

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday January 8th, 1947, at Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Present:- Miss Harrison in the chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Hoppstock Huth, Miss Hyde, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. de Swiet, and Miss Wright.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Castle, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Stapledon, Miss Burton, Mrs. Kemp and Miss Graham.

The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were adopted and signed.

A rising out of the minutes:-

1123. Conscription. Reported that the No Conscription Council had decided to ask the Prime Minister to receive a deputation, consisting of representatives of constituent bodies, and that Miss Hayler had consented to act as our representative.

1124. Annual Report. Miss Horscroft being unable to undertake the preparation of the Annual Report, Miss Hayward was to get the necessary material ready for Mrs. Innes to write up.

1125. Zurich Conference, March 1947. Mrs. Innes felt that we were not justified in using funds for travelling expenses to this conference, especially as there was a possibility of Miss Graham and/or Miss Hargreaves being in Switzerland and able to attend on our behalf. Mrs. Innes also pointed out that if she went to Switzerland it would prevent her from attending our own Annual Council Meeting.

1126. New Vice-Presidents. Reported that letters had been drafted and were now ready for the Chairman's signature.

1127. Women's Group on Public Welfare. Reported that our application had been formally acknowledged and was awaiting Committee meeting for decision.

1128. Date and Place of next Meeting. Feb. 5th 1947
Friends International Centre. Officers' Meeting
28th January.

1129. Reports of meetings held by other organisations. Mrs. de Swiet gave a detailed report of the last meeting of the British Commonwealth League, in which we were asked to pay special attention to the proposed rocket-bomb tests in Australia, the exercise of Regulation B.33 in India, the problem of illegitimate children of British personnel in Germany, the latest development in the Nationality of Married Women Campaign, the B.C.L. 21st Anniversary celebrations in February, and their forthcoming Colonial Conference.

With reference to the rocket-bomb tests in Australia, it was reported that the British Commonwealth League had written asking us to co-operate in protests to the Government, both here and in Australia. Correspondence on the subject had been forwarded to Mrs. Malcomson for consideration. AGREED that a letter to the Australian Government be drafted, stressing our objection to such tests anywhere, not merely

on the ground of protection for the Aboriginal Reserve, and sent to the Australian Section for approval and forwarding.

1130. The Chairman expressed her good wishes for the New Year to all the Committee and in particular, welcomed Frau Hoppstock Huth and Miss Myrtle Wright.

1131. Proposed joint publication. Miss Houghton reported a meeting of editors of organisations concerned, called to discuss technical difficulties. After discussion of the project it was suggested and AGREED that a referendum of our News Sheet subscribers be taken as early as possible, before taking a decision on co-operation with the joint magazine. Miss Houghton was asked to ascertain, if possible, the price of the new magazine. Miss Houghton reported that a "mock-up" was to be prepared for consideration by organisations, and it was AGREED that we should contribute £1 towards the cost.

1132. Germany. Mrs. Duncan Harris expressed our thanks to Frau Hoppstock Huth for her work in touring the branches, and referred to the appreciation we have received from them. Frau Hoppstock Huth spoke of the wonderful response everywhere, beyond her expectations.

Reporting a meeting of the committee on Germany held on December 20th, Mrs. Duncan Harris referred to the leaflet giving information about relief for Germany, which was now available and should be distributed as widely as possible. Points raised at the meeting included:-

Possibility of bringing German women to this country for training in democratic institutions - on the lines adopted by the British Council for students from the Middle East and Far East.

The need to supply teachers for Germany, to replace those with Nazi training. In view of the shortage of teachers here, it was suggested that recruitment of volunteers among retired teachers might be a solution.

Illegitimate children of British personnel in Germany - questions in the House were reported, and we had approached Mr. Sorensen, M.P. to find out what we could do to help. It was agreed that we should endeavour to see that in any action taken on the question of American responsibilities to British women and children, our responsibility in Germany should be treated on parallel lines.

Frau Hoppstock Huth had also reported that while the W.I.L. in Hamburg did not wish to protest about the requisitioning of accommodation for B.A.O.R. wives and children, other problems had arisen consequent upon the occupation, and it was suggested that the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene be asked to look into these questions when sending a delegation to investigate conditions in Germany.

Frau Hoppstock Huth reported that she had mentioned these points in her interview with Mr. Wilberforce at the Control Office. She had also stressed the wish of the German section to have visits from English women, and support had been promised.

The Chairman suggested that the Executive should support the action of the Germany group on the points raised. AGREED. Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed that a letter be sent to the Control Office reinforcing the points raised in Frau Hoppstock Huth's interview. AGREED.

Miss Wright stressed the need for contact between Germany and Norway, and that we must not overlook the strong feeling still obtaining in countries which had been occupied. Mrs. Ballinger

supported this by quoting the case of Denmark. Mrs. Hoppstock Huth said that contact with France was perhaps the most important.

Discussing possible visits to Germany, the following names were suggested, to be borne in mind - Miss Myrtle Wright, Miss Vera Brittain, Mrs. Mary Phillips, Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Duncan Harris.

1133. W.I.L.P.F. Affairs. Reported letter from Madame Jouvo of the French Section, urging action re Spain and Greece. AGREED that letter be written to Foreign Office taking up the recommendation of the Parliamentary delegation to Greece that British troops should be withdrawn "at an early date", and that Professor de Madariaga be consulted about reported atomic research in Spain, persecution of political prisoners and the presence of German troops south of the Pyrenees.

Myrtle Wright gave an interesting account of the presentation of the Nobel Peace Prize and celebrations. She also spoke of the recent attempt to institute conscription for women in Norway, and the great opposition from women's organisations, which had defeated that attempt. Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested a letter to the Norwegian Section congratulating them on this success, but pointing out our opposition to conscription generally, whether for men or women. AGREED. Miss Wright suggested that contact with England would be valuable - and a visit from someone who had time to travel around the W.I.L. groups, preferably in the autumn.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that Sir John Boyd Orr is to be nominated for Nobel Peace Prize for next year, and Mr. Gerald Bailey would like the support of the W.I.L. for this nomination. AGREED. Mrs. de Swiet also promised to ask the British Commonwealth League to support.

1134. International Affairs.

Colonies. Mrs. Ineson and Miss Hayward reported upon the Fabian Colonial Bureau meeting, at which Mr. Crooch Jones spoke on the Labour Government's colonial policy. The letter to the Colonial Office re Bechuanaland referred to at the last meeting had been sent, but so far no reply had been received. Miss Harrison urged that thought and study should be given to decisions of United Nations, especially with regard to colonial questions. The Officers meeting had recommended that we should take the weekly magazine published by the United Nations. AGREED.

India. Miss Harrison reported that letters were now coming in from Mrs. Lankester and her daughter, copies of which are in circulation. The news of the A.I.W.C. would appear in the next issue of the BULLETIN edited by Miss Dickinson. Miss Harrison urged all Branches and Executive members to subscribe to this, as in no other way could the information be obtained. The decisions taken at the United Nations regarding treatment of Indians in South Africa, and the incorporation of S.W. Africa in the Union, were of great significance and developments must be followed closely. The situation in India remained uncertain - Congress had decided to accept the British Government statement of December 6th, in the hope that the Muslim League would now join in the Constituent Assembly.

Indo-China. Appeals had been made to Indian leaders for support in this struggle for freedom, both the Congress and the Muslim League had expressed sympathy. Burma. The present situation was briefly reviewed. Coming talks with Burmese leaders should receive our attention. Mrs. Hamid Ali and her husband expect to stop in London, either on the way, or coming back from New York, where Mrs. Hamid Ali is going for the Equal Status Commission.

Miss Dickinson read a New Year's message from the new President of the A.I.W.C.

Frau Hertzka asked whether we had renewed contacts with Japan,

and Miss Hyde was asked to write to Muriel Lester on this point.

1135. FINANCE. The statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December 1946 was presented. The Executive viewed with concern the deficit of £85.17.11¹. This grave situation would not have arisen if all the Branch quotas had been received. Mrs. Stapledon would be writing to Branch treasurers in the near future and the committee felt sure there would be a ready response to her letter. It was hoped that particular attention would be given to this minute in Branch Committees.

Travelling expenses. It was agreed that we resume payment of expenses for Executive Committee and Officers' meetings.

Isabella O. Ford Memorial Fund. Reported that Mrs. Harvey and Mrs. Brayshaw were unable to accept appointment as Trustees, and the following new minute was therefore passed:-

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League, acting on behalf of its Leeds Branch Committee, appoints the following Trustees of the Isabella Ford Memorial Fund:-

Mrs. Kathleen E. Innes.
Mrs. Barbara Duncan Harris.
Mrs. Agnes Z. Stapledon.

with power to sign cheques and to transact all business.

International Accounts. A statement of the accounts for the year had been prepared, showing a balance in our hands of £731. It was agreed that a large proportion of this balance should be invested and the Finance Committee was instructed to consider the matter.

1136. Annual Council Meeting. Reported that Elfinward, Haywards Heath, had been booked provisionally for March 26th - 29th. After discussion it was AGREED that the Council should end with the afternoon session on Friday the 28th, but delegates should be given the option of staying over until Saturday morning, so that an informal evening could be arranged. The following were appointed to the Agenda Committee:-

Officers.
Mrs. Ineson.
Mrs. Nuttall.

The date of the first meeting of the committee was fixed for Jan. 14th at 2.30 (office)

There was considerable discussion of the theme of the Council Meeting, but no decision was taken and the matter was left to the Agenda Committee.

1137. Correspondence. Letter from Mrs. Phillips reported, informing us of the Danish Section's activities in connection with Nobel Peace Prize award, and enquiring as to the possibility of an Autumn School in 1947, to be arranged with the co-operation of near-European sections (French, Belgian, Dutch). The Executive thought this an excellent suggestion and referred it to the Organisation sub-committee.

Letter from Mr. Gerald Bailey reported, announcing his visit to the United States, and asking for contacts with anyone there whom we would like him to meet. AGREED that we send him the names and addresses of our American Sections.

Higham Castle
Feb. 5th 1947.

Speed Copy

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
104 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Tel: CHA.7233

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday,
February 5th, 1947 at Friends International Centre, 32,
Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. Castle in the Chair, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss
Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Mrs.
Ineson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs.
Stapledon, Mrs. de Swiet, Mrs. McGregor Wood.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Burton, Miss
Hayward, Mrs. Malcomson, and Mrs. McGregor Ross.

Frau Hoppstock Huth was warmly welcomed as visitor to Executive
Committee.

The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were
adopted and signed.

Arising out of the minutes:-

1138. Conscription. Reported receipt of copy of letter from
the No Conscription Council to the Prime Minister. Mrs. Castle
read the letter and Mrs. Innes proposed its insertion in the News
Sheet. AGREED - Subject to agreement of No Conscription
Council.

1139. Germany. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported meeting of repre-
sentatives of women's organisations, including W.I.L. with
Mr. Sorensen and other M.P.'s at the House of Commons on 4th.
February on the subject of Women in the British Zone of Germany,
especially in relation to illegitimate children of British
Personnel, the matter having been efficiently set out in a letter
to Friends Relief Service from the head of the Department of
Public Welfare in Aachen.

Mr. Sorensen had already raised the matter in debate in the
House and agreed to call a larger meeting of Members to meet
the group and to take the matter further. After discussion it
was suggested that the Council for the Unmarried Mother and her
Child and the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene should take
responsibility for the questions in which they were specially
expert and that the W.I.L. might concern itself particularly with
any international action that could be taken. AGREED.

1140. New Vice-Presidents. Replies were reported from eight of
those who had been approached with the request that they should
become members of the W.I.L. and allow themselves to be
nominated as Vice-Presidents. Three of the replies were
favourable. These were from Mrs. Graham White, Miss Baker,
Lady Parmoor. Agreed that these names should go forward to the
Annual Council for election.

1141. Annual Council Meeting. Reported letter from Brighton
Branch suggesting that at their invitation, we hold one of our
Council sessions in Brighton. Officers' Meeting had approved
and suggested that Thursday's afternoon sessions be held in
Brighton subject to agreement of Executive. AGREED.

It was further reported that Brighton Branch had suggested
that attendance at the aforesaid meeting should consist of Council
delegates and members of the Brighton Branch only, the place of
meeting to the Pavilion. The Branch proposed to undertake the
expense of accommodation and tea. The Executive agreed to Branch
proposals but expressed the hope that visitors might be invited
in order that the room be filled. It was suggested that Mr. Tom
Harrisson be approached as a possible speaker on this occasion.

His subject: Treaties with Japan. AGREED. Failing Mr. Harrison it was agreed that Mrs. Saran be approached.

Reported that resolutions to be put before Council had been received from Leicester, Manchester, Harrow, and Birmingham Branches. Agreed that these be sent to Agenda Committee for consideration.

1142. Report of Organisation Committee. Mrs. Phillips reported the resignation of Miss Alice Hyde, Committee Secretary, who is shortly going to Australia as Senior Tutor to the Social Science Department of Melbourne University. She further reported that Mrs. Grindley, owing to ill-health, will be unable to assist. After discussion it was suggested that Miss Hayward carry on for the present with the co-operation of Mrs. Phillips as Chairman. A further suggestion was made that Croydon and Harrow Branches be asked to nominate members of the Committee, from among whom a Secretary might eventually be secured. A further suggestion was made that Mrs. Nuttall be co-opted, subject to consent. Mrs. Nuttall suggested the name of Miss Doreen Packham if the time of meeting of Organisation Committee could be 5 p.m. Proposed that letters be sent to Mrs. Grindley and Miss Hyde expressing thanks for past work etc. AGREED.

1143. Autumn School. It was suggested that an Autumn School be held and that Miss Hayward be asked to get in touch with Elfinsward, Hayward's Heath regarding possible vacant Autumn dates. AGREED.

It was further proposed that a letter be written to Dutch, French, German Sections, and also to the Belgian members, to ask if any could attend such a school. AGREED.

Proposed that the Executive should, if need arise, contribute to the expenses of any such visiting members from the Penny-a-Week Fund. AGREED. It was further agreed that Mrs. Phillips be asked to draft and dispatch the letter of invitation, to which Mrs. Phillips consented.

1144. Joint-Editorship of the International Circular Letter. Miss Hyde is at present Joint-Editor. Some members considered that Miss Hyde would be unable to continue editorship in Australia where no strong W.I.L. group existed. After discussion it appeared that Executive had no strong collective opinion to pass on to International Chairmen. *Mrs. Innes expressed disapproval of Australia as an editorial office and it was hoped that Mrs. Innes would express her very definite disapproval of the continuance of Miss Hyde as Joint-Editor and that the International Chairmen should be acquainted with the concurrence of some of the Committee with this view but that on the other hand some members felt that this might constitute an opportunity to strengthen the Australian branch.*

1145. Publicity. Suggested that more publicity for work of W.I.L. might be secured by means of the B.B.C. and that Miss Barbara Ward, as one of the Governors be asked, by a letter from the Chairman of the Organisation Committee, to receive in interview a small group of members of Executive. AGREED.

1146. News Sheet. Mrs. Innes suggested that an article on Germany be contributed by Mrs. Hoppstock Huth who was present and kindly agreed. Mrs. Innes further expressed the desire for a "Survey of the Peace Treaties and the Problems Involved". Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested a likely author in Mrs. Warner of the N.P.C. publicity staff. It was agreed to ask Mrs. Warner. Miss Harrison suggested a possible contribution later from Mrs. Lankester on her Indian impressions. AGREED.

1147. Annual Report. This, the thirty-first Annual Report, was read, as a preliminary to its publication in time for the annual Council, by Mrs. Innes who had compiled it. Report approved.

1148. Frau Hoppstock Huth.

Frau Hoppstock Huth, whose visit has been extended by the kindness of the Control Commission, expressed her thanks and gratitude, and spoke of the great encouragement she would be able to take back to our colleagues in Germany. She urged us to make every effort to send British members to visit our groups in Germany. Mrs. Duncan Harris stated that she had written to the Control Commission with regard to visits of our members and she suggested that we consider definitely an exchange of visitors - say of two persons going at the same time. Mrs. Hoppstock Huth would meanwhile have to get permission from the Military Government on her side. Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Phillips were proposed as our own deputies to which members of Executive warmly agreed.

Mrs. Castle, as Chairman, stated that the Executive wished her to thank Mrs. Hoppstock Huth for all she had done in this country and to wish her God speed on her return.

in proof 1149. W.I.L.P.F. Affairs. Mrs. Innes reported that the Maison Internationale in Geneva has to be evacuated by the end of February. She reported that the Luxembourg Report ~~has been~~ ^{is} ~~issued~~ ^{now} is extraordinarily interesting, twice as long as was expected, and will be valuable documentary evidence on events of the war of 1939-1945.

Mrs. Innes suggested caution in replying to letters received from German women claiming to be members of the W.I.L. Mrs. Hoppstock Huth warned that there might be political implications. Women might wish to cover their past. Accordingly it would be wise to consult Mrs. Hoppstock Huth and her colleagues regarding such letters.

Reported by Mrs. Innes that Miss Emily Greene Balch has given \$10,000 of her Nobel Peace Prize to the W.I.L.P.F. Executive expressed deep appreciation and gratitude for this information.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that representatives of the W.I.L.P.F. were required for Liaison Committee and that the International Chairmen has asked the British Section to find someone. Head-Quarter members Mrs. Garside and Miss Crocker were suggested as people who might be approached.

Reported letter from Marie Mohr for the Swedish Section suggesting nomination of Mr. Gandhi for the Nobel Peace Prize of 1947 to which a reply has been sent stating that the W.I.L. British Section had already given approval to the nomination of Sir John Boyd-Orr. Miss Harrison suggested that we explore the possibility of supporting the nomination of Mr. Gandhi in the following year.

Mrs. Phillips reported letter from Denmark informing that Czech members of W.I.L. are being invited to spend holidays in Danish homes. Mrs. Stapledon reported letter from Sweden informing of proposed intensive peace propaganda campaign (radio and press) which will take place in the Spring. Executive asked Mrs. Stapledon to convey sympathy with this movement.

1150. Resolution from Bury St. Edmunds. Agreed that Miss Hayler approaches informed officials who will advise on correctness of facts implied. Miss Hayler will then send the considered resolution to Mrs. Castle who will send it finally to the Ministry of Health.

1151. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

India. Miss Harrison reported as follows:-

The decision of the Moslem League to withdraw its acceptance of the British Cabinet's proposals for India - involving non co-operation in the Constituent Assembly now engaged in framing

India's new Constitution - faces the British Government with a challenge. It is expected that our Government will now make a statement in the light of the Moslem League decision. It is hoped that such a statement will make clear that the work of the Constituent Assembly must proceed in spite of this deflection on the part of this important minority, and that we shall fix a definite date when British power will be withdrawn from India. The present situation is serious.

Other items of interest.

Mrs. Hansa Mehta and Mrs. Roosevelt are the only two women on the Human Rights Commission of U.N.O. now at work on a Charter of Rights. It is hoped that Mrs. Hansa Mehta will return to India via London.

Mr. Asaf Ali - India's Ambassador designate to America will be in London for a few days. The India Conciliation has arranged an informal meeting on March 14th to which members of the Executive would be welcome.

The Conference issue of the Bulletin containing the A.I.W.C. resolutions, Mrs. Lankester's impressions etc - has material that is invaluable to W.I.L. members. It was agreed that a guinea towards the expenses of this special issue should be given from the India Fund.

Return of Mrs. Lankester and her daughter. The four delegates who went from here to attend the A.I.W.C. are expected back during the first week in March. The Liaison Group, the International Alliance and the Women's Council on Indian Affairs - are co-operating in calling a meeting of welcome to be held on March 13th at 6 p.m. at Gas Industries House. Executive members were asked to keep this date free.

1152. World Government Campaign. Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed the postponement of decision on matter raised in a letter from the National Peace Council, since Miss Hayward who has represented us on Committee work connected with the Campaign is not able to be present with us today, a letter to be written meanwhile to the National Peace Council stating that we wish to defer consideration of the matter a little longer in order to be able to go into it more fully.

1153. Reports of Meetings of Other Organisations.

Status of Women Committee. Mrs. Nuttall reported a meeting in the Central Hall, Westminster, where 2,000 were present and a resolution was sent to the Prime Minister demanding equal pay for women.

British Commonwealth League. Reported Anniversary Party to be held on March 4th. Suggested that attention of Executive members be drawn to this meeting.

1154. Correspondence. Reported a letter from Mr. D. Kendall M.P. giving his reasons for not being on the platform at the meeting for Equal Pay for Equal Work. Suggested that a letter be sent to Mr. Kendall thanking him for receipt of his letter. **AGREED.**

Reported letter from Farnborough Branch re their work on Palestine and offering report of their study groups and of their meetings on this subject. Suggested letter expressing gladness for work done, matter meanwhile to be passed on to India and Colonies Committee for consideration. **AGREED.**

Reported letter from Mrs. Bedford resigning from Executive. **Agreed** that letter be sent regretting the resignation and accepting it.

Reported letter from Mrs. Phillips re possibility of obtaining photographs of Miss Balch for British Section. Suggested that Mrs. Phillips write to the Danish Section for block and, later, present Executive with estimate of cost of numbers required. AGREED

Reported letter from Miss Balch regarding her disposition of the Nobel Peace Prize (\$10,000 to W.I.L.P.F. unconditionally.) as recorded by Mrs. Innes previously. Proposed that this remarkable letter be reproduced in "News Sheet". AGREED.

1155. Other business. The Chairman asked if a payment of £1 - being amount of an individual subscription - could be made to the Association of Atomic Scientists in order to obtain the literature and lists of speakers of the Association, to give support to their work of creating an informed public opinion on the dangers of Atomic power. Agreed that Mrs. Stapledon be asked to consider the said literature and report to next Executive Meeting.

Date and Place of next meeting - Wednesday, March 5th at Friends International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Highon Castle
March 5th 1947.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday,
5th March, 1947, at Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock
Square, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. Castle in the chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs.
Bedford, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs.
Kemp, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Nuttall,
Mrs. de Sviat, and Frau Hertzka.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Miss Burton, Miss Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Mrs. McGregor Ross,
Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Stapledon.

We were very pleased to welcome Mrs. Bedford, whose letter
withdrawing her resignation had unfortunately arrived too late
to prevent the recording of her resignation in Minute 1154.

The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated and
after the following amendments, were adopted and signed.

1144. Delete "It was hoped.....Joint Editor" and insert
"Mrs. Innes expressed disapproval of Australia as an
editorial office, owing to distance. Decided that
the International Chairman....."

1149. The Luxembourg Report "is now in proof" not "has
been issued".

Arising out of the minutes:-

1156. Women's Group on Public Welfare. Reported letter asking
us to appoint a representative to serve on International
Advisory Sub-Committee. AGREED that Mrs. Ineson be appointed,
subject to consent, and Mrs. McGregor Wood kindly volunteered
to act as deputy when necessary.

1157. Annual Council Meeting. Reported that Gerald Bailey,
was unable to speak at the Brighton meeting. Suggested that the
following be approached: Freda Uttley, Dorothy Hogg, Vera
Brittain. Other arrangements for the Council Meeting were
well in hand.

1158. Resolution on Family Allowances. Mrs. Castle proposed
that the following resolution be sent to the Ministry of Health
and also to Bury St. Edmunds Branch to be forwarded to their
local Member of Parliament:-

This Executive Committee of the W.I.L. considers that in
all assessments to ascertain need in any form of statutory
assistance, the receipt of family allowances should not be
taken into account, and begs His Majesty's Government to
legislate accordingly.

AGREED.

1159. FINANCE. The Statement of accounts for January and
February was presented. The subscriptions received to date did
not compare favourably with last year for the same period, in
spite of the increase which came into force in January this year.
Mrs. McGregor Wood suggested that time should be allowed at the
Council Meeting for a comprehensive discussion of the financial
position. AGREED that this be put on the agenda.

1160. Germany. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the activities of the

Germany Group since the last Committee. A meeting had been held in the House, with Mr. Sorenson and several other M.P's to consider

1. the position of the illegitimate children of British personnel in Germany.
2. the regulations for combating V.D. now in force in Germany.
3. possible international action through the Commission of Human Rights of United Nations.

At this meeting it was decided to ask Mr. Hynd to receive a deputation. He had agreed to do so on Friday, March 7th. Mrs. Duncan Harris was appointed to represent us on the deputation. AGREED that a letter expressing our appreciation of his assistance be sent to Mr. Sorenson by the Chairman.

Visit to Germany. Reported that Control Office were giving this favourable consideration. AGREED that expenses of visit be met out of the Penny-a-Week Fund.

Reported letter from Hanover Group. Reported letter from Vera Brittain enclosing appeal from wife of British officer in Berlin for help for hospitals and babies. AGREED that Mrs. Innes be asked to print in the News Sheet.

1161. India. AGREED that a letter be sent to Lord Pethick Lawrence, congratulating him on the decision to fix a date for handing over power to the Indian Government. Miss Harrison sent a message that as far as the general situation was concerned she could not see anything we might usefully do. Both countries were waiting to see what developed. Reception in India of the news of the date being fixed had been, as far as is known, good but not uniformly good. It must be remembered that this marks a totally new phase and there are fifteen months in which to implement it. Regarding an emergency resolution for the Council Meeting, Miss Harrison suggested that we should wait until Mrs. Lankester returned and receive her up to date information. Liverpool Branch were asked to arrange, if possible, to meet Mrs. Lankester and her daughter on arrival on Sunday, March 9th.

1162. Colonies. Mrs. Malmerson reported briefly on colonial affairs, referring particularly to the goodwill mission from England to Trinidad.

1163. Palestine. Mrs. Castle reported that the Officers meeting had desired a draft resolution to be put to the Council, but she had not been able to enlarge upon the suggestion from Croydon Branch:-

"This Annual Council of the Women's International League welcomes the decision of H. M. Government to refer the settlement of the Palestine question to the United Nations, and trusts that every effort will be made to have it considered earlier than September."

AGREED that this should be endorsed as the draft of an emergency resolution to be considered at the Council.

1164. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the plans for the meeting of the International Executive to be held in May. It was resolved that a sub-committee be set up to deal with the various points in the programme, and report to the next meeting of the Executive. The question of International Finance is to appear on the Council agenda.

1165. Date and place of next meeting. April 16th, 1947 at the Friends International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

1166. Branch Reports. Reported letters from Golders Green and

and South West London announcing that these Branches have been disbanded. After some discussion of the problems of new branches, it was agreed that for the present nothing could be done in the case of Golders Green, but it was decided that efforts should be made, with the help of Croydon Branch, to reorganise the South West London Branch.

1166. Campaign for World Government. It was reported that the Campaign was going ahead, though unfortunately the National Peace Council had found it necessary to withdraw. AGREED that we should continue co-operation until such time as a constitution of the Campaign be presented for acceptance. The Public Meeting in the Albert Hall arranged for February 21st had had to be cancelled, but a meeting had been held on the same date in the Mary Sumner Hall, and as a result several other organisations were expected to join in the Campaign.

1167. Meetings of other Organisations. Reported very successful 21st birthday party of the British Commonwealth League, at which we were represented by some half dozen members.

Status of Women Campaign. Mrs. Nuttall reported decision to maintain action and pressure on Government for Equal Pay by a number of different organisations, rather than to set up one body for the purpose.

1168. Any other business. Proposed and AGREED that letters of welcome be sent by the Chairman to the wives of the new ambassadors from America and U.S.S.R.

Higham Castle
April 30th 1947

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday March 28th, 1947, at Elfinward, Haywards Heath, to deal with the resolutions passed by the Annual Council Meeting.

Present:- Mrs. Innes in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Phillips, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Lady Unwin.

1169. It was AGREED that the resolutions, as amended and finally passed by the Council Meeting should be sent to the various Government Departments and individuals as indicated in each case - as follows:-

Organisation for Peace.

This Annual Council of the Women's International League, in view of the utter discrediting of power politics, urges the Government so to act that it is clear that the one aim of Britain in all international relations is to bring in an epoch marked by the abandonment of war as a method, and the organisation of the world as a unit for peace.

To be sent to:- Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, Minister for Defence, Mr. P.J. Noel-Baker, the Admiralty, the International Peace Bureau, Mrs. Muriel Nichol, Mrs. Lucy Middleton, Mrs. Florence Paton, Miss Grace Colman and Mrs. Mabel Ridealgh.

Human Rights and the Peace Treaties.

This Annual Council of the W.I.L. believes that a Charter of Human Rights should be embodied in the forthcoming Peace Treaties; that the individual should never be used as a means to an end, and that both internal and international policy should be based on:-

- a) the absolute value of every human being.
- b) the moral principle of respect for personality.
- c) the social principle of individual liberty.

To be sent to:- Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, Trygve Lie, Mrs. Hansa Mehta, Mrs. Roosevelt, five women M.P.'s as above.

The Peace Treaties.

This Annual Council of the Women's International League deploras the fact that in recent statements relating to the present Conference in Moscow, His Majesty's Government has appeared to accept the annexations of German territory on the eastern and on the western frontiers, in contradiction of the accepted declarations of the Atlantic Charter. Such annexations would perpetuate a situation almost certain to lead to future war.

To be sent to:- Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, Trygve Lie, Control Office for Germany and Austria.

Women at the Peace Conferences.

In view of the fact that the outcome of the Peace Treaties will affect women equally with men, and having regard to the rights and obligations of women, as citizens, this Annual Council of the Women's International League urges His Majesty's Government to include women in its representation at all Conferences concerned with the peace settlement.

To be sent to: Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, Mrs. Hansa Mehta, Mrs. Pandit, and the five women M.P.'s as above.

International Language.

This Annual Council of the W.I.L., in view of the acknowledged delays and difficulties caused by language barriers in all international meetings, urges the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation to take steps towards the universal teaching in schools of a neutral language such as Esperanto for international purposes, and presses His Majesty's Government to support this measure.

To be sent to:- Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, U.N.E.S.C.O., Sir Alexander Cadogan, Trygve Lie, Ministry of Education, British Esperanto Society, five women M.P.'s as above.

India.

This Annual Council of the W.I.L. welcomes the decision of H.M. Government to withdraw from India by June 1948, believing that this is a wise and courageous decision. Further, it records its appreciation that H.M. Government has not allowed the fear of difficulties to prevent it from doing what it believes to be right.

To be sent to:- Lord Pethick Lawrence, Under Secretary of State for India, Prime Minister.

Conscription.

In view of the growing opposition in the country to peace-time conscription, the division in the Parliamentary Labour Party, the grave shortage of labour and the promise made in the election programme to restore the freedoms lost during the war, this Annual Council of the Women's International League expresses its regret and disappointment that H.M. Government has tabled a Bill for Compulsory Military Service. It suggests that to legislate for Peace-time Conscription to run for five years or more is alien to British tradition, and a measure which will steal from the youth of the country the formative and economically essential years of their lives, and would, therefore, strongly urge the complete abandonment of the Bill.

To be sent to:- Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, T.U.C., Transport House, No Conscription Council, all women M.P.'s.

International Refugee Organisation.

This Annual Council of the British Section of the W.I.L.P.F. has watched with keen interest the work of the first session of the Commission on Human Rights and specially welcomes the drafting of an International Bill of Rights to be presented to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

It urges that the work of the International Refugee Organisation in restoring human rights to the displaced persons of Europe should be strongly supported by the United Nations, and that member governments should subscribe generous and adequate funds for the settlement and after care of these homeless people.

To be sent to:- Brit. Govt. Mrs. Roosevelt, I.R.O. Trygve Lie, Sir A. Cadogan, Mrs. Hansa Mehta, women M.P.'s and W.I.L. Sections in Sweden, Switzerland and America.

Palestine.

This Annual Council of the W.I.L. welcomes the decision of H.M. Govt. to refer the settlement of the Palestine question to the U. N. and trusts that every effort will be made to have it considered earlier than September.

To be sent to:- Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary, Sir A. Cadogan, Jewish Societies, Arab Office, American Section of W.I.L.P.F.

*Miriam Castel
April 30th
1947*

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 30th April, 1947, at Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. Castle in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Bourne, Miss Grace Colman, M.P., Mrs. Phoebe Cusden, J.P., Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Harrison, Miss Hayler, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Lady Mayer, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Paine, Mrs. Schlossmann, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. de Swiet, Lady Unwin.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Innes, Miss McAra, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Phillips and Lady Parmoor.

1170. Election of Chairman. Mrs. Castle was proposed by Mrs. Ballinger and seconded by Mrs. Bedford. Before accepting nomination, Mrs. Castle said that she felt reluctant to continue as Chairman for the following reasons:-

- 1) that the office should be held by a younger and more qualified woman.
- 2) that she did not see clearly the future of the British Section. We had to face the fact that our membership was declining and that we did not attract young women to our ranks. She herself had not got a solution to offer.
- 3) that she could not guarantee to devote more time to the work of Chairman than she had been able to give during the past year and feared that it might even be less.

She would like the Committee to make a determined effort to find other nominations before the end of the year. Agreed that the officers, plus one or two co-opted members of the Committee should consider further nominations and report in six months time. On this understanding Mrs. Castle agreed to serve as Chairman for six months and was unanimously elected.

1171. In view of the long agenda, it was AGREED that the Officers be empowered to deal with any business not completed by the end of the morning session, so that the whole afternoon could be devoted to the agenda for the International Executive Committee in Geneva, May 24th - 30th.

1172. Election of Vice-Chairmen.

Miss Agatha Harrison, Mrs. McGregor Wood and Mrs. Ballinger were nominated for re-election, and elected unanimously.

1173. Mrs. Duncan Harris explained that Mrs. Grindley's name had been overlooked inadvertently in the election en bloc of the Executive Committee at the Annual Council Meeting, and she was therefore co-opted to the Committee for 1947-1948, and warmly welcomed.

1174. Election of Sub-Committees.

Finance Committee and Organisation Committee.

Mrs. Stapledon proposed that these two committees should be combined, owing to the necessity to consider finance in any organisation of activities. After discussion this was AGREED and the following committee was elected, with power to co-opt if necessary:-

Officers, ex officio.
Mrs. Kemp,
Mrs. Dayan,
Miss Crocker,
Miss Packham,
Miss King.
Miss Hayward (secretary pro tem)
Mrs. Phillips (chairman)

Publicity Committee. Proposed:- Officers, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. de Swiet. AGREED.

India. Standing Committee re-elected:- Miss Harrison, Miss Anderson, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Ineson, Miss Burton, Miss Shaw, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Jowitt, Mrs. Hogg,

Consultative Member - Mrs. Lankester.

Colonies. Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Ferguson and one member from Manchester Branch re-elected.

1175. Appointment of Representatives to other Organisations.

The following appointments were AGREED upon :-

Abyssinia Association -	Miss Dickinson.
British Commonwealth League -	Mrs. de Swiet.
Joint Standing Parliamentary Committee -	Miss Hayler.
United Nations Assn. Women's Advisory Council -	Miss Dickinson.
National Peace Council -	Miss Harrison Miss Haughton Mrs. Duncan Harris Mrs. Longson.
No Conscription Council -	Miss Hayler Mrs. Nuttall.
Status of Women Committee -	Mrs. Nuttall.
Women's Group on Public Welfare -	Mrs. Ineson. Mrs. McGregor Wood, deputy.
Campaign for World Government -	Mrs. McGregor Wood. Miss Hayward.
Equal Pay Campaign Committee -	Mrs. de Swiet.

1176. Minutes of the last two Executive Committee Meetings, having been circulated, were adopted as a correct record and signed.

Arising out of the minutes:-

1177. Germany. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the arrangements for the visit of herself and Mrs. Phillips to the German Groups. It had been found necessary to accept Control Commission accommodation and transport instead of staying in the homes of our members as had been anticipated. The cost would be £1 per day each, which the Committee confirmed. Mrs. Duncan Harris gave details of the tour, which would include Hamburg, Lubeck, Hanover, and Bremen. She asked for a message from the British Section to take with her, and Miss Harrison and Mrs. Ineson and Lady Mayer kindly undertook to draft such a message. The Chairman expressed the Committee's good wishes to Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Phillips personally.

A letter from the Control Commission was reported, informing us that Frau Hoppstock Huth's visit has had excellent "follow-ons" in Germany and should prove of considerable value in German reconstruction.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the receipt of an appeal from the

women of Dortmund, which she had acted upon by sending a copy to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, whose reply was available for any member who cared to read it.

1178. South West London Branch.

As instructed at the last meeting, Miss Hayler had approached the members with a view to revival of this Branch, but with little response. The present position appeared to be that the members preferred to remain for the time being on the register of Croydon Branch, and one of their number had been elected to the Executive of Croydon Branch. The situation would be reviewed later in the year.

1179. Replies to Annual Council Meeting resolutions.

Reported that a number of replies had been received to our resolution on conscription, both for and against, also to the resolution on Palestine. A very friendly reply was received from Lady Mountbatten to our letter.

1180. FINANCE.

Mrs. Stapledon presented the current statement of accounts, and emphasised that after the first few months of the year in which the great majority of our subscriptions were paid, it was obvious that current expenditure could not be met out of income unless the Branch quotas were paid as promptly as possible. She urged Branches to make payments on account, even if they could not meet the whole of the quota at this stage. After some discussion of the position of Manchester Branch with regard to the quota, the question was referred to the Finance and Organisation Committee for further consideration.

1181. Report of Organisation Committee. Mrs. Ineson reported very briefly the recommendations of the Committee, which were endorsed by the Executive:-

1. Autumn School to be held at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, from October 10th - 14th, 1947.
2. Subject of Autumn School to be "Searchlight on the W.I.L.P.F." and to include branch organisation, strengthening of links between Headquarters and branches and individual members, propaganda and publicity. If possible one outside speaker to be obtained.
3. In preparation for Autumn School, the Organising Secretary should tour as many of the branches as possible, during a week in June, to have consultations with Branch Secretaries, other officials and committees.
4. Meeting to be arranged for Professor Catlin on his return from the Inter-Asian Relations Conference at New Delhi, and Miss Vera Brittain to be asked to take the Chair.

In this connection, Miss Harrison reported that on learning that the National Peace Council proposed to ask Professor Catlin to address a meeting, she had obtained agreement that a joint meeting should be arranged, and that if May 30th could be settled on as the date, subject to confirmation of Professor Catlin's return, Miss Brittain would be agreeable to take the chair.

1182. News Sheets.

Miss Haughton reported that three articles were required for the June issue of the News Sheet, and the Committee was

strongly urged to send in suitable material.

The remainder of the agenda was referred to a special Officers Meeting.

The afternoon was spent in discussion of the agenda for the International Executive Committee. We were glad to welcome Frau Herpel, a former member of the German W.I.L.P.F. now resident in the American Zone of Germany and visiting her daughter in England.

1183. The date of the next meeting was fixed - June 4th at Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Ingham Parth
June 4th 1947

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7235.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, June 4th 1947, at Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

Present: Mrs. Castle in the Chair, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Miss Marie Lous Mohr, Mrs. Malcomson, Lady Mayer, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Phillips, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. de Swiet, Mrs. Stapledon and Miss Stonham, a visitor from Brighton Branch.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Bourne, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Lady Parmoor, and Mrs. Schlossmann.

1184. The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Arising out of the minutes:-

1185. Colonies Committee. Mrs. Malcomson pointed out that when she and Mrs. Ferguson were originally elected, they agreed to serve for one year only. It was agreed that the position should be considered further on the occasion of Miss Harrison's forthcoming visit to Liverpool, and a report would be made to the July Executive meeting.

1186. Organising Secretary's Tour of Branches. Reported that the following branches were to be visited between June 17th and July 1st - Leicester, Nottingham, Sheffield, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Liverpool, North Wales, Manchester, Warrington, Birmingham, Acock's Green, Coventry. The response from the branches had been very encouraging. The Chairman, Mrs. Ineson and Miss Harrison expressed the Committee's good wishes for the journey, and hoped this visit to the branches would be a precedent for increasingly close contact in the future.

1187. Autumn School. Reported that favourable replies had been received from Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, France and Holland. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that at the International Executive the opinion had been expressed that delegates from the Continent would want to discuss a broader subject than our own domestic organisation. After discussion it was AGREED to recommend to the Organisation Committee that speakers should be obtained - subject suggested: Social Changes in England. Speakers suggested: Mrs. Huxley and Mrs. Richenda Scott. Mrs. Duncan Harris also reported that the German Section were very keen to send delegates, and that the project would receive consideration from the Foreign Office when approached. She further reported that the International Executive had granted the sum of 500 Swiss Francs towards the expenses of the Autumn School.

1188. Professor Catlin's Meeting, May 30th. Reported that a very interesting meeting had been held, though the attendance was not as good as we had hoped, probably owing to the hot weather. The title of his address was "Asia Awakens" and he spoke of his recent experiences in both India and China, and of the Inter-Asian Relations Conference at Delhi.

1189. International Executive, Geneva, May 1947.

Mrs. Stapledon read the report submitted by Mrs. Paine, and Mrs. Duncan Harris added her comments on a very interesting and hopeful meeting. Among the facts reported were the resignation of Dr. Bussey owing to ill-health, and the election of Madame Jouve as International Chairman in her place; contact with the United Nations through Gertrude Baer, who now has a special office for the purpose in New York; the difficulties of running the international office in Geneva owing to shortage of staff. The following decisions had to be taken as a result of the Executive:-

International News Letters. The British Section was asked to continue editing the News Letter. The next issue would be devoted to the International Executive, and the second one to the question of East-West relations. Thanks of the International Executive were expressed to Miss Horscroft and Miss Hyde, and it had been suggested that a small honorarium be paid to Miss Horscroft. We are asked to find another member to assist Miss Horscroft. AGREED that Mrs. Paine be asked to take on the work. Mrs. de Swiet promised to lend her assistance with translations.

The British Section was asked to secure signatures of important people in support of documents relating to Internationalisation of Waterways, and Internationalisation of Uninhabited Polar Regions, which have been drafted by Miss Balch. Mrs. Innes agreed to take these documents and suggest suitable names.

Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations.

Mrs. Duncan Harris explained the position with regard to representation at the United Nations. The Liaison Committee is granted consultative status in the United Nations. The W.I.L.P.F. is applying for the same but has to co-operate on the limited range of subjects upon which the Committee could represent us. Mrs. Duncan Harris was not prepared to carry on as representative. Mrs. Castle agreed to serve, but emphasised that she might not always be able to attend the meetings.

Prisoners of War.

Reported appeal from the German Section urging International Headquarters to take action for speedy return where the individual Governments still held Prisoners of War - particularly in regard to those in Russian hands, who had no communication with their relatives. The Red Cross in Geneva had been approached but were unable to help. The International Executive agreed to draft letters to all Governments concerned, and ask individual sections to take action as well.

Literature for German Section.

Reported that Swiss Section has given a quantity of leaflets in German (including a history of the W.I.L.) to the German Section.

Suggested that the British Section might pay for a copy of the report of the Luxembourg Congress to be sent to each group in Germany. AGREED. Proposed that the cost be met from the Penny-a-Week Fund. AGREED.

1190. India. Miss Harrison said it was too soon to assess the Government statement of June 3rd and the Indian leaders' decision to accept it. Obviously the division of India was a negation of the principles for which we had worked. Relief was natural - for the situation in India had become crucial. But we should bear well in mind the sober fact that this drastic action would not have been necessary but for our handling of the Indian situation in the past. Nor should we forget what it means to the major political party in India - whose dream has always been for a united India. In Mr. Nehru's broadcast talk the night before, this could be glimpsed. To Mr. Gandhi in particular our thoughts should turn. Hindu-Moslem unity has always been a fundamental part of his non-violence. The need for a vigilant watching of the situation is apparent to all: its importance to the peace of the world was stressed by Mr. Bevin at Margate. Miss Harrison urged that this matter be borne in mind by the Branches when planning future meetings. Also, that each Branch should get the weekly Summary of Indian news that can be obtained from Mr. Sudhir Ghosh (recently appointed Public Relations Officer in London), India House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2. From June 11th the preparation of this material is being passed over to him from the India Office. Events will now move very swiftly - in India and here. At this end, legislation will be passed within the next few weeks. The W.I.L. must watch every step taken.

1191. Finance. Mrs. Stapledon, presenting the monthly statement of income and expenditure, said that to date we were still on the right side for this year, but only just. Branch quotas were coming in fairly well in response to our appeal, and she appreciated particularly the payment of arrears for 1946, as well as payments for 1947 already coming in. Subscriptions, however, were not coming in as well as last year, and we were about to send out a fresh reminder. The Ford Memorial Fund had now been transferred to us from the Leeds Branch, and the finance and Organisation Committee were instructed to consider how the cash in hand could be used, under the terms of the Trust. The new appeal for subscribers to the Penny-a-Week fund was going out with the current issue of the News Sheet, and we needed a really good response to enable us to raise our promised quota to Geneva. It was RESOLVED that in future Mrs. Ineson be authorised to sign cheques on our accounts with the Midland Bank Ltd., 237 Tottenham Court Road, in place of Mrs. Duncan Harris.

1192. Miss Marie Lous Mohr was welcomed by the Chairman and in a short but inspiring speech spoke of the work before all our Sections and the need for every effort to prevent war, which she said was greater to-day than ever before.

1193. GERMANY.

Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Duncan Harris gave excellent reports of their visit to Germany, stressing on the one hand the appalling conditions under which the Germans are living and on the other the surprising enthusiasm and organising ability which was apparent wherever they went. It was unanimously AGREED that their joint report should be printed for circulation among members, Branches, and other Sections, and should also be sent to the German groups whom they visited.

It was AGREED that invitations be sent to about three of the German members to attend the Autumn School.

It was left to the Officers to decide whether a public meeting should be arranged in order to enable members and

others to hear reports of the visit.

1194. Reports of other organisations:-

Mrs. de Swiet reported briefly on the Colonial Conference held on June 3rd. by the British Commonwealth League.

Miss Dickinson reported upon the action taken by the Women's Advisory Council of U.N.A. in regard to the disputed clause in the I.L.O. Convention on Social Policy in Non-Metropolitan Territories.

Mrs. Ineson reported the details of the visit arranged by the Women's Group on Public Welfare for six German women. She appealed for hospitality for two of these women for the weekend June 21st to 23rd.

Mrs. Ineson reported that the National Peace Council had turned down the proposed new joint magazine. It was proposed to form a Liaison Committee of those responsible for publication in the affiliated organisations, and we were asked to send a representative. AGREED that Miss Haughton should attend on our behalf.

Mrs. Nuttall reported that the Campaign for Equal Pay was being intensified in every possible direction.

1195. Date and Place of next meeting. Friends' International Centre, July 2nd 1947.

1196. Any other business. Reported that we were asked by the Equal Pay Campaign Committee and the Status of Women Committee to do everything we could to publicise the efforts now being made, and to urge our members and Branch Secretaries to write to individual M.P.'s, arrange deputations, and write to the press, national and local. AGREED that a circular be sent to Branch Secretaries. Representatives were decided upon to attend on our behalf several forthcoming meetings arranged by these organisations.

Reported that details were available of a very interesting Summer School arranged by Common Wealth, with arrangements for exchange visits with Dutch Socialists in their Summer Camp.

Annual Council 1948. Reported that, acting upon instructions at the Annual Council at Haywards Heath, every possible effort had been made to secure accommodation in Cambridge, Leicester or Nottingham, without success. Accordingly, a reservation had been made at High Leigh, from April 13th-16th 1948, and this was ratified by the Committee.

Branch Reports. Reports were given by Manchester, Reading, North London, Nottingham, Liverpool, Croydon, and Brighton Branches. In connection with the last of these, it was agreed to send a letter from the Executive to Miss Pickworth, who was reported to be very ill and at present in a nursing home.

Meeting for Miss Marie Lous Mohr. AGREED that a meeting should be held, at the Centre if possible, on Wednesday, June 25th, at 3.30 p.m.

*Trigton Castle
June 4th 1947*

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, July 2nd, 1947 at Friends International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. Castle in the chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Schlossmann, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Lady Unwin, Miss Wright.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs. Malcomson, Miss Bourne,

1198. The Minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were amended as follows, and adopted as a correct record:-

1189. International News Letters. to read: The British Section was asked to find an editor or editors for the News Letter.

Prisoners of War, to read: Reported appeal from the Bremen Group of the German Section..... War - and to ask that contact might be established with those in Russian hands.....

1194. Reports of other organisations:- Miss Dickinson reported upon the proposed action to be taken by the Women's Advisory Council of U.N.A., subject to endorsement.....

Arising out of the minutes:-

1199 Internationalisation of Waterways.

Internationalisation of Uninhabited Polar Regions.

Reported that these documents had been sent to suitable people for signature, but so far no replies had been received. It was AGREED that the documents be duplicated for circulation to all Executive members.

1200. Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations.

Reported that Mrs. Dorothy Warner, Information Officer of the National Peace Council, had agreed to serve as one of the representatives with Mrs. Castle.

1201. Meeting on June 25th - Marie Lous Mohr.

Mrs. Ineson reported that the meeting, though not very well attended, was extremely worth while, and Miss Mohr's address on the wide scope of the work of the W.I.L.P.F. at the present time, was an inspiring message which we ought to try to get across to all W.I.L. members. It was suggested that the address should be printed in pamphlet form. The Treasurer urged that the question be considered from the financial angle by the Finance and Organisation Committee. AGREED.

1202. India. Miss Harrison reported that the most important recent development was the appointment of Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit as the first Ambassador from India to Russia. A cable had been sent from the Section congratulating her on this appointment. The debate on the Bill to transfer power to India and Pakistan as two separate Dominions would take place during the next week or so. The Institute of Pacific Relations were to hold a private Conference in September at Stratford-on-Avon and to take advantage of the presence of delegates from other countries it has been decided to set up an Ad Hoc Committee to arrange a public conference in London. We had received an invitation to send a representative to a meeting of this committee on July 9th, and Mrs. Ineson was appointed to represent us.

1203. Colonies. Miss Harrison reported that Mrs. Malcomson and Mrs. Ferguson had agreed to continue their work on colonial questions, with the assistance of information from the Fabian Colonial Bureau through Miss Nicholson, on matters which need the creation and support of public opinion. Mrs. Ferguson will act as secretary, and a further member of Childwall Branch has been added to the group. Suggested that we subscribe to the Fabian Colonial Bureau (10/6d. p.a.)
AGREED. AGREED that a letter be sent to Mrs. Malcomson and Mrs. Ferguson expressing appreciation of their help, and assuring them that the whole question of committees outside London will be considered at the Autumn School. Mrs. Castle suggested that we should also subscribe to the Government publication on Colonies, and promised to send in details.
AGREED.

1204. Finance. The statement to the end of June was not yet available, but a brief presentation of the position was given, showing that our income and expenditure account for the first six months of the year just balanced, but as we had several outstanding liabilities this position would have worsened by the time the next statement was drawn up.

Miss Dickinson reported that our subscription to the Women's Council on Indian Affairs had not been paid since 1945, and it was agreed that two years subscriptions be sent at once.

1205. Publicity. Miss Haughton reported that the Committee had decided to recommend that we should publish a new leaflet giving the history of the W.I.L., brought up to date. There was a long discussion of the kind of literature needed, and various members of the committee urged that we should not lay too much emphasis on the past, but concentrate on present and future activities, and that while we should make the best use of ideas of the past, a new approach and a fresh start were required to-day. Mrs. Castle urged that the Publicity Committee should be strengthened. Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed the co-opting of Miss Bourne. AGREED.

1206. Organising Secretary's Tour of Branches.

The Organising Secretary reported that the following branches had been visited:- Leicester, Nottingham, Sheffield, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Childwall, North Wales, Warrington, Manchester, Acock's Green and Coventry. She felt the visits had been worthwhile, principally as a means of bringing about closer contact between Branches and Headquarters. Nearly all branches visited had urged that Headquarters should do more to achieve this, by sending Executive members to address meetings more frequently. Many problems, some common to several branches, had been discussed, and would be brought up again at the Autumn School. Speaking immediately upon her return, it was not possible to give a prepared report in

detail, but among general conclusions were the following:-

- a. Every branch visited urged Headquarters to supply up to date and attractive literature.
- b. Branches feel that if they contribute their share of financial support to Headquarters they are entitled to more assistance in the way of arranging for tours by speakers - Executive members or foreign visitors - so as to reduce travelling expenses for individual branches.
- c. Branches would welcome more information about the International and other sections.
- d. Some means must be found of attracting younger women into the movement if it is to carry on successfully - almost every branch has the same difficulty to report.
- e. Personal contact is by far the most successful method of getting new members at present employed by branches.
- f. Branches which lay most emphasis on pacifist principles are those which find it most difficult to expand.

There was a strong feeling in the North - particularly in Manchester and Warrington - that the next Annual Council should be held in Manchester, and it was suggested that we should enquire whether Dalton Hall would be available.

AGREED that a letter be sent to Manchester Branch asking whether they would be prepared to co-operate in arrangements for the Council Meetings, and also a letter of enquiry to Dalton Hall.

Mrs. Castle expressed the Committee's thanks to Miss Hayward.

Mrs. Ineson proposed that our thanks be given to Miss Moriggia for the excellent work she had done in the office during Miss Hayward's absence. Proposed by Mrs. McGregor Wood and Mrs. Ineson that a bonus of £5 be paid to her on the occasion of her summer holiday. AGREED. Mrs. Ineson raised the question of Miss Moriggia's salary, which she felt to be inadequate. The officers were instructed to consider the possibility of a revision of salary at the next meeting.

1207. United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Reported that the Drafting Committee of this Commission met on June 9th to prepare an International Bill of Human Rights to bring before the Commission at its second session. The United Kingdom has now added its own draft of an International Bill of Human Rights to those already before the Committee from Chile, Cuba, India, Panama and the U.S.A. It was noted that at present children's rights are not specifically mentioned but as a precis of communications is before the Drafting Committee, it is hoped that the letter sent by us to the Chairman, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, asking that the rights of illegitimate babies should be included, will be considered. It was decided, at the suggestion of Mrs. Innes, that one copy of the News Sheet should be entirely devoted to the subject of Human Rights.

1208. Branch Reports. Reports of past activities and future plans were given by Liverpool, Reading, Birmingham, Nottingham, Cambridge, Brighton, Croydon and North London Branches.

1209. News Sheets. Mrs. Innes reported that there would be

no separate August issue. Miss Haughton was to edit the September issue, which would contain the resolutions passed by the International Executive in Geneva.

1210. Reports of other Organisations.

Joint Standing Parliamentary Committee.

Miss Hayler reported that a campaign on Equal Pay is to be organised in connection with the Islington by-election, and asked for assistance from members in North London.

International Women's Day.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that in connection with the Equal Pay Campaign, mass demonstrations are to be held in September.

Women's Group on Public Welfare.

Mrs. Ineson reported that the visit to England of the first group of German women under the scheme sponsored by the Control Commission was an outstanding success. The W.I.L. co-operated in providing hospitality and acting as guides. Mrs. Stapledon reported on the contacts made by the Childwall Branch with two of the German group who visited Liverpool. A report from the Manchester Guardian was read and it was noted that the Control Commission were prepared to help in any scheme of an educational nature to bring German women on visits to this country.

1211. Date and Place of next meeting. September 3rd, 1947,
at Friends International Centre.

Elizabeth Baemiger

Sep. 3rd

1947

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 3rd, 1947 at Friends' International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. Ballinger in the Chair. Mrs. Bedford, Miss Burton, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Miss Stansfield and Mrs. Stapledon.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Miss Baker, Miss Bourne, Mrs. Castle, Hon. Mrs. Franklin, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Graham White, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Malcomson, Lady Mayer, Mrs. Phillips and Lady Unwin.

1212. A letter of apology from Mrs. Phillips was read, which also tendered her resignation from the Executive Committee as she is commencing a course of study at Nottingham University. The Committee accepted her resignation with great regret, and the Hon. Secretary was asked to write to convey this to Mrs. Phillips, and to express the hope that she would return to the Committee in due course.

1213. The minutes of the last meeting were amended to include the name of Lady Parmoor among those present, and adopted as a correct record.

Arising out of the minutes:-

1214. Annual Council 1948. Following the suggestion at the last meeting, enquiries had been made at Dalton Hall, Manchester, and we were offered accommodation at a charge of about 17/- per day. The officers had concluded that this was too expensive, by comparison with the charge of 12/- per day at High Leigh, and we had therefore declined the offer. It has been suggested to Manchester Branch that an extended Executive might be arranged in Manchester in the autumn of 1948, if hospitality could be provided for those requiring it.

1215. Staff. As instructed, the officers had agreed that Miss Moriggia's salary be raised from £2.10.- to £3 per week, subject to the approval of the Executive. Proposed by Mrs. Stapledon and seconded by Miss Hayler that the officers' decision be ratified. Reported that as agreed at the July meeting, the sum of £5 had been paid to Miss Moriggia on the occasion of her summer holiday, and a letter of thanks addressed by her to the committee was read.

1216. News Sheets. Mrs. Innes reported that as the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations was not meeting in September as expected, it would not be possible to have the specific article by Gertrude Baer on the work of the Commission. It was therefore decided to produce an issue on Human Rights on more general lines. Mrs. Innes stated that she wished to resign from the editorship. The Committee expressed their appreciation of the excellent work she had done over such a long period, and urged that she should carry on until November. On the understanding that a new editor be appointed at the Autumn School, Mrs. Innes agreed.

1217. Industrial Conscription. The statement sent in by the No Conscription Council was read, and Mrs. Nuttall reported on the last meeting of the Council. She explained that owing to the overlapping of military and industrial conscription the

Council felt the necessity of dealing with both problems and asked for guidance from its supporters on this question and also on the re-organisation of its work. From the discussion which followed and in which most of the members took part, it emerged that the Executive was not unanimous in opposing industrial conscription in our present planned economy. It was therefore decided to bring this important matter to the notice of the Branches, to ascertain their views before replying to the Council. On the matter of the division of the Council into four committees taking different aspects of the work, the Executive endorsed the opinion of the three representatives, which was against the proposal.

1218. Documents on Internationalisation of Waterways and Polar Regions.

Mrs. Ineson reported that the documents had been sent to eighteen eminent persons, and the signatures of Professor Oliphant and Commander Stephen King-Hall had been obtained and sent to Geneva, together with a letter of criticism received from Arnold Forster, which had also been sent to Miss Balch for information. Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested that the documents be brought to the notice of the United Kingdom delegates to United Nations. AGREED.

1219. AUTUMN SCHOOL. The final arrangements were reported in detail and approved. It was agreed that arrangements for the social evening be left in the hands of Mrs. Kemp and Miss Burton. If possible an excursion should be arranged for the afternoon of Saturday, October 11th.

1220. Visit of German Women. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the arrangements to date for the visit of at least three women from the British Zone and possibly two from the American Zone. The Foreign Office had agreed to be responsible for the fares to England, in respect of the three from the British Zone, and it was possible that we might obtain a further grant for maintenance. We had undertaken to arrange a comprehensive tour of provincial towns, to see educational, health and other public services and organisations, and also the work of voluntary societies. It was agreed that Birmingham and Oxford be asked to entertain two of the visitors on these lines, and Reading and Croydon two more. These visits would cover the second and third weeks of the scheme, the first being spent at the Autumn School and in preparation and rest.

Reported that Mrs. Mitchiner was leaving for a visit to the American Zone, and agreed that she should take to the W.I.L. members there the message which Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Phillips were unable to deliver.

1221. FINANCE.

Mrs. Stapledon gave a detailed analysis of the financial statement at 30th August 1947, which showed a deficit on the eight months of the year amounting to £179.14.10½. Further subscriptions could only be anticipated on a small scale; if all the Branch quotas due were received, that would produce about £100 more. Considering individual items of expenditure one of our heaviest losses was in respect of the Annual Report. It was agreed that before printing next year, the Finance and Organisation Committee should consider what form the report should take and whether we could afford to distribute it free to Headquarter members.

1222. Report of Finance and Organisation Committee.

Various suggestions for money-raising efforts had been considered and the following were recommended to the Executive:-

Christmas Sale, December 10th. Dame S bil Thorndike to be asked to open, or, failing her, Mrs. Muriel Nichol, M.P.

Lady Mayer to be asked to assist in arranging a musical evening, and Harriet Cohen to be approached to give a recital.

The Executive agreed that the decision of the Committee to hold the Christmas Sale on December 10th be reversed to the Committee's original choice, and the Sale be held on December 3rd, after an Executive Committee in the morning. It was suggested that some form of entertainment be arranged if possible.

It was also suggested that Lady Mayer might be able to assist in organising a public concert, and Mrs. Ineson was instructed to approach her.

Arising out of the Secretary's tour of the branches, the following points were considered noteworthy by the Organisation Committee:-

News of Headquarters activities to be inserted in monthly News Sheet. AGREED.

Names and addresses of Secretaries of National Sections should be printed once a year in the News Sheet.

This was not approved, but it was suggested that Branches should be informed that they could write to any overseas Section c/o Headquarters, and their letters would be forwarded.

Visits of speakers to branches - need to co-ordinate to save expense and time. Branches to be asked to send requests for Headquarter speakers to the office, so that arrangements can be made for speakers to visit several branches at the same time. AGREED.

The following meetings were suggested for the autumn:-

Miss Vera Brittain - on her visit to Germany.

Russia - possibly Geoffrey Wilson or Mrs. McManus.

Henry Usborne, M.P. - on World Government.

1223. Report of Publicity Committee.

The Committee had considered various drafts for a short leaflet to be printed in large quantities for distribution by branches, and had agreed upon one designed by Kay Bourne and Ethel Hayward. It was also agreed that Miss Haughton's history of the W.I.L., with suitable additions, be reprinted, as there was considerable demand for a leaflet of this type.

AGREED that a notice be inserted in the News Sheet stating that suggestions and designs for publications, and criticism of any of our printed matter, would be welcome.

1224. India.

Since the Executive last met, far reaching changes have taken place. Miss Harrison reported what took place in London on August 15th and the meeting held at Friends' House to mark the occasion in a fitting manner. Both High Commissioners of India and Pakistan were present. It was known that when the Boundary Commission issued its report on August 18th, fixing the frontiers of the Dominions of Pakistan and India, there might be

trouble in the Punjab and Bengal. All attention here is concentrated on the frightful situation in the Punjab; too little on what has taken place in Bengal. Here, a miracle has taken place owing to the presence of Mr. Gandhi. He and the late Muslim Premier of Bengal settled down together in a house in the worst riot area - demonstrating the practical possibility of Hindu-Muslim unity. This has been described in a vivid article by Horace Alexander; all present were urged to take a copy of this and make the widest use of it. Owing to an outbreak of violence in Calcutta, Mr. Gandhi was undertaking a fast, that would only end when sanity had been restored. Members were asked to keep him in their thoughts during these fateful days. Miss Harrison pointed out that, though the press was attributing the grave disorders to the withdrawal of the British, our share must be borne in mind in not handling India's demand for freedom years ago. Attention was drawn to the valuable broadcasts given after the 6 o'clock news every Sunday.

Miss Harrison had received a letter from Miss Balch asking what was being done about the nomination of Mr. Gandhi for the Nobel Peace Prize for 1948. It was recalled that at the International Executive a suggestion was made that Frau Ragaz be nominated, and it was agreed that this suggestion be looked into.

1225. Indonesia. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported action in writing to members in Holland. Letter from National Peace Council reported, giving information about statement forwarded to the Netherlands Embassy. Miss Harrison called attention to the outstanding action of Mr. Nehru in bringing the situation in India to the notice of United Nations. She stressed the need for strong representation of the W.I.L. at the forthcoming Asian Conference to be held on September 27th and 28th, and suggested that each of the four commissions should be covered by one of our members. She also drew attention to the valuable material on Indonesia and Japan supplied by the Union of Democratic Control.

1226. Nigeria. Reported that we had been in touch with the delegation from the National Council for Nigeria and the Cameroons, in particular with the woman member of the delegation, Mrs. Ransome Kuti. The Colonies Committee had considered the literature we had received, and recommended that we support the desire of the Nigerian women for further education. Meetings were to be addressed by members of the delegation in London and in Manchester.

1227. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS.

U.S.A. Section. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported receipt of a letter from the American Section asking for our views on the Marshall Plan and also suggesting that we urge our government to request the creation of a United Nations Commission comparable to the Atomic Energy Commission to study and work out plans for the international Control of other weapons of mass destruction such as rockets, drone planes, proximity fuses and biological warfare. On the first of these questions, it was decided to ask the officers to confer, with the assistance of Mrs. Warner, before their Meeting at the beginning of October. On the second point it was agreed that we should urge our delegates to the United Nations to bear in mind that they have a responsibility under the Charter to "formulate plans for the establishment of a system for the regulation of armaments" (article 26) and encourage them to work for the international control of these weapons of mass destruction on the same lines as that of atomic energy.

1228. Palestine. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported letter from Madame Jouve asking for our views on Palestine. The ensuing discussion centred on the problem of the Jewish refugee ships now being directed to Germany, and it was agreed that a letter

be sent to the Government deploring this decision and supporting the suggestion of the Palestine Enquiry Commission of the United Nations that the plight of European Jews in refugee camps calls for immediate alleviation by international action.

1229. Correspondence.

Reported a letter from Croydon Branch raising the question of the difference between British rations and those for British personnel in Germany, and its effect on German opinion. It was felt that this was only one point in the criticisms we should wish to make of administration in the British Zone. Mrs. Duncan Harris agreed to speak to Croydon Branch and point out that we did not see what effective action we could take at present.

A letter from Rev. Henry Carter was read, thanking the W.I.L. for their letter of sympathy and gift of grapes during his illness.

Letter reported from the League for Democracy in Greece asking us to sign a protest to the Greek Prime Minister against the suppression of the relief organisation known as "National Solidarity". AGREED that we should check up on the organisation before signing the message.

Letter reported from Geneva Office enclosing copy of reply from Mr. Bevin to letter sent to Governments regarding Prisoners of War still held in captivity. British Government was the only one to reply.

Letter reported from International Friendship League asking for our support for a London Conference at the end of October or the beginning of November for the purpose of a general and informal exchange of ideas and the exploration of possibilities for co-operation in matters of mutual interest and the provision of opportunities for people of all countries to meet each other. AGREED that we should support the Conference.

1230. Meetings of other Organisations. Miss Dickinson gave a report of the meeting of the United Nations Association Women's Advisory Council addressed by Miss Harrison on July 5th.

1231. Date and Place of next meeting - October 14th at "The Hayes", Swanwick.

Irishman Carter
Oct. 13th 1947.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Monday, October 13th 1947 at "The Hayes", Swanwick, Derbyshire.

Present:- Mrs. Castle in the Chair. Miss Baker, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Dickinson, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Nuttall, and thirty three visitors.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Harrison.

1232. The Minutes of the last Meeting, having been circulated, were adopted as a correct record and signed by the Chairmen.

Arising out of the minutes:-

1233. Industrial Conscription. Copies of the memorandum and questionnaire issued by the No Conscription Council had been circulated to all Branches with request to call special meetings to consider the matter. It had been decided by the officers that in order to give sufficient time to the discussion, the whole of the afternoon session of the December Executive Committee should be devoted to this question.

1234. Visit of German Women. We were glad to welcome Frau Hommes, Frau Rodemann and Frau Oschatz to Swanwick, and also Frau Kuhl Lorenzon and Frau Fuechsel, who had just concluded their six weeks course at Wilton Park, Beaconsfield, and fortunately had been granted permission by the Foreign Office to stay for our Autumn School. Plans for the course of study of social services and voluntary institutions for the first three visitors had been made, in Birmingham and Oxford, Croydon, and Reading, and the hope was expressed that our visitors would find the arrangements both interesting and enjoyable.

To date, Frau Niemann of Bremen, in the U.S. Zone of Germany, had not succeeded in obtaining the necessary exit permit, but it was agreed that our invitation to her should stand, in case the permit should come through at a later date.

1235. Women Delegates to United Nations. A letter to be sent from the Autumn School to Mrs. Florence Paton, M.P., was read - expressing our pride in her appointment as delegate to the United Nations, our appreciation of the responsibility involved and our support for her endeavours.

A similar letter was also sent to Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, head of the Indian delegation to United Nations.

1236. London Meeting - November 10th. Reported arrangements for public meeting - Livingstone Hall, 7 p.m. Speakers: Vera Brittain and R. R. Stokes, M.P. Chair, Lady Mayer. Title: Germany To-day - and To-morrow?

1237. Woman's Hour Broadcast. Reported correspondence with B.B.C. resulting in invitation to Vera Brittain to talk about W.I.L. in Women's Hour (Monday; Light Programme) the date still to be fixed. Every effort to be made to let members and other Sections know the date in due course.

1238. FINANCE. Mrs. Stapledon presented the current statement of income and expenditure, showing a total deficit for the first nine months of the year of £318.2.5. She listed the items of expenditure which accounted for the increase, and which were mostly beyond our control, and also mentioned the sources of income to be expected for the remainder of the year. The target for the Christmas Sale was £100. Outstanding Branch quotas amounted to over £100. Branches were urged to go back and think of ways to balance income and expenditure. Mrs. Wood suggested that if every member would enrol one new member, our troubles were over. It was suggested that an appeal be made for a contribution of 2/- from every member, to clear off the deficit, but no decision was taken.

1239. Asia Conference: September 27th/28th, 1947. Unfortunately, Miss Harrison was not present to report on this very successful Conference. Miss Dickinson gave a report of the work of the Commission on China. Miss Hayward reported on the work of the Commission on S. E. Asia, and the general summing up.

1240. World Union of Peace Organisations. Mrs. McGregor Wood gave a report of the Conference held in September at St. Cergue, at which the preliminary steps were taken in setting up this new international co-ordinating body.

1241. India. Arising out of Mrs. Lankester's speech to the Autumn School, letters of sympathy had been drafted to Rajkumari Amrit Kaur and Miss Jinnah, and these were now read.

1242. Colonies. Mrs. Ferguson spoke of the Nigerian delegation to the Government - of the rise of nationalism in Africa and the West Indies. Mdlle Pontheil spoke of a demonstration of Tunisian women in Algiers in the spring of 1947, demanding their emancipation and political freedom.

1243. Election of new Chairman.

Mrs. Castle said she was **sorry she must resign** from the Chairmanship. Many expressions of regret at this necessity, and appreciations of the valuable work she had rendered in that capacity, were made and endorsed. Her resignation was accepted with great regret, to take effect after the December meeting of the Executive.

The name of Mrs. McGregor Wood had been put forward by the Officers Meeting held on October 1st, after considering nominations in accordance with the instructions of the Executive in April last (ref. Minute 1170) and she was unanimously declared Chairman-Elect until the end of the year, when she would take over the office from Mrs. Castle.

1244. National Peace Council Conference. The following members were elected to attend as delegates to the Conference on The Soviet Union, the West, and the World's Peace, November 20th/23rd next.

Miss B. M. Baker.	(Bristol)
Mrs. Kay.	(Liverpool)
Miss Parker.	(Edinburgh)
Miss Sear.	(Farnborough)
Miss Goodwin.	(Brighton)
Mrs. McGregor Wood.	

1245. Anti-Semitism. Discussion of what action we could take to combat growing anti-semitism in this country. Mrs. Castle referred to the work of the Council of Christians and Jews, and recommended approaching them for information. Mrs.

Stapledon reported action taken by International Executive, in instructing Swedish Section to collect information from all other Sections as to the extent of the feeling in each country, and proposals as to how the disease should be combated. Further discussion of what could be done about the meetings being held in the East End. Agreed that we should send for information from the Council of Christians and Jews, to see what they are doing about this particular problem.

1246 The Press Secretary reported the announcement of the Autumn School in the Derby Evening Telegraph.

1247. Any other business.

Miss Baker asked what would be done with the findings of the Planning Committee set up by the Autumn School. Mrs. Ineson replied that all the suggestions will go before the next meeting of the Executive Committee. On the suggestion of Mrs. Wood, it was agreed that the points brought forward by the Committee be circulated to Branches.

Mrs. Castle asked for W.I.L. support for the Atomic Scientists' Association. They would supply information in return for our subscription. AGREED that we should send subscription.

Mrs. Tiller asked if Childwall Branch could have permission from the Executive Committee to affiliate to the United Nations Association. Several Branches intimated that they had already affiliated without asking for permission. AGREED that the whole matter be referred to the next Executive.

DATE & PLACE of next meeting - 3rd December 1947, at Friends' International Centre.

Ineson Castle
Oct. 16th 1947

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.
104 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Tel: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, December 3rd, 1947 at Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Present: Mrs. Castle in the Chair, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Schlossmann, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. de Swiet, Lady Unwin.

Apologies for absence were received from :- Miss Grace Colman M.P., Hon. Mrs. Franklin, Miss Bourne, Mrs. Graham White, Mrs. Innes, Lady Mayer, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Needham.

1248. The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated, were amended as follows, and signed as a correct record:-

Minute No. 1243. Mrs. Castle reminded us that she had undertaken the Chairmanship only until the Autumn School, and said she was sorry she must now resign. Many expressions of regret.....

Arising out of the minutes:-

1249 Visit of German members. Mrs. Wood reported the following valuable suggestions for action by the British Section, made to her by Frau Hommes before she left England:-

1. to contact the Foreign Office with a view to getting more books on democratic subjects sent to Germany. e.g. "The Anatomy of Peace", "Man and the Atom".
2. to send the News Sheet and copies of the International Circular Letter, which is unobtainable in Germany, for circulation among the groups.
3. to stress the importance of correspondence to German women - This often means more than food to them.
4. to stress the need for dual control of armaments industries in Germany.

AGREED that £1 from Penny-a-Week Fund be spent on copies of the International Circular Letter to go to German groups, and that a note be inserted in the News Sheet asking International Members to forward their used copies to Germany.

Mrs. Ballinger commented on the success of the visit to Birmingham, and Mrs. Nuttall expressed appreciation of the visitors' contribution to the Autumn School. AGREED that letters be sent to all three German visitors expressing this appreciation.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the warm greetings of Frau Hommes to all her friends in England, when leaving for home on December 2nd.

1250. November 10th Meeting. Reported that a small but very successful meeting was held, with Vera Brittain and R.H. Stokes, M.P., speaking on "Germany Today - And Tomorrow?", and Lady Mayer in the Chair. The speeches were followed by interesting discussion. The collection covered expenses, with a small surplus.

1251. December 1st. Broadcast. Many members expressed appreciation of Miss Vera Brittain's Broadcast, and the way in which the short time allotted had been used to the best possible advantage. The Organising Secretary was congratulated on the success of her efforts to arrange the broadcast. AGREED that a letter of thanks be sent to Miss Brittain.

1252. Affiliation to U.N.A. Mrs. Ineson reported a letter from Childwall Branch withdrawing their request for permission to affiliate to United Nations Association. On the whole question of Affiliation to other organisations, it was decided that a circular should be sent to Branches at once setting out the relevant rule (1V.b). As regards affiliation to U.N.A., agreed that the matter be discussed in further detail at the next Executive Committee.

1253. Report of Planning Committee at Swanwick. Mrs. Ineson reported that the findings of the Planning Committee had been considered by the Organisation Committee on December 2nd, and suggested that a small sub-committee be set up to look at these findings and from them to draft a suitable document for circulation to Branches, also that an article about them should be written for the News Sheet. AGREED. The following names were proposed and accepted for the sub-committee:-

The Officers, plus - Mrs. Nuttall, and Mrs. Hughes.

1254. Correspondence.

Mrs. Ineson read a letter from Mrs. Tiller reporting that Childwall Branch are proposing to form a new group in West Derby, Liverpool.

Reported a letter from No Conscription Council, inviting us to send delegates to a Conference on 21st February 1948. Agreed that our delegates to the Council should represent us, and that we will send out invitations to London Branches. Mrs. de Swiet promised to attend if possible. The matter would be raised again at the January meeting.

Reported letter from Miss Horscroft suggesting that papers etc. belonging to Mrs. Swanwick should now be sent to the Swarthmore Peace Collection. AGREED that this should be done, but that the Swarthmore Peace Collection be asked if they are prepared to share the expenses.

Reported letter from United Europe Movement, asking for our co-operation. AGREED that Mrs. Newcombe be invited to meet the officers at their next meeting.

Mrs. Ineson reported that a letter had been sent to the Prime Minister protesting against the new schedule of factories etc. to be dismantled in Germany, and a detailed reply had been received from the Foreign Office. This had been referred to R. R. Stokes, M.P. for his suggestions, but he felt that nothing further could be done until after the end of the Foreign Ministers' Conference. AGREED that Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Ballinger and Mrs. Grindley look into the matter further and consider whether another letter should be written.

Mrs. Ineson reported receipt of a letter from the National Council of Women asking for our support to a request to the Foreign Secretary to bring over women of the Frauenring in the British Zone for consultation with the Foreign Ministers' Conference. After discussion with Frau Hommes, we had added our name to the organisations supporting this request.

1255. Finance.

Mrs. Stapledon gave the financial statement up to 30th November. The position had improved somewhat, since the last meeting, mainly due to the result of the Christmas Sale, which had realised in all £86. An appeal was being sent to every member for a Christmas Gift of 2/6d for the W.I.L., which would wipe out a considerable part of our deficit for the year.

1256. Publicity Committee.

The publication of two new leaflets was reported:

1. Reprint of Miss Amy Haughton's history of the W.I.L. "Calling All Women", price 6d.
2. Small leaflet "Would you Gamble with their Future?" intended for free distribution among non-members, price to branches and members 2/6d per 100. Designed and written by Miss K. Bourne and Miss Hayward.

1257. Organisation Committee.

Report of Meeting on December 2nd.

Miss Crocker to be asked to take on the Secretaryship of the Committee.

It was felt that more contacts should be made with London H.Q. members and suggested

- a) formation of new groups in suburbs
- b) visits to such areas by organising secretary
- c) Social gathering in the New Year.
- d) one-day conferences on important subjects, e.g. World Government, Anti-Semitism etc.

Discussion of the Autumn School. Satisfaction with success of the weekend, and hope that further use of weekends be made.

The Executive were asked to ratify the formation of a new London sub-committee to consist of the Chairman, the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Nuttall and Miss Crocker, to deal with above suggestions. AGREED.

1258. Colonies Committee.

Mrs. Malcomson reported that Mrs. Ferguson had done a great deal of reading but had nothing to report for the attention of the Executive other than the suggestion of Vernon Bartlett that an Under-Secretary of State for Africa should be appointed. Reported letter from Mrs. McGregor Ross asking for Executive action on the announcement by Mr. Strachey in the House of details of a smallpox epidemic in Tanganyika, on a certain area of the groundnut scheme. After discussion, the matter was referred to the Colonies Committee to draft a letter to the appropriate department of the Ministry of Food enquiring as to what extent the promise to provide adequate welfare facilities is being implemented. Suggested that approach should also be made to Mrs. Mabel Hidealgh, M.P., and Mrs. Wills M.P.

1259. Reports from other organisations.

Owing to lack of time, the reports of the N.P.C. Conference on East-West Relations, and the British Soviet Society Annual General Meeting were deferred to the January

Executive meeting.

National Council for Civil Liberties. Mrs. Ineson said she had received a report of an International Conference on Human Rights held in London in June, in which appeared an apology for absence from our Swedish Section. Enquiries had been made as to why we did not receive an invitation, and it was stated that the British delegation was limited to twelve, and we were therefore among the organisations which it was not possible to invite. The report from Mrs. Ineson and Mrs. Dayan on the National Conference on Human Rights held November 22nd & 23rd was also deferred until January.

Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested that a telegram be sent to Mrs. Roosevelt, chairman of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights now sitting in Geneva, expressing encouragement in the work she is doing and recalling our previous request to her that the problems of the illegitimate child should not be overlooked. **AGREED.**

National Peace Council. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the N.P.C. was protesting against the Government's decision not to contribute to the U.N. International Children's Emergency Fund, and affiliated societies were urged to support. Proposed that a letter be sent to the Government urging re-consideration of their decision. **AGREED.**

Women's Group on Public Welfare. Mrs. Ineson said she had unfortunately been unable to attend the recent meeting at which the visit of the second group of German women was concluded, but no doubt details would reach us in due course. We had provided hospitality for two of the women.

1260. India and Pakistan.

Miss Harrison reported that the invitation to send delegates to the All India Women's Conference at Madras at the end of December had arrived too late, but Mrs. Agnes McLean who was going out to the Friends Service Unit at Delhi would report to the Conference on behalf of this country. Proposed that the sum of £2 from our India Fund be allocated towards her travelling expenses. **AGREED.**

Miss Harrison gave details of the British Women's Appeal for Women and Children in India and Pakistan, shortly to be sent out, over the signatures of many representative women. She asked for a donation of £1 towards the expenses of this appeal. **AGREED.**

It was also agreed that a message to the A.I.W.C. from the British Section should be drafted by Miss Harrison, Miss Dickinson and Mrs. Lankester.

A letter from Miss Jinnah, in reply to our message from the Autumn School, was read.

1261. Miss Harrison's visit to Scottish Branches.

Miss Harrison spoke of her recent visits to Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. Unfortunately she had been unable to fulfil her engagement in Manchester but Mrs. McLean had kindly deputised for her. She suggested that Mrs. McLaren be invited to attend Executive meetings whenever her visits to London could possibly be arranged to coincide, and that a suitable letter be sent to Mrs. Kennedy of Aberdeen thanking her for arranging the meeting there. There was a possibility of new H.Q. members in Aberdeen, but not much likelihood of forming a branch.

1262. News Sheets.

Mrs. Grindley and Miss Hayler did not feel able to take on the editorship. Miss Haughton very kindly offered to edit the News Sheet temporarily, on the understanding that a permanent Editor be found as soon as possible. This offer was accepted gratefully.

1263. Any other business.

Christmas holiday - AGREED that the office should be closed from December 22nd to 27th.

Mrs. Wood voiced the sincere thanks of the Executive to the retiring Chairman Mrs. Mignon Castle, for her valuable help through the year and their good wishes for happiness and success in her new home and sphere of service in the city of Hull.

1264. Date and Place of next meeting.

Friends' International Centre; 7th January 1948.

1265. The afternoon session was devoted entirely to a discussion on Industrial Conscription.

The three representatives to the No Conscription Council opened with a statement showing that the Council's policy had always been against conscription of any kind and that in view of the Government's action in introducing conscription in industry into this country, they were now launching a campaign against industrial as well as military conscription.

They gave many reasons in support of this campaign and their statement was followed by a general discussion viewing the Government's Bill in the light of the country's economic crisis and the need for workers as well as the moral issues involved and the constitutional background of the W.I.L.

Letters were read on the subject from four Branches in reply to the request for a consideration of industrial conscription from the last Executive, and a further report from another Branch was sent to the meeting.

When voting took place the majority were in favour of the new campaign against industrial conscription, the figures being:-

For	-	10
Against	-	5
Abstained from voting	-	1

G. R. McNeag Wood
