

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Wednesday, January 6th, 1943, at 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Wood, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Lord, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Beesley, Miss Anderson. Mrs. Bedford, Liaison Officer, Mrs. Ballinger (Birmingham Branch), Dr. Richends Scott (Opener of discussion on Beveridge Report).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Castle, Miss Haughton Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Ross and Miss Pye.

MINUTES of Meeting on December 2nd, 1942, were confirmed, having been previously circulated.

306. BUSINESS ARISING. Mrs. Innes reported on the response from Women's Organisations to the circular about the proposed Conference on the Beveridge Report. AGREED to approach Sir William again for a Saturday morning in February or March.

Mrs. Duncan Harris welcomed to the Committee Dr. Scott, who had very kindly come from Oxford specially to open the discussion on the Beveridge Report.

Dr. Scott in summarising the Report said she considered it a very revolutionary document and it was the first public recognition and acceptance of the fact that want in its acute forms can be abolished. It is part of a comprehensive scheme of real progress. ~~The abolition of want~~ <sup>recognition</sup> is only one of the five roads to the goal of ~~recognition~~. The scheme covers all citizens without upper income limit; it recognises the position of the housewife. It gives a married woman a definite status when entering upon her new life, and incapacity for household duties is met by provision of paid help in illness; it provides against interruption of earning power and makes allowances for expenditure on birth, death and marriage; it makes provision for more adequate old age pensions and for children's allowances; it removes abuses as regards Workmen's Compensation and Industrial Insurances; it provides for a real National Health Service for the first time, aiming at full preventive and curative treatment for every citizen; ~~it shows how~~ <sup>reports that</sup> mass unemployment ~~can~~ <sup>ment</sup> be prevented and provides for unemployment benefit, conditional only on attendance at a training centre after a fixed period of unemployment.

Dr. Scott detailed the six fundamental principles of the Report: Flat rate subsistence benefit, flat rate of contributions; unification of administrative responsibility; adequacy of benefit, comprehensiveness and classification.

Dr. Scott said that labour must become more fluid and workers must be prepared to move about the country and when necessary to change from one occupation to another. A great national housing planning scheme was very necessary to meet the essential needs of the country.

An interesting discussion followed. The Committee welcomed the Report and looked forward to a fuller discussion of it with other women's organisations.

Mrs. Harris thanked Dr. Scott for her admirable survey of the Report.

The following arrangements for LUNCH MEETINGS were reported:- Bishop Heaslett was speaking on "Present Day Japan" on January 13th; Dr. Greta Hedin, a Swedish W.I.L. member, on "Conditions in Sweden" on January 20th; Mrs. Ambrosova on "Germany in the Reconstruction of Europe" on February 24th.

AGREED to invite Dr. Hedin and Miss Ruth Woodsmall, (the World's Y.W.C.A. Secretary) who has just arrived in this country to meet the Committee at lunch at the next Executive on February 3rd. If Miss Woodsmall cannot come on February 3rd AGREED to ask her for a Lunch Meeting on January 27th.

307. THE MESSAGE TO ALL WOMEN. Mrs. Innes reported on the excellent response to the Message. She was asked to report it in the February News Sheet.

308. FINANCE Mrs. McGregor Wood reported on the financial position and appealed to the Committee to take the finances seriously. A Finance Committee of the following was appointed:- Mrs. Wood, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Lord and Miss Dickinson. It would meet at 10.45a.m. on January 13th.

Mrs. Wood reported a suggestion from Mrs. Lloyd Prichard of a campaign to get 1,000 people who would subscribe £1 each.

Mrs. Wood reported that owing to serious illness in Miss Wolstencroft's home she would not be able to audit the accounts this year. Mrs. Harris undertook to ask Mr. Redford Harris if he would do them.

Mrs. Wood reported that the W.I.L. would benefit under the Will of a deceased member, Miss MacQuellan. She asked permission to get the advice on it of Mr. Barrs Davies as there was a condition in the Will about which she was not clear.

309. COLONIAL CONVENTION. As the Executive had not had the opportunity of studying individually the proposals of the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society for an International Colonial Convention, it was AGREED to send forward Mrs. McGregor Ross's views on it, which she had sent to us after careful consideration and consultation with Miss Anderson. In sending the views forward it was AGREED to reaffirm the principles covering our attitude to the Colonial problem (1) that freedom at a measurable distance should be the goal aimed at; (2) that trusteeship is only a stepping stone towards that freedom. AGREED also to say that we endorsed Mrs. Ross's proposals that the Atlantic Charter should apply to the Colonies.

310. MASS MURDER OF JEWS IN EUROPE. The Committee considered an appeal for action to be taken to urge the Government to do everything in their power to halt the mass murder of Jews in Europe. AGREED that a letter should be sent to Mr. Eden urging the Government to do all in its power to save some at least of the Jews of Europe who are being threatened with extermination; (2) pressing our Government to grant every facility within its power for transportation of any who can be rescued, and for reception in countries over which the British Government has control; (3) urging that the children should at all costs be saved whenever and wherever possible.

311. Reported that resolutions adopted at the FOURTH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE BRAZILIAN FEDERATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (sent to us by the Ministry of Information at the request of Miss Hornby) included (1) requesting that all organised groups of women in the world urge the inclusion of a woman plenipotentiary member on the delegation of each country represented at the Peace Conference and body charged with the establishment of world order after peace is won; (2) expressing its sorrow for the passing of Senator Francesca Planinkova of Czecho-Slovakia, and of Rosa Manus of Holland, who died in Germany; (3) appealing to all women's organisations to unite their efforts and hold out the hand of friendship to women of other countries so that any attempts to divide the new world shall be of no avail.

Greetings from Miss Balch, the Swedish Section and Lady Unwin were reported.

312.

INDIA. Reported that Sir Cecil Graves had replied to the letter from Mrs. Innes of 7th December saying that the B.B.C.'s bulletins are based on the news supplied by the News Agencies and should information concerning the Conference to be called by Sir Tej Saprú's be received there is little doubt <sup>but</sup> that it would be mentioned as being a matter of general public interest.

On receipt of this letter Miss Harrison communicated with Reuters on the matter and asked that more information be obtained from India. Also, approach was made to the India Department of the Ministry of Information, who said they would see what could be done.

The present position remains at deadlock. A new crisis had arisen in connection with press censorship and on January 6th a one-day strike of all the important Indian owned newspapers suspended publication. Effort was being made at this end to enlist the attention of responsible editors and journalists in this situation.

Reported that Miss Dickinson has kindly consented to take on the responsibility of Hon. Editor and Treasurer of the Bulletin of the Liaison Group of British Women's Societies co-operating with the All India Women's Conference.

313. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS. Reported a letter from Mrs. Bayes, Secretary of the Birmingham W.I.L. with reference to Halls, Speakers, and Subjects. Mrs. Ballinger reported that at a sub-Committee on 4th January it had been AGREED that the Branch should be responsible for paying for the Birmingham Friends Meeting House for a meeting, and would take a collection. They would also be willing to find a Chairman, but asked the Executive to provide two speakers, the second of whom they suggested might be Mrs. Lloyd Prichard

It was AGREED to ask Miss Pye if she would address the meeting on Reconstruction (finding a suitable title for advertising purposes) and Mrs. Lloyd Prichard if she would be the second speaker.

The Committee expressed great pleasure on the appointment of Miss Pye, under the Allied Post-War Requirements Bureau, for the looking after of mothers and infants in connection with the feeding and relief work on the Continent when hostilities ceased. AGREED to send her congratulations and best wishes.

The Birmingham Branch felt there would be some difficulty in providing sheets for use during the Council Meetings and would be glad if all delegates could be asked to bring their own. They would, however, be prepared to supply one or two pairs in case of need.

Mrs. Ballinger was asked to find out if the Birmingham Branch would be prepared to arrange a Bring and Buy Sale during the Council.

Reported that Mrs. Lloyd Prichard had expressed the desire that the Report by Mrs. Janes of the extended Executive Committee on 6th, 7th October should be considered at the Annual Council.

314. INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF TRANSPORT OF ALL-AIRWAYS AND WATERWAYS. Mrs. Innes was asked to draft a resolution on this for the February Committee, the question of taking action having been raised by Mrs. Duncan Harris.

315. MRS. LORD REPORTED ON THE FOLLOWING BRANCHES.

Cambridge. At the Annual Sale a record sum of £46 was raised. 22 new members joined the Branch during the last two months.

Croydon. The weekly W.E.A. Classes kept the Branch busying concentrating on preparation of members to play their part in constructive post-war service. A special meeting to discuss policy is being planned, and at a Lunch Hour Meeting in February Mrs. Brayshaw will be the speaker. A Bring and Buy Stall is to be arranged.

Glasgow. The Branch is endeavouring to increase its membership. A good deal of complacency among the unthinking is found and "these are the ones we must try to stir up." Monthly meetings are held. The one in December was on "Education for Democracy."

N.Wales. A Conference on Post-War Reconstruction was held on December 29th and 30th. A paragraph re Mrs. Prichard's address appeared in the Manchester Guardian on Monetary Reform. The Branch hopes that consideration of Mrs. James's memo on the extended Executive Committee will be given at the Council Meeting. The Branch would like to know if other Branches are giving time to it.

Manchester. The Branch is arranging a Conference on the suggestions contained in Mrs. Innes's letter (a) Women's Business in Relation to Post-War Settlement, (b) International Organisation.

Marazion Branch has had meetings during the year on China, Russia and India.

Mrs. Lord would shortly be visiting Reading Branch, when she hoped to see Mrs. Muter Wilson.

The Executive expressed its appreciation of this method of keeping in touch with the Branches and for the variety of ways in which the work of the W.I.L. is being interpreted and the evidence that the Branches are getting down to serious study.

The Office was asked to let the Branches know once more of their right to attend Executive Committee Meetings.

316. WOMAN SUFFRAGE SILVER JUBILEE COMMITTEE. Reported that seven Societies are combining to celebrate the winning of the vote by British women. The first event is to be a lunch on 6th February, the day on which, 25 years ago, British women were first enfranchised. The Office had ordered six tickets (3/6d) each for sale to W.I.L. members. The following expressed their intention of being present: Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Lord and Miss Harrison.

317. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Report a Conference on the German Question on January 29th and 30th in London. The four discussions will be on (1) the historical background, (2) the economic factors; (3) the political issues, and (4) the spiritual and psychological problems. Tickets 2/6d for the whole Conference, or 1/- for individual sessions. Mrs. Lord hoped to attend and it was AGREED to ask Miss Haughton if she could attend. AGREED that a message of sympathy should be sent to Miss Haughton in her present illness.

318. EQUAL COMPENSATION FOR WAR INJURY FOR MEN AND WOMEN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE. Reported the receipt of a letter from this Committee to the Chairman of the Women's Publicity Planning Association deploring any suggestion of militant action to obtain equal compensation, which they felt would only serve to alienate the sympathy which has been created in all parts of the country for the principle of equal compensation. "Therefore, while we disapprove of, and are indignant at, the Government failure to introduce equal compensation, we are not prepared to use any but constitutional means to rectify this wrong."

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, February 3rd at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row. from 12 noon to 3 p.m.

EXTRACT FROM CONSTITUTION & RULES OF THE W.I.L.

"Each Branch shall be entitled to send one representative to the Executive Committee Meetings with power to speak, but not to vote, the Executive not being responsible for such representatives' expenses."

*Azella Harrison*  
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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, February 5rd, 1945, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Miss Agatha Harrison in the Chair, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Beesley, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Haughton, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Pye, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Castle.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Miss Harrison reported that Mrs. Duncan Harris was unable to be present owing to illness. AGREED that flowers should be sent to Mrs. Harris with messages of love and good wishes for a speedy recovery from the Committee. Miss Dickinson very kindly undertook to take them.

Reported Mrs. Greenwood was sorry she could not attend on account of her Mother's illness. Mrs. Innes undertook to write a message of sympathy to her.

Mrs. Brayshaw was also prevented from attending on account of illness in her family.

MINUTES OF MEETING on January 6th were signed, after the following amendments had been made:-

In Minute 306 on page 1. par. 3. line 6 substitute "reconstruction" for "recognition," and in the 16th line substitute "requires that" for "shows how."

319. BUSINESS ARISING:

AGREED that the April Committee should commence at 11.30 a.m. and to defer other Committee arrangements until the next meeting when Mrs. Duncan Harris hoped to be present.

Reported that no speaker had been secured for the proposed CONFERENCE ON THE BEVERIDGE REPORT. AGREED to ask Mrs. Rackham if she would open the discussion at a meeting in late March.

Reported a letter of appreciation of the help given over the draft Colonial Convention, from the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society. Special thanks were expressed in the letter to Mrs. Ross for her detailed comments. Many of the suggestions will be inserted in the final draft, copies of which will be sent when completed.

Reported formal acknowledgment of letter from Mr. Anthony Eden re The Persecution of Jews. The 'Jewish Chronicle' reported the W.I.L. approach to Mr. Eden on the matter. A letter from Frau Misar was reported suggesting large meetings of such Organisations as the Trade Unions, the Co-operative Guilds, the Women's Organisations and Churches, to voice their protest and to ask the Government to offer sanctuary to such Jews as can escape. She further suggested that the W.I.L. do as some other Committees of Organisations, i.e. adopt refugee children.

Mrs. McGregor Ross suggested the possibility of getting some of the Refugee Jews from the Continent to the Argentine where, she said, there were large tracts of land owned by Jews.

After discussion it was AGREED to consult the following as to the advisability of pressing for the sending of numbers of Jews to the Argentine: The Rev. W.W. Simpson, Lord Samuel, Norman Bentwich and Victor Gollancz, to whom a letter of appreciation should also be sent for his pamphlet "Let my People Go." AGREED that if the information received were favourable a resolution suggesting action should be sent to the Branches.

Reported a letter from the Women's International Zionist Organisation stating that a copy of our letter to Mr. Eden, which we had

sent them, had been sent to the World Jewish Congress. In view of the importance the Congress attached to the letter it is to be included in a publication to be issued shortly. Deep appreciation of our action in urging the Government to save the Jews who can escape, was expressed.

It was AGREED to inform Frau Misar of the decision of the Committee to seek further information.

320. CO-OPTION TO EXECUTIVE. On the proposal of Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Ballinger was elected to the Committee.

321. FINANCE. Mrs. Wood presented the attached Statement of accounts, which was accepted. She reported on the general financial trend of the League and put before the Committee the suggestions she had received and comparisons with the procedure of other Societies.

322. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS. Full details regarding dates for sending in resolutions, etc. had been sent to the Branches and members of the Council. The following were appointed to act as the Agenda Committee: Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison and Mrs. Innes.

The following resolution, drafted by Mrs. Innes, was adopted for the Council Agenda:-

"This Council believes that, in the interests of world organisation for peace, it is essential that former unrestricted international rivalry in the air, supported by unlimited sovereign rights, should give place to international co-operation over and organisation of world air services.

It therefore urges the Government in preparation for international action at the end of the war to initiate at once the investigations necessary for the formulation of proposals designed to achieve:-

- (1) The setting up of an international body for the development of air transport in such a way that it shall give an expanding service unhampered by political considerations;
- (2) The abolition of all naval and military air forces by international agreement;
- (3) Adequate international control of all aviation to prevent either its misuse for military purposes, or its diversion to serve private or sectional interests."

Suggestions were made for the main Subject of the Council, which the Agenda Committee were asked to consider:-

"Is the W.I.L. justifying itself?"

"Looking ahead: Our policy and opportunity."

It was suggested that Branches might be informed that they need not feel bound to send in resolutions, but if they had a real sense of urgency on any subject they would, of course, be free to do so.

Reported that Birmingham would like to invite the Council to tea on the 14th April, if Westhill College could manage the catering. The Committee expressed its thanks and said they felt the Council would enjoy it very much, if they were invited.

Reported also that Mrs. Tovey was willing to organise the Bring and Buy Sale again this year during the Council. The Committee gladly accepted this offer and AGREED it should behold three quarters of an hour before tea on the 15th (changed later to 6.30 p.m. on 14th)

Reported that Miss Edith Pye and Mrs. Lloyd Prichard had consented to speak at the Public Meeting, April 15th, 6.30 - 8 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House, Birmingham. The Bishop of Birmingham had promised to take the Chair. AGREED he should be given 15 to 20 minutes. The Birmingham Branch offered to find two people for the votes of thanks.

It was AGREED to ask Westhill College if it would be able, after the meeting, to provide something cold, set out on the tables, and hot drinks instead of a set supper.

The Committee AGREED to be responsible for the advertising of the meeting and Birmingham Branch kindly said they might be able to help, if necessary. It was hoped that the Collection would cover the expense, if a good audience was secured.

332. ANNUAL REPORT. Mrs. Innes read the draft Annual Report, which was accepted after a few changes and additions had been made.

333. FOOD RELIEF IN EUROPE. Miss Pye reported on the present situation. She suggested that, as the Archbishop of Canterbury would be addressing both Houses of Parliament on the subject on February 17th, the Branches should be invited to send letters to their Members of Parliament telling them of their concern on the question of food relief in Europe and that they are watching the situation very closely, and urging them to attend the meeting in the House. Miss Pye also suggested that where Branches are not already in touch with the local Committee of Women's Organisations, they should take steps to get on to the Committee as early as possible.

Miss Pye drew attention to the new pamphlet Vera Brittain had written about the famine in Europe, and strongly recommended it to our Branches, and for selling at meetings. AGREED to let Vera Brittain know that we should do all we could to make the pamphlet known.

334. BRANCHES Mrs. Lord reported on the following Branches:-

Cambridge. Has had its Annual Sale and a Lunch at which 73 were present. 22 new members have recently joined the W.I.L.

Croydon. Through attendance at weekly W.E.A. classes members are preparing themselves to play their part in constructive post-war service. A special meeting to discuss W.I.L. *policy* is being held; also a Bring and Buy Sale.

Glasgow. The Branch is endeavouring to increase its membership. Efforts are being made to reach the "unthinking." Monthly meetings are held.

North Wales. A Conference on Post-War Reconstruction was held on December 29th and 30th. The Branch hopes that Mrs. James's memorandum on the extended Committee Meeting in October will be considered at the Council Meetings. It would like to know if other Branches are studying it.

Manchester. The Branch is arranging a conference on the lines suggested in Mrs. Innes letter on "Women's Business in relation to Post-War Settlement, and on International Organisation. ~~Three~~ *One* delegates ~~were~~ sent to the North Wales Conference. The P.P.U. Secretary had invited the Branch to consider the possibilities of initiating a Manchester campaign for freedom for India. Two representatives were appointed. Mrs. Lord was speaking at the Annual Meeting. It had decided to hold several study groups on the Beveridge Report.

Liverpool. Mrs. Lord had been invited to address a meeting of members in February and would also speak to the Childwall Group.





WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, March 3rd, 1943, at 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Castle, Frau Hertzka (visitor), Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Beesley, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Bedford (Liaison Officer).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Miss Pye, Miss Mosa Anderson and Mrs. Garside, from whom a letter was read saying she had returned to London, but had been ill in bed for ten weeks. The Committee asked that a letter of welcome and of sympathy in her illness should be sent to her.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON FEBRUARY 3rd were signed, after the following amendment had been made on page 3, last paragraph but one headed "Manchester." Substitute "one delegate was sent" for "three delegates were sent."

342. BUSINESS ARISING.

A Report was made on arrangements for the Beveridge Report Conference - Mrs. Rackham had consented to open the morning session and Mrs. Ridealgh the afternoon session. Swedenborg Hall had been booked.

The programme with a covering letter had been sent to Women's Organisations and many individuals. The Women's Co-operative Guild had circularised their London and near London Guilds.

Members of the Executive were asked to help in bringing the Conference to the notice of other women's organisations.

The Committee endorsed the following resolution adopted by the National Peace Council on February 18th on the Beveridge Plan:-

"The N.P.C. welcomes and supports the Beveridge Report on Social Insurance as a practical first step towards the realisation of social security for the people of this country. The Council regards the achievement of social security in each country as an essential contribution to international peace, easing the tension of the struggle for foreign markets by stimulating and stabilising home demands arising from a better distribution of purchasing power.

The Council, while welcoming the Government's acceptance of the main objective and certain specific recommendations of the Report, regrets the Government's decision not to establish forthwith the proposed Ministry of Social Security with powers necessary for making preparations to operate without delay after enactment the measures recommended in the Report.

Following on the suggestion that, as a part solution of the Jewish Refugee Problem efforts should be made to press for the sending of numbers to the Argentine, inquiries had been made. Views expressed by those consulted were (1) that it is futile to press for sending Jews to the Argentine. Since 1931 the Argentine Government had first restricted, and then completely stopped immigration, and until the war is over, there appears to be not the slightest chance of the ban being lifted. (2) that homes should be found for Jewish refugees wherever available and what is wanted is that a High Commissioner appointed by the United Nations should go by aeroplane to every available place to conduct negotiations with the Governments of other countries, generally survey the ground and so arrange for the settlement of numbers in different places.

On the proposal of Frau Hertzka it was AGREED to consult Dr. Steinberg about a proposal for admitting Jews to Northern Australia.

Mrs. Innes reported that she had written to Miss Eleanor Rathbone about getting hospitality for the Jewish refugees. She had replied that Miss Sibforth, (The Refugee Aliens Protection Committee,

30 Maiden Lane, W.C. 2) is accepting offers of homes and money.  
The Peace Pledge Union is doing something on the same lines.

Reported that Frau Misar had forwarded a resolution passed by the International Co-operative Women's Guild and endorsed by the British Guild, which expressed deep sympathy with the Jewish people and contained a pledge to do everything possible to alleviate the misery of the women and children. It declared that Guildswomen are ready to do all in their power to organise temporary hospitality in this country for such Jewish children as can escape until their further journey to a permanent home can be ensured. The resolution further supported the motion of over 200 M.Ps urging the Government to issue more permits for Palestine.

343. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood said that she was sorry she could not give a statement of accounts for February as the books were with Mr. Selby, who had kindly undertaken to examine them. The Officers had suggested an Honorarium of 2½ guineas. The balance in hand was £130. 13. 0. Mrs. Wood asked that ample time be given to the consideration of the whole question of organising the finances of the W.I.L. during the Annual Council.

344. W.I.L. CZECH FUND. Mrs. Duncan Harris was sorry that the accounts had not yet been examined, but she hoped to have them ready shortly for the Annual Council. She said that one of the girls had reached the age of 15 when she must either have another year's schooling or have some sort of training. After consideration, on the proposal of Mrs. Wood, it was AGREED that £20 to £30 should be used on behalf of the girl's schooling or secretarial training, if necessary.

345. ANNUAL COUNCIL. Resolutions. AGREED Air Aviation, proposed by Executive, should be moved by Mrs. Innes, seconded by Miss Haughton.

The Agenda Committee were asked to consider various possibilities, including the need for a. urgency resolutions on India; The need for a United Nations Agreement on Post-War Reconstruction; Education.

The need for organising a Campaign for the inclusion of Women in the Peace Conference was also suggested as a subject for discussion at the Council; and the dividing into Groups to consider Publicity; Internal Organisation and Finance, such Groups to report their findings to the Council at a later session.

Mrs. Lord was asked to open a discussion on Branch and Headquarters Organisation.

Miss Harrison suggested the resolutions might be taken on the Friday morning.

The Committee were reminded that at the February Committee suggestions for Headings for the Council should be either (1) Is the W.I.L. justifying itself? (2) Looking ahead: Our Policy and Opportunity.

The question of arranging for Reporters for the Council was left to the Agenda Committee.

Public Meeting at Friends Meeting House, Bull Street, Birmingham, April 15th. Arrangements were well in hand. Suggestions for the handbill were given to Mrs. Ballinger, who asked for advice on behalf of her Committee.

Westhill College were arranging to leave cold food on the tables and to provide tea (or coffee if milk were available) for delegates returning after the Public Meeting.

The Reception of Delegates on April 14th by the Acock's Green and Birmingham Branches would take place from 3.30 to 5 p.m.

The Bring and Buy Sale would be on April 14th from 6.30 to 7 p.m.

Suggested that the Executive might meet from 2 to 3 p.m. on Friday, April 16th to deal with the resolutions adopted.

346. FOOD RELIEF IN EUROPE. Reported that the following Branches had written to their M.Ps urging them to attend the meeting of the House on February 17th when the Archbishop of Canterbury would be speaking on Food Relief in Europe: Acock's Green, Birmingham, Brighton, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Leicester, Manchester, North Wales, Welwyn Garden City, and also several members of the London Congregational Union, Women's League, which is affiliated to the W.I.L. had taken similar action.

347. INDIA. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that she had represented the W.I.L. on a deputation that waited on Mr. Amery on February 24th, to ask for the release of Mr. Gandhi. She had spoken definitely in the name of the W.I.L. as a women's organisation which was deeply concerned about India. Mr. Amery listened courteously to all that was said, but it was clear that the Government were not prepared to make any concessions.

The N.P.C. had sent out to a wide circle of people, including all M.Ps a Statement on the Indian Crisis, issued by the India Conciliation Group (Statement filed with Minutes). The W.I.L. had sent it to Branches with a note saying Miss Harrison would be glad if they could make use of it.

Miss Dickinson reported a meeting of the Liaison Group and said that they were awaiting news from India before issuing another India Bulletin, and that Mrs. Corbett Ashby had addressed a letter to Mr. Amery on behalf of the Group urging that facilities for consultation with Mr. Gandhi and Congress leaders be given.

Miss Harrison reviewed the situation that had arisen since the last Executive and the present position. She was asked to prepare a statement to be circulated to the Branches as a guide for future action (this will follow later).

348. NEWS FROM ABROAD. Mrs. Innes reported letters from Fraulein Heymann and Gertrud Baer. The latter is printing "The Message to All Women" in her International Letter. Fr. Heymann had referred to the proposal made by Mrs. Corbett Ashby for a Women's International Conference after the War. There was a great need to keep our minds alert for making possible contacts with the European and other countries for post-war relief, measures for which are stimulating people from other countries residing in this country.

The need for women to be members of the Peace Conference was urgent - including women from 'enemy' countries. It was reported that the following M.Ps had waited on Mr. Attlee in a deputation. They had appealed that women should be taken into equal partnership and given a better representation on the various Government Committees that are framing proposals for post-war reconstruction:- Viscountess Astor, Lady Aspley, Dr. Summerskill, Mrs. Cazlet Keir, Mrs. Tate and Miss Irene Ward, who headed the deputation.

After consideration it was AGREED that a letter should be sent to these women M.Ps assuring them of the support of the W.I.L. in any movement for making sure that women will be included in discussions before and at the Peace Conference. AGREED also that this matter should come before the Council in April. A suggestion was made that this might form the subject of another Conference of women's organisations and that it should be brought before the delegates at the Beveridge Report Conference. AGREED to consult the members of the ad hoc Committee as to whether this proposal would meet with their approval.

349. COLONIES. Mrs. Ross reported that a new Constitution adopted by the British Government had been offered to Jamaica, which was considered as an epoch-making event. It gives adult suffrage, it creates three different Councils, but it does not give self-Government and the Government has the power to veto Bills. The people of

Jamaica appear to be pleased with it. Schemes for social and economic improvements have been drawn up by Sir Frank Stockdale in a White Paper.

Mrs. Ross thought an interesting article for the News Sheet could be written on the subject which should include something of Sir Frank Stockdale's Report.

After consideration it was AGREED to ask Dr. Harold Moody if he would write (or suggest someone else to write) a paragraph on the Jamaican Constitution and a longer article on How the Development Fund is being used in the West Indies. Failing Dr. Moody Dr. Rita Hinden and Miss Una Marson were to be asked, in turn.

Reported that the Colonial Office states that a Colonial Social Welfare Advisory Committee has been appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to deal with problems affecting social welfare of the inhabitants in the Colonies. There were no representatives from the Missionary Societies on it, and it was suggested that the Colonial Office should invite them to nominate someone to serve on this Government Committee. Mrs. Ross undertook, on behalf of the Committee, to consult The Rev. Myers Grace about this omission and to ask him if the Missionary Societies wanted to get on to the Committee, and if so should we make representations to the Government?

Mrs. Ross and Miss Dickinson AGREED to represent the W.I.L. at the British Commonwealth League Conference on Ideals of Colonial Administration, at the Alliance Hall, Palmer Street, S.W. 1 on 6th March.

350. NEWS SHEET. Mrs. Innes reported (1) that Mrs. James would write an article on "Minorities in Russia" for the April News Sheet, (2) that Mrs. Lloyd Prichard had suggested (a) A Commemorative Suffrage Number and that Mrs. Pethick Lawrence should be asked to write her personal reminiscences of the struggle of the Suffragists, linking it with the birth of the International Women's Movement which came out of it, (b) an issue on the general Women's Movement in other countries.

It was AGREED to ask Mrs. Pethick Lawrence to write an article as proposed, and to ask Miss Ruth Woodsmall, the General Secretary of the World Y.W.C.A. who had been in different countries fairly recently, to write on the Women's Movement in other Countries, but not to devote a whole issue to either subject.

Mrs. Lloyd Prichard was to be informed of the decision of the Committee.

351. BRANCH ACTIVITIES, reported by Mrs. Lord:-

S.W. London has decided to keep the Branch going and Mrs. Best has agreed to act as Secretary. The group hope to meet monthly and discuss items of interest in the News Sheet.

Birmingham. It was with great regret the Branch accepted the resignation of Mrs. Bagnall, who as President has given such whole-hearted devotion to the welfare of the Branch. At the Annual Meeting Mrs. Barnes (wife of the Bishop) was elected President and Mrs. Ballinger, Chairman. Mrs. Ballinger was co-opted a member of London Executive at the February meeting. A very interesting discussion on Branch activities followed the business at the Annual Meeting as Mrs. Ballinger felt that the Committee was not sufficiently in touch with the members. It was decided to have four meetings a year for members only: a summer garden party, a winter social, a meeting for discussion and the Annual Meeting. A resolution on India in connection with Mr. Gandhi's fast was sent to Mr. Churchill, Mr. Amery, Sir Stafford Cripps and the twelve Birmingham M.Ps.

North Wales. The Committee sent a resolution to the Government deploring the present treatment of the Jews in Europe and urging that every possible step be taken to secure their safety.

As a practical gesture in implementing this resolution the Committee wishes to offer hospitality to 2 adults and 2 small children in their Refugee House at Llanfairfechan, the Committee undertaking financial responsibility until the end of the war.

The financial relationship of Branches to Headquarters was discussed as was also the layout of the new W.I.L. leaflet.

The Committee also heard with interest of the progress of the India Conciliation Petition. 240 places in Wales have responded and the signatures number approximately 4,000.

Manchester. Certain important letters had been sent out by the Officers of the Branch. One to the Foreign Secretary asking for speedy action in rescuing persecuted Jews. Another to the Minister of War deploring the action of stopping D.N. Britt from lecturing to the troops and another from the Manchester Branch of the W.I.L. to a meeting of Czech Slovakian women in London. It was decided to support a public meeting for Indian Freedom in conjunction with other bodies. A suggestion to hold a public meeting on Anti-Vansittartism was agreed to and it was decided to hold such a meeting on March 27th. All the Manchester and Salford M.Ps had been written to drawing their attention to the meeting on February 17th when the Archbishop of Canterbury was to address a joint meeting of both Houses of Parliament on Food Relief to Europe.

Mrs. Lord spoke of her visit to Manchester and the W.I.L. Groups at Whitefield and Cheadle Hulme. She had also visited Liverpool and the newly formed group at Childwall. She wished to record her thanks for this opportunity of meeting so many members of the W.I.L. family.

The Secretary of the Warrington Branch attended the Manchester meeting and asked Mrs. Lord to send a précis of her address which might be read at the Warrington Annual Meeting.

352. EQUAL COMPENSATION FOR WAR INJURY TO MEN AND WOMEN. A written report was received from Mrs. Humble who, on behalf of the W.I.L. attended a meeting of the above to consider the Select Committee's Report on Equal Compensation. The Committee asked that its thanks should be conveyed to Mrs. Humble for her excellent report.

353. LUNCH MEETINGS. Reported that on February 24th Mrs. Ambrosova had addressed a meeting of 60 people. Miss Pye had taken the Chair in the absence of Freda White, who was prevented from attending owing to illness.

A meeting on March 10th was to be addressed by Miss Ruth Woodsmall on "Trends in Post-War Thinking." Dame Katharine Furse was taking the Chair.

A series of meetings on Education from various points of view was suggested, but it was AGREED to leave arrangements over until after the Council Meetings.

Mrs. Ballinger raised the question of Branch affiliation to the N.C.C.L. She was informed that the Committee had, on previous occasions, considered that co-operation rather than affiliation was the wiser course to take.

354. ABYSSINIA ASSOCIATION. The Committee appointed Miss Dickinson to attend the Annual Council Meeting of the Abyssinia Association on 11th March. She was also nominated for the Council.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, Wednesday April 7th, 11.30 at ~~144~~ Southampton Row, W.C. 1.

B. Duncan-Harris  
7. IV. 43

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, April 7th, 1943, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

Before commencing the business on the Agenda Mrs. Duncan Harris made reference to the death of Mr. Lawrence Binyon and Sir Alfred Baker. Mrs. Inne's letter to Mrs. Binyon was endorsed and it was agreed she should be asked to send a letter of sympathy to Karleen Baker.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Anderson, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Beesley, Mrs. Lord, Miss Haughton, Miss Pye, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Bedford (Liaison Officer), Miss Dickinson. *M<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> Innes Wood*

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Greenwood and Mrs. Brayshaw.

MINUTES OF MEETING on March 3rd were signed, having previously been circulated.

355. BUSINESS ARISING. Reported that on the suggestion of Mr. Barrs Davies, the Workers' International League had been asked if they could see their way to using their full title in order to avoid confusion as our attention had been drawn to the fact that they were using the W.I.L. initials. The Secretary had replied that in view of the fact that our organisation was formed long in advance of theirs, they had decided to comply with our request and they would endeavour as far as possible to use their full title on all occasions. Mrs. Innes had sent a letter of thanks in reply.

Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Haughton reported on the Beveridge Report Conference at Swedenborg Hall, London, Saturday, April 3rd, when about 120 women had attended, most of whom had been sent by women's organisations. Mrs. Rackham and Mrs. Ridealgh had made excellent resumes of the Report and the discussions were very good. At the close of the meeting the following resolution was adopted nem. con:- "This Conference of Women meeting in London on Saturday, April 3rd, 1943, declares its general support for the proposals of the Beveridge Report, but urges that the scheme for children's allowances should include payment for the first child and should be implemented forthwith, and presses for the consideration of benefits for housewives.

It also urges, in particular, the immediate establishment of a Ministry of Social Security."

It was AGREED that the resolution should be sent to Sir William Beveridge and the proper Government quarters.

The Conference augmented the Committee which had arranged the meeting and asked it to consider the arrangements for another Conference to consider how best to work for the inclusion of women as official delegates in all steps taken in the making of Peace and of Reconstruction. The question of a Public Meeting was considered but it was agreed that a Conference was needed first. It was agreed that the next Conference should be self-supporting and Mrs. Duncan Harris undertook to pass this on to the ad hoc Committee.

With regard to the deputation of Women M.Ps to Mr. Attlee, at which it was urged that women should be taken into equal partnership and given a better representation on the various Government Committees that are framing proposals for post-war reconstruction, - we had suggested that in any future approach it should definitely be urged that women should serve in a full official capacity on the Peace Conference itself and its various bodies. The following had replied to our letter of 8th April:-

Miss Irene Ward, who said that she knew her colleagues would agree

with the last paragraph in its entirety and hoped they would be strong enough in their representations to ensure such a result;

Dr. Edith Summerskill, Mrs. Mavis Tate, who had sent formal acknowledgments;

Mrs. Cazalet Keir, who will bear in mind what we said,

Lady Astor, who will do everything in her power to see that women are represented on all Reconstruction Committee and also at the Peace Table. She had been urging this for a long time and will do anything she can to help.

Lady Apsley had made a note of our suggestion.

356. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts was adopted. Mrs. Wood reported that Cambridge had sent a donation of £10 to Headquarters. She again emphasised the importance of the Executive taking the finances seriously. The subscriptions so far received for the first three months of this year were exactly half of the total amount last year. These months usually yield the bulk of the subscriptions. Others will doubtless come in later but there is urgent need to put the funds on a sound financial basis. She would like the support of the Committee in proposals she wished to put forward at the Council as Hon. Treasurer. She proposed that Branches (1) should start a campaign to get members to give one pound a year to Headquarters as Friends of Headquarters; (2) should be asked for a definite quota each year, the amount to be fixed by Headquarters (on a membership basis); (3) should make a point of special money-raising efforts <sup>each year</sup>. The Committee approved of Mrs. Wood's proposals.

Mrs. Wood said that allied to the question of finance is that of publicity and she would like to see membership cards printed. She would also like to see a Finance Committee and a Publicity Committee functioning regularly.

At the first meeting of the new Executive in London it was agreed to appoint a Finance Committee and a Publicity Committee and to consider appointing any of the other Committees which were in existence at the outbreak of war.

357. COUNCIL MEETINGS. Reported the arrangements were well in hand. The final Agenda, etc. had been sent to Branches and other delegates. The arrangements for the public meeting were well in hand. An Agenda for the meeting was drafted which allowed 15/20 minutes for the Bishop of Birmingham, 25 for Miss Pye and 20 for Mrs. Lloyd Prichard. It was agreed that Mrs. Wood should make a brief statement about the work of the W.I.L. just before the Collection and that Mrs. Duncan Harris should make an appeal for new members immediately after Mrs. Lloyd Prichard. The Vote of Thanks was to be given by a Birmingham Member and seconded by a member from Acock's Green.

Mrs. Berwick Sayers was to be asked if she would write an article for the News Sheet, giving general impressions of the Council. Mrs. Innes and Miss Haughton agreed to report the proceedings. Agreed that Press reporters should not be invited but that a note on resolutions adopted should be sent to the Press.

who gave

358. BRANCH REPORTS BY MRS. LORD an interesting account of activities. She felt strongly, however, that the members of the Branches were not in close enough touch with their Committees and she would like to see every individual member playing a part in the work of the Branch.

359. INDIA Miss Harrison reported on the present position. She referred to the publication of the White Paper; the debates in the House and the abandonment of the moderate leaders' talk with the Viceroy and said they served to show the mind of the Government.

All doors seemed to be closed. It was agreed that the urgency resolution on India for the Council meetings should include reference to the publication of the White Paper, which presented a case for the prosecution only. It was reported that Mrs. Lankoster had heard from India that the Hon. Secretary of the All India Women's Conference (Mrs. Mehta) had been arrested.

**360. RESCUE OF JEWS FROM NAZI TERRORISM.** Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Anderson reported on meetings of a Conference they had attended on behalf of the W.I.L. at the House of Commons. A cable had been sent to Mr. Eden in Washington as follows:-

"With reference forthcoming Anglo-American Conference on massacres of Jews and others by Nazis we assure you of the fullest support of public opinion in this country for treating problem as one of extreme urgency calling for immediate and boldest measures of rescue. British conscience so deeply stirred that country prepared for any sacrifice consistent with not delaying victory. We hope that the great opportunity afforded by your visit may be used for the speedy achievement of definite results."

The cable was signed by religious leaders, members of the two Houses of Parliament, many Lord Mayors, Members of the Council of the Royal Society and other Scientific Leaders, Heads of Oxford and Cambridge Colleges, Heads of other University Bodies, Trade Union Leaders, Organisations, including the W.I.L. and many leading men and women.

Mr. Eden cabled back thanks for the cable, saying he would be grateful if the signatories were informed that the matter was receiving his urgent attention.

Miss Anderson reported that arrangements were being made for an Anglo-American Conference to consider the question of relief for the Jews, to be held at Bermuda. The Committee suggested that at the next meeting in the House (which was being held that day, April 7th) Miss Anderson should try to put forward the suggestion that the South American countries and the Dominions should be invited to send representatives to the Conference. Miss Anderson said that Miss Rathbone had drafted a programme for rescue measures.

It was reported that Victor Gollancz had printed an Addendum to "Let my People Go."

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on an interview she had had with Mrs. Essensohn on behalf of Dr. Steinberg, who was in Australia, on the proposal to settle Jews in Northern Australia, or at least to send out a pioneer band in the hope that later many Jews would be allowed to settle there after the war.

After discussing the project it was agreed to ask Mr. Norman Bentwich if he could tell us anything about it; if it were feasible, and if, in his opinion, it was a matter on which public opinion should be informed with a view to getting a long-term project, thereby facilitating the reception of refugees in countries of first refuge. Agreed that if his reply were favourable we should ask Mrs. Zangwill if she would write an article for the News Sheet at some time. Agreed also to ask the Secretary of our Australian Section, Miss Eleanor Moore, if she could give us their opinion on the subject.

**361. COLONIES.** Mrs. Innes reported that a letter has just been received from Mrs. McGregor Ross enclosing a draft letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the newly appointed Advisory Committee on Social Services in the Colonies. In the letter she had asked if it would be possible for the appointment to the Committee of two or three other members having first-hand experience of Africa. The Committee agreed that Mrs. Ross should be reminded that they had in mind the whole of the Colonies and not only of



Africa, and asked if she would amend her letter accordingly? Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Innes were left to act on behalf of the Committee on hearing from Mrs. Ross again.

362. FOOD RELIEF. Miss Pye reported on the present situation and referred to the appeal of M. Hubert Pierlot, Belgian Prime Minister, for the sending of dried milk to the Belgian children, made at a Press Conference called by the Famine Relief Committee on March 19th, and in Parliament Rear Admiral Beamish asked if there was any intention of granting M. Pierlot's request. The reply was in the negative. The Famine Relief Committee is considering a National Campaign. Miss Pye drew attention to the Council resolution on Famine Relief and said that on a technical point what was required both from the British Government and from U.S.A. was permission to send dried milk, etc. into Occupied Europe and not 'navicerts.' This would be noted at the Council.

363. LIAISON COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

Mrs. Innes reported that this Committee was urging its Constituent Members to redouble their efforts (1) to make the status of women a political issue; (2) to press for the full representation of women, both in the permanent administrations of their countries and in all national and international bodies set up for the planning, and (3) to give the widest publicity to the present situation in order to arouse women to press for equal citizenship; (4) to press for the abolition of all disabilities placed upon women which still exists in their own country. Mrs. Innes expressed regret that no one had been found able to attend the meetings of the Liaison Committee on behalf of the W.I.L.P.F., as she felt it was doing good work. Mrs. Grindley undertook to attend meetings whenever possible and Miss Zimmern was to be informed of this.

364. NEWS FROM ABROAD. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that Miss Woodsmall, Secretary of the World Y.W.C.A. is taking a letter from herself to Miss Dorothy Detzer ~~and Miss Harrison~~. Agreed to ask her to take greetings from the Committee to Dorothy Detzer and to Gertrud Baer.

*and Gertrud Baer.*

Mrs. Innes reported (1) that the Canadian Section had reprinted our Message to Women and was sending it out widely; (2) that she, as one of the International Chairman, had received a cable from our Swedish Section inviting the next Congress to Stockholm. Agreed to send thanks for the invitation, which was the first to be received, and gratitude for their forward-thinking plans.

*at her request*

Miss Dickinson reported that the Associated Country Women of the World had sent us a copy of a Message from the National Organisation of Greek Women to the Free Women of the World which had been smuggled out of Occupied Greece. Among other things the Message urged that all women should unite in insisting upon the creation of a new world free from wars and destructions; a world based upon the freedom of the individual and on social and universal justice. Miss Dickinson also reported that the replies to this Message are to be translated into Greek and broadcast by the B.B.C. on their broadcasts to Greece. Agreed to reply that they would be glad to know that the W.I.L. had been working for many years to secure these aims, and to send our greetings.

365. LUNCH MEETINGS. Agreed that future Lunch meetings should, if possible, deal with the Jewish question and also the International Control of air and sea transport.

366. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. The following agreed to represent the W.I.L. on the N.P.C. for 1943-1944:- Miss Haughton, Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Harrisons.

367. REPORTS OF MEETINGS OF OTHER SOCIETIES. Mrs. Crosfield sent a

report of the Conference on Regulation 33B, called by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, on March 19th, at which 46 Societies were represented, including the W.I.L. Mrs. Lord also reported.

Miss Dickinson reported on the British Commonwealth League Conference on Ideals of Colonial Administration.

Reported the publication by the Bombing Restriction Committee of a new pamphlet "Stop Bombing Civilians!" Agreed to ask Mrs. Innes to mention it in the News Sheet.

Agreed to ask Miss Smith, one of our London Members, if she would represent the W.I.L. at the Civic Reception and the Public Sessions of the Annual Conference of the N.U.W&T. on April 27th/29th in the Great Hall, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square

Reported an invitation from Mr. Caradog Jones to send a representative to a meeting (date not fixed) to discuss the formation of an Advisory Council of the British People, whose function would be to see that policies advocated and actions taken within the British Commonwealth of Nations are consistent with the Welfare of the World as a whole and are not directed to the selfish ends of sectional interests.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Wednesday, May 5th 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

*B. to meet Harris  
5. V. 43*

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR MARCH, 1943.

RECEIPTS.

EXPENDITURE.

Balances on March 1st:-

Bank.....	169. 2. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Petty Cash.....	4.15. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Congress Fund.....	65. - . -
Penny-a-Week Fund.....	87. 1. 4
	<u>325.19. 2<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>
Subscriptions.....	36. 6. 6
Donations.....	19. 5. -
Bring & Buy Sale	1. - . -
News Sheets.....	3.13. 3
Literature.....	3. - .10
Affiliation Fees.	1. - . -
Penny-a-Week Fund	3.15. 8
Meetings.....	<u>12. 7. 1</u>
	80. 8. 4

Postage.....	8. 3. 6
Office Expenses.....	1. - . 2
Insurances (State 9/1d and War Damage 10/-).....	19. 1
Geneva Subscriptions.....	5. 3. 6
Rent.....	15. - . -
Salary.....	22. 10. -
Meetings.....	7. 3. -
Lighting and Heating.....	3. 9. 1
News Sheets.....	5. 2. 6
Fares.....	2. 4.10
Telephone.....	2. 6
Literature.....	3.15. 3
Stationery.....	5.16. -
Audite.....	<u>2.12. 6</u>
	83. 1.11

Balances:

Bank.....	132. 9.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Petty Cash.....	5.16. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Congress Fund.....	65. - . -
Penny-a-Week Fund	<u>119.19. 2</u>
	333. 5. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$

£406. 7. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$

£406. 7. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$

Signed minutes for the files, please

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Mrs Ross

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, May 5th, 1943, at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT Miss Harrison, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Lord, Miss Haughton, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Dr. Scott, Mrs. Beesley, Miss Burton, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Anderson, Mrs. McGregor Ross.

MRS. MCGREGOR WOOD TOOK THE CHAIR at the commencement of the meeting until the appointment of the Chairman for the new year.

368. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN. MRS. DUNCAN HARRIS was unanimously appointed.

369. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMEN: Miss Agatha Harrison and Mrs. Ross were appointed. Mrs. Castle was also appointed, subject to her consent.

370. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS. THE FIRST WEDNESDAY in the month was agreed upon.

371. APPOINTMENT OF SUB COMMITTEES. The following were appointed:-

Finance. Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Beesley, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford.

Publicity. Mrs. Innes, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Berwick Sayers (subject to consent), Mrs. Ross, Dr. Scott and Miss Dickinson.

Organisation. Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Castle (subject to consent), Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Miss Burton, Mrs. Grindley.

India and Colonies. Miss Harrison, Miss Anderson, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Miss Burton and Dr. Scott.

AGREED that the Finance, Publicity and Organisation Committees should meet for half an hour immediately after the half hour 'picnic' lunch on Executive Committee days, and the India and Colonies Committee on the first Tuesday evening of the month.

372. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Brayshaw and Mrs. Malcomson. A letter was read from Mrs. Greenwood regretfully resigning from the Executive owing to overwhelming domestic difficulties. The Committee felt the resignation must be accepted and AGREED that a letter should be sent to Mrs. Greenwood expressing sympathy in her difficulties and the hope that when circumstances permitted she would return to the Committee.

373. MINUTES OF MEETING ON APRIL 7th were signed, after substituting in Minute 364 News from Abroad 1st par. 3rd line "Gertrud Baer" for "Miss Harrison." In the same Minute 3rd par. 2nd line add the words "at her request" after "had sent us."

374. REPORT OF AD HOC COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS to consider organising a Women's Conference for the inclusion of women as official delegates in all steps taken in the making of peace, and of reconstruction. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the Committee had agreed:-

(1) that a preliminary small Conference should be held of representatives from National Organisations, but not from Branches of National Organisations, and that organised groups of women of other nations in this country should be invited to give the name of one of their number who could be invited to share in the deliberations.

(2) to try to get support for the Conference of prominent women as Sponsors. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Tate, M.P., Mrs. Ganley, Mrs. Haslett, Mrs. Hawse and Mrs. Malone are being

approached.

- (3) that the Conference must be self-supporting and that Organisations should be asked to contribute towards the initial expenses of it;
- (4) that a letter should be sent to organisations asking them to appoint delegates and to make a contribution.

Mrs. Duncan Harris said that on behalf of the W.I.L. she had offered office accommodation for organising the Conference, and that Miss Pearson of the National Union of Women Teachers had promised temporary help with the work, though she could not undertake to act as Secretary to the Committee. Additional clerical help would be necessary.

It was also reported that the receipts for the Beveridge Report Conference were £9.19.3d and the approximate expenses (excluding rent, telephone and secretarial services) were £10.10.6d. The £10 advanced by the W.I.L. would be returned to its Reserve Fund, less the 11/3d not covered.

At the conclusion of Mrs. Harris's report it was AGREED that the W.I.L. should make a grant of £1.1.0 towards the expenses of the Conference.

375. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS, April 1943. Reported that the Council resolutions had been sent out to the proper quarters and thirtyone acknowledgments had been received, including formal letters from the Government Departments. The Chief Rabbi (Dr. J.H. Hertz) in sending thanks for the resolution on the Persecution of the Jews, said:-

"In this terrible hour in Israel's agony, when a sentence of death has been pronounced upon the entire Jewish population on the Continent, the deepfelt sympathy of our countrymen with the victims doomed to torture and butchery restores our faith in humanity.

May God grant that the Resolutions of Protest which are now being passed by so many important bodies throughout the land, will overcome the inertia of those who alone have the power to initiate the great work of human salvage that will keep in life at least those who might escape from the Nazi Inferno."

Reports of the Council and of the Public Meeting in Birmingham appeared in the Manchester Guardian, Birmingham Gazette, Birmingham Mail, Birmingham Post and the "Friend."

In the afternoon Miss Anderson suggested that the W.I.L. should organise a Petition on the lines of the Council resolution on the Peace Terms. The Committee welcomed the suggestion and Miss Anderson was asked to draft a preamble to the resolution for the consideration of the Officers. Material to be circulated to the Executive Members before the next meeting of the Committee.

It was also proposed and agreed that London Headquarters members should be invited to a meeting to be held this month to hear about the Council Meetings. AGREED to invite the two Belgian members (Madame Blum and Mlle. Dejardin, now in London to attend.

Attention was drawn to the N.P.C. Appeal for a new Declaration of the Allied Peace Aims, signed by 50 representative persons, sent to Mr. Churchill, Mr. Eden and to the Foreign Ministers or Ambassadors in London of all the Allied Government. This had been signed by Mrs. Duncan Harris.

'376. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood presented the statement of accounts. AGREED that in future Statements the ear-marked money for the Congress and the Penny-a-Week Fund should be omitted.

Referring to the Council's acceptance of the Branch quota suggestion, she asked permission to send a letter to Branches suggesting a quota of £5 for every 30 members in addition to the affiliation fees of 3d per member per annum, and recommending the raising of the quota by means of "Friends of Headquarters" who would pay £1 a year, and by special money-raising efforts.

Mrs. Wood said she would be willing to send a letter of thanks to every 'Friend of Headquarters.' She asked that special Pax postcards might be printed for the purpose. AGREED.

Mrs. Beesley suggested that several Branch members might join together and be known as "Composite Friends." AGREED.

AGREED membership cards should also be printed.

It was reported that the Penny-a-Week Fund now amounted to £128. 14. 5.

377. RESCUE OF JEWS FROM NAZI TERRORISM. In reply to the Executive's letter about Dr. Steinberg's proposal for a settlement of Jewish refugees in the Kimberleys in Northern Australia, Mr. Norman Bentwich had replied that the scheme had received considerable support from the Government people in Australia and some support from a few Jewish leaders in this country but has not had a large backing from the general body of Jews. He thought the destruction of the Jews in Europe must affect the schemes of settlement for the Jews from Europe which were being pursued before the war. Those who survive will not be fit to go out as pioneers in undeveloped areas. As many as possible will want to get to Palestine and the rest will have to be reintegrated into the life of Europe. He did not think there was a strong case for stressing the demand for a pioneer band to go out to Australia now, to prospect, and he thought it would be misleading public opinion if there were to be propaganda about it now.

In the light of this letter it was AGREED not to pursue the matter for the present, but a few members of Committee agreed to invite Mrs. Essensohn to meet them at tea.

Reported a letter from Wilfred Roberts, M.P., Hon. Treasurer of the National Committee for Rescue from Nazi Terror, saying that the Committee has decided to launch a nation-wide campaign to ensure the continuation of public sympathy and interest, and asking the W.I.L. if it could make a contribution towards the cost of running an office for the next six months. AGREED to make a grant of £1.

AGREED that Miss Anderson should represent the W.I.L. on the National Committee for Rescue from Nazi Terror.

378. COLONIES. Reported that no acknowledgment had been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to our letter of 27th April suggesting that two or three additional members with first hand experience of Colonial life, should be appointed to the Advisory Committee on Social Services in the Colonies.

Mrs. Ross said that the Rev. Myers Grace would appreciate a copy of the reply from the Colonial Secretary. AGREED to send him one when it came.

Reported also that the National Peace Council sent a letter on third May to the High Commissioner of South Africa expressing its concern over the passing of the recent legislation in the South African Parliament affecting Indians resident in South Africa.

It was AGREED to let the National Peace Council know that the Executive appreciated the letter and to ask if we could have a copy of the reply from the High Commissioner.

379. INDIA. Miss Harrison reported the recent developments in India since the Council Meetings, e.g. the legislation passed by the South African Parliament, the decision of the Federal Court and the refusal of the Government of India for Mr. Phillips to see Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Nehru before he went to the United States of America.

In regard to the India Memorial Mrs. Pothick Lawrence had said she would sponsor this and had approved the draft that had been based on the resolution passed at the Council Meeting. It was decided that this should not be a mass Memorial, but one signed by influential women in public life.-

380. FUTURE LUNCH MEETINGS. Miss Harrison reported a suggestion from Vera Brittain that the W.I.L. should have a series of lunch meetings on America or Anglo-American relations, at one of which Prof. Catlin would be willing to speak, and if necessary to suggest other speakers. After discussion it was AGREED that such a series would be useful, and to accept the offer of Prof. Catlin for one of the meetings and to ask Margery Fry to take another. Dr. Richenda Scott would be willing to take the Chair for one of the meetings, if the date were convenient. Other names were suggested and it was AGREED to consult Gerald Bailey for further names.

381. BRANCH REPORTS by Mrs. Lord. Reports of activities in a number of the Branches were made, including Warrington, Manchester, Glasgow, Brighton, Welwyn Garden City, Birmingham and Cambridge. Fourteen new members were enrolled as a result of the Public Meeting in Birmingham and six new members from Coventry joined Headquarters. It was hoped that a Branch would be formed in Coventry in the near future. A useful panel of speakers was being compiled which was likely to prove helpful to the Branches.

The application from Childwall Group to become a Branch was warmly accepted. AGREED a letter of welcome should be sent to Mrs. Tiller, Hon. Secretary of the Group.

382. MRS. BEATRICE WEBB. AGREED that a message<sup>of</sup> sympathy be sent to Lord Passfield.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2nd, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

*B. Duncan Harris*

2. VI. 43

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Branches are invited to send one representative to meetings of the Executive Committee. Such representatives have the right to speak but not to vote. The Executive is not responsible for the expenses of representatives from Branches.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Statement of Accounts for April, 1945.

Balances on April 1st

Bank.....	132. 9. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Petty Cash.....	5. 16. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Penny-a-Week Fund.....	119. 19. 2
Congress Fund.....	65. - -
	<u>322. 5. 7<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>
Subscriptions.....	21. 18. 6
Donations.....	7. 3. -
Friends of HQ.....	9. - -
News Sheets.....	3. 9. 5
Literature.....	5. 12. 9
Affiliation Fees.	10. 6
Beveridge Report Conference.....	4. 16. 5
Birmingham Coun- cil Meetings.....	56. 5. 11
"Bring & Buy" Sale.....	21. 5. -
Public Meeting..	6. 14. 6
Penny-a-Week Fd.	4. 19. 7
	<u>141. 15. 7</u>
	<u>465. 1. 2<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>

Salaries.....	18. - -
Telephone.....	5. 7. 4
Postage refunded.....	4. 8. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Travelling Expenses.....	5. 1. 3
News Sheets.....	4. 15. 11
Stationery.....	1. 12. 8
Literature.....	1. 12. 3
Affiliation Fee (N.P.C.).....	2. 2. -
Insurances (N.H. & U.).....	7. 6
Meetings:-	
Beveridge Conference.....	1. 16. 9
Council Meetings.....	59. 3. 6
	<u>104. 8. 1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>

Balances:-

Bank.....	167. 13. 1
Petty Cash... ..	5. - 9 $\frac{5}{4}$
	<u>172. 13. 10<math>\frac{3}{4}</math></u>

In C.P. Bldg. Society:-

Congress Fund.....	68. - -
Penny-a-Week Fund.....	119. 19. 2
	<u>£465. 1. 2<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>
	<u>£465. 1. 2<math>\frac{3}{4}</math></u>

// car-marked for Penny-a-Week £8. 15. 3



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, June 2nd, 1943, from 11a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flat 8, 144, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Present. Mrs. Duncan Harris in the chair. Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Burton, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Amy Haughton, Miss Dickenson, Mrs. Lloyd Pritchard, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Dr. Richenda Scott, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Brayshaw, Miss Anderson. Visitors. Miss Pickworth (Brighton Branch). Mlle. Dejardin.

Apologies for Absence received from Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Beesley.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON MAY 5th were signed, having previously been circulated.

383.

BUSINESS ARISING: Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on the meeting of the ad hoc Committee which is planning the next Women's Conference. She said that replies to the circular sent to Women's organisations asking for their support financially and the appointment of delegates to a Conference had not yet been received. But she thought that the following Organisations (who had representatives on the Committee) would co-operate:- W.C.G., Y.W.C.A., Teachers Organisations and the Professional and Business Women's Clubs. The ad hoc Committee had agreed to try to hold a preliminary Conference on July 10th, to which representatives from other nationality groups should not be invited. Miss Pearson of the N.U.W.T. has agreed to be Minute Secretary and Mrs. Grindley is undertaking the greater part of the Secretarial work. Mrs. Agnes Hamilton has been asked to sponsor the Conference; also Mrs. Corbett Ashby, who is meeting Mrs. Harris mid-June.

LONDON MEETING ON MAY 25th. Mrs. Bedford reported a successful meeting at which Mrs. Berwick Sayers and Mrs. Duncan Harris gave reports of the Annual Council. Miss Agatha Harrison was in the Chair. One particularly interesting feature was the presence of several members from other Sections., notably Madame Blume and Mlle. Dejardin from Belgium. Madame Blume had suggested that we should keep in touch with women from other countries and also with their Governments in this country, bringing before them our own solutions of the international problems.

It was felt that the meeting had been useful. It was thought that a Saturday Lunch Meeting might prove successful. London Executive Members were asked to consider this possibility.

384. LUNCH MEETINGS: Reported that Buffet Lunch Meetings were arranged for June 16th and 30th. at the Y.W.C.A. At the first Felix Greene had promised to speak under the title of "Interpreting America" and Prof. Catlin on the 30th on "What contribution can America make to lasting peace." A charge of 2/6d each was being made.

Decided to try to get Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Longmore for a meeting mid-July.

On the proposal of Mrs. Lloyd Pritchard it was agreed to arrange meetings in September on

- (1) Education,
- (2) Health and Social Services
- (3) Nutrition.

stressing the international setting of these national problems.

Dr. Scott suggested Dr. Mildred Creek on Nutrition and Health.

Reported a letter of appreciation and thanks from Lord Passfield.

Reported that Hon. Secretary of the Jewish Peace Society had written to express thanks for the sympathy and consideration of the W.I.L. as shown by the adoption at the Annual Council Meeting of the resolution on the Persecution of the Jews.

385. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported a balance in hand of £106.12.2½. Several Branches had already responded to the Friends of Headquarters scheme and £15 to date had been received in addition to

2.

£9 from Liverpool as part of their quota. Cambridge had asked if the £10 sent to Headquarters earlier in the year could be counted as part of their Quota. The Sale Group of the Manchester Branch had sent £6. Agreed that the Cambridge contribution should count within the 1943 financial year.

386. BRANCH REPORTS. Brighton. Miss Pickworth reported that in spite of the difficulties under which the Branch was labouring and over which they had no control, good work was being done and the membership maintained. //

Cheltenham. Reported a letter from Miss Flower Mills expressing great regret that the Branch could not be continued; their town being a particularly difficult one in which to work. The members would continue to be interested in the W.I.L. and Miss Mills hoped to have a little Bring and Buy Sale in her garden for Headquarters Funds. She had much valued the privilege of attending the Council Meetings and hoped she would be allowed to attend future Councils as a visitor. She would become a "Friend of Headquarters" and the members would try to meet quarterly. After discussion, the Committee felt it must accept, with regret, the decision of the Branch, but it felt, of course, that the value of the work done in the Branch far outbalanced the financial aspect. It was clear that the suggested quota system had not been the cause for disbanding the Branch. Mrs. Innes would write expressing regret and offering help at a meeting later on if desired.

*was asking for 2/6* Cambridge. Mrs. Wood reported that the Branch subscription had been raised to 2/6d. A good Annual meeting had been held. New members were bringing in other new members.

Manchester. Miss Burton reported on visits paid by Mrs. Phillips to groups at Whitefield, Cheadle Hulme, Wilmslow, etc at which reports of the Annual Council had been given. Mrs. Phillips also went to Preston, where our branch had disbanded a few months ago. Out of 100 invitations to a meeting only 4 came, but these were interested and hope to attend a meeting in Manchester in July. Lunch Meetings had been held on Education, and a meeting on India, in conjunction with the F.O.R., the P.P.U. and the Friends had been held.

Reading. Mrs. Castle reported that it was hoped to get two Branches started at Henley and Padworth. Evening as well as afternoon meetings are being tried. The last evening meeting was very encouraging and touched a new group of people. The Council resolutions were considered and everyone present contributed to the discussion. There were about 30 present.

The Branch was instrumental in getting up a meeting - as a Churches concern - on India when between 60 and 70 were present.

As an outcome of a meeting addressed by Victor Gollancz the Mayor asked the Branch to consider action to set up a local Council of Christians and Jews.

It is hoped to get a W.I.L. Group going in the University in the Autumn. Plans are being made for a meeting on Housing, with an Octavia Hill speaker.

Liverpool Mrs. Malcomson reported a very successful meeting with an attendance of 40 members out of 70. Great strides have been made during the year and it is hoped to be able to get an Asst. Secretary in the near future. Five new members were now serving on the Committee. The quota system had been accepted and the first instalment of £9 had been sent to Mrs. Wood.

North Wales. Good local meetings had been held on The Suffrage and on the Jewish question. Reports of the Council meetings had been given, and preparations going ahead for the Annual Meeting at which resolutions on Famine Relief, India, Jewish Problems and the Beveridge Report would be considered. A China Meeting is to be held on July 7th. It is hoped to be able to get Vera Brittain's pamphlet "One of these Little Ones" printed in Welsh.

Welwyn Garden City. Miss Houghton reported a meeting the previous night on "How the Beveridge Report affects women."

3.

It was addressed by Miss Pearson of the N.U.W.T. The quota scheme is to be considered in Committee and a Bring and Buy Sale to be arranged. A new Treasurer has been appointed and a Mrs. Strauss, a High School Teacher in Frankfurt, has been appointed to the Committee. The Executive pointed out that this could only be in an advisory capacity. Meetings are being arranged on the Four Freedoms as they affect European Governments, and on Currency  
Formation of New Branch.

Reported an application for permission to start a W.I.L. Branch in the Bromley District, where there were at present 13 members. Mrs. Lora had been instrumental in getting this Branch started. AGREED to send a letter of welcome and good wishes.

387. DRAFT PETITION RE PUBLICATION OF PEACE TERMS.

Following on the suggestion made at the May Executive, Miss Anderson had drafted a Memorial which the Officers had considered and sent amended, to the Executive members for their consideration. The Memorial was then considered and the views of several members from other Sections who had been consulted, were considered.

After much discussion it was AGREED that the wording should be reconsidered and members present undertook to send in written comments by the following Wednesday for the consideration of the Officers, prior to the meeting of the July Executive, and the office was instructed to ask absent members for comments.

In principle it was agreed that should a Memorial be put forward, mass signatures should not be collected.

388. NEWS FROM ABROAD. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the receipt of the International Circular Letter from G.B. in America.

389. NEWS SHEET. For the July issue it was AGREED to ask Miss Bertha Bracey for 1,000 words on "The Refugee in the Post-war World, including the problem of resettlement. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard undertook to write on Security problems, and Mrs. Ross was to be asked to review a booklet "The People's Peace in the Colonies." Miss Harrison agreed to write a paragraph on the India Memorial and to supply a list of books on India.

390. INDIA. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard reported on the India Committee which met the previous evening. Out of 128 women approached, 66 had signed the Memorial, sponsored by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. This was being sent to Mr. Churchill and Mr. Amery this week. It would then be released immediately to the Press. Members of Missionary Societies had signed it and the religious press was interested.

The cost of organising the Memorial could not be stated but it was expected to be about £5.

AGREED (1) to ask the Branches to follow up any local press notices of the Memorial by correspondence;

(2) to send a message of appreciation to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the value of whose leadership was clearly shown in the many letters which had been received with the signatures.

Miss Harrison was warmly thanked for all the work she had put into the Memorial.

Mrs. Lloyd Prichard said she would like a London Conference on India organised, but the N.P.C. who had been approached, could not see their way to convening it. Miss Harrison undertook to ask the N.P.C. to call together their Liaison Committee on India to discuss the matter.

Reported that the Women's Committee of the India League are calling a Women's Conference on Saturday, June 26th., at Conway Hall. The following agreed to represent the W.I.L. at it: Miss Dickenson, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison.

391. NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR RESCUE FROM NAZI TERROR. Reported a letter from Victor Cazalet, Chairman of the Executive, asking for support of

4.

their twelve point programme, copy enclosed.

..AGREED to send a letter to appropriate Ministers incorporating points in the 12 point programme and ask the Branches to consider if they can do anything in the matter through their Member of Parliament.

Mrs. Harris reported an interview the previous day with Mrs. Esselson and Mr. Haus on the Northern Australia proposal for refugees.

AGREED a letter of appreciation should be sent to Miss Rathbone for her untiring work for refugees.

Mrs. Harris suggested that Miss Bertha Bracey might be asked to speak at a lunch meeting some time on the displacement of peoples in terms of human life.

392. COLONIES. Reported a letter dated 12th. May from K.W. Blaxter saying that Col. Oliver Stanley (Colonial Office) "appreciates the interest taken by the Women's International League in the establishment of the new Committee. "(The Colonial Social Welfare Advisory Committee)

The letter continued "While Dr. Richards is the only member who has lived among Africans in Africa, two other members possess personal experience of other Colonies. Miss Margaret Nixon, for a number of years, held the post of Welfare Officer in Palestine, and Mr. E.H. . Lucette was formerly Acting Registrar of Co-operative Societies in Ceylon.

A copy of this reply had been sent to The Rev. H.M. Grace, who had replied that "it did not seem to him a satisfactory reply.

Mrs. Malcomson reported on the Jamaican workers in Liverpool.

393. PUBLICITY. AGREED to have the five Objects of the W.I.L. printed on the Membership Cards, and to cancel the instructions to print a Friend of Headquarters postcard.

394. CORRESPONDENCE. Reported The Progressive League had issued a Declaration in answer to Lord Vansittart "Towards a Lasting Peace." They had been asked for copies for the Branches and Executive but these had not yet been received. Mrs. Innes had sent a note saying that the W.I.L. could not do much as it was planning a Memorial of its own, but would send leaflets to its Branches.

395. NATIONALITY OF MARRIED WOMEN COMMITTEE. Reported a letter and resume of events in connection with the British Nationality and Status of Aliens Act, 1943. AGREED to ask Mrs. Innes to put a note in the News Sheet expressing appreciation of the work of this Committee.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Wednesday , July 7 , at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

B. Duncan Lewis

7. VII. 43

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, July 7th, 1943 at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

PRESENT Mrs. Castle in the Chair, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Anderson, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Beesley, Miss Burton, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard and Frau Hertzka (Visitor).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. McGregor Ross, Dr. Scott, Miss Haughton and Miss Pye.

MINUTES of meeting on June 2nd were confirmed and signed after Mrs. Lord's name had been added to the list of "Apologies for Absence," and in Minute 386: Cambridge, the wording was changed to "Mrs. McGregor Wood reported that the Branch was asking for 2/6d subscription."

396. BUSINESS ARISING. Allies Inside Germany Council. Reported (1) receipt of copies of a Statement as to how the news of the National Peace Movement Conference in Western Germany was received in this country; (2) that further copies of the Peace Manifesto to the German people could not be sent at present as supplies had run out. AGREED to ask for 12 copies of the Peace Manifesto when re-duplicated for those members of the Committee who expressed a wish to have one.

Ad hoc Women's Conference. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that it had not been found possible to organise the proposed Conference by the 10th July and a later date was being considered. Mrs. Corbett Ashby, whom she had consulted, had agreed to help over the drafting of a "Call" to the Headquarters of Women's Organisations to appoint delegates to a preliminary Conference for the inclusion of women as official delegates in all steps taken in the making of peace and of reconstruction.

Jewish Persecution. Reported formal acknowledgments from the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary to our letter of 8th June (1) urging that every possible avenue be explored and steps taken to save the lives of the few Jewish victims of Nazi terror, who may be reached; (2) pressing for the modification of the visa regulations; and (3) for the speedy establishment of new refugee camps in suitable places, and the extension of shipping facilities to carry refugees to these centres, and for continued pressure on the countries under Axis influence to allow the refugees to go. The letter also urged the appointment of a High Commissioner to travel and develop plans of rescue.

Miss Rathbone, in acknowledging our letter of June 8th in which we expressed appreciation of all she was doing in connection with the Jewish problem, and for her untiring work for refugees, sent a revised edition of her pamphlet "Rescue the Perishing." AGREED to make this known to Branches and Executive.

Lunch Meetings. Reported (1) that Air Chief Marshal, Sir Arthur Longmore, had not been able to accept our invitation to speak at a lunch meeting during July; (2) that Mr. Arthur Hoare (a brother-in-law of one of our members) was willing to meet a group of people interested in the future of aviation on July 27th. AGREED to invite him to the Office on that day at 2.30 p.m. to meet those members of the Committee who could attend, and to invite the National Peace Council and the Fabian Bureau to make it known to a limited number of their members who were interested in the subject; (3) that Mr. Castle had been unable to accept an invitation to speak on Education from the international standpoint owing to pressure of work, and that Miss B.M. Baker had not yet replied to our invitation to speak on the same subject; (4) that Officers had suggested that Dr. Chick or Dr. Gauthier should be asked to

speaking on Nutrition and Health. Failing the acceptance of one or the other, AGREED to ask Dr. Mildred Creek on Health and Dr. Robin Marrack on Nutrition. Sir John Orr was also suggested. AGREED to write to the Secretary of the Rockefeller Foundation in Great Britain for an account of what they have done in connection with health. Miss Harrison suggested that we should ask for a speaker from the Rockefeller Foundation.

397. FINANCE. The Treasurer presented the appended Statement of Accounts for June, which was accepted. She said that over £92 had been received from Branches either as part of their quota for 1943 or as Friends of Headquarters. In one or two cases Branches had said they preferred to double their affiliation fees instead of contributing to the quota, but Mrs. Wood explained that this was unconstitutional and the sums sent had been credited to the Branch quota.

The London Congregational Union Women's League had had an impromptu collection of £1 at a recent meeting on behalf of the proposed Women's Conference.

Mrs. Wood had written letters to all Branches and Friends of Headquarters who had sent contributions. She much appreciated the opportunity she had had of getting into close touch with Branch Hon. Treasurers. She said she realised that Branches could not meet their quota obligations out of their ordinary balance and that special efforts needed to be made.

398. PEACE TERMS MEMORIAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS. After consideration of the second draft presented to the Committee by the Officers the following was AGREED upon:-

"We, the undersigned British women, convinced that our deep anxiety over the increasingly destructive character of the war is shared by countless women all over the world, and believing that any step which might lead to a shortening of the struggle should be taken;

"Declare ourselves in favour of an immediate effort being made by the British Government to secure the publication by the United Nations of such Peace Terms as might bring nearer the end of the war by redefining and amplifying the pledges of the Atlantic Charter to create an international order, assuring economic and social well-being, justice and peace to all peoples."

After discussion it was AGREED (1) that outstanding and influential women should be asked to sign the Memorial and that no attempt should be made to get mass signatures;

(2) that Branches should be sent three copies of the Memorial and asked to send to the Office the names and addresses of influential women in their towns - women prominent in local Government, in Church, in education, science, medicine, literature, art, etc. etc. and to give some indication of the reason why they have chosen them;

(3) that the approach to these women should be made direct from the Office.

Later, when the Memorial had been sent to the Government and to the Press, it was hoped that Branches and Executive members would help to get publicity for it and to follow it up with correspondence in local papers.

399. NEWS SHEET FOR SEPTEMBER, and after:-

Articles suggested were:-

- (1) International Air Organisation; (2) Agreement for United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, - Miss Pye; (3) Changing American Opinion. Felix Greene to be asked; (4) The future of the Colonies, Miss Anderson; (5) Reviews of Labour in Ceylon, Malay, etc.; Colonial White Paper in relation to Workers' Welfare; Hell in the Sunshine - Mrs. James to be asked by Mrs. Lloyd Prichard.

400. NEWS FROM ABROAD. Mrs. Innes reported a letter and Questionnaire from Miss Balch and Gertrude Baer, who believe that the time has come to collate the post-war proposals now being put forward by such of our Sections as are accessible. After discussion it was AGREED to print the Questionnaire in the News Sheet and to have sufficient galley proofs pulled off to send to the Branches and Executive members, asking them to consider what replies they feel should be sent under any of all of the 12 headings, and to send their proposals to the Office not later than Saturday, 21st August.

It was suggested that some members having special knowledge on some of the subjects in the Questionnaire should be asked for their views. Mrs. Innes agreed to give special attention to the question of World Organisation.

AGREED to give time at the extended Executive Committee in October to consider the British Section's replies, which have to reach the U.S.A. by November 1st.

Mrs. Innes also reported a request from Gertrude Baer for a short article of about 2 typewritten single spaced pages on issues in this country, forecasting developments pointing into the future, such as Women (Parliament, Public Service, Diplomatic Service, etc.), Politics (any Branch which may show interesting features), Economics (e.g. articles in economic periodicals which could not be obtained in U.S.A.), Finance (a new interlocking of international interests of big combines), Church, Education, Relations between Americans and British, Feeding of European children, Comments on the Beveridge Plan, Colonies, etc.

AGREED to ask Dr. Scott and Mrs. Lloyd Prichard to undertake this service between them. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard AGREED to consult Dr. Scott.

401. EXTENDED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. AGREED to hold this on Tuesday, October 5th and Wednesday the 6th. Details of time, etc. were left to the Officers.

402. NEW LEAFLETS. AGREED to print 1,000 of the new membership form for use at meetings and 1,000 membership cards. Branches to be informed that they could have copies with their own name and address printed if sufficient orders were received at one time.

403. BRANCHES. The following members reported on activities in their Branches: Birmingham, Mrs. Ballinger, supplemented by Mrs. Lord, Brighton, Mrs. Beesley, Cambridge, Mrs. Wood, Liverpool, Mrs. Malcomson, Manchester? Miss Burton, North Wales, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Reading, Mrs. Castle.

Formation of new Branch It was reported that one group of W.I.L. members outside Reading was ready to become a Branch. A letter of application was read. AGREED to send a letter of welcome to the member who had been active in getting others to join at Peppard, - Mrs. Cooke-Yarborough.

At the close of the Branch reports Mrs. Wood expressed the great need for a paid Organising Secretary.

404. INDIA. The India and Colonies Committee reported that Mrs. Pandit (a member of the W.I.L.) had been unconditionally released and that a cable of greetings had been received from her. It was decided to send an airgraph letter to her from the Executive Committee. The wish of the India and Colonies Committee to invite Mrs. Lankester to join them was warmly supported. AGREED also to invite Mrs. Martin Dower and Miss Mabel Shaw to serve on the sub-Committee. A full account of the result of the Indian Statement was reported. This had been summarised in Mrs. Bothick Lawrence's further letter to all who signed. Regarding finance, the generous gift of fifty pounds (£50) from Mrs. Cheney had relieved the situation. The expenses had been in excess of the £5 mentioned at the June Executive. AGREED to grant £5 from W.I.L. funds to the expenses, the balance to be taken from Mrs. Cheney's gift and the remainder of the £50 - about £45 - was to be specially ear-marked for further efforts in connection with India. The question of an approach to Lord Wavell was discussed but as the W.I.L. is represented on the Liaison Committee and the Women's Advisory Council on Indian Affairs, it was felt no separate approach should be made by the W.I.L. With regard to further action, it was felt that August 8th (the anniversary of the arrest of Indian leaders) should not pass without public attention being drawn to the continued deadlock, and the opportunity provided by the appointment of a new Viceroy for fresh efforts towards breaking the deadlock. Hearing that this matter was coming up at the Annual Council Meeting of the National Peace Council it was decided to offer the co-operation of the W.I.L. in this effort and if necessary some financial help from our ear-marked fund.

Miss Anderson reported:-

(1) that the Government has reimposed forced labour regulations in Kenya Colony and she thought a letter on the subject should be sent to the Colonial Office after the meeting in the House. She consented to draft a letter in consultation with Mrs. Duncan Harris, to be signed by Mrs. Innes.

(2) that the sub-Committee had considered the International Colonial Convention prepared by the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society. The final form contained a number of suggestions put forward by the W.I.L. on the recommendation of Mrs. McGregor Ross.

(3) the sub-Committee suggested a Conference in the Spring on the whole Colonial question, and as a preliminary step Miss Anderson suggested an article in the News Sheet, and that the interest of Branches should be secured so that when a Conference takes place there would be a consensus of opinion on the subject among W.I.L. members. A bibliography to aid further study was suggested. AGREED to bring the suggestion for a Conference to the September Executive.

405. DRAFT AGREEMENT FOR UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION, dated 15th May, 1943. Mrs. Duncan Harris drew attention to the significance of this Draft Agreement. She considered it the first solid draft of post-war international co-operation on which the Nations are supposed to build after the war. America has agreed to sign it as it is but it awaits ratification of other nations. After discussion it was AGREED that there was nothing the W.I.L. could do at the present time but to keep a close watch on developments.

406. ABYSSINIA. Reported that Lady Barton was in Ethiopia with Dr. Ruth Young and was hoping to attend the first Women's Conference ever held in the country. In a letter from her (forwarded to us from the Ethiopian Women's Work Organisation) she asked for



publicity of this Conference should we receive news of it. The Secretary of the Ethiopian Women's Work Organisation promised to send us any news she received.

407. CHINA. AGREED to send a message of (1) congratulation to Madame Chiang Kay Shek on the contribution women are making to their country under very difficult circumstances, (2) satisfaction over her safe return to China.

408. BOMBING CIVILIANS. Discussion took place on the bombing of civilians. Mrs. Beesley reported Brighton's great concern over the matter. No immediate protest was considered practicable but it was proposed that Brighton might like to make more definite suggestions for the consideration of the Executive.

409. GLASGOW BRANCH AND 1943 ANNUAL COUNCIL. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that Glasgow Branch had protested against the taking of amendments to resolutions at the time of the Council. They considered this to be unconstitutional and not giving the Branches an opportunity of discussing them or empowering their delegates to act on their behalf. Mrs. Harris had replied that the W.I.L. had always adopted the general custom of taking amendments from the floor. In this way delegates exercised "pooled intelligence" and hammered out the best way in discussion. She considered that delegates must be sent to Council Meetings with discretionary powers.

The Executive supported Mrs. Harris's reply.

410. 1944 ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS. AGREED to ask Woodbrooke, Selly Oak, Birmingham, if our next year's Council could be held on their premises from April 12th to 14th. Failing that AGREED to apply to Westhill again, saying that we hoped it would not be necessary for guests to supply their own bed-linen or to undertake fire-watching - if that were still necessary.

411. WOMEN'S PUBLICITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION. Reported an invitation to send a message in support of an Equal Citizenship (Blanket) Bill which is to be launched at a meeting in the Central Hall, Westminster, on September 4th at 2.30p.m. The National Organiser offered to supply an article on the subject specially written for the News Sheet. AGREED to take no action in the matter.

412. BEVERIDGE REPORT. Reported that Sir William Beveridge was speaking on "The Conditions of Security" at a meeting in the Central Hall, Westminster on July 20th. Several members said they hoped to be able to attend.

This concluded the business.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 1st 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

B. Duncan Harris

1. IX. 43

P.T.O.

W.I.L. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR JUNE 1943.

Balance on June 1st:-		Postage.....	6.12. 7
Bank.....	106. 12. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Office Expenses.....	13.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Petty Cash.....	7.15. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	Insurances.....	4. 5
	<u>114. 8. --<math>\frac{3}{4}</math></u>	Rent.....	15. - -
Subscriptions 10. 3.6		Salaries.....	18. - -
General Dons. 13. -.-		Meetings.....	3. 8. 3
Fr. of HQ... 17. 5.-		Lighting.....	10. -
Branch Quotas <u>29.12.5</u>		News Sheets.....	5. 3. 6
	70. - 11	Fares.....	9. 11. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
News Sheets.....	4. 6. 1	Literature.....	1. 2. 9
Literature.....	2. 7. 4	Stationery.....	9. -
Inland Revenue.....	3.10. 3	Transferred to C.P.B.Soc:	
Geneva Subscriptions. 8. - -		Penny-a-Week...£8.2.11	
Lunch Meeting.....	10. 6	Congress Fund 1.-. -	9. 2.11
Penny-a-Week Fund....	8. 2. 11	Transferred to	
		Barclay's Bank for	
		International	
		Subs (Geneva) 8.-. -	
		less affilia-	
		tion fee paid	
		to Liaison	
		Committee of	
		Women's Inter.	
		Organisations. <u>1.10. -</u>	6. 10. -
		Balances:-	
		Bank.....	132. 4. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Petty Cash...	<u>2.12. 2<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>
			<u>134. 16.11<math>\frac{3}{4}</math></u>
	<u>£211. 6. -<math>\frac{3}{4}</math></u>		<u>£211. 6.-<math>\frac{3}{4}</math></u>

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, September 1st, 1943, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Miss Dickinson, Miss Burton, Miss Harrison, Miss Pye, Mrs. Innes and Frau Hertzka, as visitor.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Castle, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Dr. Scott, Mrs. Malcomson and Mrs. Beesley. AGREED (1) to send best wishes to Mrs. Malcomson for a speedy recovery, (2) to send a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Brayshaw on her appointment as First Woman Clerk to the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, saying that we realise that her duties will be very heavy, but the W.I.L. Committee's need of her help is very great, and we hope that she will be able to attend at least some of our meetings.

413. LIDA GUSTAVA HEYMANN. The Chairman spoke of the message received from Frau Ragaz, announcing the death of Lida Gustava Heymann. She recalled to the Committee the notable contributions she had made to the international meetings of the W.I.L.P.F. and then read the speech she had given at the Zurich Congress in 1919 - a contribution inspired by a true internationalism and love for all humanity. Miss Pye and Mrs. Innes paid warm tribute to her illimitable courage and to the unswerving integrity of mind which had held fast through the ten years during which she had lived as a refugee, and recalled how (in an article in our News Sheet) she had indicated her internationalism, proclaiming that as a refugee she was everywhere at home. Deep sympathy was expressed for her frail old friend and colleague, Dr. Anita Augspurg, for whom she had cared with unflinching devotion throughout their years of exile.

The Committee stood in silence to pay tribute to a great woman, who ever looked forward to and worked for that better world of peace and freedom in which she so firmly believed.

414. MRS. THODAY. The Committee stood and paid silent tribute to the memory of Mrs. Thoday whose death in August was reported. Members recalled her enthusiasm and courage in the work she did for peace, particularly in connection with the North Wales Peace Council, which was indeed a living Memorial to her. As a member of the London Executive for many years, up to the time of her illness, Mrs. Thoday regularly attended meetings and was present at several international Congresses. Her enterprising spirit, her loyal co-operation and cordial friendliness to all were greatly appreciated, and her withdrawal from the Committee was felt to be a great loss.

Agreed to send a letter to Professor Thoday expressing the Committee's deep sympathy in his loss.

415. MINUTES OF MEETING ON JULY 7th were signed, having been previously circulated.

416. BUSINESS ARISING. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that arrangements for the ad hoc Women's Conference on September 11th were well in hand. Delegates were invited from the W.I.L. The following were appointed: Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Miss Harrison, Miss Horscroft and Mrs. Wood or Miss Amy Haughton, subject to consent. The Committee endorsed the draft resolution which was to be put to the Conference.

Reported the following arrangements for the Lunch Meetings at Friends House, Euston Road, N.W. 1.:-

- (1) September 8th: Prof. J.R. Marrack - "Nutrition." Miss Edith Pye in the Chair.
- (2) September 15th: Miss B.M. Baker - "Education for World Citizenship." Miss Laura Beecroft in the Chair.
- (3) September 22nd: Dr. Edith Summerskill, M.P. "Health." Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair.

AGREED to advertise them in NEW STATESMAN.

AGREED to support the Progressive League's Declaration in Answer to Lord Vansittart, and to allow the W.I.L.'s name to be printed on the leaflet. Other Organisations supporting it were "Christianity Calling," The Peace Army, International Fellowship, International Religious Fellowship, The Progressive League, The Socialist Christian League and the Peace Committee of the Society of Friends.

417. FINANCE. The appended statement of accounts was adopted. Mrs. Wood had written to express her concern over the finances and suggested the consideration of several proposals:- (1) asking Branches if they would consider sending their quotas, or the balances of quotas, (2) asking Headquarters Members for a contribution over and above their subscriptions; (3) borrowing from the nest-egg. After careful consideration it was AGREED (1) to borrow from the nest-egg, as required, up to £75, to be repaid as soon as possible; (2) to ask Mrs. Wood to make an appeal to Headquarters members for a special donation at Christmas or in the New Year when asking for their annual subscriptions; (3) to have a Bring and Buy Sale for London members about late October or early November, to be arranged by London members of the Executive. The following agreed to serve on a sub-Committee:- Miss Harrison, Convener, Mrs. Lord, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Grindley and Miss Anderson.

Reported that the rate of interest on shares in the Co-operative Permanent Building Society was reduced to two per. cent. from the 31st April.

418. FOOD RELIEF. Miss Pye reported on the present situation but said she did not think there was any action that the W.I.L. could take just now. She said the Report of the Famine Relief Committee, price 3d. was shortly being issued and it contained accounts of the spread of public opinion. The death of Dr. William Paton was, she said, a grievous loss to the Famine Relief Committee.

419. REPORT OF INDIA AND COLONIES COMMITTEE. Mrs. Lankester and Mrs. Martin Dower were unable to join the Committee, but Miss Mabel Shaw had consented. Mrs. Lankester had promised to act in a consultative capacity. It was decided to devote the major part of the next India and Colonies Committee on October 4th to discussion of Colonial questions. A balance of £40. 15. 0 from the special donations for India work had been handed over to the W.I.L. account, to be ear-marked for Indian work. A report was given of the aid given to the National Peace Council in the getting out of their statement on 7th August. It was decided to write to the Archbishop of Canterbury expressing appreciation of the statement made by the British Council of Churches regarding India. The Liaison Committee co-operating with the All India Women's Conference (on which the W.I.L. is represented) has agreed to join the Women's Advisory Council on Indian questions in any meeting to be arranged with Lady Wavell. In any such contacts the W.I.L. hoped that the representative of the Liaison Committee would stress the points raised in the resolutions from the All India Women's Conference, in particular the ones relating to the general situation and to the acute food position. North Wales Peace Council prepared a short statement on India in Welsh and English which was widely distributed at the time of the Eisteddfod at Bangor. Miss Dickinson said a Bulletin containing the resolutions from the A.I.W.C. would be ready within a few days.

Reported a letter from the Committee to the Colonial Office had been sent on 4th August expressing great regret that the suspension last February of the compulsory recruitment of Africans, had been removed in respect of labour on sisal estates, and stating our fears "that the consequences of the withdrawal of men from the Reserves may be serious, through the dislocation of native agriculture

and the general disturbance of native life." A formal acknowledgment was received.

out

420. POOL OF OPINION QUESTIONNAIRE. Agreed to send/the replies and memos. from Branches and Executive members to Questions 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8, for study before discussion at the extended Executive Committee in October, and to continue the study of the other questions during the coming months. The results of the discussion at the October Committee were to be sent to Gertrud Baer to reach her on or before November 1st, and she was to be informed that further results of study and discussion on other questions would be sent at a later date.

421. NEWS FROM ABROAD. Mrs. Innes reported news received of the Women's Conference in Addis Ababa on July 15th. 300 people were present. Lady Barton, speaking in Amharic, introduced Dr. Ruth Young.

422. PALESTINE. Miss Dickinson drew attention to the rising trouble in Palestine between Jews and Arabs. AGREED to consult Mr. Gerald Bailey on the matter.

423. W.I.L.P.F. Mrs. Innes reported on news she had received from U.S.A. and elsewhere.

424. PEACE TERMS MEMORIAL. Reported the Officers had instructed the following Memorial to be sent out with a covering letter by Mrs. Innes, on 30th August, to women whose names and addresses had been supplied by Branches and Executive Members.

"We, the undersigned British women, convinced that our deep anxiety over the increasingly destructive character of the war is shared by countless women all over the world,  
Declare ourselves in favour of an immediate effort being made by the British Government to secure THE PUBLICATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS OF SUCH PEACE TERMS as might bring nearer the end of the war, by redefining and amplifying the pledges of the Atlantic Charter to create an international order, assuring economic and social well-being, justice and peace to all peoples."

AGREED that in addition to sending it to the Prime Minister and the Press, a copy should also be sent to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, for information.

425. BRANCHES. Several members reported on activities in their Branch. The Committee welcomed the newly formed Ditchling Branch. Letters of welcome had been sent to Mrs. Greenwood, the Hon. Secretary, on behalf of the Committee. Several Branches were taking advantage of the "Literature deposit" scheme. The Officers were asked to consider draft Rules for the use of Branches, particularly new Branches.

426. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS, 1944. Reported that we had been unsuccessful in getting accommodation in Birmingham or Oxford. AGREED to make inquiries in London. New College, Hampstead, was suggested.

427. STANLEY HILTON, Conscientious Objector. Mrs. Grindley reported on the case of Stanley Hilton, who had been awarded two years' detention at his fourth Court-Martial. At the Officers' Meeting on August 4th it had been decided to address letters to the Secretary of State for War, certain M.Ps. and other influential people, including the Archbishop of Canterbury. It was now proposed to write again to the War Office, their reply being considered unsatisfactory, pointing out that we were not asking for preferential treatment for Hilton, but that he should be accorded equal facilities with other C.Os and that the law should be made

available to him.

428. MAJOR FRESHWATER. Reported that Miss Dickinson had attended the Memorial Service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields on 20th July on behalf of the W.I.L. AGREED to send a letter to the League of Nations Union expressing sympathy in their loss, and saying that Miss Dickinson had represented the W.I.L. at the Memorial Service.

429. LITERATURE. Mrs. Ballinger reported that her Branch had thought it unbusinesslike to print the new membership and membership card without getting an estimate. Miss Dickinson explained that she had received an estimate with the first proofs, but the Committee had decided to make changes in the leaflet and card and the printer was unable to give a further estimate owing to difficulties of labour, materials, etc. The membership form was £5.17. 0 per 1,000 and the card £4.12.6 not including the cost of the Pax block which was 19/6d, and to which Miss Dickinson had very kindly offered to contribute.

430. REFUGEES AND ALIENS. The Chairman reported a letter from the Secretary of the Aliens Section of the Friends Committee for Refugees and Aliens suggesting that our Branches might be interested to learn more about its general welfare work and he would be glad to be put in touch with any Branch which would like to have a speaker. AGREED to inform any Branch wishing for further information that they should write direct to John W. Perry, Secretary, Aliens Section, Friends Committee for Refugees and Aliens, Bloomsbury House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C. 1.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, to which Branches are asked to send delegates:  
October 5th, 2.15 to 8 p.m. October 6th, 10 to 12 noon, 1.15 - 3p.m.

*B. Duncan Thomas*  
5.8.43

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR AUGUST, 1943.

RECEIPTS.

EXPENDITURE.

Balances on 1st Aug...90.	4. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	Postage.....	7. 7. 4
Sub Subscriptions..	2. 6	Salary.....	4.10. -
Donations.....	1.10.-	Literature.....	11. 9. 3
News Sheets.....	3. 3.4	Fares.....	2.15. 2
Literature.....	2. 5.3	Offices expenses.....	1.19. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Affil. Fees.....	2.3	Insurances.....	6. -
	7. 13.4	Meetings (Sept. lunches).....	15. 6
		Transferred to Congress Fund.....	1. -. -
			<u>30. 2. 6<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>
		Balances:-	
		Bank//.....	64.19.9
		P.Cash.....	2. 5.1 $\frac{3}{4}$
	<u>£97. 7. 5<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>		<u>67. 4.10<math>\frac{3}{4}</math></u>
			<u>£97. 7. 5<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>

// £5 ear-marked for work on India Statement.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

MINUTES OF EXTENDED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, OCTOBER 5th and 6th, 1943  
AT FRIENDS HOUSE, EUSTON ROAD, N.W.1.

PRESENT:

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Agatha Harrison, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Castle (and Reading Branch) Miss Burton (and Manchester), Mrs. Malcomson (and Liverpool), Mrs. Ballinger (and Birmingham), Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood (and Cambridge), Miss Haughton (and Welwyn Garden City). *Miss Grindley.*

BRANCHES: Acock's Green: Mrs. E.E. Reynolds, Mrs. Adams.  
Birmingham: Miss Hicks.  
Brighton: M.E. Hughes, Mrs. Phillips, Miss Pickworth.  
Cambridge: W. Hargrave, O. Wishart.  
Croydon: Mrs. Whitsey, Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Webb.  
Ditching: M.H. Russell.  
Farnborough: E. Roberts, R.G. Sturge.  
Childwall: M.I. Ferguson, P.M. Tiller.  
Glasgow, Miss McAra.  
Liverpool: Agnes Stapledon, Louisa Foster.  
Manchester: Mrs. Paine, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Crosland.  
North Wales: Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Pritchard.  
Peppard & District: O.H. Lyons, Mrs. Cooke-Yarborough.

431. MRS. BERNARD SHAW. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the recent death of Mrs. Bernard Shaw, who had been for a long time a member of the W.I.L. AGREED to send a letter of sympathy to Mr. Bernard Shaw.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Dr. Scott, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Beesley and Mrs. Brayshaw, *Miss Lord,*

MINUTES of meeting on September 1st were confirmed, having been previously circulated after an addition to Minute 422 as follows:- insert after the words "Miss Dickinson drew attention to the rising trouble in Palestine between Jews and Arabs," the words "and of the proposals put forward by moderate opinion on both sides in Jerusalem towards a solution of the Palestine problem."

In Minute 413 Lida Gustava Heymann, fifth line: after the words "then read" add "some sentences from"

432. BUSINESS ARISING: Reported that the Officers had considered the following matters:-

(a) The ad hoc Women's Conference called on September 11th to consider how best to work for the official inclusion of women in all steps taken in the making of peace and of reconstruction. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that 26 organisations were represented. The speakers were: Dr. Margaret Mead on "The Hot Springs Conference on Food and Agriculture; Miss Bertha Bracey on U.N.R.R.R., Dr. Nesca Robb on Women in Key Positions, and Mrs. Lloyd Prichard on How can organised women make themselves felt in international reconstruction and peace-making? At the close of the meeting the attached resolution was passed.

The Officers AGREED to ask for permission to use the speech by Dr. Mead in the News Sheet and to reprint it as a leaflet.

AGREED to urge the Branches to initiate or to co-operate in similar Conferences that might be organised in their towns.

Reports of the Conference would be available, price 1/- each on application to Mrs. Grindley, Hon. Secretary, Women's Conference, C/o W.I.L. Office.

(b) Reported Prof. Thoday had sent a letter of appreciation of the Committee's message of sympathy and the Minute of the Committee on the death of Mrs. Thoday. He had enclosed a reprint, "In Memoriam", from the North Wales Chronicle of August 13th, 1943

(b) Reported Prof. Thoday had sent a letter of appreciation of the Committee's message of sympathy and the Minute of the Committee on the death of Mrs. Thoday. He had enclosed a reprint, "In Memoriam," from the North Wales Chronicle of August 13th, 1943.

(c) Reported a letter from Mrs. Brayshaw thanking the Committee for their message on her appointment as Clerk to Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends. She regretted that her new work would prevent her from being of much active use to the W.I.L. and suggested that her place on the Committee should be taken by someone else. AGREED that Mrs. Brayshaw should be asked to remain on the Committee and to attend whenever she found herself able to do so. She would not be keeping anyone else off as there were one or two vacancies.

(d) The Officers AGREED to subscribe 10/6d for literature for one year from the Allies Inside Germany Council.

(e) Reported acknowledgment from the L.N.U. of our message of sympathy on the death of Major Freshwater.

433. W.I.L. CZECH FUND. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on the passing of Matric with one distinction and six Credits of Djina Rottar at the age of 15. She had now left Badminton School and was taking up a course of shorthand and typewriting in readiness for the work she hoped to take up later. It was hoped that the Czech Fund would provide the necessary Funds for this further training but if the whole amount were not forthcoming Mrs. Duncan Harris asked if a grant of up to £10 might be made from the W.I.L. Czech Fund. This was AGREED.

434. W.I.L? CZECH REFUGEES IN THIS COUNTRY. Mrs. Duncan Harris reminded the Committee that when the Czech members first came to England they were made Hon. Associate members of the British Section. She thought that the time had come when they might be invited to become Associate members, paying an annual subscription and preparing to take their part in the W.I.L. work in the period of peace-making and reconstruction, as nearly all of them were now taking part in the normal life of the country and earning their own livelihood. A free copy of the News Sheet had been sent to about 30 refugees every month since they came to the country. THIS proposal was ADOPTED.

CORRESPONDENCE. The Officers dealt with the following:-

435. An invitation from Mr. Caradog Jones for the W.I.L. to become a provisional member of the Panel of Referees in connection with the Committee to promote the formation of a Joint Advisory Council for Reconstruction. AGREED to reply that the W.I.L. is already working for reconstruction through an ad hoc Committee of Women's Organisations, and that we regret that we are not able to be represented on the Panel of Referees, but would be glad to keep in touch. AGREED to send 10/6d for their literature.

436. Free Hungarians. Reported an invitation to make use of Count Lonyay to address public meetings on the subject of Hungary and its peace-time importance in post-war Europe. AGREED to ask Mr. Gerald Bailey and Miss Dorothy Woodman for information concerning Count Lonyay.

437. Miss A. Harrison agreed to represent the W.I.L. at the Lecture Conferences of the International Bureau for the Suppression of Traffic in Women and Children, on Friday and Saturday, October 22nd and 23rd. The fee was 5/-.

438. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS, 1944. Reported that we had not succeeded in getting accommodation in Oxford, Birmingham or Reading. The Education Officers' Department of the London County Council had replied that the only Training College maintained by the Council which might be available for our use was the College of Physical Education, 6 Paddington Street, W. 1. They had, however, a number of



of technical institutes and schools also maintained by the Council in which accommodation is available. It was, however, not possible to consider any application so far ahead, but they suggested that we might make inquiry in the New Year.

Reported an offer from our Manchester Branch to hold the Council Meetings in Manchester, the meetings to be in the Friends Meeting House and hospitality to delegates to be given by Manchester members, there being no place large enough in Manchester to house all the delegates. The Committee were very grateful for this magnificent offer, but felt that it must make further inquiries before putting such a strain on the Manchester Branch.

AGREED to inquire if accommodation were available at the Co-operative Holidays Association Guest House at Hope, Derbyshire. Failing this, or an L.C.C. Training College (after inquiry early in 1944) it was unanimously AGREED to accept Manchester's kind offer.

439. PEACE TERMS MEMORIAL. Reported that 91 out of 250 prominent women had signed the Peace Terms Memorial, which had been sent, with a covering note, to the Prime Minister on the 25th September, and the Press on the 27th. A copy had been sent to the Foreign Office for information. The text of the Memorial or reference to it had appeared in The Friend, the News Chronicle and the Yorkshire Evening Post. Some very interesting letters had been received giving reasons for signing or not signing the Memorial.

440. BRING AND BUY SALE. Reported that, stimulated by the excellent results of Bring and Buy Sales in the Branches, the London members of the Executive Committee had agreed to organise a Bring and Buy Sale for members not attached to Branches (particularly London members) at Friends House on November 19th from 3 to 4.30 p.m. to raise enough money "to run the Office for at least one month." Several representatives from the Branches described various ways in which they had raised their own money.

441. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood in presenting the monthly Statement of Accounts drew attention to the balance in hand of £55, but, she said, she was not unduly alarmed at this, because we had the special contribution of £50 for work on India, and our Penny-a-Week Fund and the Congress Fund were steadily increasing. She expressed warm thanks to the Branches for their support of the Quota and Friends of Headquarters scheme which, she said, was in the nature of an experiment to tide over this very critical year. £26 in donations in September was something unusual and the Committee were very gratified. She suggested that next year other members should be asked to become Friends of Headquarters in place of those who had subscribed this year. Farnborough, one of our very new Branches, had recently sent her a cheque for £10.11.6 as a result of a Bring and Buy Sale, and Childwall, another new Branch, had already sent its quota of £2.10.0d

442. FUTURE PLANNING OF THE W.I.L. ON A REGIONAL BASIS Mrs. Phillips, on behalf of the Manchester Branch, put forward a proposal that the W.I.L. should be organised on a regional basis with the following possible regions: North West, North East, Midlands, North Wales, South Wales, Scotland, South East and South West England and Greater London.

Each region should have its own Office and the Branches in that region should send their subscriptions direct to the Regional Secretary.

The Headquarters Office should send each Regional Secretary sufficient copies of Minutes, letters to Secretaries, etc. for her to distribute. The Regional Office would send to Headquarters the affiliation fees of each member within the region.

Manchester believed this would ease Headquarters of a considerable amount of labour and expense.

Mrs. Phillips said that it was believed that this regional system would help to develop the organisation as a whole and would result in an increased membership.

Mrs. Phillips added that several of the groups within the Manchester Branch were large enough to become Branches having direct contact with Headquarters, and if the transfer were made it would put the Manchester Office as it stands at present in a difficult position. The response, it was only fair to say, to the regional scheme from the Manchester Groups was varied, some were in favour of becoming Branches attached to Headquarters while others are ready to fall in with the new proposal.

During the discussion Mrs. Duncan Harris pointed out that the Headquarters Office could not be considered as a regional office. It must continue to be the national centre with responsibilities to all Branches and to the International. A greater London Regional Office would also have to be run, if the scheme developed.

Some of the many points raised were: would the regional plan diminish the contact between Branches and Headquarters; would Branch Secretaries receive Headquarters letters, Minutes, etc. as promptly through the Regional Office as direct; in many areas there were not sufficient Branches to be organised regionally; regionalisation would increase local interest and probably give greater facilities for more contact with the Government; the consideration of organisation as well as political matters was necessary; would it be easier to get speakers for a series of meetings for the Branches in the region? would the independence of a Branch within the region be guaranteed?

After full discussion it was felt that the time was not ripe for the W.I.L. to adopt regionalisation, but it was a method of work to be kept in mind and considered again later. In the meantime the excellent plan of regional Conferences which North Wales and Manchester had instituted, should be encouraged. This was a sure way of steadily increasing membership and interest and was proving most helpful.

Mrs. Duncan Harris thanked the Manchester Branch for bringing this important question to the attention of the Committee and hoped the Branches would go forward with their regional Conferences. In the meantime the Organisation Committee of Headquarters would give thought to how far Headquarters can help in the organisation of new Branches and whether it can pay the expenses of a speaker to a first meeting. The time would come when the question of an Organising Secretary would have to be considered.

443. INTERNATIONAL NEWS. Mrs. Innes reported on News from U.S.A., Sweden and Australia. A summary will appear in the November News Sheet. On the proposal of Miss Dickinson it was AGREED to send a letter of congratulations and appreciation to the Swedish Section on their <sup>of their country</sup> very fine work for the Jews from Denmark.

444. INDIA. Reported four representatives of the W.I.L. had the opportunity of meeting Lady Wavell at an informal reception that was arranged by the Women's Advisory Council on Indian Affairs and the Liaison Group of British Women's Societies working in co-operation with the All Indian Women's Conference. Lady Layton, Chairman of the former and Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Chairman of the latter, voiced the deep concern and interest of British women's organisations (seventeen of which send representatives) and asked Lady Wavell to take a message of greeting to Indian women.

Famine. The gravity of this situation was at last being realised in this country. Mrs. Pandit, President of the All India Women's Conference (and a member of the W.I.L.) had gone to Bengal with the members of the Conference Committee, to help in Relief work. It was decided to send her a cable of greeting and support from the Executive Committee. Relief Funds here had now been started and Branches were urged to co-operate and help in these in their localities.

Political situation. The India Committee had discussed the suggestion from North Wales that an "India Week" should be held in November, but it was decided to take no immediate action until it was seen whether the new Viceroy intended to take action. If there was no indication of this being done, it would be necessary to rally public opinion in this country. Meanwhile the India Committee would keep a vigilant watch on events.

It was decided to write to the Religious Department of the B.B.C. requesting that intercession be made for Lord Wavell on the eve of his departure, and the situation in India. Miss Harrison agreed to write a short Note on India for the News Sheet.

445. COLONIES Mrs. McGregor Ross said that there was evidence of a greatly increased interest throughout the country on the whole Colonial question. She reported that the Warrington Branch of the W.I.L. is arranging a Regional Conference on the Future of the Colonies next March and Headquarters has been asked to support it, through publicity in the News Sheet.

Mrs. Ross suggested that articles should appear in the News Sheet on the International Colonial Convention and on the Control of the Natural Resources of the Colonies. AGREED that Mr. Greenidge should be asked to write on the Convention and Miss Rita Hinden on the Control of the Natural Resources of the Colonies.

The Colonies Committee were considering the possibility of holding a Conference on the Colonies in London early in 1944. Other interested Organisations would be consulted.

446. CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE W.I.L. Miss McAra, on behalf of the Glasgow Branch, drew attention to the Rule in the Constitution with regard to Annual Council Meetings, which stated that "all amendments to resolutions must reach the Office not later than 21 days before the meeting." The Branch submitted that this Rule was not adhered to when amendments to resolutions from the floor were accepted at Annual Council Meetings, and their acceptance gave preference to individual opinion over the considered opinion of the Branch. Many other Organisations adopted the rule of only taking amendments that had previously been circulated to delegates.

Mrs. Duncan Harris explained that the procedure of accepting the amendments from the floor had always been customary at our Annual Meetings and also at International meetings, and that it was considered an advantage for delegates to be able to make pronouncements after new light had been thrown on to a subject as a result of discussion on verbal amendments to resolutions..

After discussion the general feeling was that the Glasgow Branch's interpretation of the letter of the clause was tenable, and that those who wish the present practice to continue should put forward an amendment to the Rule at the 1944 Annual Council Meetings.

Mrs. Innes undertook to draft a suitable amendment in the sense of the present practice.

447. BRANCH NEWS. Reports given by delegates showed great activity and enthusiasm in the Branches represented, which augured well for the future of the W.I.L. Reports will appear in the November News Sheet.

418. "POOL OF OPINION." In opening the discussion of the "Pool of Opinion" Mrs. Duncan Harris reminded the Committee that the shape of the future world organisation is being determined now in war-time measures, in U.N.R.R.A., in the Hot Springs Conference, etc. and that we must consider how far we

want them incorporated in a more permanent and final shaping of post-war reconstruction.

Questions (1) A People's Peace, (2) World Organisation, (5) Economic Planning, (6) Economic Imperialism; (8) Migration, were considered in detail and Mrs. Innes summarised the discussion after each question. (See Summaries attached).

AGREED that the summaries, as finally adopted, should be sent to Gertrude Baer, the International Chairman in the U.S.A. and a copy to Emily Balch, the International President, for her information, and to be printed in the November News Sheet.

AGREED to express to Gertrude Baer regret that the Sections had not been invited to give more attention to the question of Education.

AGREED also to send Gertrude Baer, for information only, the Notes on Economic Planning of Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, and to offer to send the Notes from the Branches on the five questions for interest only, if desired.

AGREED that Question 7 (Disarmament), should be discussed at the December Executive Committee, and that the material sent from Branches should be circulated beforehand and that Branches should be reminded that they could send representatives to the Committee on December 1st. The results of the discussions should be sent to Gertrude Baer after the meeting.

AGREED that Gertrude Baer should be reminded that, as Mrs. Innes had already written, the Section would be continuing the discussion on the remaining questions early in 1944 and the results of the discussions forwarded as soon after as possible. The next Annual Council Meetings were considered a good time for the discussions to take place.

In closing the Meeting Mrs. Duncan Harris gave warm thanks to all the delegates for giving up so much of their time in coming to the meetings. She felt the discussions had been valuable and hoped the delegates would think the meetings had been worth while.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, November 3rd, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

Representatives from Branches will be welcome.

DATE OF MEETING IN DECEMBER: Please note that this will be held on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1st, in the Flat.

Isabel Ross.

Nov. 3, 1943.

The Resolution was moved by Mrs. C. Ganley, J.F., and seconded Miss E.M. Smith. It was carried unanimously.

Resolution.

This conference of women's organisations, having met to consider how women may best secure their inclusion in all steps taken in the making of peace and of reconstruction, records its conviction that:-

(1) At this moment in history it is essential for women to realise their responsibility in the far-reaching decisions which are being made in their name, and that this sense of responsibility must remain alert, even in the days of weariness that may well follow when hostilities cease.

(2) In the emergence of the new world which is hoped for after the war, women, whose close concern with the nurture of the next generation has given them a special experience and point of view, have a definite contribution to make in moving away from methods of coercion and conflict, and in pressing for those measures which can provide a foundation for world co-operation to secure a fuller life for all.

It therefore, resolves:-

(i)

To call upon all women's organisations to bring this matter before their members with a view to:-

(a) educating the community to recognise that the help of women is essential in every sphere of life, and women must serve in all important social tasks;

(b) seeking out suitable women for membership of relevant bodies;

(c) making known the views of organised women to those in authority;

(ii) To suggest to women's organisations that they should encourage their branches to call together similar conferences in the provinces;

(iii) To co-operate in calling a Public Conference in London when seems desirable.

Miss Taylor moved a vote of thanks to the speakers.

Mrs. Duncan Harris concluded the meeting by saying that the resolution laid on the women of this country a continued responsibility. It was not so much a claim of right AS WOMEN, but AS CITIZENS. Our work was to try and bring back the balance which had gone too much to one side. We needed to redress this balance of human organisation, so that in the future we might move forward to something worthier of the human race.

## WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

SUMMARIES OF THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE W.I.L.P.F. "POOL OF OPINION."  
Oct. 5th and 6th, 1943. Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W. 1.

### QUESTION 1. A PEOPLE'S PEACE.

All agree that for any lasting peace fundamental change in the political, economic and social, educational and psychological spheres is essential. Some fundamental changes are being made but we realise that all cannot be completed before the ending of hostilities. Meanwhile we must keep the end in view and work towards it by any stages possible, the end being to reach a world that can be organised for a lasting peace.

### QUESTION 2. WORLD ORGANISATION.

We think that ultimately there must be a world federation. We see dangers in rival federations and a problem to which we have not found a solution as how to get representation of the peoples more directly on international bodies provided with executive power.

We believe that the machinery of the League of Nations should be revived with any modifications that appear necessary in the light of past experience, possibly local federations within the framework of the League might be achieved.

In the revived League of Nations, some surrender of national sovereignty over a spreading area of functions is essential. This is being foreshadowed, e.g. by the organisation of U.N.R.R.A. and the Hot Springs Conference. Sovereign rights over the air, for example, must be surrendered.

The revived League of Nations should be open to all accepting the Constitution which must include a Charter of Human Rights. Membership should offer substantial advantages to the members.

### QUESTION 5. ECONOMIC PLANNING.

In general, we wish to emphasise that the employment and representation of women should be recognised by all Governments as a vital part of international planning, and of the world authority of the future.

All are agreed that planning is necessary, and some degree of common ownership. Social security, involving full employment, should be the aim of economic planning. It is necessary to secure efficiency, but this must not be achieved without relation to human happiness, or at the price of liberty. Economic planning must include consideration of the various proposals for currency reform. Co-operation and the co-operative principle, with its emphasis on the claims of the consumer, are in line with W.I.L. principles, and with the idea that production should be not for profit but for the fulfilment of human needs, and co-operation should therefore find a place in any world plans.

### QUESTION 6. ECONOMIC IMPERIALISM.

There is general agreement that colonies should be brought to an end in the sense that self-government should be achieved by the Colonial peoples as soon as they are ready for it, the time varying in the various dependencies. It should be the responsibility of the International Supervisory Body to concern itself with the time for self-government. We maintain our agree-

ment that India should be given immediate self-government and that Ceylon and the West Indies should be given it in the near future, as indeed has been promised and is in course of realisation.

Partnership between the Mother country and the dependencies is regarded as a better conception than Trusteeship in the case of dependencies not yet able to have self-government. There is a good deal of agreement that most dependencies need a great deal more education before responsible self-government can be given them, but we advocate that education shall be greatly and rapidly improved.

To avoid exploitation, some suggest that "big business" should be controlled, others that socialism will cure the evils; others that the following will all be effective in preventing exploitation - more international supervision, recognition of the right of the native inhabitants to their land; education; the increase of trade unions and inspectors of labour; better and more universal application of I.L.O. Conventions; the sending of intelligent Colonial peoples to other countries to see conditions there; increase of representation of Colonial people on Councils, Commissions and Committees both in the Colonies and internationally, and general raising of the standard of living and incidence of social services.

There is general agreement that some form of international supervisory body should be created for all dependencies - an improved Mandatory System - but not international administration for which there seems to be no demand whatever from the Colonial peoples themselves. For an improved Mandatory System we advocate the creation of an international Colonial Commission on to which the Colonial peoples shall have direct and adequate representation.

Finally, we would bring forward the opinion that the whole question of the provision and use of food and raw materials in the Colonies of all nations should have a place in the planning of an international body which will presumably be planning for the world economic field.

#### QUESTION 8 MIGRATION.

In principle we look to a world of social and economic security in which world-citizenship and free migration may be possible.

In the present confused state of the world we do not feel we can make any further contribution to this question.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday, November 3rd, 1943, at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1. from 11 to 4 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. McGregor Ross in the Chair, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison, Miss Burton, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard, Mrs. Malcomson, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Beesley, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Brayshaw, and Mrs. Phillips from Manchester Branch.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Miss Pye, Miss Haughton and Dr. Scott who it, was reported, had been taken ill since her arrival in London for the Committee. Considerable concern was expressed and it was AGREED that a letter of sympathy should be sent to Dr. Scott.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON OCTOBER 5th and 6th were confirmed after adding (1) Mrs. Grindley's name to the list of those present; (2) Mrs. Lord's name to the Apologies, (3) Minute 443, last line to read "on the very fine work of their country" in place of "their very fine work."

Minute 449.

Mrs. Phillips said that the Manchester Branch felt that Minute 442 first paragraph on page 4 did not correctly interpret the meaning of what she had said on behalf of the Branch, which was that some of the Manchester groups were in favour of becoming Branches attached to the proposed Manchester Regional Office and not to National Headquarters. She understood that the Committee were in agreement on this and that, while there were not sufficient Branches to make general regionalisation possible yet, the Manchester Branch was encouraged to go ahead with their regional scheme. Mrs. Duncan Harris said that there had been a misunderstanding because the Constitution required Branches to be attached to Headquarters, but Manchester had been encouraged to go ahead with their regionalisation of Branches for Conferences, etc. The Committee supported this. After discussion it was agreed to ask the Manchester Branch to consider the question again and to bring forward a proposal to the Annual Council, if it affected the Constitution. If it did not, the proposal could come before the Executive Committee.

MINUTE 450.

BUSINESS ARISING: Reported the Bring and Buy Sale had been arranged for Friday, November 19th from 3 to 4.30 p.m. at Friends House, Euston Road. The London members of the Executive were aiming at raising £50.

Reported that a Lunch Meeting was arranged for November 24th at Friends House, when Mr. van der Sprekel, B.Sc. Econ. would speak on "Portents and Potentials in the Far East." Mrs. Rischbieth of Australia would take the Chair.

Reported that consent had been obtained from Dr. Mead and the ad hoc Women's Conference Committee to print Dr. Mead's address on The Hot Spring Conference which she gave on September 11th, in the News Sheet, and as a leaflet.

451. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood presented the attached statement of accounts which showed a balance in the current account of £12. She asked members from Branches if they would ask their Treasurers to forward any sums now which they had in hand for Headquarters. She hoped that these, with the results of the London Bring and Buy Sale might tide us over to the end of the year.

Mrs. Wood reported that, in view of our financial position, the Officers felt that only half fares could be paid to members attending Executive Committee next month.

452. W.I.L. CZECH FUND. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the accounts made up to the end of March last showed a balance of



112.10.11. Since then there had been some withdrawals which left a balance under £100.

453. NEWS SHEET. Mrs. Innes reported that the December issue would contain an article by Mr. Greenidge on the International Colonial Convention drafted by the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society, Dr. Mead's address on The Hot Springs Conference, a note from Miss Harrison on India, report of the Bring and Buy Sale, Reviews by Mrs. Ross and Branch News.

454. INTERNATIONAL NEWS. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that she and Miss Pye had attended the Service in memory of Senator Plamin-

kova (Czechoslovakia) on October 8th. A pamphlet about her had been issued by the Czechoslovak Council of Women in this country. AGREED to ask if we could have enough copies for our Branches and our W.I.L. Czech members, and for several members of the Committee.

455. RUSSIA. Mrs. Innes reported a letter from Dr. Lena Stern through the Embassy of the U.S.S.R. thanking her for the letter she had sent and saying she would be glad to establish contacts with her old friends from the International League. Reported also that numerous Russian Newspapers and pamphlets in English had recently been received. Miss Anderson was making use of some of them. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard thought she could make use of a few copies.

456. GERTRUDE BAER had written regretting that the articles she had particularly asked for had not yet been received. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard said she would send one immediately.

457. LIAISON COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS. Reported that Mrs. Grindley was unable to attend regularly the meetings of this Committee, owing to her work for the C.Os. It was felt necessary that the W.I.L.P.F. should be represented at each meeting and Mrs. Duncan Harris offered to act as substitute for Mrs. Grindley when necessary, and also to attend the discussion meetings on post-war planning now being arranged.

458. INDIA. Reported the following cable had been sent to Mrs. Pandit:- "British Section Women's International League deeply concerned over Famine situation and are doing what we can to help warm greetings to you all. Innes." Miss Harrison reported that the All India Women's Conference was to be held in December. She did not know if a British woman would be allowed to go to India for it but an effort would be made to send someone.

With regard to the Famine situation in India there was a great need for public opinion to be aroused on this, not only from the monetary point of view. Shipping was the important thing and this, of course, was in the hands of the Government. A good impression had been made by Lord Wavell taking the matter in hand immediately on his arrival in India and it was hoped that his action would help to ease the political situation. The Sponsors of the seven different Famine Relief Funds for India were meeting to see if there could be a "pooling" of efforts so that complications in the future are avoided. Money was coming in from many quarters and Miss Harrison said the W.I.L. India Committee wanted to urge those Branches who have not already taken action to set to work immediately either by co-operating with an existing Fund in their town, or by promoting local activity where so far nothing is being done. She said that the greater part of the money would be sent to India, though of course a part would be required for campaigning.

It is hoped that reprints of the letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury and the two Moderators will be widely distributed before November 28th, which is to be a National Day of Prayer for India. The B.B.C. is to be approached to see if an Intercession

Service similar to that for China, can be arranged. The Branches were to be urged to find out at once what steps were being taken in the Churches in their towns for this day, and to co-operate wherever possible.

Mrs. Lloyd Prichard expressed the regret of the North Wales Branch that an India Week was not thought advisable at the present time, as they thought it urgent that action should be taken at once on the political situation. It was agreed that after the Debate on India in the House on 4th November the Officers, in consultation with the N.P.C. should consider what, if any, policy for the future had been outlined by Mr. Churchill or Mr. Amory, and whether the time had come for taking action. Miss Harrison felt that Lord Wavel should be given enough time for action in India before we may any approaches.

Miss Harrison further reported news of the setting aside of the Order prohibiting women to work in the mines in India. She understood that Mrs. Subbaroyan <sup>member of the Legislative Assembly</sup> had ~~approached the National Council~~ <sup>taken the matter</sup> ~~urging them to protest at this retrograde step,~~ and she said that the Liaison Committee of British Organisations co-operating with the All India Women's Conference is to meet on November 8th <sup>when the</sup> ~~consider what action, if any, could be taken in this country.~~ <sup>Matter would be raised.</sup>

459. COLONIES. Miss Anderson reported on the meeting of the W.I.L. sub-Committee and said several reasons had been put forward against holding a Conference in London in the near future, one in particular was that the Warrington Branch were planning a Regional Conference in March to which it was hoped that people from the South might be able to attend. It was thought, however, that a series of lunch hour addresses in London in the New Year, taking different aspects of the Colonial question in turn, might be arranged.

The Committee had considered how Branches could best be fitted to take advantage of the various publications issued under their Literature deposit scheme, such as the International Colonial Convention. There were also other Societies' publications, such as "Empire" issued by the Fabian Colonial Bureau and the "Reporter" of the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society, both of which contained very useful and important material. The suggestion was that Branches should be invited to appoint one of their members to receive and study such publications and pass on to the Branch as a whole, a digest of their contents. This would enable her to be au fait with the subject and it was hoped the Branch would send her as their delegate to the Conference at Warrington, the proceedings of which she could report back to them. It was also suggested to ask Warrington whether the Conference could be held on Saturday afternoon and early evening and a special session on Sunday morning at which the W.I.L. members might discuss the subject from its own point of view. This would also facilitate travelling and hospitality.

The Committee further suggested the collating of W.I.L. resolutions passed over a period of ten years with a view to comparing them with the present day statement.

The Committee also agreed to urge Mrs. James to let us have her study syllabus as soon as possible.

460. International Labour Office. Miss Dickinson referring to a letter in the Manchester Guardian, expressed concern at the lack of recognition of the work of the I.L.O. and its co-operation with Conferences, such as the Hot Springs Conference, and asked if there was any action the W.I.L. could take to secure recognition of its work. After discussion it was agreed that Mr. Clifton Robbins should be written to on the matter and asked whether he thinks the positions calls for any action, over which we might help.

461. MOSCOW TALKS. Miss Anderson opened the discussion on the Moscow Talks. Particular emphasis was laid on the punishment of war criminals and on the Declaration on Austria. It was agreed that we should not put out any statement at the present time.

462. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL STATEMENT OF POLICY. The draft Statement on The Conditions of a Constructive Peace was considered

clause by clause and our representatives were given guidance as to suggestions to make when it was considered by the N.P.C.

463. BRANCH REPORTS. Members of the Committee from Branches reported on their work and forthcoming arrangements. Mrs. Lord reported a letter from Miss Mennell, the Chairman of the Harpenden Branch, saying that the Branch could no longer continue because of illness of of the domestic difficulties of the younger people. Perhaps later a Secretary might be found who would be able to interest many of the new people who are now living in Harpenden. Agreed to thank Miss Mennell and the Harpenden Committee for their help in the past and to express the hope that there will be a future for the W.I.L. in Harpenden later on.

Reported that the Farnborough Branch had sent in their comments on Question VII in the "Pool of Opinion" and it was agreed to circulate them to the Branches and Executive before December 1st.

464. CORRESPONDENCE.

Actresses Franchise League Christmas Party, Friday, 17th Dec. from 3 to 6 p.m. Reported that the proceeds of this Party were to help to fund two Lectureships in memory of Nina Boyle and Alison Neilans. Nina Boyle was a member of the National Women Citizens' Association, the Save the Children Fund, etc. and Alison Neilans had devoted her life to the work of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, and had been in constant touch with the W.I.L.

Mrs. Greenwood. Reported the forwarding of a proposal sent to Mrs. Greenwood by Mr. David Peat for a personal pledge to withhold support from any national government which seeks to upset the commonly agreed rule of law set up to take the place of war. The Committee decided not to take steps along these lines.

Family Endowment Society. Reported a letter from this Society asking the W.I.L. to press the Government to introduce the Family Allowances scheme immediately. AGREED to do this, to press for the inclusion of the first child, and to comment on the fact that we feel the suggested sum of 5/- is inadequate.

465. THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN. Miss Harrison reported on a Conference on The Abolition of Tolerated Prostitution called by the above Society on October 22nd and 23rd.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 1st from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1. Question VII - Disarmament and International Police - in the "Pool of Opinion" will be discussed. All Branches are invited to send representatives.

466. ANTI-VANSITTARTISM. Reported that the N.P.C. were considering setting up a co-ordinating Committee on anti-Vansittartism.

Miss Anderson consented to represent the W.I.L. at a meeting of the Progressive League in support of the Anti-Vansittart Declaration, in the Conway Hall in December.

*B. Truman Harris*

1. XII. 43

W.I.L. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR OCTOBER, 1943.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on Oct. 1st.....	96. 8. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Subscriptions...	16. 6
Friends of Headquarters.....	2. 2. 6
Branch quota.....	9. - -
Inland Rev. Oct..	3.10. 4
News Sheets.....	2.14. 1
Literature.....	4.11. 9
Affil. Fees.....	12. 3
Geneva Subs.....	2. - -
Penny-a-Week....	4.14. 4
Lunch Meetings... ..	15. -
	<u>30. 16. 9</u>

£127. 5. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$

EXPENDITURE.

Postage.....	7. 5. 3
Office Expenses.....	4. 4
Insurances.....	7. 6
- Revenue (Sept)...	3.10. 3
Rent.....	15. - -
Work for India.....	3.17. 6
Salaries.....	18. - -
Stationery.....	11.10
Meetings.....	1. - -
News Sheets.....	8.14. -
Travelling Expenses....	2. 4
Telephone.....	5.14. 8
Literature.....	2. 9. 6
	<u>66 17. 2</u>

Bal:

Bank//.....	59.15. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Potty Cash.....	12. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$
	<u>£127. 5. 3<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></u>

// ear-marked for various Funds  
48. 2. 2.

Current work 12. 5. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$   
£60. 8. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

POOL OF OPINION. QUESTION VII DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL POLICE.

NOTES SENT IN BY THE FARNBOROUGH BRANCH, October 29th, 1943.

For some years after the cessation of official hostilities the psychological and factual conditions will make it impossible for direct propaganda for disarmament to have any good effect. In many countries civil and guerilla warfare and starvation will have under-mined the security of life and destroyed any sense of responsibility to the community. A sense of security can only be restored by the establishment of an economic system, which will assure the means of life to all; but pending this we think that the least evil course would be the establishment of an international armed police force responsible to some form of international administration and recruited by volunteers from all countries who are trained to a sense of world citizenship. We wish to aim at the reduction and final abolition of purely national armed forces. The central international authority would also have as a powerful weapon for the restoration of order the provision of food and other necessities.

We recognise that some people may be called and trained for unarmed resistance to violence - perhaps as the outcome of their practical service. We visualise something combining the qualities of the I.S.V.P. and the Satyagrahies of India.

We wish that in our own country conscription should be replaced by a period of practical service, as a necessary qualification for citizenship. This should be a continuation of an increased education for citizenship in both schools and youth organisations.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Wednesday, December 1st, 1943, at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair in the morning and Mrs. McGregor Ross in the afternoon, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Beesley, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Innes, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Berwick Sayers, Mrs. Lloyd Prichard. Representatives from Branches: Mrs. Barker, Farnborough, Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Stapleton, Liverpool.

Lady Unwin, Vice-President, attended and was warmly welcomed from America.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Hilda Burton, Miss Haughton, Miss Pye and Mrs. Grindley. Manchester and Leicester Branches regretted their appointed representatives were unable to attend.

MINUTES OF MEETING on November 3rd were signed after the following amendments had been made:-

on page 3, last paragraph of Minute 458 after "Mrs. Subarayan" delete the words "had approached the National Council of Women urging them to protest at this retrograde step" and insert "Member of the Legislative Assembly had taken the matter up." After "November 8th" delete "to consider what action, if any, could be taken in this country," and insert "when the matter would be raised."

467. BUSINESS ARISING. Mrs. Bedford reported that the Bring and Buy Sale on November 19th had been a great social and financial success. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence had spoken for a few moments words of encouragement and inspiration, while Lady Unwin acknowledged the warm welcome given her on her return from America. The Treasurer reported the results of the Sale to be £60. The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee expressed thanks to all those who had worked to make it such a success.

Family Allowances Scheme. Reported formal acknowledgments from the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Sir William Jowitt, Minister without Portfolio, of our letter of November 17th, pressing for the immediate introduction of the scheme for Family Allowances, without waiting for the implementation of other Beveridge proposals; and urging that allowances should be operative from the birth of the first child; and expressing the view that the suggested sum of 5/- is inadequate either for the maintenance of a child, or as a factor in women's willingness to have larger families.

International Labour Office. In the absence of Mrs. Grindley a telephone report of her interview on behalf of the Committee with Mr. Clifton Robbins, was given. He had said that the information in the Manchester Guardian was not really correct. Things were moving behind the scenes which were confidential. He suggested that the ad hoc Women's Conference in March should stress the importance of a contribution being made by women, who, he considered, could not possibly be ignored in future - unless they wanted it to be so.

468. FINANCE. Mrs. Wood reported a balance in the current account of £33.15.9d as against £12 for the previous month.

Referring to the "quota" Mrs. Wood expressed her warmest thanks and congratulations to Brighton, Cambridge, Liverpool, Reading and Worthing Branches for sending their quota, and in some instances more than their quota. Though Farnborough and Childwall, as new Branches, had not been obliged to take part in the scheme, they had contributed more than their quota according to their membership. Manchester was in a different position because it had its own office to run, and she was very grateful to the Birmingham Branch for all it did at the Annual Council Meeting, particularly in arranging the

Bring and Buy Sale for Headquarters, though - in order to maintain her sanity! - she must remind them that they did not have heavy fares to pay to attend the Council. The Quota had brought in £164 and she had hoped for £261. She proposed writing to those Branches who had not yet responded, or paid their full quota, asking them to consider seriously what they could do further if it was only to send a Christmas gift to Headquarters.

Mrs. Wood asked those who belonged to Branches to take back to their members a message of warm thanks for their support from their grateful but still harassed Treasurer. Although the Quota scheme had not been a complete success Headquarters had had a gift from the blue in the form of the results of the Headquarters Sale - £60. The warmest thanks of all were due to the Misses Harrison and all friends for so quickly arranging this unexpected help for the Funds.

Referring to the Rule in the Constitution which allowed "the payment of railway fares to country members so long as funds are available for that purpose," Mrs. Wood said she thought it might not be possible to pay so much money in fares in the future and it might be necessary to discuss a change in the Rules at the next Annual Council Meeting.

Mrs. Wood referred to two bright spots in the financial picture - the Penny-a-Week Fund now amounting to £152.18.6 and the Congress Fund of £75 - together well over £200 for our After-the-War-Work.

A present of £5 to Miss Palmer, as a small token of her voluntary services in the Office over a period of several months was reported. Miss Palmer had expressed her thanks to the Committee and appreciation of the work which she had enjoyed with Miss Horscroft.

469. BRANCH REPORTS. Activities in the Branches were reported by members from Birmingham, Cambridge, Liverpool, Brighton, Reading and North Wales. The Childwall Branch, in order to encourage a better understanding of American life, had been in correspondence with Miss Starr Brinton of our U.S.A. Section who had promised to put the Branch in touch with an American Branch and to send "Four Lights" regularly. A copy of the Annual Report of the Branch was available to other Branches on application to the Office.

Letters were reported from Mrs. Sussams of Sheffield and Mrs. Sturdy of Blackpool, announcing the formation of a W.I.L. Branch in their towns. Mrs. Phillips, of Manchester Branch, had been mainly responsible for the one at Sheffield. Literature and model Branch Rules had been sent to them.

Mrs. Wood reported that recently she had addressed Students at the Training College at Saffron Walden on their International Students' Day and eleven students had joined the W.I.L. and formed a Group. She said she was very concerned to know how to maintain the interest of new Branches and Groups and she urged that time should be devoted at the January Committee to the discussion of the organisation of new Branches and Groups. This was AGREED.

470. NEWS SHEET. Mrs. Innes said that articles she had planned or received for the January number from Dr. Hinden and Mrs. Misar, together with a New Year Message from Mrs. Duncan Harris, reviews, Branch and Headquarters News, would fill it.

471. INTERNATIONAL NEWS. Mrs. Innes had received a letter from the Swedish Section which reported that the "Pool of Opinion" Questionnaire was being sent round to Chairmen of their Groups for studying but that answers could not be sent to America till next Spring.

AGREED to ask the Swedish Section for an article for the News Sheet on their "Managed Currency."

News had been received from Switzerland saying that Anita Augsburg was somewhat better and had been able to get out a little and had enjoyed a small birthday party to celebrate her 86th birthday. She enjoyed receiving letters and sometimes answered them.

472. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the proposed amendments by the W.I.L. to the N.P.C. draft Statement of Policy "The Conditions of a Constructive Peace" had been accepted, but the whole document was still in process of revision.

473. "POOL OF OPINION" QUESTIONNAIRE. A discussion took place on Question 7 Disarmament and International Police." Mrs. Innes was asked to draft a summary for consideration at next Executive.

474. INDIA. It was decided to send a cable of greetings to the All India Women's Conference as soon as information reaches us of the date and place of meeting.

Women in Mines. After discussion with the Liaison Group, Miss Harrison on behalf of the W.I.L. took the matter to Mr. Robbins, the Director of the I.L.O. Office in London. He said he would at once communicate with the I.L.O. in Montreal and would let us know the result. Mr. Robbins was grateful to us for bringing the matter to his attention.

Sunday, November 28th. Several Branches reported they had taken the matter up with their local clergy and in some cases were able to interest the local press. Full discussion took place as to next steps. Miss Harrison reviewed the position since our Council Meeting - the women's letter that was an outcome of the Council; our active co-operation in the important and well signed statement issued by the N.P.C. on 7th August; the part we took in the efforts to acquaint Lord Wavell and Lady Wavell of the concern and anxiety in this country, before they left for India; of the part played by some of the Branches in Famine Relief in their localities; and more recently their efforts to get local response to the appeal for November 28th to be observed as a special day of prayer. Miss Harrison told the Committee of other steps she knew were being taken in an effort to end the deadlock.

It was decided to urge the Branches to follow up the Day of Prayer. Intercession had been made all over the country and on the B.B.C. that the present deadlock should be brought to an end; as long as the present situation maintains - the challenge to the Christian forces in this country - remains. And also, that in meetings held for famine relief, to bear in the forefront of our minds that contributing money for relief is not enough. The W.I.L. is committed to a policy for ending the political deadlock. The suggestion of sending a letter to Lord Wavell was discussed that would stress the need for release of political prisoners. This matter was left to the India and Colonies Committee's discretion.

Finally, it was felt strongly that the India and Colonies Committee needed information from the Branches as to the work that is going on on both these subjects, and it was decided to send out some questions, the answers to which would greatly aid the Committee in the difficult days that lie ahead.

475. COLONIES. On the recommendation of the India and Colonies Committee Mrs. Irvine, an old Manchester member now living in the South, was co-opted to the India and Colonies Committee. Mrs. Lloyd Prichard said she would like to see some members from the Branches represented on it.



(4)

Reported that the Warrington Branch Committee did not see its way to arranging a special Sunday morning session of the forthcoming Colonial Conference. They were awaiting news from Mrs. Lloyd Prichard about a speaker and as soon as this had been received they would go ahead with their plans. They would then get in touch with Mrs. McGregor Ross. Members from the Liverpool Branch thought they could offer hospitality over the Saturday night to some of the delegates to the Conference.

Later in the afternoon Mrs. Lloyd Prichard announced that Dr. Rita Hinden had consented to speak at the Conference on 11th March.

January 19th:

Lunch Meetings in London./ Problems of Food Production in Africa (including nutrition, soil erosion, agriculture and forestry. Possible speakers: Miss Perham, Dr. Audrey Richards or Dr. Fred Irvine.

January 26th: Labour Conditions. Speaker, if possible, Major Orde Brown.

February 16th: Colonial Education: Possible Speaker: The Rev. Alex G. Fraser.

February 23rd: International Action for the Colonies. Possible Speaker: Mr. C.W.R. Greenidge.

Dane Rachel Crowdy was suggested as one of the Chairman.

Mr. Clifford Robbins of the International Labour Office was suggested for a Lunch Meeting on another occasion.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, January 5th, 1944 at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1. Representatives from Branches will be welcomed.

B. Bureau Harris

5.1.44