke with the greatest gratitude of the kindness which she had received throughout her stay, and expressed her earnest hope that our two Sections would work with even greater co-operation in the future than in the past.

1930 Reports.

a. Parliamentary Committee. It was reported that this Committee had sent letters to Mr. Attlee, Pandit Nehru, and all the Commonwealth Prime Ministers and had urged them to use the Commonwealth Conference as a means of furthering the cause of peace.

b. All Nations Group. Their successful Christmas party was reported.

c. The "Peace with China" meeting. It was reported that this meeting, organised by the N.P.C., had been held in Kingsway Hall on the night of January 8th. The enthusiasm of the packed audience was indicative of the strong feeling in the country against any policy that might lead to war with China. The speakers were:- Lord Stansgate, Mr Norman Bowor, Conservative M.P., Mr Michael Foot, Labour M.P. Mr Reginald Sorensen, Labour M.P., Mr Ritchie Calder C.B.E., the Rev. Henry Carter C.B.E., and Mr Kingsley Martin, Editor of the New Statesman.

The meeting led to the formation of the "Peace with China Campaign", and a resolution was passed and sent to Mr Attlee, Mr Bevin, and the Commonwealth Prime Ministers.

It was decided to send to the Branches a letter reporting this meeting; enclosing leaflets, and appealing for similar meetings to be arranged in local towns. Mrs Stapledon offered to draft this letter.

d. I.L.C.O.P. Lady Parmoor reported that she would be flying to Paris the following weekend to attend a conference of I.L.C.O.P. She explained that the present work was to build up an organisation with a headquarters in Paris. She spoke of the outstanding international character of those who would be taking part.

e. World Government Convention. Miss McAra gave an account of the Peoples' World Convention at Geneva, which she had attended as our delegate. She spoke of the inspiring meetings she had attended and the history-making nature of this representative gathering of the world's people. Twenty-five countries were represented, and about five hundred people were in the conference. The first representative People's Council was appointed. She also spoke of the unfortunate split that occurred when our M.P.s left the Conference.

THE NEXT MEETING will be held on Tuesday, February 6th, at 10.30 at Flat 16, 144 Southampton Row, W.C.1.

9th February 1950
Feb. 6th

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
Flat 16, 144 Southampton Row, London W.C.1.

FEBRUARY 1951.

TERMINUS 4116.

Minutes of Executive Committee held on Tuesday,
February 6th, at 144 Southampton Row, London W.C.1.

Present.

President	Lady Parmoor.
Vice Presidents	Lady Mayer.
Hon. Secretary	Mrs E.F. Ineson.
Executive.	
Chairman	Mrs McGregor Wood.
	Mrs Barber.
	Mrs Beard.
	Mrs Ballinger.
	Mrs Cusden J.P.
	Miss Dickinson.
	Mrs Greaves.
	Miss Agatha Harrison.
	Miss Haughton.
	Mrs Malcomson.
	Miss McAra.
	Mrs Malowska.
	Mrs Nuttall.
	Mrs Sutherst.
	Mrs Schlossmann.
	Mrs de Swiet.
	Mrs Twiston Davies.
	Mrs Weiss.

Consultants	Miss Mosa Anderson.
	Dr. Lloyd Pritchard.

Visitors	Mrs Dayan.
	Mrs Kemp.
	Mrs Wickham.

Observer	Mrs Wallis Hayward.
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Apologies were received from Mrs Ashworth, the Hon. Mrs Franklin, Mrs Mitchiner, Mrs Duncan Harris, & Mrs Stapledon.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, Mrs de Swiet's name was added to those from whom apologies had been received. The Minutes were then signed.

The Committee opened at 10.30 with Mrs McGregor Wood in the Chair.

It was decided to write letters of sympathy to Mrs Peat & Mrs Cliphant both of whom had recently suffered the loss of their husbands.

Matters arising.

1926. South Devon Group. A letter was read from Mrs Holmes stating that a new Group was about to be formed in Plymouth. Mrs Sutherst was warmly congratulated on her part in this achievement. It was decided that a speaker be sent to the inaugural meeting at Plymouth out of W.I.L. funds. The Officers were asked to arrange the matter.

1931 Finance. No Financial Report was given but it was reported that the Birthday Appeal had now reached a total of about £320. Great satisfaction was expressed.

1932. News Sheet. Miss Haughton reported that there was a circulation of about fifteen hundred News Sheets a month. She received many letters of congratulation from this country and also from abroad. She was warmly congratulated on her work.

Dr. Lloyd Pritchard suggested that we might have a twenty page magazine with six pages of advertisements, or twenty four to twenty eight pages with eight or more pages of advertisements. It was decided to appoint a small committee as quickly as possible to consider this suggestion. It was also decided to write to the Childwall Branch and ask them to study the suggestion and to report their findings. It was decided to increase the free list for the News Sheet.

1933 Talk on Yugoslavia by Mrs Brailsford. (it is hoped to circulate a synopsis of this talk at the next meeting.) Mrs Brailsford, who with her husband has recently been for several months in Yugoslavia as the guest of the Government, gave a most interesting talk on conditions in that country. Questions & discussion followed.

The Chairman voiced the thanks of the Executive to Mrs Brailsford for her brilliant exposition of the regime in Yugoslavia and the interesting ideas that she had given to them.

1934 German Rearmament. A letter ^{was read} from the Danish Section and from International Women's Day. They formed the basis of a discussion after which it was decided to form a committee consisting of Lady Parmoor, Mrs Weiss and Dr. Lloyd Pritchard to draw up a Resolution to protest against German Rearmament.

They drew up the following Resolution which was later approved by the Executive:-

RESOLUTION ON GERMAN REARMAMENT.

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, British Section, calls the attention of H.M. Government to the alarm of people in Britain and elsewhere at the proposals for the rearmament of Western Germany. We are of the opinion that this will increase the international tension and therefore the general danger of war.

We naturally deplore the encouragement of the revival of German militarism, and of the forces which found expression in Nazism. We feel moreover that such rearmament, accomplished as it would be against the expressed will of the great part of the German people, would undoubtedly tend, not only further to separate Eastern and Western Germany, but possibly to provoke civil war.

The world as a whole, as well as Germany, looks forward to peaceful reconstruction as an alternative to harmful rearmament. We hope therefore that H.M. Government will take steps to secure the place of Germany among the free and independent people of the world, and we trust that such steps will include a conference on general disarmament.

It was decided to send this Resolution to the Prime Minister, the War Office and the Foreign Office. Copies for information were to go to the American Embassy, with a covering letter, also to the American, Danish and German Sections, International Chairmen and Branches.

It was suggested that a small conference of women, representing other organisations, be called to discuss German Rearmament. Mr Attlee, or a Minister of State might be asked to receive a deputation from such a conference.

1935 Other Organisations.

British Women's Hospitality Committee (for the Festival of Britain) Mrs de Swiet was elected to represent the League at the forthcoming meeting at the Forum Club.

b. World Federation. Miss Hargreaves and Miss McAra were elected to represent the League at the Rome Congress of Federalists to be held from April 2nd to 9th.

c. Crusade for World Government. Miss McAra was elected as the League Delegate to the meeting on February 17th. The Birmingham Branch undertook to appoint one of their members as delegate from the British Section to all meetings held in Birmingham. Miss Haughton undertook to act as proxy should any of the meetings be held in London.

1936 Korea.

a. Action taken by Officers. Telegrams were sent to all women M.P.s and to the Hon. Kenneth Younger and the Prime Minister, to beg them not to support the resolution declaring China the aggressor in the present war.

b. Action taken by the Parliamentary Committee. A letter had been sent to Mr Attlee to urge that, under no circumstances, should the United Nations' troops cross the 38th parallel.

c. Miss Agatha Harrison drafted the following resolution which was later approved by the Executive and sent to the Hon. Kenneth Younger and a copy by airmail to Sir Gladwyn Jobb at Lake Success.

RESOLUTION ON THE KOREAN SITUATION.

In view of the present deadlock in the Korean situation, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, British Section, urges H.M. Government to press for the calling of the Seven Power Conference suggested in the Arab Asian resolution; such a conference to take place if possible in Asia.

Miss Harrison gave an analysis of the situation and suggested that we should keep in close contact with the Peace with China Council

1937 Annual Council.

a. Agenda. The Preliminary Agenda was discussed and approved with slight alterations. The Sunday Afternoon Session from 3 - 4 should be optional.

b. Annual Report. It was not ready for presentation, partly

owing to the unusually early date of the Council and partly to the fact that all the contributors had been ill. However Mrs Ineson outlined the new arrangement of the Report and the Executive agreed to it with great pleasure. It was decided that the headings of the Resolutions passed at the 1950 Annual Council be included in it, and the full text of the 1951 Council Resolutions.

c. Allocation of Rooms. Mrs Nuttall and Mrs Sutherst, the hostesses for the Council, undertook the allocation of rooms.

d. Executive Resignations. It was reported that Mrs D.C.M. Warner had resigned from the office of Hon. Co-Secretary and from the Membership of the Executive; Mrs McGregor Wood from being Chairman, and Miss Agatha Harrison from being Vice-Chairman.

1938. Reports. Mrs Weiss reported that she was going to Vienna in March and would contact WILPF members there.

Mrs Dayan reported that she had attended a World Citizenship Meeting on behalf of the W.I.L. at which James Avery Joyce had reported on his visit to America. He had sensed a deep feeling of frustration among the people and had thought them unable to face up to the present problems in any constructive way. He had been more than ever convinced that the choice for them, as for the rest of the world lay between world citizenship or no world to work for.

1939 THE NEXT MEETING. It was proposed by Miss McAra, seconded by Mrs Weiss, and agreed unanimously, that, in view of the fact that the Annual Council was meeting early in March the next meeting should be held on TUESDAY, APRIL 3RD.

G. P. McGregor Wood

April 3rd 1951.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
Flat 16, 144 Southampton Row, London W.C.1.

March 1951.

Terminus 4116

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held at
Rosehill, Reading, March 19th, 1951.

The following members were present:-

President.	Lady Parmoor.
Vice-Presidents.	Miss Agatha Harrison, Mrs Duncan Harris.
Hon. Secretary.	Mrs Ineson.
Hon. Treasurer.	Mrs Stapledon.
Hon. Members Sec.	Mrs Sutherst.
Chairman.	Mrs Nuttall.
Executive.	Miss Hargreaves. Miss Haughton. Mrs de Swiet. Mrs Twiston Davies. Mrs Ballinger. Mrs Holden. Miss McAra. Mrs Hartley. Mrs Cusden. Mrs Barber.

Correspondence.

Miss Haughton.

a. British Commonwealth League. Mrs de Swiet, & Mrs Twiston Davies were elected as delegates to the Council Meeting in May.

1940. Finance.

a. Election of Hon. Assistant Treasurer. It was proposed by Mrs Stapledon, seconded by Mrs Hartley, and carried unanimously that Mrs Holden be Hon. Assistant Treasurer.

b. Finance Committee. It was proposed by Mrs Cusden, seconded by Mrs Hartley, and carried unanimously that a Finance Committee be set up to consist of three members and the two Hon. Treasurers. Their terms of reference to be:-

1. To make out the Annual Budget.
2. To recommend methods of raising funds to meet the needs of the Budget.
3. To report to the Executive and to advise on problems relating to finance as they arise.

1941. Resolutions.

a. Statement for International Executive. After much discussion the resolution was slightly changed. It was then proposed by Mrs Duncan Harris, seconded by Miss McAra and carried.

Decided that it be sent to Geneva, circulated with the other Resolutions in the Annual Report, sent to Mrs Hannah Sen,

b. Emergency Resolution on Four Power Conference. Decided that it be sent by telegram to the Foreign Office and to all four Power's deputies in Paris.

c. Statement on Korea. Decided that Miss Agatha Harrison should

check the exact wording of the Statement at India House, and that it should then be sent to Geneva, the American Section, and with a covering letter signed by Lady Parmoor to the President of the United Nations, Mr Trygve Lie, Sir Benegal Rau, Mr Nehru, Mrs Hannah Sen, and, with a letter signed by Mrs Ineson to the Commonwealth Relations Office. Copy for information to Sir Gladwyn Jebb.

d. Resolution on Human Rights. Decided to send a copy to Geneva. Mrs-Sutherst agreed to send it to Picture Post with a covering letter.

e. Colombo Resolution. Decided to send a copy to Geneva. Dr. Lloyd Pritchard to be consulted as to the Government Departments that it should be sent to. The Officers to decide on its further use.

Decided that all Resolutions be circulated to Council Members as soon as possible.

1941. Deputation to Mr Morrison. Lady Parmoor agreed to write a letter to Mr Morrison to ask him to receive a deputation from the W.I.L.

THE NEXT MEETING to be held on Tuesday, April 3rd, at 10.30.

G.P. Chalmers Wood

ap: 3. 1951

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
Flat 16, 144 Southampton Row, London W.C.1.

APRIL 1951

Terminus 4116

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held
at Flat 16, 144 Southampton Row, W.C.1. on April 3rd, 1951.

The following members were present:-

President.	Lady Parmoor.
Ex-President.	Mrs Duncan Harris.
Hon. Secretary	Mrs Edith F. Ineson.
Hon. Treasurer	Mrs A. Z. Stapledon.
Hon. Ast. Treasurer	Mrs Holden.
Hon. Members Sec.	Mrs Sutherst.
Elected Members	Mrs Cusden. Miss Hargreaves. Dr. Lloyd Pritchard. Mrs McGregor Wood. Mrs Muirhead. (for a short time) Mrs Nuttall Mrs Twiston Davies.
Branch Repres.	Mrs Ashworth Coventry. Miss Bailes Worthing. Mrs Ballinger Birmingham. Mrs Barber Reading. Mrs Goring Hassocks & Ditchling. Mrs Malewska Polish Group. Mrs Malcomson Liverpool. Mrs Needham Manchester. Mrs Pick Leicester. Mrs Schlossmann Cambridge. Mrs Weiss Orpington. Mrs Wickham Oxford.
Deputy	Miss Dickinson.
Visitors	Mrs Kemp. Mrs Peat.
Observer	Mrs Wallis Hayward.

Apologies were received from:-

Mrs Walter Ayles.
Mrs Beard.
Mrs Greaves.
Miss Agatha Harrison.
Miss Haughton.
The Hon. Mrs Franklin.
Mrs Lesniak.
Lady Mayer.
Miss McAra.
Mrs Mitchiner.
Mrs de Swiet.

The meeting opened at 10.30 with Mrs McGregor Wood, the retiring
Chairman, in the Chair.

The Minutes of the February meeting were read and signed. The min-
utes of the March meeting, held at Reading after the Annual Council,

were read. It was decided to add to them the statement passed by the Council for consideration by the International Executive. The minutes were then signed.

Matters Arising.

1932. A letter was read from Mrs Greaves of the Childwall Branch, to whom the question of alterations to the News Sheet had been referred. She asked for more information on the subject; and it was decided to ask Dr. Lloyd Pritchard and Miss Haughton to write to her and give their views.

1933. It was reported that no synopsis of Mrs Brailsford's talk on Yugoslavia had yet been received!

1935. It was reported that the Birmingham Branch had not yet been able to appoint a representative to the Federation of World Government.

The Chairman then gave a very warm welcome to the new Executive Members; Miss Hargreaves; Dr. Lloyd Pritchard, Mrs Wickham of Oxford, Miss Bailes of Worthing, and Mrs Pick of Leicester.

Chairman's Farewell Remarks.

Mrs McGregor Wood, who was resigning the Chairmanship after three years tenure, expressed her gratitude to the Council for their telegram and the book token, her great sorrow at not being present at the Council, and her appreciation of the opportunities afforded her at the Executive of reporting a few of her impressions of the American Section.

Firstly, the quality of leadership in the States remained high and able women were still being attracted to the work.

Secondly, there was great diversity of opportunity in the American Section; numerous publications; the "Friendship through Art" scheme; the Philadelphia antique shop; speaking tours; visits to and work at Lake Success; many social events; "projects"; and keen election work.

Thirdly, the religious denominations were well represented in the work and much closer touch was kept with women's church groups.

Fourthly, the work of the Section was much decentralised in spite of (a) the large Headquarter Staff, (b) the size of the territory to be covered. There seemed to be chairmen of twenty seven committees, many of whom did not live near to Headquarters.

Mrs McGregor Wood read two poems by John Drinkwater; "The Common Lot" and "Thrift", and concluded by thanking the Executive for their support and expressing her great pleasure at the thought of continuing to work for the W.I.L. as Liaison Officer.

The Executive's thanks to the Chairman.

Lady Parmoor thanked Mrs McGregor Wood warmly on behalf of the Executive for her unique and devoted service for the W.I.L. in her three years Chairmanship.

Mrs Ineson seconded these thanks and made special mention of the work that Mrs McGregor Wood had put in "behind the scenes" in helping to solve the problems and difficulties of the Hon. Secretary. She admired Mrs McGregor Wood's courage in accepting challenges for service from outside sources into which she carried the W.I.L. interests. She also spoke of the vision of what the W.I.L. should be and do which always animated Mrs Wood's work.

Mrs Duncan Harris recalled the fact that Mrs McGregor Wood's service to the Executive covered many more years than her chairmanship and included eight years as Hon. Treasurer.

Mrs Stapledon spoke of the satisfaction that it had given to the British Section to be able to "lend" their chairman so frequently, not only to the Branches in this country, but to the American Section during 1950, and to the German Section during 1949. Her sympathetic personality had drawn them all more closely together.

The President, Lady Parmoor, then took the Chair.

1942. Election of New Chairman.

The following names were put forward:-

Mrs Cusden. Proposed by Mrs Nuttall, seconded by Mrs Ballinger.
Mrs de Swiet. Proposed by Mrs McGregor Wood, seconded by Mrs Sutherst.

A ballot vote was taken with the following result:-

Mrs de Swiet 12 votes.
Mrs Cusden 11 votes.

Congratulations, and loyal support of the new Chairman were expressed by the President and by Mrs Cusden.

1942. Election of Vice-Chairmen.

The following names were put forward:-

Mrs Cusden. Proposed Mrs Wood, seconded Mrs Stapledon.
Mrs Nuttall. Proposed Mrs Duncan Harris, seconded Mrs Holden.
Dr. Lloyd Pritchard. Proposed Mrs Sutherst, seconded Mrs Ballinger.
Mrs Ballinger. Proposed Mrs Nuttall, seconded Mrs Wood.

It was proposed by Mrs McGregor Wood, seconded by Mrs Stapledon, and carried unanimously that all four nominees be elected.

Mrs Cusden, as Vice-Chairman, then took the Chair in the absence of Mrs de Swiet.

1943. Appointment of Committees.

- a. Publications Sub-Committee. It was proposed by Mrs Duncan Harris, seconded by Mrs McGregor Wood, and carried unanimously, that a Publications Committee be set up. Later it was decided that it should be a sub-committee of the Publicity Committee.

b. Publicity Committee. It was proposed by Mrs Nuttall, seconded by Mrs Holden, and carried unanimously, that a Publicity Committee be set up. Its terms of reference should be to publicise the principles and work of the WIL by Press, Publicity, Propaganda, Publications, Films and Radio.

It should have power to appoint ad hoc committees to deal with particular pieces of work.

It was proposed that the work of the Film Committee be covered by the Publicity Committee.

c. Organisation Committee. It was agreed to re-appoint an Organisation Committee to deal with the organisation of the League and with Membership.

d. Parliamentary Committee. It was agreed that this committee be re-elected to continue its valuable work in the political field.

e. Race Relations Committee. It was proposed by Mrs Sutherst seconded by Mrs Malcomson, and carried unanimously, to appoint a Race Relations Committee to study problems included under this title, and to cover the ground formerly covered by the Commission on the Colour Question.

f. Finance Committee. It was noted that the March Executive at Rosehill had agreed on the necessity of appointing a Finance Committee to prepare a budget for each year and to consider means of raising/for this budget.
money

1945. Election of Members of Committee.

Officers are ex-officio members of all committees.

Publicity Committee.

Mrs Cusden. Convener.

Miss Walmsley.

Mrs Coppock.

Mrs Muirhead.

Mrs Matheson.

Mrs Peat.

~~Miss Brittain.~~

Miss Dickinson.

Mrs Warner.

Mrs Hargreaves Mrs Sutherst

It was agreed that this Committee should have the power to co-opt members with the approval of the Executive.

Organisation Committee.

Mrs Sutherst. Convener.

Mrs Needham.

Mrs Dayan.

Mrs Twiston Davies.

Miss Hargreaves.

Mrs Ashworth.

Mrs Ballinger.

Mrs McGregor Wood. ex officio.

It was agreed that this Committee should have the power to co-opt members with the approval of the Executive.

Parliamentary Committee.

Chairman. Lady Parmoor.
Secretary. Miss Hargreaves.
Lady Mayer:
Miss Nightingale.
Mrs Holland. — *Miss Sec.*
Dr. Lloyd Pritchard.
Miss Agatha Harrison.
Mrs Walter Ayles. *London & D. Officer*
Mrs Muirhead. *London Officers*
Miss Condon
Miss Mitchell
Miss Webb

It was agreed that any member of the League would be welcome at Parliamentary Committee meetings as an observer.

Race Relations Committee.

Miss Dickinson. Convener.
Mrs Malcomson.
~~Miss Agatha Harrison.~~ *(Consultant)*
Mrs Muirhead.
Mrs Greta James.
~~Miss Mosa Anderson.~~

London Group
Mrs Patricia Calder
Miss Phyllis Lee
Marjorie Woodcock

Finance Committee.

Mrs Stapledon.)
Mrs Holden.) Conveners.
Mrs Sutherst.
Dr. Lloyd Pritchard.
Mrs Twiston Davies.
Mrs Kemp.

It was agreed that this committee should not have the power to co-opt members.

1946. Election of Representatives to other Societies.

The Abyssian Association.	Miss Dickinson.
The British Commonwealth League. (elected at March Executive.)	Mrs de Swiet. Mrs Twiston Davies. Miss Haughton.
The Joint Standing Parliamentary Committee.	Miss Edith Hayler.
² Liaison Committees ¹ for (World Government)	Mrs McGregor Wood. Miss McAra.
National Peace Council	Mrs Duncan Harris. Miss Agatha Harrison. Miss Haughton. Mrs McGregor Wood. <u>Deputy.</u> Mrs Holden.
No Conscription Council	Mrs Needham. Mrs Holden. <u>Deputy.</u> Miss Bailes.
The Status of Women Committee.	Mrs Nuttall. <u>Deputy.</u> Mrs McGregor Wood

UNA Women's Advisory Committee

Miss Dickinson.

Women's Council Co-operating with
the women of India, Pakistan and
Ceylon.

Miss Dickinson.
Miss Agatha Harrison.
Mrs Lankester.

1947 Commissions. It was agreed that the Commissions had served a useful purpose in preparing reports on important questions for the Executive. Their work could be carried on more efficiently now by committees. The Commissions were therefore to be dropped.

1948. Association for World Peace. Mrs Muirhead, who came in for a short time, was congratulated by the Chairman on being elected member of the Executive.

She reported that there had been an immense response to the appeal for the Association for World Peace started by Victor Gollancz. £831 had been received to date and 15,000 prospectuses had been distributed.

1949. African Relations Council. Mrs Muirhead reported that this Council was to meet on May 10th at 5.30 at Edinburgh House, when the Chairman of the Christian Council of South Africa would address it.

1950. Crockery. It was proposed by Mrs McGregor Wood and seconded by Mrs Malcomson, that £2 be spent out of funds on buying crockery.

An amendment was proposed by Mrs Twiston Davies, seconded by Lady Parmoor, and carried unanimously, that all members of the Executive present be asked to contribute towards the expense of buying the crockery. Thirty shillings were collected.

1951. Discussion on Communism. It was decided that at the next Executive Meeting time should be devoted to a discussion on the difference between Communism and its opposing ideologies. It was felt that this was the most important question of the present day underlying as it did the whole subject of East West relations.

Lady Parmoor, Mrs Weiss and Dr. Lloyd Pritchard agreed to speak on the subject and it was decided that Miss Agatha Harrison should also be asked to take part.

1952. Matters concerning the Annual Council.

Mrs Sutherst stressed the thanks due to the Reading Branch for their kindness and help with the arrangements for the Annual Council. She also expressed the gratitude of the Executive to Dr. Lloyd Pritchard for her most valuable and interesting lectures.

Lady Parmoor thanked Mrs Kempwarmly for organising a most successful pageant of Famous Women throughout the Ages.

Council Finance. Mrs Holden reported that a profit of £9.18.7. had been made on the Council. In addition £22 had been made by the Sale.

Duplicating. It was decided that the cost of duplicating tables for the lectures should be paid out of the profit of the Council.

1953. Polish Memorandum. It was decided that six members of the Polish Group be asked to meet the officers to discuss the Memorandum. The decisions of this meeting to be reported to the Executive. Lady Parmoor offered to hold the meeting at her house, and the invitation was gratefully accepted.

1954. Meetings of other Societies.

- a. Polish Women's Association. Mrs Wallis Hayward reported that she had been to a meeting at which the speaker had told of life in Poland under the Germans and Russians. She had said that, although the Germans had been more brutal, the Russian domination was harder to bear psychologically.

1955. WILPF Affairs.

- a. International Executive. Mrs Stapledon reported that it was still uncertain if it would be held in Copenhagen or in Geneva.
- b. Transfer of International Funds. Mrs Stapledon reported that the international office was very low in funds and suggested that the British Section should transfer some of their frozen international funds to headquarters if possible. It was agreed to look into this matter again.
- c. International Summer School. Mrs Sutherst asked that the International Summer School be given the widest possible publicity. It was decided to circulate information about it to all the Branch Secretaries, and also to ask the NPC, PPU, IFOR and The Friend to publish an announcement of it.

1956. Finance.

- a. Statement of Accounts. Mrs Holden reported that, taking into consideration the ordinary income only, we were £2 down on the first quarter of 1951. However the following special amounts had come in in 1951:-

Annual Council. £9.18.7.
Sale at Reading. £22. 0.0
Birthday Appeal. £174. 0.0.

so that we had £206 in hand.

- b. Signing of Cheques. It was proposed by Mrs Nuttall, seconded by Mrs Duncan Harris and carried unanimously that two of any of the following members should sign the cheques:-

Mrs de Swiet.
Mrs Ineson.
Mrs Stapledon.
Mrs Holden.

1957. News Sheet. It was reported that a full account of the Annual Council would appear in the next number but that some of the more practical contributions would have to be held over to the following number for lack of space.

1958. Report of Parliamentary Committee.

Miss Hargreaves reported that, among other work, the Committee had sent a letter of greeting to Mrs Tomcic, member of the Yugoslav Delegation that visited London recently. It had also sent a letter to the Secretary of International Women's Day to ask her to convey a special greeting to the Russian Women Delegates who had assembled in England.

The Committee had discussed the closing down of the British Council Hostels in Manchester and Leeds, and the cutting down of the "Voice of Britain" by the B.B.C. It voiced its strong regret and asked the Executive to take appropriate action.

1959. The British Council & The B.B.C.

The Executive decided to write to the B.B.C. and to the Treasury on the question of the "Voice of Britain".

On the closing down of the Hostels the Executive decided to write to the British Council; to ask advice from Mr Sorensen M.P. and to ask the Colonial Office to accept a deputation on the subject.

Mrs Malcomson agreed to go to the Colonial Office to see Mr Keith and Mrs Duncan Harris agreed to write to the Rev. Henry Carter, Chairman of the Africa Relations Committee.

1960. Croydon Branch.

- a. List of Members wanted by Headquarters. This question was discussed and Mrs Holden was asked to convey the opinion of the Executive to the Croydon Branch.
- b. Affiliation to Surrey Peace Council. It was decided that the Croydon Branch should not affiliate.
- c. International Members. The Assistant Treasurer was asked to keep the Geneva Office informed on this subject.

1961. Mrs Weiss Visit to Vienna. Mrs Weiss gave a very short account of her recent visit to Vienna. She said that the Austrian Group was very active and had put up a candidate for the Austrian Presidential Elections. The Group was in urgent need of money for its work in this connection.

It was proposed by Miss Dickinson, seconded by Mrs Duncan Harris, and carried unanimously that £6.6. be sent out of the Penny a Week Fund. Decided that a letter be sent to Frau Hartman of the Austrian Group to convey the good wishes of the British Section and explain the use of the Penny a Week Fund.

THE NEXT MEETING to be held on Tuesday, May 1st at 10.30.

Lidia de Smet.

File copy

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
Flat 16, 144, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

May 1951

TERminus 4116

Minutes of the Executive held at Flat 16,
Southampton Row, W.C.1. on May 1st, 1951.

The following members were present:-

Mrs. Lydia de Swiet in the Chair

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| President | Lady Parmoor |
| Ex-President | Mrs. Barbara Duncan Harris |
| Hon. Secretary | Mrs. Edith F. Ineson |
| Hon. Treasurer | Mrs. Agnes Z. Stapledon |
| Hon. Asst. Secretary | Mrs. Phyllis G. Mitchiner |
| Hon. Asst. Treasurer | Mrs. Dora Holden |
| Hon. Membership Secretary | Mrs. Olive Sutherst |
| News Sheet Editor | Miss Amy Haughton |
| Vice President | Miss Agatha Harrison |
| Vice President
(Liaison Officer) | Mrs. G. R. McGregor Wood |
| Vice Chairman | Mrs. Phoebe Cusdon |
| Vice Chairman | Mrs. Mary Nuttall |
| Vice Chairman | Mrs. Elizabeth Ballinger |
| Vice Chairman | Dr. M. F. Lloyd Prichard |
| | Miss Doris Hargreaves |
| | Mrs. G. F. Muirhead |
| | Mrs. Isabel Davies |
| | Mrs. Jean D. Ayles |
| | Miss A. M. Bailes |
| | Mrs. Georgina L. Barber |
| | Miss Christian H. McAra |
| | Mrs. Nell Greaves |
| | Mrs. Grace Malcolmson |
| | Mrs. Elizabeth Aitken |
| | Mrs. Margaret Schlossmann |
| | Mrs. J. J. I. Binns |
| | Mrs. Doris Ann Beard |
| | Mrs. Gladys Needham |
| | Mrs. Nelly Weiss |
| Worthing Branch | |
| Reading Branch | |
| Glasgow & Edinburgh | |
| Childwall | |
| Liverpool | |
| Oxford | |
| Cambridge | |
| Leicester | |
| Long Eaton | |
| Manchester | |
| Orpington | |
| Consultant | Miss Maud Dickenson |
| Observer | Mrs. Marjorie E. Hayward |
| London Congregational Union Women's League | |

Apologies from :
Lady Mayer
Mrs. Malewska
Mrs. Myrtle Radley

Opening the meeting at 10.30, Mrs. de Swiet expressed her thanks to the Committee for electing her as Chairman. She spoke of future work and of the need for re-organisation and tendered the warm thanks of the League to Lady Parmoor whose generous gift of one hundred pounds will do much to help in this direction. She declared that we are all pacifists in our aim for total disarmament though we differ in our views as to how it is to be brought about.

Announcements.

1. The Annual Report was ready for distribution and had cost much less than was anticipated. It worked out at about 6d a copy.

2. Mrs. Radley in a letter to the Chairman wished to bring to the attention of the Committee the fact that a well-known Swedish member, Signe Fredholm, had joined a party of women visiting Russia and, as a consequence, was asked to give up the editorship of the W.I.L. paper and was excluded from the Executive Committee of her branch.

The minutes of the meeting held on April 3rd were passed and signed.

Matters Arising.

1945 Committees

Miss Vera Brittain's name was deleted from the Publicity Committee as she was unable to serve. Also Miss Mosa Anderson's from the Race Relations Committee. Miss Agatha Harrison will serve as consultant. A long discussion took place on the question of paying fares for long distance members of committees (other than Executive). It was proposed by Mrs. Duncan Harris, seconded by Dr. Lloyd Prichard that fares should be paid for one meeting only of the Publicity Committee. This was carried 17 for, 4 against.

The London Group was elected with Mrs. Isabel Davies as secretary. A full list of members will be given at the next Executive.

1946 "World Government Committees" substituted for "Liaison Committee for World Government".

1953 Polish Memorandum. The meeting to discuss this was postponed to June. A letter of thanks for Lady Parmoor's invitation was read from Countess Lubienka.

1958 Miss Doris Hargreaves had undertaken to correspond with Mrs. Tomsic of Yugo-Slavia and exchange literature, at her request.

1959 Letters were read from

(1) The B.B.C. thanking the W.I.L. for its appreciation of the Overseas Service. (It was noted that the Government's decision to reduce the grant had been rescinded.)

(2) Colonial Office stating that the closing of the Hostels was the responsibility of the British Council and that they might be willing to receive a deputation.

(3) Professor John Harvey of Leeds University giving his view that coloured students derive immense benefits from living in Hostels or Halls of Residence.

(4) Miss Rose Gillinson of Leeds offering to get in touch with coloured students there and finding out their views.

Mrs. Malcolmson felt that it was the responsibility of the Colonial Office to see that no more hostels were closed and that accommodation should be open to coloured students in University Halls and Hostels and that they should be given preference. It was decided that a letter should be sent to the Colonial Office on these points, drafted by Mrs. Malcolmson.

1955 The International Executive is meeting in Geneva on May 18th.

1961 A letter of thanks was received from Frau Hartman for the gifts of six guineas from the Penny a Week Fund.

1962 Office Affairs. An emergency situation had arisen in the office owing to the absence of Mrs. Dennis in Scotland where she was helping to nurse a brother who was seriously ill. It was felt by the Officers that, for this and other reasons they must terminate her engagement at the end of the month. The Executive endorsed this decision.

It was disclosed that Mrs. Dorothy Warner was willing to consider the post of General Secretary if the W.I.L. felt that they could make her an offer. The position would be a different one from that held by the previous secretaries. It would entail political work, contacts with the Press, and guidance on matters of policy and action. The officers had looked at the matter very seriously and in the light of

(1) the President's gift of £100 which was earmarked for this purpose

(2) the possibility of sufficient voluntary workers to carry on the routine work of the office

(3) the need for a forward move to revivify the W.I.L. in this country

they recommended the Executive to offer the post to Mrs. Warner with a salary of £500 a year and a possible part-time worker for typing and duplicating.

Discussion in the Executive centred round the following points :-

(1) Extra expenditure would be £50 for the first year, taking into account the £100 gift, as well as the salary of a part-time worker. This reverses our recent policy of economy.

(2) Present economies in rent would continue and these are considerable.

(3) This is a unique opportunity to obtain the full-time services of a W.I.L. member of outstanding gifts and cannot easily be set aside.

(4) As a long term policy, it is reasonable to hope that it would result in better work, added interest and increased membership. The Executive agreed ~~unanimously~~ to make the offer.

1963 Parliamentary Committee Report

At the request of Mrs. Cicely Cooke of the Women's Co-operative Guild, a meeting was arranged to discuss the possibility of contacting women behind the Iron Curtain. This was to take place on May 9th at Lady Parmoor's flat, with tea, at her invitation. Miss Hargreaves, Miss Agatha Harrison, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Isabel Davies and Mrs. Ineson were to represent the W.I.L.

Eleven newspapers had received the letter sent by Japanese women to Mr. John Foster Dulles regarding the coming Peace Treaty. Some had acknowledged receipt.

A deputation had waited on Lord Henderson at the Foreign Office. The delegation felt this had been well worth while and had opened the door for further action of this sort. It was suggested that another deputation might ask to be received after the Geneva Executive. This should consist of Branch members in different parts of the country in order to stress the widespread feeling everywhere.

1964 Organisation Committee Report

Mrs. Sutherst reported that a preliminary meeting had been held, attended by a few of the members and the need had been expressed for the publication of a pamphlet suitable for giving away at group meetings. Mrs. Isabel Davies was to consult an artist friend about this.

Festival of Britain

Mrs. Muirhead suggested the holding of an International fair.

A letter from Camberwell about the organising of a Peace Procession was read. Mrs. Sutherst was asked to find out more about the background before branches would be ~~instructed~~ as *advised* to the lines to be taken if similar processions should be organised elsewhere.

1965 Race Relations Committee

Miss Dickenson drew the attention of the Executive to the passing of a Group Areas Act in South Africa. It was reported that Mr. & Mrs. Brayshaw were travelling to South Africa at the end of May and it was agreed that a letter should be sent to Mrs. Maude Brayshaw inviting her to meet us on her return. It was also agreed to enquire from the Rev. Philip Eastman of the Commission of Churches on International Affairs, what is the present position of the Commission set up by the World Council of Churches to visit South Africa.

Mrs. Duncan Harris asked that members of the International Executive might be briefed on this subject before going to Geneva. Miss Agatha Harrison suggested that we should write to U.N.H.Q. to ask for information on the Commission appointed by them to report on conditions in S.W. Africa.

It was agreed that Mr. Greenidge be asked to speak to the Executive on his return from U.N.

1966 W.I.L.P.F. Affairs

Congress in 1952 Letter was read from Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, offering accommodation in August in that year for 180. It was decided not to pursue the matter further until after the International Executive, delegates to which were asked to extend a warm invitation to the Congress to meet in England.

Finland. A letter was read from Mrs. Toini Iverson asking for hospitality in an English family in return for help with domestic duties. She is anxious to visit England and learn the language. Mrs. Mitchiner agreed to ask for more details.

International Fund. The transfer of £200 to Geneva was still being negotiated, Mrs. Sutherst having undertaken the responsibility of the accounts.

Reception at the ^{Maison Internationale Geneva} Mansion. Mrs. Stapledon raised this subject and asked for names of celebrities who should be invited.

The report of the Rome Congress, to be presented by Miss McAra, was postponed till next Executive.

1967 News Sheet

Miss Ruth Harrison and Miss Gill were thanked for their work in getting it distributed so promptly.

Miss Haughton had written an article on the W.I.L. in the "Wayfarer".

Childwall Branch had sent in their findings on the possibility of publishing a larger paper with advertisements. The consideration of this was postponed till the next Executive.

1968

A discussion then took place on the tension between East and West and Miss Agatha Harrison spoke on the practical approaches to this subject.

1. She was glad that the officers were to have a talk with Mrs. C. Cooke of the Women's Co-operative Guild. Both our organisations faced very real difficulties in this matter. Our talk together might give further light on future action.

2. She reported that a small international group of women were leaving for China and Korea at the request of women in both these countries. The month's visit had been arranged by the Women's Democratic Federation. Miss Harrison wished that we could have been part of that group and urged that when Miss Jessie Street returned in June, we arranged to see her. This matter was referred to Mrs. Isabel Davies.

3. Miss Harrison felt that the most important practical step of easing East-West tension would be to call a halt on the ghastly slaughters in Korea. She hoped we would give renewed attention to this matter.

Mrs. Ballinger felt that the Korea problem was centred in the East-West tension. Mrs. Muirhead suggested that the W.I.L. might make an effort to bring together Mrs. Roosevelt and Madame Sun Yat Sen as a dramatic gesture to help to ease the situation.

1969

Mrs. Weiss reported on her recent visit to Vienna. She reminded us that, like Berlin, Vienna is situated inside the Soviet Zone, but jointly occupied by the Four Powers. To travel to Vienna or the Soviet Zone, you still need a Russian Military Permit. The post-war difficulties of this small impoverished country are greatly increased by 3 factors:

The cost of occupation forces.

The refugees.

The large reparation claimed by Russia.

The Communist Party is very small but can rely on Russian support. In the Soviet Zone a great number of people have been arrested or abducted, often with no reason being given. Many months later - if at all - their families hear what became of them. Our Austrian section is a small group but very active and full of enterprise. They must be most careful in anything that touches on party politics or the occupation forces. They cannot associate themselves with a large Peace Campaign conducted by the Women's Section of the Social Democratic Party, strictly on party lines. Our Austria Section have nominated a woman as candidate for the Presidency of the Republic. Frau Ludovica Hainisch-Marchet is an excellent candidate. She and her supporters know that her chances are less than slight but this election campaign gives our Austrian Section an excellent opportunity to propagate our aims.

1970

Report on East-West Tension. Lady Parmoor emphasised the change in Russian Communists during the last 35 years. The idealism which was hailed by Sidney and Beatrice Webb as a new civilization was now feared by the West as a new tyranny. This she traced largely to the effect of war. She spoke of the need of understanding and recommended "Two Worlds in Focus" - studies in the Cold War, produced by the East-West Commission of the National Peace Council of which she was a member. She drew attention in particular to the article "The Bridge between" by Dr. Olaf Stapledon. She stressed the opportunity afforded by the World Peace Council Movement for building bridges, but pointed out that this work would need both courage and wisdom.

Jessie de Saint

The next meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 5th at 10.30 a.m.

File copy

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Flat 16, 144, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1

June 1951

TERminus 4116

Minutes of the Executive held at Flat 16,
Southampton Row, W.C.1, on June 5th, 1951

The following members were present:-

Mrs. Lydia de Swiet in the Chair

Ex-President

Mrs. Barbara Duncan Harris

Vice-Presidents

Miss Agatha Harrison

Lady Mayer

Hon. Secretary

Mrs Edith Ineson

Hon. Treasurer

Mrs Agnes Z. Stapleton

Hon. Asst. Secretary

Mrs Phyllis G. Mitchiner

Hon. Asst. Secretary

Mrs Dora Holden

Hon. Membership Secretary

Mrs Olive Sutherst

News Sheet Editor

Miss Amy Haughton

Vice Chair~~man~~

Mrs Elizabeth Ballinger

Mrs Phoebe Cusden

Mrs Mary Nuttall

Dr. M.F. Lloyd Prichard

Elected members

Mrs Jean D. Ayles

Mrs Isabel Davies

Miss Doris Hargreaves

Mrs G.F. Muirhead

Branch Representatives

Miss A.M. Bailes (Worthing)

Mrs Georgina L. Barber (Reading)

Mrs Grace Malcolmson (Liverpool)

Mrs Elizabeth W. Pick (Leicester)

Mrs Margaret Schlossmann (Cambridge)

Mrs Nelly Weiss (Orpington)

Mrs Margaret Wickham (Oxford)

Consultant

Miss Maud Dickenson

Visitors:

Mrs Evelyn Peat (from Hassocks and
Ditchling Branch)

Frau Magda Hoppstock-Huth (President
of German Section)

Apologies from:

Lady Parmoor

Mrs McGregor Wood

Mrs Alice Ashworth

Mrs Nell Greaves

Sympathy was expressed with the President Lady Parmoor in her inability to continue working for the next few months. The Chairman was asked to write a letter from the Executive, conveying their warm greetings and hopes for speedy recovery.

Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on May 1st were confirmed (after correction) and signed.

Matters arising

Annual Reports Many letters had been received expressing appreciation of the Annual Report, also donations towards cost of printing.

(1945) Miss Vera Brittain had sent a further letter expressing her willingness to write the pamphlet suggested and asking for details. It was decided that the main subject should be "Don't Rearm - Rebuild".

London Group The list of members of the London Group is as follows:
Mrs Ritchie Calder Miss Mary Victor
Miss Mary Woodcock Mrs Isabel Davies and the
Miss Phyllis Lee London Officers.

(1962) Office Affairs Mrs Warner, after serious consideration, had accepted the offer of the post of General Secretary and would be ready to commence her duties early in July. This news was received with great satisfaction and hope for the future.

(1963) Meeting with Mrs Cicely ^{Cooke. A} ~~was~~ small meeting had been held at Lady Parmoor's flat on May 9th, when representatives of the W.I.L. had had a private conversation with Mrs Cicely Cooke. She had stressed the importance of not letting women visitors from Russia meet only those of similar outlook to themselves. Miss Agatha Harrison and Mrs Cicely Cooke decided to meet the wife of the Soviet Ambassador for a preliminary and private talk. Notice was given of a meeting to be held on June 11th by the National Committee for Celebration of International Women's Day to hear Mrs Monica Felton, lately returned from Korea. Applications had been made for tickets.

Peace Procession It was reported that, as this was being sponsored by International Women's Day, other groups were not co-operating.

(1965) Answers had been received from:

- (1) Mrs Maude Brayshaw, expressing a wish not to commit herself before her visit to South Africa. She would be willing to consider an invitation on her return and also expressed her readiness to visit South African members of the W.I.L. if her itinerary permitted. It was agreed that names of South African members be sent to Mrs Brayshaw, also those of Miss Daisy Solomon and Mrs Scarnell Lean.
- (2) Rev. Philip Eastman who said that he had little to report at present but enclosed a pamphlet "Churches and World Affairs" containing the relevant resolution.
- (3) U.N. No information was available before their General Assembly in November.

(1966) Mrs Toini Iverson expected to be in this country from the middle of June to August, and it was hoped that hospitality might be found for her during that period. The names of Mrs McGregor Wood and Mrs Post were suggested and Branches were to be asked for their help.

Mrs Sutherst reported that Dr. Behrens had asked for hospitality for 3 young students. Two of them had been found homes, but hospitality had not so far been arranged for the third, a young man. Also Mrs Clare Hagaz would be coming to this country in July, and it was decided that a tea meeting be arranged at the Friends' International Centre

1972 Committees

(1) Publicity Committee Mrs Cusden reported that Mrs Mathieson's resignation had been accepted with regret. The Publicity Committee were revising the pamphlet "Calling All Women". They also suggested the preparation of fact leaflets for speakers. Vera Brittain had asked for instructions for headings in the pamphlet she was to write. A recommendation was made to purchase specially designed gummed seals and labels for affixing to envelopes for sale to members through the Branches and H.C. These seals, carrying the W.I.L. badge, a slogan and the H.C. address would have a publicity value as well as making a substantial profit for H.C. and the Branches. It was suggested that a skeleton poster be designed for overprinting by Branches announcing meetings etc.

(2) Parliamentary Committee Only two meetings had been held during the past month. On May 8th a letter had been sent to H.M. Government and to women M.P.s expressing grave concern at

- (1) The trend towards the applications of economic sanctions against China; also the exclusion of the Chinese People's Republic from the Japanese Peace Conference.
- (2) The deadlock in the discussions of the Foreign Ministers' Deputies in Paris. H.M. Government was urged to agree to a the inclusion of a "reduction of armaments" item on the Agenda. Some replies had come in to this letter. On May 22nd it was agreed that the Union of Democratic Control and the Fabian Society be asked for any information they might be collecting on the crisis arising over the Persian oil. Mrs Duncan Harris reported on the N.P.C. talk with Mr Morrison. Miss Agatha Harrison spoke on the refusal of the Indian Government to export war materials to U.S.A. in return for wheat. The U.S. had now dropped this demand. It was unanimously decided that Miss Harrison be asked to send a letter from the Executive to Mr. Nehru, expressing their thankfulness for the firm stand taken by the Indian Government.

(3) Race Relations Committee. Miss Dickenson read a statement from Tshekedi Khama in which he stated his case against the action of the Commonwealth Relations Office. It was decided that a letter be sent to the Prime Minister and Mr Gordon-Walker expressing concern and requesting an independent enquiry into the administration of Bechuanaland. Mrs Cusden moved that Tshekedi Khama also be invited to meet a small group over tea after the Parliamentary Committee on June 26th. This was seconded by Mrs Stapledon and the motion was carried. A letter from Miss Greta James was read in which she expressed her intention of taking a course of Anthropology in Oxford. Her Committee membership would therefore have to be continued by correspondence only.

1973 Grafin Baudisson

Regret was expressed at the announcement of the death of the Grafin Baudisson

1974 Mrs Hannah Sen

In the afternoon at 2.30, Mrs Hannah Sen President of the All-India Women's Conference, spoke on the resolution on World Peace which was passed at their last meeting. She stressed the fact that the initiative must come from British women rather than Indian women, who would gladly co-operate with them.

Mrs Sen gave a report of the Status of Woman Committee at Luck Success. On her way there in the train she had unexpectedly met the Russian and Polish delegates and an interesting private exchange of views had been possible. Mrs Sen felt that both of them had a sincere desire for peace.

An interesting and helpful discussion followed on ways in which both countries could co-operate in working for peace. Miss Harrison suggested personal visits of women emissaries from Britain and India to countries responsible for the present tension.

- (1) Rome Congress Miss McLea not being present, no report was made on the Rome Congress.
- (2) News Sheet The Childwall Branch had sent in their finding after discussion of proposals put forward at the April Executive by Dr. Lloyd Prichard to enlarge and improve the News Sheet. The report stated that, although this was an excellent idea, it did not at the present moment seem practicable for the following reasons:
- (a) Money. High cost of publication even where advertisement space is sold.
 - (b) Paper Difficulties of obtaining paper which is on quota.
 - (c) Problems of editorship of a large journal and of finding sufficient contributors to fill it.
 - (d) Circulation which would have to be greatly increased to make it a financially sound proposition
- Miss Amy Haughton supported this view and stressed the difficulties from an editor's point of view. Dr. Lloyd Prichard then spoke on her original scheme and described the sort of journal which she felt would fulfil the present need, attract more readers and was practical for carrying out. It was to be a "dynamic peace clarion" of 24 pages with advertisements.
- Mrs Cusden moved a resolution that the matter be referred to the Publicity Committee; this was seconded by Barbara Duncan Harris and carried unanimously. Mrs Muirhead suggested that an appeal might be made to American members of the W.I.L. for consignments of paper.
- (3) Mrs Gladys Walser & Mrs Dorothy Robinson A meeting had been held for these two International Executive members on May 24th at the Friends International Centre, following a lunch with the Officers. A frank exchange of views led to renewed hopes of closer co-operation between the British and American sections. Lady Mayer hoped that contact would be made with the two W.I.L. groups in Israel. It was decided that Miss Gertrud Baer be asked to supply the names of Israeli members.
- (4) British Commonwealth League Mrs de Swiet reported on the Annual Conference held on May 9th-10th. The subject was "The status of women throughout the nations of the Commonwealth". Mrs Helena Normanton had spoken on Women's part in English law and a report had been given on the conditions under which women live in the Solomon Islands. She had stressed the meaninglessness of progress where there is no background of the services which we take for granted - transport, health etc. In a talk on South Africa, attention had been drawn to the discrimination between white and native women on questions of suffrage.
- (5) Association for World Peace. Mrs Muirhead reported that a committee under the chairmanship of Harold Wilson had been formed to work out a plan of world food distribution, with the assistance of economists and other experts. Attention was drawn to a book by De Castro to be published in the autumn by Gollancz. The all-day Conference held on May 15th was felt to have been very useful.
- (6) National Peace Council Mrs Duncan Harris reported on the talk between Mr Morrison and a delegation from the National Peace Council led by Henry Carter. The N.P.C. had put their 5 point programme and appreciated the understanding shown by the Foreign Minister. Negotiations were proceeding to secure a Peace House in the autumn.

Mrs Muirhead suggested that the All-India Women's Conference might invite Mrs Roosevelt and Madame Sun Yat Sen to meet on neutral ground to discuss world peace. Mrs Hannah Sen approved of both suggestions and promised to bring them forward when she returned. She stressed the need for British women to appeal constantly to their Government on peace issues.

- 1975 Letter to Mr John Foster Dullas It was reported that Croydon Branch wished to express their concern at the exclusion of the Peking Government, recognised by Great Britain as the legitimate government of China, from the Japanese Peace Conference. It was urged that a letter be sent to Mr John Foster Dullas. This suggestion was unanimously adopted and Mrs Cusden was asked to draft the letter.
- 1976 London Group Report Mrs Davies reported that at the last meeting Mrs Rirchie Calder had been elected chairman. The group was to meet on the evening after each Executive and there should be two drawing meetings a month depending upon the panel of speakers.
- 1977 Finance Committee Mrs Holden presented the statement for the past year, pointing out that our present balance, due to the splendid response to last autumn's appeal was She stressed the fact that subscriptions and affiliation fees are not in themselves enough to meet expenses, and that we depended on an annual appeal. It was decided
- (1) to ask for ideas for launching of an autumn appeal this year
 - (2) to form a special committee to run an International Fair in 1952, the Congress year, to raise money and create interest in the W.I.L. Mrs Davies agreed to write an article in the News Sheet asking for ideas from all parts of the country.
- 1978 W.I.L.P.F. International Executive Mrs Cusden reported on the International Executive. In spite of differences of opinion there had been a feeling of harmony throughout the proceedings, and as representatives of national sections reported on their activities throughout the year, there was a growing impression that responsibility for maintaining peace rested largely upon the women of the world, since men had become bogged down in ideological conflict.
- Such immediate threats to civilisation as the Korean war the arms race and German rearmament were the subjects of constructive resolutions. Members of the Executive welcomed Miss Gertrud Baer's proposal for international action with a view to securing a 2-year's truce so that Governments might have time to discuss disarmament in a proper atmosphere. A sincere desire was felt to make contact with the people of the U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe and it was suggested that perhaps the time had arrived when efforts should be made to enable a delegation from the W.I.L.P.F. to visit Russia. Excellent reports of the year's work had been given both by Miss Baer on the International plane and by the National section. It was encouraging to learn that the influence of the W.I.L.P.F. was extending and that there were now 175 members in Nigeria also two groups in Israel and a section in Japan. There was still much to be done in the way of extension work but lack of money and personnel stood in the way of development. But despite financial and other difficulties there was a feeling of new life and hope

The next meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 4th at 10.30 a.m

Sylvia de Smet

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Flat 16, 144, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1

July, 1951

TERminus 4116

Minutes of the Executive held at Flat 16,
Southampton Row, W.C.1 on July 4th, 1951

The following members were present:-

Mrs Lydia de Swiet in the Chair

Ex-President

Mrs Barbara Duncan Harris

News Sheet Editor

Miss Amy Haughton

Vice President

Miss Agatha Harrison

Vice President
(Liaison Officer)

Mrs G.R. McGregor Wood

Vice Chairman

Mrs Phoebe Cusden

Vice Chairman

Mrs Mary Nuttall

Vice Chairman

Mrs Elizabeth Ballinger

Reading Branch
Worthing Branch

Miss Doris Hargeaves
Mrs G.F. Muirhead
Mrs G.L. Barber
Miss A.M. Bailes
Miss C. Holmes

Childwall Branch
Liverpool Branch
Cambridge Branch
Manchester Branch
Orpington Branch
Hassocks & Ditchling Branch
Consultant
Visitor Finland

Mrs N. Greaves
Mrs Isabel MacWilliam
Mrs M. Schlossmann
Mrs G. Needham
Mrs Nelly Weiss
Mrs E. Goring
Miss Maud Dickinson
Mrs Toini Iverson,

Apologies from:-

Lady Parmoor
Mrs Ineson
Mrs Sutherst
Mrs Davies
Mrs Holden
Dr. Lloyd Prichard
Mrs Isabel Ross
Miss Christian H. McAra
Lady Mayer
Mrs Graham White
Mrs Llewelyn Williams
The Hon. Mrs Franklin
Miss Edith M. Pye
Miss L. Grubbebaer
Mrs Alice E. Ashworth

Mrs Mitchell
Mrs Stapledon

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on June 5th were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising

(1963) Several members had attended the meeting for Mrs Monica Felton by International Women's Day. On the recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee, efforts had been made to call a small, informal gathering of the Officers, representatives of the National Peace Council and the Friends Peace Committee to talk with Mrs Felton. She had so far been unable to accept the invitation, but expressed her willingness to do so later. It was decided she be invited to speak at the Parliamentary Committee

on July 10th.

(1966) A warm welcome was extended by the Chairman to Fru Toini Iverson. It was hoped she would visit some of the Branches during her stay in this country.

Mme. Clara Ragaz was expected here on July 16th. It was suggested that a small tea meeting be arranged at the Friends' International Centre soon after her arrival.

(1972/2) A letter had been sent to Mr. Nehru, but no reply had so far been received

(1972/3) The meeting with Tshekedi Khama had finally been cancelled as his case was being discussed in the House on June 26th. It was announced that the African Relations Group was holding an open lunch hour meeting for him at the Friends International Centre on July 4th, and members agreed that the Executive should attend this meeting between sessions.

(1975) A very friendly and appreciative reply had been received from the American Embassy in acknowledgement of our letter to Mr. John Foster Dulles. It was agreed that both the letter and the reply be inserted in the News Sheet.

1979 W.I.L.P.F. International Executive. Following the report given at the last Executive by Mrs Cusden, discussion took place on some of the resolutions.

(1) Treatment of Prisoners of War: Mrs Cusden spoke of the barbarous treatment of War Prisoners making special reference to a book called "All-in Fighting" by Major Fairbairns (Faber). A letter to Mr. Leslie Hale, M.P., had already been drafted by the Parliamentary Committee asking the following questions:

- a. whether these methods were officially used in the last war.
- b. whether they were still part of the official instruction given to conscripts?
- c. whether they were not contrary to Articles 12 & 13 of the Geneva Convention.

Further action was left to the Officers.

(2) International Congress 1952: It had been suggested at the International Executive that although an invitation had been received from the British Section to hold the Congress in Britain, it might be better to hold it in a neutral country, i.e. Switzerland. The Officers had sent a letter expressing their disappointment at this decision and stating that it was in W.I.L. tradition to make its voice heard where most needed, and our country seemed to be such a place. A reply had been received from Miss Baer, saying that members of the Swiss Section endorsed this and that the British invitation was gladly accepted. Enquiries already been made from Ashbourne Hall and it was decided that Congress should be held there, or, failing that, at Birmingham if possible. The British Congress Committee were to meet as soon as possible.

1980

Annual Council 1952 It was reported that enquiries had been made from Leicester Branch as to whether they could accommodate the Annual Council, but they had been unable to give a

reply without more details of what was required.

Mrs Duncan Harris suggested that the new Peace House would then be open in London. Mrs Cusden proposed that the meeting be combined with a housewarming at the new H. . . Miss Haughton seconded this and the motion was carried. The date of the Council was fixed for April 18th.

- 1981 Extended Executive. After some discussion, it was agreed that this be held on Oct. 2nd. Leicester Branch was to be asked whether they would be prepared to hold it in Leicester.
- 1982 Conference of non-Governmental Organisations. Mrs McGregor Wood reported that this would be taking place in Paris from October 28th - Nov. 2nd and asked that we send representatives. It was decided that delegates should be appointed at the September Executive. Mrs Weiss expected to be on the Continent from August 30th and offered to attend for a few days as WILPF observer.
- 1983 (a) Resolution on Germany It was reported that the Officers had given consideration to "Black Lists" brought to their attention by Frau Hoppstock-Huth. These lists of people engaged in liberal and peace activities, with an accompanying leaflet of instructions to report friends and colleagues suspected of taking part, are being distributed throughout Western Germany. Copies of the accompanying leaflet had been sent unofficially to important people by members of the Executive and the Officers had proposed action with the Home Office. Mrs Duncan Harris proposed that these leaflets be sent to M.P.s together with a request that questions be asked in Parliament. It was agreed that Mrs McGregor Wood and Mrs Cusden approached Megan Lloyd George, Mrs Jean Mann, Miss Elaine Burton and Mr Ian Mikardo.
- (b) Women's Affairs Mrs McGregor Wood spoke of the recent correspondence in the "Times" on the closing down of the organisation "Women's Dept." in Germany. It was felt that British women had a responsibility to German women. It was proposed that the opinion of Frau Hoppstock-Huth be asked, also the co-operation of the British Women's Council and the Co-operative Women's Guild. Mrs Cusden moved that the following resolution be put to the Parliamentary Committee:
Recognising the importance of supporting and encouraging the development of democratic principles and the political consciousness amongst the women of Germany, this Executive Committee is deeply concerned at the contemplated closing down of the Women's Dept. of the H. . . in Germany and instructs the parliamentary committee to take vigorous and immediate action on the matter, after consultation with the President of the German Section and in co-operation with other women's organisations.
The resolution was carried.
- 1984 The Rev. Henry Carter Regret was expressed at the sudden death of the Rev Henry Carter. Mrs Duncan Harris paid a tribute to him and his generous service in the cause of peace. This was followed by a short period of silence. It was agreed that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mrs Carter, and Mrs Duncan Harris was asked to draft the letter.

1985

Branch Affairs

Liverpool It was reported that a very successful meeting had been held with the Peace with China Committee.

A tennis tournament organised to raise funds had made £13/10/0. Concern had been felt as a reporter on the "Daily Mail" had interviewed the hostess on the previous day, believing the W.I.L. to be the same organisation as that connected with Mrs Felton. Nothing had appeared in the Newspaper.

Childwall expressed appreciation of the Annual Report which they considered to be the best produced so far. They had very much enjoyed having Mrs [redacted] with their group for a fortnight.

Permission was asked to write to Miss Gertrud Baer for names of members in new sections, so that Branch members could make contacts by correspondence. This idea was welcomed by the Committee, who felt that a letter might also be sent from HQ underlining the wish of Branches to know more about new sections. Letters had been written to local M.P.s urging their support of a motion which had been tabled in the House of Commons, calling upon the Government to rescind the order of banishment on Tshekedi Khama and institute an enquiry into the administration of the territory. These had received an encouraging response.

Orpington A meeting with Miss Agatha Harrison was reported, at which £17 had been raised. Mention was made of the difficulty of co-operation with the Petts Wood Peace Group, a live group with very left wing tendencies.

Reading. This was a small Branch and had little to report.

Worthing. A lecture had been given by the Secretary of the Central Jewish Committee, but it had proved disappointing. A Garden Party was to be held on July 5th.

Hassocks and Ditchling. This was a small, newly formed group and they were hoping to meet during the next week to discuss future activities.

Birmingham It was reported that they were arranging a garden party at the end of August.

Croydon. The Secretary of the Branch had been obliged suddenly to give up her work and Mrs Duncan Harris was carrying on until the autumn.

A conference was to take place on Sept. 22nd on "The Dispossessed Children of the World". London members were asked to co-operate as far as possible.

Manchester Report was made of a Festival of Women, in which the W.I.L. Branch had taken part. It was felt that the exhibition had been well arranged and that the W.I.L. had played a creditable part.

Two garden parties had been arranged to take place later in the summer.

Keen interest was felt in the case of Tshekedi Khama and HQ undertook to inform Manchester of any further action taken.

The Chairman expressed appreciation of the active spirit at work in the Branches, both in the matter of raising funds and of making their influence felt locally on political and other issues. Branches were encouraged to let the office know if they wished to receive copies of the minutes of the Parliamentary Committee, so that they would be informed of any political

action taken by HQ.

- 1986 Concern was expressed at the confusion in the minds of the public between the W.I.L.P.F. and other newer organisations whose methods of working for peace differed from those of W.I.L. Mrs Duncan Harris moved that there should be recorded a minute to the following effect:
The Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom wishes to place on record that, while desiring to unite with all people who sincerely wish for peace, as an organisation it has no connection with International Women's Day or with the British Peace Committee.
This was unanimously adopted.
It was decided that time be devoted at the next Executive to discussion of our attitude the British Peace Committee.
- It was at the same time moved that we commend the action of the Society of Friends in sending a delegation to Moscow, and that we send a letter from this Executive, expressing our good wishes and hopes that the delegation might open up channels for genuine negotiation between the conflicting powers. This motion was carried unanimously.
- 1987 News Sheet It was reported that the increased cost of printing and postage called for increased sales. Miss Haughton appealed for more news from Branches.
- 1988 Deputation to the Secretary of State for the Colonies Following a request made in April for consideration by the Colonial Office of the closing of British Council Hostels for coloured students, a deputation had waited on the Secretary of State, Mr. James Griffiths, on June 29th. The members of the deputation were: Mrs de Swiet, Mrs McGregor Wood, Mrs Malcolmson, Mrs Muirhead. The British Council report showed that no hostel could be self-supporting owing to the low charges to the students. It was difficult to find buildings both cheap and suitable, near to the University. Members of the deputation offered to make enquiries into this and to inform the Colonial office. The delegation felt that Mr. Griffiths had been sympathetic to their concern and he mentioned his wife's interest in colonial women.
The Executive suggested that Mrs Griffiths be invited to a social gathering where she might meet members. Mrs Duncan Harris was asked to contact her.
- 1989 A vote of thanks was given to Miss Betty Baker for her work during the difficult time between secretaries.
- 1990 Mr C.W.W.Greenidge In the afternoon at 4 p.m. Mr Greenidge Secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society and rapporteur of the U.N. Commission on Slavery spoke on his work. He reported that slavery still exists in one form or another in fourteen countries. Four forms of Slavery were described:
1. bondage from birth; this existed chiefly in the entire Arabian peninsula with the exception of Bahrein.
2. arranged marriages; the worst examples of this were to be found in the French Camerouns.
3. child slavery, i.e. the selling of children from poor families into rich households;

mainly in China and territories where a Chinese population was to be found.

4. peonage, where human labour was used as credit which never expired and could therefore even be inherited. This type existed mainly in Latin American countries - Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and in some parts of U.S.A.

The UN Commission set up in 1948 recommended the complete abolition of slavery, but realising the difficulties which would be met in the Arab States, not only on the part of the slave owners, but also from the slaves, recommended a transition period during which emancipation should be a gradual process.

In the discussion which followed, ways of interesting the public were explored. It was felt that both the Press and the BBC could be used more and Mrs Muirhead suggested that an article be sent to Picture Post.

Mrs Greaves moved a vote of thanks to Mr Greenidge and this was seconded by Mrs Ballinger.

1991

International Summer School It was reported that a very generous offer had been received from the Palo Alto Branch in California to finance an English girl to attend the Summer School in Filzbach. Three applicants had been interviewed and the final choice had been Sheila Russell, a girl of 17, in her last term at school. She was hoping later to take up international children's work. Gratitude was expressed for this generous offer and it was unanimously agreed that a warm letter of thanks be sent to the Palo Alto Branch from the Executive.

1992

Reports of Committees

1. Publicity Committee The Publications Subcommittee reported that Miss Vera Brittain had promised to write the pamphlet but that this would not be ready before the end of July.
2. Race Relations Committee had not met.
3. London Group No report was given.
4. Parliamentary Committee It was reported that three meetings had been held in June. Frau Hoppstock-Huth had reported on June 12th on the present situation in Western Germany drawing special attention to the Black Lists being circulated. The Parliamentary Committee agreed to approach Lord Henderson and also to bring the matter before our International Chairman.

A meeting with 17 Negro Leaders had been held on June 24th at Mrs McGregor Wood's house. Mrs Cusden had spoken of her concern over parts of a book "All-in Fighting" by Major Fairbairns. It had been agreed that W.I.L. should buy this book and the opinions of Mr Leslie Hale M.P. and Mrs Braddock M.P. be asked as to the best action to be taken. Mrs Cusden had also spoken of her concern over the status of Women. In face of the Government's rejection of the proposal of equal pay for men and women in the Civil Service and the teaching profession, the Parliamentary Committee thought that unmarried men and women should be treated equally in respect of pay. Dr. Lloyd Prichard was asked to bring suggestions before the Executive.

The meeting on June 26th had sent a telegram to the Foreign Secretary urging that Mr. Malik proposals re Korea be accepted.

Efforts had been made to arrange meetings with Tshekedi Khama and Mrs Monica Felton but these had not been possible. It was felt that the manner of Mrs Felton's dismissal had been very unjust and a letter of protest had been sent to Dr. Hugh Dalton, also an open letter to the New Statesman & Nation. It was suggested that consideration be given in the autumn to the question of malnutrition among 2/3 of the world's population. This might be combined with the discussion on dispossessed children arranged by the Croymden Group.

Mary Kuttall.

4. 9. 51.

Next meeting of the Executive to be held on Tuesday, September 4th.

Chairman

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

British Section

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

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD on

TUESDAY, 4th September, 1951

The following members were present:-

Mrs Nuttall in the Chair

Ex-President

Mrs Barbara Duncan Harris

News Sheet Editor

Miss Amy Haughton

Vice-President
(Liaison Officer)

Mrs G.R. McGregor Wood

Vice-President

Miss Anthea Harrison

Elected

Mrs G.F. Muirhead

Mrs Isabel Davies

Hon. Sec.

Mrs Edith F. Ineson

Hon. Asst. Sec.

Mrs Phyllis G. Mitchiner

Gen. Sec.

Mrs Dorothy C.M. Warner

Hon. Treas.

Mrs Annes Stapledon

Hon. Asst. Treas.

Mrs Dora Holden

Hon Members' Sec.

Mrs Olive Sutherst

Leicester Branch

Mrs Elizabeth Pick

Coventry Branch

Mrs Alice E. Ashworth

Reading Branch

Mrs G.L. Barber

Worthing Branch

Miss A.M. Bailes

Childwall, Liverpool, Branch

Mrs N. Greaves

Manchester Branch

Mrs H.M. Hartley

Oxford Branch

Mrs Elizabeth Atken

Mrs Ross

Visitors

S. Devon Branch

Mrs I. Holmes

Nottingham Branch

Mrs Mary Phillips

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Mrs Ayles

Mrs Cusden

Miss Dickinson

Miss McAra

Mrs Malcolmson

Lady Parmoor

Mrs Peat

Mrs de Swiet

Mrs Weiss

Mrs Graham White

Before the minutes of the July Meeting were confirmed and signed, it was decided unanimously that a **letter** should be sent to Lady Parmoor expressing the deep satisfaction felt by all with the news of her return to health and residence in London.

Mrs Phoebe Cusden was to be congratulated by letter on receiving the M.B.E. in the Birthday Honours List for "public and political work" in her home town. The adoption by Reading of the German town of Dusseldorf for which Mrs Cusden was mainly responsible stands out with special importance in the minds of W.I.L. members.

Mrs de Swiet was congratulated on her letter to the Spectator which was read out to the Executive.

Minutes

Two additions to the apologies received were made (Mrs Mitchiner; Mrs Stapledon) and minute 1983 was sub-divided into 1983 a and b. The Minutes of the meeting on July 4th were then confirmed and signed.

Matters arising

- 1963 Mrs Warner reported on the meeting of the Parliamentary Committee at which Monica Felton spoke on her visit to North Korea and a short discussion followed. Mrs Pick reported on a public meeting held at Leicester for the same purpose.
- 197 "All-in Fighting". In a reply to our letter asking for a question to be put in the House on this subject Leonard Hale M.P. gave reasons why he did not feel able to do so at present. The reply was read. It was decided to take no further action at present, but to note the fact that a copy of the book is in the Westminster Public Library.
- 1950 Annual Council April 1952. In view of the fact that there is no immediate prospect of moving into Peace House, it was decided to explore again the possibility of meeting at Leicester. Mrs Pick was asked to take up the matter with the Leicester Branch and report to Headquarters details of accommodation available at the University Hostels.
- 1982 The Executive unanimously endorsed the recommendation of the Officers that Mrs Warner and Mrs Sutherst should represent the British Section at the Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations in Paris in October 29 - November 2. It was mentioned at this point that Lady Mayer has consented to attend the Yugo-Slav Peace Conference to be held at Zagreb October 23 - 28 as a delegate of the British Section and the thanks of the Executive were expressed. Mrs Warner suggested that an attempt should be made to get a Press Conference for Lady Mayer on her return. Mrs Stapledon reported that the WILPF were considering sending an observer but only on certain conditions.
- 1983 a "Black List". Mrs McGregor Wood reported the action taken through letters and "lobbying" by the Parliamentary Committee. The Foreign Office is now looking into the matter. Under this heading Mrs Holmes reported the action taken by South Devon Branch in writing to the Foreign Secretary deploring the closing down of the Women's Section of the Ministry. She read a long letter sent by the Foreign Secretary in reply and reported that there were two notices of their action in the local press. The Executive congratulated the South Devon Branch on their work. It was decided that a copy of Mr Morrison's letter should be sent to Dr. Dorothy Broome (who was Chief Officer, Women's Affairs C.C., Land North Rhine, Westphalia) and to invite her to address the November meeting of the Executive Committee.

Reports of Committees

Parliamentary Committee Mrs Warner reported. The Meeting with Monica Felton is covered under "Matters Arising". Lady Mayer had given the Committee a valuable and informative report of her recent visit to Greece. Letters had been sent by the officers (because the Parliamentary Committee did not meet during August)

- a. to the Prime Minister, expressing concern at the manner in which the Japanese Peace Treaty had been prepared and was to be signed and pressing for the speeding up of negotiations in Korea and an end to the ruthless war there so that China could be brought into future discussions about Japan.
- b. to the Foreign Secretary deploring the automatic negative reaction to any proposal made by the U.S.S.R.

After discussions it was agreed that the minutes of the Parliamentary Committee should be circulated to Branch Secretaries if desired and that Branches should cover the postage.

Publicity and Publications Mrs Warner reported. The Committee had given earnest consideration to the present position and made the following recommendations:-

- a. That we should have "hand out" paper designed and printed for H.Q. and Branch use. The paper to have a heading in colour to attract and interest. It was felt that such paper would serve many useful purposes. This was approved by the Executive and referred back to the Publicity and Publications Committee for further action.
- b. That Vera Brittain's draft leaflet, being closely tied in treatment and subject with the 1952 Congress be offered to International H.Q. for wide distribution, especially in Scandinavia and the U.S.A. This was approved.
- c. That a short cogent leaflet appealing rather by showing the value of the WILPF at this present than by an emphasis on past achievements, should be drafted. This leaflet to be used concurrently with one telling the history of the WILPF.

Race Relations In the absence of Miss Dickinson, Mrs Muirhead reported that a document had been received from Michael Scott on "South West Africa and the United Nations" setting out the present position particularly the "Failure of the South African Government to accept the repeated recommendation of the General Assembly and the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice. The Ad Hoc Committee appointed by the General Assembly last year has not been able to announce any settlement of the matter".

The Committee felt that the Executive should express concern about this and it was agreed that Miss Dickinson should draft a letter which could be approved by the officers and sent to the Ad Hoc Committee which will be holding meetings shortly in preparation for the General Assembly in November.

Mrs Warner had already forwarded the document to Headquarters in Geneva.

London Group Mrs Twiston Davies reported that the Committee were arranging

- a. evening meetings jointly with the All Nations Group on the first Friday in every month at the Friends' International Centre.
- b. Afternoon meetings at homes of members in different parts of London. Thirteen had promised so far to open their homes for the purpose.
- c. A Sale of Work for Headquarters Funds on November 18th to include stalls arranged by different

nationalities. This would be the London effort for "H.Q. Week".

Finance and Organisation Mrs Sutherst reported on a joint meeting of these two committees. Their recommendations were

- a. Instead of an Autumn Appeal for funds to carry on the rest of this year's work, every Branch should be asked to organise an effort in November during the week of 11th to 18th to coincide with the London Sale of Work, the week to be known as "Headquarters Week".
- b. Members should be asked to send in any silver spoons or trinkets they can spare to be sold on behalf of the funds.
- c. The possibility of the British Section becoming a Trust should be explored, Mr Gordon Muirhead having kindly offered to do this for us. After discussion these recommendations were accepted and endorsed.

1992

Finance The Treasurer, Mrs Stapledon, reported that our expenditure to August this year exceeded our income by over £200 and that it would be necessary to raise £400 by efforts such as those suggested by the Finance Committee in order to ~~clear our debts~~ to the end of 1951.

Cover our expenses

It was decided to inform the Bank that the name of our Organisation should in future be "Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, British Section". Mrs Duncan Harris offered to consult Mr Barry Davies as to any legal difficulty which might arise from this alteration.

With regard to the signing of cheques, it was decided that Mrs Warner be authorised to sign cheques for petty cash up to the value of £10 and that the signatories for all other cheques should be any two of the following:-

Mrs Stapledon
Mrs Ineson
Mrs de Swiet
Mrs Holden
Mrs Warner

All bills should be brought before the monthly Executive.

1993

News Sheet Mrs Ineson gave a financial statement with regard to the News Sheet showing that, owing to the increased cost of printing and postage, it was now being sold at a loss.

During 1950 the average cost of printing was 2½d per copy

During 1951 so far the average cost is 2½d. in both cases involving a considerable financial loss.

The £44 excess of income over expenditure in 1950 was due to outstanding debts from 1949 being paid in the early months of 1950. The officers had faced these facts and offered the alternative suggestions

- a. that in future there should be six copies issued instead of nine - a bi-monthly paper
- b. that the price should be raised
- c. that the nine issues should continue but alternately with four pages and two.

Mrs Warner enlarged on the possibilities of adopting the third suggestion and gave her views on what should be the nature of the different issues.

It was decided to refer the matter to the Publicity Committee for detailed discussion and a further report.

1994

International Congress Mrs Warner reported that nothing

had yet been settled as to date and place but every possibility of holding it in London on August 5 to 17 or August 1 to 14 was now being explored. The delay was due to matters beyond our control partly at the international level of the WILPF and now also to the fact that the British holiday season makes correspondence slow. It was decided that the Congress Committee elected at the 1950 Council and endorsed at the 1951 Council with one addition should be called as soon as possible.

1995

Extended Executive It was reported that the Friends' House had been booked for three sessions on October 1st and 2nd. The Agenda was discussed and it was decided:

- a. That the first session on Monday 1st should be from 2.15 to 5.30 and after an opening statement by the President the main topic should be the International Congress.
- b. The 2nd session on Tuesday 2nd should be from 10.30 to 1 and should be entirely given up to a study of World Affairs. If possible an outside speaker should be invited to give a survey of current problems with a view to focussing our attention on those upon which we could most usefully take action.
- c. The 3rd session should be from 2.15 to 4.30 and should deal with future plans and organisations questions.
- d. Professor Kathleen Lonsdale should be asked to speak on her visit to Moscow at 5.30. The thanks of the Executive were to be conveyed to her for consenting to do this.

Further details were left to the secretaries.

1996

World Affairs Miss Agatha Harrison spoke on the grave issues involved in the San Francisco Conference and the threat to world peace as displayed in the Japanese Treaty. She felt that Peace Groups ought to have given much more thought to this at the time when it was first being drafted and to have pressed for more consultation with Far East nations and the Commonwealth. It was too late now. Miss Harrison advised the reading of "India News" the current issue of which contained the full text of the white paper concerning India's views on the Treaty. It was decided at the suggestion of Mrs Mary Phillips, Nottingham, that a letter should be sent to the Japanese Group informing them of our sympathy with their views and criticism of our own Government's attitude and sending a copy of our letter to Mr Attlee. It was also agreed that we should write to the American Section and enclose a copy of the letter sent to the Prime Minister (expressed in their letter to Mr John Foster Dulles). The officers were empowered by the Executive to cable Mr Morrison on their behalf if at any point in the proceedings of the Conference they felt it wise to press for protracted discussion.

sht

1997

New Sections Mrs Groaves of Childwall reported on the answer she received from Gertrude Baer to her request for names and addresses of members of new sections, particularly in Nigeria, for purposes of correspondence. The Executive encouraged Childwall Branch to continue this work and to bring up the question of the negative answer received from Geneva when meeting Gertrude Baer at the forthcoming Congress.

Date of next meeting The next Executive will meet at Friends' House, Euston Road, on Monday and Tuesday, October 1st and 2nd (see minute 1995).

Mary Nuttall
1.10.51.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

British Section

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

Minutes of the Extended Executive Meeting held at Friends' House
Euston Road, London N.W.1, October 1st and 2nd, 1951

The following members were present:

Ex-President ✓

Lady Mayer
Mrs Duncan Harris
The Hon. Mrs Franklin C.B.E.

Hon. Secretary
Gen. Secretary
Hon. Treasurer
Executive

Mrs Edith F. Ineson
Mrs Dorothy C.M. Warner
Mrs Agnes Stapledon
Mrs G.R. McGregor Wood
Miss Agatha Harrison
Mrs Phoebe Cusden
Mrs Mary Nuttall
Mrs Elixabeth Ballinger
Mrs Isabel Davies
Mrs G.F. Muirhead
Mrs Dora Holden
Mrs O. Sutherst
Miss Amy Haughton
Miss M. Dickinson
Mrs G.L. Barber
Miss A.M. Bailes
Mrs N. Groves
Miss C.H. McAra
Mrs G.M. Needham
Mrs H.M. Hartley
Mrs M.C. Binns
Mrs Schlossmann
Mrs Nelly Weiss

Consultant

(Miss M. Dickinson *consult*)

In addition the following Branches were represented:-

Leicester
Bromley
Reading
Orpington
Worthing
Childwall
Manchester
South Devon
Bangor
Oxford
Cambridge
Birmingham
Nottingham
Croydon

There were 12 Headquarter Members present and the London Congregational Union was represented.

Apologies were received from:-

Mrs Isabel Ross Mrs Aitken
Mrs Walter Ayles Lady Parmoor
Mrs Malcolmson Mrs de Swiet
Mrs Alun Llywelyn Williams
Dr. Lloyd Prichard

Session 1, Monday, 2.15 - 6

In the Chair Mrs Mary Nuttall

Mrs Nuttall explained that she was deputising for the Chairman Mrs de Swiet who had suffered a sad bereavement in the sudden death of her husband, Dr. George de Swiet, a week previously. Mrs McGregor Wood paid a high tribute to the unobtrusive yet tireless service to the community rendered by Dr de Swiet in the political field, in local Council work and in the medical world.

The Executive stood in silence.
A letter of sympathy with a gift of flowers was to be sent to Mrs de Swiet to express the very warm feelings of the Executive for their Chairman at this time.

It was also decided to send a greeting with flowers to the President, Lady Parmoor, who was not able to be present but had recovered from her recent illness.

After 3 alterations had been made, the Minutes were then passed and signed.

Matters Arising

1978 "All-in Fighting" It was decided to send a copy of the reply received from H.L. Lord M.P. to C. H.Q. and to the Swedish Section explaining what had been done; also to clear up the point as to whether the British Section had been asked to take action by the International Executive.

1950 Annual Council of 1952 Decided that it should be held at Leicester on the week-end of March 29 and 30 at the College Hall, the charge for accommodation being £1.1.0 per day including meals and a single room.

The President's opening message was read by the ex-president Mrs Duncan Harris.

1998 Twelfth International Congress 1952. After the Roll Call, Mrs Warner reported on the work of the Congress Committee.

The dates decided on were Aug. 5th to 9th, meeting of Int. Exec.
Aug 11th to 15th Congress
Aug 15th to 18th 2nd meeting of Int. Exec.

A provisional booking had been made of hall and offices in Church House, Westminster, the total cost of which would be between £200 - £250. Accommodation would be reserved after the International H.Q. had sanctioned the final booking of this extremely suitable building. Discussion was opened by Mrs Agnes Stapledon and Mrs Duncan Harris. The following points were brought out

1. Agenda This was the responsibility of the International Congress Committee but the British Section could offer suggestions. So far it was known that there were to be commissions working on
 - (a) The technique of non-violence
 - (b) Human Relations
 - (c) The WILPF Constitution

L to the International Congress Committee

The responsibility of the British Congress Committee would be to suggest ~~chairmen~~ ^{chairmen} and speakers (Mrs F. Paton M.P. was mentioned as a possible opener) and to arrange for suitable entertainment and hospitality during any spare time which was allowed on the agenda.

The Congress Committee was asked to explore the possibility of a Lord Mayor's Reception and of interesting the cinema and the theatre world, also of carrying

out publicity in as many fields as possible including the BBC. Mrs Warner assured the Executive that she had this in mind.

2. Title It was agreed that the title in English "Don't re-arm, re-build" was not a particularly good one for publicising. Mrs Stapledon was asked to convey our misgivings to Miss Emily Greene Balch, the International President, and ask if a new English version could be found. Otherwise it was suggested that we advertise the Congress as such with no particular title.

3. Work for Branches The subject of inviting overseas guests to various localities where they could be entertained in members' homes for a short period before or after the Congress was introduced by the Childwall and Manchester representatives. It was decided that this was most important and that lists of members willing to give hospitality should be obtained. The Executive decided to give responsibility to the Congress Committee to proceed at once to deal with questions of finance and hospitality and to co-opt London members as required.

Session 2, Tuesday 10.15

In the Chair Mrs Phoebe Cusden M.B.E.

It was decided to send letters to Mrs Ida Holmes of S. Devon and Mrs Malcolmson of Liverpool wishing them a speedy recovery from illness. It was also decided to send a telegram conveying greetings to Lord and Lady Pethick Lawrence on the occasion of their golden wedding.

1999

Mr Leslie Smith, Director of the National Peace Council gave a stirring account of the deep rooted malaise of the world to-day with its wars and tensions, stressing the individual responsibility for looking inward to its causes rather than outward for a scapegoat. He emphasised the importance of pointing to a "third alternative" in pursuing peace, a way which was neither appeasement nor reliance on re-armament but a wide-scale co-operation of the nations of the world to build up a better standard of living for those who are existing on starvation level to-day. He introduced to the Executive the NPC pamphlet now being printed in connection with the General Election and hoped it would be widely used and distributed. During question time which followed the following points emerged

(1) That the Manchester Guardian had advocated leaving out Foreign Affairs during the election campaign, and the Times had taken a similar line. It was decided to write to both papers deploring this.

(2) That an excellent preliminary pamphlet entitled "Tanks into Tractors" had been issued by the research committee of the Association for World Peace, the Chairman of which is Mr Harold Wilson M.P. Another pamphlet would be published later giving facts concerning the economics of turning over from armament production to peace production.

Warm appreciation of Mr Leslie Smith's excellent 'survey' was expressed by the Chairman and endorsed by the Executive.

Mrs Warner gave a report of the month's work of the Parliamentary Committee mentioning

- (1) The long term work just begun on
 - a. S.W. Africa and
 - b. Refugees and Stateless Persons
- (2) The coming election (October 25)

It was decided to base our election work on the NPC Election pamphlet and for this propose to send as many as

possible with a letter to the Branches and Headquarters members. Suggestions for use were

- a. As a base for questions to candidates at meetings.
- b. To send to the local Press with a covering letter.
- c. As a guide when arranging deputations to meet candidates
- d. To send with a covering letter by post to candidates from individual members.

2000 Yugoslav Peace Conference Lady Mayer spoke on her coming visit to Yugoslavia as a delegate of the British Section.

Mrs Stapledon reported on the decision of the International H.Q. to send only an observer.

After discussion it was decided to endorse the previous decision that the British Section should ask Lady Mayer to attend as their delegate. A message of greeting to the Conference was drafted which Lady Mayer was asked to convey and she was enthusiastically thanked for accepting this undertaking on our behalf.

2001 Mrs McGregor Wood gave a brief report of the World Government Parliamentary Conference held in London the previous week. (A report of the Conference will be carried in our News Sheet)

Third Session, Tuesday, 2.15 - 4.30

In the Chair Mrs Elizabeth Ballinger

2002 Finance Mrs Holden, Asst. Treasurer, gave the report which included many valuable statements and figures showing the present position. In 1950 receipts were £1191 and expenditure was £1334 making an excess of expenditure over receipts of £143. In the current year excess expenditure to date is £38, but it must be recalled that the Birthday Appeal of £179 and a special donation of £100 have been received during 1951. Mrs Ineson stressed the need for adequate financial equipment to face the challenge of the Congress year 1952. The following suggestions were made :-

- (1) That Branches should continue to carry out their obligation to the full, sending in their affiliation fees based on 3/6 per member.
- (2) That Headquarter members should themselves adopt a system of weekly payments realising that 1/- a week produces in the year £2.12.0, 6d a week £1.6.0. These payments could be sent half-yearly and would greatly increase our income. It was pointed out that we could tax ourselves for peace in proportion as we are forced to pay tax for armaments.

2003 Headquarters Week Mrs Twiston Davies outlined the scheme for raising funds in place of an Autumn Appeal. In London there would be a Sale of Work on Nov. 17th at Kings Weigh Church Hall, Binney St. and it was hoped that the Branches would arrange an effort if possible in the same week. In addition to these efforts, members were asked to send in to Headquarters any trinkets, silver spoons or silver articles of any sort for which they had no further use. These would be sold and the proceeds put to the current account. Results of the efforts will be published in the News Sheet.

2004 News Sheet Miss Haughton reported that owing to rising costs of printing and paper the News Sheet was now being printed at a loss and gave the three alternative suggestions that had been made to meet this contingency

- (a) increasing the price
- (b) reducing the number of issues
- (c) publishing alternately 2 page and 4 page paper.

Mrs Ineson reported that the Publicity Committee after long discussion recommended

1. That 6 issues of the News Sheet should take the place of the present 9
2. That subscribers should still pay 3/- a year which would cover postage and costs.
3. That Branches should pay the same for 6 issues that they have been paying for 9 which would raise the cost of each paper from 2d to 3d.

After discussion in which some were in favour of keeping the 9 issues as at present, some suggested four issues yearly of a more attractive kind and others that we should try to increase the sales by sending out specimen copies. It was decided to refer the matter back to the Publicity Committee and abide by their decision.

2005

Publicity Committee Mrs Warner reported that Miss Brittain had agreed to allow us to make her draft leaflet available to the International H.Q. for their use. The Committee had recommended that Mrs Warner should go ahead with enquiries about headed paper for handouts etc. They also decided that she should draft a short leaflet for interesting potential new members.

2006

Membership Mrs Sutherst reported that we were only very slowly increasing our membership but that we did keep our members once they had joined. It was suggested that names and addresses of likely people should be sent to the London Office

2007

London Meetings Mrs Twiston Davies reported that monthly evening meetings were being held on the first Friday in the month which combined the All Nations Group with the London members. Mrs Ganley M.P. was speaking at the October meeting on "The Life of an M.P."

2008

Branch Affairs Discussion took place on how to get successful meetings in the Branches and how to increase membership. Mrs Nell Greaves spoke of successful efforts in Childwall and of the formation of a study group. Mrs Von Engel of Oxford told of successful election meetings held at the last general election. Accounts of recent meetings and plans for the future were reported from Birmingham. Mrs Needham recommended Mrs Mary Phillips as an excellent speaker on Conscriptio and announced meetings at which Miss Agatha Harrison would be speaking.

2009

Mrs McGregor Wood closed the session with a useful summing up of the two days' Executive and in conclusion emphasised the value of remembering that the WILPF and its individual members are not alone; everywhere men and women of goodwill are trying, each in the way that seems best to them, to bring about peace and freedom.

Lydia de Smet.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

British Section

Flat 16, 144, Southampton Row, W.C.1

Terminus 4116

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday,
6th November, 1951

The following members were present :-

Mrs de Swiet in the chair

Mrs P.G. Mitchiner, Mrs Isabel Davies, Mrs Elizabeth Ballinger, Miss D. Hargreaves, Mrs G.R. McGregor Wood, Miss M. Dickinson, Mrs Barbara Duncan Harris, Mrs Mary Nuttall, Mrs Dora Holden, Miss Amy Haughton, Mrs Agnes Stapledon, Mrs Edith F. Ineson, Mrs Dorothy C.M. Warner, Mrs Esther Muirhead, Mrs F. Wheeler Booth (Proxy, Oxford), Mrs E.M. Needham (Manchester), Mrs A.E. Ashworth (Coventry), Mrs E.W. Pick (Leicester), Mrs G.L. Barber (Reading), Miss A.M. Bailes (Worthing), Mrs MacWilliam (Liverpool), Miss G.R. McARA (Glasgow), Mrs Schlossmann (Cambridge), Mrs Cusden.

Apologies were received from:-

Lady Parmoor, Lady Mayer, Mrs Sutherst, Mrs Weiss, Mrs Malcolmson, Miss Harrison, Mrs Graham White, Mrs Ross, Mrs Greaves, Mrs Peat.

The Meeting opened at 10.30 with Mrs de Swiet in the chair. Sympathy was expressed to Miss McARA in the death of her sister, Miss Jennie McARA, who had been a member of the Glasgow Branch and was well known as an expert on education.

The Minutes were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising

(1950) Annual Council 1952. Agenda It was decided to allocate Saturday afternoon to a tour of Leicester city or an outing in the country to be arranged by the Leicester Branch. Mrs Pick said the Branch had suggested that it should be followed by tea to which representatives from other Women's Organisations would be invited. The Executive agreed and hoped it would be possible to arrange for an open session to follow the tea so that the visitors could stay on.

(1999) Election Campaign It was reported that over 4000 NPC leaflets were distributed from the office and used by Head quarter Members and Branches. Several Branches reported on replies received from Candidates.

(2000)a) Zagreb Peace Conference A letter was read from Lady Mayer expressing her satisfaction at being there as a delegate and telling of opportunities she was making to meet with Jugo-Slav women, some of whom were former WIL members and might form the nucleus of a section there. It was decided to send a letter to Emily Horscroft expressing our hope of further improvement in recovery from illness, signatures of members to be attached.

2000 b

2000 c

The question was raised that the newspaper Time and Tide had abandoned its former independent attitude and was now a Conservative organ. It was decided to write a letter expressing regret.

2010 Office Affairs Mrs Warner told the Committee that the service and works departments of Gestetner had reported to the firm that our 26-year old machine was both obsolete and worn out. Further repairs were virtually impossible and were not worth while. The Committee realised that

either a new duplicating machine must be purchased or, alternatively, all work would have to be done outside the office which would mean continual heavy expenditure. A strongly recommended modern machine had been tried in the office and given satisfaction. The cost was £125 but it was believed that the sum would be saved in the long run as less printing would be needed. Paper heading for Headquarters and Branches as well as notices of meetings could be done in the office at much less cost. Samples of work were distributed.

It was agreed that the machine should be purchased and after discussion it was proposed by Mrs Isabel Davies, seconded by Mrs Agnes Stapledon that the sum required should be drawn from capital funds. This was passed and the suggestion made that an appeal for financial help be included in the request for subscriptions for 1952.

Mrs Pick volunteered a donation from Leicester Branch and was thanked by the Executive.

2011

Finance Report

- (1) Mrs Holden, Assistant Treasurer, gave a report of the financial situation and presented certain bills.
- (2) Application to form a Trust Mrs Warner reported that Mr Gordon Muirhead had prepared the necessary document for application to run a Trust on the grounds that our work is mainly educational. It was proposed by Mrs Nuttall, seconded by Mrs Holden that we should go forward with this and the Executive agreed.

The following points were decided

- a) The name should be Women's International Trust (W.I.T.)
- b) Trustees should be Mrs Duncan Harris, Lady Mayer, (if willing) Mrs Agnes Stapledon and Mrs McGregor Wood.

It was pointed out that these preliminary steps were necessary before the application was made. There would probably be a long period of waiting before the final answer was received from the Inland Revenue Office.

2012

News Sheet Miss Haughton reported the decision of the Publicity Committee

- a) That for 1952 there should be six issues instead of nine, with supplement when necessary.
- b) That the annual payment should remain at 3/- to cover cost and postage.
- c) That Branches should pay at the rate of 3d a copy instead of 2d.

These decisions were for one year only as a trial.

2013

Affiliation Childwall Branch applied for permission to affiliate with the Workers Educational Association as they were forming a study group with lectures from the W.E.A. This was granted.

2014

1952 Congress Mrs Warner reported that no further progress had been made and we still had no authority to book Church House as the Conference Centre. Dismay was expressed by the Executive that arrangements were held up for lack of clear guidance from Geneva Headquarters. The expense of Church House was known to be heavy - £250 or may be more - and delegates would have to be accommodated in hotels or hostels. A discussion followed on the almost impossible task of preparing a successful Congress in the short time now left.

The Executive was faced with two alternatives

- a) To carry on with arrangements for the 1952 Congress,

a Congress which would be very, and perhaps quite unjustifiably, expensive and would be held in a venue which has been sharply criticised and the success of which, the Committee felt, was already being heavily handicapped through the difficulties of co-operation with international HQ and its consultative machinery.

b) The postponement of the Congress till 1953 when it was felt that a really successful and valuable Congress could be arranged, with adequate time for its preparation, in a more convenient and far less costly centre where living accommodation would also be available.

Mrs McGregor Wood proposed that the International Executive should be informed, without delay, that the Executive Committee British Section, had, with great reluctance and grave disappointment accepted the wisdom of alternative b) This was seconded and agreed on (with one abstention).

Mrs Agnes Stapledon, Mrs Duncan Harris, Mrs Dorothy Warner and Mrs Ineson were asked to meet and draft a letter reporting this situation to the International Executive and making clear to them the urgency of the matter.

2015

Reports of Sub-Committees

a) Parliamentary Committee Mrs Warner reported briefly that the Committee was looking into the problems raised by the Rawalpindi Conspiracy Trial in Pakistan had written to His Majesty's Government expressing a hope that the immediate exigencies of the situation would not lead to the abandonment of proposals in the future internationalisation of the Suez Canal; and gave a little more information about the pre-election work done. Mrs Ineson reported on the decisions taken at the meeting of 30.11.51. These included the sending of letters both from Branches (if they wished) to their own and from H.Q. to all M.P.s; letters were also being sent to Mr Churchill and Mr Eden.

b) Publicity Committee In addition to decisions on the News Sheet the Committee had authorised the printing of a new leaflet to be widely used in campaigns for new members.

This leaflet will be sent out shortly.

c) Abyssinian Association as there was no longer any need for its retention, Miss Dickinson reported that it was closing down and it was agreed to send a letter of appreciation of achievements reached through a difficult period.

d) Women's Advisory Council of U.N.A. Miss Dickinson reported that at a meeting on Oct. 15th it was hoped the Council would become more active in the future. The next meeting would explore this, and she suggested that constant pressure on the U.K. Government to appoint more women delegates to the U.N. and its specialised agencies would be a valuable recommendation. This was agreed. Further reporting, Miss Dickinson said the Council had been addressed shortly by Miss Courtney on the General Election and International Affairs and Mr Kenneth Grubb (Chairman of the Commission of Churches on International Affairs) had given an informative survey on aid to under-developed areas.

e) Miss Dickinson asked for letter of congratulation to go to British Council of Churches for their resolution on High Commission *ambassadors*

2016

U.N. Assembly in Paris A letter was read from Miss Agatha Harrison who had already gone to Paris on behalf of the Society of Friends as one of an International team. She asked that a close watch should be kept on the important issues raised particularly

- a) On the work of Collective Measures Committee
- b) The question of Africa
- c) The situation in Kashmir

d) The suggestion that Pakiston should use her good offices in the Egyptian disturbance
It was decided to keep in close touch with Miss Harrison and take action as she recommends.

A copy of the letter sent to the Foreign Secretary should be sent to the other British Delegates as soon as their names could be secured.

2017 N.G.O. Conference Mrs Warner reported very briefly on the general nature and composition of the Conference. It was agreed to wait for a full report until Mrs Sutherst the other delegate, was back from Paris.

2018 Branches Brief reports were given of work done in the Election and of meetings held.

2019 At 3.30 Dr Dorothy Broome, late Chief Officer, Women's Affairs C.C.G., Land N. Rhine, Westphalia, told the Committee about the work of the section and the implications of its closing down and discussed with them what action could best now be attempted. A report of Dr Broome's address will be published in the News Sheet.

Date of Next meeting It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on Tuesday, 4th December. It was decided that the Executive should not meet in January, 1952. The first meeting in the New Year will therefore be held on Tuesday, 5th February, 1952.

Lydia de Smet.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

British Section

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

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on 3rd December, 1951

The following members were present:-

Mrs, de Swiet in the Chair
Miss C.H. McAra, Mrs. O. Suthorst, Mrs. G. Needham, Mrs Phoebe Cusden, Mrs G.L. Barbor, Miss A.M. Bailes, Mrs E. Muirhead, Miss Amy Haughton, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Dora Holden, Miss Malcolmson, Mrs. Mary Nuttall, Lady Mayor, Mrs. Agnes Stapledon, Mrs. Edith F. Ineson, Mrs. J. Binns, Mrs. N. Weiss, Miss D. Hargreeves, Mrs. E. Ballinger, Mrs Schlossmann, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs Wallace Hayward, Mrs Turkie.

Apologies were received from:-

Mrs Ayles, Mrs Isabel Davies, Mrs Greaves, Mrs Mitchiner, Dr. Lloyd Prichard, Lady Parmoor, who sent her greetings to the meeting and expressed the hope that she would be able to be with the Committee again before very long.

Minutes passed after 2 minor alterations and one addition (resolution on S.W. Africa by British Council of Churches to be approved)

2020 Letter to Churchill Some disagreement was expressed with the wording of the letter drafted by Mrs McGregor Wood and sent to the Prime Minister on behalf of the Parliamentary Committee: in particular the phrase offering felicitations was criticised. It was stressed that all letters to Government Departments should be sent from the office and signed by the Hon. Secretary and should be read and approved by two or three of the officers before signing.

2021 Correspondence

- a) Statement drafted by Mme Jouvo, urging the revision without delay, of all existing treaties and agreements between colonial powers and dependent territories and pressing for the granting of independence to all those peoples demanding it, was discussed and approved.
- b) A letter of resignation from the Polish Group was read and received with regret. It was hoped that several points in the letter would be clarified in the meeting arranged between the Chairman, the two secretaries and the Polish Group on the 14th. Mrs Binns and Miss Hargreaves spoke with sympathy of the points of view expressed in the letter. The Executive asked for a letter to be sent expressing the wish that ways would be found whereby we could continue to work together and keep a close touch and friendly relationship.
- c) The thanks of the Executive were offered to Lady Mayor for her excellent broadcast.
- d) A letter was read from the Foreign Office concerning the five eminent Japanese women now visiting this country. It was decided to write to the leader of the group, enclosing a copy of the letter written by Japanese women to Foster Dulles and asking if a meeting could be arranged. Lady Mayor offered to provide tea at her home for the occasion.
- e) A letter from the Massachusetts Branch of the U.S. Section announcing the celebration on January 8th., for the 85th. Birthday of the President, Miss Emily Groene Balch was read. It was decided to ask Lady Parmoor to send a greeting from the British Section and further messages from Branches and individuals if they wished.

2022

W.I.L.P.F. Affairs Mrs Warner reported on answers received so far in reply to the letter sent to members of the International Executive on November 9th. The position to date was that 5 members were in favour of postponement (Mme Jouve, Frau Hopstock Huth, Miss Lous Mohr, Mrs Duncan Harris, Mrs Stapledon). Mrs Zeuthon questioned whether the Congress could in fact be postponed. (This point arose from the confusion between the sense of "should" and "shall" in constitutional language). Mrs Pekkela was against postponement. Miss Baer raised a constitutional point on the voting (which is being dealt with) and was reserving her vote until the question was clarified. The letters contained many regrets, full recognition of the need to meet if possible and recommendations - in the event of postponement - for a. regional 1952 conferences and b. an Extended Executive to be held in the UK in 1952. No answer had yet been received from the U.S.A., from Mme Hejer or Mme Haneuskava.

A special officers meeting had been held since the last Executive to discuss the present position of international WILPF affairs with regard to Congress and the lack of any adequate machine to work it and the apparent illness and overstrain of the director of the Geneva office as reported by those who had been in Paris.

After long and careful discussion the following suggestions were made and brought before the Executive by Mrs Phoebe Cusden:

- 1) That in view of her state of health Gertrude Baer be given at least 6 months leave.
- 2) That an extended executive meeting be held in the Spring or Summer of 1952 instead of Congress.

The Executive discussed these proposals at length, after which it was proposed by Lady Mayer, seconded by Mrs Holden and put to the vote that these two proposals should be sent from the Executive of the British Section to the three international chairmen.

The motion was passed with one abstention (Mrs Stapledon also did not vote because of her position as an International Chairman.

2023

Current Affairs Mrs Warner gave the report of the work done by the Parliamentary Committee during its 3 meetings since the last Executive. Lady Mayer had given her first report on the Zagreb Peace Conference to the Committee. Miss Silverwhite of the E. Standard and Miss Mary Hill BBC "Woman's Hour" were present. Letters had been sent to Lord Ismay on S.W. Africa; to the Foreign Secretary on the appointment of a really first class woman to the new Embassy in Germany (to act on those matters which were formerly the responsibility of the Woman's Affairs Section C.C.G.); to the Foreign Secretary expressing appreciation of his constructive and conciliatory speech to the General Assembly, to Mme Larragoiti applauding her work on the UN Trusteeship Committee (reported by Mrs Weiss) and saying that we should be very glad to arrange a meeting for her should she visit the UK; and to the High Commissioner for the Union of S. Africa, hoping that every facility would be given to the tribal chiefs on their way to the General Assembly.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on an informal Conference held at Friends' House when the British Peace Committee met with representatives of several pacifist and peace organisations to present and discuss their various approaches to the problems of peace.

The interchange of views was valuable. No statement was made.

Mrs Agnes Stapledon reported on the gathering she attended as our representative arranged by the British Soviet Friendship Society to meet the dupty Mayor of Stalingrad who was visiting this country at the invitation

of the City of Coventry and as a member of the annual cultural delegation from the USSR invited by the BSFS and the Society of Cultural Relations, and the famous Russian soprano who has been singing at the Festival Hall.

Mrs. Stapledon read the following message of greeting:

The British Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom gladly accepts this opportunity of sending a message of friendship to the women of the Soviet Union.

Our organisation, founded at the Hague in 1915 for the purpose of drawing together women of different nationalities and of different political, religious and philosophical tendencies who have a common desire for peace and freedom, seeks to understand the conditions that make for war and to help change and abolish them.

We are sure that the women of the Soviet Union feel just as we do about the most important things in our lives - the happiness and wellbeing of our children and our homes.

It is our earnest desire to be able to make personal contacts with Soviet women both here and in their own country and even more that the boys and girls of to-day who are the citizens and politicians of to-morrow, may make frequent visits or interchanges, so that instead of fear and suspicion the generation to come may have understanding of each other and in place of devastation and war the world may have co-operation, friendship and peace.

- 2024 Mrs Ineson reported that she was in correspondence with the Secretary of the National Free Church Women's Council on the question of misinformation concerning the WILPF which was current in the NFCWC. The outcome to be reported in due course.
- 2025 Finance Mrs Holden gave the financial report and presented bills (covering a 7 week period) for the approval of payment. The excess of expenditure over receipts was £52.10.1½d but the figure presented did not include the amounts for the HQ Sale. The balance in the bank on 30/11/51 was £54.14.1d.
- 2026 News Sheet Miss Haughton, speaking again on the decision to limit issues to 6 per annum and to raise the cost of copies to 3d each, emphasised the need to increase the number of regular subscribers.
- 2027 International Work of British Section
a) Lady Mayer reported on her work as our delegate to the Zagreb Peace Conference. She stressed the value of her having been a delegate and not merely an observer. (A full report of the Conference is to be published in the December News Sheet). Lady Mayer also reported that a meeting was to take place in the UK between those who attended the Conference and those who had been invited but had not done so.
b) NGO Conference in Paris. Mrs Sutherst read the report of the recommendation put forward by the committee which tackled the problem of the dissemination of UN information in Trust Territories. She questioned whether it was necessarily worth while for organisations like ours to attend such regional DPI conferences unless the DPI prepared better agenda and so organised the meetings that more constructive work could be done. She pointed out that "the dissemination of UN information" is only a small part of the work of most of the organisations invited.
c) UN General Assembly. Before her report, Mrs Weiss referred back to Mme Jouve's statement (see minute 2021) and suggested that we should learn from the situation in Egypt to-day and should without delay turn our attention

to the Island of Cyprus. In her opinion the situation now existing there was comparable to that in Egypt 2 or 3 years ago. The matter was referred to the Parliamentary Committee.

Turning then to her report of the General Assembly and in particular to the UN Trusteeship Committee, Mrs Weiss emphasised the importance of the small nations in UN work. She also reported that while in the General Assembly and the Security Council it seemed usually to be a question of set speeches and an arrival at foregone conclusions, in the committee, real "committee" work was done.

At this point Lord Ismay's reply to our letter on S.W.Africa was discussed. It was agreed that before taking up his letter, we should carefully check the text of the International Court's findings. It was also agreed that a letter be sent to Miss Agatha Harrison expressing the readiness of the Section to give any support possible in the matter of S.W.Africa and the appearance at the UN of the Tribal Chiefs.

2028 Malayan War A letter from Miss Lous Mohr quoted Norwegian broadcasts and newspapers referring to Reuter reports of concentration camps and of burning of "19 cities and villages". It was agreed to find out what report was actually put out by Reuters and to decide then what further action, if any, was needed.

2029 Committees It was decided that for the time being the Organisation Committee should go into abeyance. It could be convened again when required.

It was agreed to invite Mrs Fernan a new member, to serve on the Parliamentary Committee.

Mrs McGregor Wood agreed to serve on the Race Relations Committee which carries on most of its work over the telephone.

2030 Mrs Muirhead The Committee learnt that Mrs Muirhead was shortly leaving the UK for India and the wish was expressed she would keep in touch with Committee and the British Section.

Date of next meeting As agreed at the November Executive meeting, the Committee will not meet until Tuesday, 5th., February, 1952.

* * * * *

Legolia de Sraet.