

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

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, January 12th, 1949 at Friends International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1. at 11 a.m.

Present: Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Goring, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Nuttall, Lady Parmoor, Mrs. Schlossmann, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. de Swiet, Mrs. Twiston Davies. *Mrs. Anderson.*

Apologies for absence were received from:- Miss Mosa Anderson, Miss Camfield, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Graham White, Lady Mayer and Lady Unwin.

1414. The Minutes of the last Executive were confirmed and signed.

1415. ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

1406. Sub Committee on the Repatriation of Polish Children. Mrs. Ineson reported that Miss Mosa Anderson had promised to investigate the problem of kidnapped Polish children while in Germany. The American Section had written saying they had passed the problem over to their policy committee.

1406. Bring and Buy Sale. It was reported that the total receipts amounted to £51. 15. 6. It was suggested that there might be a change next year in the method of raising this sum - possibly by holding small gatherings in members' homes.

1416. CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter from the Ministry of Health was read stating that they had decided to reinstate the statutory obligation to maintain complete confidence in the treatment of V.D.

It was agreed to write the following letters:-

1. To Lady Unwin - a letter of sympathy in her illness.
2. To Sir John Boyd Orr - congratulations on his new title bestowed in the New Year's Honours List.
3. To Dr. Edith Summerskill - congratulations on being made a Privy Councillor.

1417. CONFERENCE ON REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS. Mrs. Ineson reported on the arrangements that had been made for the Conference on March 5, and asked the secretaries of Branches to let Headquarters know as soon as possible the names of delegates to whom we had promised hospitality, and how many members required tickets, as the number of seats is limited.

The final agenda would be sent out shortly to Headquarters members and to other organisations, as well as to Branches.

The Executive asked Mrs. Ineson to report on her visit to the Camps at the next Executive Meeting.

1418. ANNUAL COUNCIL. It was suggested at an Officers' meeting that the title of the Council this year should be "Human Rights" and that under this heading we should have three lectures on:-

1. Legal aspects of the Charter of Human Rights.
2. The right to survive in face of atomic and bacteriological warfare.
3. The question of food and population.

It was hoped that something would come out of the Annual Council in a constructive form to send to our Congress.

It was agreed to elect an Agenda Committee composed of Officers and co-opted members.

Annual Report. It was agreed that the report should be similar to that of last year, and that Miss Horscroft should be asked to help in compiling it.

1419. WOMEN'S PEACE MOVEMENT. The Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Twiston Davies presented the report and said that all the interest was now centred on the meeting at Central Hall, Westminster on February 10. Members were asked to report back to their Branches as soon as possible, and to urge them to take blocks of 1/- seats, to arrange for parties to come up by coach and to get in touch with the secretaries of other organisations who are members of the W.P.M.

Letters from two of the national sections were read (Vancouver and Norway) showing interest in this new activity which the W.I.L. had initiated, and saying they hoped to start similar movements in their respective countries.

Mrs. Cusden spoke of the excellent work that had already been done in Reading on behalf of the W.P.M. and hope was expressed that other Branches would follow this very good example. It was suggested that the Women's Cooperative Guilds should be contacted wherever possible.

1420. NEWS SHEET. Miss Haughton reported on the interest that had been shown in "Calling all Women" by our American Section, and much appreciation was expressed by the Chairman for her very able editorship.

1421. REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

No Conscription Council. Mrs. Nuttall reported that the N.C.C. advised holding regional conferences as now that the bill to extend the period of conscription had gone through Parliament the most important thing was to keep the matter in the forefront of people's minds. It was reported that unfortunately the Secretary Charles Cole, was leaving this country for New Zealand.

Women's Council on Indian Affairs. Miss Dickinson told the Executive of the very interesting address given by Mrs. Lakshmi Menon on her return from the United Nations Assembly, and great admiration was expressed for the way in which Indian women were playing their part in world affairs.

A small group of the W.I.L. met Mrs. Pandit when she was in London. Mrs. Wood said that the impression made on her was that this woman was bringing into politics something tremendous in the way of moral strength and high ethical ideals. We would remember her specially in our thoughts as she seeks in very difficult circumstances to bridge the East and West.

During the lunch hour the Executive gave a garland of greetings to Miss Agatha Harrison prior to her departure to India to attend the All India Women's Conference. Everyone expressed their appreciation of her work for the W.I.L. and wished her Bon Voyage.

1422. INDIA AND PAKISTAN. Miss Harrison said that a most interesting Indian woman, Mrs. Nehru was going with her husband to Sweden to open up the Indian Legation there. She was eager to meet Swedish women, and Miss Harrison asked that a letter be sent at once to our Swedish Section asking them to contact Mrs. Nehru.

A brief survey was given of the work of the Liaison Group, on which Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Lankester and Miss Harrison serve. The W.I.L. has always taken a major responsibility in this Group, as Miss Dickinson edits the BULLETIN of Indian women's news (the only material of this kind available), and Mrs. Lankester acts as Liaison Officer. The Group was facing a deficit of £8 on the Bulletin, and Miss Harrison asked that the balance of the India Fund be given to help towards this deficit. This was agreed.

Miss Harrison spoke of her coming visit to India. She said she was going on the invitation of Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, India's Minister of Health. Her plans were fluid. She would be attending as a delegate from here, the All India Women's Conference that is to be held in Gwalior State. While there she hoped to go into Pakistan and meet friends. She would also be associated with the plans for the coming World Pacifist Conference that is to be held in India in December, 1949. Of great significance was the fact that she would arrive in Delhi when the conference on Indonesia called by Mr. Nehru would be taking place. She said she would try to send back something about this Conference for the News Sheet. Miss Harrison said she was looking forward with great pleasure to this visit, - so different from the five previous ones she had paid, that had been in the midst of acute Indo-British political tension. She expected to be back about the middle of May.

1423. UNITED NATIONS.

Indonesia. Mrs. Ballinger reported that she had sent a letter to the Government deploring their feeble action in dealing with the Indonesian problem. Discussion followed on the work of the United Nations in bringing into prominence the new technique of peace by mediation. It was decided to send a letter to the Foreign Secretary suggesting that this country should play an important part in urging mediation, especially in view of its experience on similar lines in India. It was also decided that we should contact our Dutch members and any personal friends we have in Holland to see how they felt about the question.

Genocide. In the absence of Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Ineson reported that since the last Executive two important events had taken place in the United Nations General Assembly in Paris.

- (1) Convention on Genocide was passed unanimously.
- (2) Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In connection with the above, a letter of congratulation had been sent to Mrs. Roosevelt.

As so little publicity had been given to the adoption of the Convention on Genocide, it was agreed to send a sample letter to the Branches asking them to urge its publication in the local press, and to send a similar letter to the National Press. It was also agreed to send the following letter to His Majesty's Government:-

"The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (British Section) passed the following resolution at their Executive Committee last Wednesday:

This Executive Committee of the Women's International League having noted with satisfaction the support given by Britain to the Convention on Genocide at the meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 9th, 1948, urges His Majesty's Government to follow up this support by prompt ratification of the Covenant."

Mention was made of Lewis Mumford's latest pamphlet "Atomic War - the way out", which Mrs. Castle felt had a particular relevance to the tension between East and West, especially for America. It was decided to ask our American Section about this publicity.

1424. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. A few members of the Executive were able to spend a profitable hour or two with Marie Lous Mohr when she had one or two days in London on her return from a lecture tour in America. The possible postponement of the Congress was discussed. It had since, however, been finally decided to adhere to the original date of the Congress, and to hold it at Copenhagen in August 1949.

Greetings had been received from Mesdames Jouve, and Drévet, and from the Lübeck and Hamburg groups.

1425. FINANCE. Mrs. Stapledon reported that our Bank balance having been augmented by £100 from the Cooperative Building Society, we had been able to pay off the two loans of £40. The year had closed with an excess of Expenditure over Income of £121. 6. 8. - this being a considerably lower figure than that with which the previous year's account had been closed.
1426. NEW MEMBERS. A list of eight new members who had joined the W.I.L. Headquarters between November and the end of December, was read.
1427. PUBLICATIONS. The two publications agreed upon at the Extended Executive in Manchester being now in print, individual members and Branch Secretaries were asked to apply to Headquarters for whatever quantity they required. "Pax - An invitation to Women" is being sold at 1/3d. per dozen, and "The Struggle for Peace" (a summary of Sir John Boyd Orr's speech given last July) at 3/6d. per dozen copies. Mrs. Sutherst hoped that the leaflet being printed by the Orpington Branch would soon be available.
1428. BRANCHES. The Executive heard with much pleasure that it is hoped shortly to form a new Branch at Bromley. Mrs. McGregor Wood kindly consented to go down and address the new branch.
1429. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING. Wednesday, February 2nd. at 11 a.m. at Friends' International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

*G R McGregor Wood*

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Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 2nd, 1949, at Friends' International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1. at 11 a.m.

Present: Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Garnett, Miss Geering, Mrs. Gill, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Malcomson, Miss McAra, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Lady Parmoor, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. de Swiet, Mrs. Warner.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Kemp and Mrs. McGregor Ross.

1430. The Minutes of the last Executive were confirmed and signed after correcting the omission of Mrs. Cusden's name under those Present.
1431. Miss Edith Hayler's resignation from the Executive Committee was accepted with much regret, and great appreciation was expressed for her long and devoted service.
1432. FUTURE EVENTS.

Conference on the Problem of Refugees and Displaced Persons.  
The final arrangements for the Conference on March 5th were reported and discussed. It was suggested that we obtained a copy of the Analysis of Displaced Persons got out by the Friends' Service Council, with permission to reproduce it. It was reported that the Agenda had been sent out to Branches, Vice-Presidents, Executive and Headquarter members and to a large list of organisations.

Annual Council, 1949. A short report was given of the programme arranged for the Annual Council. It was agreed that the Manager at "The Hayes" should be asked if there would be a sufficient number of rooms to accommodate the husbands of some of the members. Members were reminded that the preliminary agenda, together with copies of resolutions would be sent out shortly for discussion and amendment by Branches.

Women's Peace Movement, February 10th Meeting. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported on the final arrangements for the Mass Meeting on February 10th. She said that it had been suggested that a resolution should be moved, and that afterwards groups of women should take copies of the resolution over to the House of Commons. It was hoped that Mr. Bevin would receive a deputation of four members of the W.P.M. one day before the meeting.

With reference to the growth of the movement throughout the country, news had been received that in one or two towns groups had been set up. The Chairman of W.P.M. reported that a conference had been held in Reading consisting of representatives from approximately 15 Women's organisations, at which Sybil Morrison and ~~Mrs~~ Leyton Richards were the speakers. Following on this, a group had been set up, and a stand in the Market Place secured where literature is displayed and where a simple form of petition may be signed.

A very high tribute was paid to Mrs. Twiston Davies for her indefatigable work as Honorary Secretary.

Extended Executive in Autumn. Members were asked to consider carefully the possibility of holding a Conference during the Extended Executive, which it was suggested might take place in London.

An idea was put forward that the Conference might cover the all important subject of food, population and migration.

1433. ANNUAL REPORT, 1948-1949. Mrs. Ineson presented various articles for the Annual Report. They were discussed and amended and where possible cut down, as this year much more material had been received than last year. It was agreed that the resolutions of the Annual Council, 1948, should be printed in full. Under the subject of Conscription our attention was drawn to a letter which had appeared in "The Times" from the Chairman of the Hampshire Quarter Sessions, deploring the effect of conscription on the age group which had just been through its military training, and was now appearing before the Court.
1434. Lady Parmoor opened a discussion on the subject of the proposed Truman-Stalin meeting, and deplored the manner in which the newspapers were reporting it. It was suggested that we should try to get a letter into "The Times" or in some other way state our views on the possibility of easing the tension between East and West. Not all were agreed that the proposed meeting was a genuine opening for negotiations, and it was finally decided to leave any possible action to the discretion of the Officers.
1435. REPORT OF MRS. INESON'S VISITS TO THE EUROPEAN VOLUNTEER WORKERS CAMPS. Mrs. Ineson gave a most interesting report on her visits to the European Volunteer Workers' Camps in England, and described the problems involved in this Government scheme. These she said would be further expounded at the Conference on March 5th, to which she hoped her report had been a useful introduction.
1436. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on the arrangements for the coming Congress, and a short discussion followed on the subjects and slogans which had been proposed. She hoped the British Section would urge the Congress to emphasize the study of the Declaration of Human Rights by the various Sections, to ascertain how far their own countries came into line with it. Another suggestion advocated the study of the vital question of food, soil and population as a means for getting at the root cause of war.
1437. FINANCE. The Hon. Treasurer presented the year's balance sheet, giving a brief analysis of Income and Expenditure.
1438. BRANCH REPORTS. Nottingham. The Executive were very glad to hear that this Branch had decided to continue its activities in spite of the fact that many of its members had been transferred to the new Long Eaton Branch. The Executive congratulated Nottingham on having been instrumental in forming this new Branch.
- North London. A letter from the Secretary of this Branch was read and the decision to disband was greatly regretted. It was decided that an Executive member should approach those involved, on the question of their continued membership and possible re-starting of a group or Branch.
- Bromley. Great encouragement was felt over the report that Bromley was to have its first meeting on February 22nd. Fifty circulars were to be sent out to people interested in the formation of this new Branch, and it was anticipated that the Bromley membership would outstrip that of Orpington.
1439. NEWS SHEETS. Miss Haughton gave an encouraging report of the interest shown in the "News Sheet", and spoke of the excellent articles which would be appearing in the February issue.

1440. RESIGNATION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY. Miss Moriggia's resignation was received with great regret, and much appreciation of her work was expressed by many members of the Executive. It was agreed to write her a very warm letter wishing her much happiness in any work she may undertake in the near future.

1441. Date and Place of next meeting, Friday, March 4th, at Friends' International Centre, at 2 p.m.

G R H Ingham Wood.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday, March 4th., 1949, at Friend's International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1. at 11 a.m.

Present: Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Geering, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Malcomson, Miss McAra, Lady Mayer, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Schlossmann, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. de Swiet, Mrs. Twiston Davies.

Mrs. Duncan Harris paid a tribute to the late Lady Unwin, one of the oldest Vice Presidents of the League. She said that the League had lost one of its original members, and expressed gratitude for her balanced and wise judgments and her serenity of spirit. Miss Haughton also spoke of her great kindness and her sympathy. It was decided that a letter of sympathy should be sent to Mrs. Edward Unwin.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Miss Camfield, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Cusden, Mrs. Kemp, Miss Stansfield, Mrs. Sutherst.

1441. The Minutes of the last Executive were confirmed and signed after the following correction: substitute Mrs. for Lady Leyton Richards in minute 1432, paragraph four.

1442. ANNUAL COUNCIL. Resolutions. Permission was asked to alter the Croydon resolution. Agreed.

Amendments to resolutions were read and discussed.

Arrangements for the Council were reported by Miss McLaren. At an Officer's meeting it had been decided to ask Mrs. Gill to contribute some violin solos in the Sunday evening Session when it was hoped to have one hour of music and poetry reading. With regard to nominations, it was stressed that this year the Executive is to consist of 16 representatives of Branches and only 8 Head Quarter members.

1443. NEWS SHEET. Miss Haughton explained that the next News Sheet would be published rather later than usual owing to pressure of work at the printers. Members were asked to bear in mind the closing date for receipt of articles - namely the 15th. of each month.

1444. A warm welcome was extended to Frau Kleyer of Frankfurt, who consented to give a short talk a little later on.

1445. REPORTS OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS. National Peace Council. A brief report was given by Mrs. Duncan Harris, and it was agreed to contribute the increased affiliation fee of £2.2.0. this year.

British Commonwealth League. Mrs. de Swiet sent in a resolution with regard to human rights. Two interesting meetings had been held, one on equal pay for women, and the other on how to become an L.C.C. Councillor. Mrs. de Swiet was elected as a delegate for the Conference to be held in May.

Women's Peace Movement. Mrs. Twiston Davies gave a report of the mass meeting held at the Central Hall on February 10th. Many local and weekly papers had reported the meeting, but there had been no report in the big dailies. Interest was aroused in the W.P.M. from all over England. Thirtyfive queries on various points were answered by post. It had

been decided at a recent meeting that another mass meeting should be held in the summer - probably in Trafalgar Square. It was hoped that Branches would continue to arouse interest in their localities and to ask the Hon. Secretary for speakers.

A deputation of five members of the Council had an interview with Mr. Bevin. Members' attention was drawn to a report of this interview which could be read after the meeting, and Mr. Bevin himself would be sending a precis of the talk to the Committee later. Mrs. Wood said that she felt the deputation had been able to get across to Mr. Bevin that the W.P.M. was neither a Communist body nor "fellow travellers", and did not represent any one political party, but that they were a body of women who were horrified at the thought of another war and simply would not be able to face one. Mrs. Cusden read the resolution passed at the mass meeting, and Mrs. Wood concluded with a few well chosen words on the refugee question.

Following on the report Mrs. Wood read part of a letter from Lady Mayer in which she expressed the hope that we should return to political work, especially lobbying of M.P.s.

Suggestions were made that we should write to Mr. Bevin with various questions.

#### Any Other Reports.

Lady Mayer's Report of her visit to U.S.A. Lady Mayer gave us a very interesting report of the work undertaken by "Women United" - an organisation in New York which publicizes the United Nations. She suggested that a similar work might be undertaken in England. In the discussion which followed it was suggested that U.N.A. in London should be informed of this idea, but another member pointed out that the difficulty was lack of funds.

#### Report of Organisation Committee. International Congress.

It was proposed that a uniform sum should be fixed to cover ~~to cover~~ <sup>forward</sup> delegates expenses. Those delegates able to cover all expenses themselves would be at liberty to refund this sum as a donation if they so desired. Branches were reminded to send in nominations to the Executive who would then select ten delegates and ten alternates from the names sent in. It was hoped that Branches would arouse interest in the Congress locally, and that each Branch would feel its responsibility in the matter, and contribute to the general pool, whether a delegate was being sent or not.

Annual Council. Agreed to form a committee to do the reporting. It was also agreed that in future brief minutes be taken at each Annual Council, to be read at the opening of the next Council. These minutes should cover elections of officers.

Extended Executive. Agreed to hold an Extended Executive meeting on October 4th. and 5th. It was proposed to have two sessions on the Tuesday - an informal one in the afternoon to talk over the Congress amongst members only; and a semi public meeting in the evening, at which formal reports of the Congress should be read. The Executive would then be held as usual on the Wednesday from 11.0 - 4.0 p.m. The Committee proposed the meetings should be held in London.

London Group. Mrs. Dayan undertook to ask Mrs. Thiman if she would help her in forming a London Group to undertake the arranging of meetings and conferences.

1446. FINANCE. The Treasurer reported on the state of our funds, and said it would be very helpful if Branches could send in an instalment of the quotas.

It was agreed to authorize the General Secretary to sign all cheques, and to send this Minute to the Bank.

1447. UNITED NATIONS. Mrs. Castle decided there was nothing urgent to report, as the matter was coming up at the Annual Council. She mentioned two releases published at the same time as the Declaration on Human Rights which were very valuable documents.

1448. REPORT FROM FRANKFURT BRANCH. Mrs. McGregor Wood then welcomed Frau Kleyer of Frankfurt who gave an enlightening description of conditions in Germany and of the difficulty in starting up groups of the W.I.L.P.F. She spoke of the encouragement it was to feel that the British Section was behind them, and that it would now be easier to go back and work in her group. There were 50 members in the Frankfurt group. She spoke of the importance of educating the women of Germany to take an interest in political affairs, the preponderance of women over men enabling them to sway events if they exercised their rights.

A vote of thanks was passed by Mrs. Ballinger who sent good wishes to their Branch.

1449. CORRESPONDENCE. Letter from Edinburgh Branch. A letter asking for a ruling from the Executive re registering with a Branch of U.N.A. was read. It was agreed to write and point out that Branches do not affiliate or register with U.N.A., but are encouraged to co-operate when possible.

*with the World  
Government  
Campaign*

Letter from Green Cross. A letter asking us to co-operate with the work of the Green Cross was read, but it was decided that we could not undertake this just now.

1450. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS.

Indonesia. Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested that we should try to meet Miss Myrtle Wright who was at Cambridge and who had made a study of this question. It was agreed to write and fix an appointment.

Norwegian Document. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported there had been an interesting account of the reaction of our Norwegian Section to the discussion that Norway had been having on the Atlantic Pact. They put in a strong plea that Norway had no right to undertake military commitments unless the matter had been before the people. They were following the matter closely and said they would be grateful if the American and British sections would also study the problem. This document raised the whole question of the attitude of the W.I.L. to what is taking place in the way of lining up the world into military blocks. It was agreed that a letter should be written to Mr. Bevin saying that we viewed with considerable misgiving and dismay the military preparations that are being made by the Western Powers in conjunction with each other, thereby widening the gap between East and West. It was agreed to send a copy of this letter to our Norwegian Section.

Telegram to Truman and Stalin. At the time of the announcement of Mr. Stalin's willingness to meet Mr. Truman which was conveyed through Press Representatives, our International Chairman, together with Gertrude Baer, sent telegrams to the United States State Department, to the Government of the U.S.S.R., the British Foreign Office and the French Foreign Office, as follows:-

"Womens International League for Peace and Freedom welcomes with profound satisfaction peace initiative heads United States Soviet Governments. Sincerely hope long years agreement guaranteeing lasting just peace."

Mrs. Duncan Harris mentioned that she had reminded the Geneva Office that it was unusual to approach the Government of a Country where there is a Section, without consulting the Section, although in this case the communication had been very welcome.

1451. CONFERENCE ON THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES AND EUROPEAN VOLUNTEER WORKERS. Mrs. Ineson reported on the numbers of tickets sold so far for the Conference - 33 applications from other organisations and 38 from our Branches. She said that the Conference had been called at a very opportune moment because a very important Conference had taken place at Hamburg to deal with the whole Refugee question, and The Rev. Henry Carter would probably tell us about it at the Conference. The Refugee problem was becoming a political one, and unless some measures were taken to care more adequately for these homeless people, the situation would cause grave trouble in Europe. Mrs. Ineson hoped therefore that members of the W.I.L. would show their interest in this question. The Rev. Percy Ineson had already contacted Frau Hoppstock-Huth in Hamburg.

1452. BRANCH REPORTS. Reports were read from the following Branches: Cambridge, Orpington, Reading, Manchester, Birmingham and Brighton.

*i (Mrs Ineson Wood)*

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104 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W. C. 1.

Tel. Chan. 7233.

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Present: Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Camfield, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Geering, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Houghton, Mrs. Ineson, Miss McAra, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Misar, Mrs. Noodhan, Mrs. Nuttall, Lady Parmoor, Mrs. Schlossmann, Mrs. Scholefield Allen, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. de Swiet, Mrs. Twiston Davies.

Apologies for absence were read from:- Mrs. Ashworth, Miss Vera Brittain, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Graham White, Mrs. Kemp, Lady Mayer and Mrs. Sussans.

1453. The Minutes of the last Executive Committee were confirmed and signed after the following corrections had been made:- Minute 1445 (Report of Organisation Committee) the second line should read "It was proposed that a uniform sum should be fixed towards delegates expenses": and in Minute 1449 the second line should read "...registering as a Branch with the World Government Campaign."

1454. THE NEW EXECUTIVE

The Chairman warmly welcomed the two newly appointed members of the Executive who were present, namely Mrs. Scholefield Allen and Mrs. Twiston Davies, and regretted the absence of the three other new members, Mrs. Ashworth, Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Warner. Mrs. Ineson proposed that this Committee endorse the re-appointment of Mrs. McGregor Wood as Chairman, made at the Executive held at Swanwick after the Annual Council. This was unanimously agreed. She then expressed appreciation of the work of the Chairman, and spoke with gratitude of the help that she, as Hon. Secretary had received from Mrs. Gregor Wood in carrying on her work during her enforced absences from London.

1456. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN.

The three Vice Chairmen who served last year were unanimously re-elected - Miss Agatha Harrison, Mrs. Cusden and Mrs. de Swiet.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

The resignation of Miss Grace Colman, M.P. was accepted with great regret.

Mrs. OLGA MISAR.

It was decided that Mrs. Olga Misar, formerly Vice Chairman of the Austrian Section of the W.I.L.P.F., not being able to accept the office of Vice President, should be invited to attend the Executive.

It was agreed to enlarge the list of Vice Presidents as follows:-

- Miss Harriet Cohen,  
Proposer: Mrs. A.Z. Stapledon  
Secunder: Miss Maud Dickinson
- Mrs. Rackham,  
Proposer: Mrs. Schlossmann  
Secunder: Mrs. Cusden
- Rev. Constance Colman, M.A., B.D.  
Proposer: Mrs. McGregor Wood  
Secunder: Mrs. Ineson.

1457. EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONS

Mrs. Ineson gave details of a scheme considered at the Officers' Meeting that future Executives should divide into three commissions, which would meet separately for part of the time on Executive days, to discuss important questions. It was felt that this would stimulate the interest of Executive members and distribute the responsibility for policy making and action on vital matters. This was fully discussed especially from the angle of fitting this new scheme into the Agenda. It was decided - (a) that the scheme should be given a trial, (b) that the time of the Executive in future should be from 10.0 a.m. to 5.0 p.m. with the addition of a short break for tea at 4.0., and (c) that the commissions should meet at the beginning of the Executive and later give reports of their findings. It was agreed to set up:

1. Commission on the colour question - composed of: Mrs. Ashworth, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Canfield, Mrs. Geering, Mrs. Malcolmson, Mrs. de Swiet.

2. Commission on United Nations - composed of: Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Scholefield Allen, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. Warner.

3. Commission on Current Affairs. - composed of: Mrs. Cusden, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill, Miss Haughton, Miss McAra, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Twiston Davies.

1458

W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. International Congress.

The President read the preliminary agenda. It was then moved by Mrs. Duncan Harris, seconded by Mrs. Stapledon and passed unanimously that Mrs. Cusden and Mrs. McGregor Wood be appointed consultative members.

Financial Arrangements. The question of raising a fund towards the delegates' expenses was very fully discussed. It was agreed that the Treasurer should send out as wide an appeal as possible and that Branches should be encouraged to raise funds in whatever way they felt best, to meet this need. It was reported that several Branches had already made plans for doing this.

A letter signed by representatives of various German groups was then read by Mrs. Ineson which expressed their deepest gratitude for the moral support given them by the British Section, and their appreciation of the sacrifices made by members who had given up their rations when sending gift parcels. They hoped that as conditions were improving in Germany they would be able to prove themselves worthy of this British support.

RESOLUTIONS. A sub committee was elected to deal with all the resolutions sent in, and Mrs. de Swiet and Mrs. Misar kindly undertook to do the translations.

1459.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEES. - Finance Committee -

It was decided to have a separate committee under this heading and if possible to elect an Assistant to the Treasurer. Membership of this committee is in the hands of the Officers.

Organisation Committee. The members of this committee were re-elected as follows: Mrs. Dayan, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Percy, Mrs. Skinner, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. de Swiet. As Mrs. Percy had not been able to attend any of the meetings of this committee during the past year, it was decided to ask her if she wished her name to remain on the list. Mrs. Needham has also agreed to serve on the Committee.

London Gatherings. Mrs. Ineson proposed that there should be a secretary responsible for convening specific London gatherings, and a committee to make the arrangements. Mrs. Misar agreed to act as convener.

Publicity Committee. It was proposed by Mrs. Stapledon and seconded by Mrs. Malconsen that the present committee be re-elected as follows:- Miss Dickinson, Miss Hayer, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. de Swiet.

Officers are ex-officio members of all committees which have power to co-opt.

1460. REPORTS. Annual Council The full report of this will be appearing in the next News Sheet. The Manchester Branch suggested that a reception committee might be formed next year and it was agreed that this was a very good idea. Much appreciation was voiced of Miss Groot's services in this respect during the week-end. Mrs. Ineson reported that Westhill Training College, Selly Oak was unable to accommodate the Council next year, and it was agreed that a letter should be written to Mrs. Sussans asking her to find out if the Workers' Travel Association Ltd., at Folkestone would be equally suitable for a Council Meeting as for an Extended Executive.

Refugee Conference. Mrs. Ineson reported that Brigadier Greenslade had brought the Conference to the notice of the Foreign Office. The point emphasized by the Ministry of Labour representative had been taken up and a letter received stating that a question had been asked in Parliament and an answer definitely given that "we are a Country of resettlement and workers are brought over with the idea of permanency"

It was reported that both the Association of Women's Teachers and the British Women's Temperance Association had published excellent accounts of the conference in their journals. The N.P.C. had agreed to circulate the report which the W.I.L. had printed.

The Conference had been followed up by forming a group of 20 women, mainly of European nationalities. These women were very anxious to make contacts with English people and a further meeting was arranged at which 50 women of nine different nationalities were present. The gathering also included some Africans and Indians. This meeting was arranged by a joint committee composed of W.I.L. members and Europeans, and Mrs. Cusden addressed them on the subject of Women in Municipal Life. The meeting ended with the singing of delightful songs by a group of Estonians.

Officers' Meeting. Sudanese Women. Mrs. Wood reported that she had seen Lady Huddleston who hoped that the W.I.L. would be able to take further steps to interest a few suitable people in the subject of the Sudanese Women.

It was recommended that the Executive should discuss the question of World Truce. (see next paragraph)

Women's Peace Movement. Mrs. Triston Davies reported that the W.P.M. wished co-ordinating organisations to consider whether they agreed the following policy: (a) To work for World Peace, (b) To spread the idea that the Government should appoint a Minister of State for Peace. It was proposed by Mrs. Cusden and seconded by Mrs. de Swiet that our delegates should be given a free hand to vote in favour of this at the next W.P.M. Council.

Nine meetings had been held throughout the Country, and much interest aroused. In order to raise much needed funds, plans for a Garden Party to be held in the Summer and a concert at Guthrie House in the Autumn were under consideration. Work had been started on arrangements for a meeting in Trafalgar Square in July.

Two delegates had been sent to the World Peace Conference in Paris, and two other members of the Committee representing other organisations had also been present. It was therefore hoped to obtain a very good report of the Conference.

Reports of Other Organisations. National Peace Council. Lady Parnoor read from a report which had just been handed her from the N.P.C. part of a call to peace by a group of Christian Ministers attending the Paris Peace Congress. This proved to be of such interest, that it was decided to obtain several copies of this statement.

Status of Women Committee. Mrs. Nuttall reported that this Committee is drawing up a list of the inequalities suffered by women in this Country which will be sent to all the candidates before the next General Election. She had been asked to write on the question of parents having equal rights and responsibilities for the children of the marriage. It was agreed that she should contact Miss Billson and enlist her help over the legal aspect of this problem.

It was agreed that a letter of congratulation should be sent by Mrs. Cusden to the new women silks.

British Commonwealth League. Mrs. de Swiet was glad to report that Mrs. Leah Manning would be speaking at the coming Conference which was to be held in London. Both she and Mrs. Spiller had been working towards this end.

1461. NEWS SHEET. Miss Haughton reported that the next issue of the News Sheet would be a double number and explained that the publication of it was unfortunately delayed owing to pressure of work at the printer's due to the elections. Miss Haughton then read a letter of gratitude she had received from Lisa Lotte Nold for all the help she had been given while visiting England.

1462. FINANCE. The Hon. Treasurer reported that the January-April statement showed the balance to be on the right side to the extent of £31.12 lld. Most of the Headquarters subscriptions had now come in, but Branches were asked if they could very kindly send in their first instalments of quotas before they were involved in the raising of funds for the International Congress. Various money-raising plans were then put forward and fully discussed.

1463. BRANCHES The Hon. Secretary reported with much regret that the Peterborough Branch had been obliged to close down.

1464. MEMBERSHIP. Concern was expressed at the list of Headquarters Members who had resigned or whose membership had lapsed, and it was decided if possible to appoint a Membership Secretary to deal specifically with this problem.

1465. UNITED NATIONS. Italian Colonies.  
A letter was read from the Abyssinia (Ethiopia) Association giving their views on the former Italian Colonies. A discussion followed and it was agreed that Miss Dickinson as the W.I.L. ~~delegate~~ to the Association should be authorised to support the following points: (1) That Italy should not have any of her colonies returned to her and (2) that the inhabitants of the colonies should be called upon to state their views. It was decided that a letter covering these points should be sent immediately to the British Delegation to the General Assembly of the United Nations, *to the Foreign Secretary, at the Council table*

*representative here*

Genocide. The Executive agreed to continue to press for ratification of the Convention.

1466. FUTURE MEETINGS. Extended Executive. It was agreed that this be held in London and that steps be taken to book a room.

Summer School in Heidelberg. Notice of a Summer School to be held in Heidelberg from July 1 - 6 was read.

Swedish Summer School. Notice was read of an International Summer School to be held at Upplands-Vasby near Stockholm, July 15th.- August 15th.

Tea for Miss Agatha Harrison. Miss Dickinson kindly agreed to make the necessary arrangements for a tea party to be held after the next Executive on June 1, at 3-45 p.m. to welcome Miss Harrison back from her tour in India.

1467. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING. Wednesday, June 1st at TEN O'CLOCK A.M. at Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

*P.S. Curran.*

1949

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

Tel: CHA: 7233

June, 1949.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on  
Wednesday 1st June, 1949, at Friends' International  
Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C. 1.

Present: Mrs Cusden in the Chair,  
Miss Anderson, Mrs Ashworth, Miss Gamfield, Miss Dickinson,  
Mrs Evans, Mrs Goering, Mrs Gill, Mrs Duncan Harris, Miss  
Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs Ineson, Mrs Malcomson, Mrs  
McGregor Wood, Mrs Misar, Mrs Needham, Lady Parmoor, Mrs  
Schofield Allen, Mrs Schlossman, Mrs Stapledon, Mrs Sutherst,  
Mrs de Swiet, Mrs Twiston Davies, Mrs Warner, Miss Wright.  
Lady Mayer.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Kemp, and it was noted  
that Mrs Twiston Davies would not be able to be present during  
the early part of the Meeting.

1468. The Minutes of the last Executive Committee were confirmed  
and signed after the following corrections had been made:-  
Minute 1465 United Nations Italian Colonies - 4th line to  
read "Miss Dickinson as the W.I.L. representative",  
8th line - "at the Council table" to be added after the words  
"their views", last line of paragraph "and to the Foreign  
Secretary" to be added after the words "United Nations".

1469. Matters Arising:  
Vice Presidents. It was noted that the Rev. Constance M.  
Coltman, M.A., B.D., had consented to be a Vice President of  
the League, but that Mrs C.D. Rackham and Miss Harriet Cohen  
were unable to do this and had sent their regrets.  
Italian Colonies It was also noted that a copy of the letter  
which had been sent to the British Delegation to the General  
Assembly of the United Nations had also been sent to the  
Foreign Secretary and a formal acknowledgement had been re-  
ceived.

1470. Office Organisation and appointment of Secretary  
It was agreed to appoint Miss D.W. Mobbs as the Secretary and  
that the whole situation of the office organisation should be  
reviewed in September. Following upon a recommendation of  
Mrs Twiston Davies it was also agreed that the services of a  
part-time assistant be obtained as a temporary measure, and  
that the Officers of the League should arrange an interview if  
possible with the person recommended. It was further agreed  
that warm appreciation of Miss Maclaren's services as secre-  
tary should be recorded and also of the assistance which Miss  
Maclaren's sister had given. The Chairman and others expressed  
the hope of meeting Miss Maclaren at future meetings of the  
League.

1471. Reports on Commissions.  
Current Affairs: Officers appointed:- Chairman Mrs Cusden,  
Deputy Chairman - Mrs Gill, Convener and reporter - Mrs Evans,  
Recommendations:- Miss Wright to prepare a report on the  
Swedish Delegate's report of the Paris Peace Congress.  
Translation to be made of Mme Jouve's statement at the Congress  
and circulated to members of the Executive and branch secre-  
taries together with copies of the document entitled "A Call  
to Christians" which had been prepared by ministers of religion  
attending the Congress.  
The following resolution was passed by the Commission:-  
"That this Commission reports that they are confirmed in their  
belief that the Women's International League whilst maintaining  
its stand for Freedom should continue to seek occasions to co-  
operate with representatives of totalitarian countries as a

means of living amicably with them.

The Report was adopted and confirmed by the Executive.

Colour Question:

Appointment of officers of this commission was deferred until the next meeting. Arrangements to be made by Mrs de Swiet for letters to be sent to Mr. Tom Friberg, Rev. Sorenson and Sir Richard Acland congratulating them on their efforts in the House of Commons on the question of the colour bar, as reported in Hansard 6th May. The letter to be drafted by Mrs Malcolmson who had served as the chairman at the meeting of the Commission. The Report was adopted and confirmed by the Executive.

United Nations: The appointment of officers was deferred until the next meeting. It was proposed to send a letter drafted by Mrs Schofield Allen to the Rev. Sorensen, asking why it was that Britain had not signed the Convention on Genocide, and also to approach the United Nations Centre and get the official line on this question. Consideration is to be given to the problem of the relationship of the Women's International League with the United Nations in general. Suggestions regarding the matter which would arise at the Copenhagen Congress should be carefully noted and if possible the News Sheet should give a little more publicity to the United Nations Affairs. Mrs Sutherst is to arrange for all branches to receive a recommendation that Gertrude Baer's International Letters are read regularly at all branch meetings, and that steps be taken to ensure that every branch has an International member included among its own members. The Report was adopted and confirmed by the Executive. On the subject of the Commissions in general it was agreed that mainly the work of the Commissions should be undertaken by the members and that Gertrude Baer, W.I.L.P.F. International Liaison Officer should be informed of their establishment.

1472. W.I.L.P.F. Affairs:

It was agreed that Mrs Lund of the Norwegian Section who is visiting this country should be invited to address a meeting and Miss Wright should discuss the question of a suitable date with her.

It was also noted that Mrs McGregor Foss and Mrs Walser would be visiting London in the near future and it was agreed that meetings should be arranged at which they could give an address and meet members. The Secretary was asked to ascertain if Gertrude Baer would be visiting London. As a result of a letter received from Madame Jouve it was decided to take the following action in relation to the Report of Conference on the Problem of Refugees and Displaced Persons in Europe:- A short summary of the report to be prepared by Mrs Inesch for the use of the International Executive and a fuller summary for use of the Congress. Mrs McGregor Wood gave details of the visit which Mrs Stapledon and she were paying to Germany. Mrs Duncan Harris expressed the good wishes of the Executive and it was agreed that they be asked to convey the greetings of the British Section to the German Sections with the hope that the visit would strengthen the links already existing and contribute to the spirit of unity urgently needed at the Copenhagen Congress.

International Congress: The list of elected delegates and alternates was read out.  
 (Manchester) Mrs Needham, Mrs Hartley, Mrs Paine, Mrs Coppock,  
 (Long Eaton) Mrs Beard, (Cambridge) Mrs Schlossmann,  
 (Liverpool) Mrs Holmes, (Glasgow) Miss McAra, (Edinburgh) Dr. Marwick, Dr. Snodgrass, (Brighton) Mrs Peat, (Nottingham) Mrs Phillips, (North Wales) Mrs Silyn Roberts, (Birmingham) Miss Edna Stanley, (Folkestone) Mrs Sussams, (Childwall) Mrs Tiller, (Orpington) Mrs Sutherst.

Mrs Barber of Reading sent a letter resigning from her position as delegate on financial grounds. A letter was read from the Reading Branch expressing regret for this and criticising the

method employed in sending delegates to the Congress who have to bear the greater part of the expense. They felt that a lesser number of delegates should be sent and their fares and expenses covered. Discussion took place on this point and the Executive heartily agreed with the Reading Branch, but felt that it was too late to make any alterations this year. It is hoped that the whole matter will be looked into before the next Congress and a more democratic way of dealing with the delegation could be found.

The response to the Treasurer's appeal so far was reported to be £28.0.0. The Treasurer spoke about this and explained that if the appeal had been sent out earlier it would have overlapped with previous appeals.

Concerning accommodation the Secretary was asked to send copies of the letter outlining arrangements to visitors as well as delegates.

Several names were suggested and discussed with regard to speakers for the Congress on the specialised subjects of Education and the Colonies, including Margery Nicholson, Margery Perrin and Dr. Merwick. It was agreed that Mrs Duncan Harris should pursue the matter.

Mrs Needham presented some questions from the Manchester Branch and answers were given as follows:-

1. A delegate must always find an alternate to take her place if she is not present at any of the sessions.
2. A resolution on anti-Semitism could not be considered as suitable for an emergency resolution.
3. Delegates are mandated but an exception to the rule would be allowed where personal conviction affected a delegate's attitude to a question and abstention from voting was justified. On some matters an open vote is permissible.

Nominations for the International Executive were asked to be sent in by July 15th. It was pointed out that this was impossible and it was decided to send a letter to Geneva expressing the view that nominations and elections should be carried out at the Congress itself. Mrs Innes referred to the constitution on this issue where nominations could be accepted from the floor or handed in.

#### 1473. Reports:

International Group. Mrs Ineson reported that gatherings had been arranged as follows: 30th June, An Evening on India, Speaker Miss Agatha Harrison, Chairman Mrs A.M. Schringosh, 30th July, Country Dance Evening, 27th September, Evening arranged by the Polish Group, 29th November, details later. All events were to be held at Guthrie House. It was agreed that printed programmes of all the events should be obtained.

Women's Peace Movement Mrs Twiston Davies reported that meetings are being held in the Provinces and London and that a Garden Party is being held on the 30th July, and that it is still hoped to hold the Trafalgar Square meeting about the third week in August.

Liverpool: Mrs Stapledon stated that a Women's Peace Committee had been formed and activities were being planned.

Chairman's Tour in the Midlands: Mrs McGregor Wood reported upon visits to Branches and representatives at Leicester, Birmingham and Coventry. The Chairman announced that letters of appreciation of Mrs McGregor Wood's visits had been received.

1474. Finance Report: The Hon: Treasurer reported that the January - May statement showed a deficit of £7.9.3., and that this was due to a lowering of income during the last month from the Branches.

1475. News Sheet: Miss Haughton pointed out that the last issue had been a duplicate number covering May and June and it contained a full report of the Annual Council. Miss Haughton stated that she would like to receive more news from the Branches.

Devham

At this stage of the meeting the Chairman said that on behalf of the Officers she would like to extend a warm welcome to Miss Harrison, Mrs Innes and Miss Wright.

In replying Miss Wright gave an account of the disturbed atmosphere which prevails in Norway owing mainly to the signing of the Atlantic Pact and the burden of defence measures taken since. She expressed this by saying that Norway is defence minded at the moment.

1476. Future Meetings:

Extended Executive. It was announced that Guthrie House had been booked for this event and it was agreed to obtain 75 extra chairs as they would be required at the premises.

Committees:

It was reported that progress has only been made with regard to the London group of the Organisation Committee.

It was reported that Mrs Misar was unable to accept the position of Convenor and that Mrs Schofield Allen had consented to accept this position.

1477. Membership Secretary:

It was agreed that Mrs Sutherst should act as the Membership Secretary and discussion took place on ways and means of interesting the members.

1478. Any Other Business:

It was noted that a letter of appreciation and thanks had been sent to Mrs Tony Iverson for her kind gift of pork, and it was agreed that the Secretary should send a suitable reply to Mrs Hess of Chicago.

Discussion

took place on a point raised by Lady Mayer concerning the treatment of conscientious objectors in France and it was agreed that the Executive should bear the matter in mind and that it should be brought up again at the July meeting.

1479. Date & Place of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 6th July, 1949 at 10.0 a.m., at Friends' International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C. 1.

(Following the meeting the Tea Party and meeting for Miss Agatha Harrison took place as previously arranged.)

*G.R. Wood*  
*July 6th 49*

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE  
104 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W. C. 1.

JULY 1949.

CHANCERY 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 6th July, 1949 at Friends' International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Present: Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair.  
 Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickenson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Gill Mrs. Goring, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Misar, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Schlessmann, Mrs. Scholefield Allen, Mrs. de Swiet, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sussans, Mrs. Twiston Davies, Mrs. Warner, (Mrs. Peat, Visitor)

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Evans, Miss Agatha Harrison, Lady Pethick Lawrence, Miss McAra, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Suthorst,

1480. The Minutes of the last Executive Committee were confirmed and signed after a correction had been made to Minute 1472, in which it was noted that the name "Perrin" in Paragraph 5, should read "Perhan."

1481. Matters Arising

Minute 1470 Office Organisation It was agreed that the Committee should express its great appreciation of the help which Miss Alexander had given during the last few weeks in the office. A letter from Miss Moriggia, was read by Mrs. Ineson, expressing thanks for the gift which she had received on leaving the office.

1482. REPORTS ON COMMISSIONS

Current Affairs: Mrs. Cusden, Chairman, reported that the Commission recommended that a copy of the recent Government Report on the Population, should be obtained for office use and that members should study it for future discussion. Mrs. Cusden outlined the discussion which had taken place on some of the resolutions which are to be considered at the Copenhagen Congress and it was agreed that this part of the Commission's report should be taken in conjunction with the discussion on the Congress to be taken later on the Agenda. The Report was adopted and confirmed by the Executive.

Colour Question: Mrs. Sussans reported that Mrs. Malcomson had been elected Chairman. An acknowledgement from Mr. Tom Driberg, M.P., to the letter which the W.I.L. had sent him had been noted. Mrs. de Swiet had reported that she was in touch with Dr. Wilson and Ritchie Calder on the problem of the Sudanese women and Mrs. Malcomson also reported that she is arranging a public conference for the League of Coloured People in Liverpool, October 1st at the Friends Meeting House. It was also noted that Vera Brittain was discussing the subject of Women's Work in the West Indies at a London meeting of the W.I.L. Other matters discussed were the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Ballinger to this Country from S. Africa. The reactionary laws recently passed in S. Africa which are aimed at preventing criticism of the Government  
 Lack of provision of satisfactory hostels for coloured people. It was agreed to congratulate the Editor of the "Picture Post" on the publication of the article "Is there a British Colour Bar". The report was adopted and confirmed by the Executive.

United Nations: Mrs. Warner reported that Mrs. Stapledon had been elected as the Chairman. Discussion had taken place on the contents of a letter received from the Foreign Office on the subject of the Genocide Convention in which it was noted that the Government claimed that the decision regarding accession to the Convention must depend upon a study of its exact implications from the point of view of English law, and what new legislation would be necessary in order to give effect to it, but such a study is in hand. It was agreed that this matter should be borne in mind for future consideration. Branch replies on the subject of Gertrude Baer's letter were partly considered, but it was decided that this matter be also considered again after a precis of all the points raised had been made. It was agreed to find out whether the letter is received by all International members of the W.I.L., and other details respecting the arrangements for its circulation. The Report was adopted and confirmed by the Executive.

1483.

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

Chairman's & Treasurer's Visit to Germany: Mrs. McGregor Wood reported on this and stated that places visited included Lubeck, Lunaberg, Hamburg, Frankfurt and the Ruhr. Mrs. Stapledon and she were warmly welcomed everywhere they went and it was impressed upon them how important the interest of the British Section is to the Germans who are reconstructing their own section. It was noted that a full report of the visit will be given in the "News Sheet." The thanks of the Executive were expressed to Mrs. McGregor Wood and Mrs. Stapledon for undertaking the visit.

International Congress: The list of delegates was read and it was noted that there were 3 vacancies. It was decided to find out from those remaining on the list of nominees, how many could at this late hour attend the Congress. Mrs. Duncan Harris mentioned that Mrs. Thomas who had been unable to accept the nomination which the Croydon Branch had wished to make on her behalf, was now probably in a position to attend the Congress as she would be travelling near Copenhagen at the time of the Congress. It was agreed that Mrs. Thomas be approached to find out more about this possibility.

Financial Appeal: It was noted that the Congress Fund now amounted to approximately £175.0.0. and that it would therefore be possible to make a grant to each delegate of at least £10.0.0., but that the Fund was not yet closed.

Speakers: Lord Boyd Orr, the only specialist speaker arranged for at present by the British Section.

Accommodation & Transport Nothing further to report.

1484.

REPORTS.

Organisation Committee:- The secretary reported that at a meeting held on the 5th July, the subject of membership had been discussed and the following recommendations agreed upon:- That a letter from Mrs. Gregor Wood and Mrs. Stapledon be sent to all members telling them of their visit to Germany and the strong impressions which they received during their visit of the value of the W.I.L. in strengthening international friendships, and also giving other general points about W.I.L. membership and activities.

That the Executive should consider arrangements for issuing membership cards.

That a complete record of all membership be kept at Headquarters in order that at least once a year a direct communication from Headquarters could be sent to all members.

That representatives of the Women's Permanent Peace League and the Women's League of London Congregational Union be invited to attend the Executive meetings of the W.I.L. as observers, with a proviso that those attending in this capacity preferably should be members of the W.I.L.

Arrangements for the Extended Executive in October had been discussed further and it was recommended that the subject of the address to be given at the open meeting should be concerned with the W.I.L.

The Report was confirmed and adopted and the secretary was asked to obtain estimates of the cost of the proposed membership card. London Group Organisation Committee.

Mrs. Scholefield Allen reported upon the arrangements for the meeting to be held on the 15th July, at the home of Mrs. Maxwell, Hampstead. The chair would be taken by Miss Vera Brittain, who would also discuss Women's Work in the West Indies, and Mrs. Mc Gregor Wood would speak on her recent visit to Germany.

Membership Secretary. In the absence of Mrs. Sutherst, it was decided to leave this matter until the next Executive.

All Nations Group. Mrs. Ineson reported that a meeting was held on the subject of India. Miss Agatha Harrison was the speaker and Miss Shrinagesh took the chair. Solos were given in Bengali by an Indian friend.

Women's Peace Movement. Mrs. Twiston Davies reported upon the Hiroshima Conference and also stated that the Movement was in serious need of Finance.

1485. Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations, United Nations.  
Geneva, June, 1949

Lady Mayer give a full and interesting report of this Conference. 80 organisations were represented; 6 W.I.L.P.F. representatives were there. It was noted that a full report of the event would be given in the News Sheet. The Chairman on behalf of the Executive thanked Lady Mayer for the ready way in which she had undertaken the responsibility of attending the Conference.

1486. INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS.

After discussion decisions were taken as follows:-

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Australia   | Give general support.   |
| Finland.  | Agree.  |
| France.   |   |
| 1. Partisans of Peace:-   | In relation to this the statement which had been prepared by the Commission on Current Affairs was put to the meeting as follows:- "While appreciating all efforts to bring together all those who are seeking peace we cannot wholeheartedly support any movement which prohibits freedom of speech and we cannot pledge ourselves to future support or action." This was passed by the Executive. |
| 2. Greece.  | Agree.  |
| 3. Spain  | Agree in principle  |
| 4. Indonesia  | Agree in principle.   |
| 5. North Atlantic Pact.   | Support in general.   |
| 1. U.S.A. Non-Self Governing Territories under the Trusteeship. | Agreed that the policy should be to treat each case on its merits.  |

In order to continue discussion of the resolutions and the part each delegate should take at the Congress it was decided to hold an Executive meeting in August, contrary to the usual practice of the Executive of making this a free month.

G. R. McCrewood  
Aug: 3 49

1487.

OTHER BUSINESS

Announcements of conferences and meetings being held by other organisations were made as follows:-

International Women's Day	11th July,
Open Door Council	12th October.
International Conference on Human Rights	September, Czechoslovakia.
United Nations Association.	12th July.

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Following the Executive Meeting, Mrs. Gregor Ross, addressed an open meeting on the subject of-  
"A Re-visit of East Africa".

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE  
104, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W.C. 1.

AUGUST 1949

CHANCERY 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on  
Wednesday, 3rd August, 1949 at 144, Southampton Row,  
London, W. C. 1.

Present:- Mrs. Mc Gregor Wood in the Chair.  
Miss Camfield, Mrs. Cusden, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Gooring,  
Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Malcomson,  
Miss Mc Ara, Mrs. Misar, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs.  
de Swiet, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. Warner,  
Visitors:- Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Peat, Mrs. Phillips,

The Chairman announced at the opening of the meeting that Mrs. Duncan Harris was absent through illness, and expressed her own and the Executive's hopes for a speedy recovery. A message of regret and sympathy was to be forwarded to the President.

Other apologies for absence were received from:-  
Mrs. Ashworth, Mrs. Ballinger, Rev. Constance Coltman, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Scholefield Allen, Mrs. Stapledon,  
Mrs. Twiston Davies.

1488. The Minutes of the last Executive Committee were confirmed and signed after the following sentence had been inserted between the 2nd and 3rd sentences of paragraph 1 Minute 1483 - "Further interesting information about the visit was given by Mrs. Stapledon", and the 5th paragraph of Minute 1484 amended to read "Arrangements for the Extended Executive in October had been discussed further and it was recommended that reports from delegates to the Copenhagen Congress be given at the open meeting.

1489. Matters Arising. - Membership.  
Mrs. Sutherst, Membership Secretary reported that 85 notices had been sent to Headquarter Members whose subscriptions had lapsed and gave an analysis of the replies which had been received up to-date. A letter was read in which some criticisms were noted and discussed. It was also stated that enquiries about membership had been received following the recent Hampstead meeting and the publication of a letter in the "Picture Post".  
Mrs. Ineson reported that she is also receiving enquiries about membership from friends in the All Nations Group.  
It was agreed that a supply of membership cards be obtained in accordance with the estimate received from the printer but the decision on colour and lay-out was left to a sub-committee composed of Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Sutherst, Miss Dickinson and Miss Haughton.

1490. Reports on Commissions.  
Colour Question. Mrs. Malcomson reported that the letter which was drafted by the Commission and printed in the "Picture Post" had brought 4 letters to the Honorary Secretary, 3 asking for details of membership.

1490. A reply to a letter in the "Times 3.8.49., from Marjorie Maxsø, had been drafted, to be sent to the British Council. Arrangements for the forthcoming W.I.L. Conference on The Colonies, 3rd December, in London had been discussed. Mrs. de Swiet, was still in touch with Lady Huddleston on the question of the Sudanese Women and had also communicated with the Editor of the "Lancet". The Liverpool Garden Party had raised £17.10 0., for the League of Coloured Peoples with an equal amount for the Congress Fund. A jumble sale is to be held in Liverpool on the 5th October, to raise funds towards re-opening a Community Centre for coloured people. Information was given that a young Nigerian man who is ill in a Liverpool hospital would appreciate receiving letters books and magazines. The report was adopted.

#### Current Affairs

Mrs. Nuttall reported that discussion had centred on the dock strike with particular emphasis on the need to find the cause of this. No decision had been reached and it was felt that further consideration should be given to this matter. Before the adoption of the Report a query arose as to whether a subject such as the dock strike came within the jurisdiction of the W.I.L. It was agreed that it did and the Report was adopted.

#### United Nations

Mrs. Warner reported that Mrs. Ineson had given a precis of the various replies from the Branches on the use made of Gertrude Baer's letter, and it was noted that a great many Branches use the information received. It was decided to appeal in the News Sheets for replies from the rest of the Branches. Four of the resolutions for Congress were then discussed in preparation for the later discussion at the Executive meeting. In connection with the resolution on United Nations Membership it was noted that the Security Council was meeting now to reconsider the applications from fourteen countries. The Report was adopted.

#### 1491. CORRESPONDENCE

Letters were put before the Committee as follows:-

Foundations for Peace. Invitation to send delegates to a Conference on August 20th - 26th at 57, Lancaster Gate. It was agreed that an interchangeable ticket be obtained for the use of Miss Harrison, Mrs. de Swiet and Mrs. Warner.

International Conference on Human Rights. A notice of postponement had been received.

United Nations Day Campaign. A questionnaire was read and answers completed, which Miss Dickinson was asked to forward to the Campaign Committee.

Women's Peace Movement. A letter was read outlining the development of the Movement and giving information on the serious difficulties facing it at the present time. This was supplemented by a report from Mrs. Cusden. Following discussion it was agreed to send a reply giving these points:-

1. The Women's Peace Movement should continue to function, particularly in view of the forthcoming General Election when the need for organised effort in relation to peace aims would be very necessary.
2. It is felt that a London Office is now unnecessary for the Movement

1491.

3. Publicity could be maintained through the London members.
  4. Considerable financial help had already been given by the W.I.L. Peace Pledge Union. As a result of a letter received it was agreed to send an observer to a United Committee at which arrangements for "No More War Candidates" at the next General Election would be discussed, the observer to be either Mrs. Ineson or Mrs. Warner
- Report of Harburg Conference on Refugees. Mrs. Ineson drew attention to copies of the Report which were on sale at the meeting.

1492.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION It was agreed that the Bank of the W.I.L., be authorized to accept the signature of Miss D.W. Mobbs, on all cheques in conjunction with the three existing signatures of Officers.

1491.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS, COPENHAGEN.

Visitors to London en-route. Mrs. Abbott of Australia, Dr. Bussy, Mrs. Medders Robinson, Mrs. McNeil, Mrs. Pearce, Mrs. Gould and Mrs. Taylor, of the U.S.A. All of these had been entertained whilst staying in London at various functions and meetings, and letters of appreciation were noted. Dr. Bussey gave valuable information on American reaction to the Atlantic Pact, Marshall Aid and other vital questions. She also met some of the All Nations Group at the Presidents' house. Mrs. Medders Robinson had discussed International finance with the Officers at a recent meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Brailsford's Memorandum on Neutrality of Germany and Appeal for World Trade.

A report on this was given by Mrs. Brailsford and it was noted that a resolution on the subject was being sent to the Congress privately on the recommendation of Dr. Bussy. Mrs. Brailsford pointed out that the election for the new constitution of Germany will take place on the 15th August, and it was felt that the resolution could therefore be treated as an emergency. Thanks were given to Mrs. Brailsford for her helpful elucidation of the scheme.

Finance.

Amount obtained by the Congress Fund, - £301 16 7d. Paid to representatives - £247. 8 0., Two representatives still to be paid.

Delegation

Officers to the delegation were appointed as follows:-  
Chairman - Mrs. McGregor Wood, Secretary - Mrs. Peat,  
Convener - Mrs. Cusden, Resolutions Officer Mrs. Hartley,  
Press Secretary - Mrs. Coppock, In charge of welfare - Miss Mc.Ara.

Delegates appointed were:- Mrs. Coppock, Mrs. Hartley, Dr. Marwick, Miss Mc.Ara, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Silyn Roberts, Dr. Snedgrass, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. Tiller.

Alternates appointed were Mrs. Beard, Mrs. Holmes Miss Paterson, Mrs. Peat, Mrs. Schlossmann, Miss Stanley, Mrs. Sussans, Mrs. Weiss, Miss Myrtle Wright.

Resolutions.

Further discussion on the resolutions took place. The arrangements made at the Officers Meeting in July, were confirmed. It was agreed to support an amendment sent by Mrs. Duncan Harris to the U.S.A. resolution No. 1. the first draft of which was as follows:- Delete all after line 5, and substitute....."Charter in relation to non-self governing territories are to promote the well being of the inhabitants of

the Territories and to help them to achieve self government. Welcomes the constitution of the ad hoc committee" to examine the information transmitted under Article 73 of the Charter"; Urges all member states administering Non-self governing Territories to give the fullest recognition to their obligations to account to the U.N.O., for their administration and to give opportunity by facilitating the presentation of petitions and in other ways to the inhabitants of the Territories to make known their needs and desires."

Press Reporting.

Miss Haughton stated that Mrs. Coppock, had agreed to act as the Press Secretary, for the delegation but that she herself would deal with the press reporting in this Country following the Congress. Miss Haughton reminded the meeting that all reports of the Congress for the News Sheet must reach her by the 15th September,

Chairman's Report.

Sections of this were read by Mrs. McGroger Wood and after discussion a vote of thanks was passed to her upon her achievement in a most difficult task. The report contained useful statistics covering the social economic and political life in Great Britain as well as one whole page on Marshall Aid.

1494. NEWS SHEET

The Editor, Miss Haughton, gave a report upon developments and mentioned details of communications which she had received from Lord Pethick Lawrence and the Editor of "The Star" concerning the magazine. She also mentioned that the Peace Pledge Union desired to have a report of the Copenhagen Congress.

1495. FUTURE MEETINGS

Extended Executive. Guthrie House, 4th - 5th October. (London) Branches and individual members to be notified shortly.

Conference on Colonial Policy. December 3rd London.

Dr. Rita Hindon to be one of the speakers. It was suggested that Dr. H. Reed be invited to speak and to deal particularly with the subject of Women in the Colonies and that the idea of a group of specially chosen students to take part in the Conference be accepted. Arrangements for the Chairman to be proceeded with by the Officers.

Conference on the Colonies, Liverpool. Mrs. Malcolmson, announced that she was organising a Conference to take place in October and that she would appreciate having support from Branches within easy travelling distance from Liverpool.

1496. OTHER BUSINESS.

It was agreed that no meeting should be held in September.

1949

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE  
104, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W.C.1.

OCTOBER 1949.

CHANCERY 7233.

Minutes of the Extended Executive Committee,  
held at Guthrie House, 3, Cadogan Gate, London  
S.W.1. on October 4th and 5th, 1949.

Executive Members Present:-

- Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair.
- Miss Camfield, Mrs. Cusdon, Miss Dickinson,
- Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Ineson,
- Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Malcomson, Miss McAra, Mrs.
- Misar, Mrs. Needham, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Schloss-
- mann, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Sussams, Mrs. Sutherst,
- Mrs. de Swiet, Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Twiston Davies,
- Lady Mayer.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

- Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Ashworth, Mrs. Scholefield
- Allen, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Geering, Mrs. Duncan
- Harris, Mrs. Gill.
- Further apologies were received from Vice-
- Presidents, visitors and Branches that were
- unable to send delegates.

The Executive opened on Tuesday, October 4th at 2 p.m., with Mrs. McGregor Wood in the Chair. Several personal matters were dealt with first:-

- 1) Congratulations were accorded to the Treasurer, Mrs. Agnes Stapledon, on her election as an International co-Chairman.
- 2) Expressions of affection and hopes for a complete and speedy recovery to normal health were sent to the President, Mrs. Duncan Harris, together with a tangible expression of regard from those present in the form of a book - "The Life of Eleanor Rathbone, M.P." by Mary Stocks.
- 3) A warm welcome was extended to a German visitor, Miss Rieper, an Executive member of the Hamburg Branch, and to Branch delegates and visitors.

The roll call revealed that 14 Branches were represented.

1497. Emergency action was then taken in response to a letter from the International Fellowship of Reconciliation in support of the action of Garry Davis who was brought to trial on October 4th for the non-violent measures he had taken in protest to the prison sentence given to a conscientious objector to war. It was decided after discussion to send a telegram of support immediately to Garry Davis and to make an appeal later to the French Government through our own, to urge provision under the Law for conscientious objectors and for alternative service.

The afternoon session was then given up to an informal discussion of the Copenhagen Congress. Mrs. Mary Phillips undertook to draft a list of recommendations of the British Section to go before the International Executive.

At 4.30 tea was provided by the Orpington Branch, after which an open meeting was held on the subject of the Eleventh International Congress at Copenhagen, addressed by Miss McAra, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Sutherst, Mrs. Tiller, Mrs. Sussams, Mrs. Schlossmann, Mrs. Peat and Mrs. Weiss, all of whom gave short reports of the Congress, Mrs. Cusden, who spoke on Resolutions, Mrs. Stapledon, who drew a contrast between the Congresses at Luxemburg and Copenhagen, and Mrs. McGregor Wood who spoke on the values of human personality as illustrated at the Congress.

Mrs. Innes was welcomed as Chairman, Lady Parmoor gave an account of the St. Cergue Conference of World Peace Organisations and Miss Agatha Harrison told of her recent visit to Holland. Reports of this meeting will appear in the News Sheet.

Wednesday, October 5th.

1498. The Minutes of the Executive held on August 3rd were confirmed and signed. After a short discussion on the word "adopted" used in the Minutes with reference to the Commission Reports, it was decided in future to substitute the word "received".

1499. Reports of Commissions.

Current Affairs.

Mrs. Cusden reported that the subject under discussion was the deterioration in the German situation due largely to the continued dismantling of factories. This was having a serious psychological effect on the population and causing a revival of Nazi feeling which could not be ignored. The Foreign Secretary evaded questions asked in the House, and, in view of this, it was suggested that members and Branches should approach individual M.P.'s on the subject.

The Commission recommended that representations be made to Mr. Attlee on the general policy, with special reference to:

- (1) Destruction of productive capacity and of Germany's ability to make her contribution to the reconstruction of Europe.
- (2) Destruction of food-purchasing power, aggravated by influx of refugees; effect on our own economy.
- (3) Psychological and political effect: comparison with 1919-1921. "No indemnities, no reparations", rise of Hitler; threat of resurgence of Nazism; lapse of time aggravates sense of grievance.

Recommended that copy of letter to Mr. Attlee should be sent to Branches, urging them to bring it to notice of their M.P.s

Recommended also that German Section of Foreign Office, (permanent officials) should be approached with reference to the psychological approach to the German people.

One point which arose in discussion was that more and better propaganda was needed to explain the policy of the British Govt. in language which the Germans could understand. The report was received.

Colour Question.

Mrs. Malcomson took the Chair. A letter was read from Florence Paton, M.P. in answer to a report from Headquarters deploring the fact that an American coloured delegate, travelling from the International Congress, had been refused admittance to three London hotels. Miss Paton promised to keep us informed of questions asked in the House on this subject.

A member of the Croydon Branch had sent newspapers, magazines, etc. to the Tokyo University and had received a grateful reply from the lecturer on British Commonwealth Affairs, who appealed for more, especially for his women students. A general appeal from Headquarters is recommended, asking all members who can, to send papers to: Professor K. Takashi Itoh,  
Lecturer on British Commonwealth Affairs,  
Kohryo University,  
Tokyo.

Mrs. Malcomson asked that Branches should ascertain the reaction of their members to the suitability of the W.I.L. investigating the colour problem as she had heard rumours that there was some opposition to their Commission. All members present and the Executive were able to reassure the Chairman that their Branches wholeheartedly supported the Commission; what opposition there is comes from a few individuals.

Mrs. Malcomson reported on the situation in Liverpool. The East and West Fellowship Committee had been joined by representatives of the churches through the influence of the Bishop. They wished to obtain permission for the Committee to meet coloured students on the boats as they arrived, but the Colonial Office were unwilling to grant it although individual members were allowed to go.

Mrs. de Swiet reported an instance of a coloured man from Uganda, who had turned Communist as a consequence of the hostility shown him by other white people. When Africans arrive in England they often find none but Communists to welcome them and show friendliness.

In the discussion Mrs. Lankester drew attention to the Australian White Policy affecting the Malayan question and it was decided to write to the Australian Section to bring it to their notice.

The report was received.

United Nations

The Commission considered 3 points raised by Gertrude Baer in a letter to members of the International Executive written since the Copenhagen Congress. Each of these questions concerned W.I.L. relations with, or work for, the UN and each was the concern of National sections.

(1) Sections were asked to urge their respective governments to ratify the Convention on Genocide if they had not already done so. The Commission recommended to the Executive that:

- (a) a letter be sent to Miss Baer informing her that we had already made enquiries as to why H.M.G. had not, up to date, ratified the Convention and had been told that a study of the legal position with regard to the Convention was being carried out, and
- (b) that we should enquire how this study is progressing.

(2) Miss Baer raised five questions about the kind of UN work to be undertaken by the WIL and the way in which this work should be performed. The Commission asked for these points to be considered at the next Executive Committee meeting.

(3) Miss Baer asked for official support to be given (through herself) to Dame Rachel Crowley in her opposition to the French Amendments to Article 6 of the Draft Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic of Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. In view of our confidence in Dame Rachel Crowley and of our knowledge of the French approach to this question, the Commission asked the Executive to give Miss Baer the support for which she asked.

After discussion it was decided that a letter should be sent to Gertrude Baer on the lines suggested by the Commission and that the Government should be approached again on the Genocide question through Mrs. Scholefield Allen.

The report was received.

1500. Correspondence.

(1) A letter was read from Mrs. Zeuthen, President of the Danish Section, who would be visiting this country shortly and was willing to speak at Branches. It was decided to send a telegram of welcome and congratulations on her silver wedding which had just been celebrated.

(2) A notice was read of the British Peace Congress to be held in London, October 23rd and 24th. After discussion it was decided to send 3 delegates who would put forward our views if opportunity was given, the officers to decide on the delegation.

(3) A letter was read from the Nottingham Branch which had been sent to the Foreign Secretary and to Mr. Trygve Lie, urging that full consideration be given to the Soviet proposals on the banning of atomic weapons, and stating the desire that war should be prohibited by International Law. This was followed by a discussion on the question of whether it was customary or advisable for Branches to correspond directly with the Government or whether it should always be done through Headquarters. There was a difference of opinion on the subject, Nottingham was then congratulated on acting so promptly, and it was hoped that if a reply was received a copy would be forwarded to Headquarters.

1501. Reports.

(1) "Foundations of Peace".

Mrs. Lankester reported that this Conference, which was organised by the Vedanta Movement, presented an open platform for different views on World Peace, and people of varied creeds and religions attended. Though the attendance was small, the Conference was worth while especially as it was a preparation for a World Conference of Religions, on the same subject, to be held in London next year.

(2) World Government.

A letter was read from Henry Usborne informing us that the Crusade for World Government is planning a Congress in the New Year to launch the idea of the People's World Convention, with the help of existing organisations. It was decided that a reply should be sent offering our support.

(4) The Women's Peace Movement

Mrs. Twiston Davies reviewed the year's work, which included the Westminster Public Meeting, followed by a deputation to Mr. Bevin, the organising of smaller provincial meetings and the publishing of a Bulletin. She again stressed the need for money to carry on, and it was decided to send another letter to the next committee emphasising the points mentioned at the last Executive and expressing the conviction that the Movement was doing valuable work and should continue to function.

(5) No Conscription Council

Mrs. Nuttall reported that a new secretary had been appointed, Mr. Roland Page. It was decided that work should be started at once in preparation for the coming election to get the repeal of the Conscription Act. In view of this Area Conferences would be held in which affiliated organisations would be asked to join.

(6) British Commonwealth League

Mrs. Bevilacqua reported that at a meeting of the British Commonwealth League addressed by an Australia Delegate to the United Nations, it was deplored that the only British woman consultant to U.N. made no appearance and was never heard to speak. It seemed a matter into which we should enquire.

"Many protests were made concerning protection for the aborigines of Central Australia against experiments in modern warfare carried out in that area. Protection has now been granted. A great deal of hard work was done also in connection with the Nationality Act for British Women.

1502. Indian Affairs.

Miss Dickinson briefly summarised the difficult situation in Kashmir, pointing out the tension arising therefrom between India and Pakistan, and emphasised the importance of closely watching events there. She mentioned also the meeting of the South East Asia Regional Committee of the World Health Organisation, now being held in New Delhi with Ceylon's Health Minister as Chairman, and that we should note the rather unusual appointment of Dr. Radhakrishnan as Ambassador to the USSR. He is an educationist and philosopher of international repute, one of his offices being President of the Executive Board of UNESCO. To quote Pandit Nehru: "It can truly be said that he goes to Russia as a symbol of India."

1503. News Sheet.

The Editor reported that the News Sheet was gaining a wider circulation and becoming known to other papers.

1504. Finance.

The Treasurer in presenting the Balance Sheet, pointed out the serious widening of the gap between receipts and expenditure. In the nine months period from January to September this year, the excess of expenditure amounted to £202.10s.1d. To meet this we had periodically to make inroads into our reserves which were now depleted and at the

present rate of withdrawals could only make us secure for another two years. The Executive was asked to give this their serious attention and make suggestions for bridging the gap. This statement was supported by the Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Membership Secretary and a long discussion took place, from which the following points emerged:

(1) An effort should be made by all Branches to pay their quota in full, and a statement of the position with regard to this should be published in the Annual Report and given to the Executive.

(2) A fresh drive for new members should be made. Telephone Directories could be used to furnish names of people to be invited to meetings.

(3) More publicity in the Press was of great importance and the need for a Press Secretary not necessarily resident in London, was stressed. Nottingham Branch had a member in mind who would possibly fulfil the requirements, and it was decided that she should be asked.

(4) Money-raising efforts were suggested - whist drives, parties, concerts and sales. A Latvian member suggested an International Concert.

(5) Each member might undertake to procure at least one new member in the year, or, as an alternative, pay a subscription for an imaginary member.

(6) At the point of some sacrifice subscriptions might be paid twice in the year.

The Warrington Branch passed a resolution to the effect that Branch delegates' fares should be pooled. It was pointed out that according to our constitution this was done for Annual Councils but not for Extended Executives, though it was possible to amend the constitution to include them.

The Chairman expressed the hope that in view of the immense possibilities of service opening out at the present time, and the lead given to all Sections at the Congress, we should together determine to solve the financial problem without retrenchment.

#### 1505. Political Committee.

A new step was taken in the formation of a political committee consisting of the following elected members:- Mrs. Brailsford, Lady Mayer, Lady Parmoor and Mrs. Warner, the officers being members ex-officio. The work of this committee and its power to act would be discussed at the next Executive. The news that an anonymous gift of £6 had been promised, to provide the office with Hansard for a year was received with acclamation. This would be especially useful to the committee.

#### 1506. Refugees.

A letter was read from Henry Carter on the new situation which would arise in Germany and Austria when the International Refugees Organisation terminated its activities in 1950. The hard core of refugees which would be left, because of ill-health, old age, profession or size of family had made

emigration impossible, would be unprotected and might easily become the tool of politicians in any new government which was formed. It was decided to send a letter to the Foreign Office expressing our concern and the hope that the whole problem of stateless people will be dealt with urgently by the UN.

1507. Future Work and Events.

The next Annual Council March 1950 at Folkestone. The Executive was asked to make suggestions for a subject. After prolonged discussion it was decided that a general title should be "World Truce" and the officials were asked to give consideration to the matters included under this subject, and possible speakers.

The Conference on "Colonies Today" was announced for December 3rd. Final agendas for this would be sent out shortly. It was hoped that Lord Darwen would be one of the chairmen and speakers would be Rita Hindon and Norman Goodall.

Tea was provided on the 2nd day by the Croydon Branch and the thanks of the Executive were extended to them and to the Orpington Branch for their hospitality.

The Chairman was also thanked for her continued leadership.

*G. R. McInnes Wood.*

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1949

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE  
104, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W.C.1.

NOVEMBER, 1949.

CHANCERY 7233.

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting,  
held at 32, Tavistock Square, London, W.C. 1.,  
on November 2nd, 1949.

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Executive Members present:

Mrs McGregor Wood in the Chair.  
Mrs Cusdon, Mrs Ballinger, Miss Camfield,  
Mrs Evans, Mrs Sutherst, Mrs Needham,  
Mrs Warner, Mrs de Swiet, Mrs Scholefield  
Allen, Mrs Malcolmson, Mrs Twiston Davies,  
Rev. Constance Coltman, Mrs Stapledon, Lady  
Mayer, Miss McARA, Miss Dickinson, Miss Agatha  
Harrison.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Lady Parmoor, Mrs Ineson, Mrs Nuttall, Mrs Misar.

Resignations from Mrs Gill of Croydon, and Mrs Geering were accepted with very great regret. It was agreed that letters expressing appreciation of their services on the Executive should be sent to both.

The Executive opened at 11.0 a.m., with Mrs McGregor Wood in the Chair.

The Chairman gave a warm welcome to Mrs Zouthen, President of the Danish Section and to Miss Dorothea Otto, a German Headquarters member from Münster, Westfalen, and expressed the sympathy of the meeting with Lady Parmoor, on the loss of her cousin, Mrs Maurice Rowntree.

The Minutes of the Extended Executive Meeting of October 4th & 5th were distributed.

Arising from the Minutes:

- 1506 Refugees. The Chairman read the letter on this subject, sent to the Foreign Secretary by Mrs Ineson and the very satisfactory reply received from the Foreign Office.
- 1508 In the matter of Garry Davis, Lady Mayer reported that, as the French people are themselves taking up the question of conscientious objection with their Government, we had been strongly advised by the Friends' Peace Council to take no further action in this matter until the result of the French appeal is known.
- 1509 Peace House. A letter from the National Peace Council on this subject was read by the Chairman, who explained that, as our Officers are closely in touch with the organisers of the scheme, a suitable reply will be sent.
- 1510 Woman Delegate to U.N. No action has so far been taken.
- 1511 Press Secretary. The Chairman read a letter from Mrs Phillips regretting that the member who had been in view for this work had been obliged to withdraw her offer, owing to change of residence, so the matter remains in abeyance for the present.

1506  
Commissions.

1. The Current Questions Commission had no meeting
2. The United Nations Committee was very fortunate in having Mrs Leuthen with them.

They spent the whole time in discussions of a general nature not resulting in any particular suggestions for W.I.L. action. In the first place they discussed with Mrs Leuthen the difficulties that must be met in trying to bring the work and purpose of the United Nations home to busy people who were remote from world affairs. They were later joined by Mrs McGregor Wood and the discussion then developed into a dissertation on the many different approaches to World Government as an ultimate objective.

3. Colour Discrimination Commission. Considerable thought was given to the possibility of widening this commission & the members agreed that it was better to cover Colour Discrimination well than to attempt to cover Colonies inadequately. Mrs Malcomson reported that Stanley House Community Centre in Liverpool was now open four nights a week and staffed by voluntary workers and it was hoped to make enough money from dances to support cultural activities too. £17.10. was raised at the jumble sale contributed to by our members. The Liverpool Conference on Afro-Asian Relations, under the auspices of the League of Coloured Peoples, covered its expenses and the overall result seemed to be for further conferences on this important subject.

On the subject of Child Labour in Singapore the commission agreed that publicity should be given to the fact that there was still child labour in the world, though at present no action seemed possible. Suggestions were made by members that a useful approach might be made with films, and that J. Arthur Rank might be applied to.

1509  
Parliamentary Committee.

Mrs Warner read the suggested terms of reference for this Committee:-

1. "To extend the influence of the W.I.L. in this country by keeping in close touch with the work of the House and by taking all possible action to further our aims by approaching members of Parliament.
2. To make our work known and to increase our powers of informing and educating public opinion by letters to the Press and by other appropriate methods."

The Committee asked for full responsibility to take appropriate action immediately on any urgent question and to be empowered to recommend Branches to take any appropriate action: such as letters to M.P.s, the Press, etc.

A long discussion followed in which many members took part and finally Mr. Sutherst proposed and Miss Canfield seconded the following motion: "That this Committee, having complete confidence in the personnel of the Parliamentary Group wishes to impose no restrictions upon their activities for a period of three months." This was accepted.

The Chairman read Mrs Osden's letter to the Prime Minister on dismantling and it was approved.

Mrs Warner read her letters to the Foreign Minister and to local Branches on the subject of Atomic Energy and they were approved.

1510

No Conscription Council

Mrs Nuttall's resolution was read:- "This Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom deplores the establishment of peace-time military conscription. It believes that:-

1. It interrupts the education of our youth at a vital stage and creates conditions that endanger their moral character and stamina.
2. Young men who have been conditioned to obey orders without questioning the morality of those orders have had the worst possible training for citizenship.
3. It is an aggravation of our economic difficulties and an obstacle to our industrial recovery.

It therefore urges H.M. Government to take immediate steps to repeal the National Service Act."

This resolution was approved.

1511

All Nations Group

Mrs de Swiet reported on the work that was being done and on plans for the future. The Group hoped now to be self supporting, except for the cost of printing cards of invitation to the meetings. A previous Executive had decided to bear this expense.

1512

Delegates to Pacifist Conference, New Delhi.

Miss Dickinson and Lady Mayer spoke of the wonderful atmosphere at the Friends' House gathering to meet the delegates who were passing through London on their way to India. Miss Agatha Harrison gave a very interesting description of the conception and organisation of the Pacifist Conference and of the great interest taken in it by Mahatma Gandhi, whose ideas have been embodied in its arrangements. She also spoke of the visit of Pandit Nehru to America and referred to the striking way in which the subject of peace has been emphasised in every speech he had made there. She asked for W.I.L. support for Achakrishnan, who is setting out as Indian ambassador to Russia, and she suggested that a letter might be sent to him. She mentioned that 80 delegates would be attending the Delhi Conference, 25 from India and Pakistan and that delegations would also go from Finland, Germany, America, etc. Miss Agatha Harrison and Miss Vera Brittain are representing the W.I.L.

1513

British Peace Congress.

Lady Mayer reported on the Peace Congress which she attended as W.I.L. Representative and took part in a minority resolution which regretted that the whole tone of the Congress was one sided.

1514

Auxiliary & Reserve Forces Bill.

Lady Mayer said that she noted from Hansard that no woman M.P. had taken part in the debate on the Auxiliary and Reserve Forces Bill. Mrs Cusden suggested that a letter be sent to them to express our regret at this occurrence. This suggestion was put to the vote and not carried. Lady Mayer suggested that the Parliamentary Committee should lobby M.P.s and this was carried unanimously.

1515

Women's Peace Movement.

A letter from Mrs Hayward was read by the Chairman. The financial position was causing great anxiety as the Movement still owed £221. Mrs Hayward undertook to run a junkie sale to help to wipe out this debt. The sale would be held on Friday, December 2nd. She asked for helpers and that clothes and shoes be sent to the Office or to Broadway Congregational Church Hall, Hammersmith, W.14. Mrs Twiston Davies told the Meeting that, in spite of financial difficulties, the W.P.M. had been re-constituted and was now ready to act upon a call from a minimum of 3 co-operating organisations.

1516  
Finance.

Mrs Stapledon read a list of Branch quotas paid during 1949. Mrs Malcomson suggested that affiliation fees, quotas, special donations, Congress fund and the number of members should be included in the accounts to be published in the Annual Report. It was pointed that accounts for the two months of September and October, 1949, showed a deficit of £43; but that when the full quotas for the year came in the position might look better.

The Chairman read a letter from Mrs Sutherst which made various suggestions:-

1. That no expenses of any kind should be refunded to Branches which had not paid their quota.
2. That no more letters of appeal should be sent out until a budget had been submitted and approved.
3. That a policy of retrenchment must be envisaged until more money is available.

Mrs Sutherst was thanked by the Committee and it was decided that an Ad Hoc Finance Committee consisting of Mrs Sutherst, Miss Dickinson and Mrs Stapledon and Mrs Twiston Davies should be appointed to consider this letter and to prepare a statement for the next Executive Meeting. It was unanimously approved that Mrs Bedford should be asked to become a member of this Committee.

1517  
Correspondence.

The Chairman read a letter of thanks from Mrs Duncan Harris for the book presented by the W.I.L., and great satisfaction was expressed over her return to health.

1518  
Membership.

Mrs Sutherst reported on her work as Membership Secretary. She spoke of the disappointing response to letters and literature. The Chairman raised the question of the adequacy of our literature. It was decided to look into the matter. Mrs Sutherst was thanked for her excellent work.

1519  
Branches.

Mrs Sutherst expressed the hope that officers would be prepared to speak at the new branch at Bromley. The Chairman noted that Carcy Hall had been booked for the week-end of July 23rd for the International Executive.

1520  
News Sheet.

A growing circulation was reported.

1521  
Future Meetings.

Mrs Scholefield Allen spoke on the Colonial Conference arranged for December 3rd. Mention was also made of the meeting on November 14th to meet Mrs Ballinger of Cape Province, of the Estonian evening on November 29th and of the January Party. Miss Harrison spoke most movingly of the arrangements for and hopes of the Delhi Pacifist Congress:

Date and Place of Next Meeting.

The first Wednesday in December (7th) at 32 Tavistock Square.

The meeting closed with the Chairman's heartfelt God-speed to the Delhi Congress delegates.

G. P. Macgregor Wood.

*W. P. R. 1949*

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE  
104, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W.C. 1.

DECEMBER, 1949.

CHANCERY 7233

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting,  
held at 32, Tavistock Square, London, W.C. 1.

Executive Members Present:

- Mrs McGregor Wood in the Chair.
- Mrs Ineson. Mrs Mitchener.
- Mrs Stapledon. Mrs Ashworth.
- Mrs Duncan Harris. Mrs Scholefield.Allen.
- Lady Parmoor. Mrs Warner.
- Miss Haughton. Mrs Nuttall.
- Miss Mcara. Mrs Schlossman.
- Miss Dickinson. Mrs Evans.
- Mrs Malcomson. Mrs Kemp.
- Mrs Sussams. Mrs Ballinger.
- Mrs Goring.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

- Mrs Cusdon. The Rev. Constance Coltman.
- Mrs Needham. Mrs de Swiet.
- Mrs Sutherst. Mrs Twiston Davies.
- Lady Mayer.

The Executive opened at 11.0 a.m. with Mrs McGregor Wood in the Chair.

The Chairman congratulated Mrs Duncan Harris very warmly on her recovery and said how delighted the Committee was to have her with them again.

Mrs Mitchener the new representative for Croydon was warmly welcomed.

The sympathy of the Committee was extended to Dr. & Mrs Nuttall on the death of Dr. Nuttall's father.

It was decided to write a letter to Lady Mary Murray to congratulate her and Sir Gilbert Murray on the celebration of their Golden Wedding.

It was decided to write a letter of condolence to Dr. Kathleen Lonsdale on the death of her mother.

The Minutes of the Extended Executive of October 4th & 5th were signed.

The following alterations were made in the Minutes of the Executive Meeting of November 2nd, :-

- 1508. The word "dissertation" to be changed to "discussion".
- 1512. The heading of the paragraph to be changed to read:-  
"Delegates to World Pacifist Conference, Santiniketan".

The last sentence to read:-  
"Miss Agatha Harrison is attending the Conference not as a member but to give practical help. Miss Vera Brittain is one of the members from Great Britain".

The last sentence of the Minutes to be changed to read:-  
"The meeting closed with the Chairman's heartfelt God-speed to Miss Agatha Harrison for her work with the World Pacifist Conference".

The Minutes were then signed.

Matters arising from the Minutes.

1511. With regard to the printing of invitation cards for the All Nations Group, a gift had been made to the WIL of 2,000 cards from the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church.

1514. Lady Mayer visited the House and had a conversation with Mrs Ganley who regretted that no woman M.P. had spoken during the Debate on the Auxiliary & Reserve Forces Bill. Mrs Manning, who was in the House, was unable to catch the Speaker's eye.

Mrs Ganley asked us to keep in close touch with her.

1518. The Publications Committee had met and would report later on its findings.

1522. Reports of Commissions.

1. Current Affairs Mrs Nuttall, who was elected Vice President of the Commission, reported that:-

- a) Great satisfaction was felt that our efforts, combined with those of other Organisations and individuals, have resulted in the cessation of dismantling factories in Germany.
- b) Much time was spent in discussing what was the motive behind the expressed German desire not to be rearmed. Was it:-
  1. A wish to throw all responsibility for opposing Russia on to the Allies?
  2. A desire to have all their man-power available for industrial purposes?
  3. A real wish for neutrality between East & West?
- c) The attitude of intelligent Germans and of high officials of the British and American Governments towards the Russians was not calculated to produce the right atmosphere for conciliation and the founding of friendship, but aroused in the more primitive minds of the average Russians a sense of inferiority.

2. United Nations. The following points were discussed:-

- a) Our letter to Mr. Sorenson on Genocide.
- b) A letter from Gertrude Baer thanking us for backing her in her support of Dame Rachel Crowdy.
- c) The cable sent by the International Chairmen to Lake Success to protest against Mr. Jooste's defence of his Government's policy of "Apartheid".
- d) Miss Mosa Anderson's Resolution at the Colonial Conference.
- e) U.N.I.C.E.F.
  1. Refutation of the suggestion that it is ending next year.
  2. The question of what financial support our Government is giving to UNICEF. The Commission to find out about this. If no support has been given the Commission propose that the WIL should take action on this matter.

3. Colour Questions.

- a) It was proposed that a letter be sent to Mr. Creech Jones to express our distress that the British Delegates voted against a hearing being accorded at the United Nations to the Rev. Michael Scott and venturing to ask that the Colonial Secretary give us the reasons for the attitude adopted by His Majesty's Government on this issue.
- b) Coussey Report on the Gold Coast (Constitution drawn up by Africans: a hundred pages that made and speeded up History) This was a forward looking document. This Report by a Committee consisting entirely of Africans which was set up by our Governor Creasey, was the story of the Gold Coast Administration as seen by the indigenous people and their recommendations to Local Government on the way they wished to be governed.
- Knowledge and goodwill to this far reaching venture were so essential that it was recommended that each member of the WIL acquired, read, digested and used a copy of this Report. It was probably the first of many such documents which were likely to reach us from our Colonies.
- c) It was of great interest to note that a West African student, now at Cambridge taking his Ph.D., had only elementary education. He then bought books from a catalogue and taught himself Mathematics. Of this man his Tutor said that there were not more than one to five people in this country with equal ability.
- d) The Commission felt that expert advice must be sought and considerable study be given to the subject of International Accountability for Colonies, before action could be taken.
- e) Mrs Malcomson attended a Conference in Liverpool which was run by the Churches. One group discussed Colour Discrimination and Mrs Malcomson was able to broadcast her belief that there was a Colour Bar in Britain, especially in relation to Employment and Housing.

1523. WILPF Affairs. There was a discussion on Gertrude Baer's five points. It was suggested that they should be used as a pointer for our general policy and that we should federate with suitable bodies when it was possible to do so without losing our Consultative Status.

It was decided that Mrs Stapledon and Mrs Warner should send a joint letter of acknowledgement and general agreement to Miss Baer.

The Chairman reported that she had received the following letters:-

- a) From Madame Jouve on the subject of Conscientious Objection
- b) From Grafine Baudessin on her coming visit to England
- c) From Mrs Sutherst telling of the part she had been asked to play at the forthcoming meeting in Paris on the obstacles confronting women in their chance of education.

Mrs Duncan Harris said that she had sent warm greetings from the British Section to Mrs Mildred Olmstedt on the completion of twenty-five Years' service with the American Section.

1524. News Sheet Miss Haughton reminded members that all contributions to the News Sheet must be in by the fifteenth of each month. She said that she had received several appreciative letters on last months News Sheet.
1525. Membership. A list of thirteen new members and two who had rejoined was read.
1526. Reports.

- a) Conference on Colonies. It was generally felt that this Conference had been thoroughly worth while and the speeches stimulating. The coloured speakers had contributed to its success. It was regretted that very few WIL members had been there. It was suggested that attendance might be better if:-
1. Meetings were held on a weekday evening
  2. Notices for the Meetings were printed, instead of being Gestetnered.

It was felt by some that the speeches had contained too few facts, and by others that too little time had been given to discussion. It was suggested that the Conference might be turned into a preliminary for definite work on concrete points.

- b) Senator Ballinger's Talk Mrs Nuttall said that Senator Ballinger had kindly come along in place of Mrs Ballinger who was ill, and had spoken on Mrs Ballinger's electioneering tour among the S. African natives and on the S. African Government's policy of Apartheid. Afterwards many interesting questions had been asked.
- c) Status of Women Mrs Nuttall reported that Dame Laugh-ton Matthews had become the new Chairman.
- d) Meeting for delegates to Congress in India Lady Parmoor reported that there had been a tea at Friends' House to meet twenty-four delegates from five different countries. In this connection it was reported that Miss Agatha Harrison had had a very worrying time when she first arrived in India and had helped in preparations for the Meeting. With her help matters had improved greatly. Lady Parmoor offered to get in touch with the Friends' Peace Committee to see if a united meeting of welcome could be held for the delegates on their return.
- e) British Commonwealth League Mrs de Swiet reported by letter that the British Commonwealth League were having their annual meeting in May at which representatives of various Colonies and Dominions would be present. The main subjects under discussion would be E. Africa and the Bahamas.  
Mrs Hemming the new Chairman had visited the Bahamas in the summer and was dismayed at certain aspects of life amongst the natives. Over 50% of the school-children suffered from T.B. because of the complete lack of milk.  
There would be a Bring & Buy Sale at Mrs Hemming's house on Saturday, Dec. 10th, at 3.0 p.m.
- f) All Nations Group Mrs Ineson reported that the All Nations Group had had a very good Estonian evening at which about 130 had been present. The next meeting would be a Country Dance at Guthrie House, on Jan. 13th, at 7.30 p.m.

- g) Meeting with Polish Women Mrs Scholefield Allen reported that at a small combined Meeting of the Polish Women's Association and the WIL the question had been discussed of forming a Polish Group of the WIL attached to the British Section.
- h) Parliamentary Group Mrs Warner reported that this Group had met weekly since its inception. The matters discussed and action taken had been as follows:-
1. Conscientious Objection in France  
Action taken  
Letter to Madame Jouve  
Letter to Mr. Bovin. Reply unsatisfactory. Further letter sent.  
Letter sent to Manchester Guardian by Mrs Brailsford.
  2. Present Situation in Germany.  
Action taken  
Letter sent to Mr. Morrison. This letter was referred to the Foreign Office and a satisfactory reply was sent by them.
  3. The Defence Bill  
Action taken  
Lady Mayer went down to the House and spoke to Mrs Ganley.
  4. South Africa  
Action taken  
Accurate information on this subject to be collected by members with a view to considering what good use might be made of it in the New Year.
  5. Civil Liberties  
Action taken  
Mrs Warner wrote to Mr. Bailey of the Hansard Society to find out what were the present threats to Civil Liberties by Orders in Council & Tribunals. He replied that these arbitrary methods of government were almost made necessary by the M.P.s lack of time to consider every subject thoroughly.
  6. Food & Agriculture Organisation  
Action taken  
It was decided to find out exactly what Britain's attitude was to Lord Boyd Orr's policy.
  7. Technical Assistance Board  
Action taken  
Mrs Wood wrote to Miss Baer to express delight at the unanimity of its setting up.
  8. Colonial Matters  
Action taken
    - a) It was decided to apply to Mr. Greenidge of the Anti-Slavery Society for information on the right of the Basutos to appeal to a higher Court. He replied that they have no right of appeal.
    - b) It was decided that a protest be brought to the Executive Committee that Great Britain voted against the Rev. M. Scott being given a hearing at Lake Success.

A letter had been received from Madame Jouve urging that Britain take her full part in European Unity. It was decided that Miss Joan Robinson be invited to speak to the next Executive on the economic implications to Britain of European Unity.

- i) Women's Peace Movement Mrs Wood reported that this Organisation had recently raised £10 by a Jumble Sale. The Movement was continuing as a Correlating Committee.
- j) British Soviet Society Women's Committee Congress  
Miss Haughton reported that she felt the Meeting she had attended had been disappointing and one-sided.

- k) Finance Committee Mrs Ineson read a lengthy Memorandum of suggestions for curtailment of expenditure, but discussion was postponed.
1526. Finance Mrs Stapledon said that the Accounts for 1949 showed a deficit of about £100 over 1948. In 1948 we had had an overdraft of about £100, and in 1949 our overdraft was about £200. This unfortunate state of affairs was slightly mitigated by a kind legacy of £50 from Miss Tanner which was not included.
1527. Annual Council It was announced that the Annual Council would be held at Folkestone from March 24th to 27th. The Topic would be World Truce. The speakers suggested were Mr. Brailsford, Miss Dorothy Woodman, and Miss Freda White. Dr. Snodgrass was to be asked to open the discussion on Food & Population. It was decided that the following subjects should be treated:-  
 General background  
 Germany  
 The Far East  
 Food & Population  
 The summing up and discussion on future action.
1528. Questions for Parliamentary Candidates The Parliamentary Group was asked at its next meeting, to draw up questions for Parliamentary Candidates, and, amongst others, to consider the following points:-  
 a) T.A.B.  
 b) Disarmament.  
 c) Control of Atomic Energy.  
 d) Food & Agriculture Organisation.  
 e) South Africa.  
 f) International Accountability  
 These should be printed and circulated as soon as possible.

The Chairman congratulated Mrs Kemp on the successful party which had been held at her house and which had realised £10.

Miss M.L. Moll conveyed to the Meeting the Greetings of the American Section.

Date & Place of Next Meeting

The first Wednesday in January (4th) at 32, Tavistock Square.

*G R Underwood*

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