13

FABIAN SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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MINUTES

From 15th January, 1915
To 7th December, 1917

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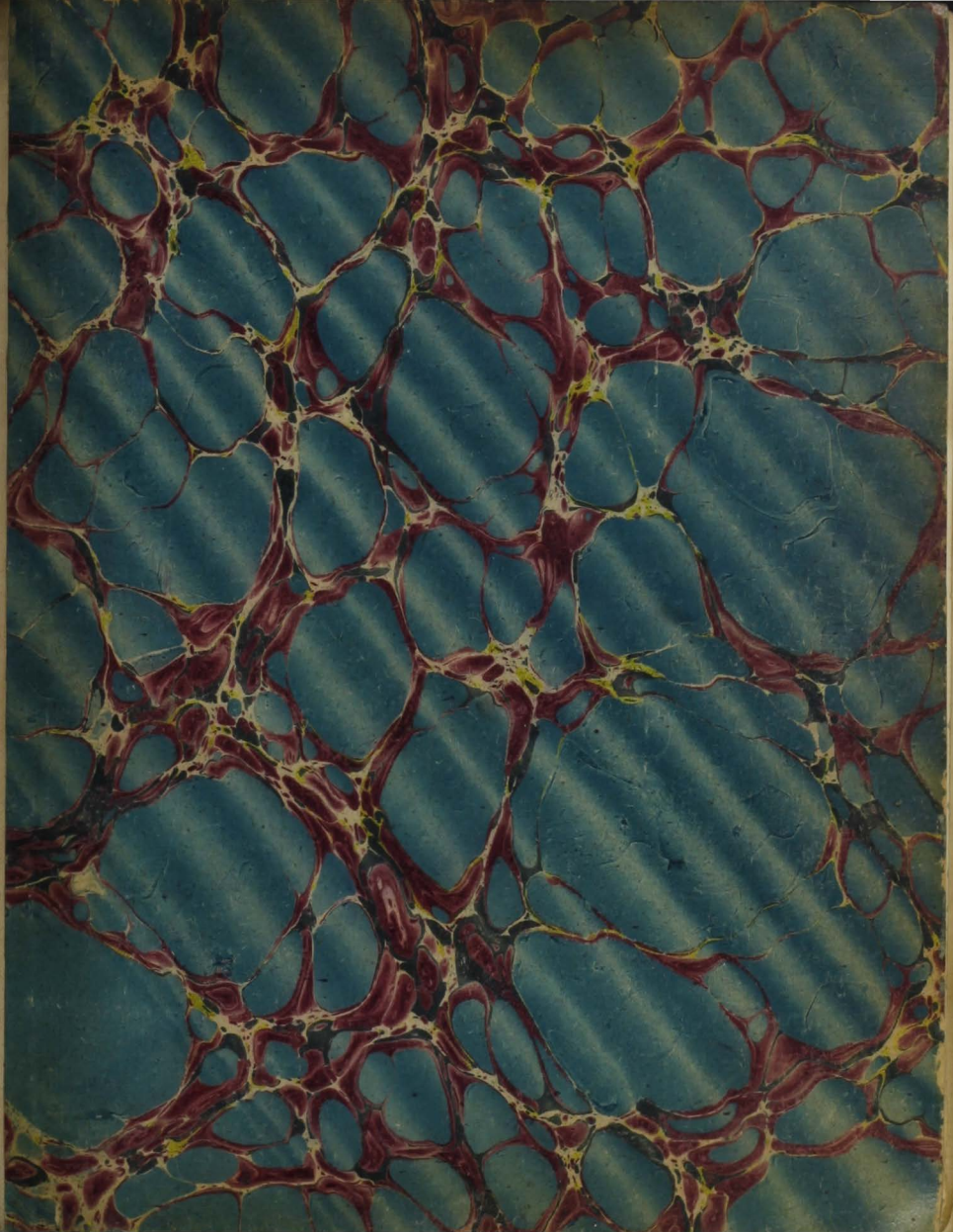

15 Jan 1915

7 Dec 1917

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# Meeting, January 15th 1915.

Present. Snell (in chair), Davies, Lloyd, Squire, Ensor, Miss Atkinson, Mrs Webb, Webb, Dodd, Mrs Shaw, Miss Lawrence, Pease, Sanders.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2) Apology for non-attendance was received from Miss Morley.

(3) Organizing Propaganda Committee's Report.

The Report was received.

On No. 4. It was decided that no reduction could be made in the rent.

The Report was then adopted.

On No 14 It was decided that the Office Report on the contribution made by Fabian Soc by graduate members of the N.F.S.U.

(4) Finance General Purposes Committee's Report.

The Report was received.

On No 2. It was reported that Sir Edwin Pears had agreed to lecture on Feb 26

(4) Finance General Purposes Committee's Report. (contd)

On No 4. it was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Rowntree.

On No 5. it was decided to appoint Gillies to represent the provincial societies on the Summer School Committee until the representative could be appointed in ~~the~~ accordance with rule.

On No 6. it was left to the office to appoint delegate.

On No 7. it was agreed that Mrs Webb be chairman.

The Report was then adopted.

(5) Common Room Provisional Committee's Report. was adopted.

(6) Informal Conference on International matters.

Webb reported that an informal Conference of leading English & Belgian socialists had been held at the Fabian Office and a telegram had been sent to a delegate to the Copenhagen Congress. It was agreed that the cost of the telegram be paid by the Society. (contd

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 7th, 1915.

Present: H. Snell (in chair), Mrs. Webb and Sanders.

1. Membership:

(a) January candidates (27) were elected.

(b) Request was received from the Edinburgh University F.S. that the whole of the members of that Society should be permitted to become full members of the London Society for the payment of one sum of 10/- per annum in place of the membership fee of 1/- per member. We recommend that the Edinburgh Society be informed that in view of the smallness of the existing charge it cannot be reduced.

2. Belgian Meeting:
The total receipts from sale of tickets and donations amount to £94 0. 6. The expenditure will probably not exceed £20. A cheque for £70 on account has been sent to M. Vandervelde. A collection at the Hall doors made on behalf of the Comite Officiel de Secours aux Victimes Belges de la Guerre realised £23. 9. 8.

3. Common Room:
The number of members who have joined, or stated their intention of joining the Common Room, is, to date (Jan. 7th), 78. The amount received for first year's subscriptions is £18.16. 6.

4. Research Department Rent:
Application has been received for a reduction in the amount for Rent ~~£70~~(£70) charged to the Research Department. We are of the opinion that the commercial value of the rooms occupied by the Department is fully £70 per annum. It has, however, been pointed out to us that the Rooms allotted to the Common Room, for which also £70 is to be charged, are somewhat larger than those occupied by the Research Department, and that the rent therefore

should not be the same, We therefore consider that either the rent charged to the Common Room should be £75 per annum or the rent of the Research Department reduced to £65 per annum.

5. Charges for Heating and Cleaning:
We have considered the question of the changes to be made for cleaning and heating the rooms occupied by the Research Department and we recommend that the following, based on actual cost, be adopted: -

Cleaning, per week, 3/6d.
Heating, 3d. per fire per day.

H. SNELL,
Acting Chairman.

(6)

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting 14th January, 1915.

Present: Ensor (in chair), Miss Atkinson, Sanders and Hon. Secretary. Also Mrs. Webb.

1. Finance:
   Report showing decline in subscriptions in 9 months from £619 to £447 was received.

2. Lectures:
   For the unfilled dates, Feb. 26th, the Gen. Secretary reported he has asked Sir Edwin Pears and Mr. Philip Graves and had had no reply.
   (The matter is rather urgent).

3. Grants:
   It was resolved to pay affiliation fees (17/6d.) to the Women's International Council of Socialist and Labour Organisations, and not to pay any donation to the Joint Committee for the abolition of Half Time Labour.

4. Methods of Preventing War:
   On a letter from Mr. Joseph Rowntree to Mrs. Webb presenting £100 to the Society for the Research Department, and a memorandum by Mrs. Webb suggesting that the money be handed to the Research Department with the request that they will appoint a Committee to administer the money and that L.S. Woolf, a member, and an ex Civil Servant from Ceylon, be paid a fee of £50, for the preparation of a Report, it was agreed -
   That the proposals as outlined in Mrs. Webb's Memorandum, be approved, and the money handed to the Research Department for the purpose indicated.
   ( ? Resolution of thanks to Mr. Rowntree).

5. Summer School Committee:
The Executive has to appoint four of its members as delegates: the present members are: -
Miss Atkinson, Miss Hankinson, Harben and Pease.
The Committee recommend that
Miss Atkinson
Dodd
Pease
Mrs. Webb
be appointed.

6. Workmen's National Housing Council:
Meeting Friday, January 22nd at 8.0 p.m. (Time of Miss Atkinson's Lecture).
Referred to Executive to appoint delegate.

7. Chairman for Miss Atkinson:
Referred to Executive to appoint.

R.C.K. ENSOR,
Acting Chairman.

The letter from Mr. Joseph Rowntree relates to the renewal of a donation of £100 which he made for three successive years to the National Committee for the Prevention of Destitution. When that work slackened, I suggested to him that he should give it to the Fabian Research Department, which with some hesitation he did. When I wrote to him in November last inviting him to renew it he demurred to our subjects under investigation, expressing a feeling that the best minds of the country should be directed to the terms of peace. I have now got him once more to give the £100 on the conditions of the above letter.

The cheque was made out to me personally, but as he mentions the Fabian Society I handed it to the General Secretary. It is now for the Executive Committee to authorise action.

As my husband and I are specially mentioned, we have been considering what to advise. We think that it is very desirable (i) that some useful contribution should be made to our knowledge on the subject of what could reasonably be put into the Terms of Peace with the object of preventing future wars; (ii) that the Fabian Society should be in a position, a few months hence, to publish something solidly instructive on the subject, especially for the information of the Socialist and Labour Parties. We ought to aim at getting something actually out by Whitsuntide.

We do not see that this can be done by any available volunteer effort. (We ourselves have too much on hand to be able to do the work). We think that the only way to get anything good enough is to pay a substantial fee. We have thought over possible people; and we suggest the name of L.S. Woolf, a practised writer, ex-Civil Servant in Ceylon, interested in legal questions; a member of the Fabian Society and of the Research Department for which he has been working. We have sounded him as to his willingness to undertake the work, and give his time and energy to it for some months for an honorarium of £50; and we have ascertained that he would be willing, if entrusted with the task, to throw himself cordially into it.

We suggest also that it would be a good thing if the Fabian Society could formulate a policy on the subject, to be issued at the same time - if we find a policy ! Such a policy, expressed in terse resolutions, had better not appear over Mr. Woolf's name, but as the decision of a Committee, which, if generally sanctioned by the Executive, could be published

in the name of the Committee (if need be, with individual dissents or alternations). (9)

Whatever line the Executive now decides to take, I suggest that it would be desirable that the conduct of the enquiry according to the scheme decided on should fall within the sphere of the Fabian Research Department, which could then form a new Committee of those specially interested in the subject, parallel with the two Committees now at work on the Control of Industry and Insurance. There would be some little expenses for materials, etc., and the printing would have to be paid for, so that the £100 might simply be handed over to cover the honorarium and these expenses.

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of Common Room Provisional Committee Meetings December 17th, 1914, and January 14th, 1915.

We issued a circular sent out with the Fabian News giving the scheme for the Common Room which has been generally approved by the Executive Committee. We have decided to open the Common Room from January 21st to February 8th free to all members and associates as an advertisement.

We have drawn up the following estimate of the first year's expenditure:

Rent £70; heating, lighting and cleaning £30; attendance £20; newspapers and magazines £10; homorarium to secretary £10; sundries £10. Total £150.

We have drawn up a scale of charges for light refreshments and are arranging for a supply through a contractor.

We are proposing that Miss F.E. Thomas act as secretary of the Common Room.

We are holding a meeting of the members of the Common Room on February 9th to elect a Committee and to approve rules. The rules will be subject to the confirmation of the Executive Committee.

We shall propose that the Executive Committee shall retain the right to use the Common Rooms for social gatherings, etc. on 24 evenings per annum without excluding the members of the Common Room.

We recommend that a formal understanding should be made that the Common Room Committee should manage the Common Room on behalf of the Executive Committee and be responsible to the Executive Committee; and that the furniture, etc. in the Common Room is the property of the Fabian Society.

The number of members and associates who have joined the Common Room, to date (Jan.15,1915) is 151. The amount of subscriptions received is £51. 5. 6.

F. Lawson Dodd. )
M. P. Reeves. ) Chairmen.

(11)

(7.) Agreement with Messrs Constable & Co.

Memorandum was received from the Research Dept. stating they thought it advisable that the agreement with Messrs Constable & Co to publish Research Dept. books &c should be cancelled, and requesting the Exc: Com: to take steps to that end. It was decided to request Messrs Constable & Co. to cancel the agreement.

J Shaw

Feb

Me

Present.

(1) Menu

(2) Pub

(3) Ord

Meeting, February 5th 1915.

Present. Squire (in chair) Snell, Webb, Miss Lawrence, Dodd, Mrs Webb, Cole, Ervine, Allen, Mrs Shaw, Pease & Sanders. Mrs Reeves.

(1) Minutes of previous meeting were read & confirmed.

(2) Publishing Committees Report was received & adopted.

(3) Organizing & Propaganda Committee Report was received

on (3) Conference on Daily Citizen. Pease & Sanders were appointed delegates.

on (5) Request for Grant. Decided that particulars be reported to Finance Committee before grant is made.

on (7) Food prices Conference. Mrs Reeves & Miss Atkinson were appointed delegates

Organizing Propaganda Committee Report (cont)

On 10. Document "The Right Moment": request that it be issued with March News.

It was decided that the document could not go out with the March News and the report and recommendations (after amendment) were agreed to.

The report of the O.P. Com. was then adopted as a whole

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of Publishing Committee Meeting Friday, January 29th, 1915.

Present: Squire (in chair), Miss Lawrence, Mrs. Reeves and Sanders.

1. Socialism and the Arts of Use:
Report was received that this Tract was published and would be sent out with the Feb. Fabian News.

2. Manuscripts:

(a) Vulliamy's Shelley No. 2.
In view of the unfavourable reports on this MS. it was decided to decline with thanks.

(b) Emil Davies' Post Office:
Awaiting further reports from members of Committee.

(c) Women & Unemployment: by the Women's Group. Ordered to be read.

3. Reprints, etc.

(a) No. 176, War and the Workers:
It was reported that sales were now slow and that stock in hand was 1,400 copies. Decided that type be distributed and no moulds taken.

(b) No. 5. Facts for Socialists:
Revise reported to be complete and it was ordered to be set up.

4. Tracts in Preparation or Contemplation:
An offer by Squire to write a Tract on Shelley was accepted.

5. Free Grant of Tracts:
Sidney Ball requesting a free grant of Tracts for Burnett House and that the institution be put on the Free List. Agreed.

6. Change in Staff:
As a matter of urgency the General Secretary reported that E.V. Robinson, the office boy, had left at short notice to take up a better position, and that he had engaged in his place, for a week, on trial, Wm. Driscoll. The engagement had been made through a Labour Exchange.

J.C. SQUIRE,
Acting Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY.

(15)

Report of Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting
4th February, 1915.

Present: Mrs. Webb (in chair), Ervine, Dodd & Sanders.

1. Membership:

(a) January candidates (7) were elected.

(b) Report on Financial position of University Societies (which has been circulated) was received. It was understood that a further report would be presented by the Finance & General Purposes Committee to a future Executive Committee Meeting.

2. International Conference of Socialist Women:
Letter was received from the British Section of the Women's International Council of Socialist and Labour Organisations, stating it had been suggested that a Conference of Socialist Women should be held in Berne, and asking our views; also a letter from Dr. Fairfield asking for instructions on the subject. Decided that our representatives on the British Section have a free hand but that we cannot contribute towards expenses of the Conference.

3. Conference on "Daily Citizen":
Invitation received to Conference at Memorial Hall on February 24th. Agreed to attend. Executive Committee to appoint 2 delegates with no instructions.

4. Manifesto on Food Prices:
Letter from Golder's Green F.S. received requesting that the Fabian Society issue a manifesto on Food Prices. Decided that the attention of the Golder's Green F.S. be called to the manifesto of the Workers' National Committee.

5. Request for grant for meeting:
Birmingham U.F.S. applied for a grant towards cost of meeting to be addressed by Mrs. Webb, under provincial lecture scheme. It was agreed that a grant not exceeding £2 be made providing particulars are are furnished.

6. Appeal for Belgian Trade Unionists:
   Circular from Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee for financial help for Belgian Trade Unionists. Agreed that a short appeal be printed in News.

7. Food Prices Conference:
   Invitation received to send two delegates to a Conference on Food Prices under auspices of Workers' National Committee. Agreed that delegates be sent, to be appointed by Executive Committee.

8. Common Room:
   It was reported that the number of members of Common Room to date was 232.

9. Agreement with Constable:
   Letter was read from Constable agreeing to cancel agreement to publish Research Department books.

10. Request to issue a document entitled, "The Right Moment" with March Fabian News:
    This request was considered and a report upon it drawn up and circulated to the Executive Committee.

BEATRICE WEBB,
Acting Chairman.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE UNIVERSITY FABIAN SOCIETIES WITH REGARD TO THE LONDON FABIAN SOCIETY.

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The office has been instructed to Report on the financial position of the University Fabian Societies with regard to the London Fabian Society.

It has been the practice for the Executive Committee to elect all members and associates of the University Fabian Societies as full members and associates of the London Fabian Society on the understanding that the University Fabian Societies pay 1/- per annum to the London Fabian Society for each member and associate, as membership and associateship subscription. This fee is not collected by the Fabian Office from each University member and associate, the arrangement being that a sum should be paid annually by each University Fabian Society sufficient to cover all the fees due.

The present position of the various University Fabian Societies with regard to these fees is as follows:

Aberystwyth U.F.S. has paid 10/- since its formation in 1913.

Birmingham U.F.S. has paid fees up to March 31st, 1914.

Cambridge U.F.S. has not paid since 1913, when £8 15. 0. was paid for arrears. Up to March 31st,1914, £12 was due.

Edinburgh U.F.S. has paid irregularly in odd amounts. 21/- was paid in 1914.

Glasgow U.F.S. was considerably in arrears and the Exec. Com. agreed that it should be allowed to recommence payments from last year. It now sends one shilling for every new member. Amount paid in 1914 was 26/-.

Liverpool U.F.S. has paid 31/- since 1911.

London U.F.S. paid nothing from 1911 until 1914 when 2/6 was paid.

Manchester U.F.S. has paid since 1910 22/- in small amounts.

Oxford U.F.S. paid in 1914 fees due to March 31st, 1912.

Sheffield U.F.S. , formed in 1914. Paid 2/-.

FABIAN SOCIETY.

ORGANISING & PROPAGANDA REPORT TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We have considered the application for the circulation to all the members of an address proposing changes in the Society's constitution and policy; and we submit it for consideration with the following comments.

The circulation of Manifestoes or addresses by members or groups of members has never yet been allowed. The grant of facilities for members to submit manifestoes to the whole Society was one of the propositions brought before a members' meeting in 1911, when it was referred, with the others, to a Special Committee. It was rejected by that Committee. The discussion was renewed at the Executuve Committee, when the recommendation was rejected, only 2 voting for it.

It would therefore be in normal course for the present application to be refused, on the ground that it was undesirable, or even unfair, to accord to some members an opportunity of putting their case which could not practically be conceded to all, and which others have not been allowed.

We think, however, that - apart from the subject matter of the particular application which should be separately discussed - that the Executive may well consider whether our practice might not be altered in the direction desired. We do not think it advantageous that the Society should be necessarily asked to discuss its own constitution and policy, instead of carrying out its work for the time being: but it may well be desirable to allow opportunity for this, say once a year. It may be remembered that an amendment of the Basis cannot be moved except at the Annual Meeting. Nor would it be convenient to allow the Society's organisation to be used for the purpose of raising purely abstract questions, on which the members were not called upon to vote. We think, moreover, that this privilege ought not to be allowed in such a way as to give any particular section an advantage over others; or so as to involve the Society in expense.

We suggest for consideration that, if the Executive Committee should think it advisable to make the innovation, and allow the submission of manifestoes to the members, this

should be done on the following conditions, which should be published in FABIAN NEWS.

In response to a desire which has been expressed by various members, the Executive Committee has decided, as an experiment, to afford, to members wishing it, the following facilities for submitting to all the members of the Society any proposals which it is desired to bring before the Annual Meeting: -

1. Any document submitted on behalf of twenty members for circulation must take the form of a reasoned statement in support of definite resolutions to be moved at the Annual Meeting, formal notice of these resolutions being given at the same time. If the resolutions aim at alteration of the Rules or Basis, they must be drafted with precision so as to permit of incorporation without verbal change in the constitution as printed in the last Annual Report.

2. The document must be free from personalities and from denunciation of any group or section, within the Society or without; and must not exceed in length 2,000 words.

3. The document, together with notice of the resolutions which it is proposed to move, must be received in the office before the 23rd of February. (For this year only, the date of 12th March is substituted). In order to permit opportunity for notice to be given of amendments, it will normally be issued with FABIAN NEWS for April.

4. It will be open for any member to give notice before 23rd of April of any amendments to the resolutions of which notice has thus been given which it is desired to place upon the notice paper for the Annual Meeting.* Any twenty members may submit for circulation with FABIAN NEWS for May, a reply or counter statement on the same subject, either in support of such amendment, or merely in support of the negative. Such a reply or counter statement must not exceed in length 2,000 words.

5. The Executive Committee will, if they think fit, report to the members upon the resolution or amendments of which notice has been given, and make any comments that they consider necessary upon any statement or counter statement, either in the same issue of FABIAN NEWS, or subsequently.

6. No expense must be thrown on the Society's funds by the circulation of any statement or counter statement, and accordingly a sum, calculated as just equivalent to the extra cost of printing, etc., must be paid before the document is set up. If owing to several documents having to be simultaneously circulated extra postage is involved, the amount must be shared and refunded.

* Amendments strictly within the definition of amendments, may be moved without previous notice, but it is usually convenient for such notice to be given if possible.

# Meeting February 12th 1915.

Present. Webb (in chair) Squire, Mrs Webb, Prof: Morley, Snell, Mrs Shaw, Allen, Cole, Mrs Reeves, Lloyd, Ervine, Dodd. Pease & Sanders

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed

(2) Finance & General Purposes Committee's Report

The Report was received.

On No. 2 it was decided to defer the question of holding a meeting ~~of~~ on June 4th: also the question of a lecture by W. Mellor on Industrial and political action.

On No 7 it was agreed that the Tract be published forthwith.

On No 8 it was agreed that Squire be chairman for West.

On No. 9 Report on University Subscriptions pages 1. 2 & 3 were adopted.

On Page 4. Recommendations 1. 2 & 3. were amended as follows & adopted.

# Finance & General Purposes Committee Report (cont^d)

1. That the privilege accorded to members or associates of University Fabian Societies of being admitted also to membership or associateship of the parent Society without subscription, on payment of a fee of one shilling a year by the University Fabian Society in respect of such person, was intended only for students in residence at the University or in attendance on its courses.

2. That with regard to new members or associates for whom membership or associateship of the parent Society is desired, the application must state definitely that the candidate is a student in residence or attendance, and must be accompanied by the fee of one shilling which will be deemed to be in respect of the year then current, ending on the 31st of March next ensuing.
   By the term "student" is meant primarily an undergraduate during his first three years; but students continuing in residence or attendance for a fourth or a fifth year in order to take a further examination, or a second degree, are not excluded.

3. That the collective annual fee of one shilling in respect of each member or associate who is a member or associate also of the parent Society must be paid during the first quarter of the Society's year (namely during April, May or June); that the payment must be accompanied by a complete list of the members and associates in respect of whom it is made together with a certificate that these persons are still students in residence or attendance; and that no delegates will be invited or admitted to the Annual Conference from any Societies from which these fees (together with the fees for the members of their own Society only on which they also claim representation have not been received.

Discussion on recommendation 4 was not concluded

Finance & General Purposes Committee Report (cont'd) (2)

The following resolution was then carried as an additional ~~recommendation~~ resolution in place of the penultimate par. of the Report.

That all University Fabian Societies be asked to furnish a complete graded return of their membership, showing the names of all the members and associates who have ceased to be students, and that all such persons be written to by the Treasurer who shall urge them to subscribe directly to the parent Society in addition to ~~the~~ subscribing to their University Society.

That where no such return is furnished by a University Fabian Society before March 7th a letter be sent to all members and associates of the parent Society elected as members or associates of University Fabian Societies prior to March 31st 1911 who have not for one year subscribed personally to the Society's funds asking for subscription; the draft to be submitted to the Executive

The Report, except ~~par.~~ recom. 4 of the report on University F.S. subscriptions, was then adopted.

F. Lawson Dodd 26.2.15

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FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 11th Feb., 1915.

Present: Dodd (in Chair), Miss Atkinson, Cole, Sanders & Hon. Secretary.

1. Finance:

Report to 31st January showed a serious fall of £128 on subscriptions during the month, of which £75 was due to a reduced subscription (£45 to £20) and to a special subscription (£50) not renewed. It was reported that on the assumption of no further reduction in February and March a deficit of £100 on the year was probable. It was resolved that a special letter signed by the Treasurer be sent to members and others in arrears.

2. Lectures:

March 26th. Agreed that Miss Lawrence and Sanders give reports on the work of the Workers' National Committee (War Emergency).

Lectures after March.

It was agreed that the following be agranged: -

April 16th. A. Buxton on Bulgaria.
" 30th. Lecture by H. M. Hyndman.
May 14th. Annual Meeting.
June 4th. Lecture on Industrial v. Political Action.

Dates to be arranged to suit lecturers. Dates of meetings arranged to avoid Good Friday (April 2nd) and Whit Monday (May 24th).

3. Correspondence Column in News:

Proposed motion by Cole was withdrawn, on the ground that he had in view a special document, and not a general practice.

The rules as adopted by the Common Room meeting were laid on the table and confirmed.

5. Birmingham U.F.S.
Request for grant of £3, as last year (£5) for lecture by Mrs. Webb was considered, and it was agreed to recommend that £2 be sent with intimation that it must not be a precedent. (The money will come from No. 2 a/c.)

6. Annual Meeting:
Notice of motion asking the Executive to promise a "Stop the War" Campaign of Socialists and others was received.

7. New Tract:
As a matter of urgency it was resolved to recommend that the Women's Group Tract prepared or approved by 7 members of the Executive be set up forthwith.

8. Chairman for West:
Referred to the Executive.

9. Report on University F.S. Subscriptions:
Draft Report as circulated was considered, and adopted with amendments: -

Page 1 was adopted.
" 2 " "
" 3 " "
" 4 Recommendation 1. In order to meet the case of post graduate students, it was agreed to adopt with amendments:-
Line 3 from end: alter "or" into "and" and delete the words after "courses."
Recommendation 2. was adopted.
" 3. was adopted with amendments:
Lines 3 & 4. Omit words "during" to "June."
Line 7. Alter "undergraduates" to "students"
Recommendation 4. was adopted with amendments:
Line 1. Omit "on taking a degree or"
Line 2. " "residence or attendance" and insert "to be students",

A motion to the effect that "Senior" University F.S. members be accepted on the same footing as Local Society members (viz. 2/6d. paid through the Society) was rejected by 3 votes to 2.

Page 5 was adopted with amendments:-
Line 4. Alter "of undergraduate status" to "students".

(The Executive should decide how much, if any, of this report should be published in Fabian News).

F. LAWSON DODD, Chairman.

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(7)

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report directed to be prepared by the Office upon the position of members of the University Fabian Societies admitted also as members of the parent Society, and upon the Office practice with regard to them.

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The office has been instructed to Report on the position of those members and associates of the University Fabian Societies admitted also to the London Fabian Society, and on the office practice with regard to them.

It has been the practice for the Executive Committee to elect all members and associates of the London Fabian Society University Fabian Societies as full members and associates of the London Fabian Society, without requiring either the minimum subscription asked from other candidates, or any personal subscription at all, on the understanding that the University Fabian Societies pay 1/- per annum to the London Fabian Society for each member and associate, as membership and associateship fee. This fee is not collected by the Fabian Office from each University member and associate, the arrangement being that a sum should be paid annually by each University Fabian Society sufficient to cover all the fees due.

This practice is not dealt with by the Society's Rules, and it rests on an Executive decision of long ago, when the number and the proportion of members of University Fabian Societies who were members of the parent Society were alike small.

These subscriptions of the University Fabian Societies have throughout been paid with great unpunctuality. The Organising Sub-Committee has just had the position with regard to these fees due to March 31st last, as follows: -

| Name | Members Feb.1915 | Associates do. | Last Payt. | Clears to, Approximately | Estd.Amt. Owing to Mar. 31.1914. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cambridge | 109 | 44 | 4/6/13. £5. | Mar.31.1912 & part pd.to Mar.31/13 | 12.6.0. |
| Oxford | 87 | 45 | 10/3/14. £8.3. | Mar.31.1912. | 16.0.0. |
| Liverpool | 12 | | 9/12/14. 15/- | Mar.31.1913. | 1.4.0. |
| London | 56 | 1 | 24/9/14. 2/6. | Mar.31.1911. | 7.10.0 |
| Manchester | 54 | 4 | 15/12/13.7/- | Mar.31.1912. | 5.0.0. |
| Birmingham | 29 | | 30/12/14.8/- | Mar.31.1914. | nil. |
| Sheffield | 12 | | 21/7/14. 2/- | New Society. | nil. |
| Edinburgh | 50 | | 18/12/14.1/- | Mar.31.1913. | 2.10.0. |
| Glasgow | 116 | 25 | 29/12/14.3/- | Mar.31.1913. | 5.16.0. |
| St.Andrews | 3 | | 30/4/12. 7/- | Mar.31.1913. | ? |
| Univ. Coll. of Wales. | 10 | | 22/6/14. 1/- | Mar.31.1914. | nil. |

The very lenient financial arrangements with regard to the members of University Fabian Societies was made in contemplation of their members being undergraduates, young men and women without incomes of their own, for the most part compelled to consider very closely the expenditure of every penny of their allowances.

We find, however, that the concession intended for undergraduates, which it was contemplated would automatically come to an end on their taking degrees, is now being taken advantage of to an increasing extent by members who have graduated, obtained incomes of their own, passed into active professional life, or ceased long since ceased residence at the University. In such cases the parent Society loses the advantage on which the Executive had presumably counted, of the University member, on taking his degree, regarding himself as part of the ordinary membership of the Society, and making, according to the constitution, a contribution according to his means. It has, indeed, been reported to us that candidates, who have long since ceased to be undergraduates, have decided to join the London University Fabian Society, in preference to applying direct for membership, as being a cheaper way in !

We are unable to obtain exact information of the status of existing University members: Oxford U.F.S. prints a complete card, from which we find that out of 70 members, 25 are graduates, clerks in holy orders, or married women. Of these three or four subscribe direct to the Parent Society.

It seems fair to assume that University members who joined the Society before 1st January,1912, and who have therefore been at the University more than three full years are no longer undergraduates. If this classification reckons as graduates a few who have not yet reached this point, the correlative assumption, that all who joined after 1st January, 1912 are undergraduates is also inaccurate, since some of these recent University members are described on their cards as Professors, Graduates, etc. Oxford on this basis is reckoned as having 68 undergraduates whilst in fact there are only 45.
We therefore take this classification as at any rate substantially fair; it gives the following results: -

| University F.S. | Members to Dec.31,1911. | Members since. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aberystwyth | - | 9 | 9 |
| Birmingham | 5 | 24 | 29 |
| Cambridge | 66 | 44 | 110 |
| Edinburgh | 24 | 26 | 50 |
| Glasgow | 61 | 47 | 108 |
| Liverpool | 9 | 3 | 12 |
| London | 32 | 25 | 57 |
| Manchester | 12 | 43 | 55 |
| Oxford | 19 | 68 | 87 |
| St. Andrews | - | 3 | 3 |
| | 228 | 292 | 520 |

It therefore appears that less, probably much less than 292 out of 520 University members are undergraduates, whilst over 200, and probably 250 members of the Society who are not undergraduates are accepted as members at 1/- each.

During the three years 1912, 1913 and 1914 the sums received from University Fabian Societies amounted to £19.3.0, £11.8.0, and £13.1.6. Total £43.12.6: average annually £14.10.10, or 291 members, and some associates. In fact, therefore, and on the average, the University Societies pay on their estimated Undergraduate membership, and do not pay for the graduates at all!

The out of pocket cost of a University member not living in London is, postage 6d., News and Tracts about 6d: labour, stencils, etc., say 1d. The 520 members therefore at 1/1d. cost the Society in cash £28 to £30 against receipts of £14.

Now that more than one sixth of the Society consists of members who have been admitted as members of University Fabian Societies, and are not contributing to the Society's funds, the financial problem becomes grave.

We suggest that at any rate the arrangement with regard to the University Fabian Societies should be more precisely defined. We think that the University Fabian Societies should be informed: -

1. That the privilege accorded to members or associates of University Fabian Societies of being admitted also to membership or associateship of the parent Society without subscription, on payment of a fee of one shilling a year by the University Fabian Society in respect of such person, was intended only for members or associates in residence at the University or in attendance on its courses joining whilst undergraduates, and is confined to the period during which that status and residence continues.

2. That with regard to new members or associates for whom membership or associateship of the parent Society is desired, the application must state definitely that the candidate is an undergraduate in residence or attendance, and must be accompanied by the fee of one shilling which will be deemed to be in respect of the year then current, ending on the 31st of March next ensuing.

3. That the collective annual fee of one shilling in respect of each member or associate who is a member or associate also of the parent Society must be paid during the first quarter of the Society's year (namely during April, May, or June); that the payment must be accompanied by a complete list of the members and associates in respect of whom it is made, together with a certificate that these persons are still undergraduates in residence or attendance; and that no delegates will be invited or admitted to the Annual Conference from any Societies from which these fees (together with the fees for the members of their own Society only on which they also claim representation) have not been received.

4. That such members or associates, on taking a degree, or on ceasing residence or attendance at the University without taking a degree, will henceforth be treated like other members or associates of the Society, and expected, if members, to contribute to the Society's funds in proportion to their means; or if associates to pay at least 10/- per annum.

We propose also:

That all existing members and associates of the parent Society, elected as members or associates of University Fabian

Societies prior to 31st March, 1911, who have not subscribed personally to the Society's funds be written to by the Treasurer forthwith, explaining that if, as is assumed, they are no longer ~~undergraduates~~ of undergraduate status, or if without taking degrees they have ceased to reside at the University, they are expected to subscribe annually according to the Rules; and in view of the grave state of the Society's finances inviting them to send their contributions (or in the case of associates their annual subscription) before the close of the financial year (31st March).

That instructions be given that in future all members and associates admitted as members or associates of University Fabian Societies be dealt with automatically like other members, with regard to applications for subscriptions, arrears, etc., on the expiration of three years from such admission.

10th February, 1915.

Meeting Friday February 26th 1915.

Present Dodd (in chair) Cole, Webb, Snell, Miss Morley, Squire, Mrs Reeves, Allen, Pease, Miss Lawrence, Miss Atkinson, Davies & Sanders.

(1) Minutes of previous meeting were read & confirmed.

(2) Apologies were received from Mrs Webb & Ervine.

(3) Publishing Committee's Report was received

On No 1. Tract. War, Women, & Employment.

It was decided to print 12,000.

The Report as amended was then adopted.

(4) Finance & General Purposes Committee Report was received.

On No 3, Members meeting "Stop the War" resolution, it was decided that Miss Lawrence, on behalf of the Executive Com: should move the following amendment:

(4) Finance & General Purposes Committee Report cont.

"That in view of all the circumstances of the case, the present is not a suitable time for inaugurating any international campaign to "Stop the War"

On No 4 (b), University & Local F.S. Membership, it was agreed to strike out the words "for a fourth or fifth year", in clause 2.

The Report was then adopted as amended

It was reported that Noel Buxton had definitely agreed to lecture on April 30th on "The Balkan States as a Factor in the War"

It was decided that Dodd be chairman for Sir Edwin Pears.

(5). Manifesto. The Right Moment.

It was decided that Mrs Atkinson, Webb, & Squire be a sub Committee to draft reply.

St John Groom
12/3/15

(14) (37)

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Publishing Committee Meeting on 19th Feb., 1915.

Present: Mrs. Reeves (in chair), Miss Lawrence, Miss Morley, Squire, Standring, Sanders and Hon. Secretary.

1. Tract 178.- War, Women and Unemployment.

   (1) The above title was adopted.

   (2) The author was settled as "The Executive of the Women's Group."

   (3) A red paper for cover was approved.

   (4) Amendments by Webb and others were gone through and nearly all adopted.

   (5) The General Secretary was directed to make Mrs.Wilson's amendments, if he approved thereof, and to send proof to Professor Bowley for his criticisms.

   (6) It was agreed to accept with thanks Mrs. Shaw's reported offer to defray the cost of publication, amount to be repaid from time to time out of sales.

   (7) It was referred to the Women's Group to submit a scheme for special advertisements.

   (8) It was agreed to print 7,000.

   (9) Price was fixed at 2d.

2. Post Office Tract. By Emil Davies.
   On a consensus of opinion that more could be made of the subject, and that there was room for improvement in other details, it was agreed to send the written criticisms to the author, and request him to be good enough to act on them.

3. Out of Print Tracts.
   It was agreed to reprint when necessary 1,000 each of;
   No. 76. Houses for the People (20 pages).
   No.134. Small Holdings, Allotments & Common Pastures. (4 p.p.)

MAUD REEVES
Vice-Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting on 25th February, 1915.

Present: Webb (in chair), Cole, Ensor, Miss Atkinson, Sanders and Hon. Secretary.

1. Lectures:
   It was reported that H. M. Hyndman would lecture on April 16th, and Noel Buxton probably on April 30th.

2. Chairman for Sir Edwin Pears:
   It was decided to ask Lord Russell (but he cannot be got at) and failing him that the Executive appoint.

3. Members' Meeting:
   It was resolved: -

   (a) That the two non-contentious resolutions be placed first on the agenda.

   (b) That Thorogood be asked to be chairman.

   (c) That the Executive move an amendment to the "Stop the War" resolution; that it be printed in the News; and that Webb bring draft to the Executive.

   (d) (The Executive should appoint the mover).

4. University and Local F.S. Membership:

   (a) On a letter from the Oxford U.F.S. it was agreed to excuse arrears on condition that payment for current year be made before March 31st.

   (b) The remainder of the report with fresh matter was agreed to as drafted and referred to the Executive.

   (c) It was agreed that draft application for subscriptions to University F.S. members should be prepared for submission to the Executive.

SIDNEY WEBB
Acting Chairman.

(19) (38)

# FABIAN SOCIETY

## UNIVERSITY FABIAN SOCIETIES.

The following revised draft is submitted in order to meet the views expressed at the last Executive Meeting.

---

Regulations as to membership of the London Fabian Society by members of University Fabian Societies.

1. That the privilege accorded to members or associates of University Fabian Societies of being admitted also to membership or associateship of the parent Society without subscription, on payment of a fee of one shilling a year by the University Fabian Society in respect of such person, was intended only for students in residence at the University or in attendance on its courses.

2. That with regard to new members or associates for whom membership or associateship of the parent Society is desired, the application must state definitely that the candidate is a student in residence or attendance, and must be accompanied by the fee of one shilling which will be deemed to be in respect of the year then current, ending on the 31st of March next ensuing.
   By the term "student" is meant primarily an undergraduate during his first three years; but students continuing in residence or attendance ~~for a fourth or a fifth year~~ in order to take a further examination, or a second degree, are not excluded.

3. That the collective annual fee of one shilling in respect of each member or associate who is a member or associate also of the parent Society must be paid during the first quarter of the Society's year (namely during April, May or June); that the payment must be accompanied by a complete list of the members and associates in respect of whom it is made together with a certificate that these persons are still students in residence or attendance; and that no delegates will be invited or admitted to the Annual Conference from any Societies from which these fees (together with the fees for the members of their own Society only on which they also claim representation) have not been received.

1, 2 and 3 have been adopted by the Executive Committee.

4. That such members or associates, on ceasing to be students in residence or attendance at the University, will be treated like other members of the Society, and expected, if members, to contribute to the Society's funds in proportion to their means; or if associates to pay at least 10/- per annum.

Provided that members or associates who have joined as members or associates of a University Fabian Society, and have never contributed directly to the funds of the parent Society; who continue to reside within the University area or in the University town and have neither employment, place of business nor other residence within a radius of 20 miles from the London Fabian Office; and who prefer to contribute in proportion to their means to the University Fabian Society instead of to the parent Society, shall not be applied to for any contribution to the parent Society in respect of any year in which a collective annual fee of 2/6d. each has been paid on their behalf by the University Fabian Society prior to the 30th of June.

# LOCAL FABIAN SOCIETIES.

By Executive decision of many years ago, members joining the London F.S. as members of Local Fabian Societies on whose behalf a collective annual fee of 2/6d. is remitted are not applied to for direct contributions to the parent Society, it being assumed that they contribute in proportion to their means - to use the phrase of the Rules - to the Local Society.

The question having been raised as to the punctuality with which this half a crown collective annual fee has been paid, the following particulars have been got out.

Payments by Local Society members of the (London) F.S. on the 2/6d. Basis.

| Society. | No. of 2/6d. members. | Last payment (in some cases merely balances to clear). | Date. | Clears to. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Edinburgh | 17 | 7/6d. | 8/9/14 | March, 1914. |
| Glasgow | 38 | £4.15.6 | 30/3/14 | " 1913. |
| Ilford | 17 | 5/- | 22/7/14 | " 1914. |
| Ipswich | 12 | £1.0.0 | 18/3/14 | " 1914. |
| Manchester | 29 | £3.12.6 | 23/3/14 | " 1914. |

It will be seen that only in the case of Glasgow is there any arrear, and that only in respect of a single year.

The number of members who are no longer residing in the towns to which their Local Societies belong, or who have residences in or near London is believed to be small, though possibly showing signs of increase.

If it is desired to put the arrangement on a precisely defined basis, the following draft regulations are submitted for consideration: -

Regulations as to membership of the London Fabian Society by members of Local Fabian Societies.

1. Members (or associates) of a Local Fabian Society, desiring to become members (or associates) also of the London Fabian Society may be elected on signing the Basis without payment of any subscription - it being assumed that they will contribute according to their means (or if associates pay the required subscription) to the Local Fabian Society - provided (1) that they reside within the area of the Local Fabian Society and have neither employment, place of business nor residence within a radius of 20 miles from the London Fabian Office; and (2) that a collective annual fee of two shillings and sixpence in respect of each of them is paid by the Local Fabian Society.

2. Any such member (or associate) in respect of whom the collective annual fee of two shillings and sixpence is not paid within the year; or who ceases to reside within the area of the Local Fabian Society through which he has joined; or who comes to have employment, place of business or residence within a radius of 20 miles from the London Fabian Office will be expected to contribute directly in proportion to his means, and will be applied to and dealt with in the ordinary way.

It is suggested that the Ilford Society having been already allowed this privilege, though Ilford is only ten miles from the Fabian Office, it should be informed that it will be permitted to continue as an exception; but that no other Society that may form within the 20 miles radius should be given the concession.

Proposed letter to members who joined from University Fabian Societies prior to 1st April, 1911, and are not reported to be still in residence or believed so to be, and who have made no contribution to the funds.

Dear Sir,

There is, unfortunately, every indication that the financial year of the Fabian Society will close (on 31st March next) with a serious deficit and a heavy unpaid printing bill. The war, whilst it has in various ways increased the work and the expenses of the Society, has interfered with its receipts in almost every branch. I am therefore compelled, as Treasurer, to make a special appeal for contributions before the 31st instant.

I notice that, although you have been a member of the Society for several years, and have been regularly receiving its publications, no contributions towards its funds seems ever to have been received from you. This is perhaps due to the fact that you joined the London Fabian Society whilst you were a member also of a University Fabian Society, which undertook to pay a collective fee at the rate of a shilling per annum in respect of such of its members as wished also to become members of the parent Society.

I need hardly point out that this arrangement, (which involved actually a greater out-of-pocket expense on each undergraduate member than was received in respect of him) was intended only for students actually in residence at the University or in attendance on its courses. If, as I assume, you have ceased to be in residence or attendance, I would ask you to be so good as to let me have, before the 31st instant the contribution that the rules of the Society require to be made annually.

I may remind you that (whilst no member is admitted who does not send, at the outset, at least five shillings) the Society has no fixed annual subscription, and is dependent for the means to carry on its work on the contributions which its members individually assess upon themselves. This provision, in which the Fabian Society is perhaps unique, has been made necessary by the very unequal resources of the members, many of whom are quite unable to pay the subscription that would be required if a uniform sum were exacted; and it has been a point of honour among us not to take advantage of it. On the form of application for membership which you signed, the following note was printed:-

> Contribution in accordance with means - as some guide one half per cent. per annum.

I may remind you that the new and commodious offices of

as the Society afford the accommodation of comfortably furnished Common Rooms, membership of which involves an additional subscription of 10/- a year (or 7/6d. for country members).

I am desired by the Executive Committee to take this opportunity of inviting you also to give the Society any personal assistance that you can during the ensuing year, either (1) by taking part in the work of the Research Department; or (2) by undertaking some of the various literary tasks that present themselves; or (3) by sharing in the (unpaid) lecturing work of the Society; or (4) by organising and constructing the educational classes set going in conjunction with the I.L.P.; or (5) by taking steps to distribute the Society's publications; or (6) even by helping at the office with the occasional pressure of clerical work for which no adequate paid staff can be provided. Will you be good enough to consult the General Secretary as to what you could most usefully do ?

I am,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) F. LAWSON DODD

Treasurer.

# Meeting, Friday, March 12th. 1915.

Present Irvine (in chair) Webb, Miss Morley, Mrs Webb, Dodd, Dawes, Mrs Reeves, Miss Atkinson, Squire, Pease & Sanders.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed

(2) Apologies from Cole.

(3) Organizing & Propaganda Committee's Report was received and adopted.

(4) Publishing Committees Report was received & adopted.

(5) Finance & General Purposes Committee Report was received as

On No 1 (c) It was decided to place £100 on deposit to the credit of the Common Room thereby increasing deficit to the same extent.

On No 2 Amendments as shewn were made in the letter to the Oxford U.F.S.

Finance & General Purposes Committee Report (cont'd)

On No 3 it was decided that Miss Atkinson move the amendment.

The report as amended was then adopted.

A. S. Latimer

Fev Soc
C19

(42)

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting at Office on Thursday, March 4th, 1915.

Present: Ervine, Dodd and Sanders.

1. Membership:
March candidates, 24, were elected.

2. Date of Members' Meeting:
The General Secretary reported that an error in date of Members' Meeting had been discovered too late to be corrected. He had arranged to postcard all members giving correct date and proposed to pay part cost himself.
We consider that the whole cost should be met by the Society.

3. National Conference on Food and Fuel Prices:
It was decided to appoint Mrs. Reeves as delegate to this Conference and instruct the General Secretary to secure two other delegates if possible.

4. Common Room:
Number of members reported to be now 310.

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Publishing Committee Meeting on March 5th, 1915.

Present: Ervine, Squire, Standring, Sanders and Hon. Secretary: also Webb and Blizard.

Facts for Socialists.

The following were agreed on: -

(a) Length 24 pp. and 4 pp. cover.

(b) Price 2d.

(c) Number to be printed 6,000.

(d) Cover to be coloured wrapper with title in heavy black type.

(e) Old diagrams to be discarded and one new one on lines of Money's "Riches and Poverty" designs to be inserted.

(f) The proofs were gone through; and a number of passages ordered to be cut out.

ST. JOHN G. ERVINE.
Chairman.

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on Thursday, March 11th, 1915.

Present: Dodd (in chair), Ensor, Sanders and Hon. Secretary.

1. Finance.

(a) Report showing further small declines in receipts to end of February was submitted.

(b) It was reported that to March 11th, as the result of circularisation subscriptions were £30 in advance of the sum received in the same period last year. (Mrs. Shaw has sent a special Donation of £50, which brings the excess up to £86).

(c) A rough estimate to the end of the year (assuming the remainder of the month yields as much as last year) indicated a cash deficit of £130 (now reduced to £75).

2. Oxford U.F.S.

On a letter from the Oxford U.F.S. asking to be excused payment of their 1914-15 subscription (about £12) until the autumn, instead of prior to the Annual Conference, the Committee considered and rejected a proposal to offer to lend the money, and resolved to recommend the Executive to send the annexed reply.

3. Members' Meeting.

It was reported that: -

(a) Thorogood accepts nomination as chairman.

(b) Miss Lawrence may be absent, and it was decided to leave to the Executive to appoint a mover of their resolution in her place.

F. LAWSON DODD
Chairman.

DRAFT REPLY

I have laid before the Executive Committee your letter of the 4th of March asking for still further remission of payments by the Oxford University F. .., and I am to reply as follows.

The Executive feels some doubt whether the members of the Oxford University F.S. realise the state of the case, and the Executive prefers to put the situation frankly before them.

The Fabian Society now finds itself in a grave financial position. There is at this moment a very considerable deficit, and in spite of efforts to get in subscriptions, in responding to which members are making sacrifices, it will apparently be impossible on March 31st to discharge the printer's bill for work done. The threatened deficit on March 31st is between £100 and £200.

The Executive Committee does not doubt that those members for whom the Oxford University F.S. owes merely the fee of a shilling a year will wish to take their part in meeting this deficit, at any rate to the extent of paying their shillings, which do not suffice to meet the actual cost of their names being kept on the books. I am to point out that the total received from the Oxford University F.S. so far during the past five years has been £16 3 0, or an average of about £3 5 0 a year. During that time from 136 to 200, ~~or an average of~~ about 4.15 pence per member per annum. Members and associates have been receiving the publications, involving considerable expense in printing and postage; various London members have travelled down to Oxford at the request of the Oxford Society, some of whom, at least, have not asked for their railway fares; and a not inconsiderable number of Oxford members have made use of the London meetings, the Research Department, the Summer School, and other advantages, including latterly the new Common Room, which must at any rate share in the standing charges, and often involve actual expense.

When the Oxford Society represented that it found a difficulty in paying any arrears ~~of shillings~~, the Executive Committee agreed not to press for them on condition that those due for the current year were paid before the 31st of March. Now it is represented that if this sum is remitted, the Oxford Society will find it impossible in 1915-6 to comply with the new rule requiring payment of the shillings to be made during the first quarter of the year, under penalty of exclusion from the Conference.

I am to point out that the Executive Committee will itself have to incur expense in respect of the Oxford members on printing and postage in April, May and June next; and will itself start the year with an actual deficit.

I am therefore directed to say that the Executive Committee considers that the Oxford U.F.S. should take its share in the effort now being made to raise the funds necessary to keep the Society in existence. The Committee cannot believe that it can be any insuperable difficulty for a Society of 205 members and associates, few of whom can be so pressed for money that they have to ponder over every shilling of expenditure, ~~will find it impossible~~ to collect or borrow ~~1/- or 1/6d a head~~, ~~the~~ amount which hundreds of thousands of workmen pay weekly to their trade unions. per head an

The Committee therefore cannot see its way to make any further relaxation of the rules in favour of the Oxford Society.

# Meeting, Friday, March 26th, 1915.

Present. Miss Lawrence (in chair), Webb, Mrs Webb, Allen, Snell, Ensor, Miss Morley, Dodd Davies, Pease & Sanders.

Minutes were read and confirmed.

Apologies were received from Cole, Miss Atkinson, & Squire.

Finance & General Purposes Committee's Report was received & adopted.

Document "The Right Moment"

The draft reply of the Executive Com: was considered, amended, and adopted. It was ordered that it be printed with the notification that Allen & Cole dissented.

Chairman for Miss Lawrence & Sanders

It was agreed that Mrs Webb be chairman.

Susan Webb

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee 25th March, 1915.

Present: Dodd (in chair), Webb, Ensor, Sanders & Hon. Secretary.

1. Finance: It was reported that:-

(a) The increase in subscriptions in March to date was £93, and that it was estimated that Standring's a/c. would be unpaid to the amount of £150 at the end of the year.

(b) University Societies: Oxford had paid as requested: that other U.F.S's had not paid: and that very little had been received in response to the letters to University graduate members. It was agreed to send a reminder to the U.F. Societies who were still in arrears.

(c) Furnishing Fund: Harben had paid his promised subscription of £50 by cancelling his Summer School Loan of £50.

(d) Deposit A/c.
The amounts on Deposit were:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Summer School May Rent | £100 |
| Common Room | £100 |
| Research Department | £100 |
| Parliamentary Fund | £ 50 |
| | £350 |

(e) Research Donation: Letter from G. B. Shaw was read handing £100 for publication of Research work in trust to the Treasurers of the F.S. and the Research Department. It was agreed to place it on Deposit in their names.

2. Lectures:
April 30th. Noel Buxton having withdrawn by doctor's orders, it was agreed to accept offer by Ratcliffe on "America in the Crisis."

3. Daily Citizen:

On circular requesting the F.S. to subscribe 4d. per member in accordance with the finding of the Trade Union and Socialist Conference, it was agreed that the F.S. can only ask for special subscriptions from its members and that a paragraph asking therefor to be drafted by Pease for submission to the Executive, be printed in Fabian News.

4. Executive Reply to Manifesto:

On the request by Cole and Allen that they to recommend be allowed to issue a minority report, it was agreed that their dissent from the Executive Report ~~can~~ be published, ~~and that alone.~~ but not a minority report.

5. Annual Meeting:

It was agreed that this begin at 7.30.

6. Executive Election:

Candidates were announced
17 retiring members and

R. P. Arnot
G. P. Blizard
Dr. L. Fairfield
Jack Gibson
W. Mellor
J. S. Middleton
Miss Ellen Smith
Mrs. Townshend
Julius West

F. LAWSON DODD,

Chairman.

Meeting, Friday April 23. 1915.

Present. Webb (in chair) Mrs Webb, Miss Morley
Miss Lawrence, Dodd, Cole, Allen,
Davies, Pease & Sanders.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2) Apology was received from Miss Atkinson.

(3) Publishing Committee's Report was received & adopted.

(4) Organizing & Propaganda Committee's Report was received & adopted.

(5) Summer School Committee's Report was received & adopted.

(6) The Annual Report & Abstract of Accounts was discussed, amended & passed for submission to the Annual Members Mtg

(7) The Right Moment. A reply to the Exc. Com.s Report on this document, which appeared in the April "News," was considered and a further report on the reply, drafted by Webb was discussed & amended and ordered to be printed (Allen & Cole dissenting), with the reply in the May "News". Both documents are appended.

B. Webb

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Publishing Committee 16th April, 1915.

Present: Professor Morley (in chair), Squire, Sanders and Pease.

1. Revises:

(a) Tract 5. Facts for Socialists.

It was agreed to delete quotation about "Labour the only source of Wealth", and to omit diagram. Also that the cover be the same colour as the last tract (Women, War etc.). Type for cover was considered.

(b) No. 104. "How Trade Unions benefit the Workers." Revise, set up was considered and with a verbal amendment approved.

2. Report on Year's Trading, showing a decline all round was received.

3. Tract out of print:

It was resolved not to reprint No. 128. Case for Minimum Wage.

EDITH MORLEY.
Acting Chairman.

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 15th, 1915.

Present: H. Snell (in chair), Mrs. Webb & Sanders.

1. Membership:

   (a) April candidates (23) were elected.

   (b) 50 Resignations (covering six months) were dealt with.

2. London Labour Party Secretaryship:

   Invitation to send nominations for position of temporary secretary was considered. It was decided to recommend that no action be taken.

3. Annual Fabian Conference:

   Date and Place. It was decided to recommend that the Conference be held on Saturday, July 3rd at the Fabian Hall.

4. Fred Knee Recognition Fund:

   Appeal from this Fund was received. It was decided to report the receipt of the appeal to the Executive.

H. SNELL
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Summer School Committee

Report of Meeting, Monday, April 19th, 1915.

Letter was received from D. N. Pape accepting offer of £100 for extension of hire of Barrow House for four months from May 31st, 1915.

Arrangements are being made for a Conference at Whitsuntide at Barrow House and for the Summer Session.

E. R. PEASE
Chairman.

## Reply to the Executive's Report on "The Right Moment."

For the most part, the Report of the Executive seems to us to need no answer, inasmuch as, while each paragraph in it is calculated to appeal to some section of the Society's membership, it is, read as a whole, clearly self-contradictory. We desire, however, to draw attention to a few of the more important misconceptions which it contains.

In the first place, the Executive ask whether we wish "to go back upon equal citizenship of men and women." It is surely clear enough from our manifesto that the omission of the phrase is due solely to our view of the Society's function and to our consequent desire to avoid any formal creed, and has no other significance. To insert a clause dealing with equal citizenship in our proposed new rule would be to state a single article of our creed in a definition which expressly avoids such statement.

This brings us to our second point. We find an inconsistency in the Executive's reply on the question of the Basis. The definition of Socialism which it contains exists, they say, for the purpose of excluding those who are only vaguely or sentimentally Socialists, and does not exclude Socialists opposed to Collectivism. We are of opinion, despite the Executive's disclaimer, that the first four paragraphs of the Basis can only be interpreted in a purely Collectivist sense, and it is abundantly clear that this is the meaning that has always been placed upon them. Moreover, this view is fully borne out by the Society's publications, especially by the "Report on Fabian Policy," published in 1896, and *still on sale*, where the following sentence occurs: "*The Socialism advocated by the Fabian Society is State Socialism exclusively.*" This astonishing statement is typical of the whole tract. We reaffirm our belief that, read strictly, the Basis excludes Marxians, Guild Socialists, and all who are not prepared to subscribe to the pure gospel of Collectivism.

We find the chief humor of the Executive's reply in the charge of "Heresy Hunting" which they make against us. The difference between us and the Executive is not that we are "Heresy Hunters" and they are not, but that they, in clinging to a Collectivist basis, are hunting heresies among Socialists, whereas we wish to hunt the heresy of Anti-Socialism. Our fourth resolution, stigmatized by the Executive as "Heresy Hunting," provides, we believe, the only effective method of excluding the "mere social reformer" and the "excellent pious people" to whom they refer. "While gladly admitting such persons as associates," they say, "we do not want them as members with power to vote." We agree; but we reply that the existing Basis has utterly failed to exclude such persons, as an examination of the present membership will at once show. The adroit arguments of the Executive fall to the ground in view of the fact that the Basis has been signed by many whose practical activities give little or no indication of opposition to the capitalist system. The heresies we hunt are of deeds and not of words, and we believe that ours is the only method of keeping the Society truly Socialist. The argument that the Tory Democrat, the earnest Christian, the defender of Old Age Pensions, etc., think that they, as such, are striving against capitalism, is unconvincing in the extreme and wholly unworthy of the Fabian Society.

The Executive go on to suggest that no one but a member of the Anti-Socialist Union would be excluded on a strict reading of our proposed new rule; for "half the world thinks it is striving for the emancipation of the community from the capitalist system." We submit that the Fabian Executive is the only body in the world that holds that view. The Executive appear to be innocently unaware of the class of political organization that is "opposed to the national and international movement for the emancipation of the community from the capitalist system." They seem quite unable to realize that the Liberal and Conservative parties are the primary objects of our attack. Single Taxers, Free Traders, Profit Sharers, Peasant Proprietors, etc.—every conceivable sect seems to have occurred to them except

the ordinary Liberals and Conservatives, whose parties, after all, form the larger part of our political world. These are the parties that have always fought, either with open vigor or with subtle political strategy, against the advance of Labor and Socialism, and it is to supporters of these parties that we seek to deny admission to the Society.

The Executive admit that "it is in the last degree objectionable for a member of the Society to become a Parliamentary candidate in any division in which the Labor Party has already a duly authorized candidate in the field. Where any such case has threatened to occur the most energetic action has been taken, even to the point of getting a recalcitrant member to resign." What is to happen when the Fabian Liberal is first in the field? And, even in the case cited by the Executive, where is the rule that makes such a member recalcitrant or entitles the Executive to ask for his resignation? Again, why is it objectionable for a Fabian to oppose a Labor Party candidate in a constituency, but not objectionable for a Fabian to be a member of a party which acts in constant opposition to the various sections of the Labor and Socialist movement?

We do not, as the Executive suggest, desire to confine our members to political action solely under the auspices of the Labor Party. We desire to prevent them from acting under the auspices of the capitalist parties—a very different thing. On the desirability of confining Socialist political action to action under Labor Party auspices we are not agreed. Nor need we be; for it is no part of our proposal. On the desirability of prohibiting political action under capitalist auspices we are unanimous, and that is what our proposals involve.

If our original proposal did not make our contention clear, we hope the following revised proposal, which we now submit, will adequately define our attitude:—

*A Fabian shall not be a member of, or publicly support, the Liberal or Conservative Parties, and shall stand for Parliament only under the auspices of some section of that Party, or itself a part.*

publication of literature and
meetings. Our desire is not to cut down
either activities, but to extend them in the right
direction. We believe that both the research and the
propaganda carried on by the Society could be made far
more useful if they were directed to the systematic study
of Socialist and Trade Union problems and to spreading
the results of that study. In our manifesto we referred
again and again to the propagandist work which we
suggested the Society should undertake. The following
are actual quotations from our original manifesto. "We
want the results of Fabian Research to be scattered
broadcast through the Socialist and Trade Union
movement."

"It should not give up propaganda; but its mission
should be in the main to the converted, its business to
keep the converted up to date."

"Theirs (the local Societies') must be in great measure
the work of making known in the country the results of
research."

Let us say here once more that we do not want the
Fabian Society to give up propaganda: we want it to
carry out the kind of propaganda for which it is most fit.

If there was any ambiguity on this point in the actual
wording of the resolution dealing with it, there is none
in the revised wording, which we now submit:—

*In view of the political and industrial activities of other sections of the Socialist and Labor movement, and of the need for a distinct organization which shall undertake the study of contemporary Socialist and Trade Union problems, both practical and theoretical, the object of the Fabian Society shall be to carry out such research, and propaganda based upon it.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Clifford Allen. | J. S. Middleton. |
| R. Page Arnot. | Herbert Morison. |
| A. L. Bacharach. | J. R. Allardyce Nicoll. |
| Ivor Brown. | Robert Nichol. |
| T. W. Chaundy. | M. B. Reckitt. |
| G. D. H. Cole. | P. J. Reid. |
| W. Garland. | Beatrice E. Thomson. |
| Jack Gibson. | Emily A. Townshend. |
| J. Alan Kaye. | P. E. T. Widdrington. |
| W. Mellor. | Ellen C. Wilkinson. |

## Report by the Executive Committee.

(Clifford Allen and G. D. H. Cole dissenting.)

We confine ourselves to reporting to the members what, in our judgment, would be the result of the adoption of the proposed new rules as now revised.

### Abolition of the Basis.

We think that the result of an abolition of the Basis, or of the alterations in it now proposed by other members, would be adverse to the Society. We see no advantage to be gained by giving up all definition of Socialism, by omitting all mention of its economic implications, or by abandoning any reference to Democracy. We consider that for the Society now to throw over the Basis on which all its members have come together would be taken to mean a deliberate "going back" on Socialism as therein defined, just as the omission of the words "equal citizenship of men and women" would be taken to imply a "going back" on Democracy, or at least on Adult Suffrage. It would certainly enable the mere Land Nationalizer, thinking himself a Socialist, or the Anarchist Communist, on the one hand, and the opponent of Democracy or of Woman Suffrage, on the other, to become without falsehood members of the Society.

We do not think that the giving up of the Basis would gain for the Society the adhesion of any genuine Socialists: experience shows, indeed, that the wording of the present Basis is wide enough to admit Socialists of every variety. The fact that, as long ago as 1896, it was stated (in a report to the International Socialist Congress, with special reference to the controversy then raging as to whether Anarchists should be admitted) that "the Socialism advocated by the Fabian Society is State Socialism exclusively"—presumably true of the Society's actual advocacy at that particular date—affords no ground for argument that the Basis permits the advocacy of no other form of Socialism. Other kinds (*e.g.*, Municipal Socialism, voluntary Associations of Consumers, and a great development of Vocational Control) have, in fact, since been freely advocated without objection being raised.

The abolition of the Basis, as now proposed, would, moreover, (i) deprive the members of security against perpetual change of doctrine by a bare majority at each Annual Meeting: (ii) permit any local Fabian Society to set up whatever Basis it chose.

### Limitation of the Scope and Variety of the Society's Activities.

We do not see that the slight revision of the new rule now proposed in any way removes the objections already pointed out to a limitation of the Society's activities. Indeed, it is admitted by implication that the new rule is intended to put a stop to some, at any rate, of its present work.

We think that this would be seriously detrimental to the Society—indeed, at this financial crisis possibly fatal to its solvency—and that it would not have the effect of enlisting the energies of more of the members in the work of research.

When, in a society's rules, a definite statement occurs as to the objects or activities for which it is constituted, no other objects or activities can be undertaken. The proposed new rule, as now revised, would (i) prohibit the Society from any activities of a "political" nature, even if Socialist, or of an "industrial" character (whether in promoting Trade Unionism or in assisting a strike); and (ii) prevent either the Executive Committee or a members' meeting from spending any of the Society's funds, or taking any action in the name of the Society, for anything that could not be shown to be incidental either to the "study" of, or to the "research" into, "contemporary Socialist and Trade Union problems," or to "propaganda based upon" such research. We estimate that, if this new rule were carried, something like three-fourths of the present activities of the Society would be brought to an end. No new activities, other than those of the kind for which the Fabian Research

## Report by the Executive Committee.

(Clifford Allen and G. D. H. Cole dissenting.)

We confine ourselves to reporting to the members what, in our judgment, would be the result of the adoption of the proposal [illegible]

Reply 3

Department was specially constituted, could be undertaken.

Although the publication and promulgation of the results of research into contemporary Socialist and Labor problems would be authorized, any merely educational work (such as the classes which the Society has carried on, or its circulating library of book-boxes) would not be possible. The work of the Women's Group, the Education Group, and all other "subject" or local Groups would be similarly restricted. Nor would it be open to the Society to organize propaganda, in the ordinary sense, of the ideals or general principles or elements of Socialism (apart from the results of research into particular problems), either in lectures to non-Socialists or by the publication of tracts. Nor could the Society continue to be a constituent part of the Labor Party, or pay dues to any political organization.

We see nothing but harm in the Society hampering itself with any rule limiting the scope or range of its activities.

### Control of Members' Individual Activities.

The proposed new Rule XII. would, for the first time, bring under the jurisdiction of the Society, and would control, some of the individual activities of its members. The Society's rules have hitherto left each member free to use his powers for the promotion of Socialism in the way that he thought best. Now it is sought to rule, not merely that he shall not stand for Parliament except "under the auspices of some section of . . . . the national and international movement for the emancipation of the community from the capitalist system" — this would doubtless be held to mean "except under the auspices of the Labor Party or of some Socialist organization"—but also that he "shall not be a member of," or "publicly support the Liberal or Conservative Party."

We think the attempt to fetter, by the Society's rules, the freedom of members in their individual lives is objectionable. What the Society does in its corporate capacity is one thing: the personal conduct of individual members (at any rate of individual members not holding any paid office in the Society) is quite another thing, for which the Society as a whole is not responsible, and as to which it ought not to make rules. It has always been a special characteristic of the Fabian Society that it respected the individuality of its members, and accepted their personal service, whatever its form or method, as being what those members thought best for the common cause. We think that this wide-minded tolerance of each other's views of duty had better continue. It seems to us in the highest degree inadvisable that any section of the members should start trying to turn out of the Society other members whose individual activities, unconnected with the Society's name or work, they happen to disapprove of, or to regard as inconsistent with their own particular view of how Socialism can best be promoted.

Moreover, the proposed rule, which goes far beyond anything required by our affiliation to the Labor Party, and seems to be logically inconsistent with the other proposal debarring the Society from "political" activity, appears to us, not only so vaguely drafted as to be likely to lead to perpetual friction, but also quite unjustifiably far-reaching.

Leaving aside the standing for Parliament, which affects only half a dozen members, it is proposed that all our 2,600 members, wherever they reside, should be bound not to be "members" of the Liberal or the Conservative Party or publicly to support the Liberal or Conservative Party. But in real life, outside Parliament, political support is always given either to a representative or to a measure. We can only interpret the proposed new rule as forbidding all our members publicly to support any measure proposed by a Liberal or Conservative Govern-

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Leaving aside the standing for Parliament, which affects only half a dozen members, it is proposed that all our 2,600 members, wherever they reside, should be bound not to be "members" of the Liberal or the Conservative Party or publicly to support the Liberal or Conservative Party. But in real life, outside Parliament, political support is always given either to a representative or to a measure. We can only interpret the proposed new rule as forbidding all our members publicly to support any measure proposed by a Liberal or Conservative Government, or any member or candidate standing under the auspices of the Liberal or Conservative Party.

We think such a rule would be unwise, and the suggested conduct, if generally acted on, calamitous.

We presume that it cannot be intended that members should not be free to support measures proposed by the Liberal or Conservative Party. We think it important that the Fabian Society itself, and all its members, should be free to examine any measures proposed in Parliament or elsewhere, and, on their merits, to support or oppose, criticize or amend them, as they may think fit, irrespective of whether they are proposed by Liberals, Conservatives, Socialists or Labor men. As we cannot expect to have a Socialist Administration in office for a long time, progress towards Socialism must for many years necessarily come through (or be adversely affected by) measures proposed by non-Socialist Parties. We ought to hold ourselves, corporately and individually, as free to support the measures, or parts of measures that we approve of, as to oppose other measures that we disapprove of, by whomsoever brought forward.

To come now to support of representatives. We have to face the fact that, in four-fifths of all the constituencies of Great Britain, there is (and, as far as can be foreseen, is for some time likely to be) no other candidate than those standing under the auspices of the Liberal and Conservative Parties. It is in these constituencies that more than four-fifths of our members live. To seek to make those members politically impotent in their own constituencies seems to us unwise, and, if applied to all the two million members of the Labor Party, suicidal. It must be remembered that a General Election is more than a choice of candidates—it often amounts to a Referendum on policy. We take four examples, two of the past and two of the future. At the two elections of 1910 the aggregate voting decided, in effect, whether or not the veto of the House of Lords was to continue. At the conclusion of this war it is conceivable that a General Election might convey a mandate for the entry of the British Empire into some sort of Supernational Council, or World League of Peace. It is possible that the next Reform Bill, based on Adult Suffrage, granting the franchise to women on the same terms as men, and rejected by the House of Lords, may have, in effect, to be endorsed at a General Election in order to bring it into law.

We cannot think it wise to forbid our 2,600 members to "publicly support," at crucial elections of this kind, the candidates or the proposals of any political party, even if Liberal or Conservative, which submits to the electorate some measure that our members think ought to be carried, and upon which all hope for the future success of the Society's work may depend.

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# First Meeting of New Executive Com:

## April 30th 1915.

Present. Mrs Webb (in chair) Mrs Townshend, Snell. Webb, Ensor, Mrs Reeves, Squire, West, Dr Fairfield, Miss Smith, Davies, Dodd, Harben, Miss Lawrence, Pease & Sanders.

1. Minutes. of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

2. Apologies were received from Miss Atkinson, Allen, Miss Morley, & Ervine,

3. Election of Committees. The following were elected as the Committees mentioned below.

Finance & G. P. Com: Miss Atkinson, Cole, Dodd, Ensor, Ervine, & Webb.

Publishing Com: Harben, Miss Lawrence, Miss Morley, Miss Smith, Mrs Townshend, West, Squire, & Mrs Reeves.

Organizing & Propaganda Com: Davies, Dr Fairfield, ~~Harben~~, Mrs Webb, Snell, Squire, Miss Smith, Dodd & Ervine

Rota of Chairmen. The following were appointed. Allen, Cole, Dodd, Ensor, Ervine, Miss Lawrence, Miss Morley, Snell, Squire, and Miss Atkinson. Well & Mrs Webb.

Delegates to Joint Committee of the I.L.P. & Fabian Sy. The following were appointed: Mrs Webb, Miss Lawrence, Cole, Pease & Snell.

Delegates to International Women's Council The following were appointed: Dr Fairfield, Miss Atkinson & Miss Smith.

Standing Orders were adopted without amendment.

Chairman for Annual Meeting. It was decided to ask S. K. Ratcliffe to be chairman, and failing him, A. J. Thorogood.

Society's Finances Sidney Webb moved the following motion which was carried. "In view of the facts that for two out of three successive years the Society's income has not equalled the

Society's Finances (cont.).

expenditure), and that the deficit now amounts to over £300, the Finance Committee be requested to consider and report what steps can be taken to wipe off this deficit, to increase the income or to decrease the expenditure under their various heads, or otherwise to improve the financial outlook."

Loan to International Socialist Bureau.

It was reported that the Int: Soc: Bureau had applied to the British Section for a loan of £1000, and that the Labour Party was prepared to lend its proportionate share, namely £500, if the other constituent bodies of the section would advance proportionate sums. It was decided that the Society's delegates on the British Section be instructed to state to the section that the Society was prepared to advance its share namely £100. if the loan was decided upon.

Social Committee's Report was received & adopted

Chairman for Ratcliffes lecture. Dr. Fairfield was appointed chairman.

C. J. Martin

May 14/1915

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FabSoc

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# FABIAN SOCIETY

## Standing Orders of the Executive Committee and Orders of Reference to Sub-Committees.

1 Before the first meeting of the new Committee every member shall be invited to say whether he desires to be placed on the rota of chairmen: at the first meeting of the Committee the Secretary shall submit the list of those desiring to be on the rota unless the Committee otherwise determine. Each member of the rota shall preside in turn, in alphabetical order (the name of the member whose turn it is being stated in the agenda of each meeting). If the chairman so designated is not present at the time for beginning business, some other member then present shall be voted to the chair, which he shall retain throughout the meeting. The chairman shall have a vote as a member of the Committee but no casting vote.

2. The Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at the Society's Offices, and normally at 5 or 5.30 p.m. on such Fridays as may be fixed from time to time. A Special meeting may be called by the Secretary whenever required. An Agenda (including as far as may be practicable, such reports of Sub-Committees as may have been prepared) shall be sent by post to each member so as to reach him not later than the morning delivery of the day of meeting. Any member of the Executive Committee wishing to move a resolution on any subject (other than matters arising out of the report of a Sub-Committee, or other item in the agenda) shall give notice thereof to the Secretary two clear days before the date of the meeting. Except by the unanimous consent of the members present no resolution (other than aforesaid) shall be moved without notice.

3. Any matter under discussion by the Executive Committee and of its Sub-Committees and any statements made thereon shall on the demand of any one member present be treated as private and confidential, except in so far as any publication may be made in Fabian News and in that case until such publication.

Feb Sec C14

(64)



4. Execpt in case of urgency, to be decided by vote of the Executive Committee, all matters for its decision, including all letters requiring attention or reply shall stand referred to one or other of its Standing Sub-Committees or to a Sub-Committee specially appointed, and shall be considered by the Executive Committee only on reports from the appropriate sub-committees.

5. Each Sub-Committee shall submit to the next ensuing Executive Committee a succinct report of the proceedings at each of its meetings, arranged in numbered paragraphs, and including definite recommendations on the points on which it desires the Executive Committee to decide. The report shall be prepared on the authority of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, and shall bear his signature. It shall state the names of the members of the Sub-Committee present at the meeting.

6. It shall be open for any member of the Executive Committee to move (without notice) with reference to any paragraph in the report of a Sub-Committee containing no recommendation, either an expression of the opinion of the Executive Committee upon the paragraph, or merely that it be referred back to the Sub-Committee for further consideration of the subject.

7. The several recommendations contained in the report of a Sub-Committee shall be put to the Executive Committee in the usual way, and the resolutions come to on such recommendation shall stand referred to the Sub-Committee concerned fro execution.

8. Any member of the Executive Committee may subject to notice move that any subject be referred for consideration and report to the appropriate Sub-Committee; and any such motion, if adopted, shall be taken into consideration by the Sub-Committee at its next meeting, when the member moving shall be entitled to attend.

9. A general report of the proceedings of the Executive at their meetings shall be regularly published in the News and it shall be open to members making the claim before the close of the meeting to have their names published as dissenting from decisions, if they so desire. The reports shall be submitted to the Chairman of the meeting reported before publication.

10. Any member of the Executive Committee may be present at the meeting of any Sub-Committee, but, unless a member thereof, he shall not vote, nor, except by permission, speak.

11. Each Sub-Committee shall elect a standing chairman for the year (or such shorter period as it may decide); who shall be responsible for moving at the Executive Committee the reception of the report of the Sub-Committee. Each Sub-Committee, if desired, may elect a standing Vice-Chairman.

12. Each Sub-Committee shall conform to the Standing Orders for the time being in force; shall deal only with the matters within its reference, except in cases of urgency, and act by a majority. It may fix its own time and place of meeting, and its own quoram.

13. Each Sub-Committee shall be empowered (in addition to any authority specially given to it by resolution of the Executive Committee and to the specific authorities in the Orders of the Reference):

(a) To discuss and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee on any matter within its own Order of Reference.

(b) To carry out any explicit decision of the Executive Committee on matters within its own Order of Reference.

(c) To take on the matters within its own Order of Reference any action urgently required in the interests of the Society, which shall not permit of the delay involved in awaiting the next Executive Committee; but subject to the foregoing, no Sub-Committee may, without having first obtained an explicit decision of the Executive Committee:-

(x) incur any expense or liability exceeding £10;
(y) make any new departure in policy or practice;
(z) publish anything in the name or on behalf of the Society.

14. The Honorary Treasurer, F. Lawson Dodd, the Honorary Secretary, Edward Reynolds Pease, and the General Secretary, William Stephen Sanders, shall be authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the Society and to conduct the Banking business of the Society, and the said Edw. R. Pease and W. Stephen Sanders shall be authorised to endorse cheques and other instruments payable to the Society.

## Orders of Reference.

A. Finance and General Purposes Sub-Committee.

There shall stand referred to the F. & G.P. Sub-Committee for consideration and report all matters relating to

(a) Finance
  (1) The receipt and custody of the Society's funds;
  (2) The subscriptions and donations of members, associates and others;
  (3) The keeping of the Society's accounts, and the preparation of all necessary financial statements.

(b) The representation of the Society at Conferences, &c.

(c) The preparation of the Annual Report.

(d) The management of the Society's office and staff.

(e) The supply of information in response to enquiries;

(f) All Bills and Parliamentary matters.

(g) The Ciculating Book Boxes.

(h) The arrangement of lectures, &c. at the regular meetings of the Society.

(i) The election of new members and other matters appertaining to membership

(j) Any other business not falling within the reference to another sub-committee.

B. Propaganda Sub-Committee.

There shall stand referred to the Propaganda Sub-Committee for consideration and report, all matters relating to:-

FABIAN SOCIETY

Standing Orders of the Executive Committee and Orders of Reference to Sub-Committees.

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4. Execpt in case of urgency, to be decided by vote of the Executive Committee, all matters for its decision, including all letters requiring attention or reply shall stand referred to one or other of its Standing Sub-Committees or to a Sub-Committee specially appointed, and shall be considered by the Executive Committee only on reports from the appropriate sub-committees.

5. Each Sub-Committee shall submit to the next ensuing Executive Committee a succinct report of the proceedings at each of its meetings, arranged in numbered paragraphs, and including definite recommendations on the points on which it desires the Executive Committee to decide. The report shall be prepared on the authority of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, and shall bear his signature. It shall state the names of the members of the Sub-Committee present at the meeting.

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10. Any member of the Executive Committee may be present at the meeting of any Sub-Committee, but, unless a member thereof, he shall not vote, nor, except by permission, speak.

11. Each Sub-Committee shall elect a standing chairman for the year (or such shorter period as it may decide); who shall be responsible for moving at the Executive Committee the reception of the report of the Sub-Committee. Each Sub-Committee, if desired, may elect a standing Vice-Chairman.

12. Each Sub-Committee shall conform to the Standing Orders for the time being in force; shall deal only with the matters within its reference, except in cases of urgency, and act by a majority. It may fix its own time and place of meeting, and its own quoram.

13. Each Sub-Committee shall be empowered (in addition to any authority specially given to it by resolution of the Executive Committee and to the specific authorities in the Orders of the Reference):

(a) To discuss and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee on any matter within its own Order of Reference.

(b) To carry out any explicit decision of the Executive Committee on matters within its own Order of Reference.

(c) To take on the matters within its own Order of Reference any action urgently required in the interests of the Society, which shall not permit of the delay involved in awaiting the next Executive Committee; but subject to the foregoing, no Sub-Committee may, without having first obtained an explicit decision of the Executive Committee:-

(x) incur any expense or liability exceeding £10;
(y) make any new departure in policy or practice;
(z) publish anything in the name or on behalf of the Society.

The Honorary Treasurer, F. Lawson Dodd, the Honorary Secretary, Edward Reynolds Pease, and the General Secretary, William Stephen Sanders, shall be authorised to sign cheques on behalf of the Society and to conduct the Banking business of the Society, and the said Edw. R. Pease and W. Stephen Sanders shall be authorised to endorse cheques and other instruments payable to the Society.

## Orders of Reference.

A. Finance and General Purposes Sub-Committee.

There shall stand referred to the F. & G.P. Sub-Committee for consideration and report all matters relating to

(a) Finance
  (1) The receipt and custody of the Society's funds;
  (2) The subscriptions and donations of members, associates and others;
  (3) The keeping of the Society's accounts, and the preparation of all necessary financial statements.

(b) The representation of the Society at Conferences, &c.

(c) The preparation of the Annual Report.

(d) The management of the Society's office and staff.

(e) The supply of information in response to enquiries;

(f) All Bills and Parliamentary matters.

(g) The Ciculating Book Boxes.

(h) The arrangement of lectures, &c. at the regular meetings of the Society.

(j) Any other business not falling within the reference to another sub-committee.

B. Propaganda Sub-Committee.

There shall stand referred to the Propaganda Sub-Committee for consideration and report, all matters relating to:-

(a) Lectures

(1) The organisation of propagandist lectures, courses, &c. for the Society as a whole and otherwise.
(2) The supply of lecturers, &c. to other organisations.

(b) The election of new members and associates.

(c) The means to be taken to maintain and increase the membership.

(d) The provincial Societies and the London Groups.

C. The Publishing Sub-Committee.

There shall stand referred to the Publishing Sub-Committee for consideration and report all matters relating to:-

(a) The Tracts, reports and books that the Society places on sale.

(b) The preparation of new Tracts, reports and books for publication by the Society.

(c) The literary property of the Society:-

(1) The Sub-Committee shall, before taking steps to commit the Society to any Tracts, &c. submit to the Executive Committee a recommendation as to the subject, authorship and other details.

(2) The Sub-Committee shall circulate to the members of the Executive Committee in good time complete proofs of all publications which it proposes to recommend the Executive Committee to issue.

(3) The Publishing Committee shall be authorised to decide (subject to report in each case to the Executive Committee) the details as to the re-printing, revising, and re-issuing of the tracts, books, reports, &c. already authorised by the Executive Committee to be placed on sale. But it shall not, without explicit authority of the Executive Committee in each case, issue or publish any new matter, or commit the Society to such issue or publication.

(d) The control of "Fabian News".

# Meeting, Friday, May 14th, 1915.

Present. Allen (in chair) Mrs Webb, Mrs Reeves, Miss Smith, Miss Morley, Mrs Townshend, Webb, Cole, West, Ensor, Squire, Pease, Snell, Sanders, Dodd, Davies.

(1) Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2) Organizing Propaganda Committee's Report was received & adopted.

(3) Finance & General Purposes Committee's Report was received & adopted.

(4) Annual Meeting

(a) It was reported that Ratcliffe consented to be chairman.

(b) The following were appointed to be speakers for the Executive in opposition to the following motions on Agenda: No 2, Mrs Webb; No 3, Sidney Webb; No 4, Dodd; Hayes amendment, Pease. It was agreed that it be recommended to the

Annual Meeting (cont^d)

(b. cont^d) chairman that the first speaker for a motion and the first speaker against have ten minutes each; other speakers five minutes each.

J. Laurendeau

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting Thursday, May 6th, 1915.

Present: Mrs. Webb (in chair), Squire, Davies, Dodd & Sanders.

1. Chairman:
We have elected Mrs. Webb as our chairman.

2. Membership:

(a) May candidates, 12, were elected.

(b) 103 ex-members of University Fabian Societies who have not replied to the letter sent to them inviting them to remain members of the London Society were ordered to be removed from the membership list.

(c) 114 members whose addresses are unknown were ordered to be suspended from the membership list.

3. Course of Lectures by Mrs. Webb, Bernard Shaw & Sidney Webb:

It was decided to recommend that a course of six lectures under the general title of ~~the~~ "The World after the War" be given at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Tuesdays, October 26th, November 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th. Each lecturer to give two lectures. The subjects of the lectures to be as follows:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1) | The Illusions of War. | Bernard Shaw. |
| (2) | The War and the Spirit of Revolt. | Mrs. Webb. |
| (3) | The War and the Control of Capital. | Sidney Webb. |
| (4) | The War and Poverty. | Mrs. Webb. |
| (5) | The Re-grouping of the State [illegible] of the World. | Bernard Shaw. |
| (6) | The Supernational Council and the machinery for preventing war. | Sidney Webb. |

The following were suggested as possible chairmen: - E. Vandervelde, Lord Bryce, Granville Barker, Arnold Bennett, George Trevelyan, Bertrand Russell, Arthur Henderson, J. A. Hobson, Edward Carpenter, Miss Mary Macarthur, Miss Jane Harrison.
The arrangements for advertising, tickets, etc. to be similar to those in connection with previous courses at King's Hall.

BEATRICE WEBB
Chairman.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting on May 13th, 1915.

Present: Dodd (in chair), Ensor, Sanders and Hon. Secretary, also West.

1. Organisation:

Ensor was elected chairman and it was decided to meet on Thursdays as heretofore.

2. Finance:

(a) Report was presented for April showing fairly favourable receipts.

(b) It was agreed to pay balance due to Constable & Co. £27.7.7. when funds are available.

3. University Fabian Societies:

A Balance Sheet of the Oxford U.F.S. was submitted with two letters asking that the Society be excused payment of subscriptions (£10.5.) now due for the year 1915-16 and stating that the Society may be compelled to disaffiliate.

A statement of U.F. Societies' financial position was also submitted, as follows:-

| | Due up to March 1914 | Subscriptions paid due March 1915. | Subscriptions now due 1915-16. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Oxford | 16. 0 0 | 10 5 0 | 7 17 0 |
| Cambridge | 12 6 0 | 3 0 0 | 3 0 0 |
| Liverpool | 1 4 0 | --- | 19 0 |
| London | 7 10 0 | 1 0 0 | 1 0 0 |
| Manchester | 5 0 0 | 14 0 | 15 0 |
| Birmingham | --- | 1-12 0 on a/c. | 3 11 0 |
| Sheffield | --- | --- | 1 6 0 |
| Edinburgh | 2 10 0 | 5/- on a/c. | 2 10 0 |
| Glasgow | 5 16 0 | 2 2 0 | 1 18 0 |
| St. Andrews | --- | --- | ? |
| Univ. Coll. Wales | --- | --- | ? |
| | £ 50 6 0 | | |

3 Contd.

On these it was agreed to recommend:-

(a) That all arrears in column 1, £50.6s., be cancelled.

(b) That the new rule requiring payments for the current year as a condition of representation at the Annual Conference (Col. 3) be insisted on.

(c) That Fabian News be not sent to members of Societies in arrears after 30th June.

(d) That the sum of £2.8.0 overpaid by Oxford U.F.S. be credited towards the £10.5.0. now due, leaving a balance of £7.17.0 still due.

4. Audit:

(a) It was reported that formal report had not been received, but that the auditor confirmed the accounts as printed.

(b) It was resolved that a sovereign missing from the office in August and believed to be stolen be written off to sundry expenses.

5. Financial Position of Society:
The reference from the Executive and certain figures relevant thereto were considered and it was resolved that a further statement be prepared for submission to the next meeting.

6. Annual Fabian Conference:
It was agreed that there be put on the agenda:-

(1) Report of the work of Local Societies for the year.

(2) Discussion of detailed statement of the Scope and Work of a Local Fabian Society.

and that further resolutions be considered.

F. LAWSON DODD
Acting Chairman.

# Meeting, Friday, June 4th 1915.

Present. Dodd (in chair) Ensor, Dr Fairfield, West, Miss Lawrence, Miss Smith, Snell, Mrs Townshend, Mrs Webb, Webb, Pease & Sanders

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed

(2) Apologies were received from Allen & Miss Morley.

(3) Summer School Committee's Report was received & adopted.

(4) Finance & General Purposes Committee's Report was received.

On (2) This was agreed to subject to Mrs Townshend agreeing.

On (4) c. The recommendations contained in report of the discussion of the Committee on Finances ~~be~~ were agreed to, but the question of the financial position of the Society ~~be~~ was referred back to the Committee for the

(4) Finance & General Purposes Committees Report (contd)

(4 c) contd

further consideration of other methods of securing funds including the use of the Parliamentary Fund, and promises to that Fund, for the purposes of the loan to the International Socialist Bureau.

The Report as amended was adopted.

(5) Tracts — It was decided that the Publishing Com: should consider the possibility of making the Tracts more attractive without changing the size, and bring up a report on the subject, including the selling quality of the various tracts.

R. C. K. Ensor
25 June 1915

FABIAN SOCIETY

Summer School Committee

Report of Meeting May 17th, 1915.

In accordance with the Summer School regulations we report that we have appointed E. R. Pease, H. Snell, H. D. Harben, and F. Lawson Dodd as Directors of the School for the Session 1915; and that we have arranged lectures at the School as set out in enclosed prospectus.

We recommend that the appointments and lecture arrangements be approved.

E. R. PEASE

Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 3rd of June, 1915.

Present: Ensor (in chair), Sanders and Hon. Sec.

1. Lectures in Autumn:

It was recommended that, in view of the course of Kings Hall lectures, there be
2 meetings in October
1 " November
1 " December

One of the October Meetings may have to be a Business Meeting for resolutions for the Labour Party Conference in January 1916. Subjects of lectures were not discussed.

2. University Socialist Federation:

It was agreed to recommend (as suggested by them) that Mrs. Townshend be appointed Consultative member of their Executive.

3. Resignation of G. D. H. Cole:

It was agreed that this be accepted.

4. Finance:

(a) Report for May was presented showing a decline in members' subscriptions of £22 in two months.

(b) The auditor's report was received and the minor points dealt with were noted.

(c) Letter from Webb and Report from Secretaries, and abstract of finances for the past five years were considered, and they were ordered to be submitted to the Executive.
A Report of the discussion is annexed.

After the discussion it was resolved, in view of the state of finance, to recommend: -

(d) That the request of the University Socialist Federation for a grant of 30/- for a Conference recently held for organising Welsh University Societies be declined.

(e) That the request of the Sheffield F.S. that 15/- fees due be remitted be refused, but that the offer of 15/- as a gift from a member of the Executive be accepted.

(f) That negociations be opened with Miss Fuller, expert in advertising in small magazines (recommended by West), with a view to increasing advertisements in Fabian News.

(g) That, in respect of the 100 already agreed to be lent (without security) as our share of the loan of £1,000 to the International Socialist Bureau, the Trustees of No. 2 a/c. (F.Lawson Dodd, Clifford Sharp and E.R. Pease) be requested to guarantee the money, if required, and that on this undertaking being received, the secretary be authorised to pay the £100 to the Labour Party out of the Deposit Accounts, and to apply for it to the Trustees whenever necessary.

(The No. 2 a/c. is held by trustees on behalf of the Executive Committee in trust to apply the funds to Educational Lectures, Book Boxes, and special Distribution of Tracts, but they have power at the request of a two-thirds majority of the Executive to use the funds for "any new or extraordinary development of the work of the Society." (See letter 17 June,1904). The Fund consists of £150 Derby 3% Stock, worth now something over £100, and about £11 in the Bank).

R. C. K. ENSOR
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

## Financial Situation

## Copy of Letter from Sidney Webb

Dear Sanders,

### Finance.

I think I had better prepare a report on the facts (which "the Office" might put before the Finance Committee?) We ought to have: -

(a) A careful estimate of expenditure for the current year, so as to see what we are committed to:

(b) Estimate of receipts under each main head other than subscriptions:

(c) I want to consider, item by item, how to increase receipts - could you and Pease prepare notes on
Literature Sales
Advertisements
Bookbox fees
giving seven or ten years' figures.

(d) We must consider what we can cut down in items of expense. Any suggestions ?

(e) What steps can we take to get new receipts,
e.g. Letting of Hall ?
Elementary classes in the hall ?
Increase Literature Sales.

(f) Annual Conference - why did it cost £18 net ?

(g) What we spend on advertising - stop it ?

(h) Sundry grants £4.18.6 - stop them?

Fab Soc
C14

I reckon that (apart from Summer School and Common Room which must pay their way), we shall have to spend at least £1,500, towards which our minor receipts are not likely to be over £225. Add to this the £322 deficit and the £100 International Bureau minus £50 Parliamentary Fund if we can get it diverted

1500
= 225 1275 plus 322 = 1597 plus 100 - 50 = £1,647 that we must raise by Kings Hall lectures (say £150) and subscriptions.

We must therefore get £1,500 in subscriptions etc. - we only got £1,163 ! and we may well only get £1,000.

Can we get the deficit below £500 by next April ? It is serious.

Yours,

(Signed) SIDNEY WEBB.

Report of Discussion on Finance.

The Secretaries explained that in their opinion no valid estimate of fluctuating items of expenditure and income could be made; that the amounts received and expended might be more or less than last year, but there was no means of knowing how great the variation would be.

Taking the normal income and expenditure of last year and adding to income £100 (reduced rent of Barrow House) and £30 increased receipts from rents of 25 Tothill Street, the result would be a surplus of £65 against the debts carried forward, £177.

The Committee discussed various reductions in activities costing money and concluded that the loss in membership would be greater than any gain.

(a) They recommended that rigid economy be practised in special expenditure to which the Society is not committed.

(b) The main possible source of saving appeared to be in the publication of Tracts. It was stated that complete cessation of Tract publication would decrease our Country membership, and though effecting a temporary saving, would ultimately reduce our sales of literature. It was reported that Professor Morley had sent in the MS. for a Ruskin Biographical tract, and that an Owen MS. was shortly expected. The Committee desired that the Executive should consider the policy of Tract Publication, and issue any directions to the Publishing Committee thereon. The cost of reprinting Facts for Socialists will come into this year's budget and amounts to £27.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report on the Financial Position by the Secretaries.

The Debit Balance on 31st March consisted of:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Due to Standring | 150 |
| " " Constable | 27 |
| " " Maud Davies Trustees | 100 |
| Balances of sundry Funds, Summer School, Common Room, etc., less credits. | 45 |
| | £ 322 |

During the year we spent in cash £100 on Furniture, Addressing Machine and Moving, none of which will recur.

The Maud Davies Loan is a liability which can stand over indefinitely, if the money does not come from other sources.

We may legitimately expect a profit of £100 from the Summer School in recoupment of expenditure for several years on postage and office expenditure.

We shall receive £30 additional for Rents, making our net rent under £200.

Assuming, (and we can do nothing else) that our ordinary income and general expenditure is the same in the current year as in the year just concluded, the position stands as follows:

| 1915-16 | |
|---|---|
| Ordinary Expenditure, as in 1914-15. | 1709 |
| " Income, " " " | 1644 |
| Deficit. | 65 |

On the other hand for extra receipts,

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Profit from Summer School. | 100 | |
| Additional Rent. | 30 | 130 |
| Surplus against debts. | | 65 |

Although therefore, the situation is serious, it does not appear to the secretaries that the present is the moment for any special action beyond energy in getting in subscriptions.

EDW. R. PEASE.

W. STEPHEN SANDERS.

3rd June, 1915.

FABIAN SOCIETY

## ANALYSIS OF FINANCES

| | Year ending March | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Receipts** | 1915 | 1914 | 1913 | 1912 | 1911 |
| Members' Subns. | 1083 | 1289 | 1263 | 1215 | 1284 |
| Other " | 91 | 101 | 138 | 165 | 193 |
| Special Funds | 254 | 50 ? | 31 | - | 666 |
| Lectures, etc. | 175 | 317 | 262 | 75 | - |
| Book Boxes) Royalties ) Advertisements) | 71 | 82 | 145 | 115 | 135 |
| Summer School | | | | | 80 |
| **Expenditure** | | | | | |
| Salaries | 618 | 812 | 877 | 747 | 681 |
| Rent | 223 | 189 | 187 | 188 | 189 |
| Postage | 177 | 192 | 202 | 236 | 171 |
| Net cost of Tracts | 60 | 36 | 41 | 70 | 171 |
| General Printing | 62 | 77 | 68 | 120 | 69 |
| Stationery & Sundries | 110 | 89 | 92 | 90 | 67 |
| Lecture Halls | 44 | 68 | 87 | 115 | 92 |
| Special Expenses | ♦ 192 | - | - | 19 | - |
| Grants to other bodies | 25 | 63 | 41 | 71 | 52 |
| Net Result:- | | | | | |
| on Debit Balance | up 240 | down 106 | up 21 | up 164 | up 4 from nil. |
| on Debts | up 150 | down 50 | down 70 | up 120 | - |

♦ including £100 for "Rural Problem."

# Meeting. Friday, June 25th. 1915.

Present. Ensor (in chair) Webb, Snell, Mrs Reeves, Miss Smith, Squire, Davies, Mrs Webb, Dr Fairfield, Pease & Sanders.

(1) Minutes of previous meeting were read & confirmed.

(2) Apologies were received from Miss Morley, Miss Atkinson & West.

(3) Organizing & Propaganda Committee's Report, was received & adopted.

(4) Finance & General Purposes Committees Report and

(4a) Special Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee. was received.

On q: Eric Makeham was added to the Sub. Com:

The Report as a whole was then adopted.

Mrs Townshend's resignation was accepted with regret

(5) Summer School Committee's Report. was received & adopted.

(6) The Annual Conference.

(a) It was reported that about 20 delegates from Groups & Societies would be present at the Conference in addition to the members of the Ex: Com:

(b)

It was decided to ask permission of the Conference for the following resolutions to be discussed.

> That the local Fabian Societies be requested to consider the Munitions Bill (or Act) and its probable effects upon the Trade Union and Labor Movements.

> That the local Fabian Societies be requested to consider the articles to be suggested for insertion in the peace treaty at the conclusion of the war for the prevention of wars in the future.

(7) Documents of the Socialist National Defence Com:

Request was received that documents issued by this Com: should be circulated with the Fabian News. Decided that request be declined

H. Hamstead.

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting on ~~Monday~~, June 10th, 1915.

Present: Mrs. Webb (in chair), Dodd, Snell, Miss Smith, Dr. Fairfield and Sanders.

1. Membership:
   (a) June candidates (8) were elected.
   (b) 9 Resignations were received and dealt with.
   (c) Final Letters were ordered to be sent to 42 members in arrears who had not replied to three applications for subscriptions.

2. Annual Conference:
   (a) It was agreed to recommend that Miss Lawrence be appointed chairman.
   (b) Report was received that the Common Room Committee had arranged for the Conference "At Home" on the evening of July 3rd.

3. King's Hall Lectures:
   Report was received that King's Hall had been secured and steps were ordered to be taken to secure chairmen and print syllabus.

4. Oxford University F.S.
   Letters were received which stated the Oxford U.F.S. had decided to become the Oxford University Socialist Society and to cease connection with the London F.S.; but that a section of the new Society had formed a Fabian Group within the Society and this section desired to remain members of the London F.S. on the old terms and be recognised as the Oxford Fabian Group.
   It was decided to recommend that the Oxford Fabian Group be recognised on the same terms as University Fabian Societies.
   (The Finance & General Purposes Committee is also reporting on this subject).

BEATRICE WEBB,
Chairman.

(91)

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Special Finance & General Purposes Committee on June 11th, 1915.

Present: Ensor (in chair), Dodd, Webb, the Secretaries and also West.

1. Legacy, without conditions, of £14 from Miss K. Hart Davis, deceased, was accepted with thanks.

2. Oxford U.F.S.
   On correspondence submitted it was agreed to accept the Fabian Group of the Oxford University Fabian Society as a University Fabian Society and to accept various detailed financial arrangements proposed.

3. Resignation of Mrs. Townshend:
   Letter received resigning on account of sympathy with the policy (but not the manners) of the Guild Socialists. Agreed to request Dodd to confer with her in the hope that it may not be final.

4. The Financial Position:
   A long report from Webb, and other documents were considered. Webb undertook to draft Report of proceedings, which is annexed.

R. C. K. ENSOR
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Special Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee on the Financial Position of the Society.

We think it important that the Executive Committee shoould realise (and should as far as possible impress on the members in private intercourse in so far as opportunity permits) the importance of the Society, under the strain of war conditions, making the most of its financial resources and exercising severe economy.

Without going into details already known to the Executive, we estimate that (apart from the Summer School and Book Box accounts and the King's Hall lectures) the expenditure to which we are practically committed during the current year will reach at least £1,350. To this must be added the £100 for the I.S.B. and the deficit of £322 with which we have started the year - total £1,772.

We doubt whether the income (apart from the Summer School and Book Box accounts, and the King's Hall lectures) from sources other than subscriptions will reach £20, unless something new is done. We put the probable subscriptions from members, associates and others at £1,080. On the King's Hall lectures we may probably ~~[illegible]~~ make a profit of £150 if we work hard - total £1,230.

There will be a deficit of £500 or more by the end of the current year unless we promptly take steps to avert it - that is what we have to realise.

Recommendations.

The Office

1. That it should be a standing instruction to the Office, and to all Committees, that there must be a vigilant economy of expenditure not promptly leading to pecuniary return.

2. That the Office take seriously in hand before August the letting of the Hall, considering in particular:-

(i) Painted wooden board, or swinging iron sign, saying that it can be hired.

(ii) Handwritten notice in shopwindow to same effect.

(iii) Typed letter to 500 small societies, etc. stating terms.

(iv) Appeal in News to members to influence lettings.

(v) Standing advertisement in News stating terms.

(vi) Use of our Exchange advts. for this purpose.

(vii) Free advt. in THE NEW STATESMAN.

(viii) Personal letters to neighbouring society secretaries inviting them to call and inspect the place.

3. That the Office be asked to devote its special attention (and to seek to enlist the personal help of members and engage any extra assistance required) to making the utmost profit out of the King's Hall lectures this Autumn (circularisation, free advertisement, appeals to members, sales at the lectures, etc.); and that nothing be allowed to interfere with any action deemed useful for this purpose, on which we are risking over £100 and on which a profit of between £100 and £200 depends, without the Executive being at once informed.

4. That the attention of the Office be drawn to the possibility of diminishing the cost of the Annual Report by circulating it, not first as a proof and then as a completed copy, but once for all as the Report to be presented to the Annual Meeting - communicating in FABIAN NEWS any alterations made at the meeting.

5. That Standring be asked to suggest possible ways of lowering the cost of FABIAN NEWS, which exceeds, on an average, a halfpenny per copy throughout the year for paper and printing only.

## Book Boxes and Lending Library.

6. That a Special Sub-Committee be appointed to consider and report how to make the Book Boxes and Lending Library more effective and more profitable; and that such Committee consist of:- Miss Fairfield, Miss Smith, Sidney Webb and Julius West from the Executive, and R.P. Arnot, W. Gillies, J. Mylles,

J.S. Middleton and B. Williams from outside the Executive, with the Honorary Secretary and the General Secretary ex officio.

7. That application be made for a grant of £50 for the purchase of new books for the Book Boxes out of any trust funds available.

8. That the Book Box and Library Sub-Committee do consider, in particular:

(a) How to put this department on lines that will make it yield £100 a year profit;

(b) How to make this summer's ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ circularisation extensive and effective, at a minimum cost;

(c) How to make the Circular or Prospectus more attractive;

(d) How to extend the range of customers (e.g. all sorts of Educational Classes that are going on, Women's Suffrage Societies, U.D.C. branches, workingmen's clubs, etc.;

(e) How to supplement the Circular by letters to lecturers, etc.

(f) Whether to extend the offer to individuals as well as Societies (either members or associates only, or to others, with or without guarantee ?);

(g) How to improve the Book Boxes and their contents ?

(h) How to spend a possible donation of £50 on this service;

(i) How to make the Lending Library better known and more useful to our members.

The Bookshop and Literature Sales.

9. That a Special Sales Sub-Committee be appointed to consider and report how (without incurring new expense or requiring capital outlay) the sales of literature, and in particular, the financial proceeds of our bookshop, can be increased; and that such Sub-Committee do consist of Emil Davies, Mrs. Reeves, Miss Smith and Julius West from the Executive, and G.P. Blizard, Mrs. Deller, Joad, J. Mylles, and Aylmer Rose from outside, with the Honorary Secretary and General Secretary ex officio.

10. That the Sales Sub-Committee do consider, in particular,

(a) What steps can be taken to get more free advertisement of our literature (e.g. exchange advts., Labor papers abroad,

FABIAN NEWS, NEW STATESMAN, posters and permanent showcards, notices to members, letters to provincial newspapers, etc.).

(2) Whether anything can be done to get more sales by others (bookshops and news agencies, colporteurs and hawkers);

(3) How the sale of bound volumes of Tracts and the Fifield volumes could be pushed.

(4) What suggestions to make to the Publishing Committee for making future tracts more saleable;

(5) How best to reduce the £400 worth of stock in hand;

(6) How to make money out of the shop by conducting a book-selling business without sinking capital in stock or increasing staff (e.g. sale or return chances, soliciting all our members to give us their orders for new books, getting from our whole membership subscription orders for forthcoming books, STATESMAN Supplements, etc., frequent notification in FABIAN NEWS, etc.)

(7) How to earn commission on sale of tickets for meetings, charity functions, etc.

## Additional Membership.

11. That the members of the Executive Committee do themselves consider what they can severally do in the way of rallying existing members, and obtaining new members and associates; and that a suitable notice on the subject by put in FABIAN NEWS.

12. That in order to make membership as attractive as possible;

    (a) Steps be taken, when next we reprint, to make Application Form less repellent and more seductive;

    (b) Notices in FABIAN NEWS should make country members and associates aware of their postal advantages in respect of the Lending Library and (if the offer is extended to individuals) also of Book Boxes.

    (c) A full, and not a spare programme of meetings be issued for next session; and with this view that our own arrangements for the Fridays be made in advance before 23 August for some, ~~kime~~ at least, of the dates; and that a personal appeal be at once made to the Research Department, the Women's Group, the Nursery and the Education Group to help the Executive by severally arranging (before 23 August) each a series of six lectures or discussions in own Hall, which could be announced (along with King's Hall lectures), with the Friday meetings, on a single sessional programme.

New Publications.

13. That the Publishing Committee be asked to refrain, for the present, from undertaking the preparation of any new Tracts, unless they are either (a) on a subject on which it is important urgently to supply information or policy, or else, (b) likely to be immediately profitable in cash.

14. That the requisite output of new Tracts to satisfy our members be maintained by formally asking the Research Department, (and privately asking any other Group likely to respond) to come to the help of the Executive by supplying some suitable Tracts for our series at its own expense.

FABIAN SOCIETY

SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Report of Meeting, Monday, July 21st, 1915.

Present: Pease (in chair), Miss Hankinson, Miss Moor, Mrs. Dice, Gillies, Mrs. Webb, Bacharach and Sanders.

We submit, according to regulations, the following budget for the Summer Session 1915.

| Income. | £ | s. | d. | Expenditure. | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Independent Labour Party (Minimum 25) | 43 | 15 | 0 | Rent & upkeep of grounds | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| 280 School weeks @ 37/6d. | 525 | 0 | 0 | 305 weeks Board @ 12/- | 183 | 0 | 0 |
| Fees for non-residents | 3 | 0 | 0 | 305 " Service & Staff @ 8/6d. | 129 | 12 | 6 |
| Baths, Boating, Teas, etc. | 25 | 0 | 0 | Lecturers' Fares | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | Lecturers' Fees | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | Fares of Staff, etc. | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | Coals | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | Printing Stationery, etc. | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | Balance | 112 | 2 | 6 |
| | £ 596 | 15 | 0 | | £ 596 | 15 | 0 |

EDWARD R. PEASE,
Chairman.

Meeting. Friday July 23rd 1915.

Present Dodd (in chair) Webb, Mrs Webb, Mrs Reeves, Miss Smith, Pease, West, Emor, Allen, Davies, Miss Atkinson, & Sanders.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

(2) Apology was received from Squire.

(3) Publishing Committee's Report was received
On No. 5 it was agreed to take back (b)
The Report was then adopted.

(4) Organizing & Propaganda Committee's Report was received & adopted

(5) Summer School Committee's Report was received.
It was decided that the tenancy of Barrow House be not renewed on September 30th and that the officers of the Summer School Committee together with Dodd be empowered to store or sell the furniture &c as they thought desireable.

(6) Special Committee on Book Boxes Report was received.

It was decided to delete the number of circulars mentioned (10,000) the total to depend upon the opportunities for circulation.

The Report was then adopted.

Special Committee on Sale of Literature Report, was received

On No (e) It was decided to Ask Davies West to draw up a circular advertising tracts to be issued to special persons generally.

(7) No (g) Was referred to the Publishing Committee.

The Report was then adopted.

(8) Finance & General Purposes Committees Report was received & adopted

It was decided that the Committee should consider securing lecturers on "The Colonies & the War" & "Labour under the Munitions Act"

E. J. Morley.
Sept. 15. 15

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Publishing Committee Meeting Friday, July 16th, 1915.

Present: Prof. Morley, Miss Smith, West & the Secretaries.

1. Prof. Edith Morley was appointed Chairman and it was agreed to continue to meet on Fridays. George Standring was again coopted.

2. Tract Publication: It was agreed that for the present the publication of new tracts be suspended and further consideration of those in preparation (Ruskin by Prof. Morley and Owen (II) by Joad, MSS. of which had been submitted) was adjourned until October.

3. Reprints & Revises:
   No. 104. Trade Union Leaflet, standing in type ready, was ordered to be printed as and when required by office.
   No. 79. John Woolman. o.p. It was agreed to reprint 1,000 from stereos.

4. Advertisements:
   The Hon. Secretary reported interview with Miss Fuller, specialist in Sectarian papers, who offered to get advts. for 3 months as a trial; terms 33⅓ per cent. Commission on all advts. received for the paper, including insets, except those received from members and associates. After discussion it was resolved to recommend that the scheme be tried for 3 months.

5. Reference from the Executive:
   "To consider (A) the possibility of making the tracts more attractive without changing the size, and (B) to report on the selling quality of various Tracts."

   On (A) the following points were dealt with:-

   (a) Type. No change can be made with advantage.
   (b) Paper. do. do.
   (c) Title page. To be further considered when a Tract is ready for issue.
   (d) Cross-headings. The Committee was divided on the use of these and question was deferred for reconsideration on a concrete case.

(e) Leading. It was suggested that leads improve the look of a page, and that suitable tracts might be leaded and sold for 2d. It was agreed that Standring submit sample leaded pages to the next Committee.

On (B) the Secretaries submitted report showing:-

(a) That a previous report recently circulated had shown that 2d. Tracts sell as well as and are more profitable than 1d. Tracts and that the Biographical Series sell above the average of other Tracts.

(b) That in respect of Tracts in general the only thing to be said is that Tracts sell in proportion to the number of people who want to buy: and that many people want to buy Tracts on subjects of general interest, Tracts with taking titles, and tracts by very well-known authors.

On this it was agreed,
That except for Tracts likely to be sold at meetings, or purchased for distribution, we may incline towards 2d. rather than 1d. Tracts.

EDITH MORLEY,
Chairman.

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting Thursday, July 15th, 1915.

Present: Mrs. Webb (in chair), Squire, Dodd, Miss Smith and Sanders.

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1. Membership:

   (a) July candidates. 22 were elected and 1 referred to the Executive Committee.

   (b) 9 resignations were accepted.

   (c) 165 members who had not replied to three applications for subscriptions were ordered to receive final letters.

2. Fabian Hall Lettings:

   (a) Letter to various Societies announcing terms for letting the Hall was approved.

   (b) Arrangements were made for fixing board outside shop advertising Hall.

3. King's Hall Lectures:

   Syllabus of lectures was reported to be in the hands of the printer.

BEATRICE WEBB
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 22nd July, 1915.

Present: Webb (in chair), Dodd and the Secretaries.

1. Finance:

(a) Accounts to 30th June showed increase in subscriptions of £26 for three months and decreases in other reported receipts of £19.

(b) Miss Hart Davis. Bequest of £14. Letter from Mrs. Wilson saying she understood this was intended for the Women's Group. It was agreed to reply that there appears to be no ~~xxxxxxx~~ clear evidence for this opinion.

2. Peace Manifesto:
Request that we sign Manifesto by Quakers and I.L.P. Agreed to reply in the negative.

3. Suggestions from St. John Ervine for raising funds:

(a) That he read a play in the Fabian Hall, Tickets 2/6d. Agreed to accept with pleasure for the autumn.

(b) That Shaw &/or Bennett be asked to do the same on a larger scale. Agreed to defer.

(c) That Barker be asked to do the same.
In view of his offer to do something in lieu of subscription, it was agreed to ask him to arrange something for the spring.

(d) That FABIAN NEWS be suspended in July and August, that members be charged 1/6d. for it; that it be made saleable and sold. Agreed to reject all these proposals.

4. NEWS:
The Secretary was directed to ask Standring to report if the expense can be reduced.

5. Next Session's Lectures:
Wanted 3 lectures in the autumn and about 7 in the Spring, in addition to members' meetings.

(a) It was agreed to reject offers from Grad (Russian Jews) and Leaky (Adjustable Collectivism).

(b) It was agreed to arrange in advance a course of 5 or 6 lectures on
The War: Some Factors in the Settlement.

(c) And that the following be invited to take part:-

| Name | Suggested Subject |
|---|---|
| I. Zangwill | Jews |
| Dr. Gollancz | do. |
| Roden Buxton or) | |
| Noel Buxton ) | Bulgaria |
| A. Zimmern | Greece |
| Dudley Ward | Germany |
| Robert Dell | France |
| Dr. Oppenheim | International Peace |
| Jane Harrison | ? |
| Lowes Dickinson | ? |
| H. D. Harben | The French Front |
| Josiah Wedgwood | The Dardanelles |
| J. A. Hobson or) | |
| Sir A.B.Markham) | Coal |
| Percy Alden | Belgian Relief |

SIDNEY WEBB,
Acting Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of Summer School Committee Meeting Monday, July 12th, 1915.

(9)

Present: E. R. Pease (in chair), Miss Hankinson, ~~A. L.~~ A. L. Bacharach, F. Lawson Dodd, W. Gillies, & W. S. Sanders.

The Committee considered the question of the location of the Summer School for 1916 and discussed the following proposals:

(a) The renewal of tenancy of Barrow House.

(b) Removal to another district.

The Committee were equally divided on the proposal to renew the tenancy at Barrow House for another year and they finally decided to refer the whole matter to the Executive Committee for a decision and to invite members of the Summer School Committee to be present at the discussion.

The case for renewing the lease is:

That we shall not get so good a place elsewhere.
That the trouble of making a change should be avoided.
That our furniture will sell badly during the war.
That the evidence is that plenty of people want to go again.

The case for terminating the lease is:

That our clientele is in fact limited, and every year of continuance at one place reduces the number who care to return.
That we can, if another place cannot be found, suspend the School for a year.
That this is a good time for getting other places.
That we have got the fourth year on favourable terms and ought not virtually to risk £100 by taking Barrow House for 6 unprofitable months.

The matter is urgent as our tenancy of Barrow House expires on September 30th.

The officers of the Summer School Committee were empowered to take action to carry out whatever decision the Executive Committee agrees upon.

E. R. PEASE,
Chairman.

Feb Sec
C14

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of Special Sub-Committee on Book Boxes and Library, meeting July 8th, 1915.

Present: Julius West (in chair), Miss Smith, Sidney Webb, E. R. Pease, W. S. Sanders, W. Gillies, R. P. Arnot, J. S. Middleton, & B. Williams.

1. Chairman: Julius West was appointed chairman.

2. It was decided to revise the circular at present in use in order to:-
   (a) provide a wider range of titles and subjects for societies to make selections from;
   (b) Tell societies they can get blue books if necessary, and select catalogues on application.

3. It was decided to send out circulars, up to a total of 10,000, to the following bodies:-
   Trade Union Branches ) In connection with the Labour
   Branches of the I.L.P.) Annual circular.
   Branches of the Union of Democratic Control.
   Woman Suffrage Societies.
   National Adult School Union.
   Brotherhoods.
   Workers Educational Association.
   Students' Christian Union.
   Ruskin College Classes.
   Christian Social Union.
   Social Settlements.
   Co-operative Union.
   Women's Co-operative Guild.

4. It was decided to supplement the circulars with personal letters to W.E.A. and Ruskin College lecturers, stating that we can supply books recommended and are prepared to issue text-books in duplicate or triplicate, and inviting a call of inspection.

5. It was decided to recommend the insertion of a paragraph in FABIAN NEWS asking for book donations for the library, and to encourage members to contribute by acknowledging such donations.

6. No immediate action was recommended as regards the spending of the donation of £50 which has been placed at the disposal of the Book Boxes.

7. It was decided to let the proposed extension of the Book Box scheme to individuals, and the advertisement of the Members' Library, stand over until after the summer circularisation had had its effect.

JULIUS WEST, Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of Special Sub-Committee on Sale of Literature, Meeting June 20th, 1915.

Present: G. P. Blizard (in chair), Mylles, West, Joad, Aylmer Rose, Mrs. Deller, Miss Smith, Pease & Sanders.

1. G. P. Blizard was elected to the chair.

2. The points referred to the Sub-Committee by the Executive Committee were considered and it was decided to recommend:-

(a) That endeavours be made to secure exchange advertisements with the LABOUR LEADER, THE INDEPENDENT, THE HERALD, and certain local Labour papers. It was, however, considered that the FABIAN NEWS is not a very favourable medium for such advertisements.

(b) That when a new Tract is issued an order form for the Tract should be sent to members through the FABIAN NEWS.

(c) That members should be asked to write reviews of Tracts for local newspapers and to mention Tracts in letters to such papers.

(d) That announcements of Tracts should be sent to members of economic societies and similar bodies.

(e) That an advertisement of a fewer number of Tracts specially selected should appoar on the back of some future Tracts in place of the advertisement now now in use.

(f) That the Clubs affiliated to the Working Men's Club and Institute Union be circularised asking them to purchase our publications, especially a bound set of Fabian Tracts, for their libraries. B. T. Hall might be willing to send out the circular with, perhaps, a recommendation.

(g) That the Tracts written by Bernard Shaw might be issued in booklet form or bound together with a special title.

3. The Sub-Committee approved of the suggestion that a book-selling trade might be built up through the shop by requesting members to order books through the Society. It was further suggested that publishers might be offered the shop window for one week to display their publications and that an exhibition of books might be held from time to time in the Common Room or Hall.

With regard to sales by booksellers, hawkers, etc., it was thought that the prospects of success of such methods were very slight. It was further considered that the probable returns from commission on sale of tickets for meetings would be too small to warrant undertaking to sell them.

G. P. BLIZARD,
Chairman.

# Meeting, Wednesday, September 15th 1915.

Present. Miss Morley, (in chair), Dodd, Davies, Mrs Webb, Webb, Dr Fairfield, Pease, West, Miss Smith, Eneor, & Sanders.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

2. Apologies were received from Mr Reeves, Snell & Squire.

3) British Socialist & Labour Manifesto on the War.

The General Secretary reported that the British Section of the International Socialist Bureau met on Friday, September 3rd, to consider the issuing of a Manifesto in reply to the one published by the German Social-Democratic Party. Three drafts were submitted: one from the S.D.P.; one from the B.S.P and the other (unofficially) by Bernard Shaw. The British Section came to no decision & it was agreed that another meeting be held on Thursday, September 16th. It was requested that in the meantime the Executive Committees of the Labour Party and the Fabian Society should instruct their

(3) The British Socialist Labour Manifesto on the War. (cont^d)

delegates to the British Section as to whether any Manifesto should be issued and, if so, in what terms. The three draft manifestoes had been circulated to the members of the Executive.

The General Secretary further reported that the Labour Party Executive Committee had met and decided to oppose the issuing of any Manifesto.

On receiving this report ~~the Executive~~ it was decided that no good purpose would be served by publishing a Manifesto that was not unanimously supported by the British Section, and instructions were given to the Fabian delegate ~~accordingly~~ on the section in accordance with this decision.

(4) Summer School: Barrow House Tenancy.

It was reported that a number of guests at Barrow House were exceedingly anxious that Barrow House should be retained for another year and had guaranteed the Society against any loss if the tenancy were renewed for the next 12 months. After discussion it was decided:

(a) The decision arrived at on July 23 with regard to the tenancy of Barrow House be

(4) Summer School; Barrow House Tenancy.

rescinded.

(b) That H. Lawson Dodd write to D Paper offering the sum of £150 for 12 months hire of Barrow House from September 30th. next, providing certain decorating & cleaning of rooms was carried out. Failing acceptance of this offer the furniture belonging to the School was to be removed before September 30th.

(5) Members Meeting Oct. 22nd. 1915

It was decided that if no business was sent in by members for the meeting the date should be altered to December.

(6) Office Report (as appended) was received

(7) School of Economics Circulars with Fabian News.

Request to issue circulars of lectures at School of Economics with next issue of "News" was declined as it would clash with King's Hall Lecture syllabus issue.

H Snell

8 Oct. 1915

6. Office Report:

The addressing of envelopes for the King's Hall lectures syallabus and Book Box circular is well in hand. First batch of Book Box circulars will go out this week. Although the syllabus of the King's Hall lectures has not yet been circulated the sale of tickets so far has been encouraging. The sales to September 11th for the course as compared with those for the 1913 course and the 1914 course at Kingsway Hall to the same date is as follows:

| 1913 | 1914 | 1915 |
|---|---|---|
| 7 | 34 | 50 |

Subscriptions to the Society, as compared with 1914, are as follows:

| | Sept. 11,1914 | Sept.11.1915 | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Members' Subscriptions | 308 | 333 | up 25 |
| Associates' do. | 30 | 21 | down 9 |
| Donors | 11 | 15 | up 4 |

The expenditure on printing and posting "Fabian News" and on Tract and General Printing for the five months ending August 30th has been £144 as against £271 for the same period last year. To date (including the £150 brought forward to our debit from last year) we owe Standring £244 (having paid him £50 in August) as against £271 at this date in 1914.

Meeting, Friday, October 8th 1915.

Present. Mr Snell (in chair) West, Dr Fairfield, Miss Smith, Dodd, Mrs Webb, Ensor, Mrs Reeves, Miss Morley, Davies, Webb, & Sanders & Pease

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

(2) Organizing Committee's Report was received & adopted.

(3) Finance & General Purposes Committee's Report was received.

On 3. It was decided that Miss Lawrence, Mrs Webb, Davies & West be the delegates.

* On 7. It was decided to ask John Buchan or Fabian Ware to lecture on the French Front if Harben declined; & to delete Jane Harrison from the list; also to ask W.C. Anderson to lecture on International Relations.

The Report was adopted as amended.

* On 4. Resolution appended was approved

(4) Proposed New Publication.

The following Report was submitted by the Office:

It is proposed:

(a) That the Fabian Society publish "Women and their dependents," title to be settled later, prepared by the Women's Group, as a special publication. MS. has been read by Mrs. Reeves, Mrs. Webb, Miss Smith, &c.
The Constance Hutchinson Trust will make a grant to the Society of the approximate cost.
The Women's Group will get advance orders for a substantial sum.
It is understood that the xxxxx whole proceeds of sales will come to the Society.

(b) That the Publishing Committee be authorised to accept a tender for setting up the book and printing (?) 1,000 copies.

The Report was adopted & referred to the Publishing Committee with power to act.

(5) Chairman for Charles Roden Buxton

Dodd was appointed.

(6) Loan of Picture. Letter was received from Mrs Barbara Drake offering to lend a picture (copy of a Turner) to the Society to be hung in the Common Room. It was decided to accept with thanks

K Glynn

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting Thursday, September 30th, 1915.

Present: Mrs. Webb (in chair) and Sanders.

1. Membership:
   August, September and October candidates (11) were elected.

2. King's Hall Lectures:
   Report was received that the syllabuses were being posted and that the sale of tickets to date was £93. (The sale of tickets to October 7th was £165. Further particulars are contained in the Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee).

3. Offices:
   The General Secretary reported that he had insured the contents of the premises, 25 Tothill Street, against air craft. It was agreed to recommend that his action be approved.

4. Book Boxes:
   Enquiries having been received from individuals as to the possibility of hiring Book Boxes it was agreed that Book Boxes may be hired by individuals on their providing a guarantee from a responsible person that the books would be returned or their value paid; or that a deposit of £5 was paid.

BEATRICE WEBB,
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance _ General Purposes Committee, 7th Oct., 1915.

Present: Ensor (in chair), Dodd, Webb, Sanders and Hon. Sec.

1. Finance:

(a) Report to end of September.
Subscriptions show increase of £22 on month and £30 on half year. Tract sales are down £25, mainly on account of sales of "War and the Workers" last year. Standring's unpaid account is £270 including £150 from last year; last year at same time it was £342.

(b) Summer School accounts are incomplete: a balance of not less than £50 after paying off the loan is probable. Barrow House has been vacated and the furniture stored.

(c) King's Hall Lectures:
Sales to 8th £169. Expenses owing to reduced circularising estimated at only £120. Sales to 8th Oct.,1914, £136; Expenses £245; to Oct.8th, 1913, £95; Expenses £215.

(d) It was resolved to press the Research Department to produce the Tracts offered and to circularise Trade Union Branches in order to get Book Box orders.

(e) Postal changes:
The office was directed to report on methods for reducing the cost of postage by not publishing the News in the holiday seasons, or otherwise, in view of the changes in rates which the present basis will cost the Society about £100 a year.

(f) Fabian News:
Report from Standring on possibility of reducing the cost, with negative conclusions, was received, and a cordial letter of thanks ordered to be sent him.

2. Labour Party:
It was agreed to nominate Sanders for the Executive, and to defer nomination of delegates to the Bristol Conference.

3. London Labour Party:
   Annual Conference Essex Hall, Saturday, Nov. 27th at 3 p.m.
   It was agreed:-

   (a) To pay affiliation fee on 840 members, 35/-.
   (b) To appoint Miss Lawrence to the Executive.
   (c) To direct our delegates to move or support to refer to the Party Executive the long programme on Agenda proposed by the B.S.P.
   (d) That the Executive appoint the 4 delegates to the Conference.

4. Death of Keir Hardie:
   It was agreed that the Executive pass a full resolution of regret, to be sent to the I.L.P, the relatives, etc. with a view to publication, and that this be announced at the public meeting on Friday (to-day). Draft resolution on the table.

5. South African F.S.
   On letter announcing formation, and enquiry about affiliation, it was agreed to reply we do not formally affiliate Societies outside the U.K., but will supply literature, etc.

6. Union of Democratic Control:
   In reply to application, it was agreed to say that we do not allow other organisations to have bookstalls at our King's Hall lectures.

7. Lectures:
   For the five lectures January to March, it was agreed to ask:-
   Harben on French Front.
   W. P. Reeves on Greece.
   Jane Harrison (per Mrs. Dodd).
   Lowes Dickenson.
   Percy Alden on Belgian Refugees.
   Sanders on Germany;
   and to enquire of B. Williams if he can suggest a lecturer on coal.

8. Chairman for Buxton was not appointed.

R. C. K. ENSOR
Chairman.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FABIAN SOCIETY AT ITS FIRST MEETING AFTER THE DEATH OF J. KEIR HARDIE.

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The Executive Committee of the Fabian Society desires to convey to Mrs. Hardie and the relatives of J. Keir Hardie, and to his colleagues of the Independent Labour Party their sorrow at his death, and their recognition of the unique services to our common cause which he rendered through his long career: they recall that he was a member of the Fabian Society for 24 years, and especially appreciate his broad minded toleration in maintaining his membership in spite of differences in points of policy which might easily have led to misunderstandings: they consider that there is no one now living amongst British Socialists who has achieved more in teaching the Trade Unionists and wage earners of Great Britain to understand and work for the principles of Socialism, thus bringing nearer the time when the degradation and folly of the competitive system will be brought to an end.

8th October, 1915.

Meeting, Friday, November, 12th. 1915.

ent. J.C. Squire (in chair) Miss Atkinson, E. Davies, F.L. Dodd, R.B.K. Ensor, D.L. Fairfield, Miss S. Lawrence, Miss Morley, E.R. Pease, W.S. Sanders, Miss E. Smith, H. Snell, S. Webb, Mrs Webb, & West.

inutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

ublishing Committee's Report was received & adopted

On (1)c It was decided that Miss Morley's tract on Ruskin be published.

On (2) It was agreed that the title be Wage-earning Women & their Dependants.

Finance & General Purposes Committee's Report was received.

On 4(a) The General Secretary reported that he had accepted a Commission in the Army for the duration of the War and asked for indefinite leave. It was decided:

(a) That leave for the duration of the war be granted to the General Secretary.

(3) Finance General Purposes Committee's Report (cont^d)

4 (a) cont^d

(b) That the question of what financial contribution should be given to the General Secretary during his leave should be considered when he was able to report the amount of his army pay.

(c) E.R. Pease agreed to carry on the work of the office during the absence of the General Secretary.

On 4 (b) It was agreed that H. J Brimley be paid half salary ~~as~~ for six months and that preference be given to him ~~at~~ the end of the war, in the filling of the post he now occupies, should the post then exist.

On 4 (c) It was decided that Miss Eibson be engaged in a temporary capacity at a weekly salary of 22/6 as a half time employee of the Society to undertake the work now done by H J Brimley.

Finance & General Purposes Committee's Report (cont^d)

On (5) It was decided to nominate Sidney Webb for the ~~place~~ Labour Party Executive in place of the General Secretary.

On (7) It was decided that, if no notices of motion were sent in, ~~that~~ the Members Meeting should be held at the Fabian Hall on December 17th instead of at Essex Hall; that the business be Reports on the work of the Society, the Research Department, the Womens Group &c; and a discussion on "The Socialist Method of paying for the War".

The Report was then adopted

Chairman for Wedgwood

Emil Davies was appointed

Howells Salary

It was decided to refer the question of a war bonus to Howell to the Finance & G.P. Com:

I.L.P. & Labour Party Letter from I.L.P. was received stating that they proposed to nominate J. Jowett M.P. to fill the vacancy on the Labour Party Exe: Com: caused.

I. L. P. - Labour Party. (cont^d)

by the death of J Keir Hardie M.P. & asking for the support of the Fabian Soy for this proposal. It was proposed that F. Jowett MP should at once fill the vacancy.

It was decided that the requested support be given; and that the I.L.P be asked to reciprocate by supporting the nomination of Sidney Webb to fill the impending vacancy on the Labour Party Ex: Com: caused by the retirement of W Stephen Sanders.

Sidney Webb

(2)

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Publishing Committee on 15th October, 1915.

Present: Prof. Morley (in chair), Mrs. Reeves, Miss Smith, West, Squire, Standring, Sanders and the Hon. Sec.

1. New Tracts:

(a) On report that Clutton Brock had said he would write a Tract on Socialism, it was agreed that the Executive be recommended to publish such Tract when ready; that it would be excellent as a lecture; and that Clutton Brock be written to this effect.

(b) It was reported that the Research Department had none of the promised Tracts yet in hand.

(c) On report that the MS. of Proffessor Morley's "Ruskin" and Joad's "Owen as Utopian" were ready, and that the financial outlook was better, it was resolved to propose to the Executive that the publication of the former be proceeded with.

2. Women Wage Earners and the Dependants:
On instructions from the Executive to proceed with the above: -
(a) The above title was selected.
(b) It was agreed to accept tender of the Co-op. Printing Co. subject to selection of a thicker rougher paper. The format and style of cover as suggested were discussed and approved.

(The book is now nearly ready. The Women's Group desires to alter the title to
"Women: their wages and their dependents."
It is proposed to complete without further consulting the Committee).

3. Advertisement Agent for Fabian News:
It was decided to take no further action on this during the War.

EDITH MORLEY
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

(17)

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee
11th November, 1915.

Present: Ensor (in Chair), Webb, West, Dodd, Sanders and Hon. Secretary.

1. Finance:

(a) Report on October accounts showed subscriptions £20 up for 7 months, and a decline of £10 in October. Book Boxes showed an increase of £8 in October over last year.

(b) King's Hall Lecture Receipts to date £342, with an anticipated surplus of £240 which compares with £171 last year.

(c) Summer School accounts show a surplus of about £90 after paying off balance of loan.

2. Fifield's Publications:

On a letter from him asking revision of terms in view of the small sales, (£2 18s.6d. for half year) it was agreed to accept his proposals, viz.

(a) That we store the stocks, thus saving the charge of 1/6d. per 100 on books supplied to us.
(b) That accounts be rendered yearly in place of half yearly.
(c) That he accounts to us for all sales at the present price for export sales, viz. 3d. and 6d. instead of 3½d. and 6½d.

3. Lectures:

Jan. 14th. Lowes Dickinson, fixed with reservation.
March 24th. W. P. Reeves on Greece.
Sanders on Germany at any date.
On letter with syllabus from Williams recommending J. Burgess on Coal, it was agreed to ask him for January 28th, subject to the question of fee.

4. Office Rearrangement:

(a) (An important announcement, not before the Committee, will be made by the Secretary).

(b) On letter from Brimley stating that he proposed to enlist about December 12th it was agreed to express approval, and that Sanders make provisional arrangement with him as to remuneration.

(c) On the advice of the Office it was agreed to recommend the appointment of Miss Gibson, Assistant Secretary and Accountant to the National Land and Home League, of Queen Anne's Chambers, for half time at 22/6d., being half her present salary, a plan already approved by the other parties to it.

5. (Labour Party Executive:
Reconsideration of nomination of Secretary).

6. Candidates:

Two October candidates were elected on behalf of the Organising Committee.

7. December Business Meeting:

The agenda was discussed. In the absence of other motions it was suggested that the Executive put down motions on:-
(a) ~~The~~ International agreement for the Prevention of war; or
(b) Methods of paying for the War.
But the matter was left to the Executive.

R. C. K. ENSOR

Chairman.

Ex. Com^ee 10th Dec^r 1915.

Present Webb, in chair, Dodd, Snell, West, Mrs Reeves, Mrs Webb, ~~Webb~~, Miss Smith, Prof. Morley, Dr. Fairfield, Squire, Davies, Enser, Hon Sec., Miss Lawrence ~~&~~ Allen

1. The minutes were confirmed

2. Apologies, Miss Atkinson at Women's Int. Com^ee
Sanders on duty.

3 The Report of the Finance & General Purposes Com^ee was considered.

Item 1. Labour Party, was approved.

" 2. Proposal to increase Howell's salary by 5/- a week was approved.

" 3. History of the Fabian Soc^ty was approved.

" 4. Brimley. This was discussed at length. A letter from Sanders offering to forego ~~the~~ the balance of salary promised him was recd, & it was agreed to repy that the Exec. cannot accept this.

3. Finance. (contd)

Item 4. Brunler (contd)

Recommendation (a) was approved.

" (b) " "

" (c) Refer to father.

It was moved that his offer to refund be forthwith refused. Two only voted for this, & the recommendation on the paper was approved

Recommendation (d) was approved

It was further agreed that West be engaged to work on the accounts & paid in accordance with time given; & that Miss Gibson be asked to come as soon as possible to investigate defalcations shown by membership cards.

4 Members Meeting Dec. 17. No action taken.

5. Chairman for Langhill. Same.

6. Next meeting agreed to meet Dec. 17 to consider current business.

[illegible]

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 9th December, 1915.

---

Present: Ensor (in chair), Dodd, Allen, Webb, and Hon. Sec. also West.

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1. The Labour Party Conference:

   (a) It was agreed to recommend that Webb, Mrs. Webb and Pease be delegates.

   (b) The Agenda paper was submitted.

2. Office salaries:
   A recommendation by the Committee will be reported by the chairman.

3. History of the Fabian Society:
   The proposal submitted by Webb was in substance approved; it was agreed that the offer to purchase 500 copies before publication be made and Webb was authorised to negotiate with the publishers and to agree to pay up to 2/6d. a copy.

4. Brimley:
   On this matter the Hon. Secretary reported that he had had an interview with Brimley's parents. His father describes himself as a working man, is probably a warehouse clerk, or something of that sort, and is employed in a patent medicine works. He said, both by letter and verbally, that he would make good the deficiency if it was within his means.
   No further defalcations have been discovered, but the Hon. Secretary has been mainly occupied with getting immediate finances going.
   The Committee resolved:-

   (a) That the books be audited, if possible, as soon as they can be made ready.
   (b) That no decision betaken as to prosecution.
   (c) That a reply in general terms be sent to the father.
   (d) That at a later date the method of account keeping would be considered with a view to improvement.

R. C. K. ENSOR, Chairman.

Yes it is certain

Meeting 17 Dec. 1915.

Present, Mrs Webb (in the chair) West, Webb, Miss Lawrence, Dodd, Snell, Mrs Reeves, Miss Morley, Miss Smith & the Hon Sec.

1. The Minutes were confirmed

2. Apologies were accepted from Ensor & Sanders

3. Primly. The Hon. Sec. presented the following report:-

(a) Hector Thomson has promised to audit the accounts as soon as the books can be spared.

(b) West is engaged on the books, which prove to be very confusing. The monthly balances, made up to September 30th, have been faked. We found a deficit of £30 in June and July but it appears to have been repaid.

(c) Miss Gibson is engaged in examining the Membership cards in order to trace subscriptions embezzled, but this is not nearly complete. At present no very large amount has been discovered.

(d) We have partly traced the process of one embezzlement. One Alwyn Lloyd sent a cheque for 21/- on 21st March 1915, which was not entered. His cheque was paid in to our account: his receipt was in order: but on the counterfoil was entered a subscription to the Common Room of 7/6d. paid by Miss Hadley and duly entered in the books. We have no report yet from Miss Hadley.

3 Brimley (Cont.d)

(c) The deficit at present is £44 9s.10d. in cash entered, and about £15 in subscriptions, etc. not entered

(f) Any statement at the Members' Meeting ?

(g) Statement in Fabian News. The Hon. Secretary suggests that a small Committee (? Dodd and Webb) be authorised, with himself, to approve the necessary statement.

On this report

(a), (b), & (e) were noted

on (d) the Sec. explained that Miss Hadley received one receipt for two simultaneous payments, which were entered on separate counterfoils, thus giving Brimley a spare receipt form

(c) was noted

(f) was approved & Webb appointed to report

(g) was approved as proposed.

4. The History of the F.S. Webb reported negotiations with Sidgwick & Jackson proceeding.

(5) Blackburn F.S. Resolution on Conscription was submitted & noted.

6. Membership.

(a) November Candidates were elected

(b) On resignation ~~from~~ of Mrs Bland, it was agreed to put her on the Free List.

7. Common Room:

Recommendation from the Committee that Mrs. Herbert's salary be increased by 2/- to 18/6, the F.S. to pay 1/- only. Approved.

8 Members Mtg

The following arrangements were approved:-

(a) Chairman. West.
(b) Report of Research Department by West
(c) Report of Women's Group by Mrs Reeves
(d) Report on Brimley by Webb
(e) Discussion on How to pay for the War by Webb and Davies.

9. Next Meeting. It was agreed that the Finance Comte meet as soon as a report on the Brimley business is ready.

R. C. K. Ensor
4 Jan. 1916

(121)

Special Com^ee at Office on ~~the~~ Tuesday 4th Jany 1915
~~[illegible]~~ at 6 pm.

Present Ensor (in chair) ~~Todd~~, Webb, Squire, Snell, Mrs Webb, West, Dr. Fairfield & ~~Hon Sec~~.

1. The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed

2. apologies received from Davies, Sanders & others

3. Brimley. The annexed report was submitted & considered, together with the agenda of the Finance & G.P. Com^ee which had just met.

(a) It was agreed to defer the question of prosecution.

(b) It was agreed to write to Mr. W. W. Brimly sending him a copy of the report & asking what he is prepared to do.

(c) On a further letter from Sanders expressing a strong desire to bear part of the loss, it was agreed to write that the Exec appreciate his offer, & will be prepared to entertain it when arrangements for repayment are made.

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report on Brimley Defalcations as disclosed to date,
4th January, 1916.

The amount proves largor than we anticipated. The entries of subscriptions on cards have for 1915, 1914, and 1913 been entered on a list. Those for 1915 have been compared with the books, and defalcations amounting to £67 14 6 have been disclosed. Some of the items may be discovered on revision, but on the other hand many members have resigned, and their cards have not been examined.

For 1914 about one fourth of tho entries have been oxamined, and these show defalcations of £7 7s.0d., say £30 for the year. Tho 1913 subscriptions were listed and as/ checked to the end of the letter G and no defalcations were found the remaining letters were not listed.

The bundle of papers referred to in the notice calling the Executive, proves on cursory examination to be neglected work, and not evidence of defalcations.

The estimate of dofalcations now is as follows:-

Deficits disclosed by the books:

| | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Two petty cash cheques not entored. | 30 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Short payment in | 19 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Shortage in cash-box Dec. 4th less sundry credits. | 10 | 7 | 9½ | | | |
| Total amount short which we supposed we had) | | | | 59 | 7 | 9½ |
| Shortage of subscriptions 1915 | | | | 67 | 14 | 6 |
| " " " 1914. Estd. | | | | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| National Insurance money not accounted for, and payments for tracts, etc., embezzled cannot be less than, | | | | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| say at lowest, | | | | 167 | 0 | 0 |

EDW. R. PEASE,
Hon. Sec.

4. Labour Party "Conscription" Conference Dec.r 6th

(a) It was agreed to appoint Sidney Webb & Harry Snell delegates for the Soc.ty.

(b) After much discussion, the following resolution was put, & agreed to:-

That our delegates be instructed to bear in mind the view of this Com.ee as expressed in the debate; but that they be given no specific instructions as to their votes.

5. History of the Fabian Soc.ty. Pease reported that the negociations with Sidgwick & Jackson had been broken off: that he had arranged verbally with Fifield to publish the book, & an offer to the Soc.ty of 500 copies at a price would be made in due course.

6. The Sec.y was directed to transmit the Brumley Report & an abstract of the proceedings to the members of the Com.ee who were unable to attend the meeting called at 24 hours notice.

H. Lansbury
Jany 14/16

(132)

Comte Meeting 14th Jany 1916. –
Present. Dodd (in chair) Dr. Fairfield, Miss Laurence, Miss Smith, Snell, Webb, Mrs Webb, West & the Hon Sec.

1. The Minutes were confirmed

2. apologies were received from Miss Atkinson Davies, Mrs. Morley & Sanders.

3. W. E. A. "War Economy in Education" Conference. No delegate was appointed, as nobody was willing to go.

4. Lecture Jan 28. Webb agreed to take the place of the Hon. Sec. who will be absent at Bristol, & the Hon. Sec was directed to select a chairman.

5. Summer School Comte. The ~~Comte~~ following were appointed the 4 delegates of the Executive Davies, Dodd, Mrs. Reeves & West, & the Comte. ruled that the Hon Sec, as acting

(33)

Further Report on Brimley Defalcations.

The following is the report of the amounts actually discovered to date.

Deficit disclosed by the Books (as previously reported):

| | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Two petty cash cheques | 30 | | | | | |
| Short payment in | 19 | | | | | |
| Shortage in cash | 10 | 7 | 9½ | 59 | 7 | 9½ |
| Subscriptions entered on cards and not found in the cash books. 1915 | 70 | 14 | 6 | | | |
| 1914 | 25 | 14 | 0 | 96 | 8 | 6 |
| Sundries: | | | | | | |
| National Insurance Money deducted or charged to P.Cash and not accounted for. Balance per a/c: (6/6d. found subsequently credited in ledger per above shortage of cash) | 1 | 8 | 5 | | | |
| Book Box subscription | | 10 | 0 | | | |
| Common Room " | | 7 | 6 | | | |
| Literature accounts | 1 | 0 | 4½ | 3 | 6 | 3½ |
| | | | | £ 159 | 2 | 6½ |

The loss of subscriptions for 1915 and 1914 have been carefully checked, errors in dates having led to some reductions in the first estimate; those for 1913 have not been completed, but nothing was missing in a part examined; as defalcations have been found as early as January 1914, some would probably have been found. Cards of members who have resigned have not been examined, as this would be a matter requiring much time, and, moreover, if the money was taken the entries would probably not be made. The literature accounts have not been examined; this matter, for various reasons, would be very difficult to work out. Finally, the books have yet to be audited.

I have no doubt that the actual defalcations are considerably in excess of the amount stated, but subject to the audit of the books, I venture to recommend the Executive Committee to abandon further researches and estimate the total at £160.

12. Jan., 1916. EDW. R. PEASE, Hon. Sec.

5. Summer School (cont.)

General Sec.y was General Secretary for the purpose of the Rules of the S.S. Committee.

6. Hon. Sec.y's Expenses It was referred to the Finance Com.e to report on a payment for out-of-pocket expenses.

7. Brimley.

(a) The annexed report of the Hon. Sec.y was formally adopted

(b) Letter from W.W. Brimley in answer to the Secretary's letter enclosing estimate of deficit at £167, saying:- "Mrs. Brimley and myself are anxious to avoid a prosecution for our own sakes." ..... "If the Committee will deal gently with us, we shall be prepared to pay £50 per month, the instalment to be paid on receipt of its decision."

On this it was agreed to accept the offer, & a letter to this effect was drawn up & approved.

8 The "Conscription" Bill:- Mabel

Letter from Miss Lawrence suggesting that the Society protest against the Bill, or discuss it at a Members' Meeting.

This was discussed & the Sec.y directed to reply that it was too late to act before the Bill became law.

9. Chairman for Lowes Dickinson. Welsh.

10. Letting Hall for Dance. On application the letting of Hall for private dance was approved at a charge of £2.2.0 for a long evening, with fee to Mr. Herbert: not to be continued after midnight.

R. C. K. Ensor
11 Feb. 1916.

Meeting 11th February 1916.

Present, Ensor (in chair), Webb, Mrs Webb, Todd, West
Davies, Mrs Reeves

1. The Minutes were confirmed

2. The Organizing & Propaganda Comte Report was adopted.

3. The Finance & Purposes Comte Report was submitted.

Items 1 & 2 were received

3. History of the Fabian Soc: the recommendation was adopted including the new suggestion as to the Liverpool Fabian Soc.

Item 4. Lectures at Essex Hall &c.

(a) Rothenstein was approved & Mrs Webb undertook to write to him

(b) ~~[illegible]~~ was approved, & it was agreed to invite Andrew Fisher for May 12th

(c) suggestion of John Hilton was deferred.

Items 5 & 6 were adopted.

4. Summer School Cttee. Letter of resignation of Dodd was received, & his resignation accepted. Miss Smith was appointed in his place.

5. Publishing. The following was submitted by the Hon Sec.:-

The Committee has not met.

(a) The Secretary has not acted on the authority given on November 12th to print Prof. Morley's Biographical Tract on Ruskin, because of the Brimley defalcations and doubtful financial situation. He considers that the Tract might now be set up.

(b) A MS. has been received from Clutton Brock which will be considered by the Publishing Committee as soon as it is typed.

(c) It is proposed that a Research Department paper on Trade Union Rules be issued as a special Society publication, but not as a Tract.

On this it was decided

(a) To print the Ruskin Tract forthwith.

(c). That the T.U. Rules publication be a Tract in the Fabian Series, but be not sent out to members but that free copies be offered to applicants.

FABIAN SOCIETY

(152)

Report of the Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting on Feb. 3rd, 1916.

Present: Mrs. Webb (in chair), Snell, Miss Smith, Dodd, Dr. Fairfield and the Hon. Secretary.

1. Candidates for December and January (9 in all, 25 less than the previous year) were elected, except one who had not signed the Basis and was in France

3. The membership list was dealt with for resignations, etc., 67 in all, since July 15th, 1915:-

20 members, "address lost," were struck off.

42 resignations were considered. About 9 were ordered to be kept on, if willing. Others were referred to members for enquiry. The rest were accepted.

5 members in arrears were struck off.

John Burns was removed from the Free List.

BEATRICE WEBB,
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 4th February, 1916.

Present: F. Lawson Dodd (in chair) and the Honorary Secretary.- Also West and Miss Lawrence.

1. Brimley affairs. The Honorary Secretary reported that the audit was now complete, and only a further item of a few shillings had been ~~discovered~~ found. Further sums missing were discovered from time to time, the chief of which was £4 10.10 taken from Common Room Receipts.

2. Finance:

(a) The Hon. Secretary reported that the financial position, largely owing to reduced expenditure on salaries, had improved: £120 had been paid for old debts; £50 to Standring, while the Balance was raised from £127 (corrected figure) at the beginning of December to about £150
The balance of £27.7.7 due to Constable & Co. for the Rural Problem had been paid by Harben. The new cashier was proving very satisfactory.

3. History of the Fabian Society:

Pease reported that the agreement for publication by Fifield was signed. Fifield offers 500 copies to the Society at 2/6d net, free of royalty, for cash, with power to the Society to purchase more on the same terms up to 3 weeks before publication. The Secretary proposes that this offer be accepted, that the Society pay him the Royalty (9d.) on copies sold; and that it be offered at 4/- (or 4/6d. post free) by order form sent out with the next Fabian News. This was agreed to and it was also agreed to offer copies to the Liverpool F.S. at the same price.
(On the last item, the questions of Royalty and carriage were overlooked, and the Secretary now proposes that copies be offered to Liverpool F.S. for private sale before publication at 2/6d. ~~xxxxxx~~. plus 9d. Royalty plus 3d. to cover carriage, etc., = 3/6d.)

4. Lectures:

(a) It was agreed to hold a lecture on April 7th, or failing that, April 14th, and to accept offer of W. Rothenstein to lecture on Civic Art.

(b) Annual Meeting was fixed for May 12th.

(c) Essex Hall was ordered to be booked provisionally for April 26th and a lecture arranged if a desirable one is offered.

(d) John Hilton of the Garton Foundation was suggested as a lecturer.

5. British Section: International Socialist Bureau:

Sidney Webb was appointed to replace Sanders.

6. Hon. Secretary's Expenses: Deferred.

F. LAWSON DODD,
Acting Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY

SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Lawson Dodd requests the following letter of resignation to be sent to the Executive Committee:-

7 Devonshire Street,
Portland Place, W.
Jan: 24th, 1916.

Dear Pease,

I must begin by thanking you for your kind letter asking me to reconsider my decision in regard to the Summer School Committee. I fear, however, you do not grasp the reasons for the step I have taken.

It is not on merely personal grounds that I have resigned my seat on the F.S.S.Committee, though the extremely hostile attitude of the majority of the members made the step easier than it would have been.

I resigned mainly as a protest against the very irregular and unbusinesslike way in which the Barrow House affair in its final stages was carried through.

The Executive decided in August last (as I think rightly) to give up Barrow House. When this became known at the School a movement was fostered among the members for retaining the place and a guarantee fund was arranged and discussed pretty widely. On the strength of this guarantee a Special Meeting of the Executive was demanded by the General Manager. This was not arranged, but the Executive consented to re-open the matter at their next Meeting. I then advised them to take the house for a year at a reduced rent, and on a basis of a certain minimum in regard to repairs, cleaning, etc. I was authorised to write to the Agent and make a final offer in regard to rent. My letter was not even acknowledged by Mr. Pape, and as I wrote on behalf of the Executive I regarded this as discourtesy to them as well as to myself.

I learn in the meantime that negotiations either verbal or written had been carried on with Mr. Pape by the General Manager without the sanction of either the Executive or the S.S.Committee. These negotiations naturally rendered my efforts nugatory. It is also highly probable that the open

discussion of the Guarantee Fund had reached the ears of Mr. Pape and had still further weakened the position of the Executive.

On top of all this I was astounded that at the next meeting of the School Committee what was tantamount to a vote of censure on me for having failed to secure Barrow House was moved from the Chair in very severe terms and carried unanimously (I of course not voting).

At the first meeting of the ~~S~~ new Summer School Committee this resolution was confirmed. I then brought forward several suggestions for the coming session, the result of extensive and careful enquiry on the part of Mr. Bulley and myself. The Committee replied to this by appointing another member to reopen the negotiations with Mr. Pape. Thus, having had one member negotiating behind my back, I was now to have another negotiating over my head, although I was still the representative chosen by the Executive to deal with Barrow House. It is clear to me that such proceedings must render the transactions of much of the business connected with the Summer School quite impossible. We had two members of the Committee negotiating for the same property, the one authorised, the other not. We had two Committees exercising authority in regard to the same property, also at cross-purposes. The fact that Barrow House is now out of the way only accentuates the difficulty, because another property involving fresh negotiations and new agreements will have to be dealt with. Under these circumstances I find it impossible to remain a member of the Committee, the majority of whose members countenance such slipshod methods in their business transactions.

Finally, I regard what has happened as an instance of flagrant disloyalty, both to the Executive and also to the member they appoint to act on their behalf.

I shall be glad if you will send a copy of this letter to the members of the Executive so that they may understand my position.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) F. LAWSON DODD.

5. Urgent Business. Advt.

It was decided not to renew the advt. in the Labour Party's Annual Report

7. Chairman for Anderson. Mrs. Webb

8. War Emergency Workers Nat. Comte

On resignation from the Comte of W. S. Sanders it was decided that Peace take his place.

9. New Statesman. Insertion of an advt & non-subscription offer to members was approved.

10. The Sec'y was directed to issue a card of Executive Meeting.

E. J. Morley.
Mar. 10. 16

Comte at Office 10th March 1916.

Present. Prof. Morley (in chair) Sanre, West, Ensor, Miss Smith Mrs Reeves, Snell, Mrs Webb, Webb Davies, Miss Atkinson & Hon Sec, & Dr Fairfield

1. The Minutes were confirmed.

2. Apology from Lawson Dodd, & Miss

3. Publishing Comte. The Chairman reported verbally. It was agreed that Mrs Webb read Joad's Owen, & that New Statesman Supplements Labour Annual be sent to Rutlebew.

4. The Finance & General Purposes Comte Report was submitted by Ensor.

Items (1) a & b. Finance, were noted, & approved.

(c.) Proposed compassionate grant to the Summer School Comte. After discussion it was agreed that the Comte be directed to apply again, if, on evidence obtained they consider there is a case for a grant

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meetings February 17th and March 2nd.

Present; at each meeting: Ensor (in chair), Dodd, Webb, the Hon. Secretary and also West.

1. Finance:

(a) Reports were received showing that subscriptions were up £64 on last year to Feb. 28th and Book Boxes up £17; that a second £50 had been received from Mr. Brimley Senr.; that £150 had been paid to Standring, reducing his account to £193 on Feb. 29th; and that no other substantial accounts were outstanding.

(b) The Committee recommends that £10 17 0, being the balance of the cost of the piano (£15 15 0) above contributions received, be paid to Dr. Lawson Dodd.

(c) At the request of the Summer School Committee, the Committee recommends that a grant not exceeding £5 be authorised to the proprietors of the Hotel at Saas Grund occupied by the School (from which a profit of about £100 was made) if, after enquiries, such grant is deemed to be advisable.

(d) The Committee recommend that the Hon. Secretary be paid at the rate of £5 a month for his expenses.

(e) The chairman will report the recommendation upon an application by Miss Thomas for an increase of salary.

(f) The Hon. Secretary submitted report on the arrangements he had made to prevent defalcations in the future, and after discussion, the arrangements were approved.

2. Intended Legacy by Dr. Leech of Johannesburg:

A letter was submitted stating that he had put in his will a Legacy of £500 to the Society to be used for giving annual prizes for Essays on Socialism; together with his ideas of the nature of Socialism. A long

letter drafted by Webb was ordered to be sent accepting the offer with appropriate gratitude. It was decided not to put his name on the Free List, but to send him occasional publications.

3. Members' Meeting; proposed for March 10th:

The Committee decided that if no business was sent in by members, no meeting be held, and that the rule was complied with by the announcement of the meeting.

4. World Order of Socialists:

A second invitation to a Conference of Socialist Organisations was ordered to be declined.

5. Fabian Society Lectures:

It was reported that Will Rothenstein had accepted the invitation to lecture on April 7th and that Andrew Fisher had refused for May 26th.

6. History of the Fabian Society:

It was agreed to send order form to ex-members - perhaps 1,000 -, and a circular therewith inviting them to rejoin.

7. New Publication:

It was agreed to recommend that the Chapter of the Cambridge Modern History on Social Movements, by Sidney Webb, Vol. XII pp.730-765, be reprinted from electro plates, offered at cost price, as a special publication to be sold at 1/- net.

8. Election of Treasurer and Executive:

(a) Treasurer: Dodd agreed to withdraw his objection to standing for re-election.

(b) Executive: It was reported that two seats were vacant, and that Ervine and Harben had intimated that they would withdraw. It was decided to urge the ~~former~~ latter to allow himself to be nominated again.

R. C. K. ENSOR,
Chairman.

4. Finance Report (contd.)

1. Finance (c) The Chairman reported, & it was resolved that Miss Thomas's salary be increased by 5/- a week to 40/.

(d) Grant to the Hon. Sec. was approved.

(f) Financial arrangements, approved.

Item (2) Dr. Leach's Legacy, was approved & it was agreed that he be sent a copy of the Labour Annual

Items (3), (4), & (5) were approved

Item (6) Advertising "History of F.S.". It was agreed not to invite ex-members to rejoin, but to send particulars of the Research Dept, to be settled by Mrs Webb.

Item (7) Webb's Social Progress publication. This was approved. Webb reported the price for the electro plates was £2.15.0. Standring happening to be present was consulted & directed to print on thick paper. The number was fixed for 1000.

Item 8. Noted.

5. (over)

over

5. Women's International Council: Miss Ellen Smith desires instructions on motion asking the Government to declare on what terms they will make peace.

Agreed to give no instructions.

6 National Federation of Women Teachers: Conference on Educational economies and the L.C.C. Saturday, March 11th at 2.30 at the Memorial Hall. Representatives invited.

No action.

J. C. Spurrier

Comte at Office 24th March 1916

Present, Squire (in chair) Eusor, West, Dr. Fairfield Mrs. Webb, Mrs Reeves, Davies, Webb, & the Hon. Sec.

1. The Minutes were confirmed

2. Apologies received, Miss Morley, Miss Smith, Dodd.

3. Organising & Propaganda Comte. Mrs Webb reported that Members had been elected, resignations accepted, & defaulters struck off, as indicated on the agenda; & that ~~at~~ new societies had been registered.

4. The Report of the Finance & General Purposes Comte was submitted:-

Items 1. 2. 3. & 4 were approved.

Item 5, (Timewell's adot.) was decided in the negative

Item 6. Landers Offer of Lectures, was approved, & the Women's Group ordered to be consulted also.

Item 7. Exec. Election. It was agreed that

4. Finance Report (cont.d)

Newly elected candidates be invited to attend meetings held before 25th April when their term of office begins.

Item 8. Webb was appointed Chairman for the Tuesday Special Exec.

5. Chairman for Reeves. Webb.

6. Publishing Business.

(a) Ruskin Tract. Amendments were discussed in general, & it was understood that publication was sanctioned.

(b) Allen & Unwin Webb submitted terms of a proposal for appointing them to travel our publications on Commission, which was approved in principle.

7. Autumn Lectures. Proposed course was discussed & it was agreed that a course of Shaw, the Webbs, & Clutton Brock on the Effects of the War, material, spiritual, intellectual &c. should be considered at the next meeting

Thomas Dowd
14.IV.16

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 23rd March, 1916.

Present: Ensor (in chair), Miss Atkinson and the Hon. Secy., also West.

1. Finance:

(a) Estimate to March 31st was received, viz. (revised)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Receipts:** | | |
| Cash in hand | 206 | |
| Current receipts 6 days | 40 | |
| Brimley payment (overdue) | 50 | 296 |
| **Payments:** | | |
| Rent, less from sub-tenants | 32 | |
| Standring | 70 | |
| Essex Hall | 16 | |
| Sanders | 15 | |
| Investment | 5 | |
| Petty Cash, etc. | 10 | 148 |
| Balance cash in hand | | 148 |
| or, failing Brimley | | £98 |

(b) It was agreed to invest £5 in War Loan as directed by the donor G. W. Shipway, to pay Sanders the grant agreed upon, and to place £100, or any less sum available, on deposit on account of the Maude Davies Trustees.

2. Annual Accounts:

It was agreed to charge £60 for 4 years' postage, etc. to the Summer School account, leaving £30 at the credit of the account to start the School, which will probably be at Sedbergh, Yorks. Also not to treat the £100 lent to the International Bureau as an asset.

3. Annual Report:

It was agreed to send a complete proof of the Annual Report with the May News, and not to send a final copy ~~xxxx~~ containing the report as adopted.

4. History of the F.S.

The Secretary reported sales to date (corrected) 93 copies. It was agreed to send out a second order form with a fixed date for receipt of orders.

5. Advertisement:

A doubtful advertisement offered by E.J. Timewell, was referred to the Executive.

6. Lectures by Sanders:

Offer by Sanders of lectures on Germany in the Hall was ordered to be accepted and referred to the Nursery or some other Group.

7. Executive Election:

Report that there would be no contest was received. It was decided to insert in Fabian News the biographies of the new candidates, but not the list of attendancies.
(Shall the new candidates be invited to attend meetings before April 25th, when they come into office, e.g. the meeting on Tuesday ?)

8. Meeting with Camille Huysmans:

Appointment of chairman and any other arrangements were referred to the Executive.

R. C. K. ENSOR,
Chairman.

A Special Meeting was held on Tuesday March 28th 1916, to meet M. Vandervelde (chairman) + M. Camille Huysmans, (Secy) of the International Socialist Bureau.

Present, Webb (in the chair), Mrs Webb, Snell, Snow, West, Blizard, Middleton, Davies, Mrs Salmond, Dr. Fairfield, Prof: Morley, Miss Atkinson & Peace in addition to the Belgians above named.

~~Representatives of the Bureau~~

An Official Report of the Proceedings adopted by the Executive Comm^e is appended to the Report of the next meeting, on the next page.



Hansard 14.IV.16

Meeting 14th April 1916.-

Present Dodd (in chair) Davies, West, Miss Morley, Squire, Miss Lawrence Snell Miss Atkinson & the Hon. Sec.
Also by invitation, Blizard & Middleton

1. The Minutes were confirmed

2. Apologies, Webb, Mrs Webb, Dr. Fairfield.

3. The Report of the Publishing Committee was considered & approved, including the Agreement with Allen & Unwin.

4. The Report of the Summer School Comte was considered & the whole was unanimously adopted.

5. The Annual Report was considered &, with minor amendments, approved & the recommendation of the Hon. Sec. as to passages not yet ready was adopted.

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Publishing Committee Meeting April 7th, 1916.

Present: Miss Morley (in chair), Mrs. Reeves, West, Standring & the Hon. Secretary. - also Webb.

1. Tracts in hand:

   (a) Ruskin.
   Final revise with amendments by the author was ordered to be paged: 7,000 to be printed.

   (b) Clutton-Brock's MS.
   Ordered to be set up subject to approval by the chairman, (which has since been received).

2. Suggested Tracts:

   (a) Coal. A MS. by Andrew Temple was refused on report by Webb.

   (b) Sanders on Germany. Agreed to ask him if he would write his lecture as a Tract.

3. Webb's "Towards Social Democracy."
   Proof of new matter was submitted.
   Purple cover was selected.
   It was agreed to put Allen & Unwin's Colophon on the title page.
   It was reported that the cost would be about £24 and it was agreed to have moulds taken.

4. Agreement with Allen & Unwin:

   Draft agreement for travelling our publications was considered and approved subject to certain proposed alterations.

5. Arrangement between the F.S. & Research Dept.

   It was decided to propose that the F.S. pay the Research Department at the rate of 9/- for 13 for 1/- books with other books in proportion; and at the rate of half price for pamphlets.

6. Sales for year:

Report was submitted, substance of which will be found in the draft Annual Report.

7. Fabian Spelling:

A peculiar system of spelling (i.e. labor) was adopted by order at a very early period and Standring adheres to it (in spite of occasional protests by authors) whilst the order is unrescinded.

The Committee recommend:

That for the future the usual English spelling be adopted for Fabian publications.

EDITH MORLEY,
Chairman.

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Summer School Committee Meetings March 22nd
& " 28th.

1. Proposed benevolent grant. The following was agreed upon:-

That in view of (1) the pains taken by the Zurbriggen family to make the Summer School at Saas a success, (2) the considerable profit made by the School in Switzerland, and (3) the long delay that has occurred for inquiries without anything definite having been reported, the Committee unanimously recommend that the ~~an~~ appeal of Mme. Zurbriggen be acceded to, and that a donation of £5 be sent her forthwith.

2. Place for the Summer Session:

(a) It was unanimously agreed that the Committee decide to take Balliol School, Sedbergh, for 5 weeks, with the option of a 6th week, subject to the consent of the Executive.
A memorandum of the place is annexed.

( (b) Since the Committee meeting the chairman reports that A. K. Bulley has written him guaranteeing the Society "against loss through running a summer school this session.")

(c) The Committee made ~~a~~ preliminary proposals as to directors, lecturers, and housekeeper which will be reported on later.

EMIL DAVIES,
Chairman.

BALLIOL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS. SEDBERGH.

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Sedbergh is situated on an open plateau over 400 feet above sea level on the Yorkshire moors, surrounded by a circle of mountains, and is about 2 miles from the borders of Westmoreland.

Distance from Kendal 12 miles.
" " Ingleton 15 "
" " London 262 "
Fare from London - 3rd class single 20/9d.

Balliol School was built on a lower spur of the Pennine Chain, 500 ft. above sea level, facing south. It has accommodation for 50 guests. There are 4 large dormitories divided by curtains into cubicles, and a number of single and double bedrooms besides. There is also a bungalow in the grounds with 4 single rooms and a "playing room," a gymnasium filled with Swedish apparatus, an open air swimming bath, and cricket and tennis grounds. The g[illegible]

RENT:-

If taken for a minimum of 5 weeks:-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| House and grounds | 12 | guineas | a week. |
| Bungalow | 1 | " | " |
| Swimming bath | $\frac{1}{2}$ | " | " |
| Gymnasium | $\frac{1}{2}$ | " | " |

Total 14 guineas a week.

The school will be available for 5 weeks from August 5th, but if a 6th week is required notice must be given by July 1st at latest.

CONFERENCE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FABIAN SOCIETY WITH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU.

(15)

On the 28th March, 1916, M. Emile Vandervelde, President, and M. Camille Huysmans, Secretary of the International Socialist Bureau, were received by the Executive Committee of the Fabian Society at a special meeting at 5 p.m. at the Society's offices at 25 Tothill Street, Westminster, Mr. Sidney Webb presiding.

The Chairman, in welcoming the visitors, reminded the meeting that they were visiting this country in response to an invitation from the British Section, and mentioned the fact that they would be seeing separately the Executive Committees of the three other constituents of the Section.

M. Huysmans explained the duties of the I.S.B. and the action which it had taken in maintaining relations with each of the national sections. In view of the difficulties of some of the Sections in visiting the Hague, the officers of the Bureau had visited Paris in order to learn the views of the French Socialists, and were now in London exclusively on the same mission. The Socialists could not determine the moment in which Peace should come, but it was important that they should consider, quite irrespective of the military situation, what ought to be contained in the Terms of Peace on such matters, for instance as Poland and Alsace Lorraine, Finland and the relations of Colonial possessions to Europe.

M. Vandervelde laid stress on the desirability of the Socialists of the different nations not abdicating their function of formulating a considered opinion upon the problems which would necessarily have to be dealt with in the Terms of Peace. If such an opinion could be formulated in each country, and coordinated in the Bureau, it might have a powerful effect on those who would be arranging matters when the time came.

A general discussion followed, in which R.C.K.Ensor, Mrs. Sidney Webb, the Chairman and others took part, and in the course of which various questions were asked of M. Huysmans, The discussion turned chiefly on the practical difficulties that would be likely to be found in endeavouring to get the various parts of the British Labour and Socialist Movement, which have so far given little thought to questions of European policy, to undertake any serious study of such questions. However desirable it might be that such a policy should be formulated by the British Labour and Socialist Movement, the doubt was expressed whether it would be possible to get from it any considered opinion about Poland or Finland, or the problem of Alsace and Lorraine, or the general question of Colonial relations. No resolution was moved.

The meeting terminated about 6.30 p.m. with expressions of reciprocal cordiality and friendliness.

6. Annual Accounts. Balance Sheet (MS) was submitted & approved.

7. Annual Conference of Local Societies:
With the approval of the Chairman of the Organising and Propaganda Committee the Hon. Sec. suggested that this be not held. With the exception of Liverpool all the University and Local Societies are believed to be suspended or dead.
The proposal was approved

Annual Meeting May 12th:
Provided no important notice of business be sent in by any private member the Secretary proposed
(a) That the Annual Meeting be held in the Fabian Hall.
(b) That the agenda be -
The Annual Report.
Proposal that the Annual Conference be not held.
The proposals were approved.

9. Lecture May 26th The Sec'y reported that
Hyacinthe Loyson of Paris, who lectured brilliantly on Syndicalism in November 1910, is in London for the purpose of influencing Pacifists. It was suggested that he be asked to lecture on "The War from the French Standpoint," or something to that effect. agreed

10. The International Bureau: The Sec'y reported that
A formal report of our recent conference with Huysmans and Vandervelde was desired. Draft prepared by Webb was submitted. & approved.
Draft is annexed.

11. Peace Demonstration, Trafalgar Square, Easter Sunday. Invitation to participate.

No action taken

12. Tee Candidates in the april News were elected.

13. Autumn Lecture Course: was given to

Further consideration ~~of~~ proposals made at the last meeting for autumn course on

The Effects of the War

Material, intellectual and Spiritual.

by Shaw, Clutton Brock ~~and~~ the Webbs, & Wallas,

& it was agreed to ask the Webbs to go on with the scheme, wh. was approved.

14. London School of Economics. It was agreed to send out with News, free, Syllabus of lectures on Welfare Work.

R. C. K. Ensor
5 May 1916

First Meeting of the new Exec at Office ~~April~~ May 5th 1916.

Present. Enson (in chair) Mrs Reeves Mrs Webb, Mrs Salmond, Miss Smith, Dr. Fairfield, Miss Atkinson, West, Dodd, Webb, Squire, Snell, Blizard, Miss Moily, Miss Lawrence, Middleton & Hon Sec.

Absent. Allen, Davies, Harben. Sanders.

1. The minutes of last meeting were confirmed

2. The Standing Orders were confirmed without discussion or amendment.

3. The Standing Committees were appointed viz:

| Finance | Publishing | Propaganda |
|---|---|---|
| Allen | Blizard | Davies |
| Miss Atkinson | Miss Moily | Snell. |
| Dodd | Middleton | Dr. Fairfield |
| Enson | Miss Smith | Mrs Salmon |
| West | Squire | Mrs Webb |
| Webb | West | |
| | Mrs Reeves | |
| | Miss Lawrence | |

4. The Chairman's Rota was appointed as follows:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Allen | Miss Lawrence |
| Blizard | Miss Morley |
| Davies | Snell |
| Dodd | Squire |
| Ensor | Webb |
| Dr. Fairfield | Mrs Webb. |

5. Report of Sub-Committee on Autumn Lectures:

It is proposed to take the King's Hall for six evenings as before.
The course suggested is as under:

The World in Chains.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| I | Life | G. Bernard Shaw. |
| II | Labour | Sidney Webb |
| III | Democracy | Graham Wallas |
| IV | Art | A Clutton Brock |
| V | Conscience | Mrs. Sidnoy Webb |
| VI | Religion | G. Bernard Shaw |

Prices and general plan of advertising to be as before.

The Report was adopted & the Sub-Com^ee authorised to fix dates & engage the Hall.

6 Publishing. The Sec.^y reported:-

(a) Towards Social Democracy ? By Webb, will be ready in a few days.

(b) Miss Morley's Ruskin is getting on, but will not be printed for 10 days or more.

6. Publishing (Contd.)

(c) The History of the Fabian Society. Copies will be delivered to us in a day or two, but none are to go out before the day of publication, Wednesday, May 10th. We have orders for 200 (£40) out of the 500 (£62 10s.) purchased.

8. Annual Meeting

It was agreed that Emson, if present, be chairman & that Mrs Webb speak on the Annual Confce motion. The Secy reported that the Meeting of the Exec. wd. not be held, unless something unforeseen occurred.

9 Delegates invited.

(a) National Conference against Conscription, London Conforonce Saturday, May 13th, 3.30. Two at 1/- a head.

After discussion a motion to send delegates was lost by 6 votes to 5.

(b) Workmens National Housing Confce. No one appointd.

10. Cashier. The Hon. Sec. reported she had gone away by doctor's order for convalescence after influenza

12. An International Bureau Circular was presented & Middleton

13. Election of new candidate (!) Miss Alice Graham. Elected.

Letitia D. Fairfield

Meeting 26th May 1916.

Present Dr Fairfield (in chair) Eneor. West
Miss Smith, Webb, Mrs. Webb, Middleton
Davies, Snell, Mrs. Reeves, Blyzard Dodd
Miss Atkinson Mrs. Salmond, & the Hon. Sec.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

2. The Summer School Report was submitted.
Items 1. 2. 3. 5. & 6 were approved.
On Item 4 Directors, Dodd was unable to accept, & Pease, who had been alternatively approved by the Comte was appointed.

3. The Finance & General Purposes Comte Report was submitted.
Items 1 & 2 were approved
" 3 was approved, & the Hall Decoration Comte was appointed viz. West, Dodd Mrs. Reeves & Miss Smith.
4. International Bureau. On this it was agreed (a) that any executive member can attend the informal conference &

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Summer School Committee Meeting 10th May, 1916

Present: Davies (in chair), Miss Moor, Miss Hankinson, Miss Case, Miss Smith, Blizard, West and Pease.

1. Baliol School, Sedbergh:

It was resolved that the lease be for 5 weeks only from August 5th.

2. Charges:

It was decided that these remain much as before, viz.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Single Room | £2 | 7 | 6 |
| Bungalow Rooms | £2 | 2 | 0 |
| Double Rooms | £2 | 0 | 0 |
| Curtained Cubicles | £1 | 17 | 6. |

3. Lectures:

It was resolved to have 10 sets of 2 lectures each by 10 lecturers, 2 a week.
It was agreed that Mr. and Mrs. Webb take or arrange for the last week, and the other lecturers be asked in the order named:

1. Gilbert Murray. Has refused.
2. John Galsworthy. do.
3. A. Clutton Brock. do.
4. W. L. George. Tendencies of Modern Novel. Refuses.
5. Dr. Ethel Smyth. Tendencies of Modern Music.
6. Julius West. Chartism and its Relation to Modern Revolutionary Movements. Accepts.
7. Prof. Sadler. War and the Future of English Education. Accepts.
8. Graham Wallas. War and the Future of English Education.
9. Miss Horniman. Tendencies of the Modern Drama. Accepts.
10. Bertrand Russell. Psychological Effects of the War. Refuses half-heartedly.
11. Harry Snell.
12. Rebecca West.
13. P. Guedalla.

Reserves: Sanders, Dr. Fairfield, Sir George Paish.

4. Directors:

The following were proposed for the approval of the Executive:-

Mrs. Webb (accepts)
Dodd (refuses)
Davies (accepts)
Snell
Blizard (accepts).

5. Housekeeper:

Miss Saul was appointed.

6. It was agreed to put full notice in the June Fabian News, and to send out prospectus with the July News.

EMIL DAVIES,
Chairman.

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting 18th May 1916.

Present: Ensor (in chair), Webb, Dodd, West and the Hon. Sec.

1. Constitution of the Committee:

Ensor was appointed chairman and West vice-chairman for the year, and the day of meeting was fixed for Thursday.

2. Finance:

(a) The auditor's report on the 1915-16 Balance Sheet was considered and approved.

(b) Accounts were submitted showing that Rates (£39) and Fifield's a/c. for the History of the Fabian Society (£62) could be paid out of the Balance accumulated since April 1st.

(c) It was decided to take no action in relation to the £60 promised but not paid by Mr. Brimley, Snr.

3. Hall:

On a suggestion that the hall needed re-decoration, it was decided that this is unnecessary but that the and advertising our publications [illegible].

4. International Bureau:

(a) In reference to the Bureau circular asking us to report on our ideas for terms of peace, it was agreed to accept the suggestion of the I.L.P. for an informal Conference with themselves and the B.S.P., although the Committee was not in favour of a joint report from the Socialist societies of the British Section, and considered that the F.S. would wish in any case to send its own report.

(b) Delegates to be appointed.

5. Sentences on Defence of the Realm Act Prisoners:

On a verbal request by Snell the Committee considered whether the F.S. should appeal to the Government for clemency for habitual agitators sentenced to long terms for injudicious speeches, and any other similar cases.

The Committee decided to report to the Executive that they considered that any action taken by the Executive on the lines suggested would be futile.

R. C. K. ENSOR,
Chairman.



copy, + every member
circular to send items

This was discussed
moved.

question it was agreed
Sunday if possible
Thursday in Oct?
Dr Clifton Brock Jail
" "R.E." + Gillett
Walk a prominent Quaker
man preferable Thomas.

"
he asked Trad a person
"
member

3. Finance Report (cont.)

(b) that Webb draft our own resp., & every member of the Exec. be invited by circular to send ideas to him.

Item 5. Sentences on Prisoners. This was discussed & no amendment was moved.

4. Sub. Com.ee on Autumn Lectures

Webb reported & after discussion it was agreed

(a) to have lectures on Thursday if possible

(b) to begin on the last Thursday in Oct.

(c) Chairman: Wallas & Clutton Brock to find their own: for Shaw, "A.E." & Gilbert Chesterton: for Mrs Webb a prominent Quaker: for Webb, a labour man preferably Thomas.

5. Chairman for Lyson. Webb.

The suggestion that Lyson be asked to read a poem in French was negatived.

A. Sian Sanders

Committee 30th June 1916.

Present Miss Lawrence (in chair) Ensor, Dodd, Dr. Fairfield, Miss Morley, Mrs Salmond, Miss Smith, Snell & the Hon. Sec.

1. Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed

2. Apologies. Blizard (out of town. Webb & Mrs Webb (also out of town) Middleton.

3. The Organising & Propaganda Comee Report was submitted & Mrs Salmond & all adopted.

On Election of Candidates, John Nicholas S. M. Dastagir, D.C. Lall (July News) & Mrs L.S. Woolf (Aug News) were elected.

4. The Publishing Committee Report was submitted & Miss Smith, & the whole was adopted

On 5 (b) Proposed Tract on the Fiscal Question, it was agreed that Ensor prepare a scheme for a Tract & for a series of lectures.

Report of the Organising & Propaganda Committee
22nd June, 1916.

Present: Mrs. Salmond in the chair, and the Hon. Secretary.

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1. Chairman:
Dr. Fairfield was elected chairman for the year.

2. Candidates:
The candidates in the June News were elected. Those for July were elected provisionally. The Hon. Secretary was empowered to elect candidates as to whom no question arises until the next meeting of the Committee.
(The case of John Nicholas).

3. Resignations:
All those on the list (16 for 3 months) were accepted, except Mrs. Gardner, who was ordered to be kept on.

4. Other cases:
Two defaulters were struck off. It was reported that Adolphe Smith had subscribed and had been re-instated. Four members who could not subscribe for the present, were ordered to be kept on.

5. King's Hall Lectures:
It was reported that the Hall had been taken for 6 Fridays from October 27th.

E. M. SALMOND,
Acting Chairman.

Report of the Publishing Committee Meeting 23rd June, 1916.

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Present: West (in chair), Blizard, Miss Smith, Middleton and the Hon. Secretary.

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1. West was elected chairman of the Committee, and George Standring co-opted as a consultative member.

2. Ruskin by Prof. Morley:
   Paged proofs were submitted, and paper for cover approved.

3. The Philosophy of Socialism by Clutton Brock:
   As it makes a short tract it was agreed to have a cover with the portrait of the author. Proofs were ordered to be sent to the Executive Committee for sanction.

4. Joad's Owen:
   It was agreed to ask him to re-write this, replacing much of the discussion of philosophy by description of the Utopian schemes.

5. Tracts out of print:

   (a) It was agreed to drop the 1d. edition of "Socialism and the Fiscal Question," and to reprint 500 of "This Misery of Boots."

   (b) It was agreed to suggest to the Executive that a new Fiscal Tract is required.

6. Catalogue of Publications:
   It was reported that Webb had prepared an alphabetical subject catalogue of all our publications for the Research Volumes, which would be available for separate use.

JULIUS WEST,

Chairman.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 29th June, 1916.

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Present: Ensor (in chair), Dodd, Webb, West, and the Hon. Secretary.

1. Finance:

(a) Report showing a satisfactory increase of receipts to May 31st was received.

(b) The Secy. reported the recent loss of 5 letters containing money, and it was resolved that a locked letter box be procured.

(c) Donation of £4 4s. from the Clapham F.S. out of proceeds of a Shaw lecture was reported.

(d) Verbal report on a financial proposal will be submitted by the chairman.

2. Autumn Lectures:

(a) In view of the King's Hall Lectures on consecutive Fridays from October 27th to Dec. 1st, it was resolved to have a lecture at Essex Hall on October 13th, and another, if a suitable one is available, on December 8th or 15th: also a Members' Meeting at the Fabian Hall on Dec. 8th or 15th.

(b) It was agreed that the subjects selected should have, as a rule, some relation to the War.

(c) It was agreed to ask Headlam, in response to his suggestion, if he is prepared to lecture on the Servile State, and to arrange a "Tariff after the War" lecture by Sir L. C. Money, or J. A. Hobson, or J. M. Robertson: also a lecture on Food Prices by Mrs. Reeves.

3. United Socialist Council:

On a letter from the B.S.P. sending resolution of their Annual Conference pressing for the formation of the Council, it was agreed that the Secretary draft a reply for submission to the Executive proposing delay because the purpose of the Council is co-ordinated propaganda, and this is not the time for propaganda.

4. Keir Hardie Memorial: It was agreed to put a paragraph in Fabian News.

R. C. K. ENSOR, Chairman.

5. The Finance & General Purposes Committee Report was submitted & Ensor & the whole adopted.

Item (1) Finance, (d). Verbal Report. This was a proposal to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the engagement of E. J. Howell as clerk to the Society & a gift of £25. – This was unanimously approved, & it was agreed that the cheque be handed him at once, & that a letter be drafted & the Hon. Sec., submitted for approval to the chairmen of Committees, engrossed with Morley to suggest name, signed & the Exec. & presented to him.

Item 2 c. Autumn Lectures. It was agreed that a spring Course on Tariff after the war be arranged.

6. Summer School: Report that the syllabus is printed, and that bookings are satisfactory.

7. Committee on Hall Decoration: has not yet met.

8. Next Meetings of the Committees will probably be:

Organising & Propaganda - in the autumn.
Publishing, July 14th.
Finance, " 20th.
Executive, " 21st.

Sidney Webb

Meeting 28th July 1916.

Present. Webb (in chair) Squire, Dodd, West, Bland
Davies, Miss Smith Mrs Salmond, Dr. Fairfield
Miss Atkinson Emsor Middleton Mrs Webb
& the Hon. Sec.

1. The Minutes were confirmed.

2. Publishing Business. Report received.

(a) Tract 179. John Ruskin and Social Ethics. By Prof. Edith Morley is at long last printed, and copies will go to members with Fabian News.

(b) Tract 180 "The Philosophy of Socialism" By A. Clutton Brock is practically ready. It was agreed that the Chairman and Secretary of the Committee be authorised to settle the cover, etc. and that 7,000 be printed.

3. Summer School. Report received

Bookings are satisfactory, about 120 weeks of paying guests, but applications come in every day. It was estimated that 125 weeks would pay expenses. The paying guests number from 19-28 in each week. All arrangements with the lessors are proceeding satisfactorily.

4. Finance: Report received.

(a) The accounts are written up to date, and no tradesmen's bills are unpaid.

4. Finance (cont.)

(b) Receipts from all subscriptions to June 30th amount to £250 compared with £232 last year. June shows a sharp decline owing no doubt to our sending out notices earlier this year.

(c) Another outstanding Barrow House account, £8 for oil, etc., has been sent in and paid.

(d) The proposal circulated to the Executive to take £150 off deposit and invest it in exchequer Bonds registered in the names of Sidney Webb and Edward R. Pease has been approved by silence or otherwise and is in process of completion.

(e) Lost registered letter: Letter containing 21/- sent by Mrs. Hinchley was received on Whit Monday, when the office was closed, by Miss Barkas, a Research Department helper, and put with other letters on the staircase window sill, whence it was doubtless stolen.

(f) War Emergency Committee: Application for grant.
It was agreed to send £2.2.0.

5. Howell Testimonial. Letter of thanks was received. It was agreed that a statement be put in Fabian News; that the memorial be not professionally engrossed, but that Bernard Shaw be asked to do it, + that he settle the exact wording.

6. Next Sessions Lectures. (a) [Ten Sec.] reported that Headlam had refused to lecture owing to illness. In his place the following were suggested:

6. Next Session Lectures (cont.)

Sir Harry Johnstone Reconstruction of Europe
Zimmern (Round Table)
Seton Watson Roumania
Lloyd on army
Philip Kerr
Bathurst or Stur, on agricultural

(b) The annexed Memorandum on Fabianism & the Fiscal Question & R C K. Ensor was approved & it was agreed that Ensor Webb & Davies take the three lectures.

7. Kings Hall Lectures. Webb reported the syllabus in type & the names of proposed chairmen were discussed.

8. Correspondence.

Foreign Jews Protection Committee. Circulars.

Association for Moral and Religious Hygiene, asking to be on Free List. Noted

No.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE TRACT AND LECTURES. BY R. C. K. ENSOR.

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## FABIANISM AND THE FISCAL QUESTION.

(New Style)

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We have first to examine 3 questions, viz.:

Is it advisable for the State to interfere with the free course of trade -

Ensor

(A) in order to safeguard the British Isles against future interruption of vital supplies by submarines ? (i.e. wheat, meat, timber)

Webb

(B) in order to prevent us from depending for "essential" articles upon a single or very restricted source of foreign supply, which might become unavailable in time of war ? (i.e. the case of dyes and magnetos in 1914)

Davies

(C) in order to develope imperial resources and attract population and wealth within the Empire, in cases where the supply of an important article rests on foreign sources which are sufficiently various for it to be safe in the event of war, but where the Empire possesses exceptional ~~xxxxxxxx~~ natural facilities for producing it and there is no prospect of those facilities being at all fully utilised without Government interference ? (e.g. the case of sugar).

---

We have next to consider the following possible methods of interference in these cases, viz::

(1) a protectionist tariff (my own impression is that this is in nearly every case the least efficient method; but it requires examination).

(2) exclusion of certain products of a given country or countries, or of all foreign countries.

(3) ~~bounties for home products (or imperial products).~~

(4) guaranteed minimum returns to the producer of home (or imperial) products (as recommended for wheat by the Milner and Hobhouse Committees).

(5) making the State sole wholesaler (as at present for sugar, and as recommended for wheat by Chiozza Money), with power to grant the home (or imperial) producer specially favourable terms, and in return for them to put special pressure on him in the direction of quality, of standardisation, and generally of efficiency and up-to-date methods.

(6) State or Municipal production.

There are also special proposals to meet particular questions - e.g. in connection with (A) the proposal of national granaries, or national reserve stocks of certain other necessaries (which would most naturally be linked on to method (5) above); or in connection with (B) the proposal for an enormous extension of State-paid research (i.e. that what has been done at Rothamsted for agriculture should be done in State or State-subsidised laboratories for every main industry); or in connection with (c) the proposal for State-owned or State-subsidised shipping lines.

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For the purpose of a Tract it might be best to follow the order of this analysis - i.e. state and examine the questions first, and then examine the various answers. But for lecturing purposes it would be best to take each question and its answers together, and have a course of 3 lectures -

(1) Question A, and the various ways of solving it.
(2) Question B, and the various ways of solving it.
(3) Question C, and the various ways of solving it.

FABIAN SOCIETY.

(47)

To be considered by the Executive Committee on Friday, July 28th, 1916.

DRAFT REPORT for the INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST BUREAU.
By Sidney Webb.

The Executive Committee of the Fabian Society feels that it has little to suggest that is likely to be useful at the present juncture. But in view of the express invitation of the International Socialist Bureau that it should contribute something to the discussion of the necessary contents of the Treaty of Peace with which the present regrettable world conflict must one day terminate, the following observations are submitted.

1. Much the most important provision in the Treaty of Peace, and one which must on no account be omitted, is the establishment of some concerted means for the prevention of any future war. This will not be obtained merely by any increase in the Democratic control over the foreign policy or the treaty arrangements of the State Governments, however desirable such Democratic control may be. It will not be secured by any restriction of national armaments; or by a Government monopoly of the manufacture of guns, munitions or ships of war, advantageous as such proposals may be. Nor will war be prevented by the adoption of universal Freedom of Trade, Freedom of Commercial Enterprise, or Freedom of the Seas. War will only be prevented by the deliberate establishment of some way of settling disputes among States, or conflicts among peoples, other than that of resorting to armed force.

This does not involve subjecting any of the belligerents to any special restrictions on their military strength or to any particular fiscal disabilities, or to any other special limitations. We ought to ask nothing from any one of the States which we do not impose equally upon all the States. Far more important than any territorial readjustment or financial indemnity, is the agreement among all the

nations for some other method of settlement of disputes for the future. This involves the establishment of a supernational authority, representing proportionately the various independent Sovereign States, with an International High Court for the settlement of all justiciable disputes, and an International Council for Mediation with regard to issues that are not justiciable. But it involves more than the mere agreement to establish such a supernational authority. The powers must bind themselves to submit all questions at issue either to the International High Court for decision, or to the International ~~High Court~~ Council for mediation and report, and must bind themselves also, under no circumstances to proceed to war for a period of twelve months from the date of such submission. It is, moreover, vital that all the powers entering into this arrangement should undertake to declare war against any one of them which may break the agreement.

(The reasons for such a Supernational Authority, and the precise terms of the articles in the Treaty of Peace by which it might be established, have been set forth in a volume just published by the Fabian Society, entitled "International Government", price 6/-, of which American, French and German editions are in course of publication).

2. It is generally conceded that a necessary condition of any satisfactory peace must be the restoration, not only to independence, but also to economic prosperity, of the countries which have suffered most from the ravages of the war. Thus it is not only Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro which will require considerable financial reparation, but also the North-West of France, part of Alsace, Southern Tyrol, Galicia, Poland, Baltic Provinces, East Prussia, various districts in the Balkans and in Asia Minor. Belgium has undoubtedly the first claim on our regard, but we ought to insist, as Socialists, not merely on restitution of Belgium, but on the reparation of the losses which have been suffered by the inhabitants of all the ravaged districts. It is necessary to emphasise that reparation will be required not merely with regard to public property and to the private wealth of the capitalists in these countries, but also with regard to the cottage and equipment of the peasant, the dwelling and household furniture of the artisan and labourer, and the economic assurance of livelihood

for all the families concerned. There is too much danger of the compensation being confined to the actual losses of realised wealth, and that mainly of the realised wealth of the State or the Municipality, or of the capitalist proprietor. We ought to insist on reasonable security, by an International Commission in each of the countries concerned, not only for reinstatement of the houses, furniture, tools, and agricultural equipment of all the inhabitants, but also for sufficient assurance for their livelihood during, at any rate, the first year. The funds needed for these indemnities ought not to be simply handed over to the respective Governments, but should be administered by the International Commission according to carefully prepared schemes, for the benefit of the individual sufferers, by means of local committees in each district, on which the Trade Unions and other organisations of the manual working class should be strongly represented.

The amount of the contributions to be made by the several belligerent States towards this Indemnity Fund should be settled as part of the terms of peace.

. The peace must be a real peace. We deprecate any provision which carries on aggression after the termination of the war, even if this aggression take a non-military form. Whilst there is reason in bringing to an end all the commercial and fiscal treaties which existed before the war, in order that they may be superseded by other provisions adapted to the new conditions, it would be in the last degree disadvantageous for any attempt to be made by any of the belligerent powers, or any combination among them, deliberately to injure the commerce of manufacture of any other power. For this reason we deprecate any commercial treaties or tariffs which have for their object the repression, the weakening, or the injury of any other country. It is the duty of each government to take such action as will develop to the utmost the production and the commerce of its own country, because it is in this way that the whole world obtains the largest and most varied results for its labours. But there is no way by which the people of one nation can benefit by the injury or loss of the people of any other nation. We are members one of another. The prosperity and success of the people of one country is a positive advantage, not a drawback, to the people of every other country. The loss or the poverty of the people of one country, causes loss and poverty to

the people of every other country. There is no way known to man, whether by protective tariffs or otherwise, by which this inevitable consequence can be avoided.

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4. We would urge that a determined attempt should be made to remove all valid grounds of complaint against the States possessing dependencies in tropical regions, or others, which are economically undeveloped, and to meet the natural desire of the people of other States for equal access to these parts of the world, by getting adopted - with regard to all tropical or other undeveloped territories - the Principle of the Open Door, carrying equal freedom for individuals of all nationalities to enter and pursue commercial enterprises, and also the Principle of Freedom of Trade from any discriminating or differential import or export duties, or other imposts.

Sovereignty ought to be kept distinct from any attempt at monopolising the Tropics for the benefit of the inhabitants of any particular State.

to take wholesome action if it may think fit

5. We suggest that nothing should be included in the treaty of peace limiting the freedom of any of the States consistent with abstaining from deliberate aggression on others, and from exclusion of people of other nationalities, for developing the production of its own people. We do not believe that protective tariffs will be found in the future, or have been found in the past, to be really effective means towards this end, still less advantageous to the great bulk of the people. But we suggest that it would be better for the people of each country to be left entirely free to choose whatever course it may think fit.

6. We recognise that various nations will strive to render themselves independent of the production of other nations, in order to avoid the risk of the exchange of commodities being interrupted by war. This desire, like the fear which will prevent national disarmament for many years, will, we hope, be gradually abated with the growing confidence in the new Supernational machinery that will prevent future war. But whilst it lasts, this desire for commercial independence can be completely satisfied only by the necessary industries being undertaken by the State or Municipal Government. No amount of customs duty, for instance, will prevent German dyes from penetrating to the markets

of the world. No penalty in the way of customs duty will stop the import of English coal or English fine cotton cloth. And nothing, not even State or Municipal production, will ever succeed in making a modern civilised nation entirely self sufficing. Even if it succeeds in producing within its own territory, enough of the simpler kinds of food to feed its own people, it will still be dependent on other countries for food that can only be produced in other climates; and, what is vastly more important, for such raw materials as cotton, hides, indiarubber, oil, quicksilver, tin or copper, which can only be produced in sufficient quantity in other countries. It is as unreasonable and as futile for any State to desire to avoid purchasing commodities from other States, an exchange advantageous to both parties to it, and to the world - as it is for any individual person to seek to produce by his own hands everything that he requires.

7. Amid all the industrial dislocations that Peace will bring throughout the world - a crisis likely to be immediately more terrible in its results to the wage earning class than even the dislocation caused by the outbreak of war - it will be of paramount importance to prevent any widespread or lasting unemployment. In view of the fact that any such extensive misery in one country - like a great famine - necessarily injures and impoverishes not only that country but also the rest of the world, it ought to be provided in the Treaty of Peace that each Government should take immediate steps, in its own country, not merely to relieve its unemployed workmen when they have become unemployed, but actually to prevent the occurrence of any widespread or lasting unemployment. Each Government should be required to undertake the immediate institution of sufficient public works of different kinds (such as the construction or repair of roads, the building of railways, or canals, schools, artizans' dwellings, and public offices; the planting of trees and the reclamation of land, etc.) not as relief works for unemployed workmen, but as accessions to the ordinary ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ capitalist demand for labour, - these public enterprises being set going from time to time in exact correspondence with the capitalist demand, so as to maintain at an unvarying level the aggregate demand for wage labour in the country as a whole. The actual prevention of unemployment before it occurs must, in fact, be accepted as the governing principle controlling the dates on which public enterprises are begun, and the rate at which they are proceeded with. It is now demonstrated that in this way any widespread

or lasting involuntary unemployment can actually be prevented, and where such unemployment exists, and wherever it may occur, it is because the Government has neglected or refused to adopt the known means of prevention. The occurrence of any extensive or lasting unemployment in any country is now as much a disgrace to its Government as the occurrence of cholera.

8. We offer no opinion as to any territorial readjustments that may be made by the Treaty of Peace, beyond the assertion that any forcible disruption of States almost inevitably leads to future war. We are concerned rather to insist that the Treaty of Peace should contain much more than provisions relating to a cessation of hostilities and a shifting of the lines of actual occupation of territory by the several belligerents. What the Socialist Parties throughout the world ought to insist upon is that the Treaty must be an instrument of much wider scope; that it must not only provide for an immediate cessation of hostilities but also for the creation of an effective international organisation that will prevent future war; that it must secure indemnities not merely to injured Governments but to those individual families in all countries who have suffered in the devastations; that it should provide not aganist military aggression only, but also against industrial and fiscal aggression; and that it should contain some assurance for the wage earners in all countries of Governmental protection against the all-too-probable miseries of widespread unemployment.

5. Correspondence (cont.d)

Workmon's National Housing Council, asking for delegate to Conference at Birmingham on Saturday before the Trades Union Conference.

Ask Harrison Barrow.

Peace Negotiations Committee. Circular letter. noted

Fight for the Right Movement. Invitation to Mansion House Meeting August 4th.

no action.

National Socialist Party. Manifesto.

7. 1. Report to International Soc. Bureau on Terms of Peace.
(a) B.S.P. Report, submitted as arranged. Send thanks
(b) Draft of Fabian Report, by Webb, already circulated.

was considered. It was agreed that Webb Ensor + Middleton be a Com.ee to consider suggested amendments of Ensor: that they meet on Tuesday at 5.30, + any other members can attend. It was agreed to set up for the News, + to circulate to members of the Exec., to the I.L.P. + B.S.P. + then to send copies to continental socialists + others. –

10. Miss Atkinson gave notice of that she wd. bring the subject of democratisation of the army before the Finance Comee

11. Research Department. The Sec. reported that

At the General Meeting held on the evening of the 27th Inst., a new rule was ~~to be~~ discussed and ~~would probably be~~ passed admitting non-members of the Fabian Society to full membership of the Group, and at the same time renouncing the only "statutory" rights possessed by the Group in relation to the Society, vizt. the rights to appoint delegates to the Annual Fabian Conference, and the Summer School Committee.

It was agreed to make the following addition to the Byelaws for Local Societies & groups viz to add to rules relating to Special Subject Groups

The Research Department shall be authorised to elect as its members persons who are not members of the Society but so long as it retains such members, it shall not be entitled to send delegates to the annual Conference or to appoint a member of the Summer School Committee.

[illegible]

Meeting 29th September 1916

Present Mrs Webb (in chair), West Blizard, Snell, Middleton, Webb, Miss Morley, Mrs Reeves, Miss Smith, Dr. Fairfield, Miss Atkinson, Dodd, Ensor, Sanders, & the Hon. Sec.

1. The Minutes were confirmed.

2. Apologies. Mrs Salmond, out of town.

3. The Chairman of the Publishing Comte gave a verbal report of the meeting just concluded. Arising out of the Report, it was agreed that 1000 copies of Towards Social Democracy (1/-) be reprinted at an estimated cost of £15.10.0.

4. Summer School Committee: Report:-

At a meeting on September 26th. Report of the session was received and instructions were given as to refunds, etc. A Committee was appointed to make enquiries for next session. The amount at the credit of the School including balance brought forward, will be between £80 and £90.

In the discussion the view was expressed that the domestic service might be improved.

5. The Finance & General Purposes Com^ee Report was submitted:-

On Item 1. Finance, it was agreed that Julius West be appointed to take the management of the lecture hall during the Kings Hall lectures, & that it be referred to the Finance Com^ee to consider the payment to be offered him. Syllabus was ordered to be sent to sympathetic press forthwith. Also that Mr Sanders offer to take cash be accepted.

Items 2. Office Staff: Teeffs & Office Boy,
& " 3. Will of Lieut W. Tulloch, approved
were agreed to.

" 5. House. Paras. (a) new Gas stoves for Hall + (b) Staining floor were approved. On para (c.) a letter was read from Sanders, in the sense indicated in the report. It was agreed that the proposed alteration to the W.C. be not made + that the letter be sent to Bully with our thanks.

# FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 22nd Sept., 1916.

Present: Webb (in chair), Miss Atkinson, Dodd, West, Sanders, and the Hon. Sec. Also Blizard.

1. Finance:

It was reported that to August 31st:-
Subscriptions were £27 up on £286.
Gross sales of
Literature "£100 " " £49.
The Summer School session showed an estimated profit exceeding £80.
The King's Hall lecture sales of tickets were £111 which compares with £65 at same date last year. (Figures corrected to £ept. 27th).

2. Office Staff:

The Hon. Secretary reported that the ~~xxx~~ loss of letters in the spring was now proved to be due to thefts by the then office boy and that his successor had been caught stealing letters and dismissed. The known thefts of the latter were only 22/6d.
It was agreed to take no proceedings against the boys and to get a girl instead of another boy. (This has been done).

3. A Legacy:

The Sec. submitted letter from A. & W. Burt, Solicitors, Dunfermline, enclosing Will of Lieut. W. Tulloch (Edinburgh University F.S.) recently killed in France, who left "the whole of his property and effects to the Fabian Society, London." There are no executors. There are a brother and two sisters surviving and a niece for whom the deceased had offered a payment of £30. Lieut. Tulloch was a school teacher, and the estate is likely to be small.
The Secretary was directed to write to the War Office for forms to claim arrears of pay, etc. and to write to the brother asking about other property and saying the Society would act with every consideration towards the relatives.
It was further agreed to recognise the validity of the £30 gift.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Agenda for Organising & Propaganda Committee at Office on Thursday, May 6th, 1915, at 5.30 p.m.

Members of the Committee: Davies, Dodd, Ervine, Dr. Fairfield, Miss Smith, Snell, Squire & Mrs. Webb.

1. Minutes,

2. Apologies (if any).

3. Election of chairman.

4. Election of vice-chairman (if thought advisable).

5. Day of meeting.

6. Membership:

   (a) May candidates (12) Last year (25).

   (b) List of ex-members of University Fabian Societies who have not replied to letter requesting them to join the London Fabian Society (enclosed).

   (c) List of members whose addresses are unknown (enclosed).

   (d) Resignations. Richard Whiteing withdraws his resignation.

7. Proposed course of lectures in the autumn by Sidney Webb, Mrs. Webb and Bernard Shaw:

   The proposed course would consist of two lectures by each lecturer. The subject suggested is "The World after the War" and the titles of the lectures and the lecturers as follows:

(over)

5. House:

(a) ~~It was agreed to accept the tender of the Gas Light~~ & Coke Coy. for £4 5s.0d. for placing two gas stoves in the Hall at an annual rent of £1 8s.0d.

(b) The decision to stain the floor at a cost of £2 was approved.

(c) On offer from A. K. Bulley to pay for modernising the Men's W.C. it was agreed that this be put in hand. (Sanders has since pointed ou that any alteration in a W.C. gives the Local Authority power to order any other alterations in the drains which they like, and the landlords must be consulted).

6. Lectures:

(a) Sir Harry Johnston. Oct. 13th. It was agreed that we cannot pay more than £5 for the maps which he proposes to prepare.

(b) Proposal of the Education Group that Lord Haldane be asked to lecture on Education was referred to the Executive.

7. United Socialist Council:

Letter was read reporting preliminary meeting of I.L.P. and B.S.P. and resolution urging the F.S. to rescind its resolution ~~urging the Ex.Ex~~ declining to act for the present. The matter was referred to the Executive and the Hon. Sec. authorised to see Johnson of I.L.P.
(Johnson is of opinion that the I.L.P. would agree to a condition allowing a veto by any of the three Societies on any action proposed to be taken by the Council).

8. The Army:

On the motion of Miss Atkinson it was agreed to ask the Executive to appoint a Committee of 3 to investigate and report on the question How can a Standing Army be made compatible with Democracy.

9. Food Prices Conference:
Invitation to send two delegates to Conference on Food Prices, Feb. 13th; called by Workers' National Committee and London Trades Council.

10. Common Room:
Number of members to date, 232.

11. Urgency:
Request from Allen and Cole that the enclosed document, ("The Right Moment") be sent out in printed form with the Fabian News.

9. Compulsory Military Service:

It was agreed to recommend that we accept an offer (transmitted by the Research Department, who has rejected it) to give a sum of £25 to enable a report to be prepared on Compulsory Military Service.

10. Publications:

As a matter of urgency it was agreed to print 15,000 of Webb's "When Peace Comes, the Way of Industrial Reconstruction" ; to have a cover: to sell at 2d.: and to undertake a circularisation of it amongst Trade Unions, with the Book Box Circular, etc. to the extent of 10,000.

11. Proposed Council for Boy Wage Earners:

The Committee declined to consider this, (but Mrs.Salmond is interested and would probably like to be a delegate).

SIDNEY WEBB,
Chairman.

Purchased for Ker, 1935: James Ford

5. Finance Com^ee (cont^d.)

Item 5. House (cont^d)

It was agreed that the Hon. Sec. report as to the desirability of buying more chairs for the Hall.

Sunday letting of the Hall. On an enquiry, it was agreed that the Hall can be let on Sundays, subject to the consent of Mrs. Herbert, & payment of a special fee of 5/. to her.

Item 6. (Lectures & Sir H. Johnstone & Lord Haldane) was approved. It was agreed that the Hon. Sec. write Lord Haldane, & send letter to Mrs. Webb.

Item 7. United Socialist Council, was discussed. The opinion of the Exec. was generally favourable to the suggestion in brackets, & the Hon. Sec. was directed to proceed with negotiations on these lines.

Item 8. The Army. It was agreed that Miss Atkinson be a Com^ee to report, & that the necessary books be purchased for her, viz^t. Jaures & Gard

5. Finance Comte Report (contd)

Item 9. Compulsory Military Training

It was agreed to accept the offer: also that Webb write the acceptance: also that Snell, Dr. Fairfield, Miss Atkinson, Webb, Sanders, & the Hon Sec. be a Comte to discuss the matter & meet on Monday at 4.30.

Item 10. Publication of Tract was approved

" 11. Mrs Salmond was appointed delegate.

6. L.L.P. Copy of their Report to the International Bureau was presented, as agreed. The Secy was directed to ask for some more.

R. C. K. Snow
27 Oct. 1916.

Meeting 27th October 1916

Present Eneor (in chair) West, Mrs Salmond, Welt, Mrs Reeves, Davies Middleton & Hon. Sec.

1. The minutes were confirmed

2. Apologies. Blizard

3. The Finance & General Purposes Comee Report was submitted by the chairman.

Item (1) Finance. (a) was noted.

(b) The chairman reported that the Comee recommended that the Salary of Miss Gibson for half time be raised, in conformity with her others employers, from 22/6 to 25/-; that Mrs Herbert be paid 21/- in accordance with the recommendation of the Common Room Comee who will pay 1/6 out of the 2/6 rise: & that the rate for Mrs Monk, charwoman, be raised from 5d per hour to 6d. It was agreed that Miss Gibson's rise date from the first October pay-day. The recommendation was unanimously approved.

3. Finance Report (contd.)

Item 2. Lieut Tulloch's estate. Approved.

3. Kirkcaldy Hall Lectures "

4. London Labour Party, approved, & Wm Salmond & J.S. Middleton were appointed additional delegates, with any other member of the Exec. appointed by the Hon Sec.

Item 5. Labour Party Resolution. approved.

" 6. United Socialist Council. After a considerable discussion it was agreed, in view of the small attendance, that the matter be deferred.

" 7. Compulsory Military Training approved.

J Hammond
24.4.16

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee,
23th Oct., 1918.

Present: Ensor (in chair), Webb, West, Dodd, Sanders, and the Hon. Sec. Also Mrs. Salmond.

1. Finance:

   (a) Sales of tickets for King's Hall £440.(Revised figures) and every seat for Oct. 27th sold. Last year's total £380.

   (b) Staff Salaries: The chairman will report.

2. Lieut. Tulloch's Estate:

   (a) The Secretary reported that the War Office had £35 at his credit. Total cash £128.
   (b) The action of the Secretary taken in accordance with circular letter, re solicitors and administrators was approved.
   (c) It was agreed to recommend the Executive to decide that the belongings (valued about £5) be handed to the relatives, and that the £30 promised to a relative by the deceased before his death be treated as a debt due by the estate.

3. King's Hall Lectures:
   The question of payment for special services was deferred.

4. London Labour Party:
   It was agreed to nominate Miss Lawrence for the Executive, to appoint her a delegate to the Annual Conference on Saturday, Nov. 25th, and to refer to the Executive the nomination of 3 other delegates.

5. Labour Party:
   It was agreed to recommend that the following resolution be sent in for the Annual Conference:-

   The Prevention of Unemployment.

   That in view of the fact that there is only too much probability of masses of men and women finding themselves, after the war, unable to find situations,

and that any solution of Industrial Problems (as well as the maintenance of Standard Rates of Wages) will be gravely imperilled by any widespread Unemployment, the Government be pressed to make all necessary preparations in advance in conjunction with Local Authorities so as to put in hand, immediately Peace is assured, sufficient public works of Housing, School-building, necessary re-equipment of the Army and Navy, roadmaking, afforestation and land settlement to enable a situation to be found at the Standard Rate of Wages for every unemployed soldier, sailor, munition worker and discharged workman.

6. United Socialist Council:

Correspondence of the Secretary with J.R.Macdonald was read: indicating his willingness to confine the work of the Council to agreed matters. It was agreed to recommend the Executive to confirm its resolution to defer action in the matter.

7. Compulsory Military Training:

The decisions of the Special Committee and action thereon was reported, viz. that A. Greenwood had been asked and agreed to prepare a report on the subject, and that Mr. Spry had paid the £25.

R. C. K. ENSOR,
Chairman.

of no indication of [illegible] action to the capitalist system. The

## FABIAN SOCIETY

(18)

To the members of the Executive:-

I am not calling meetings of the Executive or its Committees because there is no business of importance, and unnecessary Committees are a waste of time.

King's Hall Lectures.

The sales continue to be excellent. The takings to date are £285: to the same day last year they were £200. It is doubtful how far it will be possible to supply single tickets for the more popular lectures to all who have already sent orders.

do not want them as members with power to vote." but we reply that the existing Basis has utterly failed to exclude such persons, as an examination of the present membership will at once show. The adroit arguments of the Executive fall to the ground in view of the fact that the Basis has been signed by many whose practical activities give little or no indication of opposition to the capitalist system. The

Let us say here once more that we do not want the Fabian Society to give up propaganda: we want it to carry out the kind of propaganda for which it is most fit.

If there was any ambiguity on this point in the actual wording of the resolution dealing with it, there is none in the revised wording which we now submit: -

IN VIEW OF THE POLITICAL AND INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES OF OTHER SECTIONS OF THE SOCIALIST AND LABOUR MOVEMENT, AND OF THE NEED FOR A DISTINCT ORGANISATION WHICH SHALL UNDERTAKE THE STUDY OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIALIST AND TRADE UNION PROBLEMS, BOTH PRACTICAL AND THEORETICAL, THE OBJECT OF THE FABIAN SOCIETY SHALL BE TO CARRY OUT SUCH RESEARCH AND PROPAGANDA BASED UPON IT.

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Lieut. Tulloch's Estate.

I have ascertained that the balance at his bank is £63. This will leave a margin after payment of the £30 promised by him before his death. With the assent of the Treasurer and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, I have decided to ask Messrs. Burt of Dunfermline to wind up the estate; and I shall name the Treasurer and myself - the two available officers of the Society - as Administrators on behalf of the Society. Nothing will be done with the estate without the authority of a Committee.

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Tract No. 181. When Peace Comes: the Way of Industrial Reconstruction. By Sidney Webb, is published.

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Sir Harry Johnstone at Essex Hall.

Members are reminded that this meeting takes place to-morrow.

Edw. R. PEASE,
Hon. Sec.

25, Tothill Street, S.W.
Thursday, 12th Oct., 1916.

Socialism. Our fourth resolution, stigmatised by the Executive as "Heresy Hunting," provides, we believe, the only effective method of excluding the "mere social reformer" and the "excellent pious people" to whom they refer. "While gladly admitting such persons as associates," they say, "we do not want them as members with power to vote." We agree; but we reply that the existing Basis has utterly failed to exclude such persons, as an examination of the present membership will at once show. The adroit arguments of the Executive fall to the ground in view of the fact that the Basis has been signed by many whose practical activities give little or no indication of opposition to the capitalist system. The heresies we hunt are of deeds and not of words, and we believe that ours is the only method of keeping the Society truly Socialist. The argument that the Tory Democrat, the earnest Christian, the defender of Old Age Pensions, etc., think that they, as such, are striving against capitalism, is unconvincing in the extreme and wholly unworthy of the Fabian Society.

The Executive go on to suggest that no one but a member of the Anti-Socialist Union would be excluded on a strict reading of our proposed new rule; for "Half the world thinks it is striving for the emancipation of the community from the capitalist system." We submit that the Fabian Executive is the only body in the world that holds that view. The Executive appear to be innocently unaware of the class of political organisation that is "opposed to the national and international movement for the emancipation of the community from the capitalist system." They seem quite unable to realise that the Liberal and Conservative parties are the primary objects of our attack. Single Taxers, Free Traders, Profit Sharers, Peasant Proprietors, etc. - every conceivable sect seems to have occurred to them, except the ordinary Liberals and Conservatives, whose parties after all form the larger part of our political world. These are the parties that have always fought, either with open vigour or with subtle political strategy, against the advance of Labour and Socialism, and it is to supporters of these parties that we seek to deny admission to the Society.

The Executive admit that "it is in the last degree objectionable for a member of the Society to become a Parliamentary candidate in any division in which the Labour Party has already a duly authorised candidate in the field. Where any such case has threatened to occur, the most energetic

Meeting 24th November 1916.

Present Dodd (in chair), Snell, West, Blizard, Prof. Morley, Mrs Salmond, Ensor, Mrs Webb, Miss Atkinson & the Hon Sec.

. The Minutes of last Meeting were confirmed.

.. Apologies. Dr. Fairfield, Middleton, Davies, Webb.

. The Organising & Propaganda Comee Report was submitted by the Hon. Sec. & the whole was adopted.

. The Publishing Comee Report was submitted by the Chairman.

Item 1. Publication of Joad's Essay, was adopted.

.. 2. Proposed Bibliographical Volume. On this an amendment was proposed that the matter be deferred until after the War. This was carried by 4 votes to 2.

Item 3. Dropping of Tract 108 was approved.

5. The Finance & General Purposes Comte Report was submitted & the Chairman

Item 1. Finance, was approved.

" 2. (a) Nomination of Welt for the Labour Party Executive, was approved.

(b) Delegates to Annual Conference Labour Party. Welt was appointed; nominations for the other two places (Davies, Mrs Reeves Miss Lawrence Sanders & Snell) were adjourned.

(c). Agenda. Noted

Item 3. Conference on Food Prices. Approved: it was agreed to appoint Snell also, & that the Secy appoint any other of the Executive who desire to go.

Item 4. Society Lectures. a. & b. were approved. On (c) Lectures for Jany, the secy reported that Dr. G.B. Clark had offered lecture on History of English Socialism. It was agreed to accept this for Jany 9th & the others in rotation as propo

heresies we hunt are of deeds and not of words, and we believe that ours is the only method of keeping the Society truly Socialist. The argument that the Tory Democrat, the earnest

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Organising & Propaganda Committee Meeting
Thursday, 16th Nov., 1916.

Present: Dr. Fairfield, chairman, and the Hon. Sec.

1. Candidates:

Twenty-one candidates for October and November were elected. Last year the number was 8.

2. Resignations:

Nine out of the twn resignations since June 22nd were accepted. One, Miss L. Clexton, who resigned from poverty, was ordered to be kept on.

3. Members in arrears:

Special letters were ordered to be written to the Rev. R. J. Campbell and G. C. Beresford, both in arrears. Five members resident abroad were ordered to be struck off, one of whom had only paid once in 1912, whilst 4 others had not replied to letters written in June. A long letter from C. E. Tattersall, New Zealand, resigning and promising a subscription, was read, and his name was also ordered to be taken out.

4. It was decided not to revise the list of members at present.

5. Groups and Local Societies:

One or two brief reports were submitted.

LETITIA FAIRFIELD,
Chairman.

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Publishing Committee Meeting 10th November, 1916.

Present: West (in chair), Miss Smith, Standring, and the Hon. Secretary.

1. Proposed New Tract:

The chairman reported that he had prepared Joad's MS. on Owen for the press, and it was agreed to recommend the Executice that it be set up.

2. Proposed Biographical Volume:

A proposal of the Chairman that the Biographical Tracts (including Joad's) be reprinted from stereo-plates as a volume of 200 pages, including an introduction which he was willing to write, was approved in principle, and ordered to be reported to the Executive. Standring was requested to supply an estimate of the approximate cost.

3. Tract out of print:

It was agreed not to reprint Tract 108 Twentieth Century Politics by Sidney Webb, written in 1901 and now out of date.

JULIUS WEST,
Chairman

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee,
23rd Nov., 1916.

Present: Ensor, in chair, Webb, West, Miss Atkinson, and the Hon. Secretary. Also Mrs. Salmond.

1. Finances:

(a) Accounts to Oct. 31st were submitted showing subscriptions of all sorts £464, an increase of £52 over last year. (The defalcations of last year must not be forgotten).

(b) King's Hall. Results (corrected to date) which cannot be much modified, as every ticket for Dec. 1st is sold, are:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Receipts | £508. 6. 0 |
| Expenditure | 137.15. 6 |
| Profit | £370.10. 6 |

(b) Lieut. Tulloch's Estate. Account was submitted showing, after payment of the £30 promised, an approximate balance of £160.

2. The Labour Party:

(a) Executive. It was agreed to recommend that Webb be re-nominated.

(b) Annual Conference at Manchester, Jan. 23rd. to 26th. Nominations need not be sent in until Dec. 31st. Three Delegates. The following were mentioned as possible selections:
Webb (as member of the Executive).
Emil Davies
Miss Lawrence
Mrs. Reeves.
W. S. Sanders
Harry Snell.

(c) Agenda was submitted, but no amendments were suggested.

3. Conference on War and Food Prices, Central Hall, Westminster, Thursday, December 7th, at 10.30 a.m.
Number of delegates unlimited: fee 2/6d. each. The following [illegible] agreed to go:-
Webb, Ensor, West, Miss Atkinson.

4. Society Meetings:

(a) It was agreed to cancel the December Members' Meeting in the absence of business, and not to begin the lectures until January.

(b) The following arrangements were approved:

Jan. 12 A lecture.
" 26 Ensor. Fabianism & Fiscal Question. I.
Feb. 9 Lord Haldane, fixed for The Future of Education.
" 23 Webb. Fabianism & Fiscal Question. II.
March 9 Business Meeting.
" 23 Davies. Fabianism & Fiscal Question. III.

It was agreed that the meeting on Feb. 9th be confined to ticket holders, i.e. members, associates and subscribers.

(c) For the lecture on January 12th, it was agreed to ask:-
1. A. E. Zimmern. Industrial Organisation.
2. Christopher Turner. Agriculture after the War.
H.P. 3. Kerr. British Empire.

R. C. K. ENSOR,
Chairman.

6. The adjourned debate on the following was resumed.

United Socialist Council:

Correspondence of the Secretary with J. R. Macdonald was read, indicating his unwillingness to confine the work of the Council to agreed matters. It was agreed to recommend the Executive to confirm its resolution to defer action in the matter.

(In the LABOUR LEADER for Nov. 2nd it is reported that the United Socialist Council has been formed; there were present F. W. Jowett, M.P., in chair, W.C.Anderson, M.P., J. R. Macdonald, M.P., M. Alexander, G. Deer, E. C. Fairchild; with A. Inkpin and F. Johnson Secretaries. It was decided that Societies recognised by the International Socialist Bureau should be eligible. Power was taken to get up demonstrations, to issue Manifestoes, etc. A sub-committee was appointed to draft a statement with regard to Peace.)

It was agreed that we adhere to our former resolution, & write in reply to this effect.

L. D. Fairfield

Meeting Dec. 15th 1916,

Present Dr. Fairfield, in Chair,
Middleton, West, Mrs Webb,
Webb, Eusor, Dodd, Squire, Davies
Blizard, Miss Smith & the Hon. Sec.

1. The minutes were confirmed

2. Apologies. Profs Morley, Mr Salmond, Snell.

3. The Finance & G.P. Comte Report was submitted :-

Item 1. Finance. Approved

" 2. Kings Hall Lectures, & Proposed allocation of proceeds to cost of a Volume by L. S. Woolf : approved.

3. Society Lectures : (a) approved. (b) The title of the course was altered to "War Light on Free Trade & Protection" (d) Haldane tickets; limitation approved with the addition, except in special circumstances approved by the Secretary.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting
8th December, 1916.

Present: Ensor (in chair), Miss Atkinson, Webb, West and the Hon. Secretary.

1. Finance:

Reports were presented showing increase of subscriptions of all sorts from £440 in 1915 to £504 in 1916.

2. King's Hall Lectures:

(a) Account was presented showing a surplus of £582.

(b) It was agreed to pay West a fee of £3 for services.

(c) On a proposal that part of the profits be allocated to the preparation of a volume it was agreed to recommend:-
That L. S. Woolf be offered £100 to prepare a volume on International Trade, and that the Research Department be requested to ~~support~~ a Committee to appoint supervise its preparation.

3. Society Lectures:

(a) Arrangements as published in the News were approved.

(b) The title of the course "Fabianism and the Fiscal Question" was criticised, but no alternative was adopted.

(c) It was resolved that tickets for the Haldane lecture be not given to anyone not a member, associate or subscriber.

4. Membership: To save calling a Propaganda Committee Meeting for formal business,

(a) Candidates in December News were elected.
(b) Four resignations were accepted.
(c) The Rev. R. J. Campbell, and G. C. Beresford, who had not replied to letters re arrears of subscriptions, were ordered to be struck off.

R. C. K. ENSOR,
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Agenda for the Publishing Committee at Office on Friday, 23rd June, 1916.

Members: G. P. Blizard, Miss Lawrence, J. S. Middleton, Miss Morley, Mrs. Reeves, Miss E. Smith, J. C. Squire, Julius West, and the Secretaries.

1. Election of temporary chairman.

2. Minutes of last meeting.

3. Apologies: Miss Morley.

4. Election of permanent chairman and, if thought fit, of vice-chairman.

5. Determination of day of meeting: Friday at present.

6. Co-option of George Standring as a consultative member.

7. Tracts in the Press:

   (a) Miss Morley's Ruskin.
   Paged proofs.
   Paper for cover.

   (b) Glutton Brock's Tract.
   Galley Proofs.
   Pages.
   Cover ?
   Title.
   Number to be printed.

8. Tracts in preparation:

   Joad's Owen.
   Report by Miss Smith and Webb.

3. Finance Report (cont.)

Item 4 Membership. approved, but the Sec. reported that the Rev R.J. Campbell had paid, & had been reinstated.

4. Labour Party Conference. after consideration it was moved & unanimously agreed that Emil Davies & J.S. Middleton be the two additional delegates to the Manchester Conference.

5. Lieut. Tulloch's Estate.

The Secretary submitted the following report:-

(a) The solicitors have now sent the probate of the Will, and leave to us the collection of the money. The account stands thus:-

| | | | | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Estate | | | | 211 | 16 | 2 |
| Deductions | | | | | | |
| Valuation of personal effects given to relatives. | 7 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Solicitors' charges including estate duty & fees (£2.15.7). | 8 | 7 | 7 | | | |
| Cost of affidavits in London | | 3 | 6 | | | |
| Gift before death to be paid by us. | 30 | 0 | 0 | 45 | 11 | 1 |
| Balance available | | | | £ 166 | 5 | 1 |

(b) Enclosed is copy of letters from the sister of the deceased.

5. Lieut Tulloch's Estate (cont'd)

(c) The Secretary suggested that the Executive should decide whether the Finance & General Purposes Committee should be instructed to make enquiries and report whether any and if so what further amount should be offered to the relatives by way of educating a child or otherwise.

(d) The Secretary further suggested that the F.&.G.P. Commee. be directed to consider and report whether to any and if so, to what, special purpose the capital sum or the interest thereof should be devoted, e.g. (1) a memorial publication, or (2) the endowment (temporary or otherwise) of an annual lecture in Scotland, or (3) something s else for the benefit of Scotch Fabianism, or anything else.

After discussion resolutions (c) & (d) were agreed to. ~~without discussion~~. The Sec.y was authorised to consult Messrs. A & W. Burt as to (c), & it was agreed to include a prize to teachers in the suggestions tabulated in (d).

6. Appeal of Belgian Workers, sent by Vandervelde was noted

7. Howell Testimonial. One of two designs submitted by Emery Walker was selected

8. Peace. A suggestion that some action might be taken was considered & negatived.

C.J. Morley.
Jan. 12. 17

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Copy of Letters from the sister of Lieut. Tulloch:-

East Park Street,
Cowdenbeath.
12th Oct.

Mr. W. Stephen Sanders,
General Secretary,
The Fabian Society,
London.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of 4th inst. regarding the belongings of my brother, the late William Tulloch, the following is, to the best of my knowledge all he owned.

In my house here,

(1) A trunk containing some civilian clothes and underwear.

(2) A few books, (mostly of a cheap edition).

In my Aunt's house at 90, St. Leonard's Place,
Dunfermline,

(1) A trunk containing a military overcoat, and a civilian dress suit.

(2) A Post Office Savings Bank Depositors' Book, No. 3756,
(Office, Lothian Road, Edinburgh).

No part of his military kit has been received by me from the War Office, since his death, though I filled in the claimant form.

I presume that he had a current bank account in London, because he sent a blank cheque to my Aunt, authorising her to draw upon him to the extent of thirty pounds (£30), for the purpose of assisting a young niece, a daughter of a deceased sister, to emigrate to Canada, or otherwise improve her position. He possessed no property, ~~nor had he any interest~~ in land or securities, or furniture, nor had he any interest in property likely to come to him, on the death of any person now living.

5. Sentences on Defence of the Realm Act Prisoners:

On a verbal request by Snell the Committee considered whether the F.S. should appeal to the Government for clemency for habitual agitators sentenced to long terms for injudicious speeches, and any other similar cases.

The Committee decided to report to the Executive that they considered that any action taken by the Executive on the lines suggested would be futile.

R. C. K. ENSOR,
Chairman.

The list seems rather a meagre one for an officer to possess, but his circumstances were such that, for the short time he was earning, he could not have acquired any wealth or property.

Our father was a factory operative. The family consisted of three sons, and three daughters. William was the youngest of the family, and as he early evinced a studious disposition, father and mother had an ambition that he might be a teacher, and, as they were thrifty folks, they saved some money to enable him to attend a training college. Both father and mother died within a short time of eachother, just as William finished his apprenticeship as a pupil teacher. Father died intestate, but as the family knew the wishes of him and mother, with regard to William, we agreed to forego our share of their savings, to enable him to prosecute his studies at the training college. By ekeing out his allowance, and by giving private tuition while studying, he managed to enter the University of Edinburgh, where he took his M.A. degree with honours in 1913. He then obtained an appointment as English teacher in a higher grade school, but he had barely got established in that situation when war broke out, and he enlisted as a private. He afterwards obtained a commission as 2nd Lieut., the duties of which he was performing, when he was killed.

As for the civilian clothes, underwear, and books, that are in my house, and at my Aunts' in Dunfermline, my family could make use of them, if your Society cared to transfer them to us. I shall be pleased to furnish any further information in my power, if you desire it, and meantime,

I remain,
Yours truly,
(Signed) MRS. C. RICHARDSON.

P.S. My brother's sword is also in my house, but he gave it to me when he went to France, as he had no use for it there. He said when he was home shortly before he was killed it would make a fine ornament for me, and to look after it. So therefore, I think the sword is mine.

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(Undated- Nov., 1916).

To the Fabian Society.

Sir,

Yours to hand of 31st Oct., re personal belongings of my brother, and also of your decision in favour of my niece. I now deem it my duty to thank you for your consideration towards us.

I will now expect my brother's things from France, from the War Office.

I am,
Yours sincerely,
(Signed) JANET RICHARDSON.

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Agenda for the Finance & General Purposes Committee on Friday, Sept. 22nd, at 5.30 p.m.

1. Minutes.

2. Apologies.

3. Finance:

(a) Report on Subscriptions, etc. to Aug. 31st.

| | 1916. | 1915. | Diff. in Aug. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Members' Subscriptions | 313 | 286 | up 14 |
| Other " | 32 | 32 | down 7 |
| Gross Sales of Literature | 149 | 49 | up 11 |
| Book Boxes | 10 | 13 | down 2 |
| Advertisements | 5 | 5 | down 1 |

(b) Owing to holidays the accounts are only completed to July 31st. The Summer School bills are not all in yet.
There are various liabilities but no unpaid bills.

(c) Receipts for the King's Hall Lectures amount to £82. To the same date last year the amount received was £33, 55

(d) The Summer School 1916 Session Receipts amount to £399.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Expenses already paid | £290 | |
| Further payments & Refunds ? | £25 | 315 |
| Rough estimate of net balance | | £ 84 |

(e) The Bank Balance is £258 against which there are substantial payments nearly due for rent, postage, etc.

(f) The order form for the two Research Volumes cost £2.5.0 Is this payable by the F.S. or the Research Department ?

4. Office Staff:

(a) In September the P.O. submitted to us two Postal Orders stolen from us in the spring, bearing the names of F. Partridge, the then office boy and (?) his mother. It may be assumed he stole all

Meeting 12th Jan.y 1917.--

Present Prof.r Edith Morley (in chair) Dodd Webb, Squire, Blizard, Middleton, Miss Smith, Dr. Fairfield Mr. Webb, Miss Atkinson, Exec. Davies Hon Sec.

1. The minutes were confirmed

2. Apologies. Miss Lawrence.

3. Summer School Com.ee Davies, Dodd, Miss Smith & West were elected to this Com.ee

4. Chairman for Exec. Davies

5. Finance & General Purposes Com.ee In introducing this Report, the acting chairman stated that the Com.ee had reconsidered the subject of Grants to the Staff in respect of the King Hall Lectures, & recommended that 30/- be paid to Howell & Miss Thomas. It was agreed to add Miss Gibson to the list, & the recommendation as amended was unanimously adopted. Items 1. (Finance) 2. Tullich Estate, & (3) Pro-

5. Finance Report (contd.

posal to expend not more than £10 in prevention of Cellar flooding, & (4) Election of candidates, were approved. (Item 5. Shaw Manifesto see below.)

6. Proposed Manifesto on Republicanism & Shaw.

The annexed letter & ~~m~~ draft were considered, & the proposed resolution submitted by the Finance & E.P. Com^ee. Squire moved to insert ~~after the words~~ ~~That~~ at the beginning

"That this Committee whilst affirming its belief in Republican principles, finds Bernard Shaw's Manifesto an inadequate statement of the case, and". This was rejected, three only voting for it.

Squire also moved ~~additional words begin~~ a rider beginning "and the desirability": this was agreed to, & the resolution, as amended was almost unanimously adopted in the following form:-

See next page.

FABIAN SOCIETY

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting,
11th January, 1917.

Present: West (in chair), Dodd, Webb and the Hon. Sec.

1. Finance:

Report was presented showing satisfactory increases in receipts.

2. Tulloch Estate:

The Secretary reported two thirds of the Estate actually received: and that Messrs. Burt were consulting an uncle of the testator as to the proposed further benefaction to the family. Arrangements as to the disposal of the final balance were deferred.

3. Cellar Flooding:

The Secretary was authorised to expend not more than £10 on a plan to prevent this.

4. The candidates (2) for January were elected.

5. Shaw's proposed Manifesto:

It was agreed to recommend that Shaw be invited to move at the next Members' Meeting that a Committee be appointed to consider and report on a new constitution for the Empire including the question of the substitution of a president for the heroditary monarch.

JULIUS WEST,
Acting Chairman.

PROPOSED MANIFESTO ON REPUBLICANISM.

Letter from Bernard Shaw accompanying draft Manifesto.

10, Adelphi Terrace, W.C.

1st January, 1917.

Dear Pease,

This letter, also, is official.

I ask the consideration of the Executive Committee for the enclosed draft of a Manifesto to be issued by the Society on the subject of the war. I gather that the time has come for a republican lead, thanks largely to King Tino and King Ferdinand. I have induced the editor of The Daily News to fly a kite on the subject in the shape of a Saturday signed ~~article~~ A.G.G. article threatening the "Dynasts". Our alliance with France and Portugal makes the move a safe one: the Government cannot very well object to a constitutional movement towards Republicanism under the circumstances.

The Fabian Society, if it is to justify its continued existence and maintain its prestige cannot for the first time allow a political event of the first magnitude to pass without a declaration of policy. All the Socialists of Europe are floundering hopelessly; and we are floundering too. Such meetings as those addressed by Loyson are a horrible disgrace to us: never before have we put up a man to vomit vulgar trash about a European crisis. If it had been Victor Fisher we should not have left a rag on his back.

The real reason why the Fabian has sat quiet is that the founding of The New Statesman gave us a new method of issuing Manifestos; and my ~~Commonsense~~ Common Sense About The War took the place of Fabianism and the Empire, and To your Tents, O Israel. But the New Statesman is now an organ of suburban Tory Democracy, assuring the ~~man~~ world that we are in the hands of two "great men who have made great mistakes": to wit, Curzon and Milner. I am out of it; and though Webb still enjoys a precarious hospitality for his excellent articles on industrial democracy, the paper is now far behind The Nation, The Manchester Guardian, and the Daily News, and can do nothing for us but compromise us as far as the war is concerned. We must therefore

fall back on our old weapon of the direct manifesto. And, failing anyone else, I must fall back on my old role of draftsman.

If the Committee prefers, I will bring it forward at the next business meeting as my own proposition; but it is too important for the Committee to announce that they do not propose to make it a government matter and leave the Society to vote as it pleases without producing an impression of futility, and convincing the members that the centre of activity has passed with me from the Executive to the rank and file. I had much better appear as the draftsman employed by the Executive; and the document will be much improved by incorporating a wider set of views than my own.

Besides, it is not complete: we must add an industrial side to it. At least we must try; for my experience at the Research Department does not convince me that we have anything good enough to say, over and above what the already issued tracts say. But Cole and Webb might fight out something that would give a policy to the Trade Unions when Waterloo is followed by the Six Acts.

Apart from the necessity of giving the Society something to interest it instead of absurdly saying that there is no business for the business meetings; with the whole world crumbling on our heads, the general position of affairs is very serious Our blessed government, with its silly, squabbling, boorish reply to the German note and Wilson's intervention, has no conception of the importance of good manners in view of the neutrals, and could not behave itself properly even if it had. It still thinks it lives in an island, and gabbles about small nationalities in a way that would make the Prince of Monaco ridiculous. It was perfectly easy to draft that reply in terms that would have thrilled all Europe and elicited three cheers from America; but it has been done as if our sole object was to disgust everybody outside the office of the Daily Express. Well, we can't teach these people manners; but we can at least give them some ideas, or give ideas to a critical Opposition.

Anyhow , our business is clear. We must keep the old flag waving. Of course it may turn out that under the test of war we have discovered, as Clifford Sharp did, that we do not belong to the old flag at all, and are neither Socialists nor Republicans nor anything else out of the beaten Garden Suburb cinder path. If so, let us find ourselves out and have done with it. Or we may simply be paralyzed by the frightful moral cowardice that has done so much mischief and left us so completely in the hands of the blackguards during the first eighteen months of the war. If so, the Executive Committee can say frankly, "For God's sake let us alone: we are afraid to move." I can then go on my own -- the easiest plan for me. But I don't want to have it said that I made no effort and gave no lead, or -- the same thing -- that I assumed that the Society was no use because I was no longer in office. So I discharge my conscience by drafting the manifesto and formally requesting you to submit it to the Executive Committee for what it may be worth.

(Signed) G. BERNARD SHAW.

# F A B I A N I S M  A N D  T H E  W A R.

The Fabian Society desires to draw attention to the ambiguity of all the public declarations made so far by responsible ministers as to the manner in which the objects of the war are to be secured in the event of victory for the Allies. In spite of President Wilson's challenge, the reply of the Allies to the bid for peace by the Central Empires has done nothing to clear up this ambiguity. In so far as it does not consist of recriminations for home consumption, it professes objects which are clearly inconsistent with the integrity of the Russian and British Empires and of the French Republic as at present politically constituted, and other objects which cannot possibly be attained by military success pure and simple.

## THE NEVER MENTIONED ASSUMPTIONS.

It has been assumed throughout our historical epoch that in all wars of liberation or conquest like the present, the sole question at issue was under which established form of government the disputed territories should be placed. In the XVlll century this meant sometimes whether the form of government should be monarchical or republican. But after Waterloo the issue was narrowed to which king should reign. Even Greece, it was assumed, must be a Kingdom. Dynastic circumstances reduced this issue still further to the question which German king should reign; for royalty had become virtually a family preserve through the intermarriage of Hohenzollerns, Hapsburgs, Romanoffs, and our own reigning house.

Now it is clear that such dynastic considerations have no relation to liberty, to public welfare, to civilization, or to the Socialism which is the special concern of the Fabian Society. The unspeakable frightfulness of war on the modern scale puts war out of the question except as a solvent of problems so important to humanity that catastrophes of the most staggering magnitude are worth facing for their solution; and it is difficult to conceive even the most hardened courtier maintaining that the problem of which cousin of the European royal family shall occupy any particular throne, or have one manufactured for him, has any such importance. Yet we have had no assurance or even suggestion that our colossal efforts and sacrifices in this war will have any other result. It is assumed that the "liberation" of Poland will mean the establishment of a kingdom of Poland, and that the "freedom of the straits" will be achieved by knocking the Sultan off his throne at Constantinople and seating the Tsar on it.

"UNDER WHICH KING, BEZONIAN ? SPEAK OR DIE :"

It follows that a vital fact is being steadily ignored: a fact that will finally assert itself with possibly disastrous consequences when the views of France and Portugal have to be co-ordinated for peace purposes with those of Russia. That fact is that whilst there is practical unanimity as to the desire for victory, there is a fundamental disagreement between the democratic and the royalist sections of the belligerent populations, both on the side of the Allies and in the Central Empires, as to the object of the war. The democrats are fighting and dying for liberty and equality, for peace and international solidarity. The royalists are fighting for the substitution of the Tsar for the Sultan in Constantinople, of the King of Italy for the Emperor of Austria-Hungary in Dalmatia, for the providing of an extra throne for the royal family in Poland, and for the triumph of their own militarism over that of their rivals. If a royalist peace is concluded the democrats will not merely have fought in vain: they will have fought against their own cause. If a republican peace is to be concluded it is time for the democrats to ask for it. A royalist peace is taken for granted until democracy speaks. And men already ask whether they are dying for the great human causes in whose names they were enlisted by their rulers, or for the greater glory of Peter of Servia, Nicholas of Russia, and the Mikado. For since Germany has been beaten to the point of virtually declaring her willingness to evacuate France and Belgium, to whose rescue we were committed both by democratic sympathy with the Republic and royalist diplomatic obligations, we have no quarrel left except the quarrel over institutions further east. To make this quarrel real we must define the institutions we are fighting for.

THE NEED FOR DEFINITION AND OPPOSITION.

By insisting on such a definition we should at once gain what we need above all things for the political direction of the war at home: that is, an Opposition. At present the friends and enemies of the various parties are confused under a common formula of patriotism. Mr. Henderson, representing Labor in the Cabinet, echoes the phrases of Mr. Asquith, the Manchester School doctrinaire, and sits with Lord Milner and Lord Curzon, who represent every tendency in politics that Mr. Henderson has gained the confidence of his constitients by denouncing. Mr. Lloyd George gives us no clue as to whether his ambition is to become, like the late Joseph Chamberlain, the pet of our duchesses and the swashbuckler of capitalist manipulation of tariffs, or to be the first president of a British Republic.

All distinction is confounded in a fog of phrases which everybody can use, from the most unscrupulous tool of reaction to the most exaltedly disinterested patriot.

There is no escape from this confusion, and from the evils it has already brought with it, except the emergence of a definitely international republican party, devoted, as far as the war is concerned, to (a) the establishment of the republican form of government in all the territories which the war may place at the disposal of the victors, (b) as to the great world rights of way by land and sea, to their ~~internationalism~~ internationalization, and (c) in domestic politics, to the reform of the constitution with the object of making the British Empire a Federal Republic, and thus bringing it into line with our Portuguese and French allies and with the United States, swinging the whole balance of power in the world from German royalism to Republicanism. Such a party would be under no suspicion of pro-Hohenzollernism: on the contrary, it would have clear motives for the uncompromising prosecution of the war to a point at which the pretension of the German monarchical militarist system to supreme military efficiency would be crushingly discredited which no other party can claim. It is already plain that the monarchies will make what is called "a premature peace" sooner than allow the conduct of the war to be taken out of their own hands by democratic committees of public safety; but this is the very point to which republicans are anxious to drive the war, knowing that a peace concluded to save the thrones will mean that the whole war will have been wasted from their point of view. Thus a republican Opposition would be an ideal one for the purposes of the moment. At present the Opposition is so confused and unintelligible that its leader formally declares that there is no Opposition. It is made up of Non-interventionists, doctrinaire Pacifists, anti-Russian pro-Germans, Liberal Imperialists, pugnacious patriots, cynical cosmopolitans, and mere party sheep and their bell-wethers. No policy can be predicated of such a mob; and no capacity can be credited to it except the capacity for making a hopeless mess of everything it touches. It is under suspicion of desiring immediate peace for its own sake on the basis of the status quo ante because no conclusion could more effectually reduce war to absurdity than that both sides, after ruinous military exertions and expenditure, should find themselves exactly as they were in all other respects. Whatever may be said for this position, no party suspected of favoring it will be accepted by the nation as against a Government which is solid as to the desirability of "sticking it" until "Prussian militarism", which means simply dynastic feudal militarism, receives a visibly punishing blow in Europe.

## ILLUSORY SOLIDARITY OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Unfortunately this apparent solidarity of the Government conceals motives as various and as hostile to one another as the avowed disintegration of the Opposition. The energetic and ambitious men without intellect or culture, who have dominated politics so largely in both England and Germany for the past half century, find their opportunity in governments which combine the courtier, the plutocrat, the sentimental patriotism of the streets, and their respective journalists in a thoughtless frenzy of primitive instinct which offers irrestible temptations to commercial exploitation. But beyond the immediate satisfactions which political power, money, and victory offer to ambition, cupidity, and pugnacity, these adventurers have no views. They are precisely the people who shortly before the war hung London with garlands to welcome the Kaiser, and refused to allow the Tsar to land at Portsmouth. They bellow millennial phrases about just and lasting peace and security, and mouth romantic perorations about fighting to the last man, the last shilling, and the last drop of our blood; but it is plain to all the world that they have no ideas and no intentions beyond changing the color of the flag here and there, and that many of them would, if the conflict showed any signs of leading to the emancipation of the English people from their present subjection to a luxurious plutocracy, unhesitatingly make common cause with the enemy (following the precedent of Thiers and Bismarck in 1871) to restore the status quo ante in that respect also.

## THE TEST OF DEMOCRACY.

In short, there is no genuine cleavage in parliament except the cleavage between the Pacifist and the Jingo; and both of them are incapable of dealing with the situation created by the war. Only one cleavage is of any importance now that the old controversy between the Manchester School and the Socialists has been won by the Socialists, and the only outstanding question as to Collectivism in industry is as to whether it shall be applied as Socialism for the benefit of humanity or exploited by Capitalism and Privilege in the form of The Servile State. That one cleavage is the cleavage between France and Germany, between Republicanism and Hohenzollernism. The test of the genuine democrat is there. Either, like the Americans, we regard what they call "this king business" as an obsolete, incomprehensible, and revolting idolatry, or we have a genuine veneration for the superior wisdom and nobleness of character conferred on men by crowns, coronets, titles and cocked hats, or we are under the Victorian delusion that it does not matter, and that nobody believes kings to be better than other

any

people, and courtiers privately call them by disrespectful nicknames, yet it saves bother to have a hereditary king instead of having to elect a president every four years, and the party funds could not be kept going without selling peerages to provision merchants and socially ambitious snobs with more money than they know what to do with.

## THE VICTORIAN ILLUSION DISPELLED.

The war has happily killed the Victorian delusion. No German now believes that it did not matter that a young man who would, in a Republican army, have been at best a company officer, was placed in command of the Verdun offensive, with social powers over his staff that no Republican general enjoys, and no monarchical general can afford to disregard. No Englishman now thinks that it does not matter that we have to deal with kings at every turn in our campaign; or that William and Francis Joseph and Constantino and Ferdinand and all the rest were cyphers; or that in dealing with them we are not hampered by the fact that our eastern ally is an autocrat who cannot without compromising his own position allow us to fight them with the gloves off. We have already been forced to a shocking extent to become accomplices in the autocratic tyranny from which we were formely proud to provide a refuge more sure than Switzerland. Our business now is to extricate ourselves from that intolerable position by making the alliance so predominantly republican in sentiment, and finally in form, that the Tsar will no more think of demanding such complicity from us than he now thinks of imposing the Greek Church on the French Republic.

The chief anxiety of the hour is how to prevent a recurrence of the war if it ends, as we intend it shall, in the capitulation of those who drew the sword. The disarmament of Germany has been suggested; and such a program has undoubtedly its attractions for those who, could it be carried out, would obtain the contracts for her inevitable re-armament. It has no attraction at all for the sane and disinterested people who have some practical sense of what is morally possible and what is not. Even if it were possible, our own experience has been a startling demonstration of the rapidity with which a colossal armament can be improvised by a people with a negligible army and obsolete munitions. This is so obvious that the talk about disarmament has veered round to a suggestion that the break-up of the Austro-Hungarian empire is the true solution of the problem of disabling the aggressive tendencies of the Hohenzollerns. There is much more sense in this.

## THE FOLLY OF EMPIRE DISMEMBERMENT.

But it must be said at once that the mere disintegration of the empires is a step backwards in social organization, and that if the day of empires is over, so also, a fortiori, is the day of little independent nations. The American civil war settled that question for the whole epoch inaugurated by the French Revolution. We ourselves cannot with any decency prate about the independence of small nationalities with Ireland and Egypt staring the world in the face. Federal Republicanism has solved this problem. In America forty-eight States confront the world as a single Power, and pool the same civilization. What America could do Austria-Hungary can do. There is no other solution available. We are not fighting for independence: we have had enough of that in the Balkans, and especially in Serbia, where we are defending a king, who owes his throne to a political assassination, against the vengeance brought upon him by another political assassination. We are fighting for national interdependence, for a common law for the world, for international rights of way, for the abolition of what diplomatists call "the sovereign State" that recognises no law but its own will. And only in federal republics can this be reconciled with national individuality and liberty. Our own empire is great and free just to the extent to which our relation with our dominions across the sea is practically more free than that of Washington to San Francisco, whilst Ireland, held as a royal conquest by a garrison, is an open wound in the side of our credit as the professed champions of liberty in this war. Home Rule is an absurdity as it stands at present: no statesman has produced, or can produce, a Home Rule Bill that is not an arbitrary, anomalous, and largely ridiculous instalment of separation, which neither party can afford. Ireland as a State in a Federal British Republic would be more pro-British than England. The "loss" of India, like the "loss" of North America in the XVIII century, is only a matter of time if it remains a jewel in the British crown. But if India and Egypt became unconsciously territories of a Republic, with a not too remote prospect of becoming States, the whole attitude of the Indian and Egyptian patriots would alter in spite of themselves: it would be possible for an Indian or an Egyptian to be pro-British without being a traitor to his own country.

## THE OBSOLESCENCE OF MONARCHY.

The Fabian Society is quite well aware that Republicanism, in its present experimental phase, is no panacea for social evils, and often begins by producing results which compare very unfavorably with those of well ordered monarchies, especially when the republic has been brought into existence by the abuses of a regime in which all opportunity of political education

was cut off from the classes which in a republic have to assume direction of public affairs. But this war has shown that the terrific forces now wielded by great modern states have outgrown the capacity of even the best organized and educated monarchies. Nobody has accused the French Republic of desiring or contriving this war, even with her two lost provinces at stake. Nobody has suggested that the American Republic has allowed its sympathies with Belgium and France to be tainted for a moment with the consideration that our victory over Germany would give us a dangerous predominance in the balance of power, a consideration which would be the first to occur to any dynastic diplomatist. But every one of the monarchies engaged has been accused of planning the defeat and ruin of its rivals for years past. And in the course of these recriminations evidence has come to light -- indeed it cannot be said to have been hidden -- that in every monarchy there was a body of persons placed in high positions by their devotion to the monarchical system whose views were precisely those of Frederick the Great, Catherine the Second, Louis the fourteenth, and, one may add, Nelson, Metternich, Bismarck, and the late Lord Roberts: that is to say, that the world is a booty for monarchs to be competed for by armies, and that the unarmed nation is in the same peril as an unarmed traveller on Hounslow Heath in the reign of Charles the second. In England, in Germany, in Austria, and in Russia, these people not only urged their governments to accept such a war as the present as inevitable, and to be the first to attack, but, what is more significant, their opinions were accepted as the correct opinions for the governing class in the public schools, the army, and at court. Whilst this state of things lasts, as it must whilst the monarchies last, it is idle to talk about this war ending war, or about any possible terms of peace giving us security against future war, even between us and our allies, much less between us and the central ~~powers~~. empires.

## THE REPUBLICAN IDEA RIPENED BY THE WAR.

The time has come to say this frankly, if it were only to reassure our allies across the channel as to the existence of a strong and wide spread sympathy with the principles of the French Revolution and a desire to adopt her form of government in its essentials. The Fabian Society, in saying it, is under no suspicion of advocating the old violent Liberal method of insurrection and regicide. It is an open secret that the reigning houses of Europe, more enlightened than some of their subjects, have taken care to secure opulant circumstances for themselves in the event of their being promoted to the dignity of citizens of a Republic. The precaution is hardly necessary. Orderly changes in the constitution are not now effected at the expense

of individuals: rather do we tend to excessive compensation; and a monarch who made a bad bargain would have himself to thank.

With this indication of the way out of the present confusion the function of the Fabian Society in this matter is discharged. The Society does not form political parties, though, as in the case of the Labor Party, it has advised and assisted their formation. Already, in the midst of much more or less vague talk about Leagues to Enforce Peace and the like, the Society has, according to its own tradition, conducted an investigation into arbitration and international organization, and has published a scheme for a supernational tribunal and legislature which has so far not been improved upon nor convicted by its critics of the sciolism or Utopianism which mar most schemes of the kind. Its main business is that of the solution of domestic industrial problems of the kind raised by Socialism.

## SOCIALISM CAUGHT NAPPING BY THE WAR.

But it cannot ignore the larger political problems raised by our relations with other countries. The preoccupation of the Socialists of Europe with their domestic problems left them hopelessly unprepared for the war. They had no foreign policies. For years they had repeated the old shibboleth of the International: "Proletarians of all lands, unite", and assumed that they were Pacifists raised above all Jingo passions. Yet when the war came they had to go to the trenches with the rest, not only under compulsion, but as volunteers under the ~~pleasant~~ plainest reasonable necessities of social solidarity, some of them indeed yielding to the patriotic passion of the moment with a fury that would have seemed excessive in the most exclusive officers' messes of the household regiments. They had to follow to the field the king they had disclaimed because the king still carried the flag, and their was no other way of fighting for their hearths and homes than by fighting for the king. And yet they know very well that battles won for kings are not won for the people. And now they are like sheep without their shepherds, glad to have any shepherd to drive them, and repeating the commonplaces of "the capitalist press" as excuses for a position which they feel to be fundamentally false. Yet the solution is simple enough. Socialism has always and necessarily been federalist and republican. It must recognize that until it has brought federal republicanism into being as the standard political form of modern civilization, it will find itself helplessly entangled in dynastic wars, and must slay and be slain fratricidally shoulder to shoulder with the benighted folk who still feel all foreigners as Drake felt to all Spaniards and Nelson to all Frenchmen.

## THE DANGER OF VIOLENT REVOLUTION.

The end of the war may well be the beginning of even worse strife unless we learn to know our own minds, and rouse ourselves to bring our institutions into conformity with them. Eminent statesmen whisper that there may be a violent revolution after the war. They are too sanguine: there may well be one before the end of the war unless it be sanctified, as far as so wicked a thing as war can be sanctified, by a cause for which modern men are willing to starve and die. Liberty and Equality are the watchwords of such a cause; and monarchy is its flat negation. If our wage-working folk and middle class intellectuals come to think that their patriotism is being exploited by those who regard them as more cannon fodder and profit producing cattle, then anything may happen. If they remain convinced that they are really achieving the freedom of Europe from militarist, capitalist, and royalist domination, they will grudge nothing to their leaders.

But their leaders must feed their faith with deeds. The day for fine phrases is over as far as this war is concerned. The currency of the guarantees of kings and the pledges of kings' prime ministers has fallen, since the forts of Liege fell, far more even than the price of provisions has risen. Let us look to it; or an emergency that will come closer home than the German cannon may find us still less prepared than our Liberal Imperialists left us for the war which they at least foresaw, though they did not dare to tell us the truth. They have fallen: our enemies are still in the field. The time has come to tell the streets the truth. And if the truth is to reach the streets, it cannot be concealed from the thrones.

7. Proposed Manifesto, (cont.)

That Shaw be invited to move at the next Members' Meeting that a Committee be appointed to consider and report on a new constitution for the Empire including the question of the substitution of a president for the heroditary monarch

and the desirability of allowing the Population of any new States which may be set up as a result of the War to determine for themselves whether the form of their government shall be monarchical or republican, & in the event of their electing for a monarchy, to exercise a free choice in their selection of a king."

A draft reply to Shaw was submitted & Webb & in substance approved. It was agreed that the Sec.y amend it in the direction of making it less formal, & send it with the resolution adopted. (Letter attached)

H Snell

23. Feb 1917

Meeting 23rd Feby 1917.

Present. Snell (in chair) Dr. Fairfield, Dr Dodd, Middleton, Mrs Webb, Miss Smith, Prof Morley, Blizard, Mrs Salmond, Miss Atkinson Webb Davies & the Hon Sec.

1. The minutes of last meeting were confirmed

2. Apologies. West, out of London.

3. The subject of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill was brought forward, but in the absence of notice, & of details of the amendments suggested, it was decided to take no action.

4. The Publishing Comee Report was presented & the whole adopted.

5. The Finance & General Purposes Comee Reports of Feb 9 & 22 were submitted & in some details considered together.

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Publishing Committee on 19th Jan.,1917.

Present: West(in chair), Blizard, Prof. Morley, Miss Smith, Standring, and the Hon. Sec.; also Webb.

1. No. 182. "Robert Owen, Idealist" by Joad.
   It was agreed that this be cut to 32 pp., that a Bibliography is unnecessary, that a cover (for 4000 only) be prepared with the Brooke portrait: that 7000 be printed and the price by 2d.

2. "Saving the Babies".
   Miss Atkinson's offer of a reprint of her "Westminster" articles with additions was accepted.

3. Webb's "Times" Articles.
   His offer of these was discussed and it was considered that publication on his own account was on the whole preferable.

4. Tract 181. "When Peace Comes."
   It was reported that sales were 3000 and stock 9500. It was resolved to send a copy to each I.L.P. Branch (500) and to consider W.E.A. Classes, Brotherhoods, Adult Schools, etc.

JULIUS WEST,
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on Feb. 9th, 1917.

Present: Ensor (in chair), Webb and the Hon. Sec.

1. Finance:

(a) Figures were presented showing that the Society is in an unusually strong financial position.

(b) It was decided to advance the wages of the office girl from 10/- to 12/6d.

(c) Form of agreement with L. S. Woolf to pay him £100 and provide £15 for purchase of books for the preparation of a volume on International Trade was settled and ordered to be sent him.

2. Tulloch Estate:

(a) Letter from the uncle, J. A. Tulloch, was considered and it was agreed that it disclosed no case for any further grant to the family. It was agreed to defer reply till the application of the money is determined on.

(b) Scheme for application of the money. See report of next meeting.

(c) It was resolved to apply for £150 5% War Loan as an investment of the fund.

3. April-June Meetings:

(a) The following ~~work~~ was approved:-

April 20 (or 27). A Lecture.
May 11. . . . . Annual Meeting.
May 25. . . . . A Lecture.

(b) It was agreed to ask Shaw on his experiences at the front (who has refused);
and A. E. Zimmern (who has accepted).

4. The January candidates were elected.

R. C. K. ENSOR,
Chairman.

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 22nd Feb., 1917.

Present: Webb (in chair), West, Dodd, Miss Atkinson, and the Hon. Secretary.

1. Finance:

On a provisional estimate that a cash surplus of several hundred pounds was probable at the close of the year it was agreed (subject to final re-consideration) that a Reserve for Publications be created out of the King's Hall Lecture surplus.

2. Tulloch Estate:

(a) The Secretary reported the whole sum now in hand amounting to £174.7.5, of which £142.10.0 had been invested in 5% War Loan. It was agreed to so invest the balance when it can be purchased.

(b) Draft report on the application of the Fund was considered. The ~~Annual~~ Biennial Income will be £18.12.0.

I. A biennial Tulloch Prize Essay on some subject connected with Socialism open to all teachers or to Scotch teachers, to be read at a joint meeting of Scotch Fabian Societies and published by us.

II. A biennial Tulloch Lecture at Edinburgh to Scotch University Fabian Societies, also to be published by us.

After discussion the Committee report that they are unable to recommend either of these and are disposed to prefer: -

III. The preparation of a book or books, if such can be arranged.

IV. They also report the suggestion that part of the income should be used to give a week's hospitality at the Summer School to a Scotch student.

Finally the Committee report that an immediate decision is not imperative.

3. International Conference at Paris beginning March 13th.

(a) Formal invitation was submitted.

(b) It was agreed that it is important to send 2 delegates, if it can be done free of expense to the Society.

(c) The only names suggested as possibly willing to attend were Sanders, Middleton, and Harben, who is in Paris.

4. Society Lectures:

Arrangements approved:-

April 20th: A. E. Zimmern: Socialism and Nationality.

May 11th: Annual Meeting.

May 25th: A lecture.

5. Woolf Volume on International Trade:

Agreement for this was ordered to be signed.

6. Resignations (7) were accepted, and 3 defaulters were struck off.

SIDNEY WEBB,
Chairman.

5. Finance Com^ee Report (cont^d.)

Items 1, both Reports, Finance, were approved

" 2. " " Tulloch Estate. These were discussed & the final conclusion of the 2^nd Report, to defer final decision was unanimously approved.

Items 3, First, & 4 Second Report, Soc^ty Lectures were approved.

Item 3., Second Report, International Conference. It was agreed to appoint Sanders, & to invite Shaw. Failing either, it was agreed to invite Harlan to attend, & the Sec. was authorised to appoint any other member of the Exec. willing to go.

The other items were all approved.

Members Meeting & Shaw Resolution.

(a) Letter read from Shaw cordially accepting the Exec. proposals &c. Agreed to send appropriate reply

(b) Agreed that Miss Atkinson follow Shaw accepting the proposal for the Exec.

(c) Agreed to ask Teerogood to take the chair.

Chairman for Welsh.

Dodd appointed.

over

8.

mmer School Committee:

(a) Report that the newly Constituted Committee met on Feb. 5th, re-elected Davies, Chairman; and Miss Hankinson, Manager; and co-opted A. K. Bulley, J. Katz and Miss Orange.

(b) Accounts were presented showing that the 1913 session showed a profit of £80, and that the balance at the credit of the account was £87.

(c) A sub-committee was appointed to seek for a furnished house preferably in Derbyshire, but not excluding the Home Counties.

The Report was received, & preference was expressed for locating the School in the Home Counties.

H Squire

(230)

Meeting 23rd March ~~at~~ 1917 at 5.30.

Present Squire (in chair) Welb, Miss Smith Dr. Fairfield Mrs Salmond, Miss Morley Davies, Dodd Blizard Ensor + the Hon. Sec.

1. The Minutes were confirmed

2. Apologies. West, Miss Atkinson.

Publishing Business.

The publication of the Owen Tract is delayed because the printer is short-handed. noted.

3. Report of the Summer School Committee.

At a meeting on March 19th the Committee decided to take Priorsfield School, Godalming, which contains over 70 single bedrooms, with numerous sitting rooms, a lecture Hall, seven tennis courts, a cricket field and a large and beautiful garden, for 4 or 5 weeks from August 4th at a rent of from £15-15-0 to £20 according to the accommodation required.

A lecture committee was appointed, and it was suggested that weeks should be arranged devoted to such subjects as the Reconstruction of the Empire, Women and the War, Educational Problems, etc.

The report was received, + suggestions as to lectures were made + noted by the Chairman

over

4. The Finance & General Purposes Com^ee Report was presented:

Item 1. Finance, was approved, & on (d) Tullochs Estate, suggestions were ordered to be asked for in F. News & the par. was approved.

Item 2. Lectures. Russia as a subject was preferred to Food.

Item 3. Reconstruction of Empire, notice approved with an addition.

Items 4 & 5 were ~~appro~~ noted.

Item 6. Delegations. No one wd. go.

Item 7. Noted.

5. Chairman for Davies. Blizard.

Sidney Scott

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee, on 22nd March, 1917.

Present: Webb (in chair), Dodd, Miss Atkinson & Hon. Secretary.

1. Finance:

   (a) Figures were presented showing a large decrease in subscriptions, compared with last year, due to the fact that no reminders were sent out from July 1915 to January, 1916.

   (b) Instructions were given in relation to a number of accounts, and in particular that the surplus cash, probably £250, be invested in 5% War Loan as a reserve for Publications.

   (c) A Legacy of £100 from Hugh Barr, of Glasgow, who died of wounds on February 27th, was reported, but the amount is not likely to be paid for some time.

   (d) Draft paragraph on this and the Tulloch Estate for Fabian News was ordered to be submitted to the Executive.

2. Society Lecture:
   For the open date, May 25th, a lecture on Food Restrictions or on Russia was suggested.

3. Empire Reconstruction:
   It was agreed to insert in Fabian News a notice asking for names of members willing to work at -
   (a) The method of getting a head of the State.
   (b) The constitution of a Second Chamber, if any.
   (c) A constitution for the British Empire.

4. Executive Election:
   The Secretary reported that there would be no contest. Ratcliffe (from whom he had not heard) had been nominated in place of Allen.

5. Sugar Purchase Scheme:
   Request for opinions on the New Statesman Scheme was ordered to be reported to the Executive.

6. Delegations:

The following were ordered to be reported to the Executive for volunteers:-

Conference on Pensions, Saturday, March 24th.
" " Industrial Conscription, Sat., March 31st.
" " Food, National Service and Russia,
National Socialist Party, Caxton Hall, Wednesday, April 4th. General invitation.

7. Organisation and Propaganda Business:
Election, Resignations and List of Defaulters, etc. was dealt with.

SIDNEY WEBB,
Acting Chairman.

April 1917.
Present, Dr Fairfield, Mrs Hudley, Dawes, Miss Smith, ill.
Paying the Executive, um from N.S.P.
reported relation of
rein of the now agreed d his Jan.

Committee Meeting at Office on 20th April 1917.

Present. Webb (in chair) Mrs Webb, Dodd, Dr Fairfield, Ensor, Mrs Salmond, Miss Lawrence, Miss Morley, Middleton, West, Blizard, Davies, Miss Atkinson & the Hon. Sec.

The minutes were confirmed

- Apologies. Sanders (in Russia) Snell & Miss Smith, ill.

S. K. Ratcliffe. Sec.y reported a letter saying he accepted nomination for the Executive, but was uncertain when he wd return from U.S.A.

- International Socialist Bureau. Sec.y reported receipt of Circular including translation of our Report on the Terms of Peace.

- Annual Fabian Conference. In view of the state of our Local Societies it was agreed that no conference be held this year.

over

6. Committee on Empire Reconstruction. Two applications for membership reported. The matter was referred to the Finance Comee for report.

7. Annual Meeting. It was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting at the Fabian Hall to put nothing but the Report on the Agenda, & to give notice that the Exec. will entertain the members to coffee & cigarettes at 9 o'clock.

8. Lecture May 25th. The Sec. reported that he had asked Sanders to give the lecture on Russia, but the letter did not reach him before he left. Mrs Sanders expected he wd be back in time & wd consent. It was agreed to put his name (without title) in the News, & that Maude be asked to take his place if for any reason he cannot lecture.

9. Workers Ed. Assn Confce May 3rd. Mrs Crosthwaite, Miss Atkinson & Miss Edith Morley were appointed.

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the SUMMER SCHOOL Committee Meeting April 18th, 1917.

Present: Davies, in Chair; Miss Mankinson; Miss Moor; Miss Orange; Joad; and the Hon. Secretary.

1. Priorsfield School: Report that it had been taken for £18-18-0 for 5 weeks was approved.

2. Prices and Accommodation: The rooms available are, 2 with 4 beds, 3 with 3, 12 with 2, 70 with 1. In view of the unusual preponderance of single rooms, and the substantial profit made last year, the Committee resolved that the prices be the same as last year, viz.

| | |
|---|---|
| Single rooms | £2-2-0 |
| Double " | £2-0-0 |
| Multiple " | £1-17-6 |

Provisions can be obtained freely from the Aldershot Co-operative Society.

3. Lectures and Directors:
The annexed Report of the Lecture sub-committee was virtually adopted, and the directors and dates proposed are as follows:-

Week beginning Aug. 5th: Director, Snell or Davies.
Subject: Scientific & Miscellaneous.

Aug. 12th: Director, ~~Snell~~ Davies or Snell.
Subject: Literature.

Aug. 19th: Director, Ratcliffe.
Subject: Women's topics.

Aug. 26th: Director, Pease.
Subject: Empire Reconstruction.

Sept. 2nd: Director, Webb or Mrs. Webb.
Subject: Industrial Reconstruction.

EMIL DAVIES,
Chairman.

6. The Summer School Com^ee Report was submitted by the Chairman.

(1 & 2) The Financial scheme was approved.

(3) The proposed Directors were approved. It was agreed that Mrs Webb be Director & that she take the second Week. The dates of the others were left open till Shaw had selected his week.

The lecture scheme was discussed & various suggestions made for the S. S. Com^ee. — It was agreed that the weeks should have subjects specified.

7. Annual Report. Draft was considered in proof & a number of additions & amendments mostly proposed by Webb were agreed to. The Annual Balance Sheet was approved.

8. War-bonus for Staff. On a letter from Miss Thomas it was agreed that a War Bonus must be paid to the Staff, & the Finance Com^ee was authorised to determine the amount.

9. Candidates for April 9 were elected.

D L M

Committee Meeting 11th May 1917.

Present. Mrs. Webb (in chair) Snell, Miss Laurence
Miss Smith Dr. Fairfield, Middleton, Webb
Miss Morley, Dodd, Davis, Blizard, Squire,
West & the Hon. Sec.

1. The Minutes were confirmed

2. Apologies, Mrs. Salmond.

3. The Standing Orders were confirmed, with the proviso that membership be transferred from the Organising & P. Comee to the Finance & P. Comee until further orders.

4. Committees. Finance. Miss Atkinson, Dodd, Snell, Webb & West, re-elected. Snell & Davis added.
Publishing. Blizard, Miss Laurence, Middleton, Miss Morley, Mrs. Reeves, Miss Smith, Squire & West re-elected. Ratcliffe added.
Organising & Propaganda. Davis, Dr. Fairfield, Mrs. Salmond, Snell, Mrs. Webb re-elected,
pro forma: no meetings to be held for the present

(39)

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on May 4th, 1917.

Present: West (in chair), Webb, Dodd, Miss Atkinson and the Hon. Secretary.

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1. Finance: Reports presented showed a small increase in receipts for April 1917 over 1916.

2. Staff Salaries: It was agreed that the War Bonus ordered by the Executive Committee be 20 per cent. on the salaries of the clerical staff to date from the beginning of the financial year.

3. Committee on Empire Reconstruction: It was agreed that the first meeting be held on a day preferably Thursday or Friday and at an hour to suit H. D. Hall of Oxford, that the Executive Committee be all invited, and that G. B. Shaw, H. D. Hall, H. C. Corner and D. W. Caddick be added to the Committee.

4. Lecture on Russia May 25th: The Secretary reported that Sanders was expected to be back, and it was agreed to ask Ratcliffe to lecture on America if Sanders fails. Failing Ratcliffe, that West and Maude be asked to speak on Russia.

5. Reception to Sanders and the others: The Secretary reported that he had been invited to be on a Committee formed by H. W. Lee for this purpose.

6. Membership: The candidates for May were elected, various resignations were accepted, and a list of defaulters was dealt with.

7. Chairman for Annual Meeting: It was agreed to invite Maude.

JULIUS WEST,
Acting Chairman.

5. Chairman's Rota. The following were appointed:-
Blizard, Davis, Dodd, Ensor, Dr. Fairfield, Miss Laurence
Miss Morley, Ratcliffe, Snell, Squire Welb, Mrs. Welb.

6. Publishing Comte Report, was submitted verbally by West, the chairman:-
(a) Joad's Owen: at least nearly ready: 5000 of only to be printed.
(b) Miss Atkinson's Tract on Child-nurture. To be asked for. On this it was agreed that it must be published at once, or not at all, & Miss A. was ordered to be asked to send it before Whitsuntide, or not at all.
(c). It was decided to drop the following
No 76. Houses for the People (for the present.)
" 98. State Railways for Ireland
" 132. Guide to books for Socialists
" 150. State Purchase of Railways.
The Report was adopted.

7. The Finance & G.P. Comte Report was submitted by West.
The whole was adopted, & Friday May 18 at 5 pm. was fixed for the first mtg of the Empire Reconstruction Comte

8. Summer School. The Sec. reported some progress in arrangements & bookings.

9. Lieut. Comr. R. H. K. Hope. The Sec. submitted correspondence & his signature to the Basis with a note that he advocated ownership of home. Agreed that the signature of the Basis is good.

10. Autumn Lectures. The Secy reported letter from Miss M. Forster saying Mrs Besant wd. not be in England. Mrs Webb outlined scheme which was generally approved

11. Stockholm Socialist Conference. Middleton reported on invitation, which had not been received by the F.B. Agreed that no action be taken.

F. Lansbury
15.VI.17.

Special Meeting of the Executive Comte on
Friday June 1st 1917 at 4.30 p.m.
Present Blizard, West, Dr. Fairfield
~~Blizard~~. Mrs Salmond, Miss Smith
F. Lawson Dodd, Emil Davies & the Hon Sec.
Also Bernard Shaw.

. Blizard was elected chairman.

.. The Secy submitted telegram received ~~[illegible]~~ from the Soldiers & Workmens Comte or from the Douma inviting the F.S. to send a delegate to confer at Petrograd.

.. ~~[illegible]~~ The Sec. reported that Sanders did not think it necessary to send a delegate & a letter from Welt was read to the same effect.

.. After Dodd had moved that two delegates be sent, & the motion was not seconded, it was moved & agreed That a member be sent in response to

the invitation.

5. It was further moved
That Julius West be sent at a cost not exceeding £100. -
This was adopted nem. con.

6. The text of the telegram was as follows:-
SSS Petrograd Gov Douma, 25/5/17 6.38pm
Fabian Society 25 Fortnull St. Westminster
Executive Committee Council Workers & Soldiers Deputates had negociation with French & Belgian delegates Tsroma, Debunker Vandevelde about organisation of International Convention. Executive Committee will meet delegates of your party in Petrograd with greatest pleasure. Executive Committee 3266.

H. Lansbury
15.VI.17

FABIAN SOCIETY.

To the members of the Executive Committee:-

FABIAN SOCIETY.

To the members of the Executive Committee:-

There is no business of sufficient importance for the Finance & General Purposes Committee fixed for June 8th, and the meeting will not be held.

I report as follows:-

1. At the special meeting of the Executive on June 1st it was agreed to send West to Petrograd and he leaves perhaps on Saturday.

2. The Summer School promises to be a big success. The lectures are well in hand. Bookings to date are 38, compared with 12 at same date last year.

3. With the approval of the Finance Committee, I joined a Committee which consists in the main of H. W. Lee (Justice) and A. W. Appleton (General Federation of T.U.) formed to arrange a Queen's Hall Meeting on June 21st for Sanders, O'Grady and Thorne, with Hyndman in the chair.

We have raised £20 for preliminary expenses, and a further £50 will be required. I propose that the Society lend £10 or more if necessary, and shall do this if no objection is made. Sale of tickets is practically certain to cover expenses.

4. I shall probably call a full meeting of the Executive for Friday, June 15th, to consider the Stockholm International Conference - if plans for it are at all settled - and to transact any routine business.

Fabian Office.
7th June, 1917.

EDW. R. PEASE,
Hon. Sec.

Meeting 15th June 1917.
Present Dodd (in chair), Snell, Ensor, Middleton, Dr Fairfield, Webb, Mrs Webb & the Hon Sec.

1 The Minutes of the last two meetings were read & confirmed.

2. International Conferences, etc. The Sec'y reported.

(a) Wire from West, dated Bergen, June 13: Shall await instructions from Henderson in Stockholm: address Poste Restante.

(b) Stockholm (or other) Conference.
The whole matter is in the melting pot, and no action can be taken by us.

No action on either to be taken

Autumn Lectures: approved as follows:-

(a) Proposed Scheme.

The Britannic Alliance and World Politics.

I. The Britannic Alliance and its Constituent Federations. — Webb.
II. Colour and Commonwealth. — Sir H. Johnston.
III. Democracy and Heredity. — Shaw.
IV. The New International Trade. — Webb.
V. The Passing of Nationalities. — Wallas.
VI. The Reconciliation of Uniformity with Diversity. — Shaw.

(b) Fee to Johnston, £10.10.- to be paid

(c) Day, dates and place:-
King's Hall, Fridays from Oct. 26th.

4. Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 25th May, 1917.

Present: West (in chair) and the Hon. Secretary, also Dr. Fairfield.

1. Leeds Conference called by the United Socialist Counci of the I.L.P. and B.S.P.

It was decided not to send a delegate.

2. The resignation of Richard Higgs was accepted.

JULIUS WEST,

Chairman.

approved.

5. War Bonus. On Mrs Herbert's application it was agreed to pay her 4/- extra as a War Bonus from 1st June.

6. Summer School: Bookings to 14th June, 1917, 58. Report recei
Do. Do. 1916, 16.

over

Russian Delegates Meeting. The Sec.y reported that as proposed in the Circular letter to the Exec., he had lent £20 to Lee for the above.

Report approved but Snell desired his name to be recorded as dissenting from the action of the Finance & Ls. Coun.l which authorised the Hon. Sec. to join the committee.

Annual Meeting "at Home".

The Hon. Sec. presented the Bill, 9/- & the sum was subscribed by those present.

June Candidates all elected

Resignations

| | |
|---|---|
| C.G.Ammon. | No reason given. |
| Rev. W.H.Hewlett Cooper (Wilts) | Do. |
| Mrs. Evelyn Matthews (Bourneville) | Do. |
| H.H.Slesser. | Not in complete sympathy. |

Accepted.

W. Snell 27 July 1917

Meeting 27th July 1917

Present. Snell (in chair) Blizard, Ratcliffe Sanders, Squire, Webb, Mrs Webb, Davies Dr. Fairfield, Miss Smith Miss Lawrence Dodd, Cusor, Miss Atkinson & the Hon. Sec.

1. The minutes of last Mtg were confirmed

2. Finance. The Committee has not met.
Reported that subscriptions, book boxes and literature sales all exceed those at the same period last year, and that the Bank Balances are about £200.

3.- Summer School
(a) Bookings 215. Full to Aug. 25.
(b) Proposal to open Bank a/c at Godalming. agreed.
(c) Possible absence of Pease, Director for 1st. week.

Dr. Fairfield was appointed.

4.- Autumn Lectures.
Syllabus in type
Report by Webb that the Chairmen had been arranged
Clutton Brock, Sir S. Olivier, Mrs Webb,

5.- Candidates for July and August ~~[illegible]~~ elected.
Proposed that the Hon. Soc. elect September list. agreed.

- Universal Military Training. (Spry Donation). Webb reported that Greenwood had written three articles for the Athenaeum, which were no more than a preface & that he could do no more. It was agreed that Webb settle with Greenwood, (who, it was understood, would not expect payment for what he had done) & that he be empowered to make other arrangements, reporting to the Exec., or in his discretion, taking any necessary action.

- Society Lectures. Agreed that the Secy arrange a Soc'y lecture on Oct 12 or Oct 19, ~~Wed~~ for a Report on the Stockholm Conference or a lecture on some current topic.

- Publishing Business.
  (a) Poem by P. Dubash was read & approved.
  (b) Offer by Fisher Unwin to publish Summer School lectures was refused, as they wd not be written.

- Delegation to Petrograd. Reported that West had returned but had gone to Paris with Henderson & the Russian Delegation, & so could not report to the Executive.

11. Labour Party Conference at London on Friday Aug 10th. It was agreed that Emil Davies
Miss Susan Lawrence
& J.C. Squire
be the delegates.

12. Proposed Allied Socialist Conference at London August 8th & 9th
It was agreed that we send delegates & resolved that
Webb,
Mrs Webb
Shaw
& Pease be the four delegates, & that if Pease cannot be there Miss Susan Lawrence or Blizard take his place.

13. Proposed International Conference at Stockholm
(a) It was resolved to attend
(b) It was resolved that unanimously that the delegate's expenses be paid by the Party

Draft Resolution for Socialist Conference by S. Webb.

That in view of the probable world-wide shortage, after the war, of exportable foodstuffs and raw material and of merchant shipping, it is imperative, in order to prevent the most serious hardships, and even possible famine, in one country or another, that systematic arrangements should be made, on an international basis, for the allocation and conveyance of the available exportable surpluses of food & raw materials to the different countries, in proportion not to their purchasing power but to their several pressing needs; and that, within each country, the Government must, for some time maintain its control of the indispensable commodities, in order to secure their appropriation, not in a competitive market, mainly to the richer classes, in proportion to their means, but systematically, to meet the most urgent needs of the whole community, on the principle of "no cake for anyone until all have bread".

13. Internat. Conference, Stockholm, (cont.d)
provided that they do not exceed 6, & that an appeal for subscriptions towards the cost be inserted in the News.

(c) Agreed that the following 5 be appointed:
Shaw
Webb
Mrs. Webb
Miss Lawrence
Pease.
& that West & Sharp be added, if necessary, the latter being already on the spot.

(d) Resolution, annexed, drafted by Webb, was amended & approved, & Webb was authorised to draft other resolutions out of our recent International Report, & be circulated to the Exec.

.. Womens Int. Soc.l Confce. Dr. Fairfield reported on the line she had taken & it was approved.

.. Next Meeting, when necessary.

R. C. K. Ensor
12 oct. 1917

(80)

Meeting 12th October 1914.

Present Ensor (in chair), Prof. Morley, Dodd, Dr. Fairfield, Webb, Mrs. Webb, Sanders Mrs. Salmond, Snell & the Hon Sec.

1. The minutes of last meeting were confirmed

2. Apologies:- Blizard (away) West (in Petrograd) Harben (in Paris) Davis (Shell-shocked) Squire (in Scotland) Middleton (engaged)

3. Publishing Comte. The Hon. Sec. reported that none of the Committee, summoned for 5 p.m. had attended: the business was therefore taken as follows:-

4. Report on Minutes:

(a) Joad's Owen published.
(b) Miss Atkinson did not complete her Tract, and it is off.

Received

over

# FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting.
Sept. 21st, 1917.

Present: Webb (in chair), Dodd, Ensor, Snell, and the Hon. Secretary. Also Dr. Fairfield, Blizard, and Middleton.

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1. Webb was elected Chairman of the Committee.

2. Finance: (a) Reports were received showing a very satisfactory financial position, including an estimated profit from the Summer School of £230.
   (b) Delegation to Petrograd. West sent an account which was passed showing his expenditure at £67.5s.9d.

3. Empire Reconstruction Committee: On a suggestion that M. Duncan Hall was free to work for the Committee, it was agreed:-

   (a) To ask him to prepare the report on Military Training for the Spry Fund. (This he has refused).
   (b) To ask him if he ~~wi~~ is willing to prepare the E.R. Committee Report for suitable Remuneration.

   (c) To inform the E.R. Committee that the Finance Committee is prepared to recommend the Executive Committee to provide the necessary funds for the preparation of this Report by M.D.Hall and its publication.

(The E.R. Committee at its meeting on Oct. 5th, M. D. Hall being present and consenting, unanimously resolved; That the Executive Committee be informed that the E.R. Committee approves of the proposal of the Finance Committee that Mr. Hall be invited to prepare the Report - to be submitted to the E.R. Committee - for publication in volume form on terms to be arranged By the Executive Committee with Mr. Hall).

4. Membership:
   Eight resignations were accepted.

5. King's Hall Lectures:
Report of good progress was made. (See Executive Agenda).

6. Society Meetings:

It was agreed that the Meeting in October be a members' meeting to receive reports of the delegates to the Inter-Allied Socialist Conference in August.

7. Political Candidatures:
Letters and reports were received relative to proposed candidatures by Captain Haden Guest and Lieut. Commndr. the Hon. J. W. Kenworthy.
It was resolved:-
That the Executive Committee be recommended to appoint a Committee to report on the subject.

8. Women's International Socialist Council:
The appointment of a delegate in place of Miss Atkinson was referred to the Executive. ( See Executive Agenda).

9. London Labour Party:
Circulars, etc. referred to the Executive. (See Executive Agenda).

10. War Emergency Workers' National Committee:
A grant of 21/- was made to the fund for repaying the legal expenses of the Birmingham Trades Council over War Rent Restriction case.

SIDNEY WEBB,
Chairman.

5. Tract on Russian Socialism by West:

Report of the Secretary that West submitted MS. for publication by the Labour Party or F.S.: that the Labour Party refused, and Henderson wrote criticising it: that the Hon. Secretary has power from West to alter and proposes to take Henderson's advice: that Webb, Sanders and himself having read the MS. think it should be published at once: that with the consent of several members of the Executive at the Empire Reconstruction Committee he has sent the MS. to be set up by the St. Clement's Press, Standring having refused it.

Proposed: that the above be approved, and Proofs circulated as soon as ready. . . . .

Letters from West and Henderson. agreed. & copies of proof ordered to be sent to the Exec.

6 Reform of the House of Lords: MS. by Webb.

Proposed to set up at once.
4,000 words only: additions will be made.
Read and approved by Sanders and the Hon. Secretary.

Agreed to set up at once

7 Maternity and Public Health:

Dr. Meredith Young offers for publication the MS. of his Summer School lecture. Asked to send MS., but it has not ~~arrived~~ yet been received.

Agreed to wait.

8 Democracy and the Guild Idea:

Useless MS. offered by one Robert Pohl. Research Department members say it is ~~useless~~ no good.

Refused.

9. The Finance & General Purposes Comte

Report was submitted by the Chairman:-

Items 1 & 2 were noted.

Item 3. Proposed volume on Empire Reconstruction.

The Scheme was approved & Webb was authorised to draft agreement offering £100 to H. D. Hall for writing the book.

Items 5 & 6 were approved.

Item 7. Political Candidatures. This was considered with a Circular on the subject from the Labour Party. Finally it was agreed that the Finance & General Purposes Comte be the Comte to report, & that they have power to make a general statement on the subject in Fabian News.

Items 8. 9. 10 were noted & approved.

10. Charwomans Wages. The Hon Sec. reported that the Charwoman worked 26 hours in the winter & was paid 11/- agreed that her wages be increased to 13/-

Women's International Socialist Council:

(a) Appointment of delegate in place of Miss Atkinson.
(b) Circular re Annual Meeting of officers.

Agreed to appoint Miss Dawson in place of Miss Atkinson, to re-appoint the other delegates & to take no further action.

London Labour Party:

(a) Annual Meeting Nov. 24th.
(b) Nomination for Executive (Miss Lawrence).
(c) Delegates (4) to Meeting.

Agreed to renominate Miss Lawrence & that Blizard (if he will) & any others appointed by the Hon. Sec. be delegates.

King's Hall Lectures:

| | 1917 | 1916 |
|---|---|---|
| Receipts to October 11th | 286 | 275 |

Advt. in New Statesman arranged for.

Agreed (a) To advertise ½ page in Nation
& (b) To send to Clubs & Nbels
(c) To send parcel to L.L.P. Branches
(d) To send to Foreign Legations, J.M.C.A. central.
(e) To have dinner at Tavistock Hotel for Executive lecturers &c, & to send out typed circular.

14. Social Meetings.

Agreed to ask Henderson to address a members meeting in December on the Labour Party Electoral policy.

15. Labour Party Annual Conference.

Agreed not to send in resolution for the ~~[illegible]~~ Agenda.

16. Woolf's Syllabus of Book on Trade. This was submitted & Welch and approved.

17. Chairman for Members Mtg. Dr Fairfield

E.J. Morley.
Dec. 7.17.

Comte at Office 7th Decr 1914.

Present. Miss Morley (in chair) Webb, Blizard, Ensor, Ratcliffe, Dodd, Mrs Webb, Sanders, Mrs Salmond, Davies, Muddleton, Miss Atkinson & the Hon. Sec.

1. The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed

2. Apologies. Mr Snell in Nottingham.

3. Summer School Committee Report:
A meeting was held on 13th November at which final accounts and reports were received. Sums of £15 were voted to the Manager and Housekeeper for their exceptionally arduous duties, and after payment of this the balance for the Session was £214 and the balance at the credit of the School £297. It was decided to secure the refusal of Prior's Field for next session.

The Report of the Finance & General Purposes Comte was submitted by the Chairman:-

Items 1 & 2 were approved.

Item 3. Essex Hall Meetings. (a) Approved (b) Webb was appointed Chairman (c) approved, & it was agreed to accept Dr. Giannini's lecture as offered, & to ask Mantoux to lecture on

4. Finance &c. Report (cont.d)

Item 3 (cont.d) Alsace-Lorraine. It was agreed that a Members Meeting in Jan. March. in view of the two in Oct.-Dec. is not compulsory, tho' it may be required.

Item 4. A Spring King's Hall Lecture Course. It was agreed that this be arranged for April or May, & that the Pods. be allocated to Research or similar Com.ee of the Labour Party: further that Webb prepare a scheme for submission to the Com.ee

Item 5. Labour Party. (a) Approved (b) Nomination of Webb approved (c) It was decided to appoint Webb, Mrs Webb, & Middleton.

Item 6. Empire Reconstruction Book. Approved.

5. King's Hall Lectures:

| | 1917 | 1916 |
|---|---|---|
| Gross sales of Tickets | 483 | 517 |
| Expenses and refunds | 170* | 149 |
| Net profit | 313 | 368 |
| Sales of literature | 29 | 22 |

*Increase mainly £10-10s. paid to Sir Harry Johnston, and £5-5s. for advt. in "Nation". A sum larger by £6 has been charged for postage.

Noted.

December Candidates were all elected.

Members' Meeting December 14th.
Notice of motion condemning Government censure of pamphlets, sent by J. Spencer Hill. Vote of urgency required. Agreed that the Exec. take it over, that Mrs Webb move it, & that she & Pease draft resolution.

Women's Group: Request for

(a) A grant of £50;
(b) Use of office free of charge;
(c) Insertion of quarterly circular in Fabian News.

Agreed, after discussion to refer to the Finance Comee to draft a scheme, & that Mrs Salmond, Miss Morley, & Mrs Boyd Dawson be asked to confer with the Comee

9. Tracts. (a) Agreed to reprint The Impossibilities of Anarchism.
(b) A proposal to reprint as a Tract articles in the Express & B.S. on Ireland was off, as he had already arranged for a reprint.

Correspondence:

(a) Letter from West dated Petrograd Nov. 11th. Read
(b) Manifesto of Neutrals at Stockholm to the Parties affiliated to the Internationale. ~~Read~~ Noted
(c) Labour Party Agenda enclosed. Noted.

Sidney Webb
21/12/17

Over

FABIAN SOCIETY.

Report of the Finance & General Purposes Committee on 15th November, 1917.

Present: Webb (in chair), Dodd, Davies, Ensor and the Hon. Secretary.

1. Finance:

(a) A satisfactory report was presented and it was agreed to put the surplus cash (actually £200) on deposit. The Summer School Session showed a final profit of £214.

(b) Fees were ordered to be paid to the International Socialist Bureau (British Section) (£25) and to the London Labour Party (37/6d.)

(c) It was agreed to pay the staff for services at King's Hall lectures 30/- each as last year.

2. Membership: Candidates for October and November (21, same as last year) were all elected and 2 resignations were accepted.

3. Essex Hall Lectures:

(a) It was agreed to invite Henderson to address the members on December 14th on the Labour Party.

(He has accpeted.
(b) Chairman to be appointed).

(c) Spring Course.
It was agreed to continue the series of lectures on the War in relation to other countries, and orders were given (which have resulted as follows:-

Jan. 11 S.K.Ratcliffe on India.
" 25 Percy Alden on America.
Feb. 8 S. de Madariaga on Spain.
" 22 Offer of lecture on Italy to be written by Dr. Giannini, Italian Commercial Attache, and read by a member of F.S. Offer to be considered.
March 8 & 22 not filled;
Ireland and Alsace-Lorraine were suggested. )

Is a third Members' Meeting technically required by rule, to be fixed ?

4. King's Hall Course on the Labour Party: It was agreed to recommend that such a course of 3 or 4 lectures be arranged, to be given by Henderson, Shaw, Webb, and a woman, and that Webb draft a scheme.

5. Labour Party:

(a) It was agreed to defer the report on Fabian action till after the Members' Meeting.

(b) It was agreed to recommend that Webb be nominated for the Executive.

( (c) Names of the delegates to the Conference at Nottingham, Jan. 23rd, 24th, and 25th, must be sent in by Dec. 31st. We are entitled to 3. Snell would like to go. ? Appoint at once. )

6. The Empire Reconstruction Book: Agreement with H. Duncan Hall was reported as completed.

SIDNEY WEBB
Chairman.