

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, 10th January, 1918.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Miss Courtney, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. Russell, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Snowden, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Cooper Willis.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Despard, Miss Ford, Miss Huntsman, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Minutes.

The Minutes of Meeting 20th December were read and confirmed.

Business arising on Minutes.

Mrs. Swanwick reported having sent the resolution of sympathy to Mrs. Fawcett, who had replied thanking the Committee very warmly.

Investment of Capital Abroad. Reported that Mrs. Hamilton wished to enlarge this pamphlet by the insertion of a paragraph dealing with recent legislation in Mexico, and also by including references to Morocco and other States. It was agreed to thank Mrs. Hamilton and accept her offer.

Political Situation.

Urgency was asked to deal with the political situation now instead of later on the Agenda.

Russia. Reported a resolution of the National Peace Council expressing sympathy with and support of M. Trotsky's endeavours to bring about a general democratic peace. Mrs. Snowden reported that M. Litvinoff, who had been nominated as Russian Ambassador but not recognised by the British Government had appealed to all the democratic organisations of England to give all the support possible to M. Trotsky. The following cable was, therefore, drafted and ordered to be sent at once to M. Trotsky:-

The Women's International League welcomes the timely reference of President Wilson to duty of the Western Allies towards Russia and will urge British Government in conjunction with its Allies to do all in its power to make the peace universal. It heartily supports Russian policy of publishing negotiations and claims that people's representatives must take part in these if peoples peace is to be secured.

Agreed also that copies be sent to Headquarters in Holland, to M. Litvinoff, M. Farbmann and to the English Press after a short interval in order not to interfere with the sending of the telegram.

Correspondence.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Women's Freedom League suggesting a demonstration in the event of the carrying of the Women's Suffrage clause in the House of Lords. In her letter the Secretary suggested that perhaps the Consultative Committee would be the best body to organise this. Miss Courtney reported that the Consultative Committee would probably have the subject under consideration and might possibly arrange for an Albert Hall Meeting. It was agreed to reply to the Women's Freedom League that in the opinion of the Execu-



tive Committee the Consultative Committee was the proper body to take action.

British Dominions for W.S.U. The Hon. Secretary of the B.D.W.S.U. wrote to invite the W.I.L. to send a representative to help in making arrangements for the biennial conference of the B.D.W.S.U. It was agreed to appoint Miss Macnaghten to act as the W.I.L. representative.

Reported that a postcard had been received from headquarters acknowledging receipt of the letter of the W.I.L. suggesting that the Conference of Representatives of Neutral Nations should consider resolutions sent in by the British Section of the W.I.L. for the I.C.W.A.W. Miss Sheepshanks reported having heard from Dr. Jacobs that some of the Neutrals had not been able to obtain Passports and that the proposed Conference of Neutrals had, therefore, been postponed. Dr. Jacobs also reported that the International Funds were very low. She also agreed with the opinion of the W.I.L. about the manipulation of the Press.

Letter from Miss Metcalfe. Reported that Miss Metcalfe, author of "Women's Effort" had sent a cheque for the amount of her profit on the first six months' sale of this as a token of her interest in the work of the League. Agreed that the thanks of the Committee be sent to Miss Metcalfe for her letter and contribution to the funds of the League.

*Group*  
Fabian Women's League. Reported that the Fabian Women's ~~League~~ had called a Conference on "Equal Pay for Equal Work" on January 17th at 5.30 p.m. and invited the W.I.L. to send delegates. The following expressed their desire to be present:-

Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

Political  
Situation  
continued.

It was agreed to circularise the branches on the subject of the recent speeches of Mr. Lloyd George and President Wilson. The Chairman undertook to do this pointing out the improvement shown in the Prime Minister's speech, but advising the Branches to support the still greater advance shown by President Wilson in the matter of Russia, the Freedom of the Seas and the Economic War. Agreed that with this circular letter a copy of the cable sent to Russia be enclosed.

Vacancy on  
Executive  
Committee.

The recommendation of the Organisation Committee that Mrs. Sandiforth of Bradford be invited to fill the vacancy was accepted by the Committee.

Bye-Election  
Committee.

Reported a meeting of the Bye-Election Committee on Monday, 7th January, at which Lieut. Keddie, an Officer on Active Service, had been present. The vacancy in the Prestwich Division of Lancashire was considered with the possibility of Lt. Keddie standing. Reported that the Manchester Branch had written informing the Execu-



tive that a very good Labour Candidate would be run by the Labour Party and Co-operators. Reported also that it was unlikely that Lt. Keddie would, in that event, come forward as Candidate. The Manchester Branch inquired whether they should support the candidature of the Labour man, Mr. Binns. Agreed that they should not do so but they should undertake as much propaganda work as possible. Agreed that a leaflet be drawn up containing questions for the Candidates; that copies be submitted to the Censor and that the leaflet be sent out as soon as possible.

Suffrage.

Reported it was unlikely the House of Lords would reject the Suffrage Clause in the Representation of the People Bill. The Consultative Committee would meet on Friday, January 11th, and consider the holding of a meeting celebrating the passing of the clause should it be passed or a meeting of protest should it be rejected.

Regulation  
27 C.

Reported that in addition to the literature previously reported returned the Manifesto and Object of the W.I.L. had been passed by the Press Bureau. Reported that also in reply to an inquiry from the N.C.C.L. an account of the literature rejected or detained by the Press Bureau had been sent together with information as to the dealing of the W.I.L. with the Press Censor.

Reports of  
Sub-  
Committees.

1. Organisation. Reported that Mrs. Snowden after consulting with Miss Bondfield, who had obtained Miss Macarthur's opinion, advised against the endeavour to form a deputation of Trade Union Women to ask for immediate negotiations on the ground that should Mrs. Pankhurst hear of such a deputation being formed, she would probably step in and organise a still greater one against it.

Reported that Miss Ashby Wood had arranged for several meetings in the London area.

Reported that so far no Organiser had been found for Scotland. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence reported that the Glasgow Branch considered it advisable to engage a Scotch woman as Organiser and that they were looking out.

Lectures and "At Homes." Reported that the Lecture Committee had had great difficulty in getting rooms. Negotiations with the Ashburton Restaurant had fallen through. Denison House had been engaged for the lectures. A protest had been entered by the "At Homes" Committee because they were not consulted as to the taking of this Hall. They had, however, agreed to carry on their "At Homes" in the Food Reform Restaurant, Furnival Street, beginning on January 23rd. The programme for the lectures was now almost completed and would be sent out as soon as possible. It was agreed to change the hour for the lectures to 5 - 7 p.m. Mrs. Swanwick reported that Mr. Havelock Ellis, Dr. Jane Walker and other distinguished people had been invited to speak, ~~and had accepted the invitation.~~ ~~Mr. Havelock Ellis said if he had ever spoken he would have spoken for the League and had been most keen in making suggestions.~~ Dr. Jane Walker had promised to secure a consid-



erable number of distinguished medical men and women to attend the meetings, and take part in discussions.

2. Finance. The Hon. Treasurer reported that the response to her appeal for funds had amounted to less than half the sum produced by the annual appeal of last year. She pointed out the gravity of the situation less than two months funds being in hand. It was agreed that as one means of raising money another sale should be held about Easter, if possible. It was suggested that the London Branches be summoned to a business meeting to consider arrangements for this Sale.

Date of  
next  
meeting.

Agreed that the date of the next Executive be Thursday, 31st January, 2.30 p.m.

Reports of  
Sub-  
Committees.

Bibliography Committee. Reported that the Bibliography Committee had written stating that the proposed Bibliography would amount to about 10,000 words, including the proposed essays. It was agreed to recommend the Committee to go ahead with the work of preparation of the Bibliography as rapidly as possible in order that it might be published soon.

*H. M. Swannick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Thursday, 31st January, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Miss Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Snowden, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Cooper Willis.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Ford, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Minutes.

The Minutes of 10th January were read and confirmed.

Business arising on Minutes.

Reported a letter from the Scottish Federation of W.S. thanking the Committee for its resolution of sympathy on the death of Dr. Elsie Inglis.

Vacancy on Executive Committee. Reported that Mrs. Sandiforth had accepted the invitation to fill the vacancy.

Cable to M. Trotsky. Reported that this cable had not been acknowledged by M. Trotsky, nor by Litvinoff nor Farbman.

Circular to Branches of Mr. Lloyd George's and President Wilson's speeches. Reported that this circular had been sent to branches.

Bye-Election. Miss Ashton reported that the Manchester Branch had done a great deal of propaganda work in connection with the Prestwich Election. A large quantity of literature had been given out and a large number of members made. It was hoped that a branch might be formed in the Constituency.

Correspondence.

Reported a letter from the National Council for Adult Suffrage calling a Council Meeting for February 23rd at the Food Reform Restaurant, Furnival Street, at 3 p.m. to consider the position of the Council. Reported that the three representatives of the W.I.L. on the Council were Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Salter and Miss Ward. After discussion it was agreed to recommend to the representatives to support any resolution that might be brought forward for the dissolution of the Council.

Consultative Committee. Miss Courtney reported that the Consultative Committee had agreed to hold a meeting to welcome the extension of the Franchise to Women. This meeting was being undertaken by the N.U.W.S.S., the three leading speakers would be men. The Adult Suffragists had written to the Consultative Committee suggesting that the speakers should be women and suggesting names. It had, however, been agreed that the meeting should be held at the Queen's Hall on the 21st February, and the speakers to be invited be The Rt. Hon. Arthur Henderson, Sir John Simon, or Lord Lytton, Miss Royden, Miss I.O. Ford.



A letter from Mr. Timewell dealing with the question of Prostitution and London Police Action with regard to it was laid on the table.

National Union of Women Workers. Reported that the Rescue and Preventive Committee of the N.U.W.W. had granted the request of the W.I.L. to have a representative on that body. Miss Macnaghten was appointed the representative.

Suffrage Meeting.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence moved that a meeting be organised by the W.I.L. to welcome the vote, that it should take the form of a women's rally, that as many old and well-known suffragists as possible be invited to sit on the platform. Agreed that an ad hoc Committee be appointed to arrange for this meeting and the following be invited to join this Committee, with power to co-opt others. Miss Courtney, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Sharp, Mrs. Swanwick, Miss Underwood, and that a suggestion be made to this Committee that they should co-opt a representative of the Co-operative and Women's Labour Movements.

Political Situation.

Bradford Humanity League. The action of the Bradford Humanity League now affiliated to the W.I.L. was considered. This League had written to the Clyde Workers stating their willingness to support them in a "down tools" policy. After discussion in the course of which it was pointed out that since the W.I.L. is not a Trade Union or Labour Party it cannot interfere in labour action, it must not take sides as a League either for or against such a policy. Individuals may do anything they like either for or against such a policy. Agreed, therefore, that the Bradford Humanity League be written to and that it be pointed out that they had acted without authority in this matter, and that the W.I.L. as a whole, had not adopted any such policy, and since it will not share the privations of a "down tools" policy cannot advise such, although individual members may be in sympathy.

Reports of Sub-Committees.

Finance. Reported a meeting of the Finance Committee had been held at which it was agreed that in view of the state of funds of the League an additional organiser should not be at the moment appointed. Reported also that during the past week a subscription of £50 from Mr. & Mrs. Pethick Lawrence had been received.

Organisation Committee. Reported that an application had been received from Miss Bury for post of Organiser, and the Organisation Committee had agreed to write to Newcastle and inquire if they would like to have an organiser in that district and to find out whether it would be possible to raise funds for the purpose. Reported, however, that since the Organisation Committee had met that morning, a



letter had been received from Miss Bury stating that owing to reasons of health she withdrew her application.

Proposed Sale. Agreed that a letter be issued to the Branches in London and district summoning their representatives to a meeting to make arrangements for a Sale, possibly about Easter. Agreed that other branches of the League be invited to work for it.

Reported also that Miss Ashby Wood, Organiser, had been at work at Croydon, Enfield, Willesden, Tottenham, Wood Green, Brixton and Streatham.

Library. A recommendation that the use of the books in the Library be thrown open to London members was agreed to, and it was left to the Literature Committee to arrange a scheme.

Reported also that there was a possibility of obtaining members from the United Suffragists, which was on the point of dissolution, as members of the W.I.L. and that it had been recommended to the Literature Committee that a restatement of the practical policy of the League be made for the purpose of informing the women electorate of the aims of the League. Agreed.

Reported also that Mrs. Wedgwood's circulars on Military Education in Schools had been sent to Branches, and that further circulars to labour organisations were under consideration.

Recommendation to the Executive Committee that the Education sub-Committee be reappointed was accepted, and the following were appointed with power to co-opt: Miss Ashton, Miss Ward, Mrs. Wedgwood.

Reported also that the Organisation Committee were considering organisation of areas and would report further to a subsequent meeting. Also the suggestion of the Organisation Committee that a special meeting be arranged for Miss Madeline Doty on her way through London was endorsed, and a further recommendation that once a month an "At Home" be arranged in the evening or on Saturday afternoon for those members of the League who could not attend the Wednesday meetings was also accepted.

Literature Sub-Committee. Reported that 14,000 copies of the second N.C.C.L. leaflet on the censorship had been distributed; that the leaflet for use at bye-elections had been circulated to branches and that a considerable number had been bought, especially by Manchester; that the News Sheet circulation for January had arisen to 2,200 owing to the inclusion of the text of the secret treaties.

International. Attention was called to a report in the Berne paper "Der Bund" that the Swiss Branch of the I.C.W.P.P. had summoned a meeting of leading women from the belligerent countries at Berne from March 3rd to 8th. No news of



this had been received at the Office. It was, therefore, agreed to write to Miss Manus in Holland and to Dr. Gertrude Woker in Berne asking for particulars of the meeting.

*H. M. Swannick.*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Thursday,  
7th February, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Lady Courtney, Miss Courtney, Miss Ellis, Miss Ford, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Sandiforth, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Snowden, Mrs. Wedgwood.

Apologies  
for  
absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Cooper Willis, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Business  
arising  
on  
Minutes.

With regard to a meeting of the Branches in connection with the sale it was agreed that these be summoned from the Office.

National Peace Council. Miss Huntsman reported that the N.P.C. were co-operating with other Peace Societies in the cataloguing and formation of a Central Library. It was agreed to defer consideration of this until Mrs. Pethick Lawrence should have drawn up a scheme. Reported also that Mrs. Moscheles wished to get rid of her library and that the W.I.L. might have a selection. Agreed that Miss Macnaghten should see Mrs. Moscheles and choose books for the W.I.L. Library.

Interna-  
tional  
Conference  
of Women  
at Berne.

Lady Courtney reported having received an invitation to this Conference, which was to take place on the 3rd to the 8th March. She had also received the programme of speakers. Agreed to inform Mrs. Pethick Lawrence of the invitation and inform her that she had been invited to speak and to ask her if she could possibly be present. Also to write to the Postal Censor saying that the Committee are aware that some invitations have been received for this meeting and inquiring whether the others might be delivered.

Corres-  
pondence.

A letter was read from ~~from~~ Miss Macmillan asking the W.I.L. to endeavour to bring pressure to bear upon the U.D.C. to adopt women's suffrage as one of its cardinal points. It was agreed to reply that the Committee did not see its way to do this; that the U.D.C. had not been formed to deal with the question of Peace from a general point of view but only with ~~the~~ particular aspects of the problem. There were many other points which must have been included had the U.D.C. adopted the wider standppint.

Free  
Church  
League  
for W.S.

The Free Church League for Women's Suffrage had arranged ~~the~~ ~~the~~ a service in the City Temple on the following Sunday to celebrate the passing of the Representation of the People Bill. They had asked the W.I.L. to appoint one representative to sit on the platform at this Service. Miss Macnaghten was appointed.

Political  
Situation

Reported that an amendment would be moved to the King's Speech on the subject of Peace by Negotiation, that also a question would be raised in the House of Lords as to the possibilities of Peace. Attention was called to the discrepancy in the original and final reports of Count Czernin's speech. In the former report he had been made to support Germany's claim to all its conquests in the pre-



sent war. In the latter corrected speech it was found that Count Czernin had stated that Austria would support Germany in obtaining its pre-war possessions. Agreed to write an open letter to Mr. Balfour, Foreign Office Secretary, calling his attention to the discrepancy in these reports.

Finance.

The financial statement for January was read and confirmed, and it was reported that Mrs. Pethick Lawrence was sending out a further appeal for funds.

Organisation Committee.

Reported that a recommendation that, at the discretion of the Literature Committee, 30/- be spent on the purchase of samples of literature on the list drawn up by Miss Ashby Wood, for the use of meetings was confirmed.

Reported that an "At Home" was being arranged for Miss M. Doty at which she would give an account of her experiences in her tour round the world and that this "At Home" would probably take place on the 22nd February.

Reported also that Shipley Branch as well as Bradford Branch had passed a resolution supporting the Clyde Workers. Miss Ford reported that the resolution drawn up by the Shipley Branch simply expressed admiration for the stand made by the Clyde workers. That drafted by the Bradford Humanity League had gone still further and promised support should they decide on a "down tools" policy.

Headquarters

Mrs. Sandiforth, Bradford, stated that the Bradford Humanity League was not a Branch of the W.I.L. but had affiliated only. It was pointed out that local Societies could affiliate only to local branches and it was agreed, in consideration of this, that the affiliation fee paid to by Bradford Humanity League should be returned to Mrs. Sandiforth and that the League be left free to affiliate to the Leeds Branch of the W.I.L., since such affiliation did not commit the W.I.L. to support any action taken by the Bradford Humanity League.

Reported that Mrs. Russell, Manchester, had during the previous three months organised a large number of successful meetings in Northern Districts. A new Branch had been formed at Heywood. [In connection with the "At Home" to be arranged for Miss Doty, Mrs. Ruth Jackson offered the use of her house for this purpose and said she could receive about 150 guests. The thanks of the Committee were expressed to Mrs. Jackson for her kind offer.

W.P.

Literature Committee.

The Literature Committee reported that it had considered Miss Ashby Wood's list of books referred to above, and had passed most of them. One or two were still under consideration and would be reported on again.

Education Committee.

Circulars drawn up by the Education Committee to be sent to various Trades and Labour Organisations were endorsed; also a memorandum containing extracts from the Education and Registration Bills and from circulars of



Education Authorities, etc, together with a covering letter to Branches to be sent with this memorandum. One of the two resolutions drafted by the Education Committee for use at Branch Meetings protesting against the militarisation of schools was passed. The other resolution on the continuance of conscription was withdrawn by the Education Committee. Agreed that Mrs. R. Russell and Miss Macnaghten be added to the Education Committee, they being the representative of the W.I.L. on the National Peace Council Reconstruction Committee.

Suffrage  
Rally.

Reported that a meeting of the ad hoc Committee appointed to arrange a Suffrage Rally had been held, and that already a considerable number of speakers had promised to take part, including Miss Ashton, Lady Barrett, Miss Chrystal and Miss Margaret Macmillan, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Swanwick, who would take the chair. The meeting to be held in the Kingsway Hall on Saturday, March 9th, at 3 p.m.

*H.M. Swanwick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Thursday, 21st February, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Miss Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Macnaghten, the Hon. Mrs. Rollo Russell, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Snowden, Miss Ward, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Ellis, Mrs. Sandiforth, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Cooper Willis.

Minutes.

The Minutes of Thursday, 7th February were read and confirmed.

Business arising on Minutes.

Reported that in answer to the Chairman's letter to the Foreign Office calling attention to the discrepancies in the newspaper accounts of Count Czernin's speech, the Secretary, Mr. Balfour had replied "that since December, 1915, there had been no censorship of Foreign News and that it was obvious the newspapers would endeavour to get as accurate a report of the speech as possible."

Reported that a number of books had been received from Mrs. Moscheles, chosen by Miss Macnaghten.

Sale. Reported that the representatives of the Branches had met on the previous day and had agreed to recommend that the W.I.L. Sale be held in June, if possible, and that Miss M. Bradish be appointed Hon. Secretary for the purpose of arranging the Sale. These recommendations were accepted and a further suggestion from Mrs. Russell that not one but several sales be held in different parts of London was referred back to the Sales Committee, which should be summoned again to consider the matter.

Correspondence.

A letter was read from Miss D. Evans, Women's Freedom League inviting members of the W.I.L. to be present at a dinner arranged by the W.F.L. for Friday, 22nd February, at 7 p.m. As none of the Committee could be present it was agreed to reply regretting that they were unable to accept the invitation.

Suffragettes of the <sup>W.S.</sup>W.S.P.U. A letter was read from the Secretary of the Suffragettes of the W.S.P.U. stating that that Society had arranged an open-air demonstration in Hyde Park on Sunday, 24th February at 3.30 p.m. inviting the W.I.L. to send speakers and bring a Platform. As none of the speakers were free to accept it was agreed to reply regretting the inability to accept the invitation.

Joint Committee of Women's Industrial Council, Fabian Women's Group. An invitation from this Joint Committee to attend a meeting to consider the proposals for a Ministry of Health was read. As the meeting had been fixed on the same date as the next meeting of the W.I.L. Executive it was agreed to reply regretting the inability of the Committee to send representatives.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. Reported that an invitation had been received from this Society to send representatives to a public meeting on Friday, 1st



March at 5 p.m. at the Caxton Hall to further a protest against the provision for the use of British troops, of tolerated Brothels in France and elsewhere. The following undertook to represent the League at this meeting:- Miss Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Russell, Miss Macnaghten, Miss Ward. Agreed also that the meeting be announced at the next Wednesday lecture.

Resignation  
of Secretary.

The Chairman then read a letter from the Secretary tendering with great regret her resignation from the W.I.L. After discussion Miss Ward moved, Mrs. Snowden seconded the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:-

That Miss Mitchell be urgently asked to reconsider her resignation.

Political  
Situation.

Reported that a meeting of men was being held on Monday to consider the possibility of a change of Government. It was agreed to ask a number of prominent women to call a similar meeting of women to discuss the political situation, with a view to taking action on similar lines to that of the men's Committee. A provisional list of women to be approached with a view to obtaining their signatures to a letter of invitation was drawn up and members of the Committee undertook to see these women and try to obtain their signatures. Mrs. Huth Jackson kindly offered the use of her house for the meeting and it was agreed that the meeting be summoned for Monday, March 11th, at 3 p.m. at Mrs. Jackson's house. The following were appointed a sub-Committee to arrange for the meeting:-

Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Courtney,  
Mrs. Snowden, Mrs. Swanwick.

International  
Conference at  
Berne.

Reported that the following informed the Secretary that they were applying for Passports to attend the International Conference at Berne which had originally been fixed for March 3rd to 8th, but whose date had been subsequently changed to the middle of April:-

Mrs. Crawford, Glasgow, Miss Marshall, Miss  
Leaf, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

Agreed that those applying for Passports be asked to keep the Office informed of any action they might take, and that the Secretary in Berne be written to explaining the steps taken.

Suffrage  
Rally.

Reported that the arrangements for the Suffrage Rally had made considerable progress and that the following speakers had promised to take part:-

Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A., Lady Barrett, M.D.  
Mrs. Barton, Miss Louie Bennett, Miss Czaplicka,  
Miss Bice Dobelli, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, M.A.,  
Miss Margaret Macmillan, C.B.E., Miss Eva Moore,  
Miss Evelyn Sharp, Mrs. H.M. Swanwick, M.A., Miss  
Calina, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mis.  
Roy.

The Committee would meet again on Thursday, 28th February, at 4.30 p.m.



Reports of  
Sub-  
Committees.

Finance. Reported that in response to the appeal which had been sent out ten days previously a sum of £355 had been received. The Treasurer expressed herself well satisfied with this response, which was greater than that to the previous appeal.

Organisation. Reported that the Oldham Branch of the W.I.L. had asked leave to send a representative to a joint Committee of Women's Societies which was being arranged in Oldham district. Agreed that the Branch be encouraged to send a representative to co-operate with this Committee.

Glasgow. Reported that Mrs. Lawrence had been in communication with Mrs. Crawford, Glasgow, with regard to her position as possible speaker or organiser, but that nothing definite had been decided. The Treasurer would now write to Glasgow and find out whether they would be prepared to raise funds for Mrs. Crawford.

Reported also the possibility of work being done by a keen member of the League in Burry Port and that Bristol Branch be approached and asked if they could send down a speaker.

Work of Organiser. Reported that Miss Ashby Wood had addressed the North West London Adult School Federation on February 9th. Out of this she had received invitations to speak at four other meetings to bring the work of the W.I.L. before them. Bush Hill Park Women's Co-operative Guild would probably affiliate to the Enfield and Winchmore Hill Branch of the W.I.L. It was possible that a Branch might be formed in the East of London. Miss Wood was working in Finchley and had also arranged a meeting at Brixton and Streatham, and proposed to arrange one in Tunbridge Wells. Two admirable meetings at Croydon had been held, one addressed by Miss Macnaghten, the other by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. The Treasurer of the Friends' League for W.S. at present residing in Winscombe, Somerset, had written stating that she hoped to bring the Friends' League into the W.I.L., also that a Branch of the W.I.L. might be formed at Winscombe. Reported that the last "At Home" had not been quite so large but the discussion had been better. A total collection for the three amounted to £3.14. 5d and the rent was £1. 17. 6, so that there will be a clear balance. Agreed that the meetings should be continued after Easter.

Lectures.

Reported also that the last Lecture had been better attended and that the collection had more than covered expenses. Mrs. Lawrence reported a large meeting at Nelson when more than 800 women were present.

*H. M. Swannick.*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, 7th March, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present. Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Lady Courtney, Miss Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Miss Ellis, Miss I.C. Ford, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Sandiforth, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Trevelyan, Miss Ward, Miss Cooper Willis, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apology for absence. An apology for absence was received from Mrs. Wedgwood.

Minutes. The Minutes of 21st February were read and confirmed.

Correspondence. A letter was read from Mrs. Barbour, Edinburgh, asking what reply should be sent to Frau Marie Stritt, which conveyed the congratulations of the German women on the enfranchisement of English women. It was agreed that the Officers should draft a letter of reply to Frau Stritt.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. A letter was read from the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene announcing that a Committee of representative Societies was being formed to consider what action should be taken as a protest against the moral environment of the troops in France, and asking that a W.I.L. representative be appointed on it. Miss Macnaghten was appointed representative.

Dr. Garret Anderson Memorial. The Executive were asked to send a representative to the meeting arranged by the New College for Women to arrange for the above memorial. Mrs. Swanwick was appointed, as Chairman of the W.I.L. to attend the meeting.

Women's Local Government Society. A letter was read from the Women's Local Government Society announcing a Conference on March 18th on an immediate appeal for a Ministry of Public Health. Agreed that Miss Courtney and the Hon. Mrs. Russell should attend this meeting.

Resignation of Mrs. Snowden. Correspondence was read with Mrs. Philip Snowden tendering her resignation from the Executive of the Women's International League. The Chairman reported having written to Mrs. Snowden to ask her to reconsider her decision. Mrs. Snowden had replied acknowledging her letter and repeating her desire to resign. After discussion it was agreed that the Hon. Secretary should write on behalf of the Committee to beg Mrs. Snowden to reconsider her decision and to ask her to let them have the support of her name, even if she were not able to do much work at present directly for the League.

Resignation of Secre- A letter was read from Miss Mitchell in answer to the Committee's request that she should reconsider her resignation regretting her inability to do this, as she had for some time been waiting for an opportunity which would not inconvenience the work of the League to go back to educational work. Her resignation, therefore, was very regretfully accepted and it was agreed that an expression of the whole Committee's appreciation and affection should be made to Miss Mitchell.



The Hon. Secretary reported that Miss Phillips had applied for the vacant post, but the Organisation Committee thought that it was desirable to make the appointment from applicants outside the office, and also to keep Miss Phillips in the Literature Department which she had so well organised. It was decided to advertise for a Secretary in "The Common Cause" and to apply to the Central Bureau for Women's Employment, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to do this.

Lansdowne  
Movement.

The Chairman reported that she and several members of the Executive had been present at the Lansdowne meeting on Wednesday, March 6th. The meeting had been very successful and it was hoped to form a Committee to organise the movement in the country. It was agreed to press to have a representative of the W.I.L. on this Committee and the following names were suggested:- Miss Courtney, Mrs. Swanwick. The Chairman reported that she had written to all the Branches and also a special letter to the Branch Secretaries or W.I.L. members in the towns where it was hoped to hold meetings, i.e. Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield, Leeds, Lincoln, Bradford, Leicester, Glasgow, and Norwich, asking what support could be given locally in the way of organising meetings and finding speakers. Detailed replies of a most encouraging nature had been received from most of these districts.

Letter to  
Daily News.

Attention was called to a leading article in the Daily News of March 4th entitled "Asia and the War," which urged the speedy formation of a League of Nations in order that Japan might receive the sanction of such a League to intervene in Siberia. Agreed that the Hon. Secretary should write a letter to the Daily News protesting against this violation of the fundamental principles of a League of Nations.

International.

(a) Meeting at Berne. Reported that a letter had been received from Dr. Gertrud Woker again expressing the hope that representatives of British women would be able to be present. It was agreed to reply to Dr. Woker saying that the British Government would not grant Passports to representatives.

(b) New York. Reported a letter from Mrs. Lucia Ames Meade, Secretary of the Women's Peace Party (U.S.A. Secretary of the I.C.W.P.P.) asking the Sections of the I.C.W.P.P. in the different countries to organise work on the lines of President Wilson's speech on war aims. Agreed that the Hon. Secretary should reply stating what had been done by the W.I.L. on the lines indicated in her letter.

(c) Action of Lyceum Club re Miss Sheepshanks. Attention was called to the resolution of the Lyceum Club for bidding Miss Sheepshanks to enter its doors on account of her having read, at a dinner to which she had been invited as a representative of the International Women's Movement, a letter from Frau Marie Stritt, Germany, congratulating British women on their enfranchisement. Miss Courtney moved, Mrs. Despard seconded that this Committee record sympathy with Miss Sheepshanks on her treatment by the Lyceum Club.



Finance.

The Treasurer read a financial statement for February which showed a balance in hand at the beginning of the month of £246. 17. 5d, an income of £597. 19. 7, expenditure of £121. 11. 8d, leaving a balance at the Bank of £723. 5. 4d. The Treasurer stated in the collection at one meeting the sum of £100 had been put into the plate. The donor had expressed her desire that this should be used in some direct way for the furthering of peace. The Treasurer suggested a great demonstration throughout the country should be organised with local processions to work for a lasting international peace. After further discussion it was agreed that the Peace Negotiations Committee be asked to organise this as a national movement, with local centres left free to work each in their own way and that the £100 be used to organise the W.I.L. share of this work. It was suggested that the date of the demonstration might be Whit-Sunday, possibly in preparation for further demonstrations. Mrs. Swanwick was asked to report to the Peace Negotiations Committee and find out what it was willing to do and then to report back to the W.I.L. Committee.

Suffrage Rally.

Reported that the arrangements for the Suffrage Rally in the Kingsway Hall on Saturday, March 9th, were almost completed. The response, as shown by the sale of tickets, had been somewhat disappointing and difficulty had been found in getting notices into the Press.

Association For Moral & Social Hygiene.

It was reported that a recent meeting of this Society had shown a growing feeling among women on the subject of "Tolerated Houses" in France. It was suggested that the W.I.L. should co-operate in holding large meetings throughout the country on this subject, and it was agreed that a letter be written to the Branches to ask them to take the initiative in approaching other Societies and getting them to call large meetings, and that with this circular letter a leaflet on the subject of "Tolerated Houses" published by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene should be circulated.

Report of Organisation Committee.

The following report of the Organisation Committee was accepted: That the "At Homes" be continued weekly in the same way until Whitsuntide; that Miss Anderson, Assistant Financial Secretary be continued in her half time appointment at a salary of 25/- a week and overtime proportionate. That, in view of Manchester's decision, that owing to financial reasons they must reluctantly give up the services of Mrs. Russell, Organiser the Officers of the League be empowered to appoint Mrs. Russell as Organiser part time at a salary of £100 and expenses, subject to arrangement with Mrs. Russell, who should be asked to come to London to talk the matter over. Agreed also that the Easter Holiday should begin on the evening of Wednesday, March 27th and end on the morning of Thursday, April 4th. Also that no Committee be held on the 4th April unless in case of urgency. The next meeting of the Executive Committee after that on the 21st March be held on the 18th April.



National  
Council for  
Adult Suffrage.

Reported that at its meeting on Saturday, February 23rd, this Council had decided to dissolve.

Lending  
Library.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence reported that the Organisation Committee had considered the advisability of asking other organisations to co-operate with them in re-organising the International Suffrage Shop. A further report would be made at the next Committee of the Executive.

*H. M. Swannick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Thursday, 21st March, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Courtney, Lady Courtney, Miss Ellis, Miss Ford, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Macnaghten, the Hon. Mrs. R. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Trevelyan, Miss Cooper Willis, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Ashton, and Mrs. Wedgwood.

Minutes.

The Minutes of Thursday, March 7th, were read and confirmed.

Business ARISING ON Minutes.

The Hon. Secretary reported that she had written to the Daily News protesting against its advocacy of the formation of a League of Nations in order that Japan might intervene sanctimoniously in Russia. The letter had not been inserted.

Mrs. Garrett Anderson Memorial. Reported that the Chairman had attended the meeting arranged to raise the funds for the above Memorial.

Letter to Frau Stritt. The Chairman's letter of reply to Frau Stritt thanking her for her congratulations to the women of Gt. Britain was read and the Chairman was thanked for having drafted it.

Circular to Branches on the subject of Tolerated Houses. Reported that the above circular had not yet been sent out as the leaflet drafted by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, which was to be sent with the circular had not been received. It had been reprinted and a supply had just come to hand. It was pointed out that the object for which the circular was being sent out had been achieved, and the Tolerated Houses placed out of bounds. Miss Macnaghten reported having attended the Parliamentary Committee arranged by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. This Committee had been much pleased by the speed with which reform had been accomplished - only three weeks and two days had elapsed between the first question in the House and the date when the Houses were put out of bounds. It was agreed to congratulate the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene on the result of their work, but to point out that this was not complete until it had been put out of Mr. Macpherson's power to carry out his views on sex questions. It was agreed that the Branches be circularised and told about the successful protest and urged to watch the situation carefully, and also to pass resolutions against the retention in office of a man with such views on the question.

Correspondence.

Mrs. Snowden. Reported that Mrs. Snowden had consented to withdraw her resignation and to remain on the Committee till the end of the current year.



Miss Sheepshanks. A letter was read from Miss Sheepshanks in which she said she wished to resign from the Executive Committee on the ground that she had so little time to attend meetings. She took this step because she was desirous of furthering the work of the League and hoped that her place would be filled immediately. It was agreed that the Chairman should be asked to write to Miss Sheepshanks and say that the Committee were unanimous in hoping she might be able to give time to Committee work for the League and urging her to reconsider her resignation.)

Women's Freedom League. Letters were read from Miss Underwood, Secretary of the Women's Freedom League, calling the attention of the Committee to the cases of two servant girls who had been severely sentenced for the murder of their illegitimate children. It was agreed that the Committee could not take up cases of this kind but <sup>that</sup> the Women's Freedom League be written to saying that the Committee is glad that the Women's Freedom League has taken up those cases.

National Peace Congress. Reported a letter from the Secretary of the National Peace Council stating that the National Peace Congress had been fixed for May 30th and 31st, and asking the Committee to appoint delegates. The following stated their desire to be present:- Mrs. Huth Jackson, Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Swanwick, Mrs. Trevelyan, Miss Cooper Willis. Agreed that those names be sent to the Secretary of the National Peace Council.

Applications  
for Posts of  
Secretary.

Reported that a number of applications for the post of Secretary had been considered by the Organisation Committee that morning, and the following three had been invited to meet the Organisation Committee on Tuesday afternoon:- Mrs. Emile Burns, Miss Hambling, Miss Mary Hayward. Agreed that the Organisation Committee should proceed to appoint a Secretary, should they find one suitable.

Lansdowne  
Movement.

*been appointed*

Reported that both Miss Courtney and Mrs. Swanwick had been ~~accepted~~ by Mr. Hirst as members of his Committee. A meeting had been held the previous Monday, but neither of them had been told of it in time to be present. *Mr. Hirst's*

Suffrage  
Rally.

The Treasurer reported the balance sheet of the Suffrage Rally at the Kingsway Hall on March 9th, which showed a total income of £72. 15. 11d, an expenditure of £60. 18. 9d and a net profit of £11. 7. 2d. The Treasurer said that she thought more ought to have been spent in advertising. Reported a letter from Miss Calina expressing her pleasure at being invited to speak at the meeting .



Reports of  
Sub-Committees.

The following report of the Organisation sub-Committee was accepted:-

(a) a recommendation that Committees of the London Branches should meet once a month on the third Friday of the month at 3 p.m. in order to consider letters referred to them by the Executive, possibility of joint action and other business of common interest to the Branches. Members of the Executive Committee to be asked to be present, in turn, at these meetings. The meetings to be held sometimes in the Office and sometimes elsewhere by invitation of the Branches.

(b) That the Kensington Branch should combine with other branches near to have a Sale of Work in June, if possible.

(c) That during the Summer the weekly At Homes should be continued and be held alternately in a central room and in a locality to be chosen by the Branches. On these alternate weeks the Branches themselves should arrange an At Home and entertainment with a Stall for the Sale of Work, with the object of raising funds for Headquarters. The arrangements to be made through Miss Ashby Wood.

(d) That Branches be asked to keep the Office informed of their arrangements for meetings, etc. in order that a calendar of London events be kept in the Office.

(e) That the At Homes Committee be merged in the Organisation Committee.

(f) That an offer made by Miss Royden to pay the fee of an Indian Lecturer, Mr. Chinappa, be accepted, and that that gentleman be invited to lecture on April 24th when Mrs. Swanwick will take the Chair.

(g) Women's Peace Crusade. That the Headquarters undertake to share with the Women's Peace Crusade in organising the London work in connection with the proposed women's demonstration for an immediate peace by negotiation. The date of the demonstration to be sometime in June. That the Branches be circularised in connection with this, and a letter drafted by Mrs. Snowden be sent out with a covering letter expressing the hope that these branches would co-operate with the movement and let the Head Office know as soon as possible what they could do. That a sub-Committee be appointed, consisting of Mrs. Snowden and one other to represent the Women's Peace Crusade and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mrs. Salter to represent the Women's International League. The W.I.L. Office to be used as Headquarters. The expenses to be shared with the W.P.C. and a special Organiser to be appointed. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence



undertook to consult Mrs. Snowden about this ~~xxxxx~~ plan.

(n) <sup>That</sup> Mrs. Russell, the late Manchester Organiser, be appointed as Headquarters Organiser at a salary of £2 a week and expenses; she to have alternate week ends at home by arrangement, and her area to be that part of Lancashire not touched by Manchester, the West Riding of Yorkshire and the North Midlands.

Council Meeting.

*Consideration of election policy*

Agreed that the Council Meeting be held on a day in the first week in June preferably Tuesday 4th or Wednesday 5th; that the meeting be held in Manchester and the date fixed by agreement with the Manchester Branch. That previous to this the Executive should draft alternative schemes for the organisation of women voters and that the Branches be asked to join in groups and hold local conferences which should afterwards send delegates to the Council Meeting. Agreed that branches be informed of this plan and given notice of the Council Meeting as soon as the Manchester Committee have replied to the inquiry about dates.

Bye Election.

Reported that it had not been possible to run a Candidate in the South Manchester Election. Information had not yet been obtained with regard to Keighley but it was agreed that in general the W.I.L. should not undertake work in connection with bye-elections for the present.

International News.

Berne Meeting. The message sent by Lady Courtney to the International Meeting at Berne in the middle of April was laid on the table.

Norway. A message of congratulation from Norwegian women to the British women on their attainment of the Suffrage was read, and it was agreed to reply thanking the Norwegian women very warmly for their message.

U.S.A. The Chairman again referred to the letter from Mrs. Lucia Ames Meade, Secretary of the American Branch of the I.C.W.P.P. in which, amongst other things, she inquired by what method it would be possible to secure representation for democracy at the Peace Conference. It was agreed that the Organisation Committee be asked to arrange a Conference of Organisations and individuals having special knowledge to discuss this question, and also that some resolution on the subject should, if possible, be laid before the Council Meeting in June.

*H. W. Swanwick.*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of special Executive Committee Meeting, Friday, 12th April, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Courtney, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. R. Russell, Miss Wilson Wilson, Miss Cooper Willis.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Salter, Miss Huntsman.

Keighley Bye-Election.

Mrs. Swanwick explained that the special meeting had been called to consider the policy of the League at the Keighley Bye-Election. Mrs. Annot Robinson, when she had been in London the week before, had said that Mr. Standring, the I.L.P. Agent, had told her that a letter was on its way asking the official support of the W.I.L. The situation at Keighley was complicated by the fact of Miss Boyle's Candidature. Mr. Bland, Peace by Negotiation Candidate, was a man whom the League could whole-heartedly support, but a good many people felt that it would be very unfortunate to oppose Miss Boyle on this particular occasion. Another reason for not taking part was the Council Meeting on May 2nd, which was going to thrash out the whole question of election policy. After discussion it was decided that the League should not intervene officially. This, of course, did not interfere with the action of members as individuals.

Regulation D. 40.

A letter from the Women's Freedom League was read inviting our co-operation in a meeting probably to be held April 29th or <sup>30th</sup> protesting against the new Regulation D.40, and asking whether our name could be quoted on the handbills. It was decided that as we were already acting in this matter in connection with the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, it was desirable not to associate ourselves prominently with the Women's Freedom League's meeting.

*H. W. Swanwick.*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, April 18th, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present. Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Miss Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Macnaghten, The Hon. Mrs. R. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Cooper Willis.

Apologies for absence. Apologies for absence were received from Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Miss Ford, Mrs. Sandiforth.

Minutes. The Minutes of Meetings on March 21st and April 12th were read and confirmed.

Business arising on Minutes. (a) Regulation D. 40. Mrs. Despard asked why the W.I.L. had declined to co-operate with the Women's Freedom League meeting, and said that the W.F.L. were disappointed. The Chairman explained the reason had been that we were co-operating with the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, and that we did not always agree with the W.F.L. speakers, nor entirely with the terms of this resolution. Miss Ashton suggested that the London Branch Meeting the following day should be notified concerning this meeting and this was agreed to.

(b) Miss Sheepshanks. The Hon. Secretary reported that Miss Sheepshanks had ~~resigned~~ <sup>with drawn</sup> her resignation.)

(c) National Peace Council. The Chairman reported that she had agreed to take the Chair at the afternoon session of the National Peace Council.

(d) New Secretary. The Hon. Secretary reported that Miss Hambling, who had been interviewed by the Organisation Committee, had been offered the post of Secretary, but had subsequently declined on the ground that she did not know enough about international politics. The Organisation Committee had then considered the applications of Miss Reynolds and Miss Royds and the latter had been appointed at a salary of £200 a year. Miss Royds was at present acting as Organiser for the U.D.C. at Birmingham and was uncertain of the actual date at which she could be released to come to the W.I.L. The Organisation Committee had proposed that she should be asked if she could fix May 21st definitely to begin her work here, which was six weeks from the date of her having been offered the post, and it also proposed that she should be asked if she could attend the Council Meeting at Manchester, the W.I.L., of course, undertaking to pay expenses. Agreed.

Reports of Sub-Committees. (a) Organisation <sup>by</sup> Organisation. It was reported that Mrs. Russell, Manchester, had declined the offer of the post of Headquarters Organiser as the arrangement of being so much away from home would not work. She was now working for the N.U.W.S.S. The Hon. Secretary had written on behalf of the Organisation Committee to say how sorry they were to lose her as an Organiser. Miss Courtney suggested advertising for a new Organiser in the Cambridge Magazine and Common Cause. Mrs. Wedgwood also suggested putting a notice in the News Sheet. (The Chairman reported having asked Miss Morel if she would like to consider being trained as an Organiser.)



London Demonstration. <sup>agreed to</sup> The Hon. Secretary reported that Mrs. Snowden had not ~~fallen in~~ with the original suggestion of co-operation between the W.P.C. and the W.I.L. with regard to the demonstration over the whole country, so that the arrangement now was that Headquarters should only be responsible for the arrangements for the demonstration in London. Agreed that the demonstration should take the form of a Hyde Park meeting and the date be fixed provisionally for July 14th, but to postpone it if the military situation was unsuitable. Agreed to appoint an ad hoc Committee on which Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mrs. Salter should represent the Executive and Miss Evelyn Sharp, Mrs. Ayrton Gould and Miss Brewster should be asked to join, with power to add to their number. The Literature Secretary to act as Secretary and an Organiser to be appointed, if possible. It was reported that the Workers' Suffrage Federation had asked to be included. It was decided not to invite them. The following Societies were to be invited to co-operate:-

Free Church League for Women's Suffrage, Women's Co-operative Guild, Women's Section of Labour Party, I.L.P. Branches, Railway Women's Guild, Christian Peace Crusade, Independent W.S.P.U., Guild of Pope's Peace, Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, Jewish Women's Suffrage Society, U.D.C., Herald League, Adult School Union and any others that might be considered likely.

Conditions of invitation to be that there should be a unanimous resolution, but any Society that wished could have its own Platform. Speakers and Processionists to be all women (if there is a procession); Miss Bondfield to be asked for suggestions with regard to the Women's Labour Organisations. The title to be "Women's Demonstration for Peace by Negotiation."

Sub-Committee for considering methods of democratic representation on International Organisations and League of Nations. Agreed that Miss Leaf should <sup>be asked to</sup> act as Convener of this Committee. Miss Courtney and Miss Sheepshanks agreed to serve and Miss Macmillan and Mr. Carl Heath were to be asked to join also. The sub-Committee was to arrange for a Conference in July, if possible, and to make a special effort to get the co-operation of Labour.

(b) Finance. The Hon. Treasurer read a statement of accounts for March. Balance on March 1st amounted to £723. 5. 4. Income £193. 5. 11, expenditure £210. 2. - and the balance on March 31st was £706. 9. 3. She said the balance appeared good, but represented special efforts in December and in February, and pointed out during March more had been sent than raised. Care must, therefore, be exercised in sanctioning expenditure. She intended asking the Branches to make an effort to contribute to Headquarters. Miss Ashton suggested London Branches might run their own Organiser, or raise as much towards her salary as Manchester did towards theirs. Agreed. The Treasurer said she would put it before the Branches at the meeting on the following day.



(c) Literature. The Hon. Secretary reported that the Literature Committee had been engaged in considering a scheme for the taking on of the International Suffrage Shop as a department of the League. Efforts had been made to get guarantees to the amount of £500 from individual subscribers, which would enable the shop to be run for one year, but these efforts had met with no response and in consequence Mrs. Lawrence had now issued a circular letter to all the Central Members with the object of obtaining promises of deposit amounts of £1 and upwards which could be taken out by the Depositors in the purchase of books. So far about £70 had been promised. She was anxious to have the opinion of the Executive Committee as to whether it were worth while to push the scheme. She had no doubt that with a certain amount of trouble £500 could be raised in the way suggested but she was not prepared to go further without the hearty support of the Executive. The Literature Committee had not yet at all gone into the question of conditions upon which the shop could be taken over and its finances would, of course, have to be very carefully looked into before any definite arrangement was made. It was finally decided to appoint a sub-Committee to make further investigations into the state of the business and Miss Sheepshanks agreed to act on this Committee with the Treasurer.

Council Meeting. Draft Considerations for an Election Policy. The draft considerations for an election policy were considered and amended and ordered to be sent out to the Branches.

Lansdowne Labour Movement. Mrs. Swanwick reported a good meeting had been held in Birmingham

Correspondence. Keighley Bye-Election. The Hon. Secretary reported a letter from Mr. Buxton asking the co-operation of the W.I.L. in the Keighley Bye-Election. She had replied that the Executive had decided to take no official action.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. No further news of the proposed deputation had been received.

The Irishwomen's International League. A letter was read with a resolution condemning the Irish Conscription Clause and the Man Power Bill. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to publish the letter in the News Sheet and to express hearty agreement with the resolution in answering Miss Bennett's letter.

Adult School Union. A letter was read enclosing resolution from the Adult School Union in support of Peace by Negotiation.

Special Meeting of Executive. A special meeting of the Executive was fixed for Thursday, 25th April, to draft resolutions for the Council Meeting.

*Margaret Dalton*  
*May 16, 1918*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Special Meeting of Executive Committee, Thursday, April 25th, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Macnaghten, the Hon. Mrs. Russell, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Cooper Willis.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Ellis and Miss Huntsman.

Council Resolutions.

Suggested Executive resolutions and schedule considered and amended. Agreed copies should be sent to Executive at once, but should only be sent to Branches when embodied in Final Agenda, with which resolutions received from Branches and individual members of Executive would be included.

Agenda Committee.

An Agenda Committee, consisting of the Chairman and Hon. Secretary was appointed and their meeting fixed for Monday, 29th April, at 11 a.m.

Urgency Resolutions.

(1) Conscription for Ireland. The Chairman proposed urgency should be asked for resolution expressing sympathy with Irishwomen's International League in their attitude towards Conscription for Ireland. She suggested the lines of such a resolution, which it was agreed Miss Sheepshanks and Mrs. Wedgwood be asked to draft.

(2) Man Power Bill. Agreed that urgency be asked also for resolution of protest against Man Power Bill, which Miss Sheepshanks promised to draft.

Regulation 40. D.

The Chairman reported having attended a meeting convened by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene to consider and appoint deputation to protest against Regulation 40 D. At the meeting the Secretary of the Association had stated that her Committee proposed to put forward a one-clause Bill making it punishable for any person to communicate venereal disease to any other person. This proposal had been strongly criticised. It was agreed to instruct the Chairman to write to the Association in the sense that as the W.I.L. had every desire for friendly co-operation with the Association, it would be desirable that the League should be given an opportunity to express its opinion on proposed action of this kind before the proposal was made public. It was further reported that a deputation had been appointed and the Secretary for War asked to receive it.

*Margaret Ashton*  
*May 16. 1918*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, May 16th, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Miss Ashton in the Chair, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Macnaghten, the Hon. Mrs. Rollo Russell, Mrs. Sandiforth, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss I. Cooper Willis.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Ford, Mrs. Huth Jackson and Mrs. Swanwick.

Minutes.

The Minutes of Meetings on April 18th and 25th were read and confirmed.

Business arising.

A letter was read from Miss Louie Bennett acknowledging our letter of sympathy with their resolution of protest against coercive policy of the Government in Ireland.

Miss Sheepshanks reported on the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene Meeting which she attended on behalf of the W.I.L. The meeting had been called in answer to the resolution submitted by the League that in view of the proposal to penalise the transmission of Venereal Disease a Conference of representative women's organisations should be called to consider whether such legislation was desirable or practicable. Miss Sheepshanks said that Miss Royden spoke to the proposal to penalise transmission of Venereal Disease and that among a great many speeches most were against such a proposal. Letters were read from Miss Stirling and also from Mrs. Swanwick against it. She left before the end of the meeting so that she did not know whether any resolution was finally passed, but her impression was that the general feeling was against the proposal. It was agreed that if such a measure were brought forward by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene there would be no question of co-operating further with them on the part of the League.

The Hon. Secretary brought forward three letters held over from the last Executive owing to shortage of time (1) a circular from the Home Rule for India League protesting against the action of the Government in cancelling the Passports of the Home Rule Deputation; (2) from the Committee of Social Investigation and Reform asking the League to declare its adherence to the principle of a single moral standard and the equal administration of justice to both men and women. Agreed to; (3) Barnet Branch wrote urging that the Committee should take action with regard to Patriotic Posters of an objectionable character and quoting one which had appeared in their neighbourhood. The Hon. Secretary reported that on receipt of the letter she had replied to the Barnet Secretary saying that she thought they had done the best possible thing in writing to their own local press with regard to this Poster. The Barnet Secretary had again written asking her to bring the matter before the Executive who might, she thought, be able to protest more effectively. It was agreed that a more effectual protest could be carried out by those less avowedly pacifist than the W.I.L. and Miss Huntsman undertook to get in touch with members of the "Fight for Right" Group to see if any protest could be worked through them.



Council Meeting.

It was reported that the Proceedings of the Council Meeting had been sent out together with a covering letter from the Chairman.

Miss Bondfield's Resignation.

A letter was read from Miss Bondfield resigning her membership of the Executive Committee on the grounds that in view of the Council's decision re Election Policy her position as a member of the Labour Party Executive made it difficult for her to remain upon the W.I.L. Executive. Mrs. Swanwick had written asking her to reconsider her decision but she had answered that it was impossible; that though she thought it was very wise of the W.I.L. to have an Election Policy she could not serve upon two Executives with different Election Policies. Her resignation was, therefore, accepted with great regret.

Report of Sub-Committees.

Finance. The balance sheet for the last month was read showing receipts amounting to £76. 10. 5d, expenditure £139. 10. 6d, balance at bank £643. 9. 2d.

Organisation. Letter from Warrington Branch reported asking advice as to accepting an invitation to send delegates to the local Women Citizens Association Committee. The Organisation Committee advised that under the special circumstances in Warrington it would be better not to accept the invitation.

Midlothian Branch. Reported a letter from the Midlothian Branch asking advice as to protest against 40. D. Miss Phillips had answered giving particulars of action at Headquarters. Miss Ashton undertook to send the resolution passed at the Manchester Meeting to the Midlothian Secretary.

Miss Ashby Wood's Report. Miss Ashby Wood had reported several meetings held and the formation of two new Branches at Willesden and Catford. She had reported the London Group Meeting had recommended a letter being sent from the Office to all Headquarters Members in London and throughout the country giving the name of the nearest branch and suggesting the member should join that as well as Headquarters in order to get representation at the Council of the League. The Hon. Secretary promised to draft such a letter. It was further reported that Miss Muriel Matters had offered a choice of Monday, June 3rd and Friday June 14th to speak on Education at an evening "At Home" and that her fee was £2.2.0d but that she could supply a list of people who were anxious to hear her speak. Agreed to ask her for Friday, June 14th. It was suggested that an "At Home" Committee should be reappointed to settle details with Miss Ashby Wood and report to Organisation Committee. The Organisation Committee hoped that Miss Sheepshanks would join with the officers in this Committee. Agreed and Miss Sheepshanks agreed to serve.

Stationery. The Organisation Committee reported that stationery and paper of all kinds was very difficult to get. Foolscap paper (duplicating) had been ordered before Christmas and only one-third of it had been delivered; the remainder could not be guaranteed at all. It was agreed that there must be greater economy in the use of stationery and members



of the Executive were asked to help in securing supplies, if possible.

The affiliation of Heywood, Bolton, Swinton, Catford, and Willesden Branches was accepted.

Organiser. It was reported that no suitable applications had been received in answer to advertisement in the Cambridge Magazine and Common Cause, but a Miss Black had been seen who might take work in the Autumn and might be able later on to train under an Organiser. Mrs. Crawford's re-appointment was discussed, and it was decided that since, upon Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's report, Glasgow was unable to finance its own organiser, Headquarters could not re-engage her for Glasgow work but would be glad to engage her for occasional speaking. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence undertook to write to Mrs. Crawford about this.

Office Holidays. Agreed to recommend the Office remain closed on Whitsun Tuesday and Miss Royds and Miss Marsh be informed of this. Also that the Summer Holidays be as follows:-

Miss Horscroft June 1st to 17th with a week later on.

Miss Phillips, July 19th to August 19th.

Miss Anderson, August 20th to September 4th or 11th.

Miss Royds, month of November.

Agreed to.

Literature Committee. It was reported that the Literature Committee on April 19th considered a request from the Bibliography Committee that sanction might be given for the addition to the Bibliography of a preface, an essay on the teaching of history on international lines, and a report of experiments in such teaching. The Chairman agreed to write asking for details; the Secretary was instructed to get a rough estimate for printing and a decision was postponed until more definite information had been received.

It was reported that 20,000 copies of the leaflets "The W.I.L." "An Appeal to Enfranchised Women" were in stock. "Questions to Electors," "Security" and the pamphlet "Foreign Policy of the People" had been or were being reprinted.

Reported that the foreign pacifist papers "Friedens Warte" and "La Paix par le Droit" would be regularly taken at the Office.

It was agreed to ask the Executive to sanction the co-option of Mrs. Ayrton Gould to the Literature Committee in the place of Mrs. Russell, who had resigned. Agreed to.

Demonstration Committee. It was reported that the Demonstration sub-Committee had met twice, on 7th and 13th May. All the instructions of the Organisation Committee of 18th April had been carried out meanwhile. Mrs. Ayrton Gould and Miss Evelyn Sharp had agreed to join the Committee, but Miss Brewster had been unable to do so. Miss Bondfield had been asked for advice but had not replied. A few replies had been received from organisations invited.



The following had been invited and had consented to speak at the Demonstration:-

Miss Ashton, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Barton, Miss Llewelyn Davies, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Roper, Mrs. Salter, Miss Sharp, Mrs. Swanwick and Miss Wilson Wilson.

Reported that Mrs. Salter was making special efforts to get help from the Women's Labour League, the I.L.P. and the working women generally.

The London W.I.L. Branches and the outside organisations that had promised to co-operate were being asked to arrange meetings of their members to be addressed by the Organiser.

The following recommendations were accepted by the Executive:-

- (a) That the time of the demonstration be 4 p.m.
- (b) That application be made at once to the authorities for permission to take six lorries into the Park to be used as Platforms.
- (c) That all arrangements be made for holding the Demonstration in Hyde Park, but that in case the meeting is proclaimed, the Committee should be ready with halls engaged or gardens arranged to accommodate people coming from each given locality. That an appeal be made for private gardens to be lent for this purpose.
- (d) That the question of having processions should not be considered at present.
- (e) That all who are interested in the plan may now be free to announce it as a settled project, and that the clergy and ministers known to be in favour of peace be asked to announce the demonstration to their congregations, and appeal for their support.

X National Suffrage Shop Committee. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence reported having gone into the accounts with Miss Trim confidentially. Miss Trim estimated her assets at £335. 8. 8d (including Goodwill £150), her liabilities at £332. 2. 0 (including £249. 1. 0d in money owed). After discussion it was agreed that with such figures it was undesirable to go further with this project and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence undertook to report this decision to Miss Trim. X

Correspondence.

Letter from the Committee of National Endowment of Families, (Secretary Mrs. Emile Burns) informing the League of the preparation of a leaflet and short pamphlet setting out the general arguments for family endowment and suggesting the outlines of a practical scheme. The Committee instructed the Hon. Secretary to say that they would be glad of sample copies of the leaflet and pamphlet when they were ready.

Circular re Women's Councils. It was decided that no action should be taken with regard to this.



Workers Suffrage Federation. A letter of invitation to a Conference on Whitsunday to consider a Peace Demonstration was read. It was decided to reply saying that the W.I.L. could not send a representative and informing the W.S.F. the date of the W.I.L. Peace Demonstration.

Letter from Llanelly District Labour Association. A letter from the Llanelly District Labour Association was read asking for details of the Government's refusal of Passports re the Berne Conference. The Secretary was instructed to say that beyond the refusal of Passports to some members of the Executive she had no other information to give.

Death of Lord Courtney.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to Lady Courtney telling her of the Executive's deep sympathy with her in her loss.

The Hon. Secretary asked the Executive to pass a special vote of thanks to Miss Phillips and Miss Horscroft for all the work they had done in Miss Mitchell's absence. They had had a great deal of extra work to do in connection with the Council Meeting which they had done admirably. The vote of thanks was heartily agreed to.

*H. M. Swannick,*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday  
June 6th, 1918, at 2, 30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Miss Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. Rollo Russell, Mrs. Salter, Miss Sheepshanks and Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apologies  
For absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Ford, Mrs. Weggwood and Miss Copper Willis.

Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting on May 16th. were read and confirmed.

Business  
Arising.

It was reported that 20 reams of Duplicating paper had been secured from the Garden City Press, and that Miss Sheepshanks had secured 6 reams at 9/- a ream. Mrs. Huth Jackson took a sample to try to secure a further supply.

Report of  
Sub-  
Committees.

Finance. The balance sheet for the last month was read showing receipts amounting to £65-7-7, expenditure £154-15-6 balance at Bank £553-19-3.

Organisation. The recommendation that the Education Committee should meet at 12.30 once a month after the Organisation Committee meeting was reported. It was further recommended that Miss Royds be asked to <sup>define</sup> ~~suggest~~ <sup>suggested</sup> a definite scheme for promoting activity on the question of Education and Militarism. Agreed.

A leaflet on the subject by Mr. Lewis Paton was referred for consideration to the Literature Sub-Committee.

Literature. Reported that at the Literature sub-Committee on May 17th, correspondence was read between Mrs. de Bunsen, Miss Eileen Power, and Mrs. Swanwick on the proposed additions to the Bibliography. Miss Power said that the total number of words would be about 20,000 and the M.S. would be ready by the end of September. The Committee agreed to the inclusion of the proposed reports of experiments actually made in teaching on International lines, on the ground such reports would greatly add to the usefulness of the book.

It was agreed to recommend that the W.I.L. should issue a leaflet on Regulation 40D. and the further proposed legislation on the subject, and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence agreed to draft one, to be submitted to the Literature Committee on June 7th.

Conference on Democratic Representation at Peace Congress. Miss Leaf reported that owing to a misunderstanding the Committee had not been convened. She undertook to convene it for June 7th to consider the question, and to report decision.

Suggested  
members for  
Executive.

Mrs. Swanwick proposed, Mrs. Despard seconded that Mrs. Ayrton Gould be asked to serve on the Committee. Carried.



Peace Negotiations  
Demonstration.

The Demonstration Sub-Committee has met twice, on May 23rd and June 3rd. Permission has been obtained for six lorries to be taken into Hyde Park for use as platforms. A great deal of circularising has been done, particular attention having been paid to Trade Unions and Labour organisations likely to be favourable. The organiser is addressing a number of branch meetings. It has been agreed that the July "News Sheet" shall be a special Demonstration number, and shall be on sale outside the Park. Efforts are being made to get a Music Hall in which to hold a meeting if the Park should be refused.

German Women's  
Committee for  
Permanent Peace.

Miss Sheepshanks reported on activities of the I.C.W.P.P. in Germany at present, for a Peace without indemnities or annexations, and for disarmament and equal suffrage, and urged the importance of members of the Committee and the public knowing what is taking place. The need for full International news in the "News Sheet" was also pressed.

Correspondence.

I.C.W.P.P. A request for an annual subscription of 700 Guilders (about £75) towards the work of the International Bureau from Dr. A.H. Jacobs, and Rosa Manus was referred to the Finance Committee.

Vigilance Association Legislation. A letter from Miss Green was read calling the attention of the W.I.L. to a suggestion made by a member of the Vigilance Association to introduce special legislation to penalise foreign women who live by the prostitution. Miss Royds was instructed to obtain "Vigilance Record" for April 1918 which deals with this question.

Representation of the People Act. A letter was read from Mr. Higgins of the Kingston Central Relief Institution urging the W.I.L. to press a claim to a vote for women living in Institutions. A reply had been sent pointing out that the W.I.L. stood always for equal adult suffrage.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. A letter was read from Miss Neilans, asking that the W.I.L. should urge the Secretary of State for War to receive the deputation of Women's Societies to consider their views on Regulation 40 D. A letter had been sent urging this.

League of Peace and Freedom. A letter was read from the Secretary, asking for signatures of Pacifists to a letter for the press, protesting against the idea that Pacifists are wanting in sympathy with sufferers in the war. Miss Ashton proposed, Miss Courtney seconded, that no representative of the W.I.L. should sign the letter. Miss Royds was instructed to write to the Secretary to this effect, expressing sympathy with its purport, but stating that the Committee thought such a letter unnecessary.

Danish Section I.C.W.P.P. Greetings from the  
Danish Section on the anniversary of the Hague Meeting



were read. Miss Royds was instructed to acknowledge these, and to send greetings from the British Section.

N.U.W.W. re British Nationality and Status of Aliens Amendment Bill. A letter was read from the Secretary of the N.U.W.W. Miss Green calling attention to the fact that the introduction of a British Nationality and Status of Aliens, Amendment Bill gives opportunity of moving amendments to improve the Nationality Laws as they affect married women, and asking for the passing of a resolution urging the giving of the right to women to retain their British Nationality on marriage with an Alien and the sending of this to the Home Secretary, the Colonial Secretary and the Right Hon: Willoughby Dickinson M.P. Miss Ashton moved that this be done, Mrs. Despard seconded. Carried. Further agreed to ask Local Societies to press the same resolution and send it to local members; further agreed that Mrs. Despard should go as W.I.L. Delegate on a deputation to the Home Secretary in support of the resolution.

Ministry of Information. A letter was read from the Ministry of Information asking for a copy of our Journal and details of our Activities. Miss Royds was instructed to send these.

Letter to Branches  
re Election  
Policy.

Mrs. Swanwick reported that Mrs. Annot Robinson had written an article for the "News Sheet" on method of work. It was suggested that as the next "News Sheet" was to be a special Demonstration number this should be sent out as a letter to Branch Secretaries, Mrs. Swanwick to draft a covering letter. Agreed.

N.C.C.L.

A leaflet re printing Mr. G.W. Russell's letter on conscription in Ireland to the "Manchester Guardian" was referred for consideration to the Literature Committee. Mrs. Huth Jackson offered to give a sum up to £5 towards expenses of circulating it.

Other Business  
"Manchester  
Leaflet."

A Leaflet entitled "The Married Women Voter" published by the Manchester Branch was considered and sanctioned. Miss Royds was instructed to remind Manchester of the regulation that Leaflets published by Branches must be submitted to the Executive before publication.

Lansdowne  
Movement.

Agreed that Mrs. Snowden's Memorial to Lord Lansdowne in support of his Movement be kept at the Office for obtaining signatures.

*H. M. Swanwick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE  
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Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday  
June 20th, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Mrs. Ayrton-Gould, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. Rollo Russell, Miss Sheepshanks, ~~Miss~~ Salter, Mrs. Trevelyan, Miss Ward, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apologies  
for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Courtney, and Miss Cooper-Willis.

Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting on June 6th were read and confirmed.

Business  
arising.

Mrs. Ayrton-Gould was welcomed as a member of the Executive.

It was reported that the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene had no information as to the penalising of foreign women for solicitation. The "Vigilance Record" for April contained an article advocating it. A further case having been brought to our notice from Edinburgh, the N.C.C.L. were applied to for a copy of 40 D, which contained no special reference to this question. The proposal of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene to call a Queen's Hall Meeting was considered. It was decided that the W.I.L. should agree to co-operate, and should strongly urge this being held. Miss Royds was ~~therefore~~ <sup>instructed</sup> instructed to ask the Association if it could make investigations concerning the penalising of foreign women.

Reports of  
Sub-Committees.

(a) Finance. The Finance Committee agreed to commend to the Executive that the equivalent (about £75) of the 700 guilders asked for by Headquarters towards the expenses of the International Bureau, should be sent this year, with a letter expressing the hope that the other countries mentioned in the appeal would also agree to the proposal. Agreed.

(b) Organisation. Miss Ashby Wood reported successful meetings at Bow and Catford, and an At-Home at which Miss Muriel Matters spoke, at the Food Reform Restaurant. It was decided to hold over a further issue of the calendar till October 1st, and to suspend the meeting for the re-establishment of a Central Branch till September. The question of any further meetings at present was discussed. It was agreed that it would be better to co-operate in a conference reported by Miss Macnaghten, which Mr. E. Backhouse is getting up on Militarism and Education, in connection with the F.P.C., than to get up any independent meetings. In response to a request from Manchester to consider the possibility of arranging an autumn tour for Miss Louie Bennett, Miss Royds was instructed to write to Miss Bennett, to ask if she could undertake this. It was reported that the Midlothian Branch had asked for assistance over election policy. ~~Mrs. Swanwick~~ recommended to the Executive that an Election Sub-Committee should be formed. Agreed; the Sub-Committee to consist of all officers; Miss Ashton, Mrs. Ayrton-Gould, Mrs. Huth Jackson, and



Mrs. Trevelyan also consenting to serve. In view of the turning down of the Peace by Negotiation resolution by the Co-operative Women at Bradford, ~~Mrs. Swanwick~~ recommended to the Executive that they should consider the possibility of approaching Miss Llewelyn Davies, and offering her a series of speakers in autumn on the Secret Treaties and "Lost Opportunities", and ready to answer questions. Agreed. Proposed that "League of Nations" and similar subjects be added. Agreed. Mrs. Swanwick undertook to write to Miss Davies.

(c) Demonstration. The Demonstration Committee met on June 17th. The Organiser reported having spoken at several Trade Union branch meetings, and having received a most encouraging reception in each case. Dr Orchard, Dr. Walsh, and many other representative people had been seen, and were giving help. It had not been found possible to engage a hall or theatre as an alternative to the Park.

16,000 Handbills had already been distributed. They were being given at suitable public meetings, and notices were being sent to Pacifist papers. Letters had been sent to all organisations that had been invited to co-operate, asking them to allow their names to be put on the final handbills, and enclosing postcards for reply. The response had been good.

A drawing-room meeting had been arranged for July 2nd, at the house of Mrs. de Bunsen, at which Miss Sheepshanks would speak. Voluntary helpers were speaking at some of the Trade Union meetings, as well as helping in the office. The final handbill would be got out, and the programme arranged, at the next Committee Meeting.

(d) Literature. The Literature Committee agreed to recommend leaflets on Family Endowment, and also the Women's Peace Crusade leaflets, "Lost Opportunities", and "Peace by Negotiation", to the branches. They also agreed to stock in small quantities, and to recommend, a forthcoming book by Mr. Pethick Lawrence, "A Levy on Capital". Mrs. Huth Jackson's offer to give up to £5 for the free distribution of the leaflet, "Conscription for Ireland", was accepted, and it was agreed to ask branches to say how many they would like. The M.S. of a pamphlet by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, on the various legislative proposals for dealing with Venereal Disease, was passed. It was agreed to ask the "Herald" for permission to reprint in leaflet form comments on "Our War Aims" from the "Herald" of May 11th.

(e) Education. It was decided to stock the two leaflets, published by the Joint Commission on Education, "The Children of the People", and "Military Training in Schools". Miss Royds was instructed to send out a circular letter to branches, informing them that the Joint Commission on Education is compiling a list of speakers on the subject of Militarism and Education; that this list includes many of our speakers; and that they are recommended to apply to the Joint Commission for a speaker, and to arrange conferences, if such have not already been held. The two Joint Commission leaflets should be enclosed as samples, and the following titles suggested for speakers:- "Regimentation of Opinion", "Mechanising of Opinion", "Militarising of Opinion", and "Propagandist Teaching in Schools".



Resolution re Refusal of Passport to Miss Bondfield.

It was agreed that a resolution re refusal of Passport to Miss Bondfield on the ground of sex should be passed, and sent to the Foreign Office. Miss Royds was instructed to ask Miss Marian Ellis if she would object to her name being included in the protest. Mrs. Swanwick undertook to draft the resolution.

Committee to study Organisation within the League of Nations.

Miss Leaf's proposal for the formation of a Committee to study Organisation within the League of Nations was considered. Miss Royds was instructed to write to Miss Leaf, saying that the Committee thinks it better to leave the organisation of such a group to the League of Nations Society, leaving it open for the members of the W.I.L. to take part in it individually.

Correspondence.

(a) N.C.C.L. A letter was read from the Women's Committee of the N.C.C.L., asking for permission to circularise our branches, with a view to offering a speaker to the London branches, and making an appeal for affiliation. Miss Ashton proposed that a reply should be sent, saying that we should be glad for our branches to be informed as to the aims, etc. of the N.C.C.L., and to have speakers, but we were recommending co-operation rather than affiliation, because we wish particularly to emphasise the international aspect of our work. Mrs. Wedgwood opposed the resolution. Put to the vote. Carried with two dissentients. A request for permission to affiliate to the N.C.C.L. was read from the Kingston branch. Miss Royds was instructed to reply, encouraging the branch to ask for speakers, but advising co-operation rather than affiliation.

(b) N.P.C. A letter was read from the National Peace Council, asking for the names of W.I.L. representatives for the ensuing year, and for names for election to the Executive Committee. It was decided to re-nominate Miss Macnaghten for election to the Executive, and to re-nominate the representatives to the Council - Miss Macnaghten, Mrs. Swanwick, Mrs. Raymond Unwin and Miss Ward being the nominees.

(c) Glasgow W.I.L. A letter was read from Mrs. Crawford, stating that she would be willing to accept the offer of the Committee to act as occasional speaker, at a salary of £3 a week, and expenses. Miss Royds was instructed to circularise the branches to this effect.

(d) "Democratic Representation at Peace Conference" A letter was read from Miss Leaf, asking that the Committee should consider the question of finance, office and secretarial work, in connection with the proposed conference to consider this. Miss Royds was instructed to say that the work will be done from the Headquarters Office.

(e) Council of Women for consideration of Legislative Measures. A letter was read, inviting the co-operation of the W.I.L. in starting a deliberative council of women, for the consideration of legislative measures, and asking the assistance to send a representative to the first meeting. It was decided to reply that the Committee was unable to accept the invitation.



Correspondence.

(contd.)

(f) Letter from Miss Cooper-Willis. A letter was read from Miss Cooper-Willis, regretting that she was unable to take up the work of Honorary Secretary, until the autumn, and suggesting that the Committee might wish to appoint a substitute. It was decided that no substitute should be appointed for that period.

Other Business.

A letter was read from Miss Marion Ellis, regretting her inability to attend the Committee, and offering to resign, if the Committee felt her frequent absence made this advisable. Miss Royds was instructed to reply that the Committee certainly did not wish her resignation, but hoped to see her whenever she was able to attend.

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*Wm Swannick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, 4th July, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Lady Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Miss Ford, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apologies

for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Ellis, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mrs. Salter.

Minutes.

The Minutes of Meeting on 20th June were read and confirmed.

Business arising on Minutes.

Conference for Democratic Representation at the Peace Congress. Miss Royds was instructed to write to Miss Leaf asking her to submit estimates of any proposed expenditure to the Committee.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. With regard to the case of the Belgian women penalised for soliciting members of His Majesty's Forces, the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene reported on information from Bow Street that the case came under regulation 14 of D.O.R.A. This refers only to "a person," not to "an alien." Miss Royds was, therefore, instructed to write suggesting the case should still be followed up and this point made clear.

Miss Sheepshanks reported an extract from "La Française" quoting a letter from the French War Department concerning the establishing of tolerated houses and protests made by the French Union for Woman Suffrage and the National Council of Women. Agreed to send the letter to various papers with Miss Sheepshank's compliments and to write to the French Union for Women Suffrage and the National Council of Women sympathising with their protest.

A report of the meeting of representatives of the Associated Societies to discuss 40 D. was read. Members were asked individually, if possible, to get into touch with members of the War Office Conference on Venereal Disease, a list of whom was given in the letter.

Reported that Mrs. Huth Jackson had kindly consented to the transference of the £5 she offered for the distribution of Mr. G.W. Russell's letter on Conscription in Ireland to the distribution of the leaflet "Our War Aims."

Date of Annual Council.

The Annual Council was fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday, October 22nd and 23rd.

Reports of sub-Committees.

Finance.

Balance Sheet for June, 1918, was read showing receipts £107. 3. 5., expenditure £267. 18. 6d,



balance at bank £393. 4. 2.

Organisation. In connection with the letter to Miss Llewelyn Davies offering speakers to Co-operative Guilds, it was reported that Miss Ll. Davies was now bound from headquarters not to engineer Peace by Negotiation, but would be glad if we would act individually with the various Societies. Further reported that all Branches and Officials of Co-operative Guilds receive "Brit~~z~~ania" weekly. Recommended to the Executive to consider distribution of News Sheet to these also. It was decided the cost of this distribution for from three to six months should be calculated and that Mrs. Pethick Lawrence should be asked to write a few private letters to obtain funds for the distribution.

Miss Ashby Wood reported on meetings at Mrs. Allen Baker's, Purley and Southall, and sales at Balham and Kensington, and a London Group Meeting on June 21st. Recommended to Executive to pass a resolution of condolence with Mrs. Baker on the death of her husband. Agreed.

Reported that branches had been circularised regarding Mr. Lees Smith's offer to speak for the W.I.L. for a few weeks. Three or four were hoping to arrange meetings and he was speaking at the Northern Heights Branch. Recommended that the Literature Committee should consider the stocking of 6d. "Secret Treaties" and "Peace Overtures" and other literature likely to sell at the moment for London meetings.

Recommended that a special sub-Committee should be formed for the London area to include some of the London Members. Agreed. Nominated from Executive: Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Russell, Miss Courtney; the London Group Meeting on the 19th to decide as to election of Branch Representatives.

(Recommended that the Finance Committee be called to consider what to do regarding the Advertisement Scheme and the sum of money in hand for carrying it out.)

Recommended that Miss Marsh be appointed as London Organiser for definite lines of work at a salary of £3 per week and expenses if away. Miss Ashton moved, Miss Ford seconded her appointment. Carried.

(A letter was <sup>read</sup> from Miss Bennett about her proposed tour asking if she could combine with it appeals for Irish unemployed. Miss Royds was instructed to write that the Committee felt her tour might do a great deal of good for the better understanding of the international aspect of the Irish question, but thought it would involve things very much to make use of it for such an appeal as Miss Bennett's suggested.)

Manchester W.I.L. The question of affiliation of the W.I.L. to the Women Workers was raised. The Executive decided it was inadvisable. ~~A letter was read from "Britain and India" offering speakers on Indian subjects, especially on Indian Women's questions. Further particulars to be asked for.~~



Miss Royds' Holidays. Recommended to the Executive that Miss Royds should take August for her holiday instead of November. Agreed.

Literature Committee. It was reported the "Herald" had consented to the publication of the leaflet "Our War Aims." Estimate for 20,000 was accepted, and price fixed at 1/6d per 100, 14/- per 1,000. Agreed not to send out the leaflets "Conscription for Ireland" as the Conscription proposal had been withdrawn, but to ask Mrs. Huth Jackson, to give the £5 towards the distribution of "Our War Aims" instead. Agreed to accept Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's offer of a paper on sex education for publication as a pamphlet. Agreed to recommend to branches the Peace Year Book, the U.D.C. pamphlet "Peace Overtures and their Rejection" and the Manchester Branch leaflet on the W.I.L.

Demonstration Committee. The Demonstration Committee met on June 25th. The Organiser reported that a number of Trade Union Meetings had been addressed and their members were going to help in the Park. Bills had been distributed at Finsbury Park Free Speech Meeting.

Mrs. Swanwick read a paragraph that had appeared in the Press stating that a "Pro-Ally Demonstration" would be held in Trafalgar Square on July 14th.

It was reported that 58 Societies in all were allowing their names to be put on the handbill. It was agreed to have no decorations on the lorries. Agreed also to have only five platforms and to ask speakers to limit themselves to 10 or 15 minutes each, and to be ready to begin before the advertised time if it seemed desirable. Chairmen to use their own discretion in putting the resolution at the most suitable time, but in any case to do so not later than 5 p.m. Questions not to be invited but if any were put, they must be addressed to the Chair. Agreed the clerk who had helped in the Office should be re-engaged by the day, when needed. Agreed to accept the recommendation of the Executive that services should be arranged in churches of sympathetic clergy, to be held in case the Demonstration were proclaimed. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence proposed all Central Members should be asked to contribute to the expenses of the Demonstration, and this was agreed to. Final reminder to be also sent to all Societies. Agreed to recommend to the Executive that the Resolution should be as follows:- "That this meeting calls upon the Government to explore every opportunity that may offer in the immediate future for promoting by Negotiation a durable peace." *Passed.*

Miss Marsh reported the proposal to arrange for a service to be held in Hyde Park by Dr. Walsh and, if possible, by Dr. Orchard, in case the demonstration is proclaimed. ~~The following resolution to be put at the demonstration was passed:-~~

~~"That this meeting calls upon the Government to explore every opportunity that may offer in the immediate future for promoting by Negotiation a durable peace."~~



Correspondence.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. An invitation to the W.I.L. to send representatives to a Conference of the Police Court Rota of this Association was read. Miss Courtney was nominated representative.

Consultative Committee of Constitutional Women's Suffrage Societies. A letter was read from this Committee inviting two representatives from the W.I.L. to attend the Conference of Women's Societies to consider regulation D.O.R.A. 40 D., Friday, July 12th. Mrs. Swanwick and Miss Ford undertook to attend.

Other Business.

A letter was read from the N.C.C.L. calling attention to the utter inadequacy of governmental methods of dealing with the problem of the prison treatment of C.O's by mitigation, and appealing for resolutions and letters to be sent to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary and local M.P's. A resolution of protest was passed and Miss Royds was instructed to recommend to Branches to send in resolutions to the Prime Minister and to local Members of Parliament. A resolution of protest was sent by the Executive to the Prime Minister.

*H. M. Swanwick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, 18th July, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Miss Courtney, Miss Ellis, Miss Ford, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Wedgwood.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Huntsman, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Minutes.

Minutes of 4th July were read and confirmed.

Reports of sub-Committees.

(a) Finance. It was reported that the Finance Committee had not met. The question of the money in hand for the advertisement scheme was considered in Executive. Decided to retain the money ear-marked and defer final decision until the Autumn.

Further decided that the News Sheet should be sent for three months to Secretaries of Co-operative Guilds, beginning with the July News Sheets that were over; these to go to Co-operative Guilds rather than the Women's Liberal Federation Branches.

(b) Organisation. Miss Bennett's Tour. Recommended to Executive to consider getting Miss Bennett to speak in London during her tour which she offered from the last week of September to the second in October. Decided she should be asked to speak on the evening of the 21st, 23rd or 24th on the present situation in Ireland. Further, that she should be consulted as to the possibility of "A.E." (Mr. G.W. Russell) coming to speak with her at a Queen's Hall Meeting. Miss Bennett to be asked to suggest a chairman if she has any preference. If desired, Mrs. Huth Jackson offered her drawing room for a meeting for Miss Bennett.

Women's Liberal Federation Report. Recommended to Executive that Miss Ashby Wood should offer addresses to these Branches as part of her Autumn work.

Letter from Mr. Brailsford. Recommended to Executive that a letter should be written to Glasgow giving the Executive's strong opinion that in response to a request from Mr. Brailsford, Mrs. Crawford should be lent to him for organising educative, political work among women in the Montrose Borough for two months, on the ground that this would be a most valuable piece of international work. Agreed.

Recommended to the Executive that Miss Marsh should have three weeks holiday from 17th August. *Agreed.*

League of Nations Meeting. Recommended to Executive to undertake a League of Nations Meeting in support of President Wilson and Lord Lansdowne, either before the war celebrations on August 4th or in the Autumn. Miss Ashton had seen Lord Parmoor, who would take the chair and would himself see Lord Lansdowne.



suggested Mr. Henderson as the other speaker. Agreed to arrange an ad hoc Committee to organise the meeting before August 4th if Lord Lansdowne could be billed; otherwise, to undertake it early in October. Miss Ashton undertook to write to Lord Parmoor.

(c) Education Committee. Reported that this Committee met at 12 a.m. July 18th, but deferred any further action until the Autumn.

(d) Literature Committee. Reported that the Branches had been offered 8,000 free copies of the leaflet "Our War Aims" which were paid for by Mrs. Huth Jackson's gift. The estimate was accepted for Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's leaflet "The Choice" and it was agreed 2,000 copies should be ordered, and specimens sent to the organisers of any meetings that might be held on the subject of the prevention of Venereal Disease.

It also recommended that Miss Ashby Wood be granted the sum of £2 to be entered to the Literature account and to be used by her for small stocks of publications by other organisations to be sold at meetings organised by her and at London Group and Central Meetings, but that the Literature Secretary should get special literature for particular Central Meetings as she had always done.

(e) Demonstration Committee. As the demonstration had been proclaimed no report was read, but a financial statement was made showing receipts £142. 15. 6, expenditure £74. 16. 1, balance at Bank £68. 18. 7d. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence proposed the making of a protest by holding meetings, as two ring meetings, on the last Sunday in August and passing the resolution. Miss Ford proposed postponement of decision until next meeting. Mrs. Russell seconded. Agreed.

Political Situation.

Mrs. Swanwick reported on the hopefulness of foreign news, particularly Count Burian's attitude to peace negotiations.

Breaking up of Woolwich Meeting.

A letter was read from the Cambridge W.I.L. Treasurer suggesting a resolution of protest against the use of boy scouts to break up the Woolwich meeting, and enclosing an extract from the "Observer" confirming the report. Decided evidence on the point was too conflicting to allow of a resolution.

Correspondence.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. Mrs. Swanwick reported a conversation with Miss Neilans on the appointing a Commission to go into various legislative and other proposals for dealing with immorality and Venereal Diseases and see if constructive proposals could be framed. Twelve to fourteen Societies are joining in the Commission and are being asked to subscribe for expenses in connection with the taking of evidence. Agreed to guarantee a subscription up to £10. Miss Courtney suggested the need for forming an Executive Committee on the question of Venereal Diseases to act as a focus for all the discontent of women's bodies throughout the country. Miss Ford suggested this should be urged on the Committee of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. Miss Courtney further urged the widespread publication of News of Arrests under 40 D. Miss Marsh reported an



interview with Mr. King in connection with the proposal to rush through the House before rising a ~~San~~ Sidhurst and Beauchamp Bill on Venereal Diseases. He feared, - though it would not be passed, - it might, before the House rose, reach the stage at which it was difficult to do anything. Miss Marsh also reported an interview with Mrs. Fawcett who had offered to join over the question with all women's organisations in the Autumn.

N. C.C.L. The Brochure of the N.C.C.L. on the "Censorship in War-time" was laid on the table.

Other business.

(An invitation from Lady Courtney to the Executive to attend a meeting of the workers of the Emergency Committee at 4.30 on Friday, 26th July, at her house was read.)

N. P. C. ~~National Peace Council~~ Mrs. Swanwick reported the re-nomination of the entire ~~Executive~~ at the Council Meeting of the National Peace Council.

(August Bank Holiday. Decided the Office should be shut from Friday evening to Tuesday morning.)

Date of next meeting.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for 5th September unless a special meeting should be called.

H. M. Swanwick.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of special Meeting of Executive Committee, 25th July, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the Hon. Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Miss Wilson Wilson, Mrs. Wedgwood.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Courtney, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Sandiforth.

The meeting was called to consider the nomination of a member on the Commission to go into the question of proposals for dealing with ~~the~~ immorality and venereal diseases; to consider a deputation on the question of the Sandhurst and Beauchamp Bill to Sir George Cave, and any other business connected with this proposal.

Nomination of Member on Commission.

Miss Courtney proposed, in writing, Mrs. Ayrton Gould seconded, that Mrs. Swanwick should be the W.I.L. representative on the Commission. Carried.

Deputation to Sir George Cave.

Reported that the Women's Freedom League had offered and the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene were going to offer a deputation. Agreed that the W.I.L. should accept offers to join from either or both of these Societies, but that in writing to the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene it should be stated that the W.I.L. could not support any ~~question~~ <sup>proposal</sup> dealing with the subject by penal measures, and suggested that the deputation should meet and ~~decide~~ beforehand the lines to be taken by various speakers.

I.W.S.P.U. Circular Letter.

Miss Marsh reported that the I.W.S.P.U. was circularising as widely as possible a letter dealing with the Criminal Law Amendment Bill and giving an historical survey of the whole question; that they offered to allow the W.I.L. to send this out with their own covering letter if the W.I.L. would undertake to circularise women's organisations. Agreed to get 5,000 copies of the statement printed on one sheet and send it out with our own covering letter to all W.I.L. Members, and to make a grant of £10 for further circularising of women's Societies by the I.W.S.P.U. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence to make an appeal in our covering letter for subscriptions to be sent to us for expenses. Further decided to send the statement with a special letter to the following:-

Dr. Ethel Bentham, Mrs. Philip Snowden, Mrs. Harrison Bell, Miss Susan Lawrence, and the Convener of the Rescue and Preventive Section of the N.U.W.W.

Correspondence.

Penal Reform League. A letter was read from the Secretary asking that members would sign an appeal to the Home Secretary to receive a deputation from the Penal Reform League on questions of prison reform. All members of the Executive present signed; Mrs. Despard agreed, if required, to go on the deputation.

Consultative Committee of Women's Societies. A letter was read asking whether the W.I.L. wished to be represented on the Committee of the re-constituted Consultative Committee of Women's Societies asking for equal citizen-



ship (formerly the Consultative Committee of Constitutional Women's Suffrage Societies). Agreed to send two representatives to be chosen at the next Executive.

Other  
business.

A letter was read from the Manchester W.I.L. reporting the break-up of a service arranged for Sunday, 21st July in St. Stephen's Square. The Manchester Committee is entering protests against the disorderliness to the Watch Committee and the Public Prosecutor.

H. M. Swannick .



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, 5th September, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Miss Ellis, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Lady Courtney, Miss Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Miss Ford, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Trevelyan, Mrs. Sandiforth, Mrs. Salter.

Minutes.

Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Business arising on Minutes.

Mrs. Swanwick reported that Mrs. Crawford had not agreed to undertake work for Mr. Brailsford but was continuing her W.I.L. work for Glasgow.

Miss Bennett's Tour. Reported Miss Bennett had been asked for by Manchester, Sheffield, Birmingham. Recommended by Organisation Committee that Mrs. Despard be asked to take the Chair at the London Meeting on October 21st at Denison House, and failing her, Miss Morland; that there should be two hundred tickets at 1/- each and a collection and handbills distributed through W.I.L. Secretaries, U.D.C. and friendly Organisations; that the title should be "Ireland" and the meeting take place at 7.30 p.m., and that a paragraph should be inserted in the Labour Leader and Herald. Agreed. Mrs. Huth Jackson urged that "A.E." should be again asked if he would not come to speak at a large meeting and undertook to write to Mr. James Douglas to get him to lay before Mr. Russell the great importance of his accepting.

Democratic Conference.

Reported that the Conference had been fixed for the afternoon and evening of November 6th, and that the following consented to speak:- Mr. Brailsford (provisional), Mr. Fairchild, Mr. Hobson, Lady Horsley, Mr. Lansbury, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, Mr. Ponsonby, Mr. Woolf, and a N.U.W.S.S. representative.

Sub-Committees Reports.

London Area Sub-Committee. A report was read from the London sub-Committee outlining its proposed work. A Chairman to be appointed when membership of Committee is complete. Emphasis was laid on Election Work and recommendations made for "At Homes" to be held weekly on Wednesdays. The first week in the month at 5.30 for 6 o'clock; other weeks 3.15 p.m., at the Food Reform Restaurant. Suggested all Women's Co-operative Guilds and Women's Liberal Associations should be circularised and offered speakers. Recommended that a Calendar should be issued for October and Branches pay for them at cost price. Recommended that Branches be urged to send up at least one resolution for the Council Meeting and appoint their full number of delegates, and that Branches be asked in turn to give a report on their work. Recommended to Executive from London Group Meeting, July 19th;- That an effort be made to find out those W.I.L. Speakers and members willing to support a series of outdoor meetings in Hyde Park, Finsbury Park and other suitable centres, on Sundays, but not always at the same time; - that such meetings should be made known to our members, but not advertised to the public, and that care should be taken that the speakers are well qualified by



their knowledge of facts to deal with questions as well as rouse enthusiasm in the audience. Approved; the Executive noting with satisfaction the emphasis laid on the necessity of the speakers being well informed. Asked that the Executive should be informed when and where such meetings are held.

Organisation Committee.

Reported that Miss Horscroft had returned to full time ~~at~~ the Office.

A League of Nations Meeting. Recommended that a meeting in support of the Lansdowne Movement should be held in the week beginning November 3rd and that a letter should be written to Lord Parmoor suggesting a skeleton scheme and asking his opinion concerning the date. Suggested the meeting should be organised by an ad hoc Committee including representatives of various Societies; the names of Societies and members of Committee not to appear. Mrs. Swanwick read a letter from Lady Courtney <sup>containing various</sup> ~~concerning~~ the suggestions.

Mrs. Huth Jackson urged the point to emphasis the need of fighting the Paris Resolutions and suggested that Mr. Huth Jackson should write a ~~paper~~ <sup>leaflet</sup> on the subject. ~~Recommended~~ <sup>Recommended</sup> to the Literature Committee to consider the question of the Economic War.

Winter Work for Organisers.

Recommended that Miss Marsh should undertake a preliminary investigation in London Constituencies, getting in touch particularly with labour organisations, but also with other Parties, and that Miss Wood after the London work was started should make arrangements for visiting Oxford and Bournemouth to revive the Branches and consider starting a Branch in Bath. Agreed. Mrs. Swanwick offered to visit Bath on October 25th to help in any way she could on her way to Bristol.

Branch News.

Branch Reports, Monthly and Annual, were read from Leeds, Manchester, Kensington, East Cheshire, Derwent Valley, Cambridge, Beaconsfield. The Cambridge Branch reported affiliation to the W.C.A. Miss Royds was instructed to make inquiries as to the nature of the W.C.A. in Cambridge and to remind the Branch of the rule of referring affiliation to Headquarters before final decision.

Miss Jane Addams.

Miss Ashton drew attention to the report of Miss Helen Fraser on American Women in the "Manchester Guardian" of September 3rd, which contains a reference implying that Miss Jane Addams has given up pacifism. Mrs. Swanwick undertook to write to Miss Fraser to obtain further particulars.

Treasurer's Report.

The Balance Sheet for August was read showing a balance of £296. 8. 7., inclusive of £111. 5. 3d earmarked for the 40 D. Fund.

40 D. Campaign.

A letter was read from Dr. Marian Phillips pointing out that the Labour Party is calling a National Conference of Women on the 15th and 16th October, at which one of the subjects to be discussed will be the question of 40 D. The Labour Party has invited two



representatives of the W.I.L. to attend the Conference. Delegates appointed:- Mrs. Swanwick and Miss Courtney, or failing her, Mrs. Wedgwood.

Election of Representatives to the deputation to Sir George Cave.

A letter was read from the Women's Freedom League inviting the W.I.L. to appoint a representative on this deputation. Miss Ashton proposed, Mrs. Huth Jackson seconded Mrs. Swanwick as representative. Carried. Mrs. Hobson asked for information as to the reliability of the extract in the circular letter sent out on 40 D. Mrs. Swanwick reported that the examination described was, she was informed by Medical Authorities, the only *final* test for Venereal Disease, and that even that was not certain. A letter was read from Lady Byles protesting against the extract and her resignation was reported. A letter was read from the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene reporting prosecutions under 40D. and asking for the co-operation of the W.I.L. in a Queen's Hall Meeting about the end of October. Agreed to co-operate. A letter was read from Miss H. Newcomb, British Dominions W.S.U. protesting against the W.I.L. giving support to the I.W.S.P.U.'s statement that the 40D. resolution was the result of pressure from Colonial Ministers. Mrs. Swanwick undertook to answer her letter.

Election Sub-Committee.

Date of Meeting fixed for 12 ~~noon~~ on September 19th.

Council Meeting Resolutions.

A resolution to amend the Election Policy by substituting for the words "Peace by Immediate Negotiation" the words "Immediate Negotiations for Peace" was put before the Committee for consideration.

Consultative Committee of Women's Societies for Equal Citizenship.

Proposed W.I.L. Representatives:- Miss Courtney, Miss Marsh.

Correspondence.

A letter was read from the National Union of Women Workers inviting the Society to appoint a representative to attend a deputation on the subject of the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Amendment Bill on Wednesday, September 11th at 12 noon. Mrs. Wedgwood agreed to go as representative.

News Sheet Printer.

Reported that the Garden City Press premises had been taken over by the Y.M.C.A. and it is, therefore, necessary to find a new printer for the News Sheet. Estimates were submitted from Messrs Hodgson & Son and from the Guardian Press. Decided to try the Guardian Press for six months, provided it pays Trade Union Rates.

Other business.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Women's Deliberative Council inviting attendance to a Conference on October 1st.

*Mrs. Swanwick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Thursday, 19th September, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Lady Courtney, Miss Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Russell, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Ford, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Trevelyan.

Minutes.

The Minutes of September 5th were read and confirmed.

Business arising.

Reported Miss Courtney's acceptance of acting as representative on the Consultative Committee.

Reported that at the Labour Party's Women's Conference on October 15th and 16th the gallery will be open to visitors.

Nomination of Hon. Secretary. Mrs. Swanwick reported that Miss Cooper Willis could not keep on her Office of Hon. Secretary, but agreed if the Executive approved to the proposal to remain as International Secretary, <sup>hoping to</sup> ~~come~~ to the Office one afternoon each week; a second Hon. Secretary to be appointed on National Affairs. Mrs. Swanwick nominated, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence seconded the nomination of Mrs. Ayrton Gould.

Democratic Conference Committee Report. The draft Agenda was read and suggested arrangements for speakers for the two sessions reported.

Reports of sub-Committees.

(a) Organisation. Reported that it had been decided Miss Macmillan should be asked to see Miss Fraser and repeat the question Mrs. Swanwick had asked about her report of Miss Addams change of attitude on the war, and that if possible Miss Macmillan should get Miss Fraser to reply by letter to Mrs. Swanwick's letter.

In view of the affiliation of the Cambridge W.I.L. to the W.C.A. recommended to Executive to put down the consideration of the relations of the W.I.L. to the W.C.A. and other organisations at the Council Meeting. Miss Ellis suggested considering definitely the relation to various local Peace Councils now being formed. Approved.

Recommended to Executive that the salaries of the full time Staff be raised by one sixth in view of increasing expenses. Agreed.

Reported that "A.E." had definitely decided not to come to London for our meeting on October 21st, but as he was speaking ~~later~~ at a private Labour Conference it was suggested that he might also speak at a private meeting for us. Agreed to ask Miss Bennett to see him and find out if he would be willing and the date. Reported Mrs. Despard would take the Chair on the 21st.

Recommended to Executive to confirm the making of a grant from the money in hand from the 40 D. appeal to the I.W.S.P. <sup>U</sup> to enable them to circulate to Trade Unions, Women's Co-operative Guilds, Ministers of Religion, Doctors, etc., the reprint of an article in the "Lancet" of August 17th, this to be sent out with a covering letter containing definite suggestions re deputation, etc, and some portions



of the letter sent out previously. Miss Sheepshanks moved that this be done, Mrs. Huth Jackson seconded. Agreed with one dissentient.

Literature Committee. It was reported that the leaflet "The Choice" was in hand, and the price had been fixed at 1d each, 9d dozen. It was agreed to order 1,000 copies of Mrs. Lawrence's New pamphlet "Education in Love" and the price was fixed at 2d.

The recommendation of the Executive that Mr. Allan Brockman's estimate for printing News Sheet be accepted was agreed to.

It was agreed that a permit for sending literature abroad should be applied for.

The recommendation from the Executive that literature on Economic War be considered, was discussed. Mrs. Wedgwood agreed to write to Mr. Hirst asking if "Common Sense" proposed to publish anything on the subject.

Election Committee. Reported information re the forming of Election Committees or the work of individual members from various Branches. Miss Marsh reported her work at present was gathering information about the London Constituencies. Some names of Candidates were considered. Mrs. Despard and Miss Ellis gave some information about the Battersea Division, Miss Royds was instructed to write to the W.I.L. Secretary and inquire further details.)

Correspondence.

(A letter was read from Miss Marshall offering to stand for re-election to the Executive or to resign if the Executive thought advisable in view of her possible inability to attend for some months. Decided to postpone answer to the next Committee.)

Consultative Committee. A letter was read asking for the signature of our representative to a resolution for the Executive Committee of the National Liberal Federation urging the admission of women to Parliament on equal terms with men. Signed by Miss Courtney on behalf of the W.I.L.

A letter was read from the Stepney Branch of the Herald League asking for attendance of W.I.L. delegates at a Conference on Tuesday, September 24th to consider the organisation of a demonstration to protest against the attitude of our Government towards the Workers Republic of Russia. Mrs. Despard undertook to attend. Decided a letter should be written making it clear that we could not co-operate ~~with~~ in approval of the Bolshevists, but if the object was to protest against our treatment of Russia we might consider co-operation.

National Peace Council. A letter was read from the Secretary of the N.P.C. announcing the fourth Quarterly Meeting of the N.P.C. at Leeds on Wednesday, 9th October, and asking that alternative representatives of the W.I.L. may be appointed, if the elected representatives to the N.P.C. are not able to be present. Miss Royds was instructed to ask the representatives if they can be present and if not to ask the Leeds Secretary of the W.I.L. to find alternative representatives.

A letter from the N.C.C.L. emphasising the need of pro-



test against the encroachment on Free Speech was read.

Proposed amend-  
ment of Elec-  
tion Policy for  
Council Meeting,

Mrs. Wedgwood moved, Mrs. Hobson seconded the resolution to substitute for the words "Peace by Immediate Negotiation" the words "Immediate Negotiation for Peace."

Resolution drafted by Mrs. Ayrton Gould, <sup>Moved</sup> by Miss Ashton, seconded by Mrs. Wedgwood ~~that it be put on the agenda for the Council.~~

That this Council affirms that in bearing and rearing children women are rendering an essential service, and it calls upon the Government to recognise this by state payment of Motherhood in order (1) that every child shall be brought up in a decent and healthy surroundings; (2) that all Mothers shall be as independent economically as Wage Earners; (3) that employers shall not be able to pay women less than men for the same work on the pretext that a man has a wife and family to keep.

Agreed.

Resolution drafted by Mrs. Swanwick:-

This Council declares that the administration of Regulation 40D (D.O.R.A.) has amply justified the representations put forward by the W.I.L. immediately upon its appearance that it was not only grossly inequitable but unworkable and worse than useless in protecting the health of the soldiers and sailors it was supposed to safeguard.

The W.I.L. draws attention to the statement made by Mr. Muskett on August 5<sup>th</sup>, and the article in the "Lancet" of August 17th in proof of these contentions and urges upon women voters all over the country to demand from all Candidates for Parliament, a pledge that they will insist upon the withdrawal of this infamous regulation.

Agreed.

Agenda  
Committee.

Decided this should consist of Officers; Miss Courtney and Mrs. Ayrton Gould and should meet on Monday, September 23rd at 2.30 p.m.

Election  
Committee.

Decided the next meeting should be on Thursday, 3rd October at 12 noon.

*H. M. Swanwick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Meeting of Executive Committee, Thursday, 3rd October, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Lady Courtney, Miss Courtney, Miss I.O. Ford, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Cooper Willis, Miss Ellis, Miss Huntsman, Miss Ward.

Minutes.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed with verbal alterations.

Business arising.

Mrs. Swanwick reported that there was a prospect of "A.E." speaking to a private meeting when he was in London about October 9th. Mrs. Huth Jackson offered hospitality to Mr. James Douglas and Mr. Thomas Johnson who were expected to come over at the same time.

Decided that Miss Marshall should be asked to stand again for the Executive. Reported that Miss Ford was finding four representatives in Leeds for the N.P.C. Quarterly Meeting on October 9th to take the place of our usual representatives. Mrs. R. Russell undertook to represent the W.I.L. on the N.P.C. in the place of Miss Ward who is retiring.

Decided to write to the Secretary of the Stepney Branch of the Herald League saying that until Mrs. Despard had reported on the preliminary meeting making arrangements for a protest meeting of the Government's treatment of Russia, the W.I.L. could not appoint a further delegate.

Miss Bennett's Meeting.

Mrs. Swanwick agreed to propose, Miss Ford to second the vote of thanks at Miss Bennett's Meeting on October 21st.

Reports of Sub-Committees.

London Area Sub-Committee. In the place of Miss Courtney, who resigned, Mrs. Huth Jackson and Mrs. Ayrton Gould undertook to attend the ~~London~~ Meeting of the London Sub-Committee. Decided to ask Miss Morland to act as Chairman for November and December till after the appointment of sub-Committees.

Propaganda. Reported applications for speakers from 18 Women's Co-operative Guilds and two Adult Schools; some of these were referred to Branches in their neighbourhood.

Arrangements for "At Homes" in November. Reported there would be no "At Home" on November 6th. November 13th Mr. Grubb was speaking on "Was Disarmament possible?" Suggested on November 20th the subjects should be Housing Reform and at subsequent meetings Endowment of Motherhood and Women's Economic Independence and Legal Freedom. Reported that the "At Home" on October 2nd Mrs. Swanwick and Miss Ford had spoken on The Present Situation; 50-60 being present.

The formation of new Branches. Work reported in connection with the Fulham, Finchley, Whetstone and the West Hampstead, Kilburn and Cricklewood District. An interesting report was given of the Golders Green Branch.



Election Committee. Reported Mrs. Crawford had been offered by the Glasgow Committee to work for Mr. Brailsford for a fortnight in November, and that the Glasgow Branch was making inquiries about work in Dunfermline ~~Burgas~~ Glasgow and Lanarkshire.

Miss Marsh reported on her work in London Constituencies, particularly in North Camberwell (Mr. Ammon), Bermondsey (Dr. Salter) Battersea (Mr. Carmichael) and Bow (Mr. Lambury), and decided at present to concentrate on starting a Branch at Bow, Mrs. Scurr having offered her house for a meeting at which Miss I.O. Ford agreed to speak.

Recommended to Executive that a question should be asked in the House asking the Government to get a statement from the Law Officers of the Crown interpreting the clause re Election Expenses. Lady Courtney undertook to get Mr. Holt to do this.

Finance Committee. The Annual Statement of Accounts was sent with a letter from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and read by Miss Phillips with explanations. Result showed a balance on September 1st, 1917 of £52. 3. 4.  $2\frac{1}{2}$ . Receipts for the year £2611.15.3. Expenditure £2012.7.4  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Balance in Bank and on hand £307.12.1d and on deposit £815.-.-, making a total of £1122.12.1d.

Staff Salaries.

(A letter was read from the Staff thanking the Executive for kindly increasing salaries on account of increased expenses, but pointing out that in most trades and professions this increase was made on a flat rate for all as the increase in expenses is the same for all. A letter was read from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence suggesting that the increase should be revised and made 10/- a week for all full time workers and 5/- for Miss Anderson. Mrs. Hobson proposed, Mrs. Salter seconded. Carried.)

Correspondence.

Letters were read from the Consultative Committee of W.S. and the N.U.W.S.S. asking for the passing of a resolution in favour of reforming the law precluding women's eligibility to stand for Parliament. Agreed this resolution should be drafted and sent to the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary.

(A letter was read from the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society inviting the W.I.L. to send a representative for the Platform at a meeting in the Caxton Hall <sup>on 40B</sup> on October 12th at 3 p.m. Miss Wilson undertook to attend.)

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. A letter was read from the Secretary giving date for the Protest Meeting at the Queen's Hall against Regulation 40D ~~as on~~ November 6th, and asking in what ways the W.I.L. could co-operate. Agreed to co-operate in distributing leaflets, displaying a poster and taking tickets on sale or return, but decided a letter should be written regretting the inability of the W.I.L. to co-operate further owing to the Conference on Democratic Representation which they are arranging being on the same date.

(A letter was read from Miss Macmillan reporting an interview with Miss Fraser on the subject of her statement as to Miss Addams' change of attitude towards the war, in which Miss Fraser had promised more exact details after her return to London.)



Resolutions  
for the  
Council Meet-  
ing.

Proposed that the amendment proposed by the Executive (8) on Preliminary Agenda, should be moved from the Chair.

Resolution 4 (c) on Wages and Endowment, Miss Courtney undertook to move, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence to be asked to second this resolution.

Resolution 6, (Venereal Diseases). Decided that the Agenda Committee should make one resolution of the two proposed by the Croydon Branch and by the Executive Committee, and that Croydon should be asked to propose and the Executive to second it.

Section 8. Decided to ask Miss Courtney to open the discussion on the relation between the W.I.L. and the W.C.A. and to ask Miss Huntsman (or failing her Miss Ellis) to carry on the discussion of the relation with the Peace Councils.

Contents of  
Annual Report.

Decided that the confidential resolutions of the special Council Meeting on December 6th, 1917, should not be published, and that the Election Policy should be published entire.

Other  
Business.

Recommended to Literature Committee to consider taking extra copies of the "Herald" of October 19th which will deal with 40D. for sale at the Council Meeting.

*H. M. Swannick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, 17th October, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Lady Courtney, Miss Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, the Hon. Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Trevelyan, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Cooper Willis, Miss Wilson Wilson. *Miss Peter's de Lamer*

Apology for absence.

An apology for absence was received from Miss Ford.

Minutes.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Business arising.

Stepney Branch of "Herald" League. Decided to let the matter of co-operation with this Branch in a protest meeting on the Government's treatment of Russia, lapse.

Reported that Miss Huntsman had agreed to follow Miss Courtney in the discussion on the relation of the W.I.L. to other Societies, speaking on its relation to local peace societies.

Decided to send a resolution of gratitude and appreciation to Miss Macnaghten on her retirement from the Executive.

In connection with Miss Fraser's Report as to Miss Addams change of principles Mrs. Swanwick reported that she had received a copy of a verbatim report of a speech of Miss Addams on the conservation of food in war time, and that it gave no grounds for the charge made. ~~The report is given in the~~

Annual Report.

The third Annual Report was read and passed, as amended. Miss Ashton proposed, Mrs. Trevelyan seconded, its adoption.

Political Situation.

Mrs. Swanwick reported on the present situation. Decided urgency resolutions should be framed at a special Executive at 10 o'clock at Denison House on the morning of the Council Meeting (October 22nd).

Memorandum from Manchester.

A suggestion for an urgency discussion in a Memorandum received from Manchester, on the necessity of formulating a British Feminist Programme to be brought forward at the Peace Congress of the I.C.W.P.P. was considered. Decided to refer the question to the Organisation Committee.

Reports of Sub-Committees.

ORGANISATION COMMITTEE. Recommended that London sub-Committee should consider the suggestion that Branches should undertake to provide the Chairman and make all arrangements for the "At Homes" one afternoon each in turn.

(Arranged that the London Group Sub-Committee should be responsible for the "At Homes" with Miss Wood as Organiser. Recommended that members of the Executive should be asked to act as Hostesses at the "At Homes" in turn, two each day if possible.) The literature to remain in Miss Phillip's hands. Miss Ashby Wood reported that she had made arrangements to visit Bath, where a joint meeting of various societies was being arranged at the Friends' Meeting House on 30th October and a Drawing Room Meeting later. Further suggestion as regards "At Homes", that the Chairman should always give a little time to showing the connection between the subject of the address and the W.I.L, that this talk should be followed by a short discussion and that



the speaker if he or she preferred should come in at the conclusion. The question of the Organiser's clerical work was referred to later consideration.)

LITERATURE COMMITTEE. Reported the estimate of the Guardian Press for printing the News Sheet had been accepted, on the assurance of the proprietor that he paid Trade Union Rates. Also reported that Miss Power, the Editor of the Educational Bibliography was doing everything she could to get the various authors to complete their contributions, and hoped to send the entire M.S. by the middle of October. The M.S. of a leaflet by Mrs. Huth Jackson on the Economic War, was submitted, and sent round by post to each member of the Committee in turn, for her approval. The 40D leaflet reprinted from the "Lancet" by the I.S.W.P.U. was submitted, and it was agreed samples should be sent to branches, with particulars as to where and at what price they might obtain copies for distribution.

FINANCE COMMITTEE. The Balance Sheet for September was read showing a balance at the end of the month of £175. 2. 9d.

CORRESPONDENCE. A letter was read from Mrs. Huth Jackson expressing her desire to withdraw from the N.U.W.W. (Council of Women's) Committee for Peace and Arbitration. Decided to appoint no representative on this Committee at present.)

National Peace Council. In view of Miss Macnaghten's resignation from the W.I.L. Executive, Miss Cooper Willis was appointed to the N.P.C. in her place.

British Dominions Women's Suffrage Union. A letter was read from the Secretary asking the W.I.L. to join in a deputation to the Home Secretary about Lord Buckmaster's Bill to amend the Marriage and Divorce Laws. Decided to ask for details as to what the deputation will put forward and to procure a copy of Lord Buckmaster's Bill.

Penal Reform League. A letter was read from the Secretary stating that the Home Secretary hoped to receive a deputation on the subject of Penal Reform shortly, and appending a copy of the reply of the League to the Home Secretary as to the proposals the deputation hopes to make. Decided to ask that the W.I.L. representation may be allowed to speak on the general principles of penal reform and demand a Royal Commission to enter into the whole subject.

Miss Manners. A design for a Peace Medal sent by Miss E. Manners was submitted to the Committee. Decided that nothing should be done at present in the matter but that Miss Manners should be written to suggesting that such designs will no doubt be considered at the Peace Congress.

H. M. Swannick.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Special Meeting of Executive Committee, Tuesday, October  
22nd, 1918, at 10 a.m.

Present. Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Lady Courtney, Mrs. Despard,  
Miss Ellis, Miss I.O.Ford, ~~Mrs. J.A.Hobson~~, Mrs. Huth Jackson,  
the Hon. Mrs. R.Russell, Mrs. Sandiforth, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence,  
Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Wilson Wilson, Miss Cooper Willis.  
*Mrs. Clayton Gould.*

Apologies An apology for absence was received from Mrs. Trevelyan.  
for ab-  
sence.

Special The discussion of Urgency Resolutions for the Council.  
Business. The following Urgency Resolutions were passed *for the Council agenda:-*

I. International Situation. This Council welcomes the establishment of Parliamentary Government in Germany as a guarantee of future permanent peace, and demands that the Allied Governments should openly and immediately endorse the policy put forward in the five points of President Wilson's speech of September 27th and accepted by the Central Powers; this involving the repudiation of the Secret Treaties and of the policy of an economic war. This Council is further of opinion that while offering such terms for an armistice as will secure the Allies from losing their present military position, the Allied Powers should not use their advantage to force now a settlement of questions which can only be rightly dealt with by International Conference.

II. Ireland. The Women's International League (being the British Branch of the I.C.W.P.P.) regards with shame the bankruptcy of British statesmanship in regard to Ireland, now in the hands of an arbitrary, repressive, militarist Government. If the Congress of Powers which will meet to determine the World Settlement after the war should still find the nationalist aspirations of Ireland unsatisfied, nothing can prevent the arraignment of Great Britain before the bar of international opinion and the certain condemnation by the whole world. The W.I.L. therefore calls upon the Government to withdraw the military occupation of Ireland and give to the Irish people the control of their own affairs.

*H.M. Swanwick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Thursday, 7th November, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Miss Ashton, Mrs. Briggs, Miss Cooper Willis, Lady Courtney, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss L.F. Morland, the Hon. Mrs. R. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Swanwick, Mrs. Raymond Unwin, Miss Helen Ward, Mrs. Ethel Wedgwood, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Election of Chairman.

Lady Courtney proposed, Mrs. Despard seconded that Mrs. Swanwick should be Chairman for the ensuing year. Agreed.

Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Courtney and Miss I.O. Ford.

Minutes.

The Minutes of the Meeting on 17th October were read and confirmed. The Minutes of Special Meeting on 22nd October were also read and confirmed.

Business arising.

An extract from a letter from Miss Addams to Miss Hobhouse with regard to Miss Fraser's statement on her change of attitude on the war was read. Miss Addams states that there is no ground for the charge.

Decided to decline an invitation of the Divorce Law Reform Union that the W.I.L. should send a delegate on a deputation to the Home Office on the grounds that the W.I.L. as a whole has no established policy on the matter. The Executive expressed sympathy with the demand and several signed the petition being circulated for signatures. Decided to send a delegate on the deputation being organised by the Penal Reform League if the answer of the Penal Reform League Committee to the Executive's desire that their delegate should demand a Royal Commission, is favourable.

Appointment of Vice-Chairmen.

Miss Ashton was proposed by Mrs. Wedgwood as First Vice-Chairman, seconded by Mrs. Huth Jackson. Agreed.

Second Vice-Chairman. Miss Courtney was proposed by Mrs. Hobson, seconded by Miss Huntsman. Agreed.

Third-Vice-Chairman. Miss Ellis was proposed by Miss Sheepshanks, seconded by Miss Ashton. Agreed.

Appointment of sub-Committees.

Organisation Committee. The following were appointed beside the Officers:-  
Miss Ashton, Miss Courtney, Miss Ford, *Miss Ward*, Mrs. Huth Jackson and Miss Morland.

Literature Committee. The Officers, Mrs. Unwin, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Sheepshanks.

London Sub-Committee. The Officers, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Salter, Miss Ward.

Election Sub-Committee. The Officers, Miss Ashton, Lady Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Miss Sheepshanks.



Finance Committee. The Finance Committee was incorporated with the Organisation Committee.

Education Committee. The Education Committee was incorporated with the Literature Committee.

Consideration of Election Policy.

A draft of a letter and a suggested minimum and maximum Election Policy drawn up by Mrs. Swanwick, based on the former Election Policy, with necessary adaptations was considered. (A copy is appended in its final form.)

W.I.L. Candidates for Parliament.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence reported on the offer she had received from Bolton and the possibility of her standing either for Rusholme (Manchester) or Stockport. In Bolton she would have to stand as an Independent W.I.L. Candidate, resigning from the Labour Party, and the Labour Candidate would undoubtedly look on it as an act of hostility. She would visit the constituencies at the week-end but was inclined to think it would be better not to risk a bad failure at this crisis.

Letter from Headquarters.

A letter was read from Dr. Jacobs and Rosa Manus asking for nomination for one of two vacancies on the Headquarters Board of Officers, and proposing to fill the other vacancy by a nominee from France. Decided the British Branch should nominate Klara Ragaz-Nadig of Zurich by wire and letter.

The Headquarters letter further asked for the names of ladies who would go over to Amsterdam to prepare for the Congress after the War. Decided to ask Miss Courtney if she might be able to consider this, but to write to Dr. Jacobs and to Miss Addams to consult them as to the tenability of the first arrangement by which Miss Addams was to summon the Committee to make arrangements.

Miss Cooper Willis reported that Mrs. Hamer had offered to hold conversation classes in French and German two days a week to discuss the Agenda and to give facility on the use of terms which will be used at the Congress. Those who attend to give a small subscription to the W.I.L. Funds. Decided to circularise Delegates and Alternates about this and to obtain information as to whether they are still able to make arrangements to go to The Hague for a Congress which it is hoped will take place early in the New Year. A letter was read from the Swedish Section of the I.C.W.P.P. asking Headquarters to take the initiative in organising a declaration of the National Branches in support of President Wilson's programme. Decided to send in reply the W.I.L. resolution on the five points and any other resolution bearing on the question.

Consideration of Proposal to retain Prisoners of War.

~~to be~~ A letter proposed <sup>reported in the Guardian as having been made</sup> to retain Prisoners of War in case of Peace for reconstruction in devastated areas was considered. Decided to send a letter of protest drafted by Mrs. Swanwick to the War Office, the Prime Minister and the press, <sup>copies</sup> to the Labour Party and the Women's Co-operative Guild.



Reports of  
Sub-  
Committees.

Organisation. Meetings were reported on October 17th when the question of the "At Homes" was discussed and November 4th to discuss the immediate situation in view of a possible election. The decision as to Miss Marsh's work was deferred till Mrs. Pethick Lawrence had reached a decision on her standing as a Candidate for Parliament. Recommended to Executive to consider the W.I.L. organising a course of lectures in early Spring at a fixed fee by Mr. Homer Lane on Ideals of Education as exemplified in the Little Commonwealth. Decided not to consider organising these at present in view of probable international activities.

Literature Sub-Committee. It was reported that the pamphlet "Education in Love" had sold well, and 2,000 more copies had been ordered. Also reported the Postal Censor had refused a permit for the export of publications, but that W.H. Smith & Co. were willing to undertake to send them. Mrs. Ayrton Gould said Smith's had been most unsatisfactory in sending "Votes for Women" and it was agreed to ask Messrs. Headley Bros' advice.

London Sub-Committee. It was reported that applications for speakers were still coming in - over 30 had been received. An application had been received for names of speakers who would deal with International questions in 20-30 minute addresses. In view of the General Election it was decided to recommend that the "At Home" on November 13th should be the last until the new year. Also that in order to make the "At Homes" more useful to younger members (1) they should be held in the evening with occasional afternoon meetings and more social in character, (2) the name of "The Once a Week Club" was suggested and it is hoped at the next Committee to have particulars of what room would be available (possible at the new W.E.A. premises in Harpur Street) and whether some meal could be arranged previous to the meeting. The possibility of forming a dramatic section was discussed (deferred from September) to reproduce plays, that would be useful for propaganda. Mrs. Huth Jackson offered to let the "Players" meet at her house and to help in "managing" such plays. Mrs. Huth Jackson has had permission from the Author to produce "Across the border" in England. Mrs. Ayrton Gould suggested that Miss Hilda Saxe would probably be willing to give a musical recital to form part of a programme and perhaps a Sale and Social and undertook to sound her on the matter, in the hope of arranging something in the New Year.

Recommendation to Executive  
Finance Sub-Committee. The Finance Committee, having read the letters of Mrs. Russell and Miss Ford and having discussed the question are of opinion that - though they cannot decide the points raised in the letters in a small Finance Committee - the W.I.L. Headquarters Campaign is less effective than it should be in view of the fact that we have two such efficient organisers giving full time. The Finance Committee suggested that much more should be done in the way of organising public meetings. If it is not practicable to hold such meetings on the direct issue of peace, the Finance Committee believes that there are other issues tremendously important which could be brought forward at the present time. The Finance Committee is mainly concerned with this project from the point of view of finance, and of



the growth of the organisation, for it is impossible to increase our campaign fund unless we steadily increase the circle of our members and supporters. It further recommended that the consideration of the Executive should be given to the question of adjusting the incoming revenue to the outgoing expenses.)

Correspondence.

A letter was read from Mrs. Style of Liverpool on the possibility of England sending some Indian Women to the Congress. Miss Royds was instructed to inform Mrs. Style that the delegates were already appointed.

N.P.C. Consideration of a letter from the N.P.C. re their Financial Position was referred to the Finance Committee.

The consideration of a letter about the Joint Commission on Education was referred to the Education Committee.)

N.C.C.L. A letter was read urging Societies to press demands for the restoration of ~~labour~~. Decided to send a resolution demanding amnesty for all political prisoners (C.O's and Irish) and victims of D.O.R.A. to the Home Office.

Birmingham. A letter was read asking for advice as to the supporting of a Co-operative Candidate or a Liberal Candidate, both of whom are in accordance with our views. Advised in view of members being already at work for both, not to press support of either by the whole Branch if there would thereby be danger of a split.

Consultative Committee. Decided to sign a letter being sent to the press by the Consultative Committee protesting against the confusion of various Women's Societies with the Women's Party. (Miss Ward and Miss Wilson undertook to attend a meeting on November 15th called by the Consultative Committee to consider the action of non-party women's organisations in view of the General Election.)

Advertisement and Propaganda.

A point raised by Miss Wilson Wilson as to the possibility of distributing far more freeliterature at various meetings up and down the country addressed by our speakers was referred to the Literature and Finance Committees.)

Other business.

Miss Sheepshanks proposed that a memorandum should be sent to the Government on possible lines of Democratic Representation at the Peace Congress. Agreed. Decided Miss Sheepshanks should ask Miss Cooper Willis to draft this.

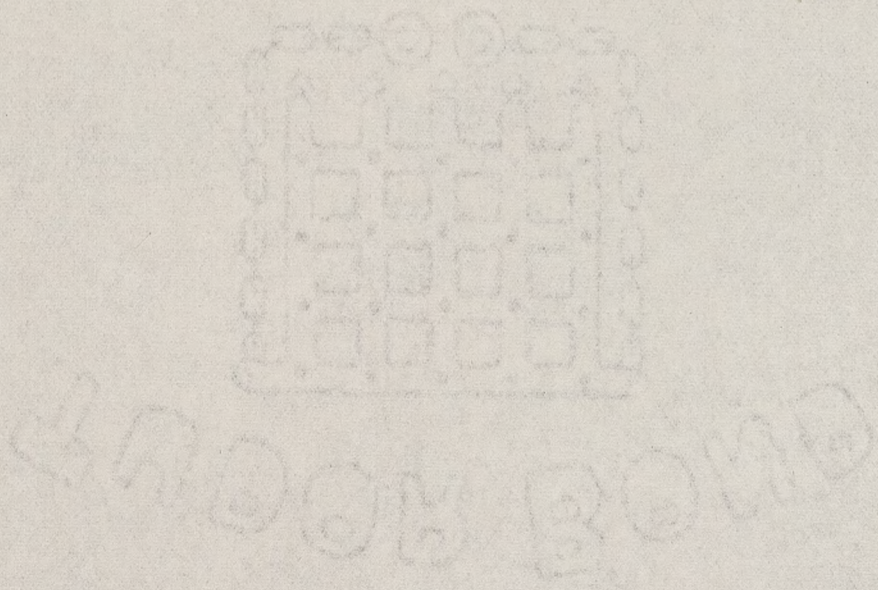
The consideration of questions for Candidates on the League of Nations drawn up for the W.I.L. by Miss Paget (Vernon Lee) was deferred.)

W.I.L. Leaflet for Albert Hall Labour Meeting on Thursday, November 14th. Mrs. Ayrton Gould reported that she was organising the literature at this meeting on condition that W.I.L. literature was sold. Decided a leaflet should be drawn up on "What the W.I.L. means



to ask Candidates" based on our Minimum Programme.

Margaret Ashton  
Nov 21. 1918.





The famine and disorders due to the chaos in RUSSIA are the plea for keeping THOUSANDS OF ENGLISH SOLDIERS away from home in the RUSSIAN WINTER SNOWS, and for sending (it is rumoured) thousands more to join them.

There is imminent danger that similar ANARCHY WILL SPREAD OVER GERMANY AND AUSTRIA, IF FAMINE SHOULD RENDER HER 90 MILLION PEOPLE DESPERATE.

Such a state of things would bring about, not permanent peace, but a condition of CHRONIC DISTURBANCE IN EUROPE, which would result in large numbers of ENGLISH TROOPS BEING KEPT ON THE CONTINENT FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD, TO QUELL, not the Kaiser's armies, but HUNGER-STRICKEN AND DESPERATE WORKING PEOPLE.

IF YOU WANT OUR MEN HOME, PREVENT ANARCHY IN GERMANY by insisting that FOOD SHOULD BE SENT THERE speedily, and also that the BLOCKADE and the terms of ARMISTICE should be mitigated, so as to allow of the German people importing what is most necessary and distributing it in the places where they need it most.

MR. HOOVER, the American Food-Controller, before sailing for Europe on November 16th made statements, in which he said:-

"The Germans can take care of themselves IF GIVEN A CHANGE, .... BUT THE BLOCKADE WILL HAVE TO BE LIFTED." He also said:- "Only 3 areas (of Europe), Southern Russia, Hungary and Denmark ..... have sufficient food supplies to last until next harvest, without imports ..... ALL CONTINENTAL EUROPE..... .. ie ... SHORT OF MEATS AND ESPECIALLY OF FATS. The countries have their last harvest, and UNDER ORDERLY GOVERNMENTS this would furnish BREADSTUFFS and VEGETABLES for various periods from TWO MONTHS upwards ..... The problem ... (lies in) ... the SUPPORT OF THE CITIES AND LARGE TOWNS pending the restoration of order and the ESTABLISHMENT OF CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE SUPPLIES and the cities are the centres of anarchistic infection..... The big Allies will be provided for .... Our next concern must be to relax blockade measures as far as possible in order that the neutral States .... should be able to take care of their people and prevent the growth of anarchy....."

THERE IS A GREAT PROBLEM IN THE SITUATION OF THE ENEMY PEOPLE, --- about 90 million..... IT IS A PROBLEM OF RELAXING THE WATERTIGHT BLOCKADE, .... so that they may secure for themselves THE BARE NECESSITIES that will give stable government. Unless .... STABILITY OF GOVERNMENT CAN BE OBTAINED IN THESE ENEMY STATES, THERE WILL BE NOBODY TO MAKE PEACE WITH ... Justice requires that Government be established able to make amends for wrong done. And it cannot be accomplished through the spread of anarchy. FAMINE IS THE MOTHER OF ANARCHY."

On November 20th, BRANTING, the Swedish Socialist leader, telegraphed to M. Albert Thomas, saying that GERMANY'S CONDITION WOULD BE DESPERATE and STARVATION UNAVOIDABLE unless the Entente granted a LONGER PERIOD FOR THE EVACUATION, and RELEASED the Parks of ROLLING STOCK UNLESS THEY DID THIS, the ruling classes in France would create a BOLSHEVIST ANARCHY among the STARVING MASSES in the BIG TOWNS OF GERMANY. The Entente could not desire a catastrophe in Germany which would evoke Bolshevism. IT COULD NOT BE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE VICTOR TO DRIVE THE VANQUISHED INTO ANARCHY, and call forth those feelings of revenge which ought to be impossible now that Prussian Militarism was annihilated.



In an interview with representatives of the Entente press on November 23rd at Munich, KURT EISNER, the Socialist President of the Council in the new Bavarian Republic, said:- "THE INTERNAL STATE OF AFFAIRS IN GERMANY DEPENDS ON THE ATTITUDE OF THE ENTENTE. Bolshevism is alien to the German soldier and to the German character. But the country is advancing towards A CATASTROPHE, for THE RESERVES OF FOOD CANNOT SUPPORT THE PEOPLE BEYOND THE BEGINNING OF APRIL, at FURTHEST.

Professor BACKHAUS, in an article of November 23rd, gives the following statistics as to the food consumed by the German adult before and after the war, on a daily average.

The no. of CALORIES sank from 3,600 to 1,200  
The amount of FATS sank from 106 grammes to 20 grammes.  
The amount of ALBUMENS sank from 93 " " 30 "

The average consumption of BBREAD was HALVED.

The PRODUCTION OF HOME-GROWN FOOD WENT DOWN at least 20% during the war.

"Any hope" he says "of increasing our food stuffs rests, generally speaking, on SPEEDY IMPORTATION. And for this we are entirely dependent ON THE MERCY OF OUR RECENT ENEMIES, who have terribly HAMPERED US in the effort to SUPPLY OURSELVES with home-grown produce BY TAKING AWAY OUR MEANS OF TRANSPORT, and by laying upon us the charge of providing for troops of occupation, etc."

SCHEIDEMANN, in a recent interview with a representative of the "Continental Times" said:- "To-day, in what, it is to be hoped, is the last hour of a martyrdom, which, in view of the crushing armistice terms, - is perhaps to be succeeded by a new and even worse one, it must be definitely stated, once for all in the face of the world that never yet has a war been waged more cruelly, and that never, under the guise of war, has any attack on a nation's existence and prosperity been so merciless and persistent as the HUNGER-BLOCKADE AGAINST OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN at home. THE MORTALITY IS APPALLING..... 70% of all pregnant and nursing MOTHERS ARE UNDERFED and come to the hospitals in such a state of STARVATION that no remnants of food are safe from them .... CHILDREN CANNOT BE NURSED BY their mothers, neither can they be bottle-fed on one ½ pint of milk, so that we now have a MORTALITY of 30% of legitimate and 50% of illegitimate children. The MOST TERRIBLE CONDITIONS PREVAIL IN GERMANY TO-DAY, AND WE ARE FACED BY COMPLETE FAMINE FOR THE MOTHERS AND INFANTS OF THE POORER CLASSES."



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, 21st November, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Miss Ashton in the Chair, Mrs. Briggs, Lady Courtney, Mrs. Despard, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Raymond Unwin, Miss Ward, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Cooper Willis.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Courtney, Miss Ford, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Sandiforth, Mrs. Swanwick, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Minutes.

The Minutes of meeting on 7th November were read and confirmed with a verbal emendation.

Business arising.

Divorce Law Reform Union. A letter was read from the Secretary of the Divorce Law Reform Union regretting that the W.I.L. did not see its way to join in their deputation, since the question has a strong international side.

Labour Party. A letter was read from the Assistant Secretary acknowledging the receipt of Mrs. Swanwick's letter on proposals re treatment of prisoners of war, and pointing out that probably conditions laid down in the armistice terms will not continue after the signing of peace.

Letter on Democratic Representation at the Peace Congress. Miss Cooper Willis reported that she had sent a letter rather than a memorandum to the Prime Minister on this subject embodying the general conclusions reached at the Conference.

Literature for Albert Hall Meeting. Mrs. Ayrton Gould reported that she had been absent at the close of the Executive when the question of literature for the Albert Hall Labour Party Meeting was discussed, but acting on a previous conversation with Mrs. Swanwick she had taken upon herself the responsibility for having a pamphlet written by Miss Evelyn Sharp printed, as well as the leaflet settled on by the Executive. The Committee expressed its approval.

Reports of Sub-Committees.

Organisation and Finance. The Organisation Committee recommended that the question of Mr. Homer Lane's lectures and of a Conference or debate on a Capital Levy be brought up again after the Election.

Finance Statement for October showed receipts for the month of £142. 4. 2d, expenditure £203. 1. 2d, balance at October 31st, £114. 5. 9d.

Agreed to recommend to Executive that a Donation of £5 be sent to the National Peace Council in response to their appeal.

Agreed to recommend to Executive that a third member



of the Finance Committee should be empowered to sign cheques in the absence of the Hon. Treasurer and the Chairman during the election. Mrs. Huth Jackson agreed to allow herself to be proposed.

Agreed also to recommend that Mrs. Swanwick's out-of-pocket expenses be paid, while she was touring in Scotland. Agreed.

Estimates. Reported estimate for 1,700 Annual Reports was £39. 7. 6d. Agreed to accept and to send two copies to each Branch for Secretary and Chairman respectively, with a letter recommending them to buy copies and circulate them; the price fixed is 3d. each.

Free Literature. A recommendation from the Executive that free grants of literature should be made for distribution, was considered. Agreed to recommend £3 be set aside for this purpose, this sum to be administered by the Literature Committee.

Congress after the War. Miss Cooper Willis's letters to Miss Jane Addams and Dr. Jacobs to ask for a definite explanation of the position as between the President and the Acting President were read. A letter was read from Miss C. Macmillan giving her opinion of the position and one from Miss Courtney, whom Miss Cooper Willis had asked if she would be ready to go over and help in the preparation of the Congress. Miss Courtney felt in view of the doubt as to the possibility of holding it and, for the present owing to her own health, that she could, as yet, promise nothing. Decided that Miss Cooper Willis should ask at once for her Passport and that it must not be assumed permission to go across would be forbidden.

Vacancies among delegates. Reported five vacancies up to the present among delegates for the Congress. Nominations referred to Executive, who suggested Mrs. Huth Jackson and Mrs. Ayrton Gould. Other nominations were referred to next Executive.

Conversation Classes. Decided Miss Cooper Willis should arrange with Mrs. Hamer to hold elementary and advanced classes in both French and German on two days a week, and that all delegates should then be informed, with the suggestion that those attending should contribute 10/6d to W.I.L. Funds.

In connection with the message of the German Branch of the I.C.W.P.P. to Jane Addams the question of what action to take with regard to Dr. Anita Augspurg's appeal for assistance to prevent German women and children from famine was considered. Miss Sheepshanks reported that Alice Soloman had sent a wireless message to English women to help in sending food. Miss Sheepshanks further reported that the blockade is said not to be enforced except as a right of search. Decided to try to get more information on the food shortage and the forfeiture of rolling stock before taking action. Lady Courtney undertook to try to get information from Mr. Hoover about the food question and from Lord Robert Cecil about the blockade - the Committee to be notified when any information was received at the Office. With regard to the question of sending deputations of any sort to Germany it was decided to get into touch with the Friends' Emergency Committee through Lady Courtney and Mrs. Raymond Unwin, keeping in mind the possibility of their recommending some members of the W.I.L. being sent.

Conference proposed by Manchester. Recommended to Executive that Mrs. Ayrton Gould should be asked to draft a letter to the National Headquarters of Women's



Societies asking if they would like to unite, after the election, in a Conference on subjects which could be brought up at the Peace Congress.

Recommended to Executive that a direct message be sent to Dr. Anita Augspurg in response to the message sent out by German women on the position of famine threatening German women and children. Lady Courtney offered to send a message in a private letter to Pastor Ungfried. Agreed. Also decided to send a message through the N.P.C. via Berne. A letter and resolution from Miss Bennett on the same subject, and one from Cambridge were read.

Election Committee. Miss Ashton reported that the W.I.L. in Manchester had decided, as a Branch, to support Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and that the Labour Party had adopted her the same evening. Manchester W.I.L. is sending out a Whip for money and Manchester is divided into districts of W.I.L. workers in conjunction with the Labour Party Workers to prevent overlapping. Decided that while Miss Marsh is working for Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the W.I.L. Headquarters would pay all expenses, including the railway fare. Mrs. Despard reported that she had consented to have her name put forward at a Delegates' Meeting as a Labour Member for North Battersea. Decided that if she was nominated, Miss Marsh should help her at the beginning and go to Rusholme to assist Mrs. Pethick Lawrence towards the end of her campaign.

Reports were read from Beaconsfield, Birmingham, East Cheshire and Cambridge as to the positions there and details of policy dealt with. Recommended to the Executive to raise an election fund to assist our own Candidates. Lady Courtney promised a donation of £10.

Correspondence.

(1) Headquarters. Miss Cooper Willis reported from the Organisation Committee.

(2) Mrs. Swanwick. A letter was read from Mrs. Swanwick in response to a suggestion made by Miss Rinder of the N.C.F. proposing that resolutions on the amnesty for political prisoners, the abolition of conscription and the abolition of D.O.R.A. be sent to Branches with the suggestion that they should go to the "Old Whigs" (Mr. Runciman, Mr. Gulland, Sir Charles Hobhouse, the Hon. G.W.A. Howard, Mr. McKenna, Sir John Simon).

(3) National Council of Women ~~was read~~. A letter was read from the Secretary of the Legislation Sectional Committee asking if in the case of Miss Ward's retiring the W.I.L. would appoint another representative. Mrs. Huth Jackson consented for the present to go on this Committee, and to continue on the Peace and Arbitration Committee.

(4) Indian Women's Educational Association. A letter from the Secretary stating the conviction of the Association that women should be included in the new Electorate in India was read. Decided to write to the Secretary expressing the sympathy of the W.I.L. and endorsing the



attitude of the Association, and to put a note on the subject in the News Sheet, which Miss Sheepshanks consented to draw up.

(5) "Britain and India." An invitation to an "At Home" on November 6th was laid on the table. Miss Ashton reported that Mrs. Ransome is an excellent speaker. It was suggested she should be asked to speak later on at one of the Wednesday meetings.

(6) Catholic Women's League. An invitation from the Catholic Women's League to the W.I.L. to send representatives to a Conference to inaugurate a Branch of the Women Citizens' Association in Westminster was read. Mrs. Wedgwood and Miss Sheepshanks undertook to attend.

(7) The Gentlewoman. A request from the Editor of the Gentlewoman for assistance and information for pages on politics which are to be a feature of the paper was read. The answer was referred to Mrs. Ayrton Gould, who undertook to endeavour to secure the acceptance from time to time of W.I.L. contributions.

Biblio-  
graphy &  
League of  
Nations Sec.

Mrs. Garrett Jones, Secretary of the League of Nations Society asked, on behalf of her Education Committee, for permission to circulate a small portion of the Bibliography, typewritten, among the Committee and one or two others with a view, after issue of our publication, of publishing a leaflet on recommended books for teachers based upon our bibliography. The question was referred to the Education Committee.

Naturali-  
sation Laws.

The question of any step that can be taken to promote the dealing internationally with the Naturalisation Laws was deferred to a December Executive. Recommended that a paragraph should be put in the News Sheet for January on the question. Reported that the British Dominions Women's Suffrage Union Report contains summaries of Conferences on the question and that Miss C. Macmillan and Sir W.H. Dickinson are fully informed on the subject.

*H. M. Swannick*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, 5th December, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present. Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Cooper Willis, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Hobson, Miss Huntsman, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Miss Morland, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Unwin, Miss Ward, Mrs. Wedgwood, Miss Wilson Wilson.

Apologies for absence. Apologies for absence were received from Miss Courtney and Mrs. Ayrton Gould.

Minutes. The Minutes of Meeting on 21st November were read and confirmed.

Business arising. Miss Cooper Willis reported that no answer had been received up to date to her application for a Passport.

Vacancies for Congress. Reported that there were up to the present six vacancies, Mrs. Huth Jackson and Mrs. Ayrton Gould having been proposed for two at the last Executive. Further nominations:- Mrs. Unwin proposed Mrs. Garrett Jones, Miss Sheepshanks proposed Mrs. Wedgwood, Mrs. Despard proposed Mrs. Henry Lloyd Wilson, Miss Ward proposed Mrs. Creighton. Others named were Miss Matthaai, Mrs. C. Roden Buxton. Decided to circularise Executive the names of existing delegates and proposals for vacancies, etc. and to ask for further nominations.

Conference proposed by Manchester. Decided to defer considering the calling of this Conference till after the Elections.

Indian Women's Education Association. Letter reported acknowledging with gratitude the sympathy of the W.I.L. Executive and asking for News Sheet paragraph to be deferred until February.

Food Blockade. Various reports were made as to the severity of the blockade. Mrs. Wedgwood emphasised the danger of disorder arising from the fear of starvation causing a panic and this being used as an excuse for intervention (See Mrs. Wedgwood's report appended). The fear was expressed that if we did not take action now it might hinder us later from getting into touch with the women of Germany.

The resolutions, proposed by Miss Sheepshanks were discussed, and it was decided to send them in the following form: The first to the German and Austrian Sections of the I.C.W.P.P. through Miss Huntsman ~~and to the Press;~~ the second to the Prime Minister, Foreign Office, Ministry of Blockade and the press:-



"We, the British Committee of the International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace, at this time when all nations are rejoicing at the cessation of hostilities, send warm greetings to the German and Austrian Sections of the International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace, uniting with them in the determination to continue working for just and lasting peace, promoting development and progress of all nations. We express our sympathy with all those now suffering from the present economic breakdown, the natural outcome of four years of war, and are trying to give practical expression to this sympathy by petitioning our Government to alleviate the food situation in Central Europe. We are using our influence at the forthcoming elections to promote a just peace and to oppose vindictive terms."

"The Women's International League having noted the appeals made by the great organisations of women in Germany to British Women to do their utmost to alleviate the distress prevailing in Germany owing to the food shortage and the continuance of the blockade, desires to support the appeal of the German women's societies; signed by leading women of high character.

The Women's International League urges the British Government to do all in its power to accelerate the supply of the necessary food stuffs to Central Europe, and to remove or modify the blockade as soon as may be possible. This seems necessary not only in order to save the lives and health of vast masses of the population, but in order to avert panic and consequent disorder in Central Europe, which would be likely to prevent the Armistice terms being punctually carried out, would give occasion for armed intervention, and would detain our troops for a further period in a foreign country.

Any course of action likely to defer the return of our troops will be deplored and resented by the women of this country.

For the sake, therefore, of our own country's welfare, its reputation for justice and generosity and for the sake of the suffering population abroad, the Women's International League urges the Government to take speedy and effective action."

Miss C. Macmillan was invited to attend the Executive as a visitor. Decided, (after some conversation,) that she should begin at once to see about a passport for the Hague to work in the Office as Hon. Secretary of the I.C.W.P.P. The general feeling was that Dr. Jacobs as a Neutral was the



best person to summon the Congress; that the great aim was to get it summoned and that it should be held in a neutral country. Miss Macmillan brought with her a letter throwing light on the answer of Madame Jules Siegfried to the German Women's request that the National Council of French women should intercede with the French Government to mitigate the terms of the Armistice. Madame Siegfried made it a ground of refusal that the German women had not protested against the violation of Belgium or the sinking of the "Lusitania" at the Hague Congress. Miss Macmillan explained that the German women refused to attend the Congress and probably Madame Siegfried's quotation of what they had said, had come from their letter of refusal.

Mrs. Fawcett's refusal to intercede with our Government was passed round the Committee.

Appeal to  
President  
Wilson.

Mrs. Hobson proposed that a letter should be sent to President Wilson urging him to stand by the points he has already proclaimed, and that later the letter should be sent to the Press. Mrs. Swanwick reported that a letter sent to him from the U.D.C. in support of his policy and telling of the feeling in favour of it up and down the country had been acknowledged as received with appreciation. Decided that a letter should be drafted and sent to President Wilson in France, especially laying emphasis on the need now for a League of Nations, self-determination and the open door, and that this should be followed up by sending a letter to the press.

Report of  
Litera-  
ture  
Committee.

Educational Bibliography. M.S. of the Foreword, article on "New History," and part of the actual Bibliography were submitted, with printers' rough estimate, specification, and specimen page. (Estimate £58. 10. - not including paper) was agreed to. It was reported that this would allow the book to be sold at about 2/-. Some suggestions were made, which the Literature Secretary was instructed to convey to the Editor. With regard to the request from the League of Nations Education Committee to be allowed to circulate typed copies of a small part (Section I, part 2) of the Bibliography, and to recommend the books mentioned therein in reply to inquiries from teachers, it was agreed to recommend to the Executive: That the request be granted, but that the Education Committee of the League of Nations be asked to mark each copy "Confidential" and to circulate with it a covering letter, explaining the conditions on which it might be used. It was reported Miss Power had recommended that this limited permission should be granted, and that she had promised, as a member of the League of Nations Committee to safeguard the use which was made of the permission.

New Leaflets. Reported that Election Leaflets 1 and 2 by Mrs. Swanwick were in stock, and also "The Woman Voter and the Red Flag," by Miss Evelyn Sharp.

Free Literature. Recommendation from Finance Committee to grant £3 for free distribution of literature was agreed to, and Mrs. Hobson's kind offer of 50 copies of her book "Ideals true and False" was gratefully accepted.



Christmas  
Holidays.

Decided Miss Marsh should be allowed to go straight from Manchester to her home in the North for the Christmas holidays and that the Office should be closed from Friday 21st to Sunday 29th inclusive.

Corres-  
pondence.

A letter was read from Miss Gwyneth Davies asking for a speaker for a week's tour in South Wales in January on 40D. Mrs. Swanwick undertook to consider this.

Miss Beauchamp. A letter was read from Miss Beauchamp proposing co-operation of the W.I.L. with other Societies to get up a large London meeting demanding the release of all political prisoners, including C.O.'s. Reported the N.C.C.L. was considering such a meeting. Decided to offer co-operation early in the New Year and that a letter should be written to Miss Beauchamp pointing out that the best thing at the moment to help political prisoners was to concentrate on the Election.

National Council of Women. A letter was read from the Secretary of the London Branch suggesting our affiliation to that body. Decided not to affiliate but to continue on two of the sub-Committees of the National Council.

Edinburgh W.I.L. A letter was read from the Secretary asking for the approval of the Executive to support some Crofter Candidates who were opposing Mr. Macpherson in Ross and Cromarty. Agreed.

Mrs. Eckhard. A letter was read from Mrs. Eckhard, Manchester, regretting the splitting of the Liberal Vote in Manchester by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's candidature. Mrs. Swanwick undertook to answer this.

Mrs. Ayrton Gould. Mrs. Swanwick reported a letter from Mrs. Ayrton Gould saying that she had been asked to go on a deputation to Mr. Lloyd George as representing the Consultative Committee, on the claim on women to be represented at the Peace Congress, and that she meant to go and present strongly the W.I.L. point of view.

Political  
Situation.

Mrs. Wedgwood reported on the food question in connection with the Blockade. Miss Cooper Willis reported on the possibility of the reconciliation between the two opposing strands of the Socialist movement in Germany and of Eisner's aim to create a U.S. of Germany. Miss Sheepshanks reported Appeals to American Women by Swedish Women's Societies in support of President Wilson, and of Swedish Socialist Women to the British Section of the W.I.L. and of the demand from very representative German women for the calling of the National Army and universal suffrage.

International  
Opium Con-  
ference.

Mrs. Unwin undertook to read and summarise the report on the Convention with a view to informing the Committee to and see what steps, if any, could be taken to define our attitude. Recommended to Organisation Committee that a member of the United Opium League should be asked to give a lecture on the subject after Christmas.



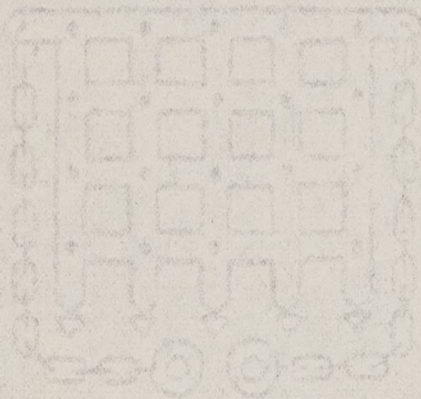
The question of the Naturalisation Laws was again postponed.

Appeal to women in "La Populaire."

An appeal by Monette Thomas to French Women to study and think about international questions was reported. Decided to write Madame Thomas informing her of the existence of the I.C.W.P.P. suggesting her getting into touch with the Secretary in Paris.

*H. M. Swainwick*

TUDOR BOND





WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

8th November, 1918.

Letter to Branch Secretaries re Election Policy.

Dear Madam,

The General Election will probably take place when there is Armistice on all fronts but before Peace is signed.

The Executive Committee does not propose on its own initiative to summon a Special Council, but it makes the following proposals to the Branches for Election Work in accordance with the policy put forward at various Council Meetings and it reminds the Branches that it is in their power themselves to ask the Executive to summon a Special Council, if they prefer this course. For this purpose the request must be made by one-tenth (i.e. five branches) of the total number (i.e. 50 Branches). (See Rule VIII (d)).

Yours truly,

*H. M. Swainson*

Chairman.

Women's International League Executive  
Committee, 14, Bedford Row, W.C. 1.

SUGGESTED ELECTION POLICY FOR DECEMBER, 1918.

ADOPTION.

1. The W.I.L. shall endeavour to secure the adoption of a Candidate who will press for the speedy conclusion of peace on the lines of President Wilson's five points ~~7~~
2. The W.I.L. shall endeavour to secure the adoption of women candidates, taking into consideration the qualities of other possible men candidates and the probabilities of success of a woman.

ELECTION.

1. The W.I.L. shall support the Candidate who, taking into consideration public record and likelihood of success, will best promote the objects of the W.I.L. as set forth in the accompanying schedules.
2. No Candidate shall be supported unless he or she satisfies the W.I.L. that he or she intends to promote Democracy and Internationalism.
3. Especial efforts shall be made to organise the women voters.
4. Where no candidate can be supported by the W.I.L. efforts should be made to organise questions and deputations to the Candidates, so as to bring them nearer to the desired policy.



SCHEDULES.

I. MINIMUM (without which no Candidate can be supported).

Foreign and Imperial.

1. Democratic Control of Foreign Policy, including:-
  - (i) Session of Parliament throughout Peace Negotiations and the receiving of regular and full reports of them.
  - (ii) Public ratification by Parliament of all treaties and agreements.
2. Establishment of a League of Peoples with provision for universal disarmament, and for the immediate abolition of conscription, both civil and military.
3. Cessation of the militarising of education.
4. Open door in commerce and industry.
5. Self-determination of peoples including those within the British Empire.

Domestic.

1. The emancipation of women and the protection of their interests.
2. Freedom of speech and publication and the abolition of penalties on opinion.
3. Immediate amnesty for all political prisoners.
4. A greater share in the control and product of labour by the workers.

II MAXIMUM (which Candidates should be urged to support).

Foreign and Imperial.

That the Government should give facilities for popular democratic Conferences to sit concurrently with the Peace Congress.

Domestic.

1. An expansion of the phrase "the emancipation of women and the protection of their interests" to include:-
  - (a) their full admission to the Parliamentary Franchise;
  - (b) the admission to national and international councils;
  - (c) the establishment of their economic independence and legal freedom;
  - (d) the recognition of the equal moral standard and its bearing on the problems of prostitution and illegitimacy;
  - (e) reform of laws relating to marriage, divorce and custody of children;
  - (f) the endowment of motherhood.
2. Provision of adequate Housing.
3. Reform of penal laws and institutions.

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∞ The five points are as follows:-



- First, the impartial justice meted out must involve no discrimination between those to whom we wish to be just and those to whom we do not wish to be just. It must be a justice that plays no favourites and knows no standards but the equal rights of the several peoples concerned.
- Second, no special or separate interest of any single nation or any group of nations can be made the basis of any part of the settlement which is not consistent with the common interest of all.
- Third, there can be no leagues or alliances or special covenants and understandings within the general and common family of the league of nations.
- Fourth, and more specifically, there can be no special selfish economic combinations within the league, and no employment of any form of economic boycott or exclusion except as the power of economic penalty by exclusion from the markets of the world may be vested in the league of nations itself as a means of discipline and control.
- Fifth, all international agreements and treaties of every kind must be made known in their entirety to the rest of the world.



Dec 1918

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Thursday, 19th December, 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present.

Mrs. Swanwick in the Chair, Miss Ashton, Miss Cooper Willis, Miss Courtney, Miss Ellis, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Hobson, Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Morland, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Unwin, Miss Ward, Mrs. Wedgwood and Miss Wilson Wilson,

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Ford, Lady Courtney.

Minutes.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Business arising.

Reported that "Common Sense" had published the resolutions sent to the Prime Minister and to Dr. Augspurg about present conditions, and that the Secretary of the American Embassy had informed us the letter to President Wilson had been sent to him.

N.C.C.L. A letter was read thanking the W.I.L. for their offer of co-operation in connection with a proposed large meeting in the New Year on the Restoration of Liberty.

N.U.W.S.S. A letter was read explaining the delay in the deputation being arranged to the Prime Minister on which Mrs. Ayrton Gould was serving as representative of the Consultative Committee, and asking for separate letters to be sent to the Prime Minister that he might reconsider his decision. Owing to a change in one of the objects of the deputation it was decided Mrs. Ayrton Gould should reply to the letter before any other step was taken.

Wire from Miss Addams. A wire from Miss Addams to Miss Macmillan was read as follows:-

"Send Vote to Jacobs." Cable me choice for Congress February in Paris for (or) Feb. in Hague, or postpone to May. Letter follows. Jane Addams."

Decided in view of request of Labour Party for International Congress in January, probably in Switzerland, to wire to Dr. Jacobs recommending Switzerland, explaining in the letter to follow the wire, and adding that we cannot press for Passports until we have heard details.

Nominations for Congress. Decided that as Miss Cooper Willis had now taken Miss Marshall's place as a delegate ex officio, Miss Marshall should be put in as a delegate. Decided Mrs. Olive Schreiner's nomination should stand; Mrs. Creighton and Mrs. Garrett Jones were withdrawn and voting taken for the four delegates remaining on the following nominations:- Miss P. Turberville, Mrs. Briggs, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Henry Lloyd Wilson,

Mrs. Huth Jackson, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. C. Roden Buxton and Mrs. Wedgwood, the last four being elected. Election of Alternates referred to next Executive.

Report of Meeting at Lord Parmoor's.

Miss Cooper Willis and Miss Ellis reported on a meeting held at Lord Parmoor's which had formed a Committee calling itself "The Wilson Welcome Committee." (Minutes appended).



Reported that a meeting had been decided <sup>on</sup> to be held on January 2nd at 8 p.m. in the Central Hall, that Mr. Heath, Lord Beauchamp and Professor Gilbert Murray were being approached to ~~act~~ on the Committee and that speakers in view were Lord Parmoor, Viscount Grey, Lord Hugh Cecil, Dr. Clifford, Mr. Brailsford and Jerome K. Jerome, and possible speakers: The Bishop of Peterborough, Miss Royden and Mrs. Despard. Reported that an address very influentially signed was to be sent or presented by deputation. Reported that the Labour Party were contemplating a demonstration in the Albert Hall and simultaneous meetings in other large halls; while the Herald Group might arrange a Hyde Park International Demonstration. The question of a women's meeting was discussed, but it was finally decided to try to arrange a deputation and to hold a big meeting in the Central Hall on the 29th or 30th, if possible, to report the result. Titled ~~decided~~ on for meeting was "International Construction" Miss Ellis, as Secretary of the Lord Parmoor Committee was asked to confirm a previous offer of W.I.L. assistance for the meeting on 2nd January, but to urge that Mrs. Swanwick should be one of the speakers.

Reports of  
Sub-Committee

Organisation and Finance. Recommended to Executive that the organisation of six lectures by Mr. Homer Lane should be undertaken in the Spring. Agreed. Details left to Organisation Committee.

Debate on Capital Levy. Recommended to Executive that Mr. Pethick Lawrence be asked if he would kindly arrange with Bernard Shaw, if possible, to hold a debate with him in the Central Hall in the second or third week in January. Agreed. Decided that the date, if possible, should be either the 22nd or 23rd January, and that the meeting should be used to advertise the "Wilson Meeting" in the following week.

Reported that it has been decided to make arrangements for an exchange of literature between the W.I.L. and all national branches; that it had been decided to send the Herald Petition for the release of Political Prisoners to all our local Secretaries; that the question of starting a series of lantern slides on international subjects should be considered and that our local Secretaries should be recommended to get into touch, where possible, with the Mothers' Union, with a view to getting hold of the Mothers. Referred to Executive the consideration of the formation of a Press Department as a result of a letter of application from Miss Jessie Brodie.

Miss Ward stated that probably in a short time she might be able to give some attention and help in the matter at the Office. Decided that this offer should be gratefully accepted.

The statement of accounts for November was read, and showed that the income for the month had been £304. 8. 2., the expenditure £170. 10. 8d, and the balance at November 30th £248. 3. 3. Reported the Treasurer's special appeal had brought in £378. 6. 6d. from the time of the Annual Council Meeting until the present date. Payment of printers' accounts of £46. 11. 0d for the 40 D leaflets issued by I.W.S.P.U. and £56. 0. 6d for general printing was sanctioned. This brought the balance at present in the bank down to £140, including the Election Fund.



Reported £107. 19. 0d had been given for the special election fund. Agreed that this should be divided between the election funds of Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, in the proportion to be agreed on, having regard to the necessities of the respective cases, the balance being about £67.

Reported that Mrs. Fells was in sympathy with our objects and might be willing to help our funds. Mrs. Ayrton Gould undertook to see how she could be approached.

Literature and Education Committee. The Educational Bibliography was further discussed, and an agreement was reached on minor points on which the Committee had differed from Miss Power. The outline of her preface and title page were agreed to, with a small modification in the latter

Agreed to recommend to branches the N.P.C. pamphlet "The Wilson Peace Terms," and the N.C.C.L. leaflet "Army Discipline in Schools."

Political Situation.

Mrs. Swanwick drew attention to a <sup>annual</sup> report <sup>of</sup> ~~revealing~~ company ~~promoting~~ in Siberia which had appeared in the Manchester Guardian and which throws unintentional light on our intervention in Russia.

Mrs. Wedgwood gave some information on the foreign situation emphasising especially the evil of the employment of black troops by the French in the occupation of Germany. Mrs. Ayrton Gould reported on the bad methods for the demobilising of women war workers and the refusal of the Government to make plans for them.

German Women and the Vote. Reported granting of the vote to all adults in Germany for the Constituent National Assembly. Decided that owing to the difficulties of the situation it was wiser not to send any message of congratulation to German women.

H. M. Swanwick



Meeting at Lord Parmoor's, dated 11th December, 1918.

Present. Lord Parmoor, Mr. Elliot Thompson, Mr. Carl Heath, Miss Ellis, Mrs. C.R. Buxton, Mr. Gooch, Dr. Hodgkin, Dr. Barnes (Master of the Temple), Miss Ward.

Lady Courtney was not well enough to come.

The meeting was called to discuss what could be done:-

- (a) re famine in Germany;
- (b) re supporting Wilson.

(a) Miss Ward read notes of a conversation with Mr. Hoover on Sunday, 3rd December, at Lady Courtney's on both of these questions. Mr. Hoover said that food conditions in Germany and, of course, in Austria, were serious. See ~~Miss Ward's~~ *Lady Courtney's* notes.

Mrs. Buxton then spoke. She had a mass of newspaper evidence which had been kept almost entirely out of the British Press re famine in Germany. She thought the situation most grave. She also saw with concern that Mr. Hoover, who had spoken quite openly in America re the necessity of releasing the blockade, had obviously changed his tone since arriving here.

It was decided to form a small Committee from those present. Lord Parmoor, Lady Courtney, Mrs. Buxton, Miss I. Cooper Willis, Dr. Barnes, Miss Ward, Miss Ellis (Sec.) to (a) approach Lord Milner, Lord Robert Cecil and others on the subject; (b) get publicity, if possible, for a statement, or draft letter signed by as many influential people as possible, in press; suggested that Labour Party might be asked to put statement in column of Daily Mail.

#### Support of Wilson.

Reported that Mr. Hoover had said that Wilson meant business - that he was prepared to withdraw American credit and materials if his terms were not accepted by Allies. Decided to form small Committee to arrange a deputation to Wilson on his arrival in England, assuring him of support, and to arrange for a meeting of Welcome at Central Hall. *The above committee appointed.*



I was asked to be on this Committee and said that I thought the W.I.L. would willingly help in organising the meeting, and that I would bring the matter up before my Executive.

I.C.W.