

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, January 10th, 1939,  
from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 55 Cover Street, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Miss  
Marion Baker, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Fuxley, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs.  
Greenwood, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Savage, Mrs. Thoday, Miss  
Jowitt, Miss Rinder, Miss Pye, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Brayshaw.  
(Lady Unwin and Mrs. Garside visitors.)

The Chairman welcomed to the Committee Members of other  
Sections: Y.F., Miss L.B. Also Mrs. Rana Rau.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Haughton, Mrs.  
Maxwell, Miss Anderson.

A MESSAGE to all the Sections from the National President  
of American Section was reported by Mrs. Innes. The Message  
reads:- "We have the greatest confidence in you, our com-  
rades and co-workers, and are proud to be associated  
with you in our common efforts. We too are trying to  
do what we can for the great ends that we are seeking  
together, and in spite of everything we are hopeful of  
ultimate gains. We send you our love and our good wish-  
es and our gratitude for what you are doing."

MINUTES of meeting on December 13th were confirmed after the  
first sentence in paragraph 2 of Minute 628 had been amended  
to read as follows:-

"Many of our Branches are giving very practical help.  
Manchester in co-operation with Friends, is taking ten  
and Brighton, Croydon and Keynsham are taking one refugee."

641. BUSINESS ARISING. Reported a letter of grateful appreciation  
from Miss Henderson for the Committee's message of sympathy  
in the recent loss of both her parents.

Refugee Jews in No Man's Land. Reported a formal acknow-  
ledgment from the Prime Minister to our letter of December 22nd  
urging, in the name of humanity, that pressure should be brought  
by the British Government to secure the immediate relief from  
the terrible sufferings which Jews from Bratislava on the  
Hungarian-Slovak frontier were experiencing.

Education of Refugee Children. Reported that the Society  
Society of Friends Germany Emergency Committee had written in  
reply to our letter of 14th December to say that the question  
of sending a refugee to the local elementary school depends  
upon the decision of the Headmistress and that it is therefore  
a local, and not a governmental matter.

Miss White had not felt she had sufficient information to  
comply with the Committee's request in December to draft a  
letter to Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, arising out of the article in  
the News Chronicle of December 10th, with special reference to  
the paragraph on the British policy of bombing houses in rebel  
villages in Palestine.

National Service Register. Reported that the Historical  
Notes on a War-time Committee issued in the Friend of November  
4th, had only concentrated on the attitude of Friends, as such.  
The Editor had informed us that "The Friend" is running a short  
series of articles on "This question of Service." No action  
was taken. In connection with the suggestion of a Compulsory  
National Register, it was AGREED to keep in the Office for  
future reference copies of representative National newspapers  
which quoted Sir John Anderson's declaration that "it would

be an absolutely useless instrument.

Belligerent Rights to General Franco. Reported a formal acknowledgment from the Prime Minister of our letter of 14th December urging that under no circumstances shall our Government agree to the granting of belligerent rights to General Franco in the forthcoming negotiations in Rome.

Conference on Forced Marriages of African Girls. Reported the St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance had written to say that they were not asking the Colonial Office to receive their deputation as from the Societies supporting the meeting on 12th December but only from those which had expressed agreement with the resolution.

642. FINANCE. Mrs. Wood presented the attached Statement of Accounts which was adopted. She presented too, the Treasurer's Report for the Annual Report which was also adopted.

In presenting her Report Mrs. Wood said that she thought some members of the Committee were anxious to see the organisation side of the work more developed and she proposed that those members who were not perhaps so politically-minded should meet together on Committee days for an hour or so, to discuss plans for future development, which could be reported immediately to the Executive. Discussion showed that most felt it would not be advisable to break up the Committee, but it was felt a time should be allotted to organisation during the Executive sessions each month.

Mrs. Innes reported a request from Madame Duchene of the French Section which had sent a telegram and letter to Mrs. Chamberlain suggesting the opening of a Fund in her name for relief of refugees in Czecho-Slovakia. No reply had been received to either and the British Section was asked to approach Mrs. Chamberlain on the matter. It was AGREED to write to Mrs. Chamberlain saying that the feelings of our French Section had been hurt by not receiving an acknowledgment of their appeal, and asking her if she would give some friendly message to them.

643. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT. Mrs. Innes read the draft report with the exception of the section on Czecho-Slovakia which Mrs. Duncan Harris promised to write as soon as possible. The report was accepted with some additions and amendments. It was AGREED that a list of Secretaries' names and addresses should be printed as an inset for Secretaries and Committee Members, but not for general circulation.

644. ANGLO-ITALIAN CONVERSATIONS IN ROME. It was AGREED that a special meeting of the Executive Committee should be called if the conversations in Rome between the Prime Minister, Lord Halifax and Mussolini caused a "crisis."

645. SPAIN. During the discussion on the situation in Spain the conviction was expressed that H.M. Government would undoubtedly have the support of the whole country in any measures it took to help the refugees in Spain, and the Committee AGREED to inform the Prime Minister of this conviction and to urge the Government to implement the Bray Report and to give liberally and to encourage other countries to do likewise.

It was AGREED that it would be useful to have a closer link with the International Peace Campaign which was doing such good work on the Spanish problem, and Mrs. Garside agreed to attend meetings of the Committee instead of Mrs. Innes, who had retired some time before, but had not been replaced.

646. CZECHO-SLOVAKIA. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on the Refugee situation. She was working with the Czech Committee here and an English group was working with the Committee in Prague. Five refugees had arrived and after spending a few nights in Croydon where hospitality had kindly been given, had been sent to their destinations. The gift of 10/- with the letter of welcome and the associate membership card had been given to each of them, and a special grant of two pounds had been made a sixth refugee, Frau Sturm, who passed through London just before Christmas on her way to New York and who appeared to be in financial straits.

Miss Karleen Baker has given invaluable help with the registration at Dow Street and was undertaking the employment side of the work with Mrs. Hampson. Difficulty had been experienced over the married women as they were told they were not to be allowed to enter without their husbands, but following an interview with Mr. Cooper of the Aliens Department, arrangements were now made to admit them on a special block visa. It was hoped in some cases their husbands would be put on a list to come, according to their need. The boys who were to come with their mothers were also a problem and efforts would be made to get them trained in agriculture and trades, but their maintenance would have to be provided while they were in training. The Committee undertook to give what financial aid was necessary for them.

The Committee gave a cordial welcome to Miss M.B., who expressed on behalf of our Czech members, her deep gratitude for all the help given to them by the British Section. She said that those who had not left by March would be given three months' notice and if they were still there after that time they would automatically become German citizens and could be turned out of Czecho-Slovakia. The time factor was, therefore, all important.

"The Economics of the Refugee Problem" by Dorothy Frances Buxton, price 3d. was recommended to the Committee and it was AGREED that a notice should be put into the News Sheet.

647. MUNICH AGREEMENT. The draft Memorandum on its historical background, prepared by Mrs. Brayshaw at the request of the November Committee, was considered. Suggested additions and amendments were accepted, and Mrs. Brayshaw AGREED to prepare it for printing. It was AGREED to put an advance notice of it in the News Sheet. Frau Hertzka gave her views on the Memorandum which were of interest to the Committee.

648. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported on news she had received from Agatha Harrison and also on the attached anti-war resolution passed by the Annual Session of the All India Women's Conference, proposed by the Hon. Mrs. Pandit and seconded by Rajkumari Amrit Kaur. It was AGREED that the resolution should be sent to the Press, headed "Indian Women strike a new note."

A Message from the Australian Section to the All India Women's Conference expressing appreciation of the message sent out from the Conference in 1937, and hoping for closer co-operation through their pan-Pacific Conference next year, was being forwarded to India.

649. EGYPT. Mrs. Lankester also reported that she had received a telegram from Miss Harrison saying that it was impossible for her to go to Egypt on her way home, and suggesting Miss Mary Dingman. AGREED to send our correspondence dealing with the proposed visit to Miss Dingman and ask her if she would be able to visit our Section in Egypt, and to let Miss Harrison know that her suggestion has been adopted.

650. WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that since sending our letter of December 14th inviting the International Executive to meet in England, letters from Frau Ragaz and Gertrud Baer had been received urging the Committee to reconsider their decision. After discussion it was AGREED not to rescind the decision made at the December Committee but to suggest to Mrs. Innes that it might be possible to hold the meetings in Oxford or Cambridge, though London is very convenient, and to ask if it would be possible to fit in their meetings with our annual Council Meetings, the provisional dates for which were March 21st, 22nd and 23rd. These would be confirmed by the Officers after the International Chairmen had met in London on January 27th.

651. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS. Inquiries had shown that the Annual Meetings of the National Council for Equal Citizenship were to be held on the 15th, 16th and 17th March and it was AGREED to try to arrange ours on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd. AGREED to recommend to the Branches that the Council should deal with the following subjects:-

- (1) Colonial problems including the control of economic resources and questions of colonial administration;
- (2) Democracy, including the democratic answer to the challenge of Fascism.

AGREED to have a Social on Wednesday evening, March 22nd, and to invite members of the League to bring a friend of another nationality. Details as to Hall, cost of tickets, etc. were deferred.

652. WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL, L.N.U. Dr. Clark was appointed to represent the W.I.L. for 1939.

653. REPORTED A CONFERENCE ON THE ECONOMIC ROAD TO PEACE January 26-28 at Friends House, with a final session at Central Hall, Westminster, 8 p.m. on the last day. The fee for Conference Membership is 5/-. Application to be made to The Secretary, The Economic Road to Peace Conference, The Dick Shoppard Memorial Club, King's Weigh House, Thomas Street, London, W. 1.

654. MRS. RAMA RAU gave a vivid account of the life and conditions of the Indians in South Africa beginning with their history eighty years ago when they went as indentured labour into South Africa.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, expressed gratitude to Mrs. Rama Rau for the valuable information she had given.

THE BUSINESS THEN CONCLUDED.

B. Duncan Harris  
14.11.39

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts, January 1st.- December 31st.1938

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Balance, Jan.1st.1938	27.17.11.	Salaries	408. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	399.15. 2.	Wages	45.12. 0.
Donations		State Insurance	8. 8. 4.
General	486.12. 9.	Office Expenses	33.13. 1½
Czech Fund	404.12. 1½	Postage & Telephone	86.12. 8.
Affiliation Fees	36.11. 9.	Travelling Exps.	49.17. 1.
News Sheets & Literature	100.18. 5½	Lighting & Heating	15. 1. 2.
Proceeds of Meetings	97.13. 8.	Stationery	27. 9. 8½
Office Exps. refunded by W.P.C.	28. 0. 4.	News Sheets & Literature	78.11. 4½
	1554. 4. 3.	Printing (including Annual Report £19.17. 0.)	77. 2. 1.
Greek & French Histories	15. 0.	Press Cuttings	4. 4. 0.
Geneva		Audit Fee	7. 7. 0.
Subscriptions	25. 3. 0.	Affiliation Fees & delegates' Fees	7. 4. 7.
Pax International	3.14. 6.	Meeting Expenses	103. 0. 4.
	28.17. 6.	Rent	50. 0. 0.
		Advertisements	10. 6.
		Grants	13. 0. 0.
		Czech Fund	187. 2.10.
			1202.16. 9½d
		Greek & French Histories	13.10.
		Geneva	
		Subscriptions	25. 3. 0.
		Pax International	8. 4. 6.
			33. 7. 6.
			1236.18. 1½
		<u>BALANCE</u>	
		Co-operative	
		Perman.Bldg Soc.	
		for 1940 Congress	16. 0. 0.
		Midland Bank	344. 3. 2.
		Cash in hand	14.13. 4½
			374.16. 6½
	<u>£1,611.14. 8.</u>		<u>£1,611.14. 8.</u>

NOTE; Earmarked for Czech Refugees £217. 9. 3½  
W.L.L. BALANCE £157. 7. 3.

Telephone Account for last quarter of 1938 not yet presented.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, February 14th, 1939 at 55 Gower Street, London, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Miss Baker, Miss Jowitt, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Maxwell, Mrs. Huxley, Miss Haughton, Miss Rinder, Miss Sheepshanks, *Mrs. Marshall*, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Savage, Mrs. McGregor Wood (Miss Gertrud Baer, visitor).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Pye and Dr. Clark. AGREED to send a letter of thanks to Miss Pye for all she is doing for the Spanish refugees, and the Committee's best wishes for her continued strength and activity.

MINUTES of meeting on January 10th were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

655. BUSINESS ARISING:

Reported a letter from the Private Secretary of Mrs. Neville Chamberlain saying she was at a loss to explain the whereabouts of the letter and telegram from the French Section suggesting the opening of a Fund in the name of Mrs. Neville Chamberlain for relief of refugees in Czecho-Slovakia. We were asked to thank the French Section for their invitation, which was appreciated, and to say that owing to the large number of similar requests she is not able to accept it. A copy of the letter had been sent to Madame Duchene, for information.

Reported that Mrs. Garside represented the W.I.L. on the International Peace Campaign deputation to the Prime Minister on 7th January, a report of which was in the Office. Mrs. Garside forwarded an appeal from the I.P.C. for a grant towards their work. It was AGREED to reply that, while we give affiliations to other Societies, we have a general rule that we do not hand over money given to us by our sympathisers for our work, to the work of other Organisations, and the Committee felt just now unable to make a grant.

At the request of the Committee Miss Dickinson had obtained lists of charges for displaying double-crown posters at London Passenger Transport Board Stations. These, together with a draft Poster designed by Miss Dickinson, were referred to the Officers, after it had been AGREED to spend up to £6 on this form of advertisement during the year.

656. FINANCE. Mrs. Wood explained that owing to the absence on sick-leave of Miss Horscroft and Miss Stroud during the last fortnight, no statement of accounts had been prepared, but that the Bank balance amounted to £135, and £233 for the Czech Refugee Fund.

657. INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS. Reported that the invitation to hold these in Great Britain had been much appreciated. As, however, the Swiss Section had also invited the members to meet in Zurich at the time of the National Exhibition, which will allow reduction of fares and special facilities while in Zurich, this had been accepted and the meetings will be held from May 30th to June 4th. Members from Sections would be welcome as visitors to the International Executive Committee meetings.

AGREED to consider resolutions for the Agenda and the appointment of Consultative Members at the March Executive.

Miss Gertrud Baer pleaded for a clearer interpretation of the British Section's opinions on political and economic questions and would like to know the background of our pronouncements in future. AGREED to give the Geneva Office as much help as possible in response to this appeal, and to send it the Minute adopted on any international subject on which a pronouncement had been made. Members of the Committee were asked to send in to the Office subjects for the Agenda which they had on their minds. AGREED that the new Committee should try to find among themselves those who would make a special study of certain countries and bring up points for consideration in Committee.

658. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS. Reported a letter from Mrs. Basil Williams giving reasons for not standing again for re-election as a Vice-President. AGREED that a letter of thanks be sent to Mrs. Williams expressing the hope that, while we understand her position, she will work with us on any lines which she feels she can support.

The Committee AGREED that resolutions on the following subjects should be put on the Agenda in its name: "Refugees" and the "League of Nations," Mrs. Innes, Miss Rinder and Mrs. Lankester to put forward resolutions in their own names on "The Defence of Democracy," "Colonial Problems" and "India."

Reported that Sir Alfred Zimmern and Dr. Gooch had been invited to speak at the Council on "The Answer to the Challenge of Fascism," but they had been unable to accept. AGREED to invite Sir Arthur Salter, Mr. Graham Hutton or Mr. Charles Buxton, and to ask the Agenda Committee to arrange a session for discussion on "What forms of 'Appeasement' are likely to lead the peace." AGREED that a session should also be set aside to discuss W.I.L. Organisation.

Miss Dickinson reported that the University of London Club, 21 Gower Street, had been booked for the Council International Social from 7.30 to 9.30 on March 22nd. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence had consented to be present, and the programme was almost completed. Miss Dickinson kindly undertook to draft a letter to members about the Social and to write a short paragraph for the March News Sheet.

659. CZECHO-SLOVAKIA. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on the position of the Refugees to date. Twenty-two were arriving the following day and arrangements were being made to give them a Sandwich Lunch in the Office on Friday, February 17th

on their return from Bow Street Police Station and before they went to their various destinations. Another 30 W.I.L. members may be expected in course of time. This practically completes the list of those who have been active in the W.I.L. and who were in danger. Extracts from Frau Rudinger's letters were read. She asked if we could take under our wing another group of women who were not closely connected with the W.I.L., though members, but who were in danger on account of their race. After discussion it was AGREED not to take on this extra responsibility as it was felt the Jewish or Czech Organisations should be able to bring them over, though we could probably arrange to pass on some of our offers of hospitality for a period of rest when the refugees arrived. Those who wished would be free to claim Associate Membership of the British

W.I.L. AGREED to express regret to Frau Rudinger that we could not undertake the bringing over and being responsible for this additional group, and to ask her to let us know when any of our members come over so that we may receive and welcome them.

Mrs. Harris paid a tribute to our Worthing Branch, which had started a kind of convalescent home for refugees needing a period of rest. All over the country our Branches had risen wonderfully to our appeals for all kinds of help.

660. SPAIN. Reported a formal acknowledgment of our letter re the Bray Report from the Prime Minister. After discussion it was AGREED to write to the Prime Minister:-

- (1) urging that recognition should be not accorded to General Franco while the war continues;
- (2) welcoming the announcement of grants by H.M. Govt. for relief of the suffering in Spain;
- (3) expressing the hope that the promises made would be speedily implemented;
- (4) urging the Government to use all economic means within its power to restrain any acts of vengeance against the conquered in order that reconciliation may be brought about as speedily as possible.

Resolutions on Spain passed at the Executive Committee of the Women's Peace Crusade on 23rd January were reported. AGREED to take no action.

661. REFUGEES. Reported that the following resolution moved by Dr. Clark on behalf of the W.I.L. had been adopted by the Women's Advisory Council of the League of Nations Union:-

"Resolved that the Women's Advisory Council recalling the resolution adopted at its meeting on July 6th, 1938, and convinced of the necessity of pursuing a bold and generous policy in regard to the Refugee problem, urged the British Government

(1) to take the lead in formulating and financing a practical scheme for a large scale and permanent settlement overseas of those who, on the grounds of race, religion or political beliefs, are being driven from their homes in Europe;

(2) until such time as the scheme can take effect, to make it possible for a larger number of those refugees whose very lives are threatened, to be temporarily received and maintained in this country;

(3) in view of the great numbers of emigrants from Spain into France to make a more adequate grant of money for the relief of these refugees."

662. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported from letters she had received from Miss Harrison on the situation in India. AGREED to send a copy of the Council resolution on India to Miss Harrison and to ask her her views on it. Miss Baer would also like her to draft a resolution on India for the International Executive Committee.

The resolution passed by the All India Women's Conference at Delhi last December appeared in "The Scotsman" of 18th January, 1939.

AGREED to ask the India Conciliation Group if it would consider publishing a short up-to-date pamphlet on the situation in India at the moment.



663. EGYPT. Reported that Miss Harrison cannot visit our Section in Egypt on her return journey. Mrs. Lankester agreed (1) to ask Miss Muriel Lester if she could visit there, there being doubt about Miss Mary Dingman being able to do so; (2) to ask our Egyptian Section to accord them a welcome in the event of their visiting them.

The Chairman expressed the hope that when Miss Jowitt goes to Palestine she may be able to call in at Egypt.

664. PALESTINE. AGREED that Miss Freda White's notes on "The War Office Statement on Palestine should be offered to the Branches who had read the Statement. It was agreed that it would be necessary to study the Statement first.

665. W.I.L. ORGANISATION. It was AGREED that a campaign on somewhat different lines from that of last year must be arranged for this year. Efforts should be made to get members in different parts of the country to take the initiative in planning meetings of all kinds, particularly where our Czech refugees were living. It was hoped that the Branches would play their part once more in the Campaign and that the new Branches would find opportunities for work in their areas. It was thought that a useful leaflet for use in the campaign would be a reprint of Madame Ragaz's article in the October (1938) Fax International.

CORRESPONDENCE.

666. All London Aid Spain Council. AGREED to accept invitation to go on deputation to the Foreign Secretary to urge, among other things, that the British Government should (1) make additional grants for the relief of the Spanish people, and support the Spanish Government's request for credits to deal with the refugee problem; (3) not grant belligerent rights to General Franco.

667. CHINA CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE. Miss Jowitt and Miss Dickinson AGREED to attend the 'China in World Affairs and our Responsibility' Conference to be held at Friends House, Euston Road, March 10th-12th. AGREED also to put a note of the Conference in the News Sheet.

668. BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE. (1) Reported Annual Con-

FERENCE IS to take place at the Economic Reform Club, May 15th, 16th and 17th. Resolutions to be received not later than 1st March. (2) Reported invitation to appoint a representative to sit on the B.C.L. Native Races Committee which meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 11.30 a.m. to discuss problems dealing with native peoples, especially women and children, under the British flag. AGREED to ask Miss Sheepshanks to serve, and failing her, Miss Mosa Anderson.

669. INTERNATIONAL CONTACT WOMEN'S PEACE PROCESSION, 1939, COMMITTEE. Reported the sixth Women's Peace Procession will be held at Rotterdam on the 18th May. AGREED to send them a Goodwill Message.

670. WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS' RECEPTION TO MRS. E.M. LOWE, J.P.  
L.C.C. (first woman Chairman of the L.C.C.) April 17th,  
8.30 to 10.30 p.m. at the Chiltern Court Restaurant. Mrs.  
Duncan Harris AGREED to represent the W.I.L. at the Reception.

671. Miss Marshall reported on the pioneer work being done  
by Czecho-Slovakians in Alberta Colony.

AGREED to ask Herr Wanka for particulars.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, Tuesday, March 14th, 11 a.m.

B. Duncan Harris  
14. III. 39

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday March 14th, 1939, at 55 Gower Street, from 11 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.

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Present:

Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. Huxley, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Pye, Miss Jowitt, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Dickinson (Visitors: Miss Baker, Mrs. Garside and Frau Hertzka-Taussig.)

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Brayshaw, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Longson, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Maxwell, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Savage, Mrs. Thoday.

Agreed to send (1) a message of sympathy and good wishes for a speedy recovery to Mrs. Brayshaw, who is ill; (2) a message of sympathy to Miss Haughton in the loss she has sustained through the death of a great friend; (3) a letter to Mrs. Savage regretting her decision not to stand for re-election at the Council Meetings owing to pressure of work in the home and in the S.W. London Branch of the W.I.L. of which she is Hon. Secretary; and expressing the hope that she will attend meetings whenever she can as an observer from her Branch.

MINUTES of meeting on 14th February were confirmed, having been previously circulated.

672. BUSINESS ARISING. Reported Miss Sheepshanks had consented to serve on the Native Races Committee of the British Commonwealth League on behalf of the W.I.L. of the Women's International Organisation of the W.I.L. sympathy shown in tabling the resolution on Refugees at the Annual Council Meeting of the Women's Advisory Council of the League of Nations Union. Reported Prime Minister's formal acknowledgment of our letter of 18th February re Spain. Mrs. Lankester reported that our Egyptian Section had sent a cordial invitation to Miss Mary Dingman to call on them on her way back from India. Miss Muriel Lester was unable to break her journey.

673. FINANCE: The Treasurer presented the attached Statement of Accounts showing a balance of £334. 9s. 7d. to the end of February, which included over £200. from the W.I.L. Czech Fund. Appreciation was expressed of the donations from Liverpool (£2.2s.0d) and Cambridge (£10) this month to Headquarters.

674. INTERNATIONAL HOUSE ACCOUNT in the Co-operative Permanent Building Society. It was AGREED that Mrs. Duncan Harris be and is hereby appointed joint Shareholder with Mrs. K.E. Innes of the Women's International League in lieu of and in substitution for Miss Mary Chick, who died on October 29th, 1938.

675. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. SPAIN; Reported that on February 16th the N.P.C. had adopted a resolution urging H.M. Govt. not to accord recognition to General Franco without receiving assurances in regard to the preservation of the integrity of Spain; the withdrawal of foreign troops; and the avoidance of any reprisals, and the exercise of clemency in dealing with political opponents.

Miss Pye who has been working in France with the Spanish refugees gave a moving account of their sufferings and deprivations, and of the situation in Spain. She agreed to speak at the Council Meetings on the subject, and would watch the situation with a view to preparing an urgency resolution to put before the Council.

Miss Pye was warmly thanked for all she was doing for Spain.

676. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported that Miss Harrison had been seeing many important people in India, particularly in connection with the serious situation that had arisen as a result of the deadlock in Rajkot. The Officers on March 7th had sent <sup>her</sup> a night cable of gratitude and love, and a letter to Lord Zetland expressing the hope that the British Government would be able to avert the disastrous consequences that might arise unless a just and peaceful solution could be found. An acknowledgment of the letter had been received. This action was approved by the Committee.

The question of bringing India to the notice of the general public was considered. Criticism was made of a talk on the wireless by Prof. Rushbrooke Williams, and it was AGREED to ask Carl Heath if he would be willing to take part in a talk if the B.B.C. would accept the suggestion of arranging one between two representative people. If he were unable to do this he should be asked to suggest suitable people. Failing this, it was agreed to approach Mr. Horace Alexander.

Miss Harrison was also to be asked if she would allow the suggestion to be made to the B.B.C. that she be asked to make a short speech, possibly in "The World Goes By", arranged by Mr. Grisewood.

The B.B.C. was not to be approached until replies had been received from the above people.

Miss Harrison has not yet written regarding the Council resolution on India about which she had been consulted.

A letter had been received from Mr. Carl Heath, Chairman of the India Conciliation Group saying that a small Group were going to prepare a pamphlet, largely dealing with the problem of the Indian States.

677. CZECHO-SLOVAKIA. The position was considered but it was agreed to take no action until the Council Meetings. Mrs. Huxley undertook to watch the situation and draft a resolution for the Council, one copy to be sent direct to Mrs. Innes and another to the office.

678. PALESTINE. Miss Jowitt undertook to get in touch with Miss Muriel Lester to see if she could speak at the Council Meetings and draft a resolution for the Council.
679. INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL. Miss Dickinson reported that more tickets had been disposed of than the Hall could cater for, but the Committee AGREED that no applications must be refused, and that a small Hall crowded was better than a large Hall half empty. It was AGREED to serve refreshments on arrival and to present the Artists with bouquets.
680. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS. The following arrangements were made:-  
Tuesday, March 21st 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Informal discussion on W.I.L.Organisation:  
Chairman: Mrs.McGregor Wood.  
Opener of discussion: Mrs.Greenwood..  
Wednesday, March 22nd, 4.30 to 6 p.m.  
Miss Marshall to be asked to open discussion on "What Forms of 'Appeasement' are likely to lead to Peace", and the Branches moving resolutions 8 and 9 to be asked to be prepared to move them at this session.  
Resolution 5.Refugees. Dr.Clark to be asked to move and Miss Marshall to second this.  
Resolution 10.League of Nations. Mover: Miss Jowitt.
681. W.I.L.Organisation. Mrs.Wood reported that at the meeting of Officers on March 8th it was agreed that this year Headquarters should work on different lines from those of last year's Summer Campaign, It will try to get meetings in towns where we have members who can give active help in their organisation. Members in Bournemouth, Oxford and St.Leonards on Sea were to be approached as a beginning. Leaflets of a suitable nature were needed. Mrs.Wood urged once again the informal meeting in groups for half an hour from 2 to 2.30 p.m. during the Executive meetings for the discussion of such subjects as (1) finance; (2) meetings; (3) publicity, etc IT WAS AGREED TO RECOMMEND these group meetings to the new Executive.
682. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Reported that the Prime Minister had agreed to receive a deputation on Monday, 20th March, on behalf of the National Petition for a New Peace Conference. A carefully prepared Memorandum is being sent to him in advance. One million signatures have been obtained in three months. The results of the Petition will be announced at a Demonstration in the Queen's Hall on Saturday, March 18th.
683. WOMAN'S FAIR, 1939. Reported Mrs.Garside had attended a preliminary meeting of the Olympia Fair in February on which she had written a report that (1) the women's societies were to have their stands in the place occupied last year by the mother-craft section, and the whole lay-out was to be more attractive,

representing a village green or street; (2) the size of a stall was to be 5' by 8' and the cost £23.10s.0d.- more than double the cost of last year.

The Liaison Officer had replied to our letter of March 8th saying that she could not promise to let us have the use of the small theatre for one day at a hiring fee if we were not represented amongst the organisations participating in the Fair. A further letter had since been received saying that it was proposed to build a section that would do justice to women's work which would approximately cost £2,000, and in order to raise this sum the following campaign was proposed:-

- (1) That a Pageant of Women" telling the story of women's work over the past 50 years should be given a Gala Performance at a West End Theatre prior to the Exhibition;
- (2) That each organisation desiring representation at the Exhibition should be given a section of the Pageant to dress and stage under the supervision of the stage director;
- (3) That each organisation should contribute £15 towards the outlay, which sum would ensure a small self contained stand at the Exhibition.
- (4) That each organisation should make itself responsible for the sale of £50's worth of tickets for the Pageant Gala.

After discussion it was AGREED not to participate in the Fair this year owing to the cost.

684. CORRESPONDENCE. Reported a letter from Miss Olive Daunt, a W.I.L. London member offering to arrange concerts in aid of our Refugee Fund and our Peace Work. She had sent particulars of her qualifications. Miss Dickinson was asked to follow up this offer and report to the officers, keeping in mind the possibility of a Summer Meeting.

"Public Opinion" Reported an offer of 12 weekly insertions advertising the W.I.L. for £1.1s.0d. As, however, the advertisements in this paper last year had had little, if any results, it was AGREED to take no further action.

685. W.I.L.P.F. Agreed to leave the drafting of resolutions for the International Executive Meetings in May until meeting of the April Executive.

686. REPORT OF "CHINA IN WORLD AFFAIRS AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY" CONFERENCE. Miss Dickinson and Miss Jovitt gave concise reports of this; AGREED to enquire if copies of the Report were available for sale at our Council Meetings.

AGREED to recommend to the Publicity Committee that Miss M. Fry be asked to write an article on China for the News Sheet.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

Read.

4. IV. 39

# Women's International League

BRITISH SECTION OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM.

*Hon. Treasurer :*  
Mrs. MCGREGOR WOOD.

*Hon. Secretary :*  
Mrs. K. E. INNES.

*Executive Committee :*

*Chairman :* Mrs. DUNCAN HARRIS, J.P.

*Vice-Chairmen :*

Miss EDITH PYE  
Miss MARY SHEEPHANKS.  
Mrs. THODAY.

Miss MOSA ANDERSON.  
Miss KARLEEN BAKER.  
Mrs. BINYON.  
Mrs. RUSSELL BRAYSHAW.  
Miss MARY CHICK.  
Dr. HILDA CLARK.  
Miss MAUD DICKINSON.

Mrs. GREENWOOD.  
Miss AGATHA HARRISON.  
Mrs. KRAFT.  
Mrs. LANKESTER.  
Mrs. LONGSON.  
Miss C. E. MARSHALL.  
Miss W. G. RINDER.

Mrs. SAVAGE.  
Mrs. PAUL STURGE.  
Mrs. THORNYCROFT.  
Miss DORA WARNER.  
Miss FRED A WHITE.

*Hon. Press Secretary :* Miss KARLEEN BAKER, B.Sc. Econ.  
TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: MUSEUM 3179.  
INQUIRIES: 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

*Office Secretary :* Miss E. HORSCROFT,  
INTERNATIONAL HOUSE,  
55 GOWER STREET, LONDON, W.C.1.

*Vice-Presidents :*

Miss VERA BRITAIN.

Mrs. DE BUNSEN.

The Hon. Mrs. FRANKLIN.

Mrs. E. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

Dr. MAUDE ROYDEN.

Lady UNWIN.

Mrs. BASIL WILLIAMS.

Dr. ETHEL WILLIAMS, J.P.

FOR FAVOUR OF PUBLICATION.

COPY of letter sent to The Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, M.P., 10 Downing Street, London, S.W. 1. by K.E. Innes, Hon. Secretary, Women's International League, 55 Gower Street, London, W.C. 1. dated

21st April, 1938.

Dear Sir,

It has been announced that His Majesty's Government have asked that the situation in Ethiopia should be considered by the next meeting of the League Council. We understand from your statement on February 21st in the House of Commons that His Majesty's Government intend to propose that the League should agree to its Member States recognising Italy as sovereign over Ethiopia.

The Women's International League resolved at its meeting of April 12th to appeal to His Majesty's Government not to recognise the annexation of Ethiopia. In

support of this appeal we urge the following reasons.

The recognition was stated by you on February 21st to be morally justifiable only if it were part of a general appeasement. Again, you said that you had stipulated, as the condition of an agreement with Italy, that she should fulfil her promise to evacuate her "volunteers" from Spain and that she should not alter the situation there to the advantage of General Franco. Subsequent events have proved that Italy has failed to fulfil either of these conditions the reasons given by you have ceased therefore to have any validity.

The position of Britain towards Ethiopia is governed by her obligations as a Member of the League of Nations. This was stated in the Assembly decision of March 11th, 1932,

"that it is incumbent upon the Members of the League of Nations not to recognise any situation, treaty or agreement which may be brought about by means contrary to the Covenant of the League of Nations or the Pact of Paris."

Nothing has happened to alter the unanimous acceptance by the League Council of October 11th, 1935 of the Article XV report on the Italo-Ethiopian Conflict, nor the recognition by Britain in company with almost all other League States that Italy had committed aggression. Indeed the situation has only been aggravated by the brutality of



the methods used by Italy in her conquest.

Further, that conquest is by no means complete. According to the best information which is publicly available, only half the country is in Italian occupation and within that area outside the garrisons there is steady military and economic resistance. The peoples of Ethiopia are more united than they have ever been, and their defence is now stronger than at any period since 1935. This is surely not the moment to aid Italy in her aggression against a League Member which has suffered destruction.

We remind you of your own statements that it is the policy of His Majesty's Government to strengthen the League of Nations. The recognition of the annexation of Ethiopia would be a disastrous blow to the Covenant and the system of international law. Great Britain would be indelibly dishonoured by such an act. But the important factor would be the weakening of the principles on which depend the hopes of restoring peace in the world.

Yours faithfully,

(SIGNED) K. E. INNES,

Hon. Secretary.

P.S. We are sending a copy of this letter to the Press.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts January 1st - 28th February, 1939.

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Balances:			Salaries & Wages	72.10.0
Co-op Bld.Soc.	16.0.0		Offices expenses	3.1.1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank	358.15.1		Post & Telephone	21.13.2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Petty Cash	1.5 $\frac{1}{2}$		Stationery	3.10.0 $\frac{1}{2}$
			Literature	5.4
Subs:	107.3.11		Fares	13.6.5
			Czech Fund	48.18.11
Dons:			News Sheet	7.15.0
General	19.4.4		Annual Council	12.10.0
Czech Fund	62.15.10 $\frac{1}{2}$		Audit	7.7.0
				190.17.0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Czech Fares	3.5.7		Loan to Int.Hse.	61.17.6
News Sheets	5.5.5			
Literature	4.17.7		Balances:	
Affiliation fees	2.3.3		Co-op Bld.Soc.	18.0.0
			Bank	305.10.8
Geneva:			Not banked	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Subs & Pax.	6.0.0		P.Cash	10.18.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Social: March 22.-14.	0			334.9.7
Lunh & Teas	17.10 $\frac{1}{2}$			
	212.7.7			
	587.4.1 $\frac{1}{2}$			
				587.4.1 $\frac{1}{2}$

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, 4th. APRIL 1939 at  
55, Gower Street, London W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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PRESENT Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Huxley, Miss Pye, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Dickinson, Miss Haughton, Miss Baker, Mrs. Garside, Miss Jowitt, ~~Miss Greenwood~~ <sup>Miss Greenwood</sup>.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN. The Hon. Secretary announced that at the first meeting of the Committee after the Council Meetings, the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen had to be appointed. On the proposal of Miss Pye, seconded by Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris was unanimously appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMEN. Mrs. Lankester and Mrs. Greenwood were unanimously appointed.

Mrs. Duncan Harris then took the Chair.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Grindley and Miss Rinder, owing to illness, from Dr. Clark, Mrs. Thornycroft and Mrs. Greenwood, owing to previous engagements made before the date of this meeting had been fixed (Note: one week earlier owing to Easter)

MINUTES of meeting on 14th. March were taken as read and signed, having previously been circulated.

687

BUSINESS ARISING.

India and the B.B.C. Mr. Carl Heath had not felt he could take part in a discussion, but suggested Mr. Horace Alexander, who had been in India and who understands the situation in India very thoroughly, and who is a Lecturer on International Affairs at Woodbrooke. Further, Miss Harrison had replied that she would have no objection to our putting her name forward for a short speech in "The World Goes By."

Mrs. Lankester agreed to draft a letter to the B.B.C. asking if it would arrange a discussion on India with Mr. Horace Alexander as one of the speakers, and suggesting Miss Harrison for "The World Goes by," on her return next month.

Miss Olive Daunt. Mrs. Innes and Miss Dickinson reported on the results of their inquiries which they made arising out of the offer of Miss Daunt to arrange concerts in aid of our Refugee Fund and our Peace Work. Miss Dickinson agreed to meet Miss Daunt ~~at the Office~~ after Easter.

Annual Council Meetings. Reported that, according to the instructions of the Executive Committee which met at the close of the Council Meetings, in Friends House, the Council resolutions had been sent as follows:-

- (1) Defence of Democracy. Sir John Anderson, National Council for Civil Liberties, The Prime Minister, The National Council of Women, the Women's Freedom League, the W.I.L.P.F. Press.
- (2) International Situation. The Russina Embassy, the Prime Minister, the Foreign Office, The Press Agency, by express messenger, with a covering letter asking if it could be announced in the B.B.C. News Bulletin. Press.

- (3) Czecho-Slovakia. Dr. Benes, The Czech Legation, Prime Minister, Foreign Office, Committee for the Protection of Czecho-Slovakian Jews. Press.
- (4) Refugees (1) Czech Refugee Organisations, Home Office, Foreign Office, League of Nations, London, The Nansen Office of the League of Nations Geneva, Herr Wanka. Press
- (5) Refugees (2) Prime Minister, with a covering letter, Foreign Office, Home Office, Chancellor of Exchequer, with covering letter. Press.
- (6) Spain. Ex-Ambassador, Foreign Office, Prime Minister, Dr. Camps, Spain Joint Committee. Press.
- (7) India. India Office, with covering letter asking for the publication of White Paper, the Viceroy, Mrs. Hamid Ali Mr. Nehru, The India League, Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., Mr. Carl Heath (Indian Conciliation Group), Mr. Cecil Wilson, M.P., the Prime Minister and the Indian Student Union. Press.
- (8) Colonial Problems (1) & (2) Missionary Societies, League of Coloured Peoples, The Anti-Slavery and Protection of the Aborigines Association, the Royal Empire Society, International Labour Office, the Mandates Commission of the League of Nations, the League of Nations, Geneva, the Prime Minister, the Colonial and Dominion Offices, International African Opinion. Press.
- (9) New Peace Conference. The Prime Minister, the Foreign Office and the Press.
- (10) League of Nations. League of Nations, Prime Minister, Foreign Office, L.N.U., China Campaign Committee, League of Nations, London. Press
- (11) Conscription. Sir John Anderson, National Council for Civil Liberties, the National Council for Equal Citizenship, the National Council of Women, the Women's Freedom League. Press.
- (12) Palestine. Peace Army, Colonial and Dominion Office, Women's International Zionist Organisations, the Jewish and Arab Organisations, in consultation with Miss Jowitt. Press.

Copies of all resolutions had been sent to the W.I.L.P.F., Geneva, the Branches, the Executive Committee, Affiliated Societies, and the Vice-Presidents.

Letters and formal acknowledgments of the resolutions were reported.

688. FINANCE The attached Statement of Accounts was adopted. A donation from the Croydon Branch of £5. was gratefully acknowledged and a letter of appreciation was to be sent to the Treasurer.

689. W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS. Mrs. Innes reported that there would probably be an Emergency Meeting of the International Executive in Paris, April 21 - 25. It was suggested that April 30th. - May 3rd. might be more suitable.

Appointment of Consultative Members. Agreed that the two out of the following who found it most convenient to attend these meetings should be appointed as Consultative Members:  
Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Jowitt, Mrs. Huxley.

Resolutions for Agenda: AGREED to send the following Council Resolutions, modified to be appropriate to the International Committee:-

India, The League of Nations, a New Peace Conference, Democracy, Colonial Problems, and the International Situation.

690. W.I.L.P.F. Reported that the following appeal, over the names of the International Chairmen was sent to the Governements of Gt. Britain, France, U.S.S.R., Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Norway, Poland, Yugoslavia, Roumania, Switzerland, Lithuania, Egypt, New Zealand, Canada, Australia, South Africa:-

"In order to prevent the collapse of the world into war and anarchy the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom makes solemn appeal to the Governments which are willing to discuss world organisation for Peace on the basis of the recognition of justice, freedom and human rights for their peoples, to meet together in Conference without delay."

Reported a letter from Miss Emily Balch, our International President, which was intended for the Council, but which arrived too late to be delivered. In it Miss Balch (1) voiced the feelings in America that in spite of all the tension and menace the situation is easing a little and that the dread of something catastrophic happening this month is growing less: (2) sympathised with the suffering peoples in China, Spain, Czecho-Slovakia, Palestine and for all those living under the endurance or the threat of persecution and violence: (3) spoke of the two tendencies among American peace people with all sorts of shades of opinion between the extremes. In the W.I.L. none is isolationist in the full sense of the word, and none - as far as she knows - has abandoned opposition to all war, though many do not see their way to oppose the overwhelming tendency to seek peace by preparing for war: (4) urged us to help them to work with us for the day when the present religion of nationalism, and worship of the State, and belief in force as an instrument for accomplishing public purposes, shall have given way to a true sense of human oneness and to truly reasonable world politics.

Agreed that a letter of thanks and appreciation should be sent to Miss Balch

691. CZECHO-SLOVAKIA. Mrs. Duncan Harris reminded the Committee of the decision of the 1938/1939 Committee to do relief work for our W.I.L. Czech Refugees. It was unanimously AGREED that the work must go on, and a very sincere appreciation was expressed to the Chairman for all she was doing to carry out the decision of the Committee, to which she replied that her work had only been made possible because of the splendid help she had received from our Branches, particularly the Hampstead Garden Suburb and the Croydon Branches, and from Miss Karleen Baker, and Mrs. Lankester. Mrs. Harris reported that so far 53 of our people had been got into this country and about another ten were expected. They arrived with no money, tired out with the strain of waiting to get away, and with the journey. Immediately on arrival they were placed with kindly friends in Croydon, Golders Green and Hampstead for two or three days, and after all the necessary formalities had been complied with, many were sent away for two or three weeks' rest before taking up the work that had been found for them. Their gratitude for everything that was done for them was most touching, and many had expressed a desire to be allowed to meet their fellow W.I.L. member refugees from time to time in London.

The Committee AGREED arrangements should be made once a month for meetings of any Czech members who wish to meet each other at the Office from 3 to 6 p.m. Mrs. Lankester, Miss Jowitt, Miss Dickinson and Miss Baker were appointed to undertake the arrangements each month, the first gathering to be arranged shortly after Easter.

Miss Pye said that our Nurse Trainees were not receiving pocket money during training and asked if the W.I.L. could do anything to help. The Committee AGREED that if it were not possible for them to get pocket money from any other source, the W.I.L. should give it for a few months, but beyond that and hospitality it could take no responsibility. *Sketch*

Mrs. Lankester reported that the Daily Express were publishing news in French and German for the benefit of refugees. Mrs. Garside undertook to keep a watch-out on these paragraphs.

It was further reported that Fraulein Fink had undertaken to write a News Letter periodically to other W.I.L. Czech Refugees. The first one had gone out but the response had not been very satisfactory. Mrs. Innes AGREED to ask Maria Brunecker if she would undertake to write a News Letter which could be duplicated in the Office.

- 692 PALESTINE. It was reported that Dr. Royden had recently published a booklet on Palestine in the 6d. edition (Hutchinson) Miss Jowitt agreed to write a short notice on it for the News Sheet. Miss Jowitt also agreed to get into touch with the Arab Association regarding the situation of the homeless child orphans.
693. CHINA. AGREED to invite Miss Muriel Lester to speak at our Luncheon Meeting on May 8th. or on a date convenient to herself. Miss Jowitt consented to take the Chair on the 8th.
- 694 BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE. Change in Constitution. As an Affiliated Society the W.I.L. was asked to instruct its delegates to the Annual Meeting on May 19th. as to whether or not it approved of the addition to the OBJECTS of the words, "and to uphold those democratic principles through which this objective can be reached." MRS. MAXWELL and MRS. LANKESTER, our representatives on the B.C.L. were authorised to approve this addition to the Objects.
- 695 NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. AGREED to ask the following if they would consent to represent the W.I.L. on the National Peace Council during the ensuing year: Miss Hayler, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Kinnish. Mrs. Lankester is unable to serve. She felt she could not share the responsibility of the National Peace Council's heavy Bank Overdraft. AGREED to ask the Hampstead Garden Suburb Branch if it could appoint a member to represent Headquarters.
- 696 W.I.L. ORGANISATION. From 2.15 to 2.45 there was a discussion on how to spread our work and how to increase our finances. A survey was made of the views of delegates at the Evening Session on W.I.L. Organisation during the Council Meetings. It was AGREED to endorse some of the proposals, and that a short statement based on the report should be sent to Branches, with the further suggestion that they might be able to give to Headquarters a percentage of, say ten per cent of the takings of their money-raising efforts during the year.

It was suggested that an inset page in the News Sheet should from time to time be devoted to news of other Sections

Regarding an effort organised at Headquarters Mrs. Harris agreed to write to Lady Mayer. Failing her help, Mrs. Guest or the Misses Alexander were suggested.

697. FRAU HERTZKA Reported that the flowers decorating the table had been given to the Committee by Frau Hertzka. Unanimously agreed that a letter of appreciation should be sent to her.
698. AGREED to send greetings to the WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN meeting in London in May.
699. Mrs. Lankester reported on the meeting for Miss Dingman organised by the Liaison Group of Women's Organisations that works in co-operation with the All India Women's Conference.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

B. Truman Harris

9. v. 39

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Statement of Accounts for January 1st - March 31st. 1939.

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
Balance, Jan. 1st.	Salaries 108. 7. 2.
General 151.18.10.	Wages 11. 7. 6.
Czech Fund 217. 9. 3½	Insurances 2.10. 8.
Subscriptions 286.17.11.	Office Expenses 6. 6. 3.
Donations 38. 3. 7.	Travelling " 16.13. 7.
Czech Fund 98.14. 2½	Postage & telephone 28. 1. 3.
Affiliation fees 4.13. 3.	Stationery 10. 4.11.
News Sheets & Literature 17.17.11..	News Sheets & Literature 26.13. 1½
Proceeds of meetings 10.11. 6.	Czech Fund 71.11. 3½
	Lighting & heating 3.14.10.
	Meeting Exps. 28.18. 1½
	Audit Fee 7. 7. 0.
	<u>321.15. 8½</u>
	Geneva Subscriptions 9. 0. 0.
	<u>330.15. 8½</u>
Geneva Subscriptions 9. 0. 0.	Balance
	Loan to House A/c 64.13. 9.
	C.P.B.S. for 1940 Congress 19. 0. 0.
	Cash in hand 11. 6.1½
	Midland Bank
	General 164.18. 8½
	Czech 244.12. 2½
	<u>504.10. 9½</u>
<u>£835. 6. 6.</u>	<u>£835. 6. 6.</u>

Outstanding Account Rent £18.15. 0.

Balance in General Fund £241. 3. 7.



Women's International League.

Czech Fund to March 31st.1939.

INCOME

Balance, Jan.1st.1939	217. 9. 3½
Donations	95. 3. 7½
Fares refunded	3.10. 7.
	<hr/>
	£316. 3. 6.
	<hr/> <hr/>

EXPENDITURE

Grants	29. 6. 1½
Fares	25. 8.11½
Office Exps.	16.16. 2½
	"
	<hr/>
	71.11. 3½
Balance	244.12. 2½
	<hr/>
	£316. 3. 6.
	<hr/> <hr/>

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Council Social, March 22nd. 1939. Statement  
of accounts.

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Sale of Tickets	£8. 5. 6.	Hire of Hall & refreshments	£4. 9. 6.
		Printing of Tkts.	14. 6.
		Flowers, tips etc.	1.16. 9.
			<hr/>
			£7. 0. 9.
		Balance	1. 4. 9.
			<hr/>
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£8. 5. 6.		£8. 5. 6.
	<hr/>		<hr/>

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

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International House Account, Jan. 1st - March 31st.1939.

Income		Expenditure	
Balance, Jan.1st.1939.			
Midland Bank	£19.10.10.	Audit Fee	£2. 2. 0.
C.P.B.S.	391. 9.10.		
		Balance	
Rents received	71. 5. 0.	Midland Bank	88.13.10.
		C.P.B.S.	391. 9.10.
			£
	£482. 5 .8.		£482. 5. 8.

Owing to W.I.L.  
    Inland revenue Tax, and Land Tax   £64.13. 9.  
    Less W.I.L. Rent                                 18.15. 0.  
45.18. 9.

Other accounts due before June  
    rents come in.  
    Borough & Water rates  
    (estimated on last year)                                 49. 8. 2½  
£95. 6.11.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, May 10th. 1939, at  
55, Gower Street, London W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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PRESENT Mrs. Duncan Harris, in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. Kinnish, Mrs. Thornycroft, Miss Jowitt, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Longson Miss Rinder, ( Miss Pickworth, Frau Misar and Frau Hertzka as visitors).

700. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Baker, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Garside, Mrs. Huxley, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Maxwell, Miss Marshall.

Reported a letter from Mrs. Brayshaw explaining that owing to continued ill-health she may have to be an irregular attender for the next twelve months, and offering to resign if the Committee would like to co-opt somebody stronger who could attend regularly. AGREED a letter should be sent to Mrs. Brayshaw saying that it was very much hoped she would remain on the Committee for the moment and come when she felt able to do so, and if later they were particularly anxious to co-opt anyone, they would let her know, feeling sure that she would understand the position.

701. MINUTES of meeting on 4th. April were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

702. BUSINESS ARISING.

Minute 691. No reply had been received from Miss Brunecker re a News Letter to W.I.L. Czech Refugees in this country.

Minute 687. India and B.B.C. In reply to our letter of April 6th. to the B.B.C. suggesting (1) a topical talk in one of the programmes by Miss Agatha Harrison on her return from India; (2) a broadcast talk or discussion on the growing demand for representative and responsible government in the Indian States, with Mr. Horace G. Alexander taking part, the Director of Talks had regretted being unable to accede to our request. A further letter was sent in response to this and on 6th. May the B.B.C. had written to say that upon Miss Harrison's return to England they will get in touch with her, with a view to discussing the possibility of her broadcasting a talk on her recent experiences in India.

Minute 687. Miss Dickinson reported on her interview with Miss Olive Daunt, who was very willing to help the W.I.L. AGREED to ask her to help in connection with our Summer Garden Party.

Minute 692. Miss Jowitt reported that she hopes to meet the Arab Committee next Tuesday. She has written to Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Walter Ayles asking for further information regarding the situation of the homeless child orphans in Palestine.

Minute 695. Reported that Mrs. Marris, with alternatives from the Hampstead Garden Suburb and Golders Green Branch has agreed to serve on the Council of the National Peace Council on behalf of W.I.L. Headquarters.

Minute 696. Reported Lady Mayer regretted that owing to great pressure of work she was unable to help us this year with our money-raising effort.

703. BUSINESS ARISING ON COUNCIL MEETINGS. With reference to the Council resolution on the League of Nations, Miss McGeachy, of the Information Section of the League of Nations, Geneva, had sent us a copy of the Report of the Committee on Budgetary Economies, at the same time writing that "saving has been effected chiefly by reorganising the grouping of the staff rather than by discontinuing work, and "by concentrating and simplifying the whole machinery rather than by curtailing activities." Miss McGeachy also wrote that "with regard to credits for anti-epidemic work in China, the Assembly voted for the 1939 budget 1,800,000 Swiss Francs, of which 1,050,000 francs was to be a non-recurring item, representing the expenditure incurred in transporting material for the League's missions engaged in this work. The remainder, 750,000 francs will still figure in the 1940 budget. Mrs. Innes said she understood that the 1,800,000 Swiss francs voted for the 1939 budget were in part being retained as the fees due from China to the League of Nations. AGREED to consult Miss Gertrud Baer on this matter.

Reported a letter from the Secretary to Dr. Benes expressing, on behalf of Dr. Benes, his hearty thanks for the W.I.L.'s admirable interest and sympathy for the Czecho-Slovak nation and for the resolution passed at the Council. He assured us that Dr. Benes deeply appreciated this act.

704. PROPOSAL THAT MEMBERS SHOULD MAKE A SPECIAL STUDY OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES AND BRING POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE.  
The following undertook to "watch"

Palestine	Miss Jowitt
India	Mrs. Lankester
Egypt	Mrs. Lankester
Spain	Mrs. Thornycroft
France	Mrs. Kinnish

It was AGREED to ask the following if they would undertake

Central Europe	Mrs. Huxley
Germany	Miss Rinder
South Africa & the West Indies	Miss Anderson
America	Lady Unwin.

Mrs. Longson agreed to "watch" Civil Liberties and Miss Pye was to be asked to undertake "Refugees."

It was AGREED that members not present should be asked at the next Committee to undertake countries not yet provided for.

705. APPOINTMENT OF SUB COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to serve on the Publicity Committee, subject to their consent.

Dr. Clark, Miss Baker, Mrs. Garside, Mrs. Kinnish, Miss Jowitt, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Maxwell, Officers ex-officio.

House Committee:

Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Harris, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Wood and Miss Dickinson.

Native Races:

Miss Anderson, Dr. Clark, Mrs. McGregor Ross.

It was AGREED that for the time being Committees were not necessary for Jamaica and India.

706. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts was adopted. Mrs. Wood was asked to write to all Headquarter Members asking them to buy tickets for our Summer Garden Party.

Donations from Glasgow and Acock's Green branches were reported and the Treasurer was asked to write letters of thanks to both. Mrs. Lankester reported that Miss Harrison had sent a cheque for £5. for our Czech Refugee work as she very much wished to have a share in it, though absent from home. Mrs. Lankester was asked to convey to Miss Harrison the Committee's appreciation and thanks.

707. GARDEN PARTY. Reported that efforts to get a garden for a money-raising effort had not been successful until to-day when Mrs. Braithwaite had telephoned to say that she would be very glad to lend her garden on Saturday, July 1st. if the Committee would undertake all the work and responsibility as she would be unable to do much as her sister was seriously ill and her daughter would be returning from America in the near future. AGREED to thank Mrs. Braithwaite for her kind help and to invite the following Hampstead members to serve on a Sub-Committee to make arrangements:-

Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Hodd, Mrs. Russell, with Mrs. Maxwell and Mrs. Garside, subject to their consent. The Officers would attend ex-officio, and Miss Dickinson consented to serve.

Miss Dickinson undertook to write to Miss Olive Daunt to see if she would arrange a Ballet. It was also AGREED (1) to ask Mrs. Greenwood to follow up her inquiries with the Martin Brownes about the possibility of a Play; (2) to have one or two Stalls, and (3) Teas. It was left to the Sub-Committee to make arrangements, Frau Hertzka agreeing to act as opener if in England.

708. CONSCRIPTION. Reported that Mrs. Innes, on behalf of the W.I.L. had written to the Prime Minister on May 2nd. expressing profound regret at the decision to introduce conscription, and pointing out that a country whose youth was trained to accept the war system as normal was less likely to work to end that system by constructive peace planning. The League, she wrote, felt bound to register its unqualified objection to any form of compulsory military service or training. A copy of the letter had been sent to the Secretary of State for War, to the Press, the Branches, Affiliated Societies, the Executive and other Peace Organisations. The Manchester Guardian had printed it. Formal acknowledgments had been received from Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Hore-Belisha. The Glasgow Branch had sent the following wire to the Prime Minister "We strongly oppose Conscription of man-power as being a negation of democracy. Negotiate for Peace." Several other Branches had also taken action.

Reported that at a special meeting of Peace Organisations etc. called by the National Peace Council a resolution was adopted recording its emphatic opposition to the decision of the Government to introduce a measure of compulsory military training.

The Chairman reported that as a result of a report of an ad hoc meeting of the National Peace Council on May 1st., sent us by Miss Hayler, one of our representatives on the N.P.C., the Officers on May 3rd. had informed Mr. Gerald Bailey (1) that the W.I.L. was willing to join a deputation to the Prime Minister to put the case against conscription; (2) it would like to know more about the Albert Hall Meeting and join in it if our responsibilities were not beyond our capacity to meet, and if the platform were not only anti-conscription,

but included pressure for economic reconstruction for peace on the lines of the N.P.C. policy, which the W.I.L. supported.

This action was endorsed by the Committee.

The following names were put forward, for suggestion to the N.P.C. for the Albert Hall Meeting:-

The Rt. Hon. Margaret G. Bondfield, Miss Vera Brittain, Miss Joyce Wells, Miss Thornycroft (Barrister).

Miss Jowitt undertook to write in her own name to "Time & Tide" putting forward the W.I.L. point of view of conscription.

709. W.I.L. ORGANISATION. Mrs. Innes reported that, for the time being, arrangements had not proceeded any further for a meeting at Bournemouth as she was unable to visit Dr. Wood on either of the Sundays that had been offered her.

Arrangements were being made for a meeting for Teachers on June 21st. at 8 p.m. at St. Leonards, which Miss Jowitt had kindly promised to address on "Education for Peace." It was AGREED to ask other W.I.L. members in St. Leonards if they could arrange a Drawing Room Meeting for Miss Jowitt on the afternoon of the 21st. or the 22nd.

710. W.I.L.P.F. Executive Committee Meetings in Paris, April 22nd. - 26th. 1939. A full report was given by Mrs. Lankester of the proceedings of meeting. The Statement and resolutions adopted will appear in the "Pax" and an account will be printed in the June News Sheet.

The Swedish Section had put forward a proposal to start a World Campaign in support of initiative on the lines of President Roosevelt's Message. Miss Gertrud Baer was instructed to approach Miss Mary Dingman, President of the Peace and Disarmament Committee of Women's International Organisations on the matter, and on May 1st a meeting of representatives, called by Miss Dingman, was held

A cable was sent to President Roosevelt (1) expressing appreciation of his taking the initiative in calling a halt to aggression and his constructive proposals for international discussions, and (2) hoping that his attempt to save the world from disaster and to restore human liberties would be successful. The cable was printed in the R.U.F. Bulletin.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that on behalf of the British Section, the W.I.L.P.F. Committee had been assured of temporary Office accommodation in London in the event of Switzerland becoming an impossible place for International Headquarters.

Reported that the Autumn Meeting would be in Zurich instead of at Geneva.

Referring to the proposed World Campaign Mrs. Harris reported that the British Women's Total Abstinence Union were organising a World Women's Peace Petition, as follows:-

"We, the women of many lands, believing that war and violence can bring neither peace nor happiness to the nations, hereby

Call for a World Conference of the Peoples of the World, where any discontents, injustices or misunderstandings amongst nations from whatever cause arising, may be examined and settled

by reason and methods of justice, in the spirit of goodwill and of any necessary self-sacrifice on the part of some nations, so that universal disarmament and a lasting world peace may be secured."

The Petition was already in the printer's hands and would be ready for distribution in a few days. It would be sent to other women's organisations asking for co-operation. So far the W.I.L. and the N.P.C. were the only organisations who had received information concerning it. The N.P.C. had been somewhat disturbed at the news as the Petition followed so quickly on the recent Petition calling for a World Conference. Miss Gertrud Baer had been informed immediately of the Campaign and of the wording of the Petition.

Agreed to offer speakers to the B.W.T.A.U. during its Petition Campaign.

It was agreed that the W.I.L.P.F. Statement adopted at the emergency Committee, with a suitable heading and ending, should be adapted and used as a leaflet in the British Section.

AGREED to ask Branch Secretaries to see that the Statement is received by every member in her Branch, and used as a guide to the line the W.I.L. takes at the present moment.

711. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S APPEAL Mrs. Innes reported that on behalf of the W.I.L. she had written to Lord Halifax on 17th. April (1) expressing concern at the concentration in British foreign policy on bi-lateral military alliances, while all ideas that the democracies have a part to play in the positive organisation of peace have remained unexpressed and undeveloped; (2) welcoming President Roosevelt's proposals; (3) urging H.M. Government to do all in their power to secure action on the lines suggested; hoping that the democratic States will call a Conference of all countries willing to plan for peace on a democratic basis, and to initiate at once such steps as are possible for the establishment of just conditions of trade and intercourse, and for the removal of the causes of war.

Copies of the letter had been sent to the Prime Minister, the German and Italian Embassies, the Press, Branches, Affiliated Societies, Executive Committee and a number of other Peace organisations.

Miss Balch's Cable. Reported that the Press Association had been sent a copy of Miss Balch's telegraphic message of 12th. April urging that a Broadcast be sent from women of other countries to the women of Germany proposing a restoration of general prosperity by means of international agreements to open markets for both buying and selling, which would raise the standard of living everywhere and which would facilitate the normal expansion of populations, and make for an ideological tolerance which would lead to international disarmament. This course would enable the peoples of the world to live their lives freely, without the perpetual fear of war."

Reports of this appeared in the Daily Mirror and the Bulletin and Scots Pictorial. unsatisfactory in itself, but satisfactory in so far as it showed us that the Press Association had thought it worth while distributing.

Reported a letter had been sent to the Prime Minister dated April 20th, signed by fifty leading signatories to the National Petition for a New Peace Conference pointing out the desirability "that the British Government should at the



earliest possible moment make an announcement of the positive contribution which the British Empire itself is prepared to make to ensure a firmer and fuller economic liberty for the multitudes in every country;" and urging "the need for a declaration of our readiness to abandon exclusive privileges in favour of a new colonial system based on the maximum freedom for the colonial peoples and the fullest trading opportunity in colonial areas for all the nations of the world, and of our willingness to make such modifications in our national and imperial economic policies as will enable us to contribute fully to any co-operative effort to open up avenues of international trade to the end that every nation of the world may be enabled to buy and sell on equal terms in the world's markets, as well as to possess assurances of obtaining the materials and products of peaceful economic life."

Reported that the Women's Advisory Council of the L.N.U., on which the W.I.L. is represented by Dr. Clark, adopted a resolution welcoming the initiative of President Roosevelt in making his appeal, and reaffirming its conviction that it is only by re-establishing and maintaining the principles of the Covenant of the League that safety and justice can be secured for all nations. Miss White attended the meeting on behalf of Dr. Clark.

712. BROADCASTS TO GERMANY Reported an extract of a letter from a friend in Germany to Mrs. Savage saying that he can no longer listen to the German news from London as the B.B.C. are no longer transmitting on the middle waves and his wireless set is not for short waves. The middle waves transmission is later in the night when people are in bed. As it was believed that the times and wave lengths had been altered it was agreed no action was needed, except to ask Mrs. Savage's permission to send the extract to the B.B.C. for their information.

713. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported <sup>hoped</sup> briefly on India. She ~~feared~~ that Mr. Gandhi's new Fast might <sup>not</sup> cause Miss Harrison to return to India from Aden, as she was now on the homeward journey and expected to arrive about the 20th. of the month. A meeting for her was being arranged by the Liaison Committee on June 9th. at the Economic Reform Club, with Lord Sankey in the Chair.

714. POLAND. A discussion took place on "Federal Union". It was agreed to have a members' meeting to discuss this subject at 4 p.m. on June 13th. immediately following the Executive Committee. Miss Rinder AGREED to study Clarence Streit's book "Union Now" and to open the discussion. The Office was authorised to buy a copy of the book.

715. W.I.L. CZECH REFUGEES. The Chairman reported on the very successful gathering of Czech Refugees in the Office on Thursday afternoon, May 4th. Some 35 Czechs were present - our own refugee members with husbands and friends, - and there were many happy greetings. Mrs. Lankester ~~provided~~ <sup>arranged</sup> the teas and arranged for helpers to come and serve it. Several members of the Executive and members of the Austrian Section were present. The next meeting is fixed for Thursday June 1st. when Mrs. Lankester will again very kindly provide the tea.

716. DISCUSSION MEETING BETWEEN MEMBERS OF OTHER SECTIONS, arranged for Tuesday, June 6th. in the afternoon.

717. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Lankester and Mrs. Kinnish were authorised to recommend sixteen nominations for the National Peace Council Executive Committee, from the list supplied us.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

B. J. Harris  
13. VI. 39

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts, January 1st.- April 30th.1939.

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<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure.</u>
Balance, January 1st.	Salaries 139. 7. 2.
General 151.18.10.	Wages 14.17. 6.
Czech Fund 217. 9. 3½	State Insurance 3. 3. 0.
Subscriptions 314. 8. 1.	Office Expenses 8. 9. 1½
Donations 39. 8. 7.	Travelling " 20.17. 5.
Czech Fund 116.12.10.	Postage & telephone 42.17. 7.
Affiliation Fees 5.11. 3.	Stationery 16. 6. 5.
News Sheets & Literature 20.14. 6.	News Sheets & literature 31. 1.11½
Proceeds of meetings 10.11. 6.	Printing (including Annual Report £19.5.0). 20. 7. 6.
507. 6. 9.	Lighting & heating 5.14. 6.
Geneva Subscriptions 13.11. 0.	Meetings Exps. 29. 1. 7½
Pax " 2. 0.	Audit Fee 7. 7. 0.
13.13. 0.	Affiliation Fees & delegates " 4.17. 0.
	Czech Fund 86. 2. 6½
	450.10. 4.
	Geneva Subscriptions 14.11. 0.
	Pax " 2. 0.
	14.13. 0.
	445. 3. 4.
	<u>Balance</u>
	Loan to House A/c 64.13. 9.
	C.P.B.S. for 1940 Congress 20. 0. 0.
	Cash in hand 5.12. 0½
	Midland Bank:
	General 106.19. 2.
	Czech 247.19. 7.
	445. 4. 6½
<u>£890. 7.10½</u>	<u>£890. 7.10½</u>

Rent due to House Account £18.15. 0.

W.I.L. Balance (including £20 for Congress) £178.9.11½

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, June 13th.  
1939 from 11 a.m. to 5.45 p.m. at 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1.

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PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Paker, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Anderson, Miss Jowitt, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Garside, Miss Rinder, Miss Marshall (Visitors) Lady Unwin, Olga Misar and Dr. Malini Sukthankar.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were reported from Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Maxwell, Mrs. Kinnish, Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Thornycroft, Dr. Clark, Miss Pye, Mrs. Huxley and Mrs. Thoday.

MINUTES of meeting on May 10th. were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

718. BUSINESS ARISING

Minute 700. Mrs. Brayshaw's letter acknowledging the Committee's message was reported.

Minute 712. Reported that in a letter dated 16th. May the B.B.C. pointed out that a medium-wave transmission during the hours of daylight would be ineffective because it could not be satisfactorily received in Germany. Their later transmission (10.15 p.m. to 10.45 p.m.) is broadcast on short and medium waves.

Minute 704. Reported the following undertook to "watch"

South Africa and the West Indies: Miss Anderson  
Central Europe : Mrs. Huxley  
Germany: Miss Rinder  
America: Lady Unwin  
China: Miss Harrison will try to keep us in touch with happenings there.  
Mrs. Longson undertook to "watch" Civil Liberties.

Minute 710. W.I.L.P.F. "CALL TO ACTION". Reported that this had been printed as a four page leaflet. 4,000 for £3. 5.--. Many of the Branches had already ordered copies and sent a contribution towards the cost. It had been inserted in the News Sheet for June and sent to Headquarter Members.

719. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts was presented by Mrs. Wood and adopted.

720. GARDEN FAIR: Mrs. Garside and Miss Dickinson reported on the arrangements for this. Mrs. Braithwaite had arranged with the sub-committee to have a table in the garden with someone in attendance ready to take the names and addresses of anyone willing to help during the HENDON PEACE WEEK. Mrs. Braithwaite had suggested to Mrs. Garside the sale of the I.P.C. Peace Penny at the Fair.

The Executive AGREED that it would not be wise to sell the Peace Penny, but that a letter of appreciation should be sent to Mrs. Braithwaite, and that she should be told that the Committee hoped she would link up her workers for the Hendon Peace week with the W.I.L. Fair.

721. W.I.L. ORGANISATION. Mrs. Wood urged the Committee to consider plans for the Winter's programme much earlier than it usually did. Miss Dickinson asked that the offer of Miss Daunt's musical and dramatic services should not be overlooked.

722. INDIA.

Miss Harrison was present for the first time after her seven month's absence in India. The July News Sheet will contain a Letter from Miss Harrison to W.I.L. members, so it is only necessary to mention briefly some of the points raised when she spoke to the Executive.

Miss Harrison stressed the urgency of the Indian situation; of the need for the close attention to it of the W.I.L. She outlined briefly the places she had visited, the people she had met. She had seen the first part of the Government of India Act in force in the British Indian Provinces; these for the most part were working well but grave tension remained on account of the implementing of the second part of the Act - Federation. To go ahead with this in the face of persistent opposition in India seemed to her to be impossible. The time was ripe in her opinion, in view of the decision of the Chamber of Princes (for quite other reasons than those of national India) to review the whole position. She asked that the W.I.L. should stand ready to take any helpful action. Miss Harrison spoke of the situation in regard to the Indian States, saying this was part of the general problem that made the position in India so acute; this too needed to come under review for almost nothing was known in this country about the matter. A pamphlet will shortly be issued by the Indian Conciliation Group on the States problem and she urged all W.I.L. members to help in its circulation.

Miss Harrison also reported on her interview with Miss Janet Quigley at Broadcasting House, following on the correspondence the Executive had had with the B.B.C. Director of Talks. She regretted that she had not been able to accede to the suggestion that she should give a Talk on the Life of Indian Women, as she would have felt she had failed to fulfil the great responsibility laid upon her by having obtained first-hand knowledge of the political situation in India. She believed the matter was being taken up again with the Directors. The Committee endorsed Miss Harrison's action and Mrs. Lankester was asked to write a letter to Miss Quigley to urge that an opportunity be given to Miss Harrison to convey to the British people some of the facts of the situation in India.

723. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE REPORT. Reported it was hoped to have an article in the News Sheet for July on the I.L.O. AGREED to urge our members through the News Sheet to study the Report.

724. PALESTINE Minute 692 (April Committee). Miss Jowitt reported that she had obtained no information regarding the homeless child orphans in Palestine.

Miss Jowitt recommended that no reply beyond the formal acknowledgment should be sent to the Zionist Organisation with regard to the attempts to land illegal entrants into Palestine. This recommendation was approved.

In the White Paper recently issued Miss Jowitt thought there should have been a political amnesty, but on the whole she thought it was on the right lines.

725. FOREIGN POLICY OF GREAT BRITAIN. The Chairman, in referring to the speech in the House of Lords on June 9th. by Lord Halifax, said she felt the door had been left open, seeing that the Government is prepared to negotiate with Germany so that their claims might be adjusted on a basis that would secure lasting peace, but he did not say what kind of concessions the British Government would be prepared to allow. The N.P.C.

had agreed to send a letter to the Prime Minister saying that it would be glad if the Government would see its way to announcing definite steps which would prepare the ground for negotiation between the countries concerned.

Miss Rinder felt Lord Halifax's speech was intended to get behind the German propaganda. She would advocate no concessions over Colonies as she thought it would be a great crime to hand over defenceless people to the German regime. Neither did she believe that by putting Colonies under a Mandate would the situation in Central Europe be helped. She urged that no general resolution be sent to the Government without facing up to its implications.

It was pointed out that the W.I.L. had never advocated handing over colonies, but supported international control. It was agreed to take no action.

726. WEST INDIES. In reading the debate in the House of Commons last week and in view of the Colonial Office Vote, Miss Anderson said she was struck by the terribly bad conditions in the Empire - unrest, risings, disturbances practically all over the Empire. The Report of the West Indies Commission will be out shortly and in it emphasis will be laid on the political and economic needs. Miss Anderson agreed to bring an account of the Report to the Committee.

It was reported that the Publicity Committee had asked Miss Anderson if she would draft a new short pamphlet for the consideration of the Executive to replace the "Opening of the Empire Door," which was out of stock. Miss Anderson said she would like to consult the Publicity Committee before commencing the pamphlet, and she would bear in mind the suggestion of a bibliography and a list of Colonies, with their populations. It was felt that a good title was essential. Agreed to make inquiries about getting it on sale at Smiths Bookstalls.

727. CONSCRIPTION. Arising out of Minute 708, it was reported that the National Peace Council was unable to organise an Albert Hall Meeting owing to pressure of work, but that the Peace Pledge Union had taken the initiative in setting up a Central Joint Advisory Bureau for the purpose of securing co-operation between all organisations which are resisting Conscription. It is setting up local Advisory Bureaux for the purpose of giving advice to any man who comes within the terms of the Military Training Act, and to support him if he goes before a Tribunal.

Miss Dickinson, who attended two meetings as an observer reported on them. The W.I.L. was invited to co-operate officially in the Bureau; to pay an affiliation fee of not less than £1. to help with provisional expenses, and to co-operate in the Mass Meeting at Central Hall on June 28th. The object of the Mass Meeting was (a) to stress the resistance to conscription; (b) to advertise the existence of the Bureaux; (c) to create a public opinion which would secure fair play for the C.O. and prevent victimisation; (d) and to raise money. The Speakers so far were George Lansbury, Dr. Joad, Miss Maude Royden. The Officers had replied that if the purpose of the Mass Meeting were definitely for repealing the Act and helping C.O.'s. they were ready to give their support and to ask Miss Dickinson to represent the W.I.L. officially at their Committee Meetings. The question of an affiliation fee to help with provisional expenses, and having our name put on the handbill, was to be dependent on their reply. The P.P.U. Chairman had replied that he could see no reason at all why they should not state that part of the purpose of the mass meeting was to repeal the Act.

During the discussion it became clear that as an Organisation we could not help individual Objectors, but we could press for the Repeal of the Act and must confine ourselves to dealing with matters of principle and keep within our objects.

It was AGREED to participate in the Mass Meeting at Central Hall on June 28th. and to consider the question of joining with the Joint Advisory Bureau at the next Executive Committee Meeting. In the meantime Miss Dickinson was asked to attend the meetings of the Bureau as our Observer.

Attention was drawn to the large "CONSCRIPTION" window card and to the pamphlet describing the Military Training Act, price 1d.

728. W.I.L. CZECH REFUGEE WORK. Reported that the balance in hand of the Czech Fund was £260. 14. 6½ less £14. kept in trust for J. Rudinger. Miss Baker appealed for summer clothing, as though many refugees were now earning they had not had time to save sufficient money to buy clothes. She had also found that cost towards medical treatment could be obtained from the Czech Committee. Offers of hospitality for Summer holidays would be very welcome. There were about 12 to 16 people on the list still to be got out of Czecho-Slovakia but the difficulties were endless in getting them into this country. Madame Smolkova was out of prison and Madame Plaminkova was reported to be coming to England.

729. INTERNATIONAL W.I.L.P.F. MEMBERS. Reported a letter from Miss Lotti Birch asking if the British Section could increase the International Affiliation of Branches. Agreed to ask the Branches to consider Affiliation to the W.I.L.P.F.

730. REPORT OF PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

(1) Posters on Tube Stations (Tottenham Court Road, Goodge Street, Euston and Euston Square) were now on exhibit. The price of handprinting had been 2/- each.

(2) 20,000 new membership forms (Leaflet 103) had been printed, Manchester ordering 10,000. Several other Branches had ordered smaller quantities and their names and addresses had been over-printed in each case. The cost was £15.14. 0 for the 20,000.

(3) Copies of the Peace Service Book were on the literature table for sale.

(4) Arrangements for the July and August News Sheets were in hand.

(5) NEW LEAFLET. The Publicity Committee reported that they had considered that morning a leaflet drafted by Mrs. Brayshaw re Constructive Ways of bringing in World Peace. Amendments had been made and it was agreed to send it back in its amended form for Mrs. Brayshaw's approval. Attention was drawn to the fact that Mrs. Brayshaw had submitted a copy to the Manchester Branch but we had not yet heard whether they were printing it. If they were it would affect the sale of the amended leaflet.

731. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Agreed to get three 2/6 tickets for delegates to the Peace Congress, July 7th.- 9th. at Friends House, Euston Road, London N.W. 1. Frau Misar agreed to attend as one delegate. Agreed to ask if the N.P.C. would allow the transfer of the tickets to other members.

732. INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU Congress at Zurich, August 21st. to 27th.

733. NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN PASS THE BILL COMMITTEE.  
AGREED not to send delegates to Conference on June 22nd, as members were divided over the resolution to be put to the meeting.

734. WORLD WOMEN'S CONGRESS FOR PEACE AND LIBERTY.  
Frau Hertzka, on behalf of the W.I.L., had attended the meeting at Friends House on June 6th. to inaugurate the Women's World Congress for Peace and Liberty to be held in Cuba, October 1939. As she was unable to be present she had sent her written report, which was read. AGREED to send appreciation and thanks to Frau Hertzka and a message of sympathy and best wishes for a speedy recovery from her accident.

735. BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE.

Mrs. Lankester asked for the appointment of another deputy on the B.C.L. Executive Committee to replace Mrs. Maxwell, who had been appointed on to the Committee in her own right. Agreed to put this on the July Agenda.

736. DR. SUKTHANKAR (<sup>Deputy Leader</sup> ~~Vice-President~~ of the Bombay Municipal <sup>Congress</sup> ~~Party~~, Organising Secretary of the All India Women's Conference, etc.)

At the tea interval Dr. Sukthankar, who received a warm welcome to the meeting from the Chairman, gave an interesting account of conditions in India, with particular reference to women's work for Education, Social Conditions, Political Work, Legal Rights for women, and the part women must play in the cause of peace etc. Their great desire is to be strong and still non-violent.

Dr. Sukthankar promised to be present on July 1st.

Date of next Meeting - July 11th.

B. Duncan Harris

11.VII.39

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts, January 1st. - May 31st. 1939.

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<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
Balance, Jan. 1st.	Salaries 170. 7. 2.
General 151.18.10.	Wages 18. 7. 6.
Czech Fund 217. 9. 3½	State Insurance 3.15. 4.
Subscriptions 337.18. 7.	Office Expenses 9.15. 2.
Donations 53.11. 7.	Travelling " 23.10. 1.
Czech Fund 143. 7.10.	Postage & Telephone 48. 8. 2½
Affiliation Fees 6.18. 9.	Stationery 19.15. 9.
News Sheets & Literature 25.16. -½	News Sheets & Literature 36. 6. 8½
Proceeds of Mtgs 12. 4. -	Printing (including Annual Report (£19.15/0) 20. 7. 6.
	Lighting & heating 5.14. 6.
	Meeting Exps. 29.17. 1½
	Audit Fee 7. 7. -.
	Affiliation & delegates' Fees 4.17. -.
	Rent 18.15. -.
	Czech Fund 100. 2. 7.
Geneva	
Subscriptions 13.11. 0.	
Pax " 2. 0.	
Donation 10. 0.	
579.16. 9½	517. 6. 7½
14. 3. 0.	
	Geneva
	Subscriptions 14.11. 0.
	Pax " 2. 0.
	14.13. -.
	531.19. 7½
	Balance
	Loan to House A/c 45.18. 9.
	C.P.B.S. for 1940 Congress 21. -. -.
	Cash in hand 2. 8. 8½
	Midland Bank
	General 101. 6. 3½
	Czech Fund 260.14. 6½
	431. 8. 3½
<u>£963. 7.11.</u>	<u>£963. 7.11.</u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Printing of leaflets	£18.19. 0.
Printing of Posters	1. 3. 6.
London Transport Board (Advertisement)	3. 0. 0.
	<u>£23. 2. 6.</u>

W.I.L. BALANCE (including £21. earmarked for next Congress) £147.11. 3.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Czech Fund Account, November 1938 - May 31st.1939.

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INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Balance, Jan.1st.	217. 9. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Grants	48. 7. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Donations	124.12. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	Fares	32. 5. - $\frac{1}{2}$
Fares refunded	3.15. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Office Expenses	19. 9.11.
Office Expenses Refunded	1. 0. 0.		<hr/> 100. 2. 7.
	<hr/>	Balance (including	
	£ 346.17. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	£14. for J. Rudinger)	260.14. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Joseph Rudinger	<hr/> 14. - . - .		
	<hr/> £ 360.17. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$		<hr/> £360.17. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
	<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, July 11th, 1939,  
at 55 Gower Street from 11. a.m. to 3.45 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair in the morning,  
Mrs. Lankester in the Chair in the afternoon.  
Mrs. Innes, Miss Harrison, Miss Pye, Mrs. Kinnish  
Miss Dickinson, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Greenwood,  
Dr. Clark, Miss Jowitt, Miss Baker, Mrs. Maxwell,  
Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. London, Miss Marshall, Miss  
Rinder (Visitors: Lady Unwin, Miss Sheepshanks,  
Frau Olga Misar).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Brayshaw, who  
was better but still obliged to rest; Mrs. Huxley, who had  
met with an accident, and Miss Haughton, who had been obliged  
to seek rest and change owing to ill-health. AGREED to send  
a letter of sympathy to Mrs. Huxley and Miss Haughton.

MINUTES of meeting on 13th June were confirmed, having pre-  
viously been circulated.

737. BUSINESS ARISING:

Minute 734. Women's World Congress for Peace and Liberty.  
Mrs. Innes reported that since the last Executive Committee,  
when Frau Hertzka reported on the meeting called to inaugurate  
this Congress, held at Friends House on June 6th, she had re-  
ceived a letter from Mrs. Haldane, the Hon. Corresponding  
Secretary, inviting Executive members to give their signatures  
as supporting the Congress and asking for help in making it  
known. As an individual Mrs. Innes had agreed to her name  
being added to the list of supporters from Great Britain,  
which included Mrs. Attlee, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, The Lady  
Violet Bonham Carter, Mrs. Victor Gollancz, Lady (Ida) Hall,  
Mrs. John Strachey, Dr. Edith Summerskill, Dame Sybil  
Thorndike, Miss Ellen Wilkinson. After discussion AGREED  
(1) to get information re names of Officers and British Com-  
mittee organising the Congress; (2) to put a note about it  
in the August or September News Sheet.

738. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts was presented  
and approved.

739. GARDEN FAIR, July 1st. Mrs. Wood reported that £36 had been  
made, clear of all expenses. AGREED to send letters of  
thanks and appreciation to all the helpers and to Dr. Sukthan-  
kar, the Opener. The event had been greatly appreciated by  
all the Refugees who had been present.

740. INTERNATIONAL HOUSE. On the recommendation of the Officers  
it was AGREED that the exterior of the house should be re-  
decorated. Mr. McGregor Wood would very kindly consider esti-  
mates and supervise the work. The Committee expressed their  
gratitude for this generous undertaking.

741. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT was given by Mrs. Maxwell.

742. W.I.L.P.F. MEETINGS, ZURICH, September 3rd to 8th.

Consultative Members. Mrs. Duncan Harris was appointed  
one Member and the Officers were authorised to arrange for a  
second.

Resolutions. AGREED to recommend for discussion at the  
W.I.L.P.F. Committee the proposals for Federalism now being  
put forward, or any other measures that might bring a solution

to the existing problems or be a step towards world Government.

Congress, 1940. AGREED to renew our old invitation to hold the Congress in England, preferably in July when Colleges in Oxford or Cambridge would be vacant. The Committee would, however, support the proposal to hold the Congress in one of the Scandinavian countries but was opposed to its being in America on account of the great expense involved on travel. In the event of Miss Pye putting forward, in her own name, the proposal that the Congress should be deferred one year, the Consultative Members were authorised to support her proposal.

743. W.I.L.P.F. PROPOSED CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF INITIATIVE ON THE LINES OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE (See Minute 710 May 1939). Mrs. Innes reported that judging from the replies from the various women's international organisations, the time was not considered ripe for the calling of a universal Conference. Sections <sup>had</sup> therefore received no instructions from Headquarters.

744. EUROPEAN SITUATION. Reported a letter from Mrs. Huxley suggesting that we give all encouragement to Dr. Benes when he is in England this summer. As doubts were expressed as to the wisdom of giving him a public welcome it was AGREED to take no action.

Regarding the present European situation, Mrs. Huxley proposed that instead of Loans for arms to other countries, the Government might be urged to give Loans for commerce with all nations who will join a real peace confederation. Miss Sheepshanks felt strongly that we should put forward a definite peace policy based on the last paragraphs in Sir Arthur Salter's "Security: Can we retrieve it?" and on the Statement adopted by the N.P.C. Congress (July 7th/9th). Dr. Clark supported Miss Sheepshanks and they agreed to draft a Statement for the consideration of the Executive Committee at a special meeting on Tuesday, July 18th at 2.30 p.m. In the meantime copies of the N.P.C. Statement were to be sent to the Branches with a covering note to the effect that the Executive does not necessarily support every proposal in it but that a special meeting is being held out of which it is hoped a definite policy will emerge, which can be used as a background to an appeal to Lord Halifax, or the Prime Minister.

745. WEST INDIES COMMISSION REPORT. Miss Anderson said this would not be out for some time and she recommended taking no action until it was issued. AGREED.

Mrs. Lankester reported that the British Commonwealth League were trying to arrange a meeting for Dame Rachel Crowdy when the Report is published. Mrs. Innes said that from the Officers' Meeting a letter had been sent to Dame Rachel inviting her to speak at a meeting of W.I.L. Members, but no reply had been received. AGREED not to go ahead with plans for a W.I.L. Meeting but to co-operate with the B.C.L. in theirs, Dame Rachel to be informed accordingly.

746. INDIA. Miss Harrison reported she had had an hour's interview with the Director of Talks at the B.B.C. over the proposal that she should give a Talk to convey to the British people some of the facts as she sees them of the situation in India. So far nothing had been arranged.

Miss Harrison referred to the W.I.L. request last February to the India Conciliation Group to consider publishing a short up-to-date pamphlet on the situation in India. Such

a pamphlet had now been issued, "The Indian States: Reform and Federation." AGREED (1) to send it to our Branches urging them to get a notice of it into their local paper; (2) to put a note in the News Sheet.

Miss Harrison gave a brief account of the situation in India, and also mentioned that names of distinguished women were asked for by the All India Women's Conference for their meeting in December.

747. PALESTINE. Miss Jowitt said she had received documents from the Arab Centre making accusations of atrocities by British troops on Arabs, and that the Centre had several times asked for a neutral Commission to inquire into such accusations. AGREED that before pressing for a Commission Miss Jowitt should try to collect further information on the matter.

748. W.I.L. ORGANISATION.

Mrs. Innes reported that in connection with the summer campaign, meetings had been arranged from the Office at St. Leonards-on-Sea, when Miss Jowitt opened a discussion on "Education for Peace," and at Newton Abbot when Miss Parker, a W.I.L. Member at Taunton was the speaker. In response to requests speakers had been sent during the last few weeks to six meetings, two of which had affiliated to us. Speakers were also being provided for forthcoming meetings at Winchmore Hill and Edware.

Several new members had recently joined - or rejoined, the latter including Rose Macaulay. It was believed these had joined because of the paragraph about the W.I.L. in the P.P.U. Service Handbook.

Autumn Meeting. AGREED to arrange a Public Debate on some such title as "Would a union of Democracies save World Peace," to be held in a Hall about the size of Conway Hall, Livingstone Hall or Caxton Hall (York Room). It was AGREED also that "Federal Union" should be asked to give us the names of their speakers.

Bring and Buy Sale. AGREED this should be held during November.

749. W.I.L. CZECH REFUGEES. Letters of appreciation of the British Section's work for Czech Refugees from the W.I.L. in America were reported. Mrs. Harris had acknowledged Dr. Bussey's and Mrs. Innes the one from Miss Detzer. The attached Statement of Accounts was presented and adopted. Miss Karleen Baker pleaded for offers of hospitality during the summer months and for offers of employment. Miss Baker undertook to follow up Miss Marshall's suggestion that the W.I.L. in America should be asked if they would guarantee German Jews over here, awaiting transit, which guarantees the Home Office would accept through Bloomsbury House. AGREED that Miss Baker should write an appeal for hospitality and offers of employment for the News Sheet.

The monthly Gatherings were proving very successful.

Associate Members. AGREED that, apart from our own Czech Refugees who had been made Hon. Associate Members on their arrival in England, genuine W.I.L. refugees from other countries should be accepted as Headquarter Members at a reduced subscription rate of 1/-

750. CONSCRIPTION; Joint Advisory Bureau Meeting, June 28th. Miss Dickinson reported on this meeting as being very successful. She asked if the Executive wished to co-operate in the work of the Bureau. AGREED to pay an affiliation fee of £1 and Miss Dickinson was appointed as our official representative on the Bureau.

751. NATIONAL PEACE CONGRESS

Miss Sheepshanks and Frau Olga Misar gave interesting reports and it was AGREED that time should be given to considering the results of the Congress at the meeting on July 18th and again, if advisable, in the Autumn.

752. LIVERPOOL BRANCH. Reported that this Branch had sent a resolution to the Prime Minister, Lord Mottistone and the local press urging the Government to approach once more all maritime nations in order to achieve the abolition of the submarine.

753. THE NEW COMMONWEALTH INSTITUTE has started a Research Bureau, whose services are put at the disposal of any organisation wishing to make use of them.

754. OTHER BUSINESS. AGREED to try to arrange a small tea party of Executive members and friends during the last half of August to meet two Chinese women Miss Harrison would like to introduce to the W.I.L.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS: July 18th, 2.30 p.m.

September 19th, 11 to 5 p.m.

This concluded the business.

DISCUSSION MEETING open to W.I.L. Members.

At 4 o'clock Miss Rinder opened a discussion on Clarence Streit's book "Union Now." It is hoped a report will appear in the August News Sheet.

B. Duncan Harris

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts, January 1st. - June 30th, 1939.

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<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
Balance, January 1st.	
General Fund	151.18.10.
Czech Fund	217. 9. 3½
Subscriptions	351.15. 7.
Donations	53.11. 7.
Czech Fund	147. 7.10.
Affiliation fees	7. 1. 6.
News Sheets & Literature	33.15. 9.
<u>Proceeds of Mtgs.</u>	
Garden Fair	
Sales	7.9.--.
Dons	6.7.6.
General	12.4 -.
	26. --. 6.
Refund from W.P.C.	13.15. 2.
	633. 7.11.
Geneva	
Subscriptions	15.12. --.
Pax "	2. --.
Donation	10. -
	16. 4. --.
	£1019. --. -½
	654. 7.11.
	15. 3. --.
	£669.10.11.
	Balance General Fund
	Loan to House A/c27.3. 9,
	C.P.B.S. for
	1940 Congress
	Midland Bank
	Cash in hand
	115. --. 3.
	Czech Fund Balance
	Midland Banks
	Cash in hand
	234. 8.10½
	£1019. --. -½

Approximate Statement for July 1-5th. inclusive.

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Balance, July 1st.		General	15. 6.
General Fund	115. --. 3.	Garden Fair	3. 2. --.
Czech Fund	234. 8.10½	Czech Fund	1. --. 4.
Subscriptions	5. --. --.		4.17.10.
Czech	10. --.		
News Sheets & Literature	14. --.	Balance	
Garden Fair		General Fund	149. 6. 5.
Sales	31.19.8.	Czech Fund	233.18. 6½
Donst	10.--		383. 4.11½
	32. 9. 8.		
	38.13. 8.		
	£388. 2. 9½		£388. 2. 9½

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS: Stationery 16/5: Geneva Sub.£1.1.0;  
 Advertisement on Tube Stations £3; July News Sheet £3.17. 6.  
 Garden Fair (approx) £1.10. 0. Total £10.4.11.

BALANCE: GENERAL FUND (including £22. earmarked for Congress) £139.1.6

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

CZECH FUND

Statement of Accounts, January 1st. - June 30th. 1939.

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<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Balance, January 1st.	217. 9. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Grants	63. 3. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Donations	127.17. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .	Fares	35.12. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fares refunded	3.15. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Office Expenses	<u>31.11.10.</u>
Office Expenses refunded	<u>1.15. --.</u>		130. 8. 3.
	133. 7.10.	Balance (including £14. earmarked for J. Rudinger)	234. 8.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
J. Rudinger	14. --. --.		
	<u>£364.17. 1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>		<u>£364.17. 1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>

Special Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Women's International League, Tuesday, 18th July, 1939, at 2.30 p.m. at 55 Gower Street, London, W.C.1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Lankester in the Chair, Dr. Hilda Clark, Miss Edith Bye, Mrs. Kinnish, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Dickinson, Miss Marshall, Miss Maker and Mrs. Beesley (observer from Brighton Branch).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Duncan Harris Mrs. Innes, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Brayshaw, Miss Rinder, Miss Jowitt, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Huxley.

756. The Chairman reminded the Committee that it had been called specially to consider a draft Statement which Dr. Clark and Miss Sheepshanks had drawn up at the request of the Committee, based on proposals for a British Policy made by Sir Arthur Salter in his "Security - Can we Retrieve it?" and the N.P.C. Declaration of Peace Aims and Intentions, adopted at the National Peace Congress held in London on July 7th to 9th.

Letters dealing with the Draft were read from Mrs. Brayshaw, <sup>Miss Harrison</sup> and Miss Rinder, and borne in mind during the discussions.

After careful consideration the draft was amended and the attached Statement adopted, the Committee believing that it represented fulfilled the terms of reference laid down by the previous Committee.

It was agreed to send it, with a covering note, to Lord Halifax, the Prime Minister, the Secretaries of the



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Dominions Office and the Colonial Office, the Highers  
Commissioners for Canada, Australia, New Zealand and  
South Africa, the Branches and the Press.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

55, Gower Street, London, W.C. 1.

STATEMENT adopted by the Executive Committee of the Women's International League at a special meeting on Tuesday, July 18th, 1939, at 55 Gower Street, London, W.C. 1.

The Women's International League notes the statements made by the Foreign Secretary that His Majesty's Government, while determined to resist further aggression by force, would be ready to discuss Germany's claims provided that the independence of nations is recognised; and

believes that such statements should be made more convincing to the German people by a clear indication of the immediate constructive policy to remedy economic grievances which would be proposed as soon as the use and threat of force is abandoned.

In formulating such a policy it should be declared that an essential part of any general settlement must be an international agreement for the limitation and progressive reduction of armaments.

It believes that the policy proposed should cover the following points:-

1. (a) Co-operation with Germany in finding methods of meeting her particular requirements in international trade adjusted to her economic and financial interests; this might involve recognition of geographical areas of special economic interest.  
(b) Reconsideration of the policy of the Ottawa Agreement in consultation with the Dominions with a view to the stimulation of world trade and the negotiation of freer trading agreements with all who are prepared to join.
2. The initiation by Great Britain of an international inquiry into the question of raw materials with a view to a Convention ensuring equality of access.
3. The calling of a Conference of Great Powers and all States

having Colonies, to consider

- (a) the possibility of agreed changes in the present allocation and status of colonial and mandated territories, with the consent of the native populations;
- (b) principles of colonial administration under international authority, the aim being the development of self-government and political freedom in the territories concerned.

4. The recognition that changes in population, resources and needs of some countries may necessitate changes in existing rights and obligations of others, and that if force is to be renounced as a method of securing such changes provision for settlement by peaceful means, with the greatest possible assistance of disinterested "third party" judgment, must be worked out and loyally followed.

In a general **settlement** the Covenant of the League of Nations should be separated from the 1919 Peace Treaties, and embodied in a new Treaty open to separate and voluntary signature after negotiation on a basis of equality.

As a preliminary to all discussions and as an earnest of intention to substitute an agreed for a dictated settlement there should be a formal cancellation of the "War Guilt" clause in the Treaty of Versailles.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Special Executive Committee Meeting held on Monday,  
August 28th. 1939 at 11 a.m. at 55 Gower Street, London W.C. 1.

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Present: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Dr. Clark, Miss Harrison, Miss Jowitt, Miss Haughton, Miss Pye, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Baker, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Huxley, and visitors Frau Misar, Frau Rudinger, and Miss M. Brunecker.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Greenwood; Mrs. Maxwell and Mrs. Thornycroft.

Mrs. Duncan Harris welcomed Frau Rudinger to the Committee. Frau Rudinger had only arrived in England from Czecho-Slovakia the previous week and she brought with her greetings from other members in that country.

A request from the residents in the top floor flats to have pails of sand placed in the hall was referred to the Officers. A request for the use of the cellars as a shelter in emergency was granted.

International Executive Committee Meetings, Zurich. Some discussion took place as to the possibility of cancelling the meetings or of transferring the meetings to another town, but no recommendation was made. Mrs. Innes reported that Miss Agatha Harrison had agreed to be our second consultative member.

Office. It was agreed that essential records should be moved out of London, and that if war came the staff should also be asked to go. Mrs. Innes said that she might be able to have the Office at her home if some evacuees did not turn up, and Miss Haughton also offered her home.

Refugees. It was agreed to ask branches and headquarter members for assistance for our refugees as set out in the attached letter.

Present Situation. The following letter sent by the Officers of the National Peace Council to the Prime Minister was endorsed

"The Council beg the British Government to take every possible step to encourage Polish-German negotiations or conciliation under conditions proposed by Roosevelt.

"Equally urge necessity for associated declaration of British readiness to join in and make substantial contributions to general conference for settlement of economic and armament programmes as again proposed by Roosevelt."

It was also agreed to urge branches and members to try to form study-circles in the way outlined in the attached letter.

International House. It was agreed to postpone the re-decoration of the outside of the House which should have commenced on September 11th.

Finance. Mrs. McGregor Wood stated that the W.I.L. General Fund was overdrawn and sanction was given to draw on International House Fund, for the time being.

The concluded the business

# Women's International League

## BRITISH SECTION OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM.

National Sections or Correspondents in 39 countries.

International Headquarters: 12 Rue du Vieux Collège, Geneva

Vice-Presidents: Miss VERA BRITAIN, Mrs. DE BUNSEN, The Hon. Mrs. FRANKLIN, Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE, Dr. MAUDE ROYDEN,  
Miss MARY SHEEPHANKS, Lady UNWIN.

Chairman: Mrs. DUNCAN HARRIS, J.P.

Hon. Treasurer:

Hon. Secretary:

Vice-Chairmen: Mrs. LANKESTER.

Mrs. MCGREGOR WOOD.

Mrs. K. E. INNES.

Mrs. GREENWOOD.

Hon. Press Secretary: Mrs. MAXWELL

### Executive Committee:

Miss MOSA ANDERSON.

Mrs. GARSIDE.

Miss LETTICE JOWITT.

Miss EDITH PYE.

Miss KARLEEN BAKER.

Mrs. GRINDLEY.

Mrs. KINNISH.

Miss W. G. RINDER.

Mrs. BRAYSHAW.

Miss AGATHA HARRISON.

Mrs. LONGSON.

Mrs. THORNYCROFT.

Dr. HILDA CLARK.

Miss AMY HAUGHTON.

Miss C. E. MARSHALL.

Mrs. THODAY.

Miss MAUD DICKINSON.

Mrs. L. G. H. HUXLEY.

TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: MUSEUM 3179.

Office Secretary: Miss E. HORSBROFT,

INQUIRIES: 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE,  
55 GOWER STREET, LONDON, W.C1.

August 28th.1939.

To Branch Secretaries &  
Headquarter Members.

### IMPORTANT.

Dear Fellow-Member,

In view of the present crisis, the Executive Committee met this morning at Gower Street. Arrangements for carrying on our work in an emergency will be sent to you if and when it becomes necessary. I am writing now to pass on to you details of what we discussed and to make some suggestions concerning possible lines of activity

#### I. Refugees.

1. One piece of international work which every member should try to continue is the help to refugees. A great need at the moment is for hospitality outside London for those who are losing their situations through the Crisis. For example we heard that several refugees who were to have sailed for America this week-end have been unable to do so owing to the withdrawal of the German boats on which they should have sailed, and at present they do not even know the position with regard to their passage money.

Will you (a) inform us of any free hospitality or cheap board and lodging available in your area, and (b) send in names and addresses of any empty houses in your neighbourhood which might be available for the use of refugees?

2. As regards the position of refugees in case of war - we learn that women refugees will be treated exactly as British citizens (for ration cards etc.) They will be permitted to undertake some form of national service, particularly as 'nursing auxiliaries', and that anyone who wishes to do so will be able to enrol and be trained for this work.

3. Many refugees are very interested on coming into contact with our W.I.L. work. We would remind you that those clearly understanding and agreeing with our principles can enrol in this Section as Associate Members. Great care must, however, be taken to ensure that those doing so are real supporters of our policy and not inclined to join only out of gratitude for help received.

## II. Policy

We of course endorsed the line taken by the Officers of the National Peace Council in support of President Roosevelt's attempt to bring about peaceful settlement of the problems of Danzig and the Corridor, but it was felt that this was not the moment for an approach by the W.I.L. to the Government. It was agreed that there was scope for useful action within our Branches or by individual members, in work in small groups, carrying on education for a world organised for peace along the lines of W.I.L. policy

Small groups could well be meeting in private houses, and discussing e.g. problems of economic adjustment and reconstruction, in the interests of peace and justice; of sovereignty and political readjustments; and of means of arriving at disarmament.

In case of a Conference the W.I.L. should be studying the problems that arise and putting forward suggestions for an outcome along the lines it desires.

In case of war it must continue planning for a just and lasting peace, in the light of principles it has put forward consistently since 1915.

In these discussions our foreign guests may helpfully find scope, to join with us in keeping alive an international atmosphere and the spirit of internationalism in war and where barriers to travel hinder contacts.

Hoping to be able to write soon about the carrying on of our work under normal conditions again,

I am, on behalf of the Executive,  
Yours sincerely,

K. E. INNES.

Hon. Secretary.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, September 12th, 1939 at Friends House, Park Lane, Croydon, 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Miss Dickinson.*  
PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. Wood, Miss Jowitt, Miss Harrison, Miss Baker. Visitors: Frau Hertzka, Mrs. Backhouse, Mrs. Bentham, Miss Brunecker, Mrs. Webb. *(Mrs. Kinnis)*

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Received from Mrs. Brayshaw, Dr. Clark, Miss Pye, Mrs. Garside, Mrs. Maxwell, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Thornycroft. A letter from Frau Olga Misar was read explaining that her absence was on account of "enemy aliens" having to register and not being allowed to travel more than five miles from their homes. She sent her love and good wishes to the Committee.

In opening the meeting the Chairman reminded the Committee that with our international links today we are in a stronger position than we were 24 years ago. The presence of Frau Hertzka and Miss Brunecker was evidence of these links, reminding us that in spite of war, they were international links for peace and freedom. The W.I.L. has an instrument through which it can work for the hindering of bitterness, for the promotion of friendship and understanding, and for the study of those things which under-lie any peace that must come. Though a small body we may look to the work that lies before us with faith and courage. She welcomed to Croydon those who had succeeded in getting to the meeting.

THE MINUTES of the meeting on July 11th were signed, together with those of the special Committee on August 28th, which had not yet been distributed owing to the outbreak of war.

755 BUSINESS ARISING: Minute 748. AGREED to take no further steps for a Public Debate in the Autumn.

756 W.I.L.P.F. Mrs. Innes reported that the International Executive Committee to be held at Zurich had been indefinitely postponed. An invitation had been received from the Dutch Section, to hold the meeting at The Hague at the first opportune moment. AGREED to encourage such a meeting. In the event of neither Gertrud Baer nor Clara Ragaz being able to leave Switzerland it was AGREED that a meeting with the Scandinavians should be attempted.

757. GREETINGS were reported from Toini Iverson, and letters were read from

(1) The Swedish Section (through Naima Sahlbom) assuring the British Section of its thoughts and deep feelings of sympathy in the difficult days before us, and expressing the hope that friendly contact would be maintained, as in the last war. The Section was doing all it could for refugees.

An appeal, organised by the Swedish Section, and signed by 14 women's organisations, was sent to the meeting of the Oslo States in Brussels on the 20th August. It was sent from the Swedish Section appealing to the leading Statesmen, and urging the Governments to take immediate steps for the calling together of a World Conference, and to strive for a just solution of the burning problems which disturb the Peace and prevent international co-operation.

(2) Madame Radmonst-Hirschmann saying she now knew that we had no right to expect a speedy success in our attempts to change in a period of about fifty years, the old world, steep-



ed in prejudices, in conception of power and prestige, in the habit of using violence to gain one's end. "All we need is more patience which, I am sure, you and I can practise! Meanwhile, we can do all that is possible to prevent a new Versailles from creating new sources of discontent and injustices. There is plenty to do even now to prevent the growth of hatred which can only lead to new violence. We have been happy to find a great deal of unity of purpose in the peace movement in Holland and are preparing for a much closer collaboration than before....It is difficult under the present conditions to remain "neutral" as seems to be our duty. To feel a great pity for those who are bringing this new misery over the world, only to satisfy their ambition, is as far as I can bring myself, knowing that their sufferings will one day be infinitely great."

758 FINANCE. As the account books were at Welwyn Garden City a Statement of Accounts was presented showing that approximately £23 had been spent over and above income. As the House Account was earning a little Interest in the Co-operative Permanent Building Society, the Officers had approved of the drawing temporarily on the Czech Fund, which was in the General Current Account. It was AGREED that fifty pounds should be drawn from the House Account at the earliest possible moment. It was also AGREED that an appeal for Funds should be sent to Headquarters Members over the names of the Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.

759 THE WAR. The Chairman reported the following letter sent to the Prime Minister on September 5th, 1939:-

"Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Women's International League I beg to thank your Government for its appeal to reason rather than force by the dropping of leaflets over Germany. I would express our fervent hope that your efforts to establish friendly relations with the German people may be successful in this fateful hour.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) B. DUNCAN HARRIS.

After some discussion on W.I.L. policy in connection with the letter and expressions of different opinions by Mrs. Innes and others, the Chairman's action was endorsed by a majority.

760 FUTURE WORK. The following telegram was reported from the Manchester Branch:

Manchester Members Meeting today desire London Executive write Heads of Neutral countries asking them to take immediate steps to arrange armistice."

The Chairman reported an interview she had had with Mrs. Payne (a one-time W.I.L. Member) who was anxious that neutral countries should be urged to mediate between belligerent countries.

The attached Statement on the 11th September by the N.P.C. was then considered. Until it had been sent to the Prime Minister it was to be regarded as private, but the substance of it could be used immediately, mention being made that the N.P.C. had passed it.

Mrs. Innes then presented a draft Statement for the Committee's consideration, and after discussion it was adopted in principle (appended in final form).

It was AGREED to send this, with a covering letter to Headquarters Members, Branches Affiliated Societies, and other Peace Organisations, and an abridged form to the Daily Press, the following members undertaking to approach Manchester Guardian (Miss Baker through Miss Isitt) News Chronicle and Daily Herald - Miss Harrison.

The following Weeklies and Monthlies would be dealt with by

Mrs. Grindley - The Wheatsheaf.  
Mrs. Wood - The Christian World.  
Miss Jowitt - The Towns Woman.

AGREED to ask Vera Brittain to help over "Time and Tide" and Mrs. Patrick Graham over "White Ribbon."

It was suggested that Rose Macaulay and Storm Jameson should be asked to write for other papers.

761. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. The Chairman reported that the N.P.C. were trying to form a Committee of individuals first, then later perhaps of representatives of Societies, to work out the kind of peace terms which might sow the seeds of future peace. AGREED to urge on the N.P.C. that Societies which have worked to this end be asked to appoint representatives to such a Committee and that it should include these from the beginning, as well as selected individuals.

762. OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS. The Chairman reported that as the arrangements for moving the Office Staff and equipment to Welwyn Garden City had fallen through on account of Miss Haughton being compelled to fill her house with evacuees, she had accepted the offer of her son's house in Croydon for the time being. Letters were being forwarded to her own address. The financial situation was, however, very serious, and as the Officers did not feel that there would be sufficient work for two, they had felt obliged to give Miss Stroud a month's notice, and as the Office was closed, Mrs. Andrews, the Office cleaner, had been given a week's money in lieu of notice.

On the proposal of Miss Harrison the Officers were asked to see that Miss Stroud should not be stranded at the expiration of her notice if she had not succeeded in getting work.

It was reported that the Japan Evangelistic Band, our first-floor tenants, had returned to work in Gower Street, believing that, with the good cellars there, the house was as safe as anywhere. Miss Baker said she would like to return to the Office. Miss Horscroft also expressed a desire to return. After discussion it was AGREED that the Office should be re-opened at any rate for the time being. Miss Harrison said she would introduce Miss Horscroft to the Wardens of the Indian Hostel in Gower Street in case she needed company during an air-raid.

763. NEWS SHEET. The Chairman reported that Dr. Clark would find it much easier if the Publicity Committee could be held in Gower Street, if the News Sheet were to be continued. It was AGREED that the News Sheet must be continued and the next issue brought out as quickly as possible. Dr. Clark was willing to continue to edit it if Miss Horscroft would see it through the press. AGREED that the next number should contain:

- (1) The Executive Statement;
- (2) Extracts from Madame Ramondt's letter;
- (3) an article on Minorities by Dr. Clark if she

could spare the time to write it;  
(4) Mrs. Pethick Lawrence to be asked for "A Review of 1915 in the light of 1939.

(5) Messages from the Vice-Presidents.

AGREED that the next meeting should be at the Office, if possible.

764 CZECH REFUGEES. AGREED that (1) for the present the Tea Parties in the Office should not be held; (2) Frau Rudinger should be asked to make up the News Letter, and the routine work in connection with it to be done in the Office.

765 CORRESPONDENCE. Reported that the Peace Pledge Union were organising a Pacifist Service Corps for undertaking humanitarian work of all kinds, where ever possible - at home or abroad. AGREED to make this known to the Branches.

The National Library of Peiping, China, had written to say that they were in urgent need of literature on international affairs in order to maintain in China the awakened interest in the study of international affairs, and were anxious to keep in close touch with the work of the W.I.L. through our literature. AGREED that this should be sent and Miss Harrison, who knew Mr. T.L. Yuan, the Acting Director of the Library, agreed to write to him.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS. The next meeting to be held at 55 Gower Street on October 10th at 11 a.m.

B. Duncan Harris

3. IX. 39

# The Present Situation

*Pronouncement by the Executive Committee of the British Section of The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, 55 Gower Street, London, W.C.1.*

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**The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom was founded in the Hague in 1915 in the first year of the last war,** and women from warring and neutral countries met together there and issued a pronouncement.

We, the Executive Committee of the British Section, wish to reaffirm the principles then laid down as follows:—

“ We women, of many nations, in International Congress assembled, raise our voice above the present hatred and bloodshed, and however we may differ as to means we declare ourselves united in the great ideals of civilisation and progress.

“ We come together both from the warring and the neutral countries not to place the responsibility for the present conflict upon one Government as against another, not to consider the rules of warfare but impelled by profoundly humane forces, and bound together by the beliefs that women must share in the common responsibility of government and that international relations must be determined not by force but by friendship and justice, we pledge ourselves to resist every tendency to rancour and revenge, to promote mutual understanding and goodwill between the nations and to work for the reconciliation of the peoples.

“ We declare the doctrine that war is inevitable to be both a denial of the sovereignty of reason and a betrayal of the deepest instincts of the human heart. With a sense of our share in the failure to prevent the wars of the past and of the present and in sorrow for the suffering, the desolate and the oppressed, we, the members of this Congress, urge the women of all nations to work for their own enfranchisement and unceasingly to strive for a just and lasting peace.”

After the Hague meeting, Sections were founded in many countries all over the world. These Sections are in being to-day and our international contacts have been maintained

with all countries except those under dictatorships, where the Sections were suppressed.

We believe that work internationally for the renunciation of war is a piece of international service which must be maintained in this critical hour.

**In the 1915 Pronouncement we have a rallying ground to-day.**

As women we view the retention of war for achieving national ends, with its indiscriminate slaughter, as an instrument which must be deliberately abandoned by civilised man.

We realise that at the last moment when nations have been preparing feverishly for months for the outbreak of war, war is inevitable, but if another way is sought with the determination to renounce war as a method, war is not inevitable.

**War prevention must include:—**

- (1) the resolve to renounce war;
- (2) the removal of unjust conditions in different spheres the existence of which prevents sincere renunciation;
- (3) the abandonment of the claims of national sovereignty and of the weapons maintained to support those claims.

WHEN PEACE COMES: We urge the Governments:—

- (1) to conclude it by negotiation between all parties concerned on equal terms;
- (2) to avoid vindictiveness and recrimination;
- (3) to plan for a future of equal co-operation between the nations in a world organised for peace.

AS AN IMMEDIATE STEP:—

To set up at once an official Committee (including representatives of unofficial bodies) to study the root causes of war and the means by which they can be eradicated, and to consider and make recommendations of such terms of peace as would eliminate war.

**Only by testing every detail of a plan for world organisation by reference to the above principles is the abolition of war likely to be achieved.**

C O P Y.

NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL STATEMENT.

September, 1939.

1. We sympathise with the distinction which the Government is making as the basis of its war policy between the action of the Nazi regime and the responsibilities of the German people.
2. We congratulate the Government on its attempt to get messages to the German people indicating a readiness to make peace with any persons faithfully representing their interests.
3. We think that the intensified and developed use of this technique might, if applied at once, have considerable influence in shortening the war.
4. We believe it essential that the message which we seek to convey to the German people should not limit itself to explanations why this country has no confidence in Hitler and has felt it necessary to go to war, but more important, should emphasise in concrete terms the benefits available to the German people in a negotiated peace and in the creation of a new European order.
5. For this purpose, we believe that the Government should use all its resources to make clear that the peace must be negotiated and not dictated, and that it should have as its major objectives:-
  - (a) The promotion of the economic well-being of all the peoples of Europe, among other things, by the free exchange of goods and services (to ensure a Lebenaraum adequate for and equally available to all) and other measures to raise the standard of living of peoples.
  - (b) The development of a new colonial system which, while safeguarding the interests of the native peoples, ensures to all nations a share in administrative responsibility, access to raw materials, and opportunities for trade.
  - (c) The development of a federal order on the basis of the free co-operation of peoples ensuring justice and security for all.
  - (d) The provision of mutual assistance to the exclusion of indemnities, in achieving the transition to be made from armament and war preparations to a peaceful economy.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, October 3rd, 1939, at 55 Gower Street, London, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Miss Harrison, Miss Jowitt, Miss Baker, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Huxley, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Pye. Visitors: Frau Rudinger, Frau Misar.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Brayshaw, Miss Anderson.

MINUTES of meeting on September 12th were confirmed and signed.

766. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts from January to end of September was passed. AGREED to revert to the monthly Statement. The response to the Officers' appeal up to the end of September had been £118, and from the 1st to the 3rd October £64. Letters from a number of members were reported.

Agreed that the Czech Fund should be separated from the General Fund.

Agreed that a Bring and Buy Sale should be held in the afternoon of 5th December. The Officers, Miss Dickinson and Miss Ruth Harrison (subject to her consent) were appointed as a Sub-Committee.

767. INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. The Chairman explained that the reason for calling the meeting a week earlier was because of the urgency of the situation and every day we were being asked what was the position of the W.I.L., and she felt the need for consultation. She had attended a meeting of individuals, not representatives of organisations, which the N.P.C. had called together to try to thrash out a longer-range peace programme. At a second meeting of representatives from organisations the possibility of a deputation to the Prime Minister from Peace Organisations to put forward their proposed Peace Programme was considered, and Mr. Bailey had been asked to draft a Statement based on the discussion at the meeting for consideration at a further meeting.

At a W.I.L. Officers' Meeting on September 27th she had been asked to attend this further meeting on behalf of the W.I.L.

Mrs. Harris said she had attended this meeting on Friday, September 29th, and put forward the W.I.L. point of view that negotiations for peace must be carried on with a responsible Government which represented the German people, and that international disarmament and the creation of a new world order should be dealt with. Further, as an organisation, they could not commit themselves to a Statement they had not seen, and an opportunity must be given to the Executive Members to consider it before placing it before the Prime Minister. The Statement (attached) adopted by the meeting on the 29th September contained the following points:-

1. There should be no summary rejection of proposals to end war;
2. The presentation of any such proposals should be used to secure a truce in hostilities and the submission of the issues to a Conference table;
3. The reply of the democratic powers should indicate

proposals for a radical and constructive peace plan directed towards:

- (a) The lessening of economic stress and poverty, and the improvement of the standard of living of all peoples;
  - (b) a drastic general disarmament;
  - (c) the development of a new international order along federal lines, securing the free co-operation of all racial units.
- (4) The active participation of neutral powers, including the United States, in framing a settlement, must be secured.

It was then considered in detail, together with a letter from the Manchester Branch, and after a long discussion the following resolutions were adopted:

- (1) "The Executive Committee of the Women's International League meeting in London on 3rd October, 1939, urges the President of the United States of America to call a Conference of neutral countries, having as its aim, the putting forward of recommendations to the belligerent countries for the ending of the European conflict.  
There should be no summary rejection of proposals to end the war, but any proposals should be considered by Neutral Powers."
- (2) "We, the W.I.L. Executive Committee urge the Government, to make clear the terms upon which it would be willing to make peace.  
We urge further that the terms should include the recognition of equality of race, and of the rights and liberties of the individual, and respect for the integrity of small as well as great nations.  
As an earnest of its acceptance of these fundamental principles we urge the Government to make clear its intention of bringing India into free and equal partnership in the family of nations."

Agreed that the first resolution should be sent in letter form to President Roosevelt, and with covering letters to The American Ambassador in London, Lord Lothian, The Government and the Leaders of the Opposition Parties, the Chairman of the American Section W.I.L.P.F., The W.I.L.P.F. National Sections and to Peace Organisations. It should also go to all Branches, Affiliated Societies, Headquarters Members of the W.I.L., and the Press.

Agreed that the second resolution should be sent with covering letters to the Government, and the Secretary of State for India, the Leaders of the Opposition Parties, W.I.L.P.F. Sections, Peace Organisations. Also to our W.I.L. Branches, Affiliated Societies, Headquarters Members, and the Press.

Mrs. Huxley said she would try to get them into the Daily Express.

Food Blockade. Mrs. Innes explained that the Officers had considered the question of writing to the Government and the Press saying that when the Government has said that we have no quarrel with the German people we ~~she~~ consider it the greatest mistake to carry out a Food Blockade policy. She had, however, felt that when peace proposals were mooted and we might be making other approaches to the Government it was not advisable to send it. Miss Jowitt said she would



try to draft a letter to the Press on the subject for Mrs. Innes's consideration.

Leaflets over Germany. Miss Jowitt agreed to ask Mr. Aldous Huxley if he would consider putting forward a leaflet in his own name for the consideration of the Ministry of Information.

769. REFUGEES. Mrs. Innes asked on behalf of Miss Pye, who had left, that the following resolution be adopted:-

"In view of the catastrophe which has overwhelmed countries in which many thousands of non-nationals have taken refuge from political, religious or racial persecution, we turn to the United States and its President, Mr. Roosevelt, and beg him to uphold the standards of civilisation:

- (1) By opening the door to freedom in this country (U.S.A.) as widely as possible to these victims;
- (2) By urging upon Governments:
  - A. The adoption of the principles incorporated in the 1933 and 1938 Conventions of the League of Nations, namely the granting of legal protection and the right to live and work in countries of refuge;
  - B. The recognition of the value of the refugees to the communities in which they find themselves, through financial grants which will make possible their training and ultimate settlement.

Agreed to send this to the American Section with the request that they try to take action in their country.

770. CZECH REFUGEES. Miss Baker reported on W.I.L. Czech Refugees. Offers of hospitality were badly needed.

771. W.I.L.P.F. Mrs. Innes reported that Gertrud Baer would not be able to get to Holland for a meeting of the Executive. The British Section had let the Scandinavian Sections know that their delegates would do their utmost to get to a meeting in Holland as they felt it would be valuable for as many Sections to meet together as possible.

772. INDIA. Miss Harrison reported on the Indian situation. Much of this is printed in the October News Sheet. She said that contact had been set up in India between the Viceroy and the Congress Leaders, but that our part at this end required serious attention. Up to the present no reply had been given to the question raised by national India, except the Secretary of States's speech the previous week, which had caused resentment in India, calling forth statements from Mr. Gandhi and others as to its tone. She drew attention to the great help given by the Manchester Guardian in drawing attention to the seriousness of the situation, and suggested that the members follow this up by letters to this paper. Mrs. Longson undertook to do this and Mrs. Huxley undertook to write to the New Statesman. Miss Harrison also urged that in any meeting where peace aims were being discussed and outlined, there should be reference to India in much the same way as had been done at this meeting.

773. NEWS SHEET. Reported that the Publicity Committee might not be able to meet to consider the contents of the November News Sheet. The Chairman therefore asked for suggestions for it. The following items were agreed to:

Article from Fraulein Heymann which Mrs Innes had received  
"Democracy in India" by Mrs. Huxley.  
Possibly extracts from a letter from Gertrud Baer.

7747. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Agreed to inform Mr. Bailey that the W.I.L. would send a representative to future meetings of the Emergency Committee of Peace Organisations, in an advisory capacity. It was agreed that it need not necessarily always be the same person

775. BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE. Agreed to pay the affiliation fee for the ensuing year.

776. CIVIL LIBERTIES CONFERENCE OF THE JOINT ADVISORY BUREAU of the Peace Pledge Union. Miss Harrison agreed to act as the W.I.L. representative on October 14th. Miss Dickinson was unable to attend owing to a previous engagement.

777. PEACE GROUP MEETINGS. Agreed to pass on the recommendation to Branch Secretaries that Peace Groups in their localities should meet together from time to time in order to strengthen and encourage each other.

778. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. November 14th, unless the situation calls for an earlier meeting.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

At the close of the meeting those members of the Committee who could stay, welcomed Mrs. Kamaladevi of India, who discussed with them the situation in India.

*B. Tomes Harris*

*14. XI. 39*

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts, January 1st. - September 30th. 1939.

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INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Balance, Jan. 1st.		Salaries	309.17. 2.
General	151.18.10.	Wages	34. 4. 2.
Czech Fund	217. 9. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Rent	56. 5. -.
Subscriptions	375. <del>4.</del> 7.	State Insurance	5.18. 5.
Donations	177. 4. 7.	Office Expenses	30. 9. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Travelling "	30. 7. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Czech Fund	174. 9. 8.	Postage & tele- phone	76. 4.10.
Affiliation fees	7. 6. 6.	Stationery	25. 8. 5.
News Sheets & Literature	63. <del>7.</del> 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	News Sheets & Literature	57. 8. - $\frac{1}{2}$
<u>Proceeds of</u> <u>    Meetings</u>		Printing (includ- ing Annual Re- port £19.5.0).	42. 5. -.
Garden Fair		Lighting & Heat:	11. 3. 1.
Sales	41.2.8.	Advertisements	3. -. -.
Dons.	6.18.6	<u>Meetings Exps.</u>	
General	<u>12.8.-.</u> 60. 9. 2.	Garden F.	7.15.6.
		General	<u>30. -.5<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>
Refund from			37.15.11 $\frac{1}{2}$
W.P.C.	<u>13.15. 2.</u>	Audit Fee	7. 7. -.
		Affil. & Delegates fees	6. 4. 6.
Geneva		Czech Fund	<u>192. 4.11.</u>
Subscriptions	16.12. -.		926. 3. 5.
Donation	10. -.	Geneva	
Pax	<u>1.18.10.</u>	Subscriptions	15.12. -.
		Donation	10. -.
	19. -.10.	Pax	<u>1. 7. -.</u>
			17. 9. -.
			<u>943.12. 5.</u>
		<u>Balance</u>	
		General Fund	
		C.P.B.S. for Congress	24. -. -.
		Loan to House	8. 8. 9.
		Bank	82. 5.10.
		Cash in hand	<u>1.19. 9<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>
			116.14.4 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
		Czech Fund	
		Midland Bank	191.18.10.
		Cash in hand	<u>7.15. 2<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>
			199. <del>13.</del> <sup>14</sup> - $\frac{1}{2}$
			<u>£1259.19.10.</u>
			<u>1260. 0. 10.</u>

Outstanding Accounts.

Geneva Subscription	£1. 0. 0.
Literature	10. 5.
Stationery (approx.)	1.10. -.
Printing of Pronounce- ment (approx)	3. 3. -.
Executive Cttee fares	17. 4.
	<u>£7. -. 9.</u>

General Fund Balance: 109.13. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. including £8.8.9. loan to House Account, and £24. earmarked for Congress Fund.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

CZECH FUND

Statement for January 1st. - September 30th.1939.

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INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Balance, Jan.1st.	217. 9. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Grants	110. 5. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Donations	137. 3.11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Fares	41. 2. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fares refunded	4.14. 9.	Office Exps.	<u>40.16.11.</u>
Expenses "	<u>15.10.11<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>		192. 4.11.
	157. 9. 8.	Balance (including	
		£17. earmarked	
		J. Rudinger).	
J. Rudinger	<u>17. -. -. </u>	Midland Bank	191.18.10.
		Cash in hand	<u>7.15. 2<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>
	<u>£391.18.11<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>		199.14. - $\frac{1}{2}$
			<u>£391.18.11<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>

Copy of Statement passed by the National Peace Council

Copy of Statement adopted at an Emergency Committee of representatives of peace organisations, called by the National Peace Council on Friday, September 29th.

THE HITLER-STALIN DECLARATION.

An Emergency meeting of representatives of peace organisations summoned by the National Peace Council, to-day issued a Statement making the following points in regard to the Russo-German Declaration:

1. There should be no summary rejection of proposals to end the war.
2. The presentation of any such proposals should be used to secure a truce in hostilities and the submission of the issues to a Conference table.
3. The reply of the democratic powers should indicate proposals for a radical and constructive peace plan directed towards:
  - (a) The lessening of economic stress and poverty, and the improvement of the standard of living of all peoples;
  - (b) a drastic general disarmament;
  - (c) the development of a new international order along federal lines, securing the free co-operation of all racial units.
4. The active participation of neutral powers, including the United States, in framing a settlement, must be secured.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, November 14th, 1939, at 55 Gower Street, London, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Baker, Mrs. Longson, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Huxley, Mrs. Wood, Miss Pye, Mrs. Innes (Visitors) Frau Hertzka, Frau Misar, and Frau Schmolikova.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Received from Miss Marshall, who was in hospital at Keswick suffering from a badly fractured wrist, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Kinnish, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Thornycroft.

RESIGNATIONS:

(1) A letter was read from Mrs. Maxwell resigning from the Committee owing to being unable to attend meetings. When she returns to town she hopes to be able to give some clerical help in the Office. Her resignation was accepted with regret.

(2) Mrs. Thornycroft's resignation was reported, but it <sup>was</sup> agreed that she should be asked to remain a member and attend when possible. We would let her know if at any time we wished to appoint a new member, able to attend meetings regularly.

779. The late Mrs. Despard. In reporting the death of Mrs. Despard, the Chairman referred to her as a gallant pioneer in the cause of freedom and to her long life spent in the service of others. It was AGREED that a letter of condolence should be sent to the Women's Freedom League as she was their first President and maintained an interest in their cause to the end of her life.

MINUTES of Meeting on 3rd October were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

780. BUSINESS ARISING. Reported that Mrs. Kinnish asked that mention should be made in the Minutes of Miss Dickinson's reports of the meetings of the Joint Advisory Bureau.

Formal acknowledgments of resolutions of October 3rd were reported from the Foreign Office, the India Office, the American Embassy, Sir Archibald Sinclair's Secretary, in his absence.

Reported a letter from Professor Julian Huxley saying that he was afraid it would be no good his doing anything over the question of the leaflets over Germany. He understands from friends who have knowledge of the matter, that they have immensely improved in the last few weeks and are still in process of improvement.

781. MISS PYE'S VISIT TO PARIS. On the invitation of the Chairman Miss Pye gave an account of her recent visit to Paris, where her work there was of a non-political nature. She had met and talked with Madame Duchene of the W.I.L. who, in spite of great weariness and disappointment, was maintaining her spirit of courage and her determination to "begin all over again." So far as she knew the W.I.L. had not been interfered with.

Miss Pye spoke of the position of the C.O's in France. They have no organisation such as ours to stand behind them. The greater number, though not all, are willing to accept mobilisation but are not willing to carry arms. Most of the French members of the Society of Friends have taken that stand and have been allowed to do hospital work, or non-combattant duties.

Miss Pye also gave an account of the refugee work in France where there are over 200 thousand Spanish refugees alone, others from many countries. Added to these there are about 400,000 Alsacians and Loranians from the French Front who had to leave their homes suddenly. The French Government wants all refugees to be treated exactly alike, but it carries a heavy burden. A Voluntary Fund for refugee victims of war and oppression was already started to give help, administered by the International Commission for the Assistance of Spanish Child Refugees, which is enlarging its scope to include child refugees in France without distinction of nationality.

782. INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. Mrs. Innes reported that from the Officers' Meeting on November 8th a letter had been sent to the N.P.C. proposing that it should call a Peace Terms Convention at which real experts should discuss possible Peace Terms in detail, as the Government might now define them. Mr. Bailey had been grateful for the suggestion.

Mrs. Harris reported that the N.P.C. had set up a Peace Aims Committee to get people to prepare memoranda on various points that would have to come within any settlement. A series of Conferences among experts is being arranged to "hammer out" possible Peace Terms.

It was suggested that some of the W.I.L. Branches have experts in their areas on whom they could draw for discussion of one or more aspects of the problem. Mrs. Longson thought Manchester might take up aspects of trade and financial settlement, and Mrs. Wood thought Cambridge might draw on experts in the University for some other aspect. It was AGREED to write to the Manchester and Cambridge Secretaries putting forward these suggestions, and that conclusions reached should be sent to the W.I.L. Office to go on to the N.P.C. Decided that the N.P.C. should be informed of these proposals and the suggestions made that in any survey by the N.P.C. the problem of the resettlement of minorities should be included, and that the whole inquiry might lead up to a discussion in a public Convention.

Letters had also gone from the Officers' Meetings on November 8th to (1) the Queen of The Netherlands and the King of the Belgians expressing the gratitude of the W.I.L. for their effort for peace.

(2) the Queen of England, urging her, in her broadcast speech on November 11th, to the women of the British Empire, both to appeal to, and to encourage, the ardent desire of women for the cessation of all war, and for a peace of reconciliation and justice in the present struggle.

In acknowledging the letter, the Queen's Lady-in-Waiting had said that the Queen had received so many letters suggesting subjects for her broadcast that she decided to be guided by her own feelings on this occasion. It was noted that a paragraph in the speech responded to the hopes we had expressed.

The Officers had also AGREED that Headquarters Members should be asked to help in the N.P.C. Campaign for an appeal for a Declaration of Peace Terms, in addition to Branches and Affiliated Societies.

Mrs. Huxley opened the discussion on the INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. She said that the dilemmas with which we were faced could only be answered by Pacifists being willing to suffer martyrdom. A woman tutor of University Women Students thinks war preferable to letting Hitler come here. As our political condition here is preferable to that under Hitler, how can Hitler be prevented from coming here? Can we honestly say that we are not thankful that England is armed at the

moment. The martyr community is the ideal, but it can only be arrived at by individual consent, and the Pacifist usually arrives at his position by starting with the individual and not with the community. He is willing to suffer wrong, and let others suffer wrong rather than to take life; he sees that war and destruction offer no solution to the problems of the living; he realises that all wars have their roots in universal injustices, and no one nation is wholly right nor wholly wrong. The arms traffic and the jugglings of finance mock the sacrifice of uncritical millions. Above all he recognises only one morality for public and private life, and therefore he can only work for long distance results.

The great fault of the Pacifist Movement from 1918 to 1939 is that it has not recognised the place of force in ordinary every day life. Mrs. Huxley believes that force can be used to protect the weak, especially if its just use has won consent. She herself is grateful for our police force and upholds it because, by our consent, it has not to struggle with serious competition. The citizen here is unarmed.

In not considering this whole problem of the right use of force, Mrs. Huxley feels that Pacifists have weakened the League of Nations. The next step is the consent of Europeans to receive some common law and some common economic system, and she believes that there will be enough consent to make possible a real police force, co-operating as do the present Postal and Customs Officers throughout Europe, and in the meanwhile Pacifists must support all things which make for peace and life and give no active support for wars and destruction.

It was clear from the discussion that followed that all agree, though we may not see the next step to take at the moment we must never forget the aims for which we have always stood and that a disarmed world is our ideal and we must try to keep our light burning. Our aim now is to get constructive proposals across to the German people. Only they can decide the Government they will stand behind and only they can get rid of Hitler.

taken

The Committee endorsed the action/by the Officers' Meeting regarding the N.P.C. Declaration, and the messages to the Monarchs.

783. MR. CHURCHILL'S BROADCAST on November 12th. Reported that the N.P.C. had protested against the temper and content of this speech. Miss Harrison felt strongly that the W.I.L. should also make a protest and Mrs. Innes was asked to draft one on the lines proposed in Committee, for the Press. AGREED that a copy should be sent to the Director of the B.B.C.

784. With regard to the W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS in Geneva, December 4th to 8th, it was reported that through the agency of Miss Harrison, the Foreign Secretary was making it impossible for Mrs. Harris, Miss Pye and Mrs. Innes to attend them. Miss Harrison said she was unable to go herself. Miss Anderson was proposed as a second Consultative Member if she could free herself to attend. After consideration it was agreed that Mrs. Harris should this time be our only Member. Mrs. Innes and Miss Pye were attending as Joint Chairman and member of the International Executive respectively.

Later in the afternoon the above decision regarding Miss Anderson was rescinded, when it was learned that there was a good possibility that she might be free, and it was agreed she should be appointed second Consultative Member, with a grant up to £5, if she is able to attend the meetings.



Miss Harrison is preparing a memorandum on India for the Geneva meetings and the Officers proposed that the Consultative Members should press for mediation by neutral countries.

After discussion the Executive agreed to send forward the following resolution for the W.I.L.P.F. Executive Agenda:-

"The W.I.L.P.F. protests strongly against the forcible removal and resettlement of minority groups for political purposes. It is a barbaric proceeding to tear human beings from their homeland against their will, and is a denial of those human rights on which alone the natural and peaceful life of the nations can be built."

It was also agreed that the following letter to Dr. Benes be forwarded for consideration of the W.I.L.P.F. Committee. It was drafted by Madame Schmolkova of Czecho-Slovakia and accepted by the Executive, after verbal amendments, for the W.I.L.P.F. Meetings:-

"Sir,

With profound emotion our thoughts turn to the sufferings of your heroic people who have by their disciplined attitude erected a monument in the history of pacifism.

After the Munich Agreement of the four Great Powers you, Mr. President, wisely foresaw the only possibility of saving the Tschcosl. people from destruction by sacrificing the Tschcoslov State which in accordance with the traditions of your people and the ideas of your great founder, T.G. Masaryk, was developing during 20 years hard work into a true democracy.

Thus you and the Tschcoslov people gave the world a chance to keep the peace by your heroic pacifism.

With unparalleled restraint after your resignation as President you did not interfere in the march of political events until March 15th, 1939

Only when your country was occupied by German troops after Hitler's perfidy and the Tschcoslov nation was exposed to the persecution and tortures of the invaders, did you raise a protest against this international crime.

The whole world knows of the sufferings of the Tschcoslov people, knows what courage they put into their resistance so as to remain faithful to their ideals of freedom and democracy.

The whole world knows that this people's only source of strength is the hope that a new world peace will restore their liberty to them. This hope must not meet with disappointment.

The W.I.L.P.F. true to the ideals of their founder, Jane Addams, will do everything in their power to support the restoration of freedom to the Tschcoslov people in a free Europe."

785. INDIA. Miss Harrison reported the present grave situation in India. At the moment things were stalemate. The Viceroy's answer (as published in two recent White Papers) to the Congress Party's Manifesto had failed to meet the situation and as a protest Congress Ministries in the eight British Indian Provinces which they control, have resigned. A vicious circle exists. We are saying that the dissensions in India prevent anything being done till these are resolved. Congress says that this is not the main issue and we are blurring this issue by bringing the Hindu-Muslim tension to the foreground. At some point this circle must be cut and one hopeful feature is the determination of the Viceroy to continue exploring avenues towards a solution. The Officers were asked to watch the situation and take any action that

might be necessary.

Mrs. Lankester reported that the Liaison Group co-operating with the All India Women's Conference would continue to function and the Bulletin to appear (though in smaller form probably). It was decided to send a special message to the Conference from the Executive that would express our deep regret that no special visitor would be able to go out this year, though Mrs. Lankester would explore the possibilities of someone on the spot attending for us. Miss Harrison was asked to prepare a memorandum for the Geneva Meetings.

Miss Dickinson was appointed substitute representative on the Liaison Committee of British Women's Organisations that work in co-operation with the All India Women's Conference, Miss Harrison being our regular representative, who will attend meetings whenever possible.

Mrs. Huxley reported that her letter to Time and Tide had been so cut down that there was very little of the original left. She was asked to protest against this action.

786. FINANCE. The Treasurer presented the attached Statement of Accounts and urged the importance of reducing expenses as much as possible. In the place of Miss Stroud it was agreed that a Junior Clerk should be engaged at a salary of £1 or 25/- per week, according to age. The Committee expressed its deep appreciation and sincere thanks to Miss Stroud for her devoted services for nearly ten years.

787. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS. Agreed that these should be held from 5th to 7th March, 1940 at Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W. 1. (Tuesday 5th from 2 p.m., Wednesday all day and Thursday morning only).

788. LUNCHEON MEETING. Reported that the Officers' Meeting had invited Mrs. Corbett Ashby to open a discussion on Peace Aims at a Sandwich Luncheon Meeting on Wednesday, November 22nd. The invitation had been accepted and Mrs. Innes had consented to take the Chair.

The Lunch would be 1/6d

789. W.I.L. CZECH REFUGEES. Miss Baker reported that the financial balance amounted to £213.152½d. They would like to keep a balance of £200. A Christmas Party was being arranged for St. Nicholas Day, December 6th, at which it was hoped to give a little gift to all those present. She would like to be able to send a gift also to those who were not able to attend. It was suggested that a Gift Table for this purpose might be arranged at the Bring and Buy Sale on 5th December, on which people could leave their gifts after purchasing them at the Sale. The last Czech tea party, addressed by Frau Misar, had been greatly appreciated. Offers of employment were always welcome.

790. BRING AND BUY SALE, December 5th, 12 noon to 3.30 p.m. Members are invited to bring their own Lunches but tea and coffee will be served from 1 to 2 p.m. at 3d per cup. Frau Hertzka promised to speak at 2 p.m. for a short time. Tables will be ready to receive provisions, Christmas presents, fruit, etc.

791. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. Reported that it had been hoped to print a Christmas Card with a verse by John Masfield,

but the Incorporated Society of Authors had been instructed not to authorise the reprinting of extracts from Mr. Masfield's works on Greeting Cards. In the circumstances it was agreed not to print a Card this year.

792. DR. HELENE STOCKER. Mrs. Innes reported that on behalf of the British Section she had signed a birthday message to Dr. Helene Stocker on her 70th birthday.

793. JOINT ADVISORY BUREAU. Miss Dickinson reported on the meeting held on November 3rd. The chief points to be noted were (1) Publication of two pamphlets: The C.O and the Tribunal, & Conscription, a commentary on the National Service (Armed Forces) Act. Notices of these were in the November News Sheet; (2) arrangements for Regional Conferences of the local bureaux were going forward; (3) Joint Conference of organisations working for C.O's to evolve scope of action and avoid over-lapping.

794. LIAISON COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS. Mrs. McGregor Wood was sorry she could not attend future meetings of this Committee. As the appointment of a representative on to this Committee was the work of the W.I.L.P.F. in Geneva, Mrs. Innes undertook to inform the International Executive Committee. Miss Harrison said she would be willing to report back to the Geneva Office, if they wished, as she attended meetings on behalf of the Y.W.C.A.

795. U.S.A. SECTION. Reported a letter from Dorothy Detzer expressing much appreciation of the British Section's resolution and Pronouncement of October 5th. The October Board Meeting had felt proud and deeply moved by them and extended to the British Executive their sense of gratitude and fellowship for their courage and unswerving devotion to the principles of the W.I.L.P.F. at this terrible time. Dorothy Detzer had been appointed to attend the International meetings at Geneva.

796. THE BRITISH COUNCIL TO PROMOTE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES RESIDENT IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING THE WAR. Reported a letter informing Mrs. Harris that the above had set up a Resident Foreigners' Committee for the purpose of creating opportunities for foreigners to meet British people, and to enjoy some cultural life. <sup>during the war</sup> The W.I.L. was asked if it had any plans under consideration. Mrs. Harris was asked to do what she could in the matter. Mrs. Lankester suggested that our Manchester and Cambridge Branches might be able to help in this connection.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Friday, December 15th

B. Innes Harris

15. XII. 37

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Statement of Accounts for October 1939.

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

<p>Balance, Oct.1st.            General Fund           116.14. 4½            Czech Fund            199.14. -½</p> <p>Subscriptions 10. 9. -.          Donations     127. 2. 6.          News Sheets &amp;            Literature     1. 4. -.          Affiliation            Fees           1.15. -. <u>          </u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">140.10. 6.</p> <p>Geneva          Subscriptions 18. -.-.          Pax            <u>2.12.6.</u>                            20.12. 6.</p> <p>Czech Fund          Donations     7. 8. -.          Off.Exps.refd.<u>1.19. 4.</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>9. 7. 4.</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u><u>£486.18. 9.</u></u></p>	<p>Salaries                   27. 7. 6.          Wages                    2. -. 5.          Office Exps.            9. 4½          Postage &amp; tele-            phone                 11. 6.10½          Insurances              17. 3.          News Sheet &amp;            Literature            4.12. 7.          Travelling Exps. 3.16.10.          Affil: &amp; Deleg's            Fees                  1. 2. -.          Stationery              6.12. 5.          Printing                1.17. -.          Lighting &amp;            heating               18. 6.          Press Cuttings        2. 2. -.          J. Rudinger            17. -. -.          Czech Fund            transfer              <u>192. 1. 4½</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">272. 4. 1½</p> <p>Balance          C.P.B.S. for            Congress             26. -. -.          Midland Bank        167.16. 4.          Cash in hand        12. 9. 6½          Loan to House            A/C                   <u>8. 8. 9.</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">214.14. 7½</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u><u>£486.18. 9.</u></u></p>
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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

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Minutes of Executive Committee, December 15th, 1939, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 55 Gower Street, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Baker, Dr. Clark, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Huxley, Mrs. Kinnish, Miss Pye, Visitors: Frau Hertzka and Frau Misar.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Catherine Marshall, Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Harrison, Mrs Longson, Miss Rinder.

797. THE LATE MRS. H.M. SWANWICK. The Chairman said that members must all be feeling much sorrow and deep regret at the death of Mrs. H.M. Swanwick since our last Executive Committee Meeting. A great and distinguished woman had been lost to the W.I.L. and though an article had appeared in the News Sheet for December she felt that it would be the wish of the Committee to put an appropriate Minute on record in our files. On the proposal of Mrs. Innes the following Minute was adopted:-

"The record of what the Women's International League owes to Mrs. H.M. Swanwick is written in every sphere of its early activities. Her energies contributed largely to its foundation. Her keen critical ability largely set its direction both in general policy and in detail, as one problem after another had to be faced.

Frequently an initiator, she never spared herself in the execution of the action decided upon. As a speaker and writer, her clear thinking, full knowledge and power of logical marshalling of material, were given wholly to the spread of truth as she saw it, with the object always of promoting just and lasting peace between the nations.

Her disinterested devotion will remain an example and an inspiration."

It was AGREED to send this to the two brothers and the sister-in-law of Mrs. Swanwick.

The question of some permanent Memorial was discussed and on the proposal of Mrs. Huxley it was AGREED to ask Girton College, Cambridge, if it would initiate a Memorial to one of its most distinguished students. It was suggested that it might be a plaque in an appropriate place or a lecture on the "Building of International Peace." AGREED to include these suggestions in the letter to the Principal of the College.

A number of Tributes sent to the Office were read.

798. MRS. DESPARD. Miss Dickinson reported that she had represented the W.I.L. at the Memorial Service for Mrs. Despard at King's Weigh House Church on November 27th.

799. MINUTES OF MEETING ON NOVEMBER 14th were confirmed, after the deletion of the words in Minute 796 "TO PROMOTE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES RESIDENT IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING THE WAR."

800. BUSINESS ARISING Minute 782. Reported a formal acknowledgment of our letter to the King of the Belgians. No acknowledgment had been received from the Queen of The Netherlands.

801. FINANCE. The Treasurer presented the attached Statement of Accounts for November. She said that though the

802 BRING AND BUY SALE had been poorly attended it had been very successful and Frau Olga Misar had made a most encouraging and delightful address. Just over ten pounds had been raised.

Donations had been received from our Leicester and Leeds Branches, which the Treasurer had acknowledged.

803. REPORTS OF W.I.L.P.F. MEETINGS. Mrs. Harris said that she had had the resolutions and Statements of the W.I.L.P.F. Executive Meetings in Geneva sent to the British Executive with their Agenda in order to give them time to study them before the meeting to-day.

Miss Pye said that the meeting had been small because the Scandinavians could not get across Germany and the Dutch could not get their visas through in time. Dorothy Detzer had come over from the United States specially for the meeting. Madeleine Rolland represented France, Fraulein Heymann, Germany, Mrs. Harris, Great Britain and Dr. Stahelin and another member, Switzerland. Very interesting material had been sent in from the Norwegian, Dutch and Swedish Sections, all based on the lines as to what kind of peace should eventually be made. A number of Sections had sent in reports which showed a keen and anxious desire to carry on the work. No news had been received from Finland since the war broke out.

Events were moving so rapidly that the Committee felt strongly that it was not possible to put forward any Pronouncement but it decided to send the Statements from the Norwegian, Dutch and Swedish Sections to the Sections for study. The Committee felt, however, that it was essential that the peace terms must include a new declaration of human rights. Gertrud Baer has been working with experts on such a Declaration, which would need careful consideration in consultation with other people.

Miss Pye further reported that the United States Section had sent a cordial invitation to the Head Office to establish themselves in America if it felt obliged to leave Switzerland. The Committee had been very grateful but had decided the Office should remain in Switzerland as long as possible, even if little work could be done during the war as it was essential that the European States should be kept together as far as possible. In the event of Switzerland being over-run no work in Europe would be possible, but a way would be found to keep the Sections together through correspondence. The American offer was still open.

Mrs. Harris spoke of Dorothy Detzer's report of the U.S. Section's attitude regarding the amendment of their neutrality legislation. In July they took a poll branch by branch as to whether it would support the amendment and 75% voted against it. At their Annual Meeting, which was the largest ever held, another vote was taken which showed 90% of the Section against the amendment.

With regard to RESOLUTIONS OF THE W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE it was AGREED at GENEVA that:

(1) The Recall to Reason should be sent to all Sections asking them to use it as widely as possible.

(2) Sovereign Rights, (3) Composition of Peace Conference. should be sent to Sections for study.

(4) India should be sent to the British Government.

(5) Protest against Forcible Transfer of Populations had been circulated from Geneva.

Reported that Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Harris had undertaken to draft notes on the development of world government by <sup>the</sup> Federal Scheme, or otherwise.

The Committee then considered these reports.

After a discussion on "A CALL to Reason" a vote was carried nem. con. agreeing to send it to all Women's Organisations, asking them to use it, and to use it ourselves as widely as possible. Mrs. Harris reported that it was being used as the resolution for the meeting at the Central Hall of the Women's Peace Campaign on the 16th December.

After discussing the Statement on Sovereign Rights it was agreed to arrange a series of meetings in the Office of Executive members and any London members interested, to discuss a programme for the building up of a new world. The first meeting to be devoted to analysing the causes of past failures in the League of Nations and considering proposals for Federation as a development of the League system or as alternative. AGREED to ask Miss Nancy Parnell to open the discussion at the first meeting on January 10th.

In the event of Miss Parnell not being able to take the first meeting the Officers were asked to get another speaker. Dr. Clark was asked to consider the possibility of arranging the series of meetings.

It was AGREED that the International resolutions should also go to the Branches, with the various Statements, urging them to study them.

With regard to the proposal re Interned Soldiers and Civilians, it was AGREED that the War Office should be asked to supply radio to internment camps if and where this has not been done already, in order that those interned should be made acquainted with the culture, national character and customs of the people among whom they are staying, in order to promote better understanding among the nations.

804. INTERNATIONALL SITUATION. In opening the discussion Miss Haughton said she had been interested in the question of Mrs. Swanwick's letter in the News Sheet that this war might be "the beginning of a world-shifting of moral, political and economic values." She had felt this since the outbreak of the war. In the history of the world there had been at intervals great fundamental alterations in the conduct of world affairs and in the lives of the people, and there have been enormous economic upheavals and great uneasiness for many years. We are now watching a great breakdown in the economic systems of the world. We must recognise this, and in any new declaration of human rights we must include the right to work, to live, to develop the human personality; we must realise that our whole world system must grant these rights. It may be that that is why Russia's effort to change things has got such a hold on young people; perhaps Communism is destined to come into being. But in the great struggle to come we must try to keep alive the

humanities, the arts, the things worth while. It may be that these things will prove of greater value even than Federal Union, etc.

An interesting discussion followed.

805. INTERNATIONAL PEACE CAMPAIGN. Reported that the I.P.C. Executive Committee wanted to know as soon as possible whether the W.I.L. accepted the document "Conditions of Peace with Germany" as a policy to be advocated by the I.P.C. in present conditions. After discussion it was urged that the W.I.L. maintains its position of not supporting military force, and it was therefore agreed to take no action.

806. INDIA. Mrs. Innes reported that at the request of the last Executive Committee Mrs. Duncan Harris had sent a message to the All India Women's Conference.

807. W.I.L. CZECH REFUGEES. Miss Baker reported on the very successful Christmas Party on December 6th, when the Office was beautifully decorated with holly, streamers and a huge Christmas Tree. Games and music were a great success. Immediately after tea, with lights lowered, the tree alight with candles, each visitor was given a present. Mrs. Harris explained that the success of the party was due to the untiring efforts of Miss Baker and her willing helpers.

The balance in hand for the Czech Fund amounted to £216. 13. 2d

808. CORRESPONDENCE. Mrs. Innes reported on the correspondence she had had, as an individual, with the organisers of the Women's Peace Campaign in connection with their meeting on 16th December in the Central Hall, at which she had been asked to speak. She understood by the correspondence that the meeting was to demand that the Government should at the earliest possible moment negotiate to secure a just and lasting peace, and she had agreed to speak on these terms.

A procession had been planned but this had been banned by the police. It had been decided that a message from the meeting should be taken to the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

Mrs. Harris said she had served on the Committee and thought it had been very well worth while.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby. Reported that as an observer for the W.I.L. Miss Dickinson had attended a meeting called by Mrs. Corbett Ashby and Miss Rebecca Sieff on December 12th, to discuss proposals to improve international publicity on the different aspects of the women's movement in this country in connection with certain proposals that have been discussed with the Ministry of Information. Miss Dickinson thought that at the present time it would be better if the W.I.L. only received information and did not commit itself to any co-operation. This Committee approved this action.

809. STEPHEN KING HALL offered a free copy of the K-H. News Letter to any of our members. AGREED to put a note on the News Sheet.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

B. Duncan Harris  
9.1.40



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Statement of Accounts for November, 1939.

INCOME.

Bal. Nov. 1st.....	214. 14.7 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Subscriptions	3.18.6		
Donations	19.11.-		
News Sheets & Literature	1.14.10		
Affil. Fees.	7.6		
Geneva Subs.	2.10.-		
Lunch Mtg.	2. -.6	30.	2.4

£244. 16.11 $\frac{1}{2}$

EXPENDITURE.

Salaries.....	17.16. -
News Sheets & Lit.....	4. 4. 9
Wages.....	2. 2. 4
Stationery.....	3. 9. 9
Travelling Expenses.....	5. 8.11
Lighting.....	12. 2
Postage & Phone.....	5. 3. 1
Office Expenses.....	18. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Lunch Meeting.....	19. 9
Insurances.....	1. 4. 7

42. 4.10 $\frac{1}{4}$

Balance:-

Bank.....	164. -.4	
Cash .....	3. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$	
C.P.B.D.....	27. -.-	
Loan to Inter.		
House.....	8. 8.9	202.12. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$

£244.16.11 $\frac{1}{2}$