

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, January 8th, 1935,
from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Innes in the Chair, Dr. Clark, Miss Courtney,
Miss Chick, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Miss B.M. Baker,
Mrs. Vipont Brown, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Harrison,
Mrs. Lankester, Miss White, Miss Sutherland, Miss Karleen
Baker. Miss Dickinson, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Beesley, *Mrs Corbett Fisher.*

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Pye, Miss Rinder,
Mrs. Corbett Fisher and Lady Unwin.

MINUTES of meeting on December 11th, 1934, were confirmed,
having been previously circulated.

1361. BUSINESS ARISING.

Moral Welfare Committee, National Council of Women.
Agreed to ask Miss E.K. Houghton to represent the W.I.L. on
this Committee and suggest her sister might take her place when
~~she is~~ *she is* unable to ~~attend~~.

Settlement of Yugoslav-Hungarian Dispute. Acknowledgments
of our letters were read from Sir John Simon, the Prime Minister
and Mr. Eden.

Nobel Peace Prize. Acknowledgments of our letters were read
from Mr. Henderson and Sir Norman Angell.

1362. FINANCE. Miss Chick presented the Statement of Accounts
for the year ending 31st December, which was accepted, after the
suggestion had been adopted that the items "Meetings' Expenses"
should be detailed. Miss Chick reported that the Boeke Trust
had sent a donation of £10 early in January of this year.

1363. REPORT OF NATIVE RACES COMMITTEE. Mrs. McGregor Ross said
that the Committee had not met since the December Executive,
but that the booklet on the Native Races Conference, consisting
of about 10,500 words, was now nearly ready for the printers. It
was agreed that this should be printed in time for the Annual
Council Meetings.

1364. REPORT OF INDIA COMMITTEE. Mrs. Innes reported on corres-
pondence in the Manchester Guardian arising out of her letter
re the omission of Indian speakers in the BROADCAST TALKS on
the India Report. Replies had been received from the B.B.C. Talks
Director and Sir Samuel Hoare, but the decision to have only
speakers from British leaders was upheld. The Committee AGREED
that as a principle was involved the matter should not be allowed
to rest, and Mrs. Innes was asked to write another letter to
the B.B.C. Talks Director; AGREED that the Women's Advisory
Council on Indian Questions should be asked also to make a pro-
test.

Mrs. Lankester conveyed greetings to the W.I.L. for the
New Year from Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Liaison Officer to the All
India Women's Council.

It was reported that the British Commonwealth League was
organising a public meeting at Friends House on February 28th at
8 p.m. to hear Mrs. Corbett Ashby and Dr. Royden on their return
from India, and the W.I.L. was asked to co-operate. Mrs.

Lankester and Miss Harrison AGREED to represent the Executive at a preliminary meeting to discuss arrangements on January 9th, and to convey to the British Commonwealth League the decision that the W.I.L. would guarantee £5 worth of tickets.

At the request of Mrs. Lankester it was AGREED that the Liaison Bulletin should be duplicated in the W.I.L. Office this month, the Societies in the Liaison Group undertaking this in rotation.

Mrs. Lankester read a letter from Miss Hilda Cashmore, who had gone as a visitor to the Conference at Karachi to represent the W.I.L. in which she described the opening meetings and the dissatisfaction of the Indian women with the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee Report. Mrs. Lankester said she would loan to any members of the Executive press cuttings of the Constituent Conferences held in many Provinces and States in India in preparation for the Karachi Conference.

Mrs. Lankester further reported on the general reaction in India to the J.S.C. Report. She also quoted extracts from views expressed by Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Begum Shah Nawaz and "Stri Dharm" on the Women's Franchise proposals. It was agreed not to pass any resolution until the official opinion of the three leading women's organisations was known and until the Executive had had an opportunity of discussing the matter with Dr. Royden and Mrs. Corbett Ashby.

Miss Harrison said that the suggestion had been made that, in order to make known the opinions of Indians who had been elected to the Legislative Assembly, and who would represent the views of the Indian people, members nominated by the Government should refrain from voting when the resolution on the India Report came before the Assembly.

It was AGREED that the W.I.L. should take no action but the hope was expressed that the India Conciliation Group or the Women's Advisory Council on Indian Questions, would take up the matter.

It was AGREED to renew the yearly subscription of 8/- to "Harijan," the magazine giving news of the campaign against untouchability, and for village welfare.

1365. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. A recommendation was considered that another effort should be made to sell the three books written by Mrs. Swanwick, especially her latest, - "Pooled Security." Mrs. Thoday said she would write a letter to "Headway" drawing the attention of readers to "Pooled Security" and the other pamphlets as it was felt both sides of the subject should be studied. If "Headway" did not insert the letter it was AGREED that it be sent to "Peace." AGREED also (1) to ask the Branches to watch for any meetings in their district bearing on the subject of Mrs. Swanwick's three books, and to get them taken on sale or return; (2) to bring them to the notice of Headquarter members once more.

1366. ABYSSINIA. Miss Freda White asked for urgency for the following resolution:-

"The British Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom regrets the hostilities between Italian and Abyssinian forces of December 5th, 1934, urges His Majesty's Government to support the appeal of Abyssinia to the League of Nations under Article XI of the Covenant;

suggests that an independent Commission should be sent to the spot in order to inquire and report to the Council on the following points:-

- (1) the facts of the incident;
- (2) the ownership of the ground in dispute.

and trusts that the Council will induce the disputants to submit to the decision of the League, to refrain from unfriendly acts in the meantime, and to co-operate in delimiting the frontier between Abyssinia and Italian Somaliland."

This resolution was PASSED, to be sent to the Prime Minister, the Foreign Office, Mr. Eden, the Secretariat, Geneva, the Abyssinian and Italian Embassies, the L.N.U. and the W.I.L.P.F. Geneva.

1367. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Relation of British Section to the W.I.L.P.F. Mrs. Innes reported that she had received representations that the Committee would like to consider the above before the Council Meetings with a view to putting recommendations before the Council. It was AGREED to take as the basis of discussion the resolution put forward by Dr. Clark on the preliminary Agenda of the Council.

It was pointed out that none of the proposals put forward by the special Council had been adopted, and it was felt that the members and Branches had a right to know the exact position which had emerged from the Zurich Congress. Hitherto the strength of the W.I.L.P.F. had been in its non-party attitude. Now, the new Statement of Aims contained definite Party slogans. One or two Executive members said their Branches did not feel called upon to work for a social transformation, especially as there was no certainty that it would bring about a permanent peace. Other members were opposed to the weakening of the International and felt that we ought to be willing to work with people who held a social philosophy different from our own provided they are definitely working against war.

After discussion a VOTE was taken to ascertain how many present supported Dr. Clark's proposals for the changes embodied in her resolution. 12 voted for.
4 against.

It was AGREED that the proposal should go forward in Dr. Clark's name as an individual member of the Executive.

Mrs. Innes gave notice of an amendment which she would put forward in her own name, not with the object of opposing Dr. Clark's resolution but in order to ~~not~~ have opportunity to put forward considerations on the other side in a positive form.

Resolutions. AGREED that the urgency resolution on Traffic in Arms should be moved by Miss White.

AGREED that a resolution on the Naval Conference must be left over for the time being. Dorothy Detzer was sending

material but it had not been received.

AGREED that Democracy No. 1. should be proposed by the Executive Committee, moved by Dr. Hilda Clark.

AGREED to ask Manchester Branch to substitute the word "secure" for "maintain" in Democracy 2.

AGREED to ask Edinburgh Branch if it would delete the words "with approval" in Traffic in Arms.

AGREED that Internationalisation of civil Aviation should be proposed by Executive Committee, moved by Mrs. Thoday.

AGREED that Penal Reform should be proposed by the Executive Committee, moved by Lady Unwin (subject to her consent).

AGREED to ask Mrs. McGregor Ross if she could substitute a resolution on Land in Kenya Colony on the lines of more general principles, suitable for a Society to pass which has not such specialised knowledge on the subject.

It was reported that (1) the present Vice-Presidents had consented to stand for re-election; (2) that Mrs. Binyon and Mrs. Grindley of Croydon had accepted nomination for the Executive.

Regret was expressed that Miss Sheepshanks was unable to continue to be Hon. Secretary, owing to ill-health. AGREED that a letter of appreciation of her work, and regret that she must give up, should be sent to her.

1368. DEMOCRACY CONFERENCE, February 5th. Dr. Clark reported that Programmes and Tickets were now ready, and she urged that members should help to make the Conference known as widely as possible. It was AGREED that the speakers should be asked to suggest a few books each, including their own writings, for a Bibliography and for sale at the Conference. It was also AGREED to advertise in "Time and Tide," "the New Statesmen" and "The Economist."

1369. MEETING OF LONDON MEMBERS. It was reported that a meeting of London Members had been called for January 21st at 3 p.m. at 104 Gower Street, consider the formation of a London Branch. Miss Sheepshanks would be the speaker, with Mrs. Innes in the Chair.

1370. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. It was AGREED to accept the invitation to send a representative to meetings to consider plans for the Congress of the N.P.C. in London next June. Miss Baker consented to represent the W.I.L.

It was also AGREED to order copies of the Peace Year Book on Sale or Return, and to have them on sale at the Council Meetings.

1371. DOROTHY DETZER, U.S.A. Dr. Clark reported that Miss Detzer hoped to be in Europe in the Spring and would be willing to speak at W.I.L. Branch meetings on the American Inquiry into the Traffic in Arms. Dr. Clark read extracts from a letter from Miss Detzer on this subject.

1372. NATIONAL DECLARATION. Reported an appeal for funds to carry on the work of the London Committee of the National Declaration. In view of our co-operation and subject to

Miss Chick's approval it was AGREED to make a grant of £5.

1373. W.I.L.P.F. Dr. Clark said she had received the Minutes of the Zurich Congress which could be loaned to members of the Executive; she had had correspondence with Miss Balch about the question of a protest re the treatment of prisoners in Bulgaria but so far she had taken no action. It was AGREED that the Officers should take action if, and when they think advisable; Miss Balch had sent us copies of her letters to the Secretary of the League of Nations re Abyssinia; to Mr. Henderson and Sir Norman Angell on their receiving the Nobel Peace Prize; and a letter containing suggestions for the next issue of Pax. In regard to the latter Mrs. Innes and Miss Sheepshanks had sent personal comments.

1374. CORRESPONDENCE.

Women's Advisory Council, L.N.U. Reported letter asking for nomination. AGREED to re-nominate Dr. Clark.

The Open Door Council. Reported request to send protest to the Minister of Transport against the appointment of women motor-driving examiners at lower rates of pay than men. AGREED no action should be taken.

High Commissioner for Refugees from Germany. Reported receipt of Report of the High Commissioner to the Governing Body indicating work already accomplished, and containing resolutions adopted, and the discussion on the question of refugees at the Second Committee of the Assembly of the League of Nations last September. This Report can be loaned to anyone interested, and wishing to read it.

Women's World Committee against War and Fascism. Reported a letter and suggestions for a plan to form local Committees all over the country.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS.

Monday, February 4th at 2.30 p.m. After the Council on
Friday, February 8th at 2.15 p.m.

B. to mean Harris

8. 11. 35

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Statement of Accounts for Year ending December 31st.
1934.

Balance on Jan. 1st. 1934	171.	4.	7½	Salaries	419.	7.	6.
Subscriptions	447.	19.	10.	State Insurance	10.	13.	11.
Donations	531.	0.	2½	Office Expenses	29.	3.	7½
Affiliation fees	38.	13.	9.	" Equipment	25.	0.	0.
Sale of News Sheets & Literature	109.	16.	1.	Travelling Expenses	43.	9.	3.
Proceeds of Meetings	18.	9.	7½	Rent	87.	10.	0.
Grant from House A/c.	100.	0.	0.	Lighting & heating	14.	4.	5.
Greek & French Histories	9.	5.		Telephone & Postage	104.	5.	1½
<u>Geneva</u>				Wages	46.	8.	4.
Subs	55.	1.	0.	Stationery	36.	15.	10½
Pax Subs	4.	9.	0.	News Sheets & Literature purchased	69.	12.	11.
	59.	10.	0.	Printing (including Annual Report £22.)	165.	10.	2.
			1,305.	Affiliation fees	6.	16.	3.
			18.	Meetings Expenses	56.	19.	10.
			11.	Grants	3.	2.	0.
				Zurich Congress Expenses	22.	10.	6.
				Delegates' Fees	3.	6.	
				Audit Fee	7.	17.	6.
				Press Agency	2.	2.	0.
				Greek & French Histories	10.	1.	
				<u>Geneva</u>			
				Grant	10.	0.	0.
				Subs.	55.	1.	0.
				Pax."	4.	9.	0.
				Pax.	10.	17.	11.
					80.	7.	11.

1,232.10.8½

Balance at

Midland Bank 242.12.1.
Cash in hand 2.0.9.

244.12.10.

£1,477. 3. 6½

£1,477. 3. 6½

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday, 8th February, 1935 at 104 Gower Street, W.C. 1. at 2.15 p.m.

PRESENT:

Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Dr. Hilda Clark, Miss Chick, Mrs. Innes, Lady Unwin, Miss Harrison, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. Vipont Brown, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Elgie, Mrs. Corbett Fisher, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Pye.

At the commencement of the meeting Mrs. Innes reminded the Committee that at this first meeting following the Council the Chairman has to be appointed. She wished to nominate Mrs. Duncan Harris. This was seconded and approved, and Mrs. Duncan Harris took the Chair.

1. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS. Mrs. Innes offered to act as Hon. Secretary while Lady Unwin ^{consented} offered to serve as Hon. Treasurer. They expressed the wish that they would only need to hold these Offices temporarily and that other Officers would be obtained for these two Posts later.

The Committee accepted these offers.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMEN. Mrs. Vipont Brown was appointed Vice-Chairman, but it was agreed to leave the second appointment until the next Committee, when members were asked to come prepared to make suggestions. Those who were unable to be present at that meeting were asked to send in their suggestions beforehand.
3. CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS. It was pointed out that there were now two vacancies on the Executive and it was agreed to co-opt Mrs. Grindley and to invite Mrs. Paul Sturge to accept co-option. It was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on January 8th should be sent to new members, except to those who had already received them as Branch Secretaries.
4. APPOINTMENT OF SUB COMMITTEES. It was agreed to leave the appointment of Sub-Committees to the next Executive, but members were asked to come prepared to say on which Committees they would be willing to serve.
5. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS. Agreed to the second Tuesday in the month.
6. DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE. March 12th.
7. MINUTES of meeting on January 8th were signed, having previously been circulated.
8. BUSINESS ARISING. Reported acknowledgments of the resolution on Abyssinia from Sir John Simon, the L.N.U., Miss Balch, League of Nations, Geneva, the British Embassy, Rome, United Kingdom Delegation to the League of Nations, Geneva, the Imperial Ethiopian Legation, London, and the Prime Minister.

The Officers were asked to consider any further action that might be necessary in the future, and to bring any suggestions to the March Executive.

9. COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS: Action regarding these resolutions was considered, and it was agreed that they should be sent out as follows:-

1. Relations between W.I.L. and W.I.L.P.F. To Miss Balch with a letter of explanation, and asking her to bring it to the attention of the Members of the International Executive Committee. It would be printed, amongst the other Council resolutions, in the Annual Report, and thus be sent to the National Sections.

2. Disarmament and the Anglo-French Agreement. The Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Arthur Henderson.

3. Traffic in Arms. The Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary, the Board of Trade, the War Office and Mr. Henderson.

4. Internationalisation of Civil Aviation. The Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary, the Air Ministry, and Mr. Henderson.

5. DEMOCRACY. The Branches.

6. Penal Reform. The Howard League, Miss Eaton, the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary, the Geneva Secretariat (for information) the National Sections through Miss Balch.

7. South African Protectorates. The Dominion Office, the Prime Minister, High Commissioner for South Africa, British Commonwealth League, Anti-Slavery Society, League of Coloured Peoples.

8. Land in Kenya Colony. The Prime Minister, the Colonial Office, the British Commonwealth League, the Governor of Kenya, the Morris Carter Commission (for information), Miss Matheson.

9. Australian Aborigines. The W.I.L. Australian Section, the British Commonwealth League, the Anti-Slavery & Aborigines Protection Society, the League of Coloured Peoples, the Australian High Commissioner in London, Mrs. Bennett of Western Australian (to be sent through Mrs. McGregor Ross).

10. India. At the request of the Council, the Executive considered the re-wording of the resolutions on India, and after discussion the attached was adopted. Instructions were given for copies to be sent immediately to Dr. Royden for her use in her interviews with Mr. Ramsay Macdonald and Sir Samuel Hoare, at her discretion, to the Press Association and the Manchester Guardian, through Miss Isitt.

10. PROPOSED SCANDINAVIAN CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY. Mrs. Duncan Harris welcomed Miss Daugaard to the Committee and invited her to give further particulars of the Conference. Miss Daugaard explained that the idea was to have a Round Table Conference to consider the subject of Democracy in detail, and perhaps also a session might be given to the discussion of the future relations with the W.I.L.P.F. The dates they had in mind were from the 14th to the 18th June, and the Danish Section hoped the British Section would appointed two representatives to serve on a Committee to make arrangements. The programme would be in English,

and the invitation to participate would be so worded that only those who believed in the principle of democracy and in a democratic Government would wish to accept. It would go to every Section but she felt sure that those Sections who have no faith in Democracy would not be represented. The fare would cost about £10 and the living expenses would be from 9/- to 10/- a day.

After discussion, on behalf of the Committee, Mrs. Duncan Harris gratefully accepted the invitation to cooperate and Mrs. Innes was appointed correspondent for the British Section, while Dr. Clark agreed to act as adviser regarding Programme, Books, etc.

11. W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The Committee was reminded that at the special meeting of the Executive on the 4th, it was agreed to welcome the International Executive Committee to London for their meetings. Miss Balch had been written to to this effect. Miss Pye offered to help the Office to make all arrangements with Geneva for the Committee and for the proposed At Home at which she had already secured the provisional promise of Dr. Royden to speak.

A discussion arose as to whether the Committee should hold its meetings in Manchester, but this was not approved. Mrs. Vipont Brown said she felt sure that some of the Manchester Executive would do their utmost to be in London during the meetings in order to meet the International members. Miss Pye reminded the members that most of the Committee Meetings were open to members of the W.I.L., though permission to attend must be applied for and granted. It was agreed to inform Miss Balch that some members would like to be present at the meetings. It was agreed that if possible hospitality should be found for any members coming from Manchester, if they wished it.

The Consultative Members appointed to arrange attendance between them were:-

Mrs. Duncan Harris or Miss Agatha Harrison.
Mrs. Vipont Brown or Mrs. Innes.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) L.N.U. Reported an invitation to send representatives to the L.N.U. Conference on Social and Economic Planning. The following agreed to represent the W.I.L.:

Lady Unwin, Miss Karleen Baker, Mrs. Thoday,
Miss Dickinson, Miss Sheepshanks.

(b) New Zealand W.I.L. Reported a letter from M.s. Gibson informing us that the New Zealand Parliament has passed a Bill allowing women to retain their nationality on marriage with an alien. It carried the right to the old age pension and all other privileges as long as she remains in New Zealand.

(c) Moral Welfare Committee of the National Council of Women. Reported that Miss K. Houghton had consented to act as the W.I.L. representative on this Committee during 1935.

(d) The Earl Cromer. Reported a letter from Mrs. Innes on behalf of the Committee to the Earl of Cromer suggesting that in the plans for the celebrations of the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty's Accession there should be included some entirely civilian demonstration illustrating peaceful developments during the 25 years of His Majesty's reign.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Mrs. Lankester reported that on February 22nd at 3.30 p.m. at 4 Great Smith Street, there would be a meeting of representatives from the Liaison Group at which Dr. Royden and Mrs. Corbett Ashby would be present. The W.I.L. was invited to send five representatives. The following consented to attend: Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Lady Unwin and Miss Courtney was to be asked if she could be present, but if she could not, Miss Karleen Baker would go instead.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

Date of next Meeting, March 12th, 11 to 5 p.m.

B. Bureau Harris

12. 11. 35

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, March 12th, 1935, at 104 Gower Street, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Miss Chick, Miss B.M. Baker, Mrs. Vipont Brown, Miss Pye, Lady Unwin, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Karleen Baker, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Innes, Miss White, Miss Harrison, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Anderson, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Thoday.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Elgie and Mrs. Grindley.

MINUTES OF MEETING on 8th February were confirmed, having been previously circulated.

14. BUSINESS ARISING:

New Executive Committee Members. Letters were reported from Mrs. Grindley and Mrs. Paul Sturge accepting co-option to the Executive Committee. They both regretted not being able to attend the March Executive, and Mrs. Sturge would be unable to commence attendance until May or June.

Resignation of Mrs. Corbett Fisher. Mrs. Duncan Harris read letters from Mrs. Corbett Fisher resigning from the Executive on finding herself unable to work with the new Executive. She expressed her good wishes for the future work of the W.I.L.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Mrs. Corbett Fisher expressing reluctance at accepting her resignation, and our appreciation of her past work. It was AGREED not to fill the vacancy for the time being.

Appointment of Sub-Committees:-

Publicity: The Officers, Miss Anderson, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Chick, Dr. Clark, Miss Marshall. Miss Courtney and Miss White as consultative members, subject to their consent.

India: The Officers, Miss Anderson, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Polak, Miss Pye, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. McGregor Ross.

Friends of Peace and Disarmament. The Officers, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Isabel Fry, Mrs. Braithwaite, Miss Chick, Miss Dickinson, Miss A. Hayes, Mrs. Thoday.

House: The Officers, Miss Chick, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Dickinson.

Native Races. The Officers, Miss Anderson, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Barrs Davies, Miss Marshall, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Robertson. Miss Freda White to act as Consultative member, subject to her consent.

Opium. The Officers, Mr. Horace Alexander (as Correspondent), Mrs. Binyon, Professor Alfred Clark, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Dixon Davies, Miss Pye, Mr. & Mrs. Robertson, Dr. Williams.

Miss Pye reported that this Committee had had no reason to meet during the year, but she would like it to be kept in being in case any action had to be taken during 1935.

It was agreed to write to the members to this effect.

Democracy: The Officers, Dr. Clark, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Chick, Miss B.M. Baker as Consultative Member. Mrs. Grindley, subject to her consent.

The Disarmament sub-Committee was to be appointed when necessary.

Abyssinia. Reported (1) acknowledgment of the Council resolution from the British Legation in Abyssinia;

(2) letter signed by Mrs. Duncan Harris to Signor Grandi, the Italian Ambassador in London, expressing the hope that Italy and Abyssinia would speedily find the solution of their difficulties through the observance of their Treaty obligations under the Covenant of the League of Nations. No reply had been received.

After discussion it was AGREED to send the following resolution to the Government, the League of Nations Secretariat, the W.I.L.P.F. Geneva, the L.N.U., the N.P.C., other Organisations, and to the Press:-

"The Women's International League considers that the situation between Italy and Abyssinia constitutes a threat of war, and urges H.M. Government to exercise its friendly right to summon a special meeting of the League Council under Article XI with a view to the solution of this problem by arbitration on those incidents which were the occasion of the dispute, and a settlement of the frontier of Italian Somaliland under League supervision."

Council resolutions. Acknowledgments were reported, and a letter read from Mr. Arthur Henderson.

15. CONSIDERATION OF GOVERNMENT'S INCREASED ESTIMATES FOR FIGHTING SERVICES.

Reported that the Officers had sent a letter to the Government protesting against the Government's proposal to increase armaments in the cause of Security.

The members of the W.I.L. had been urged to write letters of protest to the Prime Minister and to their Members of Parliament. A good response had been received and, so far, over 50 members had reported action taken, and many Branches and Affiliated Societies had done much hard work in their own localities to get letters and resolutions sent to the Government.

In addition, the London members and London Branches had been asked to support the protest meeting on Friday, March 15th, organised by the National Peace Council.

In connection with this meeting it was AGREED that the N.P.C. should be asked to take the initiative in calling together an ad hoc Committee of Action, inviting the co-operation of all organisations and leaders of public opinion interested, for the purpose of centralising and giving effect immediately to the strong feeling in the country in support of security through the collective system of the League of Nations, and against the policy of seeking security through increase in armaments. Mrs. Innes undertook to put this suggestion before Mr. Gerald Bailey.

It was AGREED that Branches and members who had written to us, should be informed of the way in which their Member had voted during the debate, in case they wished to follow it up by letters commenting on their action. It was further AGREED that a Statement should be issued, to be signed by prominent people, answering the fallacious reasoning that it was necessary for us to increase armaments in order to fulfil our international obligations.

It was AGREED to suggest to the Women's Peace Crusade that they ask the Prime Minister to receive a deputation on the subject, and that their Affiliated Societies should be asked to arrange local deputations to their M.P's.

It was further agreed that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mrs. Corbett Ashby on her resignation from the Disarmament Conference.

16. FUTURE WORK OF THE W.I.L.

Traffic in Arms. Mrs. Innes reported that the National Peace Council were collecting material from the Reports of the U.S.A. Inquiry relating to action of British firms in Traffic in Arms, the point specially mentioned being the relation between the private traffic and threats to peace.

It was reported that Mrs. Innes had sent a letter to Earl Stanhope hoping that the British Government would reconsider its decision not to support the proposal for inspection on the spot, in the American Draft Convention on the Control of Armaments Manufacture.

Democracy. Reported that Dr. Clark was going to prepare a syllabus for study circles. Mrs. Vipont Brown of Manchester and Miss Baker of Bristol said that it would be very helpful to their Branches.

Dr. Clark reported that she had received a suggestion from Mrs. Adams that a leaflet on Democracy, written specially for young people, would be of great value. Miss Winifred Holtby had been consulted but she was unable to do anything until after the summer. It was suggested that the following writers might be willing to write a leaflet: A.A. Milne, Beverley Nichols, J.B. Priestley, Evelyn Sharp and Miss B.M. Baker agreed to make inquiries.

17. FINANCE. Lady Unwin presented the attached statement of accounts, which was adopted. She undertook to write special letters of thanks to the three Branches who had recently sent donations.

Reported correspondence with the Midland Bank re signatories to cheques. After discussion the following resolution was passed:-

"That the Midland Bank be informed that Ethel Unwin, Mary Chick, Kathleen Innes and Emily Horscroft be empowered to sign cheques on behalf of the Women's International League Account and the International House Account, and that two of the above signatories must be affixed on all cheques over the name of the Women's International League and all other signatories are cancelled."

18. W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN LONDON.

Mrs. Innes reported that the W.I.L.P.F. Chairmen had consented to Mrs. Vipont Brown and Mrs. Innes taking part in the discussion on Constitutional questions at the closed session on Tuesday morning, March 26th, and that Mrs. Duncan Harris would also be welcome as a visitor.

A letter from Miss Balch re visitors to the sessions was also reported. The British Executive was asked to recommend the Branch members for admission, and it was hoped that the voting on this would be purely formal and taken at the first session on Monday, March 25th. The Branches had been asked to send in the names of any Officers who wished to be present by the 18th. of March. It was noted that if any other members wished to apply for admission that would be a matter for the W.I.L.P.F. Executive to settle.

Miss Pye reported on arrangements for the Reception on March 26th. at the University of London Club, Gower Street.

Consideration of Agenda. Attention was drawn to the fact that no resolutions were down on the Agenda.

Under item "Survey of political situation" it was agreed that a report of our action re Abyssinia should be made. This will take place on Monday afternoon.

On Wednesday afternoon there will be consideration of the Munitions Inquiry and it was AGREED to ask Miss Freda White to be prepared to report for the British Section.

On Friday afternoon reports will be given on "Status of Women". Miss Harrison, who had attended the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations, reported that she understood a resolution or statement would be brought forward, and she asked for directions re voting. It was agreed to instruct out delegates that we cannot vote in favour of equality of women as the British Section has no policy on this subject.

19. W.I.L.P.F. LETTERS.

Mrs. Innes reported (1) a suggestion that the Sections should celebrate the W.I.L.P.F. anniversary from April 28th. to May 2nd. The U.S. Section is planning a big celebration in Washington. It was agreed to have a special birthday notice in the News Sheet, which Miss Baker should ask Mrs. Swanwick to write, and that Branches should be informed of the anniversary;

(2) a letter received by Miss Dorothy Detzer (U.S.A.) from "One not of Draft Age" expressing admiration for the work of the W.I.L.P.F. and enclosing 1000 dollars for the work in the United States and in Europe.

(3) a request that we should help to get the Nobel Peace Prize for Herr Ossietzky. Mrs. Innes AGREED to consult Mr. Gerald Bailey on the matter.

20. PROPOSED SCANDINAVIAN CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that since the last Executive Committee the Danish Section had decided to invite only the Northern Sections of the W.I.L.P.F. including Britain to the Conference, and not to send the invitation to all the Sections. This was not, she pointed out, what the British Section had agreed to. After discussion it was AGREED to ask Miss Daugaard if it is to be a limited Conference, or is it to be open to all members of the Sections which have been invited, and to postpone issuing

any invitations until her reply had been received. In the event of it being a limited Conference it was agreed that members from Branches should be selected by the Branch Committee. Miss Sheepshanks urged that only members judged suitable to represent the British Section should attend.

Mrs. Lankester raised the question of whether the proposed consultation between Sections who were in sympathy with the British Section would be taken during the Democracy Conference, and Mrs. Innes replied that Miss Daugaard had written to say that the Danish Section did not now wish this. Miss Harrison proposed that after the W.I.L.P.F. meetings in London and the Scandinavian Conference, the subject should be put on the Executive Agenda for further consideration. This was agreed to.

21. LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND REFUGEES. Miss Pye raised the question of the position of refugees from the Saar and of the whole unsolved refugee problem. The following resolution was passed.-

"The Executive Committee of the Women's International League

Wishes to draw the attention of H.M. Government to the fact that in spite of efforts made by the Nansen Office of the League of Nations, by the High Commission for Refugees appointed by the Assembly in 1933, and by the French Government on behalf of the refugees from the Saar, no solution of the refugee problem had yet been found.

Large numbers of embittered and despairing people, men, women and children, of many nationalities, drifting about Europe because no Government will accept them as residents, constitute an international question of a serious character which has a bearing upon world peace.

We therefore call upon H.M. Government to urge the Governments represented in the League to accept united responsibility for resettlement of all refugees from political or racial persecutuion, placing the necessary arrangements directly under the authority of the League of Nations."

Miss Pye also thought the following resolution might be of use to Branches who were interested in this subject:-

"This meeting.....

having heard of the number of homeless and despairing refugees from political and racial conditions which make life in their own countries impossible for them, believes that they constitute a grave international question which has a bearing on world peace, and asks H.M. Government to press at Geneva for the acceptance by the League of Nations of responsibility for their resettlement."

This was agreed to.

22. REPORT OF PUBLICITY COMMITTEE AND OF FRIENDS OF PEACE & DISARMAMENT MOVEMENT.

It was reported that the next quarterly leaflet was on Disarmament and Unemployment and would be ready shortly. The Publicity Committee decided not to proceed for the time being with a leaflet on Inspection of armaments, in view of the leaflets which were being produced by the National Peace Council. It was reported that there was practically no sale for the report on the Native Races Conference.

23. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported that the India Committee had not met since the last Executive, but she urged that Miss Rathbone should be supported in the efforts she is making in the House to secure that the Indian women's point of view should be considered. It was AGREED that a letter should be sent to Miss Rathbone expressing admiration of her work and her courage. Mrs. Duncan Harris was asked to sign the letter.

It was also reported that resolutions on India had been passed at meetings of the North Wales Branch, W.I.L. Letters were reported from the President of the All India Women's Association and from the delegate who represented this Association at our Annual Council.

24. WOMEN'S COMMITTEE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM. Miss Pye drew attention to the notes on the American Arms Inquiry which this Committee had drawn up, which she said were very good and expressed the W.I.L. point of view.

25. CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters were read from our Branches at Newcastle and Golders Green expressing disapproval of the action taken by the Council regarding the resolution on the relations of the British Section to the W.I.L.P.F. and suggesting their possible withdrawal if this resolution is adhered to. Mrs. Thoday said that she felt in North Wales there was a division of opinion. A letter was also reported from our new Godalming Branch expressing approval of the resolution and stating that in all probability if it had not been passed the Branch would have tried to make connections direct to Headquarters.

Agreed to inform the Branches that we shall try to carry out the terms of the resolution passed at our Council Meetings instructing us to try to get the support of other Sections of the W.I.L.P.F. to consider the future Constitution of the League, but that it is not possible to implement any proposals for changes until the next Congress due to be held in 1937. In the meantime the Executive appeals to the Branches to carry on their work for peace, while the Section as a whole will carry on their co-operation wherever possible with the International Headquarters.

Lady Unwin submitted a draft letter to Branches and it was agreed that a letter in this sense should be sent.

Mrs. Innes reported a letter from Miss Dorothy Detzer on the World Court.

National Peace Council. Reported that the date of the National Peace Council Congress in London was fixed for June 28th. to July 2nd.

Essential News. Reported request for renewal of subscription, price 25/- a year. It was agreed to renew this for purposes of reference, and to insert a note of it in the News Sheet.

British Commonwealth League. Reported letters of thanks for the help of the W.I.L. in making a success of the B.C.L. Luncheon and their India Meeting.

A second letter dealing with their Annual Council was deferred to the April Executive.

The New Education Fellowship. Reported that this Organisation was organising a Conference at St. Andrews in August on "Education for Leisure: the problem of how to create a democratic culture."

Cobden Club. Reported the issue of a leaflet on "Peace, Liberty and Free Trade," price 2d.

26. COUNCIL FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. Lady Unwin asked to be released as the W.I.L. representative on this Council. She agreed however to attend the next meeting in April, but asked that the question of appointment of a new representative should be put on the April Agenda. This was agreed to.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, April 9th. 11 a.m.

B. Bruce Harris
9. IV. 35

Note. The March
1935 Exec. decided that
a Statement signed by prominent
people should be issued. The following
is the outcome of that Statement.

March 27th 1935 -

His Majesty's Government has said that an increase in British armaments is necessary to enable this country to play its part in supporting the collective system of security.

We, the undersigned, consider that this argument is entirely fallacious. It seems to us a palpable absurdity to argue in effect that all the Members of the League of Nations must build up and maintain large armed forces in order to ensure that armed forces shall never be used.

The increase in arms by one nation under such a system could only result in increase by all the others, and so lead directly to that disastrous competition in arms, which the collective system is designed to avoid, and the only end of which is war.

Such increases are in direct contravention of our Pledges under the Covenant which demand, in the interests of security, not increases, but a substantial reduction of armaments.

The fulfilment of these Pledges is the first obligation laid down by the League ~~Members~~, such reduction being clearly envisaged as the essential basis for any collective system.

Abercrombie, Lascelles.
Acland, Francis D. (Rt. Hon. Sir, Bt. M.P.)
Ashton, Margaret.
Barlow, Anna.
Bolton, Elizabeth, (M.D.)
Bondfield, Margaret G. (P.C., LL.D., J.P.)
Castle, E.B. (Leighton Park School, Reading).
Froud, Ethel E.
Fry, S. Margery (J.P., LL.D.)
Gibson, Wilfrid.
Gooch, G.P. (Dr.)
Gray, A. Herbert.
Hamilton, Mary Agnes.
Housman, Laurence.
The Countess of Oxford & Asquith.
Pictou-Turbervill, Edith (O.B.E.)
Sidgwick, Ethel.
Stevenson, D.M. (Sir, Bt., LL.D.)
Swarwick, H.M. (C.H., M.A.)
Trevelyan, Mary.
Unwin, Raymond (Sir)
Whitehouse, J. Howard (ex. M.P. Warden of Bembridge)
Wintringham, M.
Woolf, Leonard.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for January & February 1935.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	
Balance	244.12.10.	Salaries	72. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	92.17. 0.	Wages	7.17. 6.
Donations	19. 9.10.	State Insurance	1.13.11.
Affiliation		Office Expenses	2. 2.10.
Fees	8.19. 6.	Travelling "	6. 8. 2.
Sale of News		Grant	5. 0. 0.
Sheets & Lit-		Printing & News	
erature	15.15. 0.	Sheets	23. 5. 0.
Office Expenses		Literature	
refunded	3. 0. 0.	Purchased	4. 3.11 $\frac{1}{2}$
<u>Meetings' Pro-</u>		Stationery	8. 9.11 $\frac{1}{2}$
<u>ceeds</u>		Telephone	4.16. 7.
Council Mtgs.	2.14. 6.	Lighting & Heating	2.13. 4.
Council "Pool"	3. 2. 6.	Postage	18.18. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Democracy Conf.	12.16. 0.	Audit Fee	7.17. 6.
B.C.L. Lunch	12. 4. 0.	<u>Expenses of Meetings</u>	
B.C.L. India		London Members &	
Mtg.	6. 4. 0.	Ex: Cttees.	1. 5. 0.
Geneva Subs:	6. 0. 0.	Council Meetings	26.10. 0.
" Pax Subs:	3.12. 6.	Council "Pool"	6. 0. 0.
		Democracy Conf:	17. 6. 6.
		B.C.L. Lunch	11.16. 0.
	186.14.10.	B.C.L. India Mtg.	5.11. 6.
		Geneva Subs:	6. 0. 0.
		" Pax Subs:	3.12. 6.
			243. 8. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Balance at Bank	184.19. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Cash in Hand	2.19.10.
			<u>187.18.10$\frac{1}{2}$</u>
	<u>£431. 7. 8.</u>		<u>£431. 7. 8.</u>

Approximate Statement of Accounts for March 1st./ 11th.1934.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Balance	187.18.10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Salaries & Petty	
Subscriptions	123.17. 0.	Cash	14. 0. 0.
Donations	8.19. 6.	Printing & Litera-	
News Sheets,		ture	27.19.10.
Literature	12. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$.		
Affiliation			
Fees	2. 6.		41.19.10.
State Insurance	6. 4.	Balance	281. 9. 2.
Council "Pool"	1.12. 2.		
	135.10. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$		
	<u>£323. 9. 0.</u>		<u>£323. 9. 0.</u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

March News Sheets & Stationery £4.15. 3.

BALANCE £276.15.11.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE,

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, April 9th, 1935, held in Room 9, Friends House, Euston Road, N.W. 1. from 11 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair in the morning and Mrs. Vipont Brown in the afternoon. Lady Unwin, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Lankester, Dr. Clark, Miss Chick, Mrs. Elgie, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Karleen Baker, Mrs. Innes, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Rinder, Miss Anderson, Miss Marshall, Miss White, Miss Dickinson. Miss Balch attended as visitor.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED from Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Pye, Miss B.M. Baker, Mrs. McGregor Ross. It was reported that Miss Sheepshanks was ill, and it was unanimously agreed that a letter of sympathy and wishes for a speedy recovery be sent to her.

welcome Mrs. Duncan Harris asked permission of the Committee to ~~allow~~ Miss Balch, Frau Ragaz and Miss Baer to attend the meeting. Permission was granted. Only Miss Balch attended as Frau Ragaz had returned and Miss Baer had influenza.

MINUTES of meeting on March 12th were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

26. BUSINESS ARISING.

(a) Reported acknowledgments of resolutions on Abyssinia and the League of Nations and Refugees.

(b) With regard to the proposal from the W.I.L.P.F. Geneva Office that help should be given to obtain the Nobel Peace Prize for Herr Ossietzky, Mrs. Innes reported that the N.P.C. were not taking action and that Lord Allen and Sir Norman Angell were not opposed to the idea, but Lord Allen considered it entirely fantastic. After discussion it was AGREED to take no action.

(c) Reported letter of thanks from Mrs. Corbett Ashby in response to our letter expressing appreciation of her resignation from the Disarmament Conference.

27. FINANCE. Lady Unwin presented the attached Statement of Accounts, which was passed. She had sent a special letter of thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Malcomson for their help in making it possible, by means of a Bring and Buy Sale, for the Liverpool Branch to send Headquarters a donation of £15. The Committee expressed their gratitude to this Branch for their generous support.

In response to an appeal from Lady Unwin it was AGREED that a Finance Committee should be formed, consisting of the House Trustees and the Officers. Miss Chick and Dr. Clark expressed their willingness to serve on this Committee, and Mrs. Binyon was to be asked to serve.

Lady Unwin, seconded by Mrs. Duncan Harris, proposed the formation of a General Purposes Committee empowered to act between meetings of the Executive, and possibly meeting the day before the Executive Committee to deal with matters that did not need the special consideration of the whole Committee.

After discussion it was AGREED that this would not be

entirely satisfactory and Committee members were asked to come to the May Executive prepared to suggest names for further Vice-Chairmen, who would be able to act with the Officers in an emergency.

28. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ON COUNCIL FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. Miss Agatha Harrison consented to act as the W.I.L. representative on this Council in place of Lady Unwin.

29. PROPOSED WORLD MOTHERS' PEACE CRUSADE. A letter was reported from Miss Julia Green, one of our active members, asking if such a Crusade could be organised. She referred to the Istanbul Conference and suggested that a message from the Mothers of Great Britain to the Mothers of the other countries asking them to join in such a Crusade should be sent to the Conference. Miss Balch mentioned that Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mrs. Millard were attending the Istanbul Conference on behalf of the W.I.L.P.F. After discussion it was AGREED to send the proposal to the Women's Co-operative Guild, with the suggestion that they should ask Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, by air-mail, to give expression to this desire at the Conference.

30. GOOD-WILL DAY, May 18th. It was reported that the Dutch Section of the W.I.L.P.F. are organising a procession on May 18th, and that Scotland, France and the Transvaal are also organising demonstrations. A letter from Holland urged us to arrange similar displays. AGREED TO PASS THIS SUGGESTION TO THE BRANCHES.

31. REPORT OF W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS, May 25th to 30th inclusive, London: Resolutions passed and action decided on by British Executive.

Mrs. Innes reported that Miss Freda White had spoken on the Control of the Manufacture of and Traffic in Arms, which had been followed by discussion, after which the following had been passed:-

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 1.

"The International Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting in London, March 25th-30th, 1935, representing informed opinion in many countries, watches with intense anxiety the efforts now being made in Geneva to get an agreement on the control of the manufacture of and traffic in arms.

It deeply regrets that no Convention to deal with it even more drastically than the American proposals, which form the basis for present discussion, has yet been agreed to.

It opposes all proposals such as the rejection of inspection on the spot, which would weaken or cut down this suggested Convention."

Mrs. Thoday said that she had urged all her North Wales Branches and Affiliated Societies to send letters or resolutions to the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary and their Members of Parliament, demanding that international inspection of armament factories on the spot be accepted by Great Britain, under the supervision of a

Permanent Disarmament Commission at Geneva.

After discussion it was agreed to send a letter to our Branches based on the letter Mrs. Thoday had sent to the North Wales Branches.

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 2. Abyssinia.

"The only great State in the African Continent that is still independent is now menaced. The fascist Government of Italy, without a formal declaration of war, is following the example of Japan.

It is probable that certain great imperialist countries are disposed to allow her a free hand in exchange for certain advantages.

The situation is complicated by the fact that Japan has interests in Abyssinia and exercises an important influence there, and by its importation at low prices makes formidable competition against Italian exportation. It is ready to defend its interests and is categorically opposed to all attempts at occupation.

Abyssinia has been a member of the League of Nations since 1923, and in January last appealed to it for arbitration in vain. She has repeated her appeal to-day.

The conscience of the world will be outraged if the League of Nations remains deaf to these appeals.

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting in London, decides to renew its representations to the Council of the League of Nations,

Urgently asks its Sections to make energetic protests through meetings, appeals, petitions and other ways, to their Governments, to the Italian Government and to the Italian Embassies in their countries."

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 3. Plebiscites.

"Since its foundation the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has regarded the right of peoples to self-determination as one of the most important principles of its political programme.

It is convinced that the method of popular consultation (plebiscites) may be a means for ascertaining the wishes of a majority of a people, or a part of a people, if a free secret vote not subjected to undue influence is guaranteed.

These prerequisites, however, do not exist in many lands under present conditions. Economic and political pressure, violence, victimisation and terror used by the groups who possess the power and money and thereby also all the psychological weapons make an honest, objective formation of opinion and expression of self-determination impossible from the beginning, and can only too easily produce results which risk leading to war.

The Women's International League for Peace and

Freedom, however, in view of the recent feverish campaign for the holding of plebiscites, gives emphatic warning against the danger of being deceived by those who distort and exploit the idea of the plebiscite in a propaganda spirit on behalf of their annexationist intentions and under the mask of a free and democratic principle, inflame afresh the violent revisionist and irredentist desires and aims of discontented elements."

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 4. Political Crimes committed by the Nazis in other countries.

"The recent political murders and outrages by representatives of Nazi Germany in other lands: Bell in Austria, Dr. Theodor Lessing and Formis in Czechoslovakia, as well as the kid-napping of Berthold Jakob in Switzerland - to mention only the most prominent cases - have caused the utmost indignation and horror in millions of minds.

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom begs the Governments concerned to send an urgent demand to the Hitler Government, which public opinion holds responsible, that such incidents shall be prevented forthwith.

If the Governments concerned fail to obtain satisfaction, the W.I.L.P.F. urges that application should be made in all such cases to an international tribunal."

Miss Balch reported on the deputation from the W.I.L.P.F. Executive Committee to the German Embassy which she felt had been a useful piece of work. A report of the deputation had been sent to the Press and had been inserted in several papers.

Emphasis was laid on the importance of not endangering the lives of German Refugees in this country in any way, particularly in view of the number of Nazi spies who were over here.

The Committee was deeply moved to learn of the death of Dr. Fabian and Mrs. Wurm and it was agreed to send flowers to the Memorial Service.

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 5. India.

"In view of the importance of the maintenance and development of the democratic principle, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has followed closely the progress of the negotiations for self-government in India. The International Executive Committee of the W.I.L.P.F. meeting in London March 25-30th, views with grave concern the fact that the proposals for a new constitution under consideration by the Governments of the United Kingdom are unacceptable to the Indian people. It expresses its earnest desire that the situation should immediately be reviewed in consultation with Indian opinion.

This meeting also urges upon organised groups of men and women in British India the need for a clear presentation of their case such as has been given by the Indian Princes in their recent statement issued on March 18th."

Miss Harrison reported that she had, with the help of other members of the India Committee, drafted the above resolution on behalf of the British Section. The W.I.L.P.F. Committee had asked Miss Harrison to supply Miss Balch with

the names and addresses of persons to whom the resolution should be sent.

The British Executive ENDORSED Miss Harrison's action.

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 6. Secret Diplomacy.

"The frequent political conversations between Statesmen of different countries, upon which may hang the fate of peoples, call attention more urgently than ever to the dangers of secret diplomacy, against which our League has always protested since its foundation.

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, sitting in London, in March 1935, asks the International Office in Geneva and National Sections to undertake action against this form of diplomacy, and to support all other action in this same sense."

Miss White said that in the present international situation the Stresa conversations ran the risk of destroying all hope of European peace and she thought the Governments should be urged to return to the principles of the League Covenant, under which matters are publicly discussed by all States concerned.

After discussion, it was AGREED to send the attached Statement to the British Government, W.I.L.P.F. Geneva, League of Nations, Geneva, L.N.U., Mr. Henderson, for their information, and the Press.

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 7. Aviation.

Following up a resolution of the International based on the following it was AGREED to urge our Branches to concentrate on work:-

- "(1) for the total abolition of military and naval air forces, which has been declared to be possible by many Governments;
- (2) to expose the fallacy and absurdity of the arguments that forces must be increased for collective security;
- (3) to bring home to the ordinary man the horror of his condoning, as a means of protecting his own country, deeds of retaliation involving indiscriminate slaughter of the civil population. This is a new feature in the acceptance of the idea of war, and its formulation should rather convince all that the only defence lies in total abolition."

It was AGREED that to Branches inquiring, advice should be sent as to where literature can be obtained on this subject.

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 7. Non-party character of the W.I.L.P.F.

"This meeting of the International Committee of the W.I.L.P.F. wishes to re-state the fact that the W.I.L.P.F. is a strictly non-party organisation and works with women of all political parties or no political party, who are in accord with the aims and principles of the League, to bring about peace and freedom."

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 8. Relations between different Sections.

"That is be agreed here that whenever negotiations for any action are going on between different Sections, copies be sent to Headquarters and that Headquarters in Geneva is sufficiently kept au courant."

It was agreed to send the following to the Branches:-

W.I.L.P.F. Resolution No. 9. Passive Defence

"The Executive Committee of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, sitting in London, March 25-30th, 1935, have learned with sorrow of the vote of a law on "passive defence" by the French Chambre against air warfare.

This law which is to a certain extent a plan for civil mobilisation, obtained a majority that the democratic traditions of France would never have led us to expect.

France lays upon the communes, in this way practically mobilising the Mayors and Municipal Councillors, the task of undertaking measures of so-called protection, which technical and scientific men of undoubted probity have universally proclaimed as useless.

The W.I.L.P.F. considers that such measures are less intended for the protection of civilians than for their militarisation. It is astonished that this serious violation of the fundamental rights of man could be accepted by a country which has proclaimed these rights.

It warns National Sections against the imitation by their Governments of such an example and asks them urgently to oppose energetically any such project."

Twentieth Anniversary of the W.I.L.P.F.

Miss Balch reported on the U.S.A. Section's plan for celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the W.I.L.P.F. Particulars had so far only come by cable and fuller details were awaited. The plan is to organise "The People's Mandate to the Governments" in as many countries as possible asking that they should cease preparing for war and instead give all their powers to establishing effective measures for the conduct of international affairs by peaceful and co-operative means. Each country would present the Mandate to its own Government, and if practicable it would also be presented to the League of Nations, Geneva.

It is hoped that funds will be raised to enable Organisers to come from America to visit many of the European towns, and that Miss Baer will also be able to use her great organising ability in this work. Some funds are already available.

32. WORK FOR DEMOCRACY. Mrs. Innes reported that no further information had been received from Miss Dugaard regarding the proposed Scandinavian Conference, so that for the present nothing else could be done in the matter.

Dr. Clark apologised for not having had time to prepare the Syllabus for Study Circles. She had not written to the persons suggested at the last Executive for writing a leaflet as she thought it would be better to wait until the Autumn when Miss Winifred Holtby could be approached again. She would be grateful if Executive Members could send her notes on books they had read on the subject.

After discussion it was AGREED to call a meeting of the Democracy Committee some time during May.

33. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported on action taken at the last Sub-Committee. Mrs. Polak had been appointed Chairman in place of Mrs. McGregor Ross, who was unable to continue, and Mrs. Lankester asked the Committee to endorse this appointment as Mrs. Polak was not a member of the Executive. This was AGREED to. It was proposed to strengthen the Committee by co-opting Miss Paterson of the Y.W.C.A. who has done valuable work in India, Dame Katherine Furse, and Mrs. Barton of the Women's Co-operative Guild had been asked to suggest a member of the Guild who was interested in India. These proposed co-options were ENDORSED.

Mrs. Lankester reported that in response to the appeal to Branches nearly every Branch had arranged a meeting on India.

With regard to the Bill before Parliament, the Liaison Committee hoped to get one or two Indian women to come to England to speak at meetings and to interest Members of Parliament in the Indian women's point of view. Mrs. Hamid Ali would be willing to come for a fortnight in May after the Istanbul Conference, if hospitality can be provided. Mrs. Lankester was authorised to inform the Liaison Committee that the W.I.L. will be glad to co-operate with them over meetings, etc. and assure Mrs. Hamid Ali that the Executive would welcome her visit.

Mrs. Lankester also reported that the Women's Advisory Council on Indian questions had decided to continue its work and resolutions were passed defining more clearly the position of its constituent organisations and their financial contribution to its support. The W.I.L. was one of the few Organisations which had paid its affiliation fee of £1.1.0d. Attention was drawn to the fact that co-operating organisations were entitled to appoint up to four voting members of the Council.

It was reported that arising out of correspondence with a Mrs. Ferrier residing in Calcutta, a Women's International Peace League had been formed in Calcutta, and a magazine is being issued monthly. Miss Balch said she would get into touch with Mrs. Ferrier to see if any of the members would become International Headquarter Members, and the Office would also keep in touch with Mrs. Ferrier.

Miss Harrison reported that the film "Bengal Lancers" was having a bad effect on Indians when they came to this country, and she urged members to see the film and then write letters to the India Office protesting that such a film should be exhibited now when the Indian situation is so difficult.

34. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. Mrs. Innes reported that Mr. Henderson has consented to give a three minute broadcast talk on May 3rd when an international broadcast is being arranged in connection with the Washington Celebrations of the W.I.L.P.F. It is hoped that Jane Addams will also broadcast from America. Arrangements for speakers from other countries are being made.

35. NATIVE RACES CONFERENCE REPORT. At the request of Mrs. McGregor Ross it was AGREED that this report should be sold at 2d each, and that free copies should be sent to the Geneva Office, Mrs. Solly of South Africa, the Philadelphia Branch of the U.S.A. W.I.L., and Swanwick. Miss Anderson said she had already sent copies to a number of Labour Members of Parliament.

36. WOMEN'S PEACE CRUSADE. Reported a letter from the W.P.C. giving their reasons for not being able to adopt the suggestions made by the W.I.L. at their meeting on March 12th. A letter is, however, being sent to Constituent Societies and Branches enclosing a resolution suggesting that meetings should be organised to ventilate the whole question of the proposed increased "defense" estimates.

Miss Chick reported on the meeting of the W.P.C. which she had attended on behalf of the W.I.L. in place of Mrs. Innes. It was agreed that co-operating societies should be asked to pay a minimum fee of 5/- and as much more as possible each year. Arrangements had been made to pay the salary of an Organiser for twelve months.

37. STATEMENT RE INCREASE OF ARMAMENTS FOR SECURITY. Mrs. Innes reported that this had been drafted by the Officers, as instructed at the last Executive, and had been signed by a number of influential people. It had been inserted in several papers, and had been sent to all the Branches and members of the Executive Committee. Mrs. Thoday said she was collecting Welsh signatures for Welsh papers.

38. PROPOSED MEMORANDUM TO ROYAL COMMISSION ON MANUFACTURE OF AND TRADING IN ARMS.

Mrs. Innes read the draft Memorandum and the list of Churches and Societies who had sent in resolutions or statements on the subject. The memorandum was amended and instructions given for it to be sent to the Secretary to the Royal Commission after Mrs. Duncan Harris had seen it in its final form. It was AGREED to ask the Secretary if it would be advisable to ask representatives of some of the large organisations to be ready to answer questions as to the genuine evidence of public opinion as expressed in their resolutions.

39. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. It was AGREED to ask Miss White to act as our representative on the Special Committee on the Armaments Situation, which is being formed by the N.P.C. at the request of the W.I.L.

Mrs. Innes reported she had endorsed the N.P.C. memorandum to the Royal Commission on behalf of the W.I.L.

It was AGREED to send in names of representatives to the N.P.C. Congress after our May Executive.

39. CADET CORRS. Mrs. Innes reported a letter she had sent on behalf of the W.I.L. to the Chairman of the L.C.C. Education Committee expressing appreciation of the action taken by the L.C.C. with regard to the Cadet Corps. It was AGREED to send a copy of this letter to Mr. Charles Robertson for his information.

40. WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE L.N.U. Dr. Clark reported on the meeting of this Council held on April 3rd.

41. CORRESPONDENCE.

Women's Freedom League. Reported a Women's Jubilee Dinner, May 14th, 7.15 p.m. Tickets 6/6d each.

Mrs. Ursula Roberts. Reported a letter from Mrs. Roberts outlining a scheme to get people to give votes to peace candidates at Elections and the appointment of 12 Pax Jurors in each Constituency to choose the Candidate whose Peace Policy seemed most likely to bring Peace, Righteousness and Goodwill among men. It was decided to take no action.

British Commonwealth League Annual Conference, June 18th, 19th and 20th at Y.W.C.A. London. AGREED to ask Mrs. McGregor Ross to act as one of our representatives, and Mrs. Lankester and Miss Harrison consented to attend part of the meetings.

Mrs. Burr of Worthing. Reported a letter from Mrs. Burr stating that the four W.I.L. members in Worthing are on the Committee of the Women's Peace Crusade, and asking if one of their members could sign and send out resolutions in the name of the Worthing Section. As No Branch exists there, a reply was sent to the effect that we thought it would be in order for resolutions or letters to go over the names of the W.I.L. Headquarter members in Worthing but they could not go out in the name of the Worthing Branch as one did not exist. It was suggested that the membership of the W.I.L. in Worthing might be increased to ten which number enables a Branch to be formed. The Committee endorsed this reply.

Miss Dorothy Detzer. Dr. Clark reported on correspondence she had had from Miss Detzer regarding Naval Disarmament.

No More War Conference, Memorial Hall, April 27th. Miss Marshall agreed to attend on behalf of the W.I.L.

Miss Monica Whateley. Mrs. Innes reported a letter from Miss Whateley regarding the condition of women in Germany, and inviting the W.I.L. to send a delegate to an informal meeting to discuss "the possibility of some massed protest by the women of England, against the debasement and persecution of their sisters in Germany." The Chairman put the question of sending a delegate to the vote. Result: three for sending, 4 against sending anyone.

Miss Hayler. Reported a letter from Miss Hayler of Croydon asking us to write to the King and Queen urging them to make the occasion of their Jubilee a demonstration of international friendship. It was AGREED to inform Miss Hayler that in February we wrote to the Earl Cromer suggesting that in the plans for the celebrations of the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty's Accession there should be included some entirely civilian demonstration illustrating peaceful developments during the 25 years of His Majesty's reign.

42. PROPOSED ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE OF W.I.L.P.F. Miss Marshall gave an outline of the programme for this Conference which had been considered at her house on Sunday, March 31st, with members of the W.I.L.P.F. Executive.

This concluded the business.

B. Duneau Harris

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: May 14th.

14. V. 35

STATEMENT ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE AT ITS MEETING
ON TUESDAY, APRIL 9th. 1935.

"The British Section of the Women's International League, in view of the extreme gravity of the present international situation, observes that the method of dealing with the crisis by meetings of groups of Powers with secret and unrecorded discussions has in recent years failed to consolidate peace or to achieve disarmament. This method threatens now to divide Europe into mutually suspicious factions.

The Women's International League urges H.M. Government to return to the principles of the League Covenant, under which matters are publicly discussed by all States concerned.

It trusts that at the forthcoming League Council H.M. Government will propose a constructive policy of security and disarmament in which all nations may join. Public opinion would give warm support to the British Government as the Great Power especially fitted to give the needed leadership.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for March 1935.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Balance	187.18.10 $\frac{1}{2}$.	Salaries	32. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	191.11. 6.	Office Expenses	2. 3.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Donations	26. 0. 0.	Wages	3.10. 0.
Affiliation		State Insurance	10. 6.
Fees	12. 6.	Travelling Exp:	4. 4. 0.
Sale of News		News Sheets &	
Sheets &		Literature	11.14.10.
Literature	4.10. 9.	Printing	24.12. 4.
Office Expenses		Stationery	1.10. 6.
Refunded	2. 1. 4.	Lighting &	
Council "Pool"	2.18. 2.	Heating	1. 3. 4.
B.C.L. India		Rent	12.10. 0.
Meeting	5. 0.	Affiliation	
March 26th.		Fees	3. 7. 8.
Reception	<u>3. 1. 0.</u>	Postage & Wires	8.10. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
	231. 0. 3.	Committee Room	7. 6.
		Reception	
		March 26th.	5.16. 0.
		Geneva "Pax"	<u>2. 3. 7.</u>
			114. 4. 9.
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	299. 8. 6.
		Cash in hand	<u>5. 5.10$\frac{1}{2}$</u>
			304.14. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u><u>£418.19. 1$\frac{1}{2}$</u></u>		<u><u>£418.19. 1$\frac{1}{2}$</u></u>

Approximate Statement of Accounts for April 1 - 6th.

Balance	304. 14. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Petty Cash & Salaries	10. 0. 0.
Income	11. 8.10.	Committee Room	17. 6.
			<u>10.17. 6.</u>
		Balance	305. 5. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u><u>£316. 3. 2$\frac{1}{2}$</u></u>		<u><u>£316. 3. 2$\frac{1}{2}$</u></u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Printing	6. 1. 0.
Estimated cost of	
Welsh F.O.P. leaflets	2. 16. 6.
April News Sheets	3. 13. 0.
Stationery	7. 6.
	<u>12. 18. 0.</u>

B A L A N C E £292. 7. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$

Minutes of Meeting

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Tuesday, May 14th. 1935 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Y.W.C.A. Great Russell Street, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Karleen Baker, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Rinder, Miss Marshall, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Chick, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Pye, Mrs. Vipont Brown, Mrs. Paul Sturge, Mrs. Innes, Miss Anderson, Dr. Clark, Miss B. M. Baker, Miss Agatha Harrison, Mrs. Grindley and Miss Gertrud Baer as visitor.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Freda White and Mrs. Elgie.

MINUTES of meeting held on April 9th. were confirmed after minor corrections were made.

43. BUSINESS ARISING.

Appointment of Vice Chairmen. Mrs. Thoday will consult her Committee as to the advisability of her becoming a Vice Chairman. Dr. Clark was appointed, subject to her consent. Miss Pye was nominated and promised to let the Committee have her decision in June. Miss Harrison was unable to accept nomination owing to her work for India.

Formal acknowledgments of Statement re increase in armaments for security, were reported. Mrs. Thoday reported on action regarding the Statement in North Wales.

Scandinavian Conference. Reported a letter from Miss Daugaard saying that owing to the decision to hold a Round Table Conference in Denmark, organised by the W.I.L.P.F., the proposed Scandinavian Conference on Democracy would not now be held.

Mrs. Duncan Harris pointed out that though the Conference at which the British Executive hoped to have had an opportunity of discussing its difficulties with other sympathetic Sections, had been cancelled, we were still under an obligation to carry out the Council Meeting's request "to summon a meeting of those Sections in sympathy with our position for consultation together as to the future Constitution of the League." Consideration must, therefore, be given as to how we can fulfil the Council's wishes.

The Committee considered the advisability of sending a letter to all Sections asking them to exchange their views with us on the subject.

Mrs. Innes reported letters from the Secretary of the Golders Green Branch (previously circulated to the Executive); and a further letter from the Secretary and Chairman explaining their idea of a looser federation

During the discussion arising out of the Golders Green letter, Gertrud Baer asked whether it would not be possible to call a truce as the next Congress would not be held until 1937. Miss Pye ~~supported this suggestion~~ as she felt the British Section could not continue discussing the subject until then, and it was warmly taken up by the Committee.

moved

After further consideration it was agreed to embody in the reply to Golders Green the following points:-

1. Warmly sympathise with the Branch in its difficulties;
2. suggest a truce until the annual meeting preceding the 1937 Congress;
3. express the belief that the international meetings in London had drawn us closer together and had helped us to understand each other's difficulties, and had shown clearly that there was a need for keeping the W.I.L.P.F. together;
4. urge the Branch to find a way in which they can help to unify the forces working towards peace;
5. inform them that any proposal for a looser federation would have to go before the Council Meeting as that would necessitate a change in the Constitution.

It was also agreed that a letter should be sent to all the Branches explaining that the British Executive proposed taking steps to get into touch with the other Sections at a time nearer the 1937 Congress.

It was further agreed that the letter to the National Sections should not be sent at present.

44. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts was adopted. Lady Unwin reported a letter from our Solicitors asking for instructions to issue a Writ on the New Europe Group who had not paid their rent for March quarter. Since that letter, however, £40. had been paid on account and a promise made that the balance of £10. should be paid at the end of the week. After discussion, it was agreed that the next time the New Europe Group default in the payment of their rent, notice should be given to them to vacate the premises. The Officers were authorised to explore the possibilities of letting the W.I.L. Offices as a Flat and taking over the Ground Floor and basement rooms as Offices, and report back to the Committee.

45. REPORT OF PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. Miss Baker reported that the News Sheet order was being reduced by 100 copies; that the type of "Frankenstein and his Monster" was being broken up, but that the type of "New Wars for Old" was being kept up for a longer period in view of the forthcoming L.N.U. Conference on the subject. An effort was being made to get a letter on it in "Headway". Miss Anderson reported the possibility of short biographies of Jane Addams and Bertha von Suttner being published in the near future.

46. REPORT OF FRIENDS OF PEACE & DISARMAMENT Miss Baker reported that the next leaflet would deal with the subject of Preparations for Gas Defense. Several suggestions were made for incorporation in the leaflet. A writer for the leaflet had not so far been found.

In this connection a letter from the National Peace Council was reported saying that as the Government intended to post an official communication to every house in the country on the subject of Gas Defense, it was thought that through all the peace organisations, there might be a considerable door-to-door distribution of a counter leaflet, if one could be prepared.

46. W.I.L.P.F.

(a) Reported a letter from the Dutch W.I.L.P.F. asking National Sections to collect for them the names and addresses of suitable Societies who might be asked to consider in what way they could help in the construction of world peace through scientific methods. It was agreed to ask Dr. Marjorie Franklin if she would compile such a list.

(b) Miss Pye added interesting facts to her report on Refugees which had been sent to National Sections by Miss Balch. The W.I.L.P.F. Executive Committee resolution was reported. After discussion it was agreed that Miss Pye's report and the resolution should be sent to our Branches and Affiliated Societies, with a covering letter from herself, suggesting ways in which they can help. Miss Pye further reported that the L.N.U. were arranging a deputation to the Foreign Office and that a special L.N.U. Committee on Refugees hoped to do national publicity on the subject.

(c) Twentieth Anniversary of the W.I.L. Mrs. Innes reported that the following cable had been sent to our American Section:-

"British W.I.L. sends warm congratulations
twenty years splendid work. Old world looks
to America to give lead again towards co-
operative international relationships. "

A letter conveying good wishes had also been sent to our Dutch Section in time for the peace demonstrations on Good-Will Day. A letter of thanks was read to the Committee from Madame Ramondt Hirschmann.

(d) Reported no further information had yet been received of the U.S. Section's proposal for a People's Mandate to the Governments. Mrs. Duncan Harris said that she thought it was necessary to await concrete proposals for the campaign for a People's Mandate before making our plans.

It was reported that Miss Dorothy Detzer was expected to come to Europe in July. It was agreed to invite Miss Detzer to address meetings in England for travelling expenses and hospitality in this country for two or three weeks in October. Representatives from Manchester and North Wales Branches expressed a wish to arrange meetings for her.

47. MEMORANDUM TO ROYAL COMMISSION ON PRIVATE MANUFACTURE AND TRADING IN ARMS. Mrs. Innes reported that to our Memorandum giving evidence of public opinion regarding the desirability of the prohibition of the private manufacture of and trade in arms, Miss White had added a section summarising the practicability of the prohibition. Mrs. Innes said that the Peace Societies Memoranda were being introduced by Mr. Arnold Forster on Wednesday, May 22nd. at 10.30. Miss White had expressed her willingness to be prepared to speak on our Memorandum if she had returned from her holiday and if the W.I.L. was called upon to supply a witness in support of their memorandum.

48. PLANS FOR FUTURE WORK. Mrs. Innes reported a letter from our Stockport Branch containing a resolution urging the London Executive to organise a Peace Week to be held simultaneously by all Branches. Suggestions were given for the carrying out of this plan.

It was agreed that in principle a Peace Week organised by our Branches would be an excellent plan, but it was felt that each Branch must be free to choose its own week in the year. Mrs. Vipont Brown said that the Manchester Branch had co-operated with the Friends for a number of years in a Peace Week at the end of October. She promised to send details of arrangements for their Peace Week, which should be forwarded to the Branches with a letter about the suggestions from Stockport.

Gas Defense. Mrs. Duncan Harris raised the question of the W.I.L. protesting against the Government's proposals for defense in the event of gas attacks. After discussion the attached Statement was agreed to and instructions given for it to be sent to the Air Ministry, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Anthony Eden, Mr. Baldwin, Senor de Madariaga, Sir John Simon, and to the Press; to our Branches, Affiliated Societies and other organisations. A covering letter was to be sent to Sir John Simon asking what steps H.M. Government contemplates taking to lay before the Disarmament Conference proposals for such supervision.

It was further agreed to ask Mr. Morrison of the L.C.C. to receive a deputation on the subject, and to suggest to Branches and Affiliated Societies that they might approach their County Councils.

Mrs. Innes reported on the Women's Peace Crusade plans now being made for special work in connection with the Air question. Lady Horsley is drafting a letter to Societies and it was agreed that we should send it to our Branches. Miss Hamilton had been appointed organiser. It was decided to write to the Women's Peace Crusade welcoming their proposed activities and promising them our support, at the same time suggesting (1) they might be glad to make use of our Friends of Peace and Disarmament leaflet on Preparations for Gas Defense; (2) the issue of By-Election leaflets. It was also reported that the Friends Peace Committee had issued a special "Aeroplane" poster.

Economic Sanctions. Miss Marshall referred to Miss Rathbone's proposals for Economic Sanctions. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Miss Rathbone expressing the hope that she would continue her research into this question and keep us informed on the matter.

49. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL.

Congress: The following were appointed Delegates:-
Dr. Clark, Miss Marshall, Miss Harrison, Miss Dickinson, Miss Chick, Miss Anderson. Other members hoped to attend.

Lady Unwin reported an urgent appeal from Mr. Bailey on behalf of the Congress Funds. After discussion it was agreed to make a grant of £10.0.0.

Election to Executive Committee, National Peace Council.
It was agreed to nominate the following, subject to their consent:-

Miss Karleen Baker, Mr. Harrison Barrow, Mr. Percy Bartlett, Mrs. Barton, Professor Catlin, Miss Mary Chick, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mr. Theodore Harris, Lady Horsley, Miss Josephy, Mrs. Innes, Mr. Palmer, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Suggate, Mr. Whitehouse, Mr. A.C. Wilson.

50. CORRESPONDENCE.

Miss Minna Green. Reported a letter from Miss Green resigning membership of the W.I.L. as she was not in sympathy with our attitude towards Germany.

British Women's Committee Against War and Fascism. Reported an invitation to participate in a procession from the Temple on May 18th. to the Caxton Hall where a meeting would be held. Miss Harrison and Miss Dickinson agreed to attend the meeting as observers and report on it to the next Executive.

International Labour Office. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that Mr. Burge was anxious to bring out two half-yearly reports of the developments of the I.L.O. but in the meantime was endeavouring to find out what demand there would be for such reports. Several members of the Committee undertook to take a copy each.

51. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported on arrangements being made in this country for Mrs. Hamid Ali.

52. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Miss Marshall reported on the War Resisters' Conference, which had been well attended.

Miss Marshall also reported on the meeting on May 2nd. which Miss Monica Whateley had called to discuss the position of Women in Germany, which unfortunately she had been unable to attend. She was asked to attend, as an observer, the meeting called for Wednesday, June 5th.

At the close of the meeting, the Executive entertained Mrs. Hamid Ali to tea, after which she gave an impressive and interesting report on Indian women's opinion on the India Bill now before Parliament.

B. Duncan Harris

4. VI. 35

ANTI-GAS DRILL AND AIR DISARMAMENT.

Statement by the Executive Committee of the
Women's International League.

May 14th.1935

55, Gower Street,
London W.C. 1.

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League has read with deepest regret the proposals now being put forward for drilling the public in preparation for some future air attack.

They deplore these mainly on the following grounds:-

1. Such preparation is bound to contribute to the creation of a war mentality, which in itself is a contributory factor in causing war;

2. Where children are obliged to share in such preparations it is highly probable that such an experience will have a harmful effect on them. Their minds are likely to be dominated by fear of an experience which our present Government is striving to avoid, so that we hope it may never be the lot of these children to have to put such training into practice;

3. The suggestion that there is any real defence against air attack is, as has been stated repeatedly by those with expert knowledge, entirely illusory. There is no defence except the total abolition of military and naval air forces of every country, - it not being possible for us as women to contemplate the infamous suggestion, increasingly commonly accepted - that since there is no actual defence we must undertake immediate retaliation in case of attack, and that our

airmen - while the home population is admittedly not protected - shall go out and slaughter men, women and children in other countries. Those who trust in the fear of reprisals as a deterrent to attack are gambling with a terrible weapon. We repeat: there is no defence except the abolition of the fighting planes of every country.

4. Preparation of the people for gas attack is further to be deplored, because it is based on the assumption that the obligations not to resort to war by which all the Governments concerned are bound, are not going to be kept. We believe this to be bad psychologically and we hope that on this as well as on the other ground indicated, the proposals will be withdrawn.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for April 1935.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Balance	304.14. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Salaries	32. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	25. 2. 2.	Office Expenses	1. 2. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Donations	5. 0.	Wages	3.10. 0.
Affiliation fees	5. 0.	State Insurance	13. 8.
Sale of News Sheets and Literature	2. 3. 3.	Postage & Wires	2.14. 8.
Office Expenses refunded	1.10. 0.	Telephone	5. 5. 9.
Geneva Subs:	1. 0. 0.	Lighting & Heating	2. 2.10.
" "Pax" Subs:	2. 0.	Stationery	11.10.
	<hr/>	Printing	6. 1. 0.
	30. 7. 5.	News Sheets & Lit- erature Purchased	3.19. 5.
		Press Cuttings	2. 2. 0.
		Travelling Expenses	5.14. 4.
		<u>Meetings' Expenses</u>	
		Executive Cttee	17. 6.
		International Executive Cttee	
		Cloakroom	1.15. 0.
		Geneva Subs:	1. 0. 0.
		" 'Pax' Subs:	<u>2. 0.</u>
			69.12. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$.
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	262.15. 9.
		Cash in hand	<u>2.13. 7.</u>
			<u>265. 9. 4.</u>
	<u>£335. 1. 9$\frac{1}{2}$</u>		<u>£335. 1. 9$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Approximate Statement of Accounts, May 1 - 14 inclusive

Balance	265. 9. 4.	Expenses	22. 0. 0.
Income	<u>25.11. 6.</u>	Balance	<u>269. 0.10.</u>
	<u>£291. 0.10.</u>		<u>£291. 0.10.</u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Printing of Welsh F.of P. leaflets	2.16. 6.
Stationery	1.18. 0.
May News Sheets	<u>3.14. 9.</u>
	<u>£8. 9. 3.</u>

B A L A N C E £260.11. 7d.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, TUESDAY. JUNE 4th. 1935
at the Y.W.C.A., Great Russell Street, London W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Lady Unwin, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Karleen Baker, Mrs. Elgie, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Thoday, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Marshall, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Chick, Mrs. Paul Sturge, Miss Pye and Miss Lambrick (visitor from Australian Section).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss B.M. Baker, Mrs. Grindley and Miss Agatha Harrison, and Mrs. Vipont Brown.

53. The Chairman welcomed to the Committee, as a visitor, Miss Lambrick, the President of our Melbourne (Victoria) Section. (Later in the day Miss Lambrick gave a brief account of the W.I.L. work which was being done in Australia).

54. JANE ADDAMS.

The Chairman spoke of the loss the W.I.L. had sustained in the passing of Jane Addams, remembering with thankfulness the inspiration of her leadership.

The Committee stood in silence for a few moments.

The following Minute, which Mrs. H.M. Swanwick had been asked to prepare, was unanimously adopted.

We, who were inspired or strengthened by the great woman whom we knew as Jane Addams, desire that the spirit of her may remain in us to strengthen and inspire. It was a spirit of pure beneficence, which created peace; a spirit of trust, which put courage into weak hearts; a spirit of courtesy, which made beautiful the relations between human beings. Her judgments were far-sighted, because they were founded on this authentic spirit.

Those of us who were happy to know her in the body as she lived among us have a priceless possession. We desire, by our own thoughts and deeds, to share this possession with those who come after.

Miss Edith Iye said that the memorial she would wish was the thought contained in the draft proposed by one (Mrs. H.M. Swanwick) who has so much of the spirit of Jane Addams. Jane Addams was a neighbour to all the world.

Miss Marshall spoke of her spirit of courtesy between human beings, and referred to her dealings specially with Statesmen during and immediately after the war. She could bruise no spirit; her humility was great in the face of the various sufferings she witnessed; there was never any sign of contempt for anyone or anything. She was a Pacifist out to create peace and not to fight militarism.

Lady Unwin spoke of her far-sighted judgment and courage, and her great gift of getting other people to work with her.

Mrs. Innes said that when Jane Addams was in the room her presence was felt, and you knew that a great person was there.

Mrs. McGregor Ross, referring to the Dublin Congress, spoke of the wonderful way Jane Addams had of coming into a debate, and getting all the best and finest things out of any discussions, and disposing of all the bad things that would create trouble.

Dr. Clark said that our American Section, with whom Jane Addams lived and worked so closely, would be feeling a very great sense of loss, and she hoped our Minute might be sent to the Washington Section. She paid tribute to her work at Hull House and thought that the world, in its present situation, needs what Jane Addams was giving to it.

It was decided to send the Minute, with a covering letter to the Washington Section, Miss Balch and the other Officers of the W.I.L.P.F.

It was also decided to send the covering letter from Mrs. Swanwick, with the Minute, to all members of the Executive, and to Branch Secretaries.

55. MINUTES of meeting held on May 4th. were confirmed, after the following correction had been made:-

Minute 32, page 1, last paragraph. Instead of "Miss Pye supported", insert:

"Miss Pye moved and Dr. Clark seconded the suggestion that the whole matter of our relations to the W.I.L.P.F. should be deferred until nearer the 1937 Congress."

56. BUSINESS ARISING:

(a) Appointment of Vice-Chairman. Miss Pye expressed her willingness to act as Second Vice-Chairman. It was AGREED that two Vice Chairmen would be sufficient.

(b) Royal Commission on the Manufacture of and Trading in Arms. Miss Chick reported on the meeting of the Commission on the 22nd. May at which Arnold Forster gave evidence on behalf of the Peace Movement. It was AGREED to ask the National Peace Council for copies of the Evidence for the Committee Members, and whether it was being issued in some form for general use.

(c) Golders Green Branch. Reported a letter from the Secretary saying that in answer to the Executive appeal for a truce, the local Committee felt that each member must be allowed to decide for herself whether or not she felt able to respond to it. Meanwhile the Branch is continuing its work. AGREED that a letter should be sent expressing appreciation that the Branch was continuing its work.

57. FINANCE. The attached statement of Accounts was adopted.

58. INTERNATIONAL HOUSE. On behalf of the House Committee, Miss Chick reported (1) that the New Europe Group had not paid the £10. balance of their advance rent for 25th. March; (2) that the Bedford Estate had sent in a complaint of the annoyance caused to the occupiers of adjoining premises by noisy conduct late at night and until about 4 o'clock in the morning on the part of persons in our premises.

If the cause of the annoyance is not removed, the Bedford Estate will have no alternative but to terminate the License to the underletting of that portion of the house in respect of which the complaint arises; (3) that the Committee recommend that notice to vacate the premises should be given to the New Europe Group on the 24th. June, and that the House Agents in the neighbourhood should be informed that we shall have on 29th. September (a) a Maisonette to let, or (b) Office accommodation, and that the House Committee should consider the best offer received for either. Two House Agents had written to say that there was a demand for Maisonettes such as we could offer at a rental of £150 per annum, or probably if we could afford to wait we might get £175. On the other hand, in an interview, two representatives of different Agents had said they had no applications on their books for Office accommodation.

After discussion the Executive AGREED to terminate the New Europe Agreement at the June Quarter, and to inform the Agents that we had Maisonette or Office accommodation to let at a rental of £175.

The House Committee was empowered to act if a suitable offer was received.

59. ANTI-GAS DRILL AND AIR DISARMAMENT

Reported (1) that the usual Government acknowledgments of the Statement passed at the last Committee had been received, and that the special letter sent to Sir John Simon had not elicited more than a formal acknowledgment; (2) Twenty-five papers had inserted a notice of the Statement; a number of Organisations had acknowledged it, while the Association of Education Committees had asked for 55 extra copies.

With regard to the proposed Deputation, Mr. Herbert Morrison had replied that the London County Council as a municipal authority has no particular competence to deal with the questions of armaments or of international policy. The London County Council had not received the Government circular about Anti-Gas Drill which the Press stated all local authorities had received.

Mrs. O'Brien Harris of the L.C.C. will let us know if there is any opportunity of bringing the matter before the Education Committee or any other Committee of the L.C.C.

Mrs. Innes reported Miss Balch had sent a Statement on Anti-Gas Drill from Sweden. AGREED to ask Miss Balch to send us material on the subject collected by the Czecho-Slovakian Section, if it were available.

It was reported that the Women's Peace Crusade were holding a Conference of representatives of Affiliated Societies on June 17th. to consider plans for a "Disarm the Air Campaign" Miss Chick and Miss Horscroft were appointed as representatives from the W.I.L. The leaflet issued by the Women's Peace Crusade calling women to unite in a great campaign had been sent to members of the Executive.

In response to an appeal from the National Peace Council it was AGREED to write to the Government (1) expressing satisfaction that means of responding to the proposals for the limitation and reduction of air armaments etc. contained

in Herr Hitler's recent speech are being investigated; (2) urging that the Air Commission of the Disarmament Conference should be resummoned, and that definite proposals for the limitation of air forces at the lowest possible level, as a step towards general abolition, should be put before it by the British Government; and (3) expressing the hope that plans for the control of civil aviation may be speedily worked out.

Attention was drawn to Lord Londonderry's speech in the House of Lords on May 22nd. in which he said that he did not believe that the policy of the Government at Geneva regarding the abolition of air forces, would succeed. It was AGREED that a letter should be sent to the Press quoting passages of his speech and asking: Should a Minister who does not agree with the policy of the Government he is representing, remain in Office?

60. REPORT OF INDIA COMMITTEE.

Mrs. Lankester reported that very successful meetings had been arranged for Mrs. Hamid Ali. It was agreed that the guarantee of £1. should be paid towards the expenses of Mrs. Hamid Ali's tour of meetings etc. Mrs. Lankester was asked to let the Committee know if she wanted more money to cover expenses.

Quetta Earthquake. Mrs. Lankester was asked to write to the Rajkumari Amritkar expressing deep sympathy with the people in their overwhelming disaster, and asking her to convey our message to the survivors.

61. ABYSSINIA. Reported a letter from Mr. Anthony Eden thanking the W.I.L. for their letter expressing appreciation of his work for conciliation at Geneva.

It was AGREED to send a letter to Signor Grandi, the Italian Ambassador in London expressing appreciation of the acceptance by the Italian Government to measures of arbitration in their quarrel with Abyssinia, and also the hope that this step may be followed by the cessation of all war preparations.

It was also AGREED to send a letter to the Daily Herald deprecating their head line "Italy climbs down".

A letter from Miss Balch was reported giving her impressions of the Abyssinian situation which she has gathered in Geneva. She said that stories were current of the very large payment now being received by the Suez Canal authorities on Italian shipments of men and material, with emphasis on the fact that England (among others) is thus receiving a direct income from the importation of soldiers and materials for use against Abyssinia.

The Committee thought that the issue was not a simple one and Miss Marshall was asked to collect particulars about the Suez Canal from the International Institute of Foreign Affairs.

Miss Balch also stated in her letter that the French W.I.L. has sent a letter on Abyssinia to the members of the League Council, and that Mr. Pelt, head of the Information Section of the League of Nations received from Henri Barbusse on behalf of the World Committee against War and Fascism, a memorandum on Abyssinia drawn up by that Committee.

62. PLANS FOR FUTURE WORK

Reported invitation from the National Peace Council to participate in its Processions to the Trafalgar Square Demonstrations on Sunday, June 30th. It was AGREED to organise a Contingent in co-operation with the Women's Peace Crusade.

It was also AGREED to arrange an afternoon meeting of London members on June 27th, if possible, (prior to the Albert Hall Meeting in connection with the Peace Ballot), and to ask Miss Helen Baillie to speak on Australian Aborigines, Mrs. Sturgeon of U.S.A. on the Peace Movement in America and Miss Lambrick on the work of the W.I.L. in Australia.

Reported no news had been received of the Campaign for a People's Mandate to the Governments.

63. FRIENDS OF PEACE & DISARMAMENT MOVEMENT. Mrs. Thoday reported that she had not been able to write a leaflet on Air Disarmament until a few days ago, and if the one she had now written was not found suitable she thought the Women's Peace Crusade Air Disarmament Leaflet might be used, with a printed slip attached saying "Sent by the W.I.L. to all Friends of Peace and Disarmament." The suggestion was referred to the Friends of Peace and Disarmament Committee with the message that the Executive on this occasion set aside its own ruling that leaflets from other Organisations should not be sent to the members of the Friends of Peace and Disarmament Movement.

64. WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL, League of Nations Union.

It was agreed to leave the drafting of a resolution for the meeting of the W.A.C. on July 10th. until 15th. June, and Dr. Clark was asked to consult the Officers if she thought it advisable to send in a resolution by then.

65. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: July 9th. at the Offices of the British Women's Total Abstinence Union, 104 Gower Street.

B. Jean Harris
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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR MAY 1935.

Balance	265. 9. 4.	Salaries	40. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	29. 8. 0.	Wages	4. 7. 6.
Donations	15.13. 0.	Insurance	1. 0. 3.
Sale of News		Office Expenses	2.19. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sheets & Lit.	2. 1. 9.	Postage & Wires	6.18. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Office Expenses		Stationery	2.10. 5.
Refunded	1.19. 4.	News Sheets & Lit.	
Greek & French		purchased	4. 7. 2.
Histories	4.11.	Printing	2.16. 6.
Geneva Subs.	<u>1. 1. 0.</u>	Travelling Expenses	3.15. 5.
	50. 8. 0.	Delegates' Fees	1. 0. 6.
		Grant to N.P.C.	10. 0. 0.
		Committee Room	10. 6.
		Geneva Subscription	1. 1. 0.
		" Pax "	<u>2. 3. 7.</u>
			83.11. 0.
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	229. 3. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Cash in hand	<u>3. 2.11$\frac{1}{2}$</u>
			232. 6. 4.
	<u>£315.17. 4.</u>		<u>£315.17. 4.</u>

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, TUESDAY, JULY 9th. 1935.
at 104 Gower Street, from 11 a.m. to 5.45 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Sheepshanks Mrs. Lankester, Miss Harrison, Miss Pye, Lady Unwin, Miss Chick, Mrs. Paul Sturge, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Dr. Hilda Clark, Mrs. Binyon, Mrs. Vipont Brown, Miss B. M. Baker, Miss Rinder, Miss Marshall, Miss Anderson Miss Karleen Baker and Miss Lambrick (Australia) and Mrs. Osborne (Canada) as visitors.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Thoday, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Greenwood, and Mrs. Grindley..

A letter was read from Mrs. Grindley resigning from the Committee on account of her mother's serious illness which necessitates constant care and attention. She hoped, however, to be able to do some local work. The Committee agreed that a letter of regret, especially in regard to the circumstances, should be sent to Mrs. Grindley.

66. CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER. Miss Pye proposed and Mrs. Lankester seconded that Mrs. Ormerod, should be co-opted to the Executive. This was unanimously AGREED to.

Lady Unwin was asked to approach Mrs. Hawkin of Golders Green to see if she will also accept co-option and to invite her to attend the next Executive.

67. WELCOME TO OVERSEAS VISITORS. Mrs. Duncan Harris welcomed to the Committee Miss Lambrick (Australia) and Mrs. Osborne (Canada).

68. MINUTES of meeting held on June 4th. were adopted, having previously been circulated.

69. BUSINESS ARISING.

(a) JANE ADDAMS. Reported letters of sympathy from the Brighton Branch and the U.S.A. Section. A letter from Madame Duchene was also read, with a copy of the letter from the French Section to the U.S.A. Section.

(b) Dorothy Detzer's visit to Europe in July. Letters were read from Miss Detzer expressing her regret at not being able to speak at meetings in the Autumn as she was sailing on the 'Normandie' on July 10th. for Europe. She intended to spend part of her vacation in England before going on to Geneva. From the letters it appeared that there was some misunderstanding about her proposed visits to England and the Chairman was asked to write to her, to reach her while she is on the "Normandie". It was also agreed to ask her to let us know when she would be arriving in London so that, if possible, some members of the Committee could meet her at the Station.

(c) It was reported that Arnold Forster's evidence to the Royal Commission on the Manufacture of and Trading in Arms was not being issued in any form by the National Peace Council, but that copies could be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, Kingsway, London W.C. 2. or through any Stationers price 3/-. (Minutes of Evidence taken before the Royal Commission on the Private Manufacture of and Trading in Arms, Second Day, Wednesday, 22nd. May 1935, No.2) The Office was instructed to order a complete set of the Minutes of Evidence for lending purposes.

(d) Miss Sheepshanks explained that at the meeting of London Members held on Friday, June 21st. 1935, it was evident that there was not sufficient response to the invitation to form a Central London Branch. The meeting decided that a letter should be sent to London Members on the matter and unless sufficient members say they want a Branch the matter will be dropped.

The Executive concurred in the above decision.

70. BRITISH NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF TRAFFIC IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN. Miss Pye gave an interesting report of the Fourth Annual Conference of this Committee held on June 26th. in the Caxton Hall.

71. ABYSSINIA & THE SUEZ CANAL.

After a long discussion on the Abyssinian situation Miss White and Miss Sheepshanks proposed the following resolution:-

"The Executive Committee of the Women's International League

assures H.M. Government of its warm support in their efforts to secure a just and peaceful settlement of the Abyssinian dispute;

urges H.M. Government to ask for an immediate meeting of the League Council in order to appoint the observers asked for by the Ethiopian Government in its note of June 20th;

urges H.M. Government to ask that the arbitration of the matters in dispute between Italy and Abyssinia should be carried on according to the Abyssinian Treaty of 1928;

and urges that in the event of either disputant seeking to settle the dispute by armed force, contrary to the obligations of the Covenant, the Kellogg Pact, and the Italo-Abyssinian Treaty of 1928, the members of the League of Nations should themselves deny all material or financial aid to the aggressor, and prevent their citizens from supplying it with any means to further the war.

If the dispute is peacefully settled, the Women's International League suggests that the whole question of colonial markets should be examined by the League of Nations, with a view to facilitating an equitable distribution of goods and raw materials in the interests of both producers and consumers."

The above was unanimously ADOPTED and instructions given for it to be sent to the Government, and, for information, to the League of Nations Secretariat, Geneva, Miss Balch, W.I.L.P.F., Signor Grandi, and the Abyssinian Embassy and to Peace Organisations in this country.

It was further AGREED that when sending the above resolution to the L.N.U. a covering letter should be sent asking if they have considered the possibility of putting before Signor Grandi public opinion on the subject and offering to associate ourselves with them if the L.N.U. thought it would be helpful.

Our representatives on the National Peace Council were asked to raise the question of a deputation to Signor Grandi at the National Peace Council Executive Committee on July 18th. Mrs. Innes was to be asked to keep in close touch with the N.P.C. and the L.N.U. so that joint action can be taken if, and when necessary.

Miss Baker was asked to get as much publicity for the resolution as possible.

Miss White was to be asked to supply a few facts on the Suez Canal for the News Sheet.

72. PROPOSED PEOPLE'S MANDATE TO THE GOVERNMENT. Detailed plans for a Campaign was read from Miss Balch, together with the wording of the Mandate, which is as follows:-

"To meet the present threat of world chaos we, the undersigned, having faith in the power of human intelligence, demand that our Government abandon all preparation for war and develop rapidly the needed peace machinery, national and international, to solve our economic and political problems.

While we sign this mandate to our Government the people of other nations are signing the same mandate to their Government, determined, all of us, to exert our combined pressure for immediate world co-operation for peace."

The plans consisted of, first a meeting in Geneva about 18th. or 20th. September to be followed by an International Deputation to present the Mandate to representatives of the League of Nations, the meeting is to be as dramatic as possible, with advance publicity, broadcasting, etc. It may be possible to strengthen the influence of the Deputation by meetings held the previous evening at different places throughout the world, sending telegraphic messages to Geneva.

Secondly, from the meeting in Geneva, Visiting Deputations would go to National Sections with a view to leading up to National Deputations to Governments. October and November are suggested for these meetings,

Each National Section is asked to form an Action Committee, with local Committees to carry on preliminary organisation work throughout the Summer; the Geneva Office to be kept informed of progress for circulating to other countries.

All kinds of organisations are to be asked to co-operate and to accept and sign the Mandate (preferably by action of a public meeting or by official action in the name of their organisation).

The question of raising funds was also mentioned.

After discussion the Chairman was asked to write to Miss Balch (1) welcoming this effort to obtain immediate world co-operation for peace, (2) explaining that in view of the colossal work involved in the National Peace Ballot which has been carried out in this country for over 12 months and which has only just ended, we could not present the Government with another Mandate. The number of

signatures obtained throughout the country on the Questionnaire were so overwhelming that the organisation of another campaign, which would inevitably have to be on a much smaller scale owing to the shortness of time, would be entirely ineffective, (3) saying that the W.I.L. is pledged to co-operate in the Women's Peace Crusade Air Disarmament Campaign.

73. GENERAL ELECTION. Dr. Clark and Miss Baker, in consultation with Miss Sheepshanks and Mrs. Innes were asked to find out what other organisations are doing with regard to Questions to Candidates, and to bring definite recommendations to the next Committee.

74. AIR DISARMAMENT. Reported (1) formal acknowledgments from Government officials of the Executive Committee's letters of 12th. June; (2) that only the Daily Herald inserted Mrs. Innes's letter of 5th. June regarding Lord Londonderry's speech in the House of Lords on May 22nd.

Women's Peace Crusade. Dr. Clark reported that the W.P.C. had written to the Secretaries of the W.I.L. Branches asking them to take the lead in calling together meetings of Societies in their areas affiliated to the W.P.C. with a view to getting the Air Disarmament Campaign started. Agreed that a copy of the W.P.C. letter of 9th. July to Affiliated Societies, with specimen Enrolment Card, should be sent to the Executive, for their information. It was reported that London Executive Members had been asked to help with the W.P.C. Shop at 105 Great Russell Street. Dr. Clark urged that efforts should be made to obtain young people as Assistants. The shop would be open for three weeks from about 10.30 to 7 o'clock, or later.

Lady Unwin reported on the meeting of the Air Disarmament Committee held on June 18th. at 4.30 p.m. It was agreed that we should continue to send a representative to any other meetings of the Committee that may be called.

Reported that the National Peace Council was summoning a meeting of the organisations mainly concerned to consider the implications of the Government's air raid drill proposals, and the attitude that is to be taken towards them, on or about July 15th. Lady Unwin and Dr. Clark consented to attend if the date was convenient.

75. NATIONAL DECLARATION COMMITTEE. Dr. Clark reported (1) that arising out of the Peace Ballot the Prime Minister was being asked to receive a deputation and the Co-operating Societies were being invited to nominate representatives. Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Duncan Harris and Dr. Clark were appointed representatives, (2) that a skeleton organisation at Headquarters was being kept in order to take action if and when necessary but it is not proposing any further work at the moment.

76. FINANCE The attached Statement of Accounts was passed. Lady Unwin pointed out that the question of raising funds would shortly have to be considered.

77. INTERNATIONAL HOUSE. Reported that the New Europe Group had paid their advance rent for September quarter and had requested that the notification of termination of tenancy should be reconsidered. AGREED not to accede to this request.

Reported that the National Council of Women had written to say that they were in process of making other arrangements for Office accommodation.

78. W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, September 1935. It was reported that the dates were not fixed for this, but the meetings would be held round about September 11th. The following Consultative Members were appointed, subject to their consent: Mrs. Innes and Miss B.M. Baker. Mrs. Duncan Harris expressed her willingness to try to go if Mrs. Innes found it quite impossible to be present. It was AGREED that if necessary, a grant up to £8.0.0. should be offered towards expenses of each delegate.

79. INDIA. Miss Harrison reported that the India Bill is coming before the Lords on Thursday and will then be on the Statute Book. She said that all her information from India is that the Indians say that this country is not aware of the tense atmosphere created by the non-acceptance of the alterations in the Bill wanted by the Indians themselves. Another opportunity of conciliation has been lost owing to the refusal to admit Indian Leaders into the Quetta Earthquake area, which has been closed by the military. Miss Harrison paid a tribute to the fine work done by the military on this occasion. It was agreed that the Chairman should send a letter to the Secretary of State for India on the matter.

Reported that no further money would be needed in connection with Mrs. Hamid Ali's meetings in England.

80. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. On behalf of the Committee Miss Baker asked permission to co-opt Mrs. Sturge on to this Committee. This was unanimously agreed to. It was reported that from the Friends of Peace and Disarmament Committee and the Publicity Committee a Committee has been formed to consider leaflets for the Friends of Peace and Disarmament Movement. In view of the delay sometimes caused between Executive Committee Meetings, permission was asked to authorise the Publicity Committee Chairman, in consultation with the Hon. Secretary, to sanction the insertion of leaflets issued by other Societies in the News Sheet. This request was sanctioned.

81. ECONOMIC SANCTIONS. The Chairman read a letter from Mrs. Thoday urging the study of Economic Sanctions. The Committee wished to take up the question, but in view of the lateness of the hour it was agreed to circulate Mrs. Thoday's letter to the Executive for consideration at the August meeting. Miss Marshall reported that the L.N.U. had taken up the idea of Miss Rathbone's that there was a special need for a Committee to concentrate on Economic Sanctions. Miss Marshall offered to draft a memorandum to be sent to the Executive in addition to Mrs. Thoday's letter.

82. AGREED that a report of the meeting of the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations held on July 2nd. should be deferred until the August Executive.

83. Reported that a Report of the Speeches made at the Congress of the National Peace Council would shortly be issued price 6d.

84. AGREED that a Report of the Peace and Reconstruction Convention should also be deferred until the August Committee.

85. CORRESPONDENCE

Reported a request from the National Union of Women Teachers to pass a resolution in furtherance of their campaign for equal pay for equal work. Owing to the lateness of the hour no action was taken.

Reported that a detailed Report of the Proceedings of the British Commonwealth League Annual Conference will be ready shortly, price 2/- each. Agreed to make this known to Executive and Branches.

Reported a request for action regarding the Douglas-Pennant (1935) Campaign. Agreed to take no action.

86. LONDON MEMBERS' MEETING. It was AGREED to hold a meeting of London Members immediately following the Executive Committee on Tuesday, September 10th. when Miss Lambrick would report on the work of the W.I.L. in Australia, Mrs. Osborne of the work in Canada, if she is still within reach of London, and Mrs. Sturgeon of the U.S.A. on the Student Movement for Peace in America.

87. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. August 13th. at 104 Gower Street.

B. W. Mearns

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for June 1935.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Balance	232. 6. 4.	Salaries	32.10. 0.
Subscriptions	29.16. 0.	Wages	3.10. 0.
Donations	5.14. 6.	State Insurance	10. 6.
Sale of News Sheets & Literature	5. 2. 2.	Office Expenses	3.15. 1.
Collection at June 21st.Mtg.	1. 1.11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Rent	12.10. 0.
		News Sheets & Literature purchased	4.19. 5.
		Printing	4.14. 6.
		Stationery	4.17. 5.
		Postage & Wires	5.17. 2.
		<u>Meetings</u>	
	41.14. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Executive Cttee.	10. 6.
		Memorial Service	10.10. 6.
		Travelling Exp.	3.18. 0.
		Affiliation Fee	10. 6.
		Grant	1. 0. 0.
		<u>89.13. 7.</u>	
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	179.14. 6.
		Cash in hand	4.12.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
		<u>184. 7. 4$\frac{1}{2}$</u>	
	<u>£274. 0.11$\frac{1}{2}$</u>		<u>£274. 0.11$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Approximate Statement of Accounts
for July 1 - 8th. inclusive.

Balance	184. 7. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Expenditure	11.13. 0.
Income	8.15. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Balance	181.10. 1.
	<u>£193. 3. 1.</u>		<u>£193. 3. 1.</u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

July News Sheets	3. 9. 0.
Printing (F.o.P.leaflets)	4. 2. 6.
Stationery	17. 0.
Electric Light	12. 8.
	<u>£9. 1. 2.</u>

BALANCE £ 172. 8.11.

Accounts not yet received for Coalite,
and Welsh Friends of Peace
Leaflets.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Special Executive Committee Meeting, July 30th, 1935 from 11 a.m. to 5.45 p.m. at 104 Gower Street, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Karleen Baker, Dr. Hilda Clark, Miss Pye, Lady Unwin, Mrs. Hawkin, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Ormerod, Miss Dickinson, Miss Chick, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Harrison, Miss White, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Elgie (Mrs. Osborne (Canada))

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Vipont Brown, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Thoday, Miss B.M. Baker, Mrs. Greenwood.

MINUTES of meeting held on July 9th were confirmed and signed, having previously been circulated.

88. BUSINESS ARISING.

(a) Co-options on to the Executive Committee. It was proposed by Miss Pye, seconded by Lady Unwin, and AGREED unanimously that Mrs. Hawkin be co-opted on to the Committee. Mrs. Ormerod had also accepted co-option on to the Committee. Mrs. Duncan Harris extended a welcome to Mrs. Ormerod and Mrs. Hawkin, both being present.

(b) Miss Detzer will be returning to England for about one week from September 22nd, and has agreed to speak at meetings for the W.I.L. The following arrangements have so far been made:-

September 23rd:	Brighton.
" 24th	Leeds.
" 25th	Manchester.
" 26th	North Wales.
" 27th	North Wales.
" 30th	London.

For the London Meeting Conway Hall has been provisionally booked and Miss Sheepshanks has promised to take the Chair at 8 o'clock on Monday, September 30th. In addition to Miss Detzer, who will be speaking on the American Arms Inquiry, it was felt that a well-known speaker from the English point of view should address the meeting, but Mr. Noel Baker who had been approached to do this would be out of London at the time. It was suggested that Lord Cecil should be approached and failing him, Mr. Arnold Forster. Later, however, Miss Wellborn reported that Senator Pope of the American Arms Inquiry Commission would probably be in London, and it was AGREED that, if possible, he should be the second speaker at this meeting.

(c) International Executive Committee. It was reported that Miss B.M. Baker had agreed to act as one of the British Section Consultative Members, and if possible Mrs. Innes would go as the other. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that she had been invited to act on a sub-Committee to prepare the business in connection with the People's Mandate for presentation to the International Executive. This Committee would meet on September 11th in Geneva. She would therefore ask to attend the International Committee meetings as a visitor, but if Mrs. Innes was unable to attend she would take her place.

Miss Pye reported on subjects to be discussed at the International Executive including, Abyssinia, Nationalisation of manufacture of munitions, Disarmament, Status of Women, Round Table Conference, Paris World Exhibition, 1937, and Refugees. Any further suggestions for the final Agenda to reach Geneva Office not later than August 15th.

(d) It was reported that no action had yet been taken with regard to a Questionnaire to Candidates at the time of a General Election. Mrs. Innes agreed to act as Convenor of the small group who undertook this work at the last Committee meeting, and to present material at the next Executive.

89. WELCOME TO VISITORS. The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mrs. Osborne of Canada, Miss Dorothy Detzer and Miss Wellborn of the United States of America.

90. The PEOPLE'S MANDATE. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that Miss Wellborn and Miss Detzer had met a few members of the Committee at an informal gathering on Monday, July 15th, and from this at least two fresh points had emerged:-

- (a) The wording of the Mandate was not final;
- (b) The scheme was to be launched in September and to culminate next Spring, not in October of this year as was originally understood.

In view of these facts it was felt that the whole matter should be reconsidered. A new version of the wording of the Mandate had come to hand as follows:-

"We the people are determined to end war. War settles no problems. War brings economic misery, heedless suffering and death to us and to our children.

To meet the present threat of complete world chaos we demand that our Government, having renounced war in the Kellogg Briand Pact,

Stop immediately all increase of armaments and of armed forces,

Use existing machinery for peaceful settlement of present conflicts,

Secure a world treaty agreement for immediate reduction of arms as a step towards complete world disarmament,

Secure international agreements founded on recognition of world interdependence to end the economic anarchy which breeds war.

As we sign this Mandate people in all countries of the world are signing it with us, united in the determination to secure permanent peace."

After much discussion it was agreed:-

- (a) that individual signatures could not be collected in Great Britain, and that it must be worked on the basis of getting support on behalf of societies and meetings, both national and local;
- (b) on the proposal of Dr. Clark, seconded by Lady Unwin, to explore the possibility of working the campaign on these lines, believing that a way can be found to get a united programme.

When Miss Wellborn and Miss Detzer joined the Committee the wording of the Mandate was discussed, and it was finally agreed to submit to the International Officers for their consideration the following suggested revised version:-

"We are determined to end war. War settles no problems. War brings economic misery, needless suffering and death to us and to our children.

Every Government in the world has signed the Covenant of the League of Nations or the Kellogg Briand Pact, or both, and has thus renounced war in international disputes.

To meet the present threat of complete world chaos

ls We demand that our Government, in common action to fulfil their international pledges,

Stop immediately all increase of armaments and of armed forces,

Use existing machinery for peaceful settlement of present conflicts,

Secure a world treaty for immediate reduction of arms as a step toward complete world disarmament,

Secure international agreements founded on recognition of world interdependence to end the economic anarchy which breeds war.

As we sign this Mandate people in other countries throughout the world are signing it with us, united in the determination to secure permanent peace."

Two points were particularly emphasised by the whole Committee that any attempt to collect individual signatures would be futile, and that mention must be made of the Covenant of the League for the Mandate to meet with any success in countries which are members of the League.

Miss Wellborn reported on the organisation of the Mandate and said they hoped to have a meeting in Geneva on September 10th to launch the Campaign and would very much like suggestions for speakers who would have an international appeal, as if the right speakers were secured, the meeting would probably be broadcast throughout the world. The following people were suggested:-

The Rt. Hon. Anthony Eden, Lord Lytton, The Rt. Hon. Arthur Henderson, The Rt. Hon. Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, The Rt. Hon. Margaret Bondfield, Mr. Philip Noel Baker, Lord Lothian, Beverley Nichols, Miss Maude Royden, D.D., C.H., Mrs. Corbett Ashby.

As soon as the final wording of the Mandate is ready each country will be asked to approach prominent persons with a view to getting their support as members of an honorary Committee, whose names would be printed on the back of the Mandate.

The collection of signatures of Organisations to be carried on throughout the Winter and the Mandate to be presented to the Governments of the world by international Deputations. It was AGREED that the following should be approached to represent the British Section on the Deputations:-

Miss K.D. Courtney, Rt. Hon. Margaret Bondfield, Dr. Maude Royden, C.H.

A World Campaign Committee for the Mandate would probably be set up with a representative from each Section. It was AGREED that Mrs. Innes, subject to her consent, should represent the

the British Section, with power to send a substitute when she is unable to attend meetings. It was agreed that the British Campaign should be announced at the meeting on September 30th, at which Miss Detzer will be speaking.

With regard to finance, each country would be responsible for expenditure within its own country, and would also be asked to help with the central fund. It was suggested that each Section should appoint a Treasurer for this purpose to correspond with the International Finance Committee.

Miss Harrison suggested that Miss Wellborn might get into touch immediately with Miss Muriel Lester who is at present in China, and will be going to Japan and India within the next few months.

91. ABYSSINIA. Formal acknowledgments from the Government for the Resolution passed at the last Committee were reported.

It was reported that this resolution had not been communicated to the League of Nations Union.

The Chairman reported that at the suggestion of one of our members, the following cable had been sent to the Empress of Abyssinia in response to an appeal from her in the "Daily Mirror" of July 23rd:-

"Her imperial Majesty Empress Ouizero Menen, Addis Abeba. British Section of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom responds to appeal of Empress Menen with warm sympathy. Stop It supports all efforts for peaceful settlement of present dispute and earnestly hopes war may be averted by measures consistent with peace and freedom in Abyssinia."

This had been communicated to the "Daily Mirror" who printed it on July 27th. Geneva Office had also been informed of the action taken. Mrs. Payne now wrote asking us to approach other women's organisations with a view to getting support for this cable. It was AGREED that the action of the Officers be endorsed, and that 12 to 20 organisations be approached as suggested.

A letter forwarded by Dr. Royden from Brigadier-General Crozier, asking the W.I.L. to suggest that the Abyssinians should take the line of passive resistance. AGREED to send a letter to Dr. Royden saying that the Committee was in agreement that peaceful passive resistance was the right answer to threats of aggression, but it did not feel it suitable to urge such action on the Abyssinian Government at the present time.

Miss Marshall reported on her investigations re the Suez Canal and stated that according to the Convention of 1888 it must be kept open at all times, in times of war as in times of peace, to vessels of war as well as to merchant ships of all nationalities, and the only method of closing it was a blockade, which would mean the use of Battleships and Aeroplanes. No action was taken in this matter.

A letter from Miss Harrison was reported in which she suggested that the possibility of an unofficial group of people should go out to Abyssinia to investigate. Mr. Trevelyan and Lord Noel Buxton were suggested as possible persons. It was also suggested that Dr. Royden's Peace Army or "Dick" Sheppard's organisation might be able to undertake such work as this. It was left to Miss Harrison to make tentative inquiries on this matter.

matter.

Miss Sheepshanks was asked to write a letter to the "Daily Mirror" on the Abyssinian situation.

92. AIR DISARMAMENT. Reported that Mr. Herbert Morrison had been asked to receive a Deputation to talk over the Air Raid Precaution Circular, but had not seen his way to accept the Deputation. In view of the information received, and because Mr. Morrison has clearly defined his position, it was AGREED not to pursue this matter further.

Dr. Clark and Miss Pye both submitted draft Statements on the Air Raid Precaution Circular, and after much discussion Dr. Clark and Miss Pye were asked to compound their Statements, bearing in mind that the Committee did not consider that to ask for withdrawal would be effective, but informing the Government that many of our members would not co-operate in any way with such services and propaganda. It was AGREED that this Statement should be sent to the Government, the Press and the National Peace Council.

At a special meeting called by the National Peace Council of interested organisations the following points were recommended to the Executive of the Peace Council, and adopted by it:-

(1) That the Council should issue at the earliest moment, a comprehensive statement of the case against the Government's proposals (including a reaffirmation of the need for air disarmament as the right alternative), and should secure for it the widest distribution through the Press, sending it to local Authorities and to all the appropriate organisations.

(2) That the Council should consider the possibility of setting up a public inquiry to hear technical and scientific evidence as to the efficacy or otherwise of the measures proposed by the Government.

(3) That the Council should ask for a statement as to their official attitude from the National Executive of the Labour Party and the General Council of the Trades Union Congress.

93. FINANCE. The attached approximate statement of accounts for July was adopted. It was AGREED that Lady Unwin should draft an appeal letter to be sent out either at the end of September or the beginning of October stating what work the W.I.L. was undertaking during the Winter and giving suggestions for money raising efforts. Miss Marshall promised to help with suggestions.

94. WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL. Miss Sheepshanks and Dr. Clark reported on the meeting with Miss Graves on July 26th, the British Woman delegate to the League Assembly for 1935.

95. INDIA. Miss Harrison reported that she had consulted with Mrs. Lankester and they had agreed not to send a letter to the Secretary of State for India re the Quetta Earthquake.

The India Bill has now gone back to the House of Commons and will be an Act of Parliament before the end of this week. Meantime, the Congress and the Women's Movement in India are deciding what attitude they will take to the Act.

It was reported that the daughter of the Secretary of the All India Women's Movement in India was visiting this country in August, and a meeting would be held for her if possible in the Office. Miss Pye kindly suggested that it might be held

at 44 Upper Park Road.

Mr. Masani, Joint Secretary of all India Congress Socialist Party, who has recently been deprived of his Passport, would very much like to meet W.I.L. members. It was, therefore, AGREED that he should meet an enlarged India Committee in September.

96. ECONOMIC SANCTIONS. Dr. Clark undertook to try to draft something on Economic Sanctions for the next Committee on condition she was released from drawing up a syllabus for study circles on Democracy. This was AGREED to by the Committee.

97. NATIONAL DECLARATION. Dr. Clark reported that Lord Cecil, the Dean of Chichester and Miss Courtney spoke when the Deputation presented the Peace Ballot results to the Prime Minister.

98. LIAISON COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS. Miss Harrison reported that the question of the Equal Rights Treaty had been discussed at its last meeting. Miss Harrison informed the Committee that she could no longer act as Proxy for the W.I.L.P.F. and suggested that the International Executive be asked to take more cognisance of this Committee. Miss Pye undertook to convey this to the International Committee.

Dr. Clark reported that Mrs. Strachey had approached Miss Graves at the Women's Advisory Council meeting to get the Equal Rights Treaty put on the Agenda of the League Council for study, which would have an educational value. This suggestion had aroused the interest of many delegates present at the W.A.C. meeting. In view of the possibility of this question being discussed at the W.I.L.P.F. Executive Committee in September it was AGREED that we ask Mrs. Strachey if she would kindly put her arguments into writing for our use.

Reported that a meeting for Madame Katzarova, a member of our Bulgarian Section, had been held by kind invitation of Lady Noel Buxton, and a letter of thanks had been sent to her for making the meeting possible.

99. CORRESPONDENCE.

Corbett Ashby Presentation Fund. The W.I.L. was invited to send a representative to a Committee on September 19th for this fund. Miss Dickinson AGREED to attend this meeting as an observer for the W.I.L.

Women's Freedom League notice of a Conference on October 25th on "Women's demands at the General Election." No action taken until nearer the time of the Conference.

100. WOMEN'S PEACE CRUSADE. Dr. Clark reported that the Peace Shop will close this week, but the exhibits could be loaned for the cost of carriage and a small fee just to cover the cost of dilapidations. She thought it would probably be of more use in the Provinces than in London, but there was a possibility of opening a shop in a more prominent position later in the year.

101. OTHER BUSINESS.

Miss Dickinson brought forward a letter from one of our members, with a great knowledge of Italy, in which she suggested that individual non-catholics should write to His Holiness the Pope asking him to bring all his influence to bear on the question of peace between Italy and Abyssinia. The Committee thought that some members might feel a concern to send a letter on these lines.

102. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. It was suggested that the Committee be brought forward to September 3rd, but after discussion it was left for Miss Pye and Mrs. Innes to consult, and call the Committee on August 27th if they thought best.

B. James Harris

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR
JULY 1935.

Balance	184. 7. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Salaries	37. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	19.19. 0.	Wages	3.10. 0.
Sale of News		Office Expenses	1.13. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sheets & Lit.	7.12.10.	Insurance	12. 5.
Office Expenses		Postage & Wires	4.14. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Refd. by		Telephone	7. 6. 7.
W.P.C.	7. 6. 9.	News Sheets &	
Subscription		Lit. purchased	4. 6. 8.
to Geneva "Pax"	2. 6.	Printing	6.13. 0.
	35. 1. 1.	Lighting &	
		heating	1.16.11.
		Affiliation	
		Fee	2. 2. 0.
		Travelling	
		Expenses	1.10. 7.
		Cttee Room	7. 6.
			71.14. 1.
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	143.19.0 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Cash in hand	3.15.4.
			147.14. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
	£219. 8. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$		£219. 8. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Stationery & Literature £2. 0. 4.

BALANCE £145.14. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Account for Coalite not rendered.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

55, Gower Street, London W.C. 1.

Statement on the Air Raid Precaution Circular adopted by the Executive Committee of the British Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom at its meeting on Tuesday, July 30th. 1935.

The Women's International League, convinced that there is no way of defending civil populations from the consequences of attack from the air, profoundly regrets the issue of the Government circular on this subject.

We believe that the Circular gives a false impression in two respects which have an important bearing on work for the prevention of war, and that its issue and the campaign and propaganda proposed are likely to have a bad effect on popular psychology.

(1) The general tenor of the circular gives the impression that war is inevitable and that there is immediate risk of attack from the air on this country. While the second paragraph says:- "The need for these measures in no way implies a risk of war in the near future", further on we read - "It is of the essence of any such preparation that the civil population should be informed of the present and future possibilities of air attack." We believe that this induces a sense of fatalism which is inimical to democratic government. The people as a whole desire to press forward a policy for the prevention of war in any form.

(2) The Circular begins by referring to "precautionary measures which would be necessary for safeguarding the civil population against the effects of air attack," and suggests that such safeguarding could be effective. Close reading of the circular shows that very little protection

can be given to most of the population. Yet Local Authorities are told further on that they will be responsible "for ensuring that adequate measures of civil protection against air raid dangers are taken in their own districts." While recognising that if it be assumed that there is risk of an air attack on this country the Government has responsibility for such measures of protection of the population as could be effective, we hold that there is danger that people will be led to rely on precautions which we are convinced are entirely illusory.

(3) We believe that the effect of propaganda for protection from air raids is bound to have an evil effect in fomenting a "war psychology" and if carried out generally, will be harmful through increasing panic and nervous strain particularly among children. We believe that, should there actually be an air attack on this country, the effect of continued propaganda might in fact increase the danger of panic when the population realised the gross inadequacy of any precautions now envisaged.

We believe that a large number of our members and others of like mind will find themselves unable to co-operate in any way with such services and propaganda.

In view of these considerations we suggest that our Branches and members should take action to persuade Local Authorities:-

- (a) to confine themselves to the preparation for administrative measures such as co-ordinating and strengthening of fire, ambulance, police and other public services, which can be prepared for without expense or popular propaganda and which are applicable to any emergency;

(b) to avoid any appeal to the people which might have the effect of rousing a war psychology and increasing panic as described above;

(c) to urge that handbooks giving advice to the public and precautions to be taken by householders, which the circular says are to be issued, should be withheld, on the grounds given above.

We urge the Government to recognise that the only measure of effective defence of the people from Air attack is the abolition of War Aircraft by all countries; that the results of the Peace Ballot show the wish of the people for such abolition and that it is the duty of a democratic government to concentrate every effort towards the abolition of naval and military aircraft by international agreement.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, September 3rd. 1935
at 104, Gower Street, W.C. 1, from 11 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Marshall,
Mrs. Binyon, Miss Harrison, Miss Chick, Mrs. Greenwood,
Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Rinder.
Visitors: Mrs. Biddle Lewis (U.S.A.) Mrs. Osborne (Canada)
and Mrs. Basil Williams (Edinburgh Branch).

APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE were received from Miss Pye, Lady Unwin,
Dr. Clark, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Hawkin, Miss Dickinson,
Mrs. Sturge, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Thoday
and Mrs. Elgie.

MINUTES of previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

102A. BUSINESS ARISING:

Jane Addams. Reported a suggestion from Miss Dickinson
that a framed photograph of Miss Jane Addams with a coloured
design surrounding it, and Mrs. Swanwick's Minute of June 4th
inserted in artistic lettering at the bottom should be hung
in the Office. Agreed to having a very simple and plain
photograph, to be paid for out of general funds, and
Mrs. Binyon consented to discuss the details with Miss Dickinson

Dorothy Detzer's Meetings. Reported that meetings in
Brighton, Leeds, Manchester, Wrexham, Bangor, Caernarvon and
Birmingham were now arranged. Biographical notes had been
sent to the Secretaries for publicity work.

It was agreed that a circular railway ticket for the
tour should be obtained for her in London.

With regard to the London Meeting on September 30th,
Mr. Arnold Forster had consented to speak on the British
Arms Inquiry. Agreed to inform him that Miss Detzer
would be speaking partly about the Peoples Mandate, and to
ask him if he agreed to the wording, as when he was invited
to speak on the same platform it was believed that the whole
meeting would be on the Traffic in Arms.

It was agreed that the meeting should be organised
from the Office.

It was agreed to invite Miss Detzer to meet the
Officers and those members of the Executive who can be
present at the Office at 3 p.m. on the 23rd. September.

103. PEOPLES MANDATE.

Reported (1) that the final wording had been received
from Geneva, which was the same as suggested by the British
Executive at its meeting on July 30th;

(2) that the National Broadcasting Company
of the United States is giving an international radio pro-
gramme on September 6th. commemorating Jane Addams birthday
and marking the launching of the Peoples Mandate Campaign
in the United States.

It was agreed to write to Geneva welcoming the unity
which has been reached on the wording.

Acting on the suggestion that National Sections should ask the Broadcasting Company in their countries to relay the programme, a letter had been sent on 2nd. September to the Secretary of the British Broadcasting Corporation asking if this could be arranged. There had not been time for a reply.

It was decided that a notice should be sent out immediately to the Press

(a) giving the aim of the Peoples Mandate and the story of its origin;

(b) announcing the Broadcast on 6th. September

(c) informing them of Dorothy Detzer's meetings in England

(d) asking them to make it clear that we are not collecting individual signatures in this country, but signatures of Societies etc.

Agreed also to send this Press notice to Branches urging them to get it into local papers.

After discussion the following decisions were reached:

(1) that the Executive Committee should be responsible for the launching of the Campaign, but outside help should be called in later, if necessary;

(2) that an Honorary Council of prominent people should be formed; Members were asked to bring suggestions to the October Executive.

(3) that organisations should be asked to append their signatures and if possible to send the Mandate to their Branches for local signature, or authorise the W.I.L. to approach them direct.

The following undertook to approach organisations:

Miss Harrison	Y.W.C.A. and British Commonwealth League.
Mrs. Duncan Harris	Women's Co-operative Guild
Mrs. Basil Williams	Women's Co-operative Guild, Scotland.
Mrs. Innes	General Booth, Salvation Army.
Mrs. Lankester	Mrs. Corbett Ashby and Lady Layton for National Women's Liberal Federation.
Miss Rinder	Dame Adelaide Livingstone.

Agreed to ask Miss Sutherland to secure the support of the Women's Section of the Labour Party, and Miss Bondfield, that of the Trade Union Movement.

With regard to international finance for the Campaign, it was agreed not to appoint a special Treasurer, but to make a grant out of general funds.

104. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts was accepted Miss Chick, on behalf of Lady Unwin, gave an outline of the financial appeal which Lady Unwin would be sending out towards the end of the month. It would include an appeal for funds for the Peoples Mandate.

105. INTERNATIONAL HOUSE. Reported neither the Maisonette nor the Office premises had been let though a number of inquiries for the Maisonette had been made. It was decided to advertise next week in "Time and Tide", or some other suitable paper.

106. W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS, September 12th.-16th. Reported that Mrs. Innes and Miss B. M. Baker had agreed to be the British Consultative Members. Mrs. Duncan Harris was attending as a visitor and would be prepared to take the place of either in an emergency. No resolutions had been received. It was, therefore, impossible to give the Consultative Members instructions. They were authorised to act as they thought best on any matters arising, bearing in mind the principles held by the British Section.

W.I.L.P.F. ACTION RE JEWISH PERSECUTION. Reported that the Manchester Guardian had published an Appeal from Geneva to non-Jews of Europe concerning the new wave of persecution of Jews which has broken out in Germany. Miss Mennell one of our members had succeeded in getting a paragraph on it into the Herts Advertiser.

Attention was drawn to the fact that non-^{Aryans}Aryans are also being persecuted but they have no means of receiving help. It was agreed to suggest to our Branches that protests on our own lines against the persecution should be made in their local press.

Reported a letter from Miss Eaton asking if we thought anything could be done to increase the quota of Jews into Palestine. It was decided to consult Mrs. Zangwill and Mrs. Ormerod on the matter.

W.I.L.P.F. Reported a letter from Mrs. Olmsted, Chairman of the W.I.L.P.F. International Nominating Committee asking for names and addresses of anyone whom the Section would be able to suggest for consideration as Hon. International President at the next Congress. Suggestions were also wanted for an International Treasurer, Organiser, referents on special questions, or as rank and file workers in some particular line in the W.I.L. programme and work.

Agreed to ask all the members of the Executive to send in names and addresses as soon as possible.

107. AIR DISARMAMENT. Reported (1) formal Government acknowledgments of the statement, on the Air Raid Precaution, Circular of July 30th. and a letter from the Foreign Office on behalf of Sir Samuel Hoare, saying that the question of measures to prevent the misuse of civil aircraft for military purposes will be duly considered when it proves possible to secure a resumption of general international negotiations on the subject of air disarmament. The letter referred us to the debate in the House on 31st. May and reminded us of the proposals made by H.M. Government in Article 35 of the United Kingdom Draft Disarmament Convention.

(2) The Statement had appeared in the following papers: The Friend, Daily Herald, News Chronicle, Birmingham Evening Despatch, Glasgow Evening Times, Darlington Northern Despatch, Glasgow Bulletin and Scots Pictorial, Oxford Mail, Western Morning News, Plymouth, Yorkshire Post, Welsh Edition Manchester Guardian, the Manchester Guardian, The Star, Yorkshire

Telegraph & Star, Newcastle Evening Chronicle & Evening World, Western Daily Press and Bristol Mirror and the Sheffield Telegraph. Mrs. Innes had got a second letter on the subject into the Plymouth Western Morning News.

It was agreed to take no further action for the time being.

(3) Suggestions had been received from Mrs. Sweatman of Reigate for a Campaign on Aerial Warfare. After considering them it was agreed to prepare a list of books on aerial warfare for study purposes for those who applied for help, a copy to be sent to Mrs. Sweatman with the pamphlet "Poison Gas" and the W.P.C. literature. It was also agreed to inform her that Mrs. Innes is Air Referent for the W.I.L.P.F. which is composed of Sections in many countries. She was to be asked to consider forming a group or branch of the W.I.L. in Reigate.

(4) The receipt of an invitation to send representatives to a week-end Conference on Air Disarmament at Jordans from September 28th. - 30th. Members of the Committee who were present said they were unable to attend and instructions were given for the Office to send particulars to absent members and to ask them if they could attend.

(5) An interesting letter had been received from our Czecho-Slovakian Section which recalled the Red Cross conclusion reached in 1933 that if only ten cases could be helped in an aero-chemical warfare, they should be assisted. Amongst other things the letter said that when measures of protection for civilians were first suggested the Section wrote press articles showing their futility and Dr. Gertrud Woker had given a lecture which led to heated controversy, after which the press refused articles, and arrangements for an Exhibition had to be given up. It said that the Czech Parliament had before it a law obliging individuals to provide their own gas masks and communal shelters. A memorandum on the futility of this was submitted to the Defence Department by the W.I.L. and 46 other Peace Organisations, and the suggestion was made that since fear from Germany is so real, evacuation should be organised. The Czech Government are now planning schemes for letting people have wood for huts away from towns, etc.

(6) The National Peace Council had issued a circular on Air Raid Precautions, a leaflet on the lines of which was being issued in a week or two. Agreed to send the Circular to those members of Committee who had not already received a copy. Mr. Bailey was to be asked to give an assurance of the reliability of the Cambridge Scientists' Anti-War Group. It was agreed to ask the National Council of Women and the Women's Co-operative Guild their opinion regarding the effect of the proposed precautionary measures on women, particularly regarding the use of gas masks.

108. ABYSSINIA. It was reported that on August 28th. those Officers who were in London had met with one or two members of the Executive, to consider what further steps could be taken in regard to the Italo-Abyssinian situation. The attached Statement was the outcome of that meeting and it was sent to the Government and to the Press. The Manchester Guardian published it in full. A copy had been sent to the Abyssinian Legation in London with a suggestion that one or two members of the Committee would be pleased to meet the Minister to see if there was anything further we could do

that we had not already done. Dr. Martin had replied that he would be willing to see the Hon. Secretary at 4 o'clock on Wednesday, 4th. September. Miss Rinder consented to go with Mrs. Innes and they were asked to present to him the following Statement:

"The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, British Section

welcomes and supports the Government in their statement that Great Britain wants no economic advantage arising out of the Italo-Abyssinian dispute, and is glad to note that the Government will not protect British enterprise in connection with the Oil Concessions in Abyssinia.

Without suggestion handing over the control of territory, we ask the Government to propose to the League an immediate examination of the whole question of the distribution of and access to the world's natural resources, and to ask that the International Labour Office be represented on any body making the examination.

We urge our Government to express its willingness to participate in any such examination with a view to securing satisfaction for the legitimate economic needs of all countries.

The Women's International League believes that the Government would have very considerable support in this policy."

Agreed that this Statement should be sent to the Trades Union Congress, Major Attlee, the International Federation of Trade Unions, M. Undin, Sweden, Mrs. Alexander Whyte, Mr. Eden, Sir Samuel Hoare, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Lloyd George; to the Women's Co-operative Guild asking them if they would send it to any international Conference they were holding in the near future, and to the W.I.L.P.F. asking Miss Balch if she would consider sending it to the French Section with the suggestion that they should take steps on similar lines.

109. GENERAL ELECTION. A report was given of the Sub-Committee appointed to suggest possible questions or lines of action in the case of a General Election. Since the Committee had met, the Peoples Mandate had been received from Geneva and it was found that the subjects suggested by the Committee were embodied in the Mandate. After discussion it was agreed that the principle of the four points in the Mandate should be used in our questions, with the additional question on the abolition of military and naval airforces.

It was agreed to send the proposal to the National Peace Council and the Women's Peace Crusade.

110. ECONOMIC SANCTIONS. Agreed to leave consideration of this subject until a later date.

111. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported on

(1) a Statement of the All Indian Women's Conference half yearly meeting at Poona on the subject of the new Constitution;

(2) the "At Home" at 44 Upper Park Road on August 14th. when Mrs. Ray, Hon Social Secretary of All India Women's Conference, described her impressions of a World Tour through Japan, China and America, and explained further the views as expressed in the Statement referred to above. Mrs. Ray also spoke with great appreciation of the work of the Liaison Group in India, and she explained the reasons which had made the A.I.W.C. express their objections to the Government of India so strongly in the Statement. Mrs. Ray and Mrs. Lankester had had an interview with Sir Archibald Carter at the India Office with regard to the Statement, but he had held out no hopes that the system of separate electorates for the women's seats could be altered before the first election, a point about which the Indian women feel most strongly and on which the question of their co-operation may depend. It might be advisable to get a Statement from the Government to a question asked in the House when it meets with regard to their own willingness to accede to a request for joint electorates for women;

(3) A letter from the Rajkumari Amrit Kaur on the same subject.

(4) an invitation to attend this year's All India Women's Conference had been sent to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Harrison and Mrs. Lankester, but none of them was able to accept it. A suggestion had been sent that Miss Marjory Fry might be a useful person to go, and also Miss Daisy Solomon, who would be prepared to go to India on her way back from South Africa. It is probable that Miss Muriel Lester will be there. Mrs. Margaret Sanger, and Mlle Colin from Geneva, had also been invited to India;

Miss Harrison reported that Mr. Chakravarty had come back from Germany bringing grave news of the condition of Mrs. Jawaharlal-Nehru. Miss Harrison had immediately approached the India Office with a view to getting the release of her husband as she said the consequences would be very grave if she were to die. It would be a great gesture from this country if he were released. Miss Harrison said that the British attitude had aroused great indignation in Germany.

112. EQUAL RIGHT TREATY. Reported an appeal for funds from Miss Doty to carry on the work of the Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality. It was felt that a contribution could not be made as the Committee was divided on the subject of the Equal Rights Treaty and the Equal Nationality Treaty, but it was agreed that Miss McGachei of the Information Section of the League of Nations should be asked if she would explain the position and put the objective view before a meeting, to be arranged in the Autumn.

113. CORRESPONDENCE. Reported a letter from Mrs. Payne, a W.I.L. member containing suggestions for action re a Manifesto to be sent to Geneva on September 4th, and to Mussolini urging Women's insistence that the Italo-Abyssinian dispute should be settled logically at Geneva. She recommended such a Manifesto should be signed by representative women of every country - in this country by Queen Mary if her signature could be obtained.

Agreed that this could not be undertaken, but that Mrs. Payne should be informed of action the W.I.L. had already taken.

A letter had been received from the Women's Freedom League inviting us to send representatives to a one day Conference at Caxton Hall on October 25th. on the subject of "Women's demands at the General Election". Delegates tickets 2/6 each, visitors 1/- morning or afternoon, or 1/6 both sessions. Delegates only have the right to speak and vote. Mrs. Duncan Harris agreed to attend and Dr. Clark was to be asked if she would go. Agreed to inform the Women's Freedom League that we shall be issuing questions based on the Peoples Mandate.

114. MR. LANSBURY. It was agreed that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mr. Lansbury for the stand he has taken to rally the moral forces of the country, not only publicly but in his private capacity.

115. MRS. BIDDLE LEWIS of the U.S.A. informed the Committee that the American Section was making a collection of material from National Sections since 1915 with a view to writing a history of the W.I.L.P.F. and to putting all historical documents into a special corner of the Washington Library, Philadelphia which had been offered to the U.S. Section. Mrs. Lewis agreed to give us a paragraph for the News Sheet.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, October 8th. 1935

B. Duncan Harris

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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
55, Gower Street, London, W.C. 1.

Statement issued by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, British Section, 28th August, 1935.

Italy is preparing to invade Abyssinia and to commit the international crime of war. Abyssinia has offered peaceful settlement, with great concessions, and the League of Nations has attempted negotiations over many months.

If this war takes place it will be cold-blooded aggression. It will violate the Covenant and the Kellogg Pact, and and Treaties signed by Italy guaranteeing the integrity of Abyssinia. Also the air bombardment of Abyssinian towns such as the undefended capital of Addis Abbaba would, if carried out, be a violation of the '907 Hague Convention, and the use of poison gas would be a violation of the Geneva Protocol which Italy ratified in 1928.

If the other League Powers allow this aggression they will be consenting to the destruction of the League of Nations. Collective security will lose all validity and the world will relapse into that pre-Covenant anarchy whose inevitable end is war.

Under Article 10 of the Covenant the Members of the League undertake to preserve its members against aggression.

Under Article 11, in case of war or threat of war the League is empowered to take any action that may be deemed wise and effectual to safeguard the peace of nations.

The League is now acting under Articles 10, 11 and 15. The Assembly in the case of the arms-embargo against Bolivia and Paraguay decided that action designed to fulfil the major purposes of the Covenant could not be blocked by the unanimity rule of Article 11.

The Council has both the power and the obligation not to wait until war has actually broken out, but to take immediate preventive measures. Such measures might include the prohibition of the granting of credits to Italy, the prohibition of the export of arms, and the prohibition of the sale to Italy of the essential raw material of munitions, especially metals such as nickel and copper, coal, oil and cotton.

The people of Britain, who believe in the obligations of the Covenant, would support His Majesty's Government in stating this policy at the League Council, and in calling upon other League Members to co-operate.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for August, 1935.

Balance on Aug. 1st.	148.15.10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Salaries	37. 7. 6.
Subscriptions	4.10. 0.	Wages	5. 5. 0.
Donations	15. 0.	State Insurance	17. 8.
Sale of News Sheets & Lit. <u>5.12. 4.</u>	10.17. 4.	Office Expenses	1. 0.11.
		Stationery	1.11. 7.
		News Sheets & Literature purchased	6. 0.10.
		Lighting & Heating	5.10. 0.
		Travelling Exps.	1.13. 6.
		Postage & Wires	3.14. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.
		Grant (Mrs Innes for Inter. Ex. Cttee)	8. 0. 0.
		Continental Express (for Jane Addams "Pax")	3. 3. 1.
		<u>Meetings' Expenses</u>	
		June 21st.	10. 6.
		August Cttee	7. 6.
		September 10th.	15. 0.
		September 30th.	2. 2. 0.
			77.19. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	75.17.11.
		Cash in hand	5.16. 1.
			81.14. 0.
	<u>£159.13. 2$\frac{1}{2}$</u>		<u>£159.13. 2$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Outstanding Accounts	£3. 17. 3.
Rent due in September	<u>12. 10. 0.</u>
	<u>£16. 7. 3.</u>

BALANCE £65. 6. 9.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, October 8th, 1935 at 104 Gower Street, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Chick, Miss Pye, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Thoday, Mrs. Vipont Brown, Miss B.M. Baker, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. Ross, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Innes, Miss Anderson, Miss Rinder. Miss Lambrick (Australia).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Received from Lady Unwin, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Sturge, Mrs. Ormerod.

WINIFRED HOLTBY The Chairman spoke of the loss the W.I.L. had sustained in the death of Winifred Holtby, one of our Vice Presidents.

Miss Anderson writes:

To us of the W.I.L. it is perhaps not firstly as a distinguished author that we deplore her loss. It is, above all as a great woman and a noble champion of all the causes for which we stand. We marvelled at the serenity with which she rode over all the handicaps imposed by her illness and the iron will which enabled her to shoulder every burden that came her way, carrying it through devotedly, without thought or care of herself. She was ever ready to cope with the minutest details of her undertakings and yet she never became submerged in detail; she always kept the wider vision and saw her aim in proper proportion and focus. Whilst in the battle, she was also above the battle. The cause of women deprived of their due rights, the cause of the oppressed workers whether at home or in the Empire, the cause of Africans who, by reason of their colour, were kept in political and economic fetters, - such causes spurred her to action. The fire of righteous desire did indeed burn within her, but never with smouldering bitterness, always with a clear bright flame. Her death at the age of 37 has left many of us sorrowing.

The Committee stood in silence for a few moments.

Mrs. Innes undertook to write to Mrs. Holtby and to Miss Vera Brittain.

MINUTES OF MEETING on September 3rd were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

117. BUSINESS ARISING.

(a) Dorothy Detzer's meetings were reported on by Mrs. Vipont Brown (Manchester) and Mrs. Thoday (North Wales). Good meetings had also been held in Leeds, Birmingham and Brighton. Miss Sheepshanks reported on the London meeting, which though not large, was good and there had been good discussion. It was regretted that Arnold Forster was not able to be present as he was not in sympathy with the Peoples Mandate.

Mrs. Innes agreed to write to Miss Detzer to thank her for all the help she had given to our Section.

(b) Mrs. Corbett Ashby Presentation Fund. The Secretary reported on arrangements for this and a request that we should make it known to our members, and to collect donations from them. It was agreed to suggest that the appeal should be based on Mrs. Corbett Ashby's work for women and in recognition of her forthcoming silver wedding. Decided that a notice of the appeal should be inserted in the News Sheet.

(c) Persecution of Jews. Reported letters from (1) Mrs. Zangwill, supporting Miss Eaton's suggestion that the Government should allow a larger quota of Jews to go into Palestine; (2) Mrs. Adams of Woodbrooke Settlement urging that through the News Sheet lists of names should be given of people in this country willing to offer hospitality to children and adults, and that we should try to get the subject taken up as a League question.

Miss Pye reported on the work done on the Refugees Question in Geneva this year. The Council is appointing not less than three but not more than five experts to consider the whole problem and report to the January Council Meeting. The interest aroused was due, in part, she thought to the work of the W.I.L. and the Society of Friends. Miss Pye had represented the W.I.L. in a deputation of all the Women's Organisations in Geneva, to M. Benes.

Miss Pye thought we might be in a stronger position if we could approach the Government about the carrying out of the recommendations in the Hope Simpson Report. Miss Sheepshanks and Miss Pye were asked to consult Lady Samuel and Mr. Bentwich as to developments since the Report was issued, and if they thought it advisable, to consult also propagandist organisations. They will report to the November Executive.

It was agreed to inform Mrs. Adams that we were exploring the matter and would be discussing it at the next Committee.

(d) General Election. Referring to the last Minutes, Dr Clark said she did not consider that the subjects for questions submitted by the Sub-Committee were embodied in the Peoples Mandate. After discussion it was agreed that in view of the international situation, consideration of any questions for the General Election should be suspended and for the moment no suggestions should be sent to the Women's Peace Crusade or the National Peace Council. Dr. Clark was asked to report our decision to the W.P.C.

Dr. Clark and Mrs. Duncan Harris were authorised to say at the Women's Freedom League Conference on October 25th, that the W.I.L. was postponing consideration of the subject, and if there is an early Election a special meeting of the Executive Committee should be summoned.

118. FINANCE. A letter was reported from Lady Unwin that owing to her son's long and serious illness she was unable to do any work for the W.I.L. and she felt that she ought to resign from being Treasurer, if not from the Executive. The Committee were unanimous in their wish to retain Lady Unwin as Treasurer, and Miss Chick kindly undertook to help with the finances in the meantime. The Statement of Accounts was presented, and passed. With a balance in hand of £35. 8. 0, after outstanding accounts were paid, it was essential that an appeal should be sent out to members at once, and the following ~~xxxxxxx~~ consented to consider the drafting of an appeal: Miss Harrison, Miss Baker, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Chick and the Officers.

119. INTERNATIONAL HOUSE. Miss Chick reported that there had been very few inquiries for either sets of rooms. The House Committee was to meet to consider question of decorations.

120. W.I.L.P.F. Mrs. Innes reported on the International Executive Meetings in Geneva, September 12 - 16th. Ten Sections were represented and there had been general agreement on resolutions passed, copies of which had been circulated to the British

Executive.

Miss B.M. Baker thought the Committee had been extremely useful and she had been impressed by the harmony which prevailed, in spite of divergent points of view. Mrs. Innes had given an excellent report on Air Disarmament and Miss Pye had reported on Refugees.

From the discussion on the organisation of the Peoples Mandate there had evolved two Committees: (1) the United States and the Far East, (2) Europe and the rest of the world.

With regard to the Maison Internationale, the feeling of attachment had been so strong that it was decided to keep it on for another 12 months.

Miss Pye and Mrs. Duncan Harris also contributed reports, the latter reporting that the day after the meetings, the resolutions had been placed before M. Benes, who received the deputation, which was introduced by the Czech member. M. Benes expressed sincere appreciation of the work of the W.I.L.

It was further reported that the W.I.L.P.F. Executive Committee had sent a letter to Sir Samuel Hoare expressing appreciation of the way he had upheld the principles upon which the League of Nations is based, and thanking him for having gone deeper into the question of the causes of the present unrest and discontent in the world and to assure him of their support of the idea of action by the League of Nations to secure a juster and more rational distribution of the earth's resources among the people according to their need.

W.I.L.P.F. Hon. International President, etc.
Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed Miss Pye, and Mrs. Innes proposed Miss Balch as Hon. International President. Agreed to send both these proposals to Mrs. Olmsted.

121. PEOPLES MANDATE The following report was given of the meeting in Geneva on September 20th, to discuss the organisation of the Peoples Mandate Campaign:

- (1) The Campaign to begin at once;
- (2) Signatures of Organisations, or Meetings of individuals, or all, might be sought, provided they explained any overlapping with people in different Organisations;
- (3) Each Section should work in its own way, accepting the four points, but being free to alter the preamble.
- (4) The Campaign to end on 15th March.
- (5) After 15th March preparations would be made for delegations to go to Governments, in company with local people, to present the Mandate;
- (6) A Committee for Europe and Australia had been formed of the following:-
Frau Hanouskova, Dr. Sahlbom and Miss Daugaard,
Mrs. Innes, with Mrs. Duncan Harris as alternative.
- (7) Madame Drevet had been appointed Secretary.
- (8) It was thought that the Treasurer should be Dutch or English. If English, it was hoped the accounts would be kept in England.

(9) An Honorary Council should be formed.

Miss Pye reported that two appeals had been considered: one A Jane Addams Peace Fund, the other an International Mandates Fund.

After discussion, on the motion of Miss Harrison, it was agreed to inform the European Committee that it was of the opinion that there should be one Fund - a Jane Addams Memorial Fund - and the first charge on it should be the international expenses of the Peoples Mandate. It was also agreed that the book-keeping for the International Fund should be dealt with in the British Office, if a British Treasurer is appointed.

Agreed further, that all Mandate work which Mrs. Innes or Mrs. Duncan Harris had to put through, should be done through the Office.

The question of how and when the Mandate should be worked in this country was then considered. A Press Report of the Mandate sent out on 5th. September had been inserted in 12 papers. On October 7th. in reply to our letter of September 19th, the Y.W.C.A. had written that their Executive heartily agreed with the points in the Mandate, but that after careful consideration it was decided not to give its signature as it was felt that no useful purpose would be served at this moment by the production of such a Mandate. Mrs. Lankester reported that Lady Layton had said that the moment was inopportune for such a Mandate, while Mrs. Corbett Ashby was opposed to any effort of the kind being made now. Miss Harrison said the Executive of the World Y.W.C.A. was meeting early in November, when the situation might have changed.

Mrs. Innes was of the opinion that the world situation must be a little clearer before we take action. Other members supported this view, and on the motion of Miss Chick, seconded by Mrs. Innes it was resolved that:

"In view of the present international situation as it is influenced by the outbreak of hostilities between Italy and Abyssinia, this Committee consider that the work of obtaining signatures and making appeals for the Peoples Mandate as it stands, should be suspended in Great Britain."

Miss Pye suggested that this decision should be sent to Geneva, asking at the same time if they have information from other Sections as to whether they are finding it a possible moment to carry on, or whether they are finding the outbreak of hostilities has changed their situation. Miss Pye did not wish to give Geneva any impression of weakening on the part of the British Committee.

It was unanimously agreed that the work of the W.I.L. must be to make a constructive contribution towards the peace settlement. Mrs. Innes, supported by Miss Sheepshanks, thought that the four points in the Peoples Mandate would make a good basis for this.

122. ITALO-ABYSSINIAN DISPUTE.

A Draft Statement on the Italian Abyssinian War, (enclosed) submitted by the National Peace Council was then considered and endorsed.

Discussion centred round a resolution on Sanctions proposed by Mrs. Thoday, after which it was agreed to send the following telegram to Mr. Eden:

"British Section of Women's International League appreciates your efforts to shorten delays and save life. Urges denial to Italy of credits, finance, arms and materials of war."

It was also agreed to send a covering personal letter assuring him of our support in the work that he is doing to obtain the peaceful operation of the League in settling disputes, particularly anything he can do to save life, and telling him that we are against any pursuit of measures which involve war. Agreed that no communication on these lines should be sent to the Press.

The Officers with Miss Chick, Miss Sheepshanks and Dr. Clark arranged to meet at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 16th. to draft a paragraph for the Press, if the moment is opportune.

Miss Pye reported that the W.I.L.P.F. had sent a telegram to the Queen of Italy asking for her intervention which was broadcast and published in the Press. The Women's Disarmament Committee at Geneva sent a telegram to Mussolini and appeals to the Governments in the League.

The Committee was reminded of the 1933 Council resolution on Sanctions. Agreed to send this to the Branches, with notes for study circles which Dr. Clark has prepared. The Branches were to be urged to study the question of economic problems in relation to peace. On the recommendation of Mrs. Thoday it was agreed to consider at the beginning of November Executive a "long-range peacemaking policy."

123. AIR DISARMAMENT. Reported a letter from the N.P.C. saying the Cambridge Anti-War Scientists Group is a group of (on the whole) junior members of the University engaged in research and lecture work, most of them having rather leftwing political views.

Reported also a letter from the National Council of Women regretting that it is unable to express any opinion regarding the effect on women of the proposed precautionary measures of the Government's Air Raid Precaution Circular.

124. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported on the reaction in India on the bombardment of the Frontier. After discussion it was agreed that Mrs. Lankester and Miss Harrison should write a letter to the Secretary of State for India which should be presented personally, if possible, by Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Lankester at the earliest moment. Agreed also that a copy of the letter be sent to the All India Women's Conference in India, but that it should not be given publicity through the papers.

125. EQUAL RIGHTS TREATY.

Miss Pye reported that Miss McGeachy would be willing to speak for us at the meeting on the Equal Rights Treaty if she came to England for another meeting. Agreed to write to her to say how pleased we shall be if she can come and to ask her to give us as long notice as possible. Agreed to invite the London members and Executive, but not to advertise the meeting in anyway.

126. CORRESPONDENCE:

British Section of Women's World Committee against War and Fascism. Miss Pye undertook to attend their meeting, if arranged, on Armistice Day at the Kingsway Hall.

It was agreed to take no action in connection with:-

(a) The Congress of Peace and Friendship with the U.S.S.R. December 6th. - 8th.

(b) The No More War Movement Annual Conference, October 11 - 13th.

(c) The Mass demonstration on October 27th. in Hyde Park of the British Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi Council.

The National Council for Civil Liberties. Reported a request that we should endorse a Statement regarding the banning of the Peace Poster by the British Poster Advertising Association. Agreed to endorse this Statement.

National Council of Women, Moral Welfare Committee. Reported that Mrs. Innes had endorsed the reply to the Questionnaire from the League of Nations Traffic in Women Committee.

This concluded the business.

Date of next meeting: November 5th.

B. Bureau Harris

5. XI. 35

DRAFT STATEMENT ON ITALIAN ABYSSINIAN WAR.

The NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL submits, as substantially agreed opinion within the British Peace Movement, the following observations in regard to the War between Italy and Abyssinia.

(1) The Council believe that whatever the circumstances underlying Italian policy in relation to Abyssinia, these circumstances provide no justification for Italy's resort to war in breach of her obligations under the Covenant of the League of Nations and the Pact of Paris - obligations for acceptance of peaceful procedure in the settlement of disputes and the alleviation of difficulties which are indispensable to the development of peace and order in the relationships of nations.

(2) The Council believe that in face of this aggression it is the duty of the British Government to ensure that money, munitions and other materials clearly recognisable as for war purposes are not made available to Italy.

(3) The Council believe that the situation demands an urgent reinforcement of efforts to secure a solution which shall not only end hostilities and recognise the legitimate rights and necessities of both parties to this dispute, but shall also initiate a radical revision of economic conditions which are provoking political unrest and imperialistic designs. In this connection the Council submits for consideration the following lines of procedure:-

- (a) a declaration of the independence and integrity of Abyssinia without imperialist annexations.
- (b) provision under League auspices of disinterested assistance for Abyssinia in securing the abolition of the Slave Trade and a minimum installment of social legislation.
- (c) application of the principle of the "open door" to all colonial possessions so that non-colonial powers may have equal access to trading opportunities, subject to guarantees of the rights of Native peoples.
(To this end and pending self-government the submission by Great Britain of all her Crown Colonies to the supervision of the Mandates Commission.)
- (d) a declaration of principle in favour of reciprocity in economic and migratory affairs.
- (e) a renewed endeavour to restore world trade and purchasing power by the lowering of trade barriers and the stabilisation of exchanges.

The Council is convinced that only by this supersession of the exclusive economic and political control of existing imperialism can effective resistance be brought to new expansionist claims whether based on economic need or considerations of prestige.

The above statement was endorsed by the Executive Committee of the Women's International League at its meeting on October 8th. 1935.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for September 1935.

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Balance	81.14. 0.	Salaries	31. 5. 0.
Subscriptions	2.18. 6.	Wages	3. 2. 6.
Donations	25.10. 0.	State Insurance	14. 6.
Sale of News Sheets & Literature	18. 8½	Office Expenses	2.18. 1.
		Postage & Wires	7.12. 4.
		News Sheets & Literature purchased	1.17.10.
Proceeds of <u>Meetings.</u>		Travelling Expenses	13. 1.
Sept.10th.	12. 5.	Delegates Fees	5. 0.
Sept.30th.	2. 5. 3.	<u>Expenses of Mtgs.</u>	
		Executive Cttee.	7. 6.
Geneva Sub.	<u>1. 0. 0.</u>	September 30th.	5. 0.
		Miss Detzer's tour	<u>6. 4. 6.</u>
	33. 4.10½		55. 5. 4.
		Balance at Midland Bank	54. 5. 5½
		Cash in hand	<u>5. 8. 1.</u>
			59.13. 6½.
	<u>£114.18.10½.</u>		<u>£114.18.10½.</u>

Approximate Statement of Accounts, Oct 1 - 6th.
inclusive.

Balance	59.13. 6½	Expenditure	14.19. 2.
Income	7.11. 1	Balance	52. 5. 5½
	<u>£67. 4. 7½</u>		<u>£67. 4. 7½</u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Stationery	3. 6. 9.
Printing	4.13. 0.
October News Sheet	3.14. 9.
Geneva Subs. & Pax	6. 8.11.
Disarmament Committee for Postcards	1. 3. 2.
Rent due to House A/C	<u>12.10. 0.</u>
	<u>£31.16. 7.</u>

BALANCE : £35. 8. 0½

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

MEETING OF SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, WEDNESDAY, 16th.
OCTOBER, 1935 at 11 a.m. at 55, GOWER STREET, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Dr. Clark, Miss Chick, Mrs. Sturge, Miss Dickinson, Miss Pye, Miss Harrison, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Innes, Miss Karleen Baker, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Hawkin.

Mrs. Dixon Davies and Mrs. de Bunsen attended as Vice-Presidents and Miss Gray attended as Golders Green Branch representative.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE had been received from Mrs. Thoday, Miss Rinder, Miss Ashton (Vice-President), Mrs. Elgie, Mrs. Franklin (Vice-President), Mrs. Vipont Brown.

127. Mrs. Duncan Harris explained that the meeting had been called in view of the forthcoming General Election and at the Officers' Meeting yesterday draft questions had been made for consideration of this Committee. Before these were considered, however, the Chairman said the Officers had also considered the necessity for a STATEMENT OF POLICY ON THE PRESENT SITUATION and they wished to submit a Statement they had drafted.

After considerable discussion the Statement was adopted, as appended.

It was agreed that it should be printed and sent to the Press immediately, to our Branches, Affiliated Societies Headquarter Members, and the Peace Organisations.

128. The draft questions for use in the GENERAL ELECTION were then considered and adopted as attached.

It was agreed that the questions should be sent to our Branches, Affiliated Societies, Headquarter Members, Peace Organisations, after October 24th. on which day the Women's Peace Crusade would be meeting to consider questions and action for the Election. It was agreed that we should give as full co-operation as possible to the W.P.C. and any of our questions which they accepted should be starred as having the support of the W.P.C. It was further agreed that the questions they adopted, with which the W.I.L. approved should be added with a note to the effect that the W.P.C. were adopting them.

Agreed also that Election Notes should be sent out with the Questions and Mrs. Innes undertook to draft them.

It was reported that Mrs. Innes was unable to attend the W.P.C. meeting on the 24th. owing to a previous engagement. Mrs. Duncan Harris agreed to act as proxy. She was asked to remind the W.P.C. of the 1929 Election and the way in which women of all ~~classes~~ found it possible to combine in their work for Peace. *parties*

129. THE FINANCIAL APPEAL, which the Sub-Committee had drafted, was put to the meeting and endorsed. Lady Unwin who had not seen it was to be asked to sign it. It was agreed that the Statement should go with the Appeal.

130. CORRESPONDENCE. The Chairman read a letter from Lord Cecil and a Statement of Policy adopted by the Executive Committee of the League of Nations Union on the Italo-Abyssinian Situation. After consideration it was AGREED that the W.I.L. could not support this Statement. In replying we were to send our own Statement.
This concluded the business.

B. Duncan Harris
5. 11. 35

Statement of Policy on the Present International Situation

Adopted by the Women's International League
on 16th October, 1935

AS a solution in the present conflict, the minds of many are turning once again to the employment of war as a means of ending war. We feel it incumbent upon us to reaffirm our belief in the wrongfulness of the war method and in the futility of thinking that force can drive out force. We believe that the only hope of a real solution lies in refraining from the use of the very method we are condemning and that the hope of helping Abyssinia can only be fulfilled by the exercise of moral pressure and such economic measures as will deprive Italy of the means to make war, and the making clear from the beginning the lines on which an ultimate solution must be sought.

We believe that the difficulties of the moment are largely due to the fact that Article 8 of the Covenant of the League (which deals with disarmament) has not been implemented. Disarmament must be turned to again as the first concern of the League of Nations. Armaments lead to war, and when war comes their retention in national hands makes it impossible to implement the peaceful machinery of the League without grave danger.

It is deplorable that in the name of collective security our Government should be taking part in a fresh armaments race. If in the view of those who trust to arms for collective security, we have not sufficient to-day to fulfil our International obligations it is obvious that a great deal of our expenditure on army, navy and air forces has been misdirected.

The argument that we need to be as heavily armed for the collective system as if we stood in isolation is, we believe, untenable.

As regards the terms which should be secured at the conclusion of the present crisis, next to a Treaty of general disarmament, we would place a conference to review the economic resources of the world with a view to satisfying the needs of all men. As regards the claims of Abyssinia, her independence and integrity must be safeguarded as the basis of a just Peace, and the principle should be securely established that the Governments of the world, having abandoned war, cannot at any stage give recognition to that which has been achieved by war in defiance of the pledges of the Covenant and the Kellogg Pact.

55 Gower Street,
London, W.C.1.

Questions drafted by the Women's International League
for use in the forthcoming General Election: October 16th.1935.

- (1) Will you oppose all increase of armaments and of armed forces?
- (2) Will you, at the earliest possible moment, urge the resummoning of the Disarmament Conference to achieve real measures of disarmament?
- (3) Will you stand for the complete abolition by international agreement, of military and naval aircraft, and the internationalisation or international control of civil aviation?
- (4) Are you in favour of the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of armaments for private profit?
- (5) Will you urge the Government:
to work for the completion of the International Convention for the control of all manufacture and sale of Armaments which has been under discussion this year in Geneva, and
to support the inclusion in it of measures giving complete international supervision with inspection on the spot?
- (6) Are you prepared through our Government, to urge the League of Nations to call a World Conference to consider the control of raw materials and undeveloped lands, and the problems associated with the exchange of goods and services between nations, with a view to a reasonable satisfaction of the needs of all men?

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee meeting, Tuesday, November 5th. 1935, at 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Agatha Harrison, Dr. Hilda Clark, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Sturge, Miss Dickinson, Miss Chick, Lady Unwin, Miss White, Mrs. Lankester and Miss Marshall.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Vipont Brown, Miss B. M. Baker, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Hawkin, Mrs. Thoday, Mrs. Greenwood and Miss Pye.

131 MR. ARTHUR HENDERSON. The Chairman reported that she had written a letter to Mrs. Henderson expressing the sympathy and good wishes of the Committee during Mr. Henderson's illness, and again immediately after his death. Miss Pye had represented the W.I.L. at the funeral service in Golders Green and a number of Executive Members were present at the Memorial Service in Westminster Abbey.

A letter had been received from the Hungarian Section expressing their sympathy with British women, and in particular the W.I.L. in their loss. Miss Pye was to be asked if she would reply to this letter and send a copy of the Memorial Service.

132. MINUTES of meetings on October 8th. and 16th. were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

133. BUSINESS ARISING:

(a) Persecution of Jews. Miss Sheepshanks reported that she and Miss Pye had seen Mr. Bentwich and in the course of conversation he had said that it would be useful if non-Jewish bodies would approach the Minister for the Colonies and urge upon the Government the need of increasing the absorptive capacity of Palestine for further immigration, having due regard to the needs of all sections of the population. Miss Sheepshanks also reported on the memorandum of the Dutch Refugee Committee.

Miss White urged the Committee to make a careful study of the question before committing itself to any policy, and after discussion she, Miss Pye and Miss Sheepshanks were asked to draw up a statement, which would include the refugee point, the national clash and the possibility of alternative suggestions, for the guidance of our Branches in any future work, and bring it to the December Executive, to be used as a basis for discussion.

(b) General Election. The Chairman reported that following the special Executive the W.I.L. questions had been sent to the N.P.C. and the W.P.C. The N.P.C. accepted them for their own use. They put forward a seventh question on colonial territories which the Officers and W.I.L. representatives on the N.P.C. adopted in addition to their six. The Questions were then issued jointly by the N.P.C. and the W.I.L. Seven thousand copies of the questions have so far been distributed, 2,000 of the Notes and questions combined. In addition, the questions had been embodied in the tenth leaflet for the Friends of Peace and Disarmament of which nearly 6,000 copies had been used.

The Women's Peace Crusade had issued questions which included six on the lines of the W.I.L. questions with Notes to their co-ordinating societies.

The National Peace Council had sent out with the questions Notes dealing with matters raised by the Questions.

It was reported that the L.N.U. have issued a memorandum giving H.M. Service figures which can be obtained free, Agreed to order copies for Committee for their information.

The Women's Freedom League had adopted a resolution on international affairs at their Conference on "Women's Demands at the General Election."

(c) Equal Rights Treaty. Miss McGeachey had given a very interesting account at the meeting on November 4th. of the present position of the Equal Rights Treaty which had been signed by four countries at the 1933 Montevideo Conference (Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay) who had, however, not yet ratified it. The questions of the status of women, and particularly the Equal Rights Treaty was considered by the first Committee of the 1935 Assembly of the League of Nations, which submitted to the Assembly a resolution for adoption, which included the following points:-

"(1) Decides that the question of the political and civil status of women shall be referred by the Secretary-General to the Governments for their observations, including observations as to the action which in their view the League might take in this matter, and that the Governments shall be requested to supply to the Secretary General, together with their observations, information as to the existing political and civil status of women under their respective national laws;

(2) Recommends that the women's international Organisations should continue their study of the whole question of the political and civil status of women;

(3) Requests that the observations and information communicated by the Governments and the statements of the said international organisations shall be sent to the Secretary-General for consideration by the Assembly of the League of Nations at a subsequent session;

(4) Expresses the hope that the International Labour Organisation will, in accordance with its normal procedure, undertake an examination of those aspects of the problem within its competence - namely, the question of equality under labour legislation - and that it will, in the first place, examine the question of legislation which effects discriminations, some of which may be detrimental to women's rights to work."

The step of asking women's international organisations officially to supply their views with regard to the whole question of status was very revolutionary, only once or twice had an unofficial organisation been asked to give a representation of their views to an official gathering.

It was reported that on October 28th. the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations had adopted a resolution suggesting "that the women's international organisations should recommend to their national groups that they confer with other national associations, and jointly prepare a Memorandum on the Status of Women in their country for submission to the Government; the same to include any proposals they may wish to make to secure equal status of men and women in their laws and customs."

Agreed to inform W.I.L.P.F. Headquarters that this resolution had been brought to our notice and that we were prepared to co-operate in a careful examination of all sides of the problem. Decided that the Report of the First Committee to the Assembly should be sent to members of the Executive.

134. FINANCE Miss Chick presented the attached Statement of Accounts which was adopted. As a result of the appeal we had received about £200 from roughly 150 members, while the cost of issuing the appeal was £4. 2. 0. Several of the Branches hope to send contributions before the end of the year.

135 INTERNATIONAL HOUSE. Reported a balance in hand at the beginning of the year of £509. 2. 8. and when the W.I.L. has paid its rent there will be a balance of £507. 1.11. Next quarter the balance will be down as the tenants who left in September had paid their rent in advance.

The premises are still vacant, but a number of people had been to see them during the last fortnight. One definite offer had been made through Alaway and Partners to rent the Maisonette at £150. per annum on a yearly tenancy. The suggestion was made that the rent should be higher for the first year, the W.I.L. doing decorations. Miss Chick agreed to call on the Agents at once with a view to negotiating and taking up references. Later in the afternoon, Miss Chick reported that, subject to the references being satisfactory, she had made a tentative offer to accept the tenants at a rental of £150 per annum, the W.I.L. putting up a partition to make the maisonette self-contained, and the tenant to be responsible for the decorations of the rooms, such decorations to be approved by the W.I.L. The Executive endorsed this offer and the Agents were asked to put the matter in hand, the tenant having expressed his acceptance of the proposal by telephone while Miss Chick was with the Agent.

136. ITALO ABYSSINIAN DISPUTE. It was agreed that for the time being nothing further could be done. The Officers would continue to watch the situation and take action if advisable.

Reported a telephone message from Lady Gladstone that an anonymous donor was giving an aeroplane to the Ethiopian women in response to their appeal to the Women's International League. The Women's Advisory Council of the League of Nations Union were interesting themselves in the matter.

137. WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL, LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION. Dr. Clark reported that on behalf of the W.I.L. she had moved an amendment to a resolution on the Italo-Abyssinian Dispute at the meeting of the Women's Advisory Council on 23rd. October. She had proposed that the words "The whole force of the League should be used to stop the war" be deleted and the following substituted:

"It is the duty of every member of the League to unite in a whole-hearted and determined effort to make economic restrictions effective in preventing Italy from obtaining the material and financial resources necessary to carry on the war."

The amendment was lost (11 to 16 votes). The resolution adopted was as follows:-

"That the women's organisations represented on the Women's Advisory Council of the League of Nations Union

Believe that, the Council of the League of Nations having declared that Italy has resorted to war in disregard of its covenants, the whole force of the League should be used to stop the war.

They earnestly desire the sincere co-operation of France and other loyal members of the League in this good cause fearing that, if the League now fails in its duty of protecting an innocent member, it will have lost, and perhaps lost for ever, the confidence of all its members in its power to protect them in their own hour of need."

138. W.I.L.P.F.

Peoples Mandate. Reported that Madame Drevet had taken up work in Paris from November 1st. with an assistant, and that she was coming to London to talk over plans with Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Duncan Harris (Joint Chairmen of the Peoples Mandate) towards the end of the month. Madame Drevet has written to all Sections to ask what they are able to do for the Mandate and if they will give names of people who will serve on the Honorary Council, and possible names to sign the appeal. Gertrud Baer, who is now working in the Geneva Office, had written to say that the W.I.L.P.F. Chairmen thought that in the appeal for the Jane Addams Fund people should be asked to earmark donations for the Peoples Mandate but that it should not be the whole of the Jane Addams Fund.

Mrs. Innes thought we should alter the preamble of the Mandate so that it would apply to the day when peace has to be made. She felt that the Governments may have another chance of getting a good peace settlement and by getting on with disarmament make a more peaceful Europe. This plan was agreed to. Decided we should send in names of people who might be asked to sign the appeal and another list of those who might serve on the International Honorary Committee; Names to be suggested for the Appeal were Mrs. Swanwick, Lord Cecil, Mr. Nevinson, Miss Bondfield, Dr. Royden. Sir George Paish to be asked to be Hon. Treasurer. Names for the Honorary Council were Mrs. Swanwick, Sir George Paish, Mr. Lansbury, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Bondfield, Mr. Nevinson, Dr. Royden, Lord Cecil, Mr. C. Roden Buxton, Mr. Gerald Heard, Mrs. Barton, Dick Sheppard, Mr. Priestley, Mr. A.A. Milne, Canon Raven, Dr. Norwood, Miss Sybil Thorndyke, The Rev. Henry Carter, Mr. Maxton, Walford Davies. Mrs. Basil Williams was to be asked to suggest a well known name in Scotland.

Madame Drevet would have to be asked to keep a balance of names between countries and to let us know if this list is too long.

Mrs. Innes had appealed to the Nobel Institute for Funds. It was holding its meetings and would be making grants this month.

It was agreed to try to launch the campaign next month and to send out the Appeal to our own British people as soon as possible.

139. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS, 1936. Provisional dates were fixed for Wednesday and Thursday, March 11th. and 12th. Agreed to hold it, if possible, at the Y.W.C.A. One or two other Organisations are first to be approached to see if these dates clash with fixtures already made.

140. STOCKPORT BRANCH. Reported a resolution from the Stockport Branch passed at their meeting on October 22nd. protesting against the lack of support given to (a) The Congress of Peace & Friendship with the U.S.S.R. in December; (b) The No More War Movement Annual Conference in October and the Mass Demonstration in Hyde Park on October 27th. of the British Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi Council, and urging that all movements which have the cause of peace should receive the whole hearted approval of the W.I.L.

It was agreed to thank the Stockport Branch for their letter and their interest in the work of the Executive Committee, and to explain that the invitations to attend these various meetings were dealt with at the end of a very long Committee day, when many of the members had left, and could not receive the attention due to them and therefore it was agreed no action could be taken. In the case of the Congress of Peace and Friendship with the U.S.S.R. the Committee considered the matter and agreed to send delegates, but in the case of the Hyde Park Demonstration of the British Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi Council, the W.I.L. did not stand for an individual boycott of German goods. It was felt that the No More War Movement was not working along the lines that we can support at the moment.

In general the Committee felt there is so much urgent W.I.L. work to be done that it was better to find people who were prepared to spend their time in attending meetings of other Societies.

141. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL.

Reported that the report of the Colonial Conference would be published in "Peace". Agreed that copies should be sent with the next Agenda to those members of the Committee who do not receive it direct from the National Peace Council.

142. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester and Miss Harrison reported on the situation in India, which they thought was little realised in this country. They felt that not only was there bitter opposition to the new Constitution, but that the growing resentment to British rule was in danger of developing on revolutionary lines, as the younger generation were getting impatient of Mr. Gandhi's doctrine of non-violence, which had not resulted in the Government lessening its repressive measures. It seemed as if a clash was bound to come and the peace movement should be facing up as to how it could help. Mr. Jawarhlal Nehru, the Leader of the Congress Socialist party, who next to Mr. Gandhi had more influence than anyone else in India, was now in England, and would be returning here in January. Miss Harrison suggest-

ed that a group of people, as individuals and not necessarily representing societies, should be asked, on the initiative of the W.I.L. to meet him then to talk over the situation. It was agreed that Miss Harrison should consult Mr. Nehru, and if possible arrange for such a meeting.

The All India Women's Conference was holding its annual meetings in December, and the session promised to be a difficult one, in view of the demand that would be made by some of the delegates for non-co-operation in the new constitution, and the more moderate opinions held by others. They had been bitterly disappointed by the way the wishes of the organised women had been ignored with regard to franchise and representation.

Mr. Gandhi had issued a statement of his views on non-violence in face of the Italo-Abyssinian war, and it was agreed that the Publicity Committee be asked to give space in the News Sheet to a summary of this which Mrs. Lankester would write up.

143. CORRESPONDENCE.

Madame Fichet, Tunis Section W.I.L.P.F. Reported a letter from Madame Fichet expressing indignation at the French Press which she regards as national and perfidious, and the misunderstanding of the disinterestedness of the English in their determination to defend the League of Nations. She sent her warmest greetings to women pacifists in England.

Agreed to tell her that we believe the firm stand the Government made was largely due to the peace work done in this country. The whole peace movement is conscious of the need for continual vigilance and we believe that our efforts have helped and will help to steady the Government.

Newcastle Branch. A letter was reported from the Secretary stating that the Branch had decided on "felo de se" as the work is being done by a very active International Club and the L.N.U. Branches, which are active and progressive. Agreed to write to Dr. Williams expressing appreciation of the work of the Branch for so many years and the belief that the existing vigorous peace movement in Newcastle is perhaps due to the W.I.L. work in the past. Dr. Williams is asking members in Newcastle to join Headquarters. She herself had done so and remains a Vice President. We hope that many will join Headquarters and that it may be possible for such members to meet at least twice a year, once after the Annual Council Meetings.

Lady Layton. Reported resignation from the W.I.L. of Lady Layton on account of her disapproval of the W.I.L. policy at the present time. It was agreed that the gist of Mrs. Innes's letter to her should be inserted in the News Sheet in an editorial paragraph.

British Section of the Women's World Committee Against War and Fascism. (1) Agreed to make known their Exhibition against War and Fascism which is being held from November 13th to 27th in London; (2) Miss Sheepshanks will attend their Armistice Meeting on November 11th, if possible. Miss Pye undertook at the last Executive meeting to represent the W.I.L.

Mrs. de Bunsen. The Chairman reported that she had been in correspondence with Mrs de Bunsen, one of our Vice-Presidents, over the present policy of the W.I.L., with which she was not in complete unity. The Chairman was asked to express appreciation of the extreme difficulties of the present situation, and to say that we hope she will remain with us as long as she feels able to do so, as the difficulties are so great and the questions that are arising are so complicated.

Miss Lucy Stone Blackwell. Reported a letter from Miss Sylvia Pankhurst saying that Miss Lucy Stone Blackwell (one of the greatest pioneers for women in the U.S.A.) is in great need of financial help, and a Committee has been formed to try to raise sufficient money to assure her of an annual income of 2,000 dollars. Miss Harrison said that Mrs. Carl Heath is also collecting for her.

After discussion Miss Sheepshanks consented to write a letter which could be sent to some old suffragists, and any contributions made should be sent to Mrs. Carl Heath.

Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations. Reported the Annual Meeting was to be held on December 9th. Nominations for Officers and Members of the Executive Committee, and resolutions for the Agenda should be sent in before November 9th. Agreed not to send in nominations or resolutions, but Miss Harrison was authorised to support the following names for submission to the Government for service in various capacities connected with the League: Dame Rachel Crowdy, Miss Rosalie Venable, Miss Janet Mitchell, Mrs. Forster.

The Peace Army. Reported a letter from the Secretary of the Peace Army enclosing a copy of a letter to the Secretary General of the League of Nations offering the services of the Peace Army. The covering letter was signed by six representatives of Peace Army Groups in Birmingham, Bristol, Kent, London and Yorkshire.

Kenneth Oliver. Reported a letter informing us that the Royal Welsh Ladies Choir is commencing a world tour for peace and goodwill on November 19th, and asking for our co-operation in giving the project the fullest possible publicity. Agreed to pass on the information to the W.I.L.P.F. Sections in the countries the Choir would be visiting.

144. OTHER BUSINESS. Miss Chick and Miss Sheepshanks expressed the opinion that the Committee ought to devote much more time to the study of political subjects, particularly the situation as it arises each month, and less time to routine matters.

It was agreed that an Emergency Executive should be called if a crisis arises after the Election in connection with the Italo-Abyssinian dispute.

This concluded the business.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: December 10th at 55 Gower Street.

B. Duncan Harris
10. XII. 35

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for October 1935.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Balance	59.13. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	Salaries	32.10. 0.
Subscriptions	18.19. 0.	Office Expenses	1.17. 5.
Donations	181. 1. 6.	Travelling "	4.10. 1.
Sale of News		Wages	3.10. 0.
Sheets & Lit.	3 16. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.	State Insurance	13. 8.
Affiliation		Postage	12. 6. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fees	1.17. 0.	News Sheets &	
Delegates' Fees	2. 0.	Literature	
<u>Meetings Proceeds</u>		purchased	5.17. 6.
Miss Detzer's		Printing	2. 2. 6.
tour	3.10. 0.	Stationery	2.10. 9.
Geneva Subscrip-		Telephone	5.15. 0.
tion	<u>1. 0. 0.</u>	Lighting & heating	1. 8.
		Delegates' Fees	10. 0.
		<u>Meetings' Expenses</u>	
	<u>210. 5. 7$\frac{1}{2}$</u>	Miss Detzer's tour	6.14. 6.
		Nov.4th. Mtg.	12. 6.
		Executive Ettee.	7. 6.
		<u>Geneva</u>	
		Subscriptions	1. 0. 0.
		Pax "	2. 6.
		PPax (3 issues)	<u>7. 0. 0.</u>
			88. 1. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	181.0. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Cash in hand	<u>16. 7.</u>
			181.17. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>£269.19. 2.</u>		<u>£269.19. 2.</u>

Approximate Statement of Accounts for Nov. 1 - 4th.

Balance	181.17. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Petty Cash & Salaries	13. 2. 6.
Subscriptions	3.12. 6.	Balance	186. 1. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Donations	13. 6. 0.		
Literature etc.	<u>8. 3.</u>		
	17. 6. 9.		
	<u>199 4. 1$\frac{1}{2}$</u>		<u>199. 4. 1$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Outstanding Accounts

Printing	9.19. 0.
Stationery	2. 3. 9.
Press Cuttings	2. 2. 0.
Rent due to House A/c	<u>12.10. 0.</u>
	<u>£26.14. 9.</u>

To be refunded to W.I.L.

Telegrams	1. 0. 9.
Miss Detzer's tour	2.11. 6.
	<u>£3.12. 3</u>

Account for Friends of Peace & Disarmament leaflets not yet rendered.

BALANCE £163. 19. 1.

Dr. Clark's suggested amendment to Minutes of
December, 1935, agreed to by K.E.I.

Add the following after

She would make clear, in saying that the
failure to carry out article 8 vitiated the
Covenant, she had meant that it vitiated the
carrying out of article 16.

full

B.D. tp

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, December 10th. 1935 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 55 Gower Street, London W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Chick, Lady Unwin, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Vipont Brown, Mrs. Thoday, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Paul Sturge, Miss White, Mrs. Hawkin, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Sheepshanks Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Innes. *Mrs. Binyon.*

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Marshall, Miss B.M. Baker, Mrs. Elgie, Miss Harrison and Miss Pye.

MINUTES of meeting on November 5th. were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

145. BUSINESS ARISING:

Minute 143 Lady Layton's resignation. Dr. Clark expressed the view that the letter to Lady Layton, which was printed in the December News Sheet, did not sufficiently emphasise that the W.I.L. supported economic sanctions, and implied ^{incorrectly} that the W.I.L. felt the failure to disarm had vitiated the whole working of the Covenant.

Mrs. Innes replied that the resignation had been received after Lady Layton had received the W.I.L. Statement on the present International Situation, which included our support of economic Sanctions and which had been issued on 16th. October, 1935 Lady Layton had laid emphasis on the necessity for supporting military sanctions.

After discussion Mrs. Innes agreed to write a further note in the News Sheet reiterating the W.I.L.'s approval of economic sanctions, including the oil sanction, and adding that the W.I.L. believed that in a fully armed world military sanctions could not be used.

With the consent of the Committee the ITALO-ABYSSINIAN DISPUTE was taken next on the Agenda, and after consideration the attached Statement was adopted, and instructions given for it to be sent to Members of the Cabinet, to a number of Members of Parliament, the Abyssinian Minister and to Branches and Affiliated Societies, urging them to bombard their M.P.'s. with the Statement, and to get as much press publicity for it as possible. It was also agreed to send it to the N.P.C. and the L.N.U. (through Lord Cecil) saying that if they decided to taken united action in approaching the Government in this great crisis, we should be prepared to give them our full support

Later in the day Miss Baker, who had telephoned the N.P.C. at the request of the Committee, reported that the Secretary did not see his way to taking any action.

A letter was reported from Lady Barton of the Ethiopian Women's Work Association thanking the W.I.L. for the interest shown in their work.

Persecution of Jews. Miss Sheepshanks asked for the report on this to be postponed until next month when Miss Pye will have returned from attending the Refugee Committee in Geneva, and will be in a position to give a fuller report.

It was reported that the Cambridge Branch had passed a resolution and got it into their local paper, while the Bristol Branch has sent a letter to the Press which had been printed in full in two papers. Further, the Bristol Branch was appealing to its members to offer hospitality to a German Refugee for one month each.

*add note
B.D.H*

146. FINANCE.

The attached Statement of Accounts was endorsed. Donations from the Croydon and Golders Green Branches for Headquarters work had been received, and the Committee expressed their appreciation of this help. Miss Chick had acknowledged them on behalf of Lady Unwin.

147. INTERNATIONAL HOUSE.

It was reported that the negotiations for letting the Maisonette had fallen through as the applicant refused to be responsible for the decorations of the rooms, which were to have been approved by the Officers.

148. INDIA.

Mrs. Lankester reported the following recommendations from the India Committee which was held on December 5th.-

(1) that C.F.Andrews' letter issued in the Manchester Guardian on the subject of Bombing the frontiers, with an explanatory paragraph should be printed as a leaflet and issued with the January News Sheet.

This was considered. It was agreed to ask the India Committee to give some further consideration to the matter so that a more complete leaflet could be prepared, and Mrs. Lankester agreed to see that a special article was written for the February News Sheet. It was felt that trouble was largely due to economic causes and it was suggested that Sir Gilbert Slater or Mr. Delisle Burns should be consulted on the question.

(2) that greetings and good wishes should be sent to the All India Women's Conference at the end of December, signed by Mrs. Duncan Harris as Chairman of the Executive and Mrs. Polak as Chairman of the India Committee.

The Executive approved this suggestion.

It was also reported that Dame Elizabeth Cadbury would be attending the Conference of the International Council of Women in Calcutta and that Indian friends had been asked to meet her and other British delegates.

149. JAPAN Miss White pointed out that Japan has again violated the Nine Power Treaty and she thought the Naval Conference now meeting in London offered an opportunity between Great Britain and the U.S.A. to carry out the Treaty.

Later in the afternoon Mrs. Laura Morgan gave the Committee a very interesting account of the first meeting of the Naval Conference.

150. GAS MASKS.

With regard to the recent disclosures of what is likely to be the Government plan for the supply of gas masks to the whole population, except babies who are to have containers, Mrs. Innes undertook to write a letter to the press pointing out that such proposed protections emphasised the truth that there is no defense except abolition, and urging that those concerned should employ their energies to securing that abolition. If the plans against gas attack were so perfect other countries would not use gas bombs, but other death-dealing missiles.

151. PEOPLES' MANDATE.

The Secretary reported on the progress of the Mandate. The following had so far consented to join the Honorary Council:

Miss Margaret Ashton, Miss Bondfield, Vera Brittain, C. Delisle Burns, G.P. Gooch, A. Herbert Gray, Arthur Henderson, Laurence Housman, C.E.M. Joad, Doris Lester Wilfred E. Littleboy, Sir George Paish, Layton Richards, Siegfried Sassoon, Agnes E. Slack, Sidney Spencer, J. Howard Whitehouse.

In replying a number of them had sent donations towards the carrying out of the work. A few who had been approached replied that they were not able to join the Honorary Council for various reasons.

In working for the Mandate it is emphasised that Chairmen of Organisations or meetings would sign on behalf of the Society or the meeting which they chaired, with the full consent of that Society or meeting. We were not collecting individual signatures in this country as the recent peace ballot made such a collection impossible. Those who had been invited to join the Honorary Council had been asked to do so in their individual capacity.

The appeal to the national and local organisations would not be made until after Christmas.

A meeting of the Mandates Committee would probably be held in Holland in January when plans would be discussed for the presentation of the Mandate to the Governments.

152. JANE ADDAMS MEMORIAL FUND.

It was reported that Sir George Paish had consented to act as Honorary Treasurer. The appeal had only gone to those who had been asked to join the Honorary Council and to our Headquarter Members. The wider appeal would not be made until the New Year.

The Secretary proposed that an account should be opened for the Jane Addams Memorial Fund, and the following was adopted:

"This meeting of the Executive Committee of the Women's International League agrees that an account shall be opened at the Midland Bank, Limited, 237 Tottenham Court Road, entitled "The Jane Addams Memorial Fund" and that cheques shall be signed by two of the following:-

Barbara Duncan Harris
Emily Horscroft
K. E. Innes.

The decision as to the use of such money as is not earmarked for the Peoples' Mandate Campaign would be made by the W.I.L.P.F. Executive Committee, when the American and British Sections would undoubtedly have definite proposals to make for a permanent Memorial.

153. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS.

The following dates were definitely agreed to:-
Wednesday, March 11th. and Thursday, March 12th.
Place: Y.W.C.A., Great Russell Street, London W.C. 1.

The following were appointed to serve on:-

Agenda and Resolutions Committee.

Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Anderson, Dr. Clark,
Miss Chick, Miss Baker, Mrs. Duncan Harris,
Mrs. Innes.

The Social Arrangements Committee:

Miss Baker, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Lankester.

Subjects for the Agenda were considered and the following recommended: -

Routine items

Survey of the work of the International Committee
and of the Geneva Office, by Miss Pye, subject
to her consent;

Disarmament:

Sanctions; re-armament and the displaced worker,
air disarmament, traffic in arms, etc.

India.

Various aspects of the Colonial Problems:-

problems of Empire, raw materials, trade barriers,
embargoes, strategic points, native races, the
extension of mandates to non-self-governing colonies.

It was also suggested that a meeting of Branch Secretaries
should be held on Tuesday afternoon, March 10th. to consider,
among other things, suitable measures for extending the work
of the W.I.L. and a reception to delegates on Wednesday, early
evening.

The question of arranging a public meeting was discussed,
but no decision reached.

154. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. Miss Baker reported that arrangements
were being considered for a Press Tea in connection with the
Peoples' Mandate.

155. WOMEN'S PEACE CRUSADE. Agreed to pay £1. Affiliation fee to
W.P.C. Reported a leaflet on the Manufacture of and Trade in
Arms was being issued. The W.I.L. will make this known

156. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. AGREED to order on sale or return
100 copies of the Report of the Conference on Peace and the
Colonial Problems.

157. ST. HELEN'S BRANCH W.I.L. It was reported that this Branch
had disbanded, as some of the members were already taking part
in the local Peace Council through other organisations.

158. WORTHING BRANCH W.I.L. Mrs. Innes reported that a Branch
had just been started at Worthing.

159. WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE L.N.U. Dr. Clark was re-
nominated to act on this Council as the W.I.L. representative.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING : January 14th.

B. Duncan Harris
14.1.36

THE CRISIS IN THE ITALO-ABYSSINIAN DISPUTE.

The Women's International League believes that not only the fate of Ethiopia but the future of the League of Nations depends upon the settlement of the conflict in Africa. It is therefore with grave apprehension that it regards the peace terms as reported in the press.

If terms are imposed upon Ethiopia which destroy her territorial integrity and political independence it will have three results. Public opinion, which looks to the League for justice, would be disillusioned, and public support for the League would be damaged. British opinion which supported the strong line taken by the British Government in September would be outraged. In this present case, any settlement giving large gains to Italy would be placing a premium on aggression. In the future no State under threat of spoliation would look to the League for an equitable solution, and the whole machinery for peaceful settlement, which is under guarantee of the collective system would be discredited.

For these reasons, the Women's International League urges His Majesty's Government to stand fast for a settlement such as the League would have proposed had Italy, by legal methods and without threat of war, raised her grievances against Ethiopia, and had Ethiopia accepted impartial and disinterested assistance from the League.

Meantime the oil embargo should be imposed immediately, and continued until Italy consents to the evacuation of Ethiopian territory.

December 10th, 1935.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for November 1935.

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Balance	181.17. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Salaries	40.12. 6.
Subscriptions 8. 7. 6.		Wages	4. 7. 6.
Donations 63.19. 6.		State Insurance	17. 1.
Affiliation		Postage & Wires	4.16. 7.
Fees 2.16. 6.		Literature & News	
Sale of News		Sheets	6.15. 3.
Sheets &		Stationery	2. 7. 9.
Literature 3.19.11.		Lighting & Heating	3. 9.
Geneva Sub-		Office Expenses	18. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
scriptions <u>2. 0. 0.</u>		Printing	14.12. 0.
		Press Cuttings	<u>2. 2. 0.</u>
	<u>81. 3. 5.</u>		77.13.0 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	181. 1. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Cash in hand	<u>4. 6. 0$\frac{1}{2}$</u>
			<u>185. 7. 9.</u>
	<u>£263. 0. 9$\frac{1}{2}$</u>		<u>£263. 0. 9$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Approximate Statement for December 1 - 9th. inclusive

Balance	185. 7. 9.	Expenses	13. 5. 0.
Income	<u>7.15.11.</u>	Balance	<u>179.18. 8.</u>
	<u>£193. 3. 8.</u>		<u>£193. 3. 8.</u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Rent	25. 0. 0.
Stationery	1. 7. 6.
News Sheet for Dec.	3.17. 3.
Printing - Jane Addams	
Memorial Fund	3. 5. 0.
Printing - Peoples'	
Mandate	5. 4. 6.
Geneva Subscriptions	<u>7. 1. 0.</u>
	<u>£45.15. 3.</u>

BALANCE £134. 3. 5.