

FABIAN SOCIETY  
PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE

---

MINUTES

From 3rd May, 1907  
To 30th October, 1911

18/1/12

C 45

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Propaganda Bureau

3 May 1907

To

30 Oct 1911

# Propaganda Committee

for year 1907-8.  
— " —

Chairman

Hubert Bland

Vice-Chairman

S. G. Hobson

Committee

R. C. K. Euser

F. L. Dodd

Haden Guest

S. D. Headlam

Miss Murly

W. Sanders

G. B. Shaw

H. G. Wells

Edw. B. Pease Secy

There shall stand referred to the Propaganda and Membership Sub-Committee for consideration and report, all matters relating to:-

(a) The Society's Meetings;

- (1) The arrangement of lectures &c. at the meetings of the Society

(b) Other lectures;

- (1) The organisation of propagandist lectures, courses &c.

- (2) The supply of lecturers &c. to other organisations.

(c) The means to be taken to maintain and increase the membership;

(d) The provincial Societies and the London Groups;

Meeting held on Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1907.  
at 5pm.

Present: Bland, Hobson, Shaw, Sanders  
~~to Hubert~~ Dodd, Guest Headlam, Miss  
Murphy, & Sec. 7

Absent: Enso & Wells.

1. Hubert-Bland was elected Chairman
2. S. G. Hobson was elected Vice-Chairman
3. Fabian Society Meetings agreed as follows: -

June 14. Enso Socialism & Law

" 28 Chesterton " " Pres.

Dr. Coit. Lecture once offered on Natural Selection as a Basis of Socialism.

Agreed to ask if he will do it in July - -

Dr. Weinberg. Sec. reported he would lecture when well enough.

Miss McArthur suggested lecture. Deferred

Hon W. M. Hughes " " Declined.



4. Correspondence -

B. H. Shaw, of Glasgow, asking re post of organiser  
not at present.

G. H. Wood re sending nomination forms to every  
member. agreed to recommend to  
the Exec. -

T. Porter - Re sending Tract 70 to new members.  
Deferred for new Basis. -

(5) Joint action with L.P. Invitation to cooperate  
in send-off function for Hon W. M. Hughes.  
After a prolonged debate it was finally  
agreed that Sanders & Sec. 7 write to the  
L.P. that we will cooperate, paying our  
share of deficit, estimated at a maximum  
of £5. out of a special fund to be raised  
of contributions. Shaw & others agreed to  
raise such a fund. -

(6) The Cabinet + Old Age Pensions - agreed to send a  
copy of Tract 73. O.A. Pensions to the  
Cabinet, letter covering same to be  
approved by Webb. -

7. Groups. Resolution proposed by the Secy was discussed & approved viz:  
That a sub-Com<sup>tee</sup> be appointed to draw up a scheme either authorising present irregularities or otherwise; that the scheme be considered by the Committee & subsequently submitted to a conference of Group. Secs & others.  
It was agreed that Miss Murby, Dr. Guest & the Officers be the Com<sup>tee</sup> to meet on Tuesday Mar 7<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm.

8. Autumn Propaganda. Proposal for more Suburban Lectures. adjourned.

9. Lecture List. Agreed to print a new list of lectures & to that end that a lecture circular be drawn up.

10. Letters re Lectures to Press. It was resolved that a letter offering lectures be sent to the Socialist papers, & to others such as the Church Times, the Independent.

The Christian Pulpit, onward &c. -

- 11. Armstrong College. Letter saying that the permission to form a F.S. was refused. Recommend them not to make a protest.
- 12. Next meeting Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May. -
- 13. Cards for Lectures. In view of the cost of sending cards ~~was~~ reckoned at £50 or £60 a year, it was agreed not to send card on June 14, to experiment in discouraging the plan. -

Sg. Hobson  
 27/1/1917

Propaganda Committee Report.

2515

Meeting May 3rd, 1907.

Present: Bland, Dodd, Guest, Headlam, Hobson, Miss Murby, Sanders, Shaw, and Secretary.  
Absent: Ensor, <sup>Wells</sup>.

- 1.- Bland was elected Chairman and Hobson Vice-Chairman.
- 2.- Fabian Lectures. The following dates were approved:-  
Socialism and Legal Profession. June 14.  
" " the Press. June 28.  
July. <sup>22</sup> Lecture by Dr. Coit on  
"Natural Selection as the Basis of Socialism".  
It was agreed not to send out cards for June 14 and to experiment on omitting them.
- 3.- Nomination Forms. It was agreed to propose sending a copy to each member.
- 4.- Joint Action with I.L.P. It was agreed to co-operate with the I.L.P. in an entertainment to the Hon W.M. Hughes, any deficit to be subscribed by Shaw and others.
- 5.- Old Age Pensions. It was agreed to send a letter to the Cabinet covering copy of Old Age Pensions Tract.
- 6.- Groups. Miss Murby, Dr. Guest and the Officers were appointed to draft a scheme of Group &c. Organisation for submission, when adopted, to a meeting of Group Secretaries.
- 7.- Lectures. It was agreed to prepare a new list of lectures, and to draft a form for that purpose. Meanwhile it was resolved to send a letter to the press inviting applications for Fabian lectures for the autumn.
- 8.- Armstrong College. Local Society forbidden. Agreed to advise the local people not to protest.
- 9.- Autumn Suburban Lectures. <sup>To consider in the following report item 12, which</sup> Deferred. <sup>positive for confirmation.</sup>

Report of the Sub-Committee on Mrs. Hubert Bland  
Chairman.  
Present: Hobson in Chair, Miss Murby, Dodd, and Secretary.  
Also J. W. Shaw.

- 1.- A Group shall consist of members of the parent society.
- 2.- Local Societies to exist on the same basis as hitherto for present if so desired, but shall be asked to fall into line.
- 3.- Groups shall be formed in each locality.
- 4.- A Group shall consist of 5 or more persons except that in the London area 10 shall be the minimum.
- 5.- With a view to forming Groups a member letter to be sent to one member in such locality requesting him to convene a meeting of local members of the P.S. to form such Group and elect a secretary.
- 6.- That it be an instruction to lecturers sent by the Society to take steps to form such groups.
- 7.- That for purposes of local activity Groups shall be recommended either to form a local Socialist Society or co-operate with any existing local organisations as local circumstances may require.
- 8.- That the Secretary be instructed to advise local Societies and Groups that they should be asked to fall into line.
- 9.- That the Secretary be instructed to advise local Societies and Groups that they should be asked to fall into line.
- 10.- That the Secretary be instructed to advise local Societies and Groups that they should be asked to fall into line.
- 11.- That the Secretary be instructed to advise local Societies and Groups that they should be asked to fall into line.

AGENDA.

To consider in the following report item 12, which  
must be submitted to the Executive for Confirmation.

Report of the Sub-Committee on Group Organisation held on May 7th.

Present: Hobson in Chair, Miss Murby, Guest, and Secretary.  
Also J. W. Shaw.

- 1.- A Group shall consist of members of the parent society.
- 2.- Local Societies to exist on the same basis as hitherto for present if so desired, but shall be asked to fall into line
- 3.- Groups shall be formed in each locality.
- 4.- A Group shall consist of 5 or more persons except that in the London area 10 shall be the minimum.
- 5.- With a view to forming Groups a member letter to be sent to one member in such locality requesting him to convene a meeting of local members of the F.S. to form such Group and elect a secretary
- 6.- That it be an instruction to lecturers sent by the Society to take steps to form such groups.
- 7.- That for purposes of local activity Groups shall be recommended either to form a local Socialist Society or co-operate with any such existing organizations as local circumstances may require.
- 8.- That the Group machinery be used by the Executive for the purpose of promoting co-ordinated political or other activity.
- 9.- That the Group Secretary shall be requested to send a quarterly report, for consideration by the Executive.
10. - That it be one of the conditions of the formation of a local F.S. that its Executive Committee be members of the parent body
- 11.- That local F.S.'s. shall either adopt the Fabian basis or any other form subject to the approval of the Executive.
- 12.- That the Secretaries of existing Groups and local Societies, whether Fabian in fact or in name, in the provinces, as well as in the London area, be invited to attend a conference to consider the foregoing scheme.

Special Meeting of the Propaganda  
Comm<sup>ee</sup> at Office on Friday Mar 10<sup>th</sup> 1907  
at 5pm. -

Present Holton, (in chair), Guest, Miss Murly, Dodd  
Sanders, Sec'y & several non-members.

Absent Bland, Guest, Headlam, Shaw, Wells.

(1) The Report of the Sub-Comm<sup>ee</sup> on fore-going  
page was considered. -

Item 12 was approved & referred  
to the Executive for confirmation.

(2.) The other part of the Report was generally  
discussed. -

Sg. Holton.  
12/10/1907

Com<sup>ee</sup> at Office May 17.<sup>th</sup> (Friday) 1907  
 at 5pm

Present. Hobson (in chair) Sanders, Ensor,  
 Miss Murly, Shaw, Pease Guest.  
Absent Bland, Dodd, Headlam, Wells.

(1) The Minutes of last meeting & of the  
 special meeting were confirmed.

(2) Correspondence.

Miss Hutchins giving 20/- for the Hughes  
 Gathering Fund.

Rockdale - another F.S. contemplated.

(3) Next Sessions Lectures. Agreed that Mrs  
 Shaw be asked to continue organising  
 the "What we believe" series, & to submit  
 a list of any suggested lecturers  
 not hitherto approved.

(4) Reverendous. Reference from Exec. - The  
 action of the G. P. Com<sup>ee</sup> was agreed to.

(5) Suburban Lectures. It was agreed to ask the Exec. to request the Ho:z account Trustees to grant the sum of £100. for lectures in the Suburbs on the same basis as last season, & that Swell be informed that such lectures are intended to be arranged. Shallard was also mentioned as a lecturer.

(6) Lectures. (a) Draft-Letter to the Religious Press was approved. -

(b) Scheme proposed by Guest for organising the lectures of all lecturers thro' the office was considered & rejected.

New Lecture List. It was agreed to send out circular to lecturers in order to prepare printed list: also that the circular be type-written, unless this would cost substantially more than printing: also that it be sent to some 750 selected members in London



+ in the provinces, & write to all members.  
also that Guest be a Comtee with Secy  
to prepare ~~draft~~ form of circular. -

(7.) Report on Group Organisation.

The report of the sub-Comtee (inserted on  
previous page) was considered. -

Amendments were adopted which  
entirely altered the purport of the  
scheme, in the direction of assimilating  
it to the existing organisation. -

Ultimately it was agreed that  
Ensor, Sanders & the Secy be a  
Comtee to prepare a new plan  
of Local Societies & Groups on  
the lines of the amendments carried.

(8.) In response to a request of the Publishing  
Comtee it was agreed to meet on  
Tuesdays, the next meeting to be  
on Tuesday May 30th at 5pm.

R. C. K. Ensor

30/5/07

Com<sup>ee</sup> at Office May 30<sup>th</sup> 07. -  
Present: Gisor (in chair) Shaw, Sanders  
Guest - Miss Mury, Headlam,  
Dodd & Sec. y Also Mrs Shaw.  
Absent: Bland Holson Wells.

1. Minutes were confirmed.

2. New Societies &c. Formation reported :-  
A for Women U.F.S.  
Canterbury F.S.  
Garden City F.S.  
Educational Group.

3. Correspondence O  
Owen Berkeley Hill re Psychology  
of Propaganda. ask  
for particulars.

(4) Fabian Lectures.  
Letter from Coit saying he cannot  
prepare his on Darwinism &  
9 July 12. Agreed to have

no lectures in July. -

Draft of lecture on Soc<sup>m</sup> + architecture of  
A. & P. considered + deferred  
to autumn.

(5) Lecture List. The Resolution No 6 of last  
meeting was by implication rescinded,  
+ it was resolved to send a reply-paid  
post-card to every member asking  
if he will lecture.

(6.) General Enquiry Circular. It was resolved to  
send out to every member a general  
enquiry circular, the form to be  
prepared for + considered at the  
next meeting.

(7.) Group Organisation - Deferred.

(8) Reprint of Explanatory Circular. Sec. reported  
that this had been authorised some  
time ago to reprint document prepared for  
suburban lectures, but it had not been

done. Agreed that it be not reprinted  
for the present. —

(11)

(9) Next-Sessions Lectures. Mr. Shaw presented  
plans for the West-I believe series.  
It was agreed to have the lectures  
begin a month in the autumn.

The following names were approved:—

Mr. Sidney Webb

S. L. Holson

H. Bland

Campbell.

Dr. S. Cirk

H. G. Wells

G. Barker

G. Lansbury

deferres

Others were considered & deferred.

10. It was resolved to issue a prospectus  
of the lectures & to confine them  
to members associated & subscribers.  
By this means cards to for each lecture  
will be saved. —

(11) Next meeting was appointed for 6<sup>th</sup> June  
Thursday.

[N.B. This had been already selected  
by the Finance Comm<sup>ee</sup>]

Muller-Bland

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Meeting at Office 4<sup>th</sup> June 1907.

Present Bland (Chairman) Hobson, Shaw, Ewer,  
Miss Murray, Sanders Guest & Secy

Absent Dodd, Headlam, Will

1. The Minutes were confirmed.
2. Correspondence.  
Vegetarian Assoc<sup>n</sup>. Sec. ordered mto to sell tickets.
3. Lecture List Cards. Profs approved.
4. New Societies reported in process of formation  
S. Kensington R. Coll of Science  
Bedales School.  
Edinburgh University.
5. Sorée. Cards approved.
6. Report on Group Organisation.  
This was considered with the following results :-

London Area: amended to Police Area.

1 ~~to~~ agreed to

2 " "

3 " "

4 substance of clause 1 agreed to, + the last-  
3 lines deleted.

5. Clause 1 agreed to; clause 2 deleted & 4 votes to 3.

6. Deleted.

7. after discussion agreed to.

Subject Groups. altered to "Special" Subject.

1 agreed to

2. Deleted.

Promises

1 agreed to

2. Agreed to

3. Agreed to in substance, but Sec. 7 ordered  
to alter form to permission subject  
to control of Editor.

4 Deleted.

5 agreed to.

Provisional Local Groups.

1 agreed to

2. agreed to, ~~with~~ Clause 1. Clause 2 amended  
+ carried.

Draft Report on Group Organisation prepared by Sub-Committee,  
(Sanders, Ensor and Secretary).

~~Committee to any working group to be formed out in connection with  
the local group; if any further~~  
London Area.

- ✓ 1.- Any 10 or <sup>more</sup> members may, with the approval of the Executive Committee,  
7.- The Executive Committee, co-operating with existing local groups,  
form themselves into a local group.  
~~shall co-operate with the establishment of local groups in~~
- ✓ 2.- Every such group shall consist of the members of the Society in its  
districts where such do not exist.  
area, and may elect its own associates; provided that associateship  
*Special Subject Groups.*  
of a group shall not, as such, confer the privileges of associateship  
~~The regulations for subject groups shall be the same as those for Local~~  
of the Society.  
~~Groups in so far as applicable, except that~~
- ✓ 3.- Every local group shall elect a Secretary, who shall be the medium  
~~of communication between the group and the Executive Committee.~~  
~~of the Society~~
- 4.- Every local Secretary shall forward <sup>a Report</sup> to the Executive Committee at  
~~least once a quarter. (1) a report for "Fabian News" (2) a confidential~~  
~~reports.~~  
report; and on his failing in this, or any other, duty, the  
~~The Provision.~~  
~~Executive Committee may for due cause shown require his dismissal.~~
- 5.- Every such group shall be bound by all resolutions of the parent  
Society; and may by a resolution thereof be dissolved.



(4) B

~~Committee in any locality shall be carried out in connection with of the parent Society and all work shall be done through the local group, if one exists.~~

7.- The Executive Committee, co-operating with existing local groups, shall constantly work for the establishment of local groups in districts where such do not exist.

Special Subject Groups.

The regulations for subject Groups shall be the same as those for Local Groups in so far as applicable, except that

*Special*  
1.- Subject Groups shall elect their own members, from amongst the members of the Society.

~~2.- The Secretary shall not be required to send quarterly or confidential reports.~~

The Provinces.

A. Local Fabian Societies.

1.- Local Fabian Societies shall adopt the Fabian Basis or some Basis which has been sanctioned by the Executive Committee

of the Parent Society and all other ... the said

Basis.

cas/14

2.- Subject to the above, local Fabian Societies shall enjoy complete

autonomy as to the election of their officers, members, and associates, the conduct of their own business, and the disposal of their funds, and shall not be bound by any resolution of the

3.- Such groups shall be constituted of one or more Fabians, and parent Society.

3.- Secretaries of local Fabian Societies shall be urged to send *The Reports of Local Fabian Societies shall be frequent reports for "Fabian News", and to circulate the "News" inserted in Fabian News, subject to the exigencies of*

4.- The Executive Committee shall, and its Sub-Committees may, invite confidential communications from time to time from Secretaries of local Fabian Societies, either generally or on particular subjects.

5.- Conferences between representatives of the parent Society and the local Fabian Societies shall be held, if possible at regular intervals.

(The first such conference might add a 6th. provision regarding a

Common Fabian Fund, its collection and administration).

B. Provisional Local Groups.

(45/15)

- 1.- Where no local Fabian Society exists, the Executive Committee, co-operating as far as possible with Fabian Societies elsewhere, shall endeavour to establish Fabian local groups.
- 2.- Such groups shall be constituted of any 5 or more Fabians; and provisionally shall have a status similar to that of local groups within the London area; but shall ~~be urged as soon as possible to form, and to merge themselves in, local Fabian Societies.~~ *cease to be groups when a local Fabian Society is formed*

7. After the detailed discussion of the Report had been concluded Miss Murby by arrangement moved that ~~the Report be~~ the Report be so altered as to allow local Fabian Societies to be formed in the London area Shaw seconded but this resolution was rejected by 3 votes to 2 - the Provincial System to be applied to London. Shaw seconded but the resolution was defeated by 3 votes to 2, & the Report as amended was adopted.

8. It was agreed that Sanders, Guest & the Officers with the Secy be a Com<sup>tee</sup> to make arrangements for the suburban lecture campaign.

9. The next meeting was fixed for Thursday. 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Murray Clark

Sub. Committee on Suburban Lectures

11 June. 2.30 pm.

Present - Holton (in chair) Guest Sanders & Secy

1. Secy presented table of costs showing  
9 courses costing £103. net. -
2. Agreed that places were lecture courses  
have been given <sup>to</sup> be written to asking  
them to arrange courses of other  
lecturers to be sent if no.
3. Report of Snell on Lectures was considered.  
It was agreed to refer to the lecturers  
to prepare, if they can, lectures on  
Empire & perhaps on War: but lectures  
on the middle class & on the Family  
be negatived. -
4. Lectures at old Places. It was agreed that  
lectures under the scheme be used  
exclusively for new ground; & requests  
for second courses under the scheme be refused.

5. It was agreed to engage Sanders & Snell as before, & the Secy see Shallard, & ask if he is open to any courses offered.

(6) It was agreed to reprint Prospectus, Syllabus & Prospectus of F.S. with such alterations if any as the lecturers propose, & as subject to approval of Comtee -

7. Wimbledon, Kingston & Richmond were noted as proper places for courses. —  
High Wycombe, Acton, Brentwood, were approved.  
Chelmsford was refused. Eppingham & Dulwich were deferred. —

*M. J. P. [Signature]*

Meeting Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5pm.

Present - Bland (in chair), Sanders, Headlam  
Holson, Miss Murby, Ensor, Guest,  
Shaw, & Sec'y also Webb.

1. Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

2. Correspondence

Swansea.

Miss Murby.

New Society contemplated.  
Re asking share of collections  
for F.S. at lectures of Fabians.  
Agreed it must be left to lecturers

Miss Salmon Proposed R. Call. of art  
F.S. or Group.

Buckhurst Hill F.S. Prospectus, with  
special Basis. Approved,  
& referred to Exec. for con-  
firmation.

Berkeley Hill. On Psychology of  
propaganda: further cor-  
respondence. Ask Crin to  
send a syllabus & say his  
proposal will be favourably considered.

3. Gr

(4) Le

(5) Ex

3. Group & Local F.S. Conference.

The following arrangements were made:-

Conference Sat July 6<sup>th</sup> in afternoon.  
at L.C.C. Hall, 17 Fleet-St. if it can  
be obtained for 21/- or 20.

Chairman & Webb to prepare agenda.  
Two delegates from each Society &  
Group to be invited, but not any  
from independent Societies, even if  
of Fabian Type. -

Draft group Rules to be printed 800  
The Conference to be advisory only. -

4) Lecture List. Agreed to print in same  
form as before: names of very well-  
known lecturers to be omitted.

Manchester & Glasgow to be asked  
to add their lists at the end. -

5) Examination & Testing Lecturers.

Proposal of W.C.M. Wilson to try them on  
Groups - agreed to do what is possible.

Proposal of S. Whyhew to try them on Nursery. No.



(6) Report of the sub-Com<sup>t</sup> on Suburban Lectures :-

The Committee agreed on the following points:

That Snell and Sanders be lecturers and Shallard be asked his views.

That the lectures be all given on new ground.

That amateur courses be offered to old places including Muswell Hill and Chelmsford.

That lecturers be invited to re-consider syllabus, adding new lectures on Imperialism and on Army, but not on the Middle-class or Family.

That existing prospectus &c. be reprinted.

This was approved except that the Socialism of Ratepayers was substituted for Socialism + Army. -

(7) Constitutional Amendment - Plan of H.A. Day. Considered. agreed to refer that - the Exec. com. not mind it, but the members would not sanction it. -

(8) Classes for younger members. It was agreed to approve in principle the proposal to arrange classes of an educational character for junior members & to enquire of the L.C.C. their terms for 20 or 30 evenings of 17 Fleet Street for evening.

9. Agucultural Tracts. Agreed to send this to  
M.F.S. -

10. Fabian Lectures. Agreed to ask Mr. Morrison  
of the ~~Eng.~~ # Mohamedan  
College to lecture on Panislamism.

11. Enquiry form. Deferred

12. It was agreed to recommend the  
Publishing Comtee to ask the Nursery  
to prepare a 16 pp. Catalogue Raisonné  
of Fabian Tracts.

Mulim Island

Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> July. 1907.  
Thursday at 5.30pm.

Present Bland (in chair) Euser, Sanders,  
Shaw, Dodd, Miss Murl, Sec-y  
also Welch. —

1. Minutes were confirmed.
2. Psychology of Propaganda. Further letters from Berkeley Hill, declining to send syllabus, & saying that the psychologist is ~~a~~ a Mr Trotter who had attended the Biology Group. —  
Agreed that we do not proceed further with the matter.
3. Urgency Delegation Application for delegates for Russian Dem<sup>n</sup> in Trafalgar Square Sunday next. —  
Agreed to appoint Dr. Guest + Cecil & Chesterton. —

(4) - Next-Sessions Lectures after Xmas.

Agreed that the What-I-believe course  
be not continued beyond Xmas. -

Pembler Reeves. Offer ( thro' Secy ) of lecture  
on Land Problem. accept. -

Sir John Cockburn. Letter from Sharp sug-  
gesting lecture of Sir John on  
the Empire. Agreed to approve. -

Jaurès. Proposal of Mr. Hodgekinson  
to get Jaurès to lecture in  
London. Agreed. -

Dr. Eder. Offer of lecture on Psychology  
of ~~the~~ Punishment. Decline,  
+ suggest a Group. -

(5) Hughes Demonstration with L.H.P. Report showing  
large deficit. ~~see~~ Promises  
30/. Shaw agreed to pay 20/. to  
make up the 50/. promised. -

Price  
(6) Henry Room, 17 Fleet St. Letter from  
L.C.C. saying price with extra chair  
is 12/6 for a series. Agreed. -

(7.) Lecture List. Sec 7 reported that Sanders had undertaken to prepare this for the press. —

(8.) Conference of Groups etc. July 6. Final arrangements were made.

(9.) Bradford. Proposed F.S. Letter from A. Priestman - agreed that Sanders arrange lecture.

10. Organiser. Report from Finance Com<sup>tee</sup>

"That a Provincial Organiser be appointed who should be expected not only to do his own secretarial work, but so far as possible to undertake the office work connected with the Groups & Propaganda."

It was agreed to recommend that Wm Sanders be appointed organiser at a salary of £100 per annum & travelling expenses. —  
That he spend the necessary time

10. Organiser (cont?)

on arranging the lectures & doing the necessary office work connected therewith, - that he attend Group meetings in London & Fabian Group or other meetings in the provinces, & that his salary do not include payment for Suburban Lectures already arranged, which are to be paid for separately.

11. Next Meeting. Thursday. 18<sup>th</sup> July.

Wales Island.

Minutes of Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> July 1907.

Thursday 6.30

Present. Ennot, Kland, Murby, Hobson & Sanders.

1 Minutes. were confirmed

2. Percy Wallis desired to lecture on Currency to Society,

Referred to Nursery

Chruschian Commonwealth desired to report R. J Campbell's lecture to the Society. Informed that meeting would be private but if Campbell wished for a Report it could be taken.

3. Lecture List. Organizer reported that the lecture list was in printers hands and that letters offering lectures had been sent out to about 200 members & newspapers.

4. Suburban Lectures. Organizer reported that courses were being arranged at (1) Acton (2) High Wycombe (3) Wood Green (4) Brentwood (5) Bloomsbury + probably at (6) Dulwich.

5. Provincial Organizing. Organizer reported that he was making arrangements for visiting Bradford, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Perth. It was agreed that where

the local people could not meet the expenses of organizer they would be paid by the parent Sy. The organizer to present a monthly statement of his exs if any.

6 Room No 17 Fleet Street. It was agreed that the Subject Groups could have use of this room for the sum of 5/- per. meeting.

7. London Organisation Organizer reported that the Kensington Group had decided to run a series of lectures in West London and it was agreed that the Organizer should assist the Group if desired. It was further decided that the officers should prepare a plan for dividing London into group areas. Organizer reported that steps were being taken to form groups in (a) Dulwich (b) Deptford Greenwich & Lewisham. It was agreed that endeavours should be made to form a Local Government Group & that Boyd Dawson be approached as to the secretaryship of the group.

8. Clapham Fabian Society. On the question of the position of the Clapham Fabian Society it was decided that the Executive Committee be recommended not to



apply the rules as to London Groups to the Clapham Society but that ~~was~~ future members of the Clapham Sy must be also members of the parent Society.

9. Organizer reported that the sec. of the Social Institute Com<sup>ee</sup> desired that a notice be inserted in the Fabian News of their enterprise. Decided that the request must be made in writing & full particulars given.  
Next meeting Monday Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>

Public Hall  
St. 4. 7.

Presm

1. Mr

2. Co

3. Secy

Meeting Wednesday Sept 4. 5.30. 1907.

Present. Bland (in chair) Hobson, Pease, Guest, Murby, Sanders.

1. Minutes of previous meeting were confirmed.

2. Correspondence.

Southport Fabian Society, desire "recognition". Decided that the Southport Sy members must each sign basis before the Sy can be recognized.

Litchworth Fabian Sy. desired to know charge to each member for News sent direct. Decided charge should be 1/6 per annum for News publications other than tracts. Note in News to this effect

Biology group desired use of 17 Keel St. Agreed on same terms as Education Com. Sir John Cockburn agreeing to lecture on Imperialism.

J. Morrison deprecating lecture on Pan Islamism and offering lecture on Collectivism of the Indian Govt. Decided to accept this and to write him as to a lecturer on Pan Islamism providing such a movement really exists.

3. Lecture list.

Decided that 500 be printed and moulds taken; that copies be sent to Group + Society

Lecture List (contd) secretaries and that note be inserted in News stating that ~~and~~ members who desire copies may have them on application. That title of Organiser be Organising Secretary.

4. Suburban Lectures. Org. Sec. reported that courses had been definitely arranged at (1) High Wycombe (2) Acton, (3) Stoke Newington (4) Brentwood (5) Highgate. Arrangements proceeding for courses at Ilford, Wood Green, Harrow, Dulwich.

(5) Provincial Organisation. Org. Sec. reported that he was writing for dates to be fixed before proceeding to the North. Reported that a Society had been started at Chelmsford and he was attending the first meeting. A S<sub>2</sub> was also in course of formation in Sheffield.

6. London Organisation.

Members list being geographically arranged and steps taken to make out groups areas Kensington Branch organising a series of lectures to be opened by the Org. Secretary on Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>. Clapham F. S<sub>2</sub> arranging courses.

1924/25

7. Special Lecture. Org & Bsc? reported that Herr Gudekum  
Socialist member of the German Reichstag  
offered to give lecture to the Society on  
German Municipal Socialism in October.  
Agreed to take offer.

8. Arrangement for Decided that for this series a non-transferable  
Autumn Series card for those members associates &  
subscribers be issued

L. Haden Guest  

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C45/25

Meeting ~~Thurs~~ Wednesday Sept 25<sup>th</sup> 5 pm. 1907.

Present. Haden Guest (in chair) Miss Murly. Headlam,  
Sanders, Peace.

1. Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.
2. Correspondence. Bedakum fixing lecture for November 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Agreed. Webb suggesting bookstall for  
our literature at Franco British  
Exhibition. Decided that the C. Com.  
be recommended to approach other Socialist  
bodies, (L.P.S.D.S.) to organize combined  
bookstall. Leeds Fabian Society moribund  
Agreed that org. sec. visit and advise.  
Morison agreed to lecture upon "The  
Collectivism of the Indian Government"  
and stated there is little or nothing ~~from~~ in  
Pan Islamism. Sheffield desired to  
adopt a new basis and to know terms of  
double membership. Agreed to recommend  
C. C. to accept new Basis and that  
the fee for double membership be 2/6

- 7.
- (3) Lectures at 17. Fleet Street. Mitt forwarded proposal in detail for lectures at 17. Fleet St. Decided that the first lecture be announced, that a change of 67. be made for a course of say six lectures and that the sec. and the org. sec. draw up a list of subjects.
- (4) Card of admission to autumn lectures. Secretary submitted card to be sent to members associates & subscribers which was approved.
- (5) Org. Sec's Report. Org. sec. reported that he had made definite arrangements to visit Edinburgh + Newcastle that he was arranging visits to Coventry to form a F.S. Chelmsford visited and Societies formed. New Societies being formed at Sheffield; probable formation of F.S. at Swansea. New group formed in E. London. 80 lectures had been arranged in ~~the~~ London and provinces. Suburban lectures arranged definitely at Acton, High Wycombe, Brentwood, Stoke Newington, Harrow Highgate.
6. Agreed to place inset of E.L.P. took on Russian Revolution in October news.

7. Decided to recommend E.C. to make a grant of £1. towards preliminary expenses of forming a London University Fabian Society.

Alfred D. Land.

Oct 31. 7.

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195/27

Meeting Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. 7pm. 1907.

Present: Bland (in chair) Sanders. Guest: Murley, Pease,  
Ensor, Shaw, Hobson.

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.  
On the Minutes Guest raised question of right of members of E.C. to attend course of lectures on "What Fabianism Means". After discussion it was agreed that E.C. be recommended that its members be permitted to attend the course without payment.
- (2) Correspondence. Letter from S.D.F. asking for delegates to a Socialist Women's Conference. Agreed to appoint Miss Murley & Mrs Towshend.  
From Pease suggesting engagement of Stitt Wilson for propagand. Suggestion not adopted.  
From Glasgow wanting org. sec. for a fortnight's betting campaign. Agreed to request on Glasgow paying contribution of two guineas to Society for services of org. sec. Sheffield Society wrote wanting Shaw or other distinguished Fabian

(2) cont<sup>d</sup>

Shaw agreed to give 2 dates to provinces (not beyond midlands). From Gwydon H.G. announcing change to Gwydon F.S. from Perth F.S. wanting letters. Org. Sec. stated he had promised to go when in Scotland.

(3)

Organizing  
Secretary's Report

Org. Sec. reported visits to Sheffield, Newcastle & Edinburgh Fabian Societies. Meeting had been addressed by him in the two latter places; formation of a Fabian Group in Swansea and of a London University Fabian Society. He had arranged to visit Bradford, Coventry, Glasgow & probably Perth. Had made various announcements in Fabian News as to Groups etc. Suburban lecture course at High Wycombe had been successful and would probably lead to formation of Fabian Sq there. Inell's sub. course at Acton had been extremely well attended. Other sub. courses had been definitely arranged at Brentwood, More Newnham, Harrow, Wood Green, & Highgate

(3) cont<sup>d</sup>

Deptford Fabian Group had decided to run a sub. course after 7mas. Kensington Group was continuing its extraordinary activities & he was advising and rendering some assistance. Lectures arranged thro' the office not numbered £150. Course on Fabianism had been arranged on Wednesdays in Nov. & Dec<sup>r</sup> (5 Lectures) at 17. Fleet St. Local Government Group was still in course of formation. Travelling expenses of Org sec for month had been £4. 11. 0 of which sum Edinburgh F.S. paid £1. 5. 0.

The Report was adopted and tickets for Course on Fabianism were ordered to be printed. Also that org. sec. draft a circular of cond<sup>s</sup> suggestions to lecturers and refer to propaganda methods.

(4) Essex Hall Meetings 1908

It was agreed that J. Morrison be asked to lecture on "The Collectivism of the Indian Government" on Jan 10<sup>th</sup>; that members meeting to discuss Pol. Com. Report be held on Jan 24<sup>th</sup>; dates for Sir John Cockburn on "Imperialism" & Hon H.P. Reives on "Australian Labour Parties" be fixed later.

(4) cont.

That Sir Oliver Lodge be requested to lecture on "Waste in Science" & Chocra Money on "Waste of Capital"; also that endeavours be made to secure a lecture from a prominent individualist (for instance Lord Balfour of Burleigh) and from a prominent Tory Democrat. other arrangements to be discussed next meeting.

(5) Suggestions  
from Members  
Meeting.

Suggestion from members meeting that collocation be taken at Essex Hall meeting was not adopted, but another that a meeting be held at Green's Hall was agreed to and it was decided to recommend E. Com. accordingly.

Julius Pland

Meeting Friday, 15 November 1907. 5. p.m.

Present. Tildan (in chair) Ensor, Pease, ~~Mrs~~ Headlam,  
Miss Murby, Shaw, Guest, Sanders.

1) Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

2) Correspondence. Letter was read from Southport Fabian Society stating members were signing basis. Agreed to recommend that the Society be recognized. Letter from Glasgow F.S. regretting inability to arrange proposed tour by Org. secretary. Letter from Miss Emma Brooke announcing formation of Lyceum Club group. Agreed that the group be approved but that it be not officially recognized.

3) Essex Hall Meetings. Letters read from Lord Balfour of Burleigh & Sir Oliver Lodge stating inability to accept invitation to lecture. Letter from Chosrow Money agreeing to lecture on "Warts of Capital". Letter from Keeling sketching

plan of Tract on the Universities. Decided that he be invited to lecture on the Universities in the proposed "Waste" series of lectures. Decided that Sir John Cockburn be asked to give his lecture on Imperialism on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Decided that Prof Karl Pearson be asked to give lecture on "Waste in Science"; failing him Lodge to be asked to give name of probable lecturer on such subject; failing information from Lodge Ball to be asked for the name of an authority who might consent.

(24)

Queens Hall Meeting. Letters read from proprietors of Queens Hall declining to allow the Society to hire the Hall. Shaw volunteered to write for the Hall. Org. sec. reported that the new St. James Hall would be ready in March and he was enquiring terms of hire, accommodation &c.

(15)

Circular to lecturers. Org. Sec. submitted draft of proposed circular which with some slight amendment was adopted.

(6)

Localist Womens Conference. Miss Murley reported that she and

London

Mrs Townshend had attended the Socialist Women's Conference called by the S.W.F. and that nothing was done except ~~to~~ writing to Germany for information as to the basis on which the proposed Socialist Women's Organisation was to work.

London University, U.S. The org. secretary raised the question as to the financial terms on which the members of the London University, U.S. might become members of the parent body. It was agreed that the terms be the same as those fixed for the other University Societies, namely one shilling per member.

Arthur Blunt  
Dec 18. 1909



Meeting Wednesday Dec. 18, 1907. 5.30 p.m.

Present. Bland (in chair) Ensor, Sanders, Miss Murby,  
Secretary, + Mauds (invited)

(1.) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2.) Correspondence. From Keeling regretting inability to lecture on "Waste in Education at Universities"  
From a member complaining of preemption of seats by members at Essex Hall meetings. Decided that observations should be made as to the extent of the practice and results reported to committee. From W. Watson Rushford M.P. agreeing to lecture. From Mr. Budge as to a Fabian lecture at Cheltenham. Decided that a lecture be given at Society's expense. From Catmur as to more lectures by the Society. Decided that he be informed that the Society is doing its best.

(3.) Acquaintance Committee. Mauds proposed that an Acquaintance Committee be formed to interest

3) (contd) new members in the Society and its work, and to provide social amenities. Decided to recommend the E. Com. to approve formation. Names suggested Maude, Mrs. E. Wilson, Mrs. F. B. Pentinck, Dodd, Mrs. Townshend, Miss Serunjan, Mr. Maplebeck, Miss Wallace-Dunlop, Percy Vaughan.

(4) Queens Hall Meeting. No report was to hand from Shaw as to Queens Hall. It was decided that if Queens Hall was refused to Shaw the proposed meeting should be held at the new St. James' Hall and that the E. Com. be recommended accordingly. If possible the meeting was to be held in March.

(5) Suburban Lectures. Reports were received on the six courses held at Acton, High Wycombe, Brentwood, Stoke Newington, Wood Green & <sup>Harrow</sup> ~~Stoke Newington~~. which were considered satisfactory. Other courses were to be held at Highgate & Lewisham. Requests were under consideration for courses to be held at Tooting & elsewhere. Agreed that other courses be arranged up to £100 expenditure. Expenditure

(5) (cont'd) to date £45

(6) Organizing Secretary's Report. Org Secretary reported that lectures arranged through office to date since Sept. numbered 220. The lectures at Prince Henry's Room, Fleet St., had been attended by about 46 persons. Receipts were 46 tickets @ 5/- and 4 @ 1/- (single lectures) Total £11. 14. 0. It was decided that efforts should be made to arrange another course for <sup>associates</sup> ~~members~~ and subscribers. The org. sec. had visited Coventry and formed F.S. with a membership of 17. A Fabian Fellowship had been formed at Carnarvon; this body had been told that it must adopt the Fabian basis to be recognized, also that lecturer would be sent if desired. Enquiries had been received from Hull as to forming a society there. These had been dealt with. The Report was adopted.

(7) Essex Hall Meetings. The following arrangements were drawn up for Essex Hall in the next year  
Jan 10<sup>th</sup> Sir John Cockburn; Jan 24<sup>th</sup> Members

7 (contd) meeting; Feb 14<sup>th</sup>. Rutherford (provisional)  
 Feb 27<sup>th</sup>. Reeves or Morrison. (provisional)  
 March 13. Chorroa Money. It was decided  
 to recommend the B.C. that should the meeting  
 at Queens Hall or St. James Hall be held in  
 March only one meeting in that month be  
 held at Essex Hall. Reeves to be written  
 for ~~his~~ date of his promised lecture. Ball to  
 be asked if he can recommend a lecturer  
 on "Waste in Education". C. Am to be  
 requested to make suggested for further  
 lectures and to be recommended to notify  
 press of Essex Hall meetings except when  
 otherwise decided.

Sy. Hobson.

14/3/1908.

Meeting, Tuesday Jan 14<sup>th</sup> 1908

5.30 pm.

Present: Holson (in chair) Miss Murby, Dodd, Sanders,  
Pears; also Webb.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.

- (1) Webb suggested that the Local Groups be asked to prepare to run women candidates at the next Guardian elections in 1910. This was agreed to.
- (2) Correspondence. From Leicester I.L.P. asking for a course of lectures in the autumn. Agreed that the Org. Sec. give the course as under suburban scheme, the I.L.P. to pay for hall and advertising. From E. Muddleson Group asking for another Suburban Course: declined. From Raymond Union offering Cafeteria Lectures on Town Planning. Accepted for Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>. From A. D. Lewis suggesting manifests on feeding school children and the appeal of Rothschild, Balfour etc. Decided not to accept suggestion at present. From Pall giving list of

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probable lecturers on "Waste in Education". Decided  
 discuss that Temple be asked to give the lecture.

3) Queens Hall Meeting. O. Secretary reported he had secured  
 Hall for March 24<sup>th</sup>. Agreed that tickets be  
 5j. 2/6. 1/ + 6'. Members to have a reduction of  
 20% on 5j. + 2/6 tickets up to Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>. No  
 resolution to be moved. Shaw to speak.  
 Members of E. C. to be printed on bills as  
 supporting <sup>the</sup> chairman. Other details left in hands  
 of organizing secretary.

(4). Suburban Lectures. Org. Sec. reported course in  
 progress at Highgate (H. Snell) also courses  
 arranged at New Cross, Clapham, & Ham.  
 Other districts enquiring. Report adopted.

(5) Provincial Organizing. Org. Sec. reported visits by  
 him to Edinburgh where he had spoken at the  
 University Union for the Edin. U. F. S. and at  
 another meeting organized by the same Society; also  
 to Glasgow where he had addressed the members  
 of the Glas. U. F. S. A Society was being organized

at Hull; also in Butts. Enquiries were coming in from other districts.

(6)<sup>20</sup> Essex Hall Meetings. Arrangements to date were reported as follows:-

Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> Members meeting

Feb 14. Old Agr Pensions. Pember Reeves.

" 28. Town Planning. Raymond Unwin

March 13. Waste of Capital Money.

" 27. No Meeting.

April 10. Collectivism of Indian Govt. Morrison

" 24. Tory Democracy. Rutherford. (provisional)  
Report adopted.

(7) Proposed lecture on the "Woman Problem". Miss Murby proposed that a lecture on this subject be given to the Society and offered to be the lecturer. Agreed that she submit a syllabus of proposed lecture to the Sub Com.

(8) Arts Group. Letter was read from Arts Group asking that members of the Group not members of the Fabian Society might be allowed to continue to be

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members of the Group in spite of Bylaw No 2  
It was decided that the letter be referred to the E. Com.  
without recommendation.

Albert Pland

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Minutes of meeting held at Office Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 5.30 pm.

Present. Bland (in chair) Mrs Murby, Shaw, Guest, Dodd, Ensor, Sanders.

(1) Minutes of previous read and confirmed.

(2) Correspondence. See reported letter he had written Chesterton and reply thereto with regard to failure to keep lecture engagement and to reply to letters. Aelton approved. Letter from Marlborough asking for course: agreed to supply lecturer. From Birmingham S. Centre as to linking up with Fabian Society: officers to report as to a scheme for affiliation of non Fabian Societies to the Fabian Socy. From Cardiff as to forming a F.S: agreed secretary visit Cardiff. From Salisbury F.S. as to affiliation: received. From Oxford F.S. wanting Shaw to lecture: left to Shaw. From Ball stating Temple will lecture later. From E. Middlesex Group wanting Shaw to lecture at Alexandra Palace: left to Shaw. Stanley want Fabian Course: agreed to give

if Stanley pays cost. From Winchester College  
Debalng by wanting lecture. Answer to go. From  
Cunningham offering to lecture. Decline.

(3) Organising Secretary's Report. Secretary reported  
that new groups were forming in Dulwich, St. Pancras,  
Eastern suburbs, Ealing & Chiswick; that new  
Societies <sup>were</sup> formed at Bute N.B. and Hull; were  
formed at Cardiff Carmarvon and Manchester  
University; that Shaw was booked to lecture at  
Sheffield for the F.S. and at Birmingham for  
the Socialist Centre; that course of Sulzbach Lectures  
at Highgate, others in progress at ~~Harro~~  
Newbury & East Ham; others being arranged  
at Hampstead & Walthamstow. The org. sec.  
reported further that he had spoken for the  
Oxford University F.S.; that his travelling expenses  
since last report had been as follows

'07 Decr to Coventry F.S. 1. 3. 0.

'08 Jan. Glasgow U.F.S.

Edinburgh U.F.S. } 2. 10. 0.

Oxford U.F.S. } 12. 6

Recd. from Edinburg U.F.S.

£ 4. 5. 6

£ 2. 0. 0

He reported that £60's worth of tickets had been sold for the Masons Hall meeting. He suggested advertisements in West. Gazette & Morning Post.

The Report was adopted.

It was agreed that E. Com. and their wives and husbands together with Labour <sup>Govt.</sup> Officials and members of parliament ~~men~~ who are Fabians should have seats on platform. That delegates from provincial <sup>Fabian</sup> societies should be invited who were to have platform seats. Dodd to secure organisers. Og Secretary further reported that 260 lectures had been arranged through office.

Ersex Hall Lectures. Present arrangements reported as follows.

- Feb 14. Reeves "Old Age Pensions"
- 28 Unwin "Town planning"
- Mar 13. Money. "Waste of Capital"
- 27 No meeting
- April 10. Monson. "Collectionism of Ind. Govt"

Dates not fixed: Temple Waste at Universities; Rushford

on Long Democracy. Report adopted  
Agreed that Brooks of Hetchworth supply  
Lantern for Munroe's lecture.

5. Resolutions Nos 1 to 3 of Political Com. Report  
were duly noted.

M. P. M.  
Jan 10. 8

Minutes of meeting held at Office Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup> 1908  
 5.30 p.m. Present. Mrs Murby, Dodd, Hobson, Ensor, Shaw (Chairman)  
 Sanders.

(1) Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

(2) Correspondence. (a) From Claron Scouts asking for cooperation in holding meeting and asking for Shaw as speaker. Decline sympathetically; Shaw agreeing to write also. (b) From 1<sup>st</sup> Spallay Committee asking for a collection to be taken at Queens Hall meeting in aid of Children's committee. Decline. (c) From "Women Worker" asking that the paper might be sold at Queens Hall. Agreed it be placed on stall. (d) From Hibb suggesting that S. Australian Premier be invited to lecture to the Society. Agreed to hold over until more is known about him. (e) From Marlborough agreeing to have lectures in Autumn. (f) From Sheffield F.B and Birmingham S. Centre expressing appreciation of Shaw's lectures. (g) From Rochdale as to forming a Fabian Sq Org Sec had given necessary information. (h) From Temple suggesting Pyffe for lecture on "Waste in Education". Agreed to ask Temple to give lecture in

autumn.

(3) Organising Secretary's Report. Reported new Groups formed at Dulwich and Eastern Suburbs. New Society formed at Cardiff; org. sec. to open it on April 8th. New Groups forming at S. Paneras & Ilford. Successful lecture course completed at New Cross. Others in progress at Balham, Walthamstow, Hampstead. Queens Hall Meeting. All seats except few at 6 sold. Money in hand for tickets about £150. Probable total receipts £160. Total (probable) expenses £64. Literature-sellers and stewards secured. General Lectures arranged through office number to date 275. The Report was adopted. It was decided that questions should be allowed at Queens Hall meeting, the number to be at the discretion of the chairman.

(4) Essex Hall meetings.

The following arrangements were reported:-

March 13. Chorus Money. "Waste of Capital"

April 10. Morrison. Collectivism of Indian

24 Open.

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May 8. Rutherford "Irish Democracy"  
22 Annual Meeting (?)  
June open.

It was agreed that Miss Murby give her lecture on "The Woman Question" on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Meeting to be confined to members, associates and subscribers.

5. It was agreed to recommend the Executive Committee to fix 14<sup>th</sup> Friday in June for the Annual Doiree.

(6) Scheme for affiliating Societies not Fabrian to the Fabrian Society held over if not being ready

(7) Org. Sec. reported that circular to members on conduct of business would require revision. agreed that he revise it and bring up later.

Miles Place

EXAMINED  
AT AUDIT  
W.H.T.

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Meeting held at office April 13<sup>th</sup> 1908. 5.30 p.m.

Present. Bland (in chair) Sanders, Murby, Dodd.  
Headlam.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed.

(2) Correspondence. From (a) Liverpool Clarion Club (b) London Clarion Scouts (c) Essex Socialist Council (d) Blackpool Socialist Party all wanting Shaw (and in case of Blackpool, Bland) for meetings. As Shaw states declared he was unable to book any more engagements at present Bland not prepared to go to Blackpool in August, the org. sec was instructed to write regretting inability to arrange more lectures.

(3) Lectures. Nottingham S.L.P. requested a course of four lectures on "Modern Socialism" Agreed to give course; the S.L.P. to pay for hall and advertising. Sheffield Hull & Edinburgh <sup>St. Shes</sup> wanted prominent

speakers in Autumn. Arrangements for supplying were left with Essex org. sec. Oxford W. F. B. wrote wanting Shaw. Request left with org. sec.

(4) Org. Sec.'s Report. Org. sec. reported that new Society had been formed at Cardiff which he had opened on the 16<sup>th</sup> April. Enquiries <sup>to hand</sup> as to forming new Societies from Leicester, York & Bristol. New Groups formed at St. Pancras & Salford. Womens Group formed. Suburban courses completed at Hampstead, Walthamston, & Balham, ~~org. sec.~~ Receipts for Queens Hall meeting had reached £187. 11. 6. Expenditure. £66. 14. 7. Balance £120. 16. 11. Cash outstanding £1. 10. 0. Report adopted.

(5) Lectures at Essex Hall.

Present arrangements reported:- April 21<sup>st</sup> Miss Murby "Woman Question" May 8. Olivier "The Faith I hold". May 22. Annual members meeting. June 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Nothing fixed. It was agreed that Rutherford, booked

for May 8<sup>th</sup> but displaced by Olivier, should be asked to take June 12<sup>th</sup>. Failing Rutherford G. P. Gooch be asked to lecture on "Ireland & Tariffs." It was agreed that should Olivier fail to reach England in time to give his lecture on the 8<sup>th</sup> May Pease should give lecture on Licensing Bill. June 26<sup>th</sup> would not be a lecture night, it being reserved for Soiree. Agreed to recommend that J. A. Habron be asked to lecture on the Referendum of the Swiss Republic. Temple agreed to lecture on "Waste in Education" on December 11<sup>th</sup> next.

Annual Soiree. Agreed that the C. C. be recommended to hold Annual Soiree at the Rooms of the Society of Painters in Water Colours, Piccadilly. Tickets 2/6. Special efforts to be made to get members up from the country.

Annual Conference. Decided to recommend the E. Com. to hold Annual Conference on Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>.

(8) Programme of Propaganda Work. Decided to recommend to the C. Com. that the following be submitted to the Annual Members meeting as the programme for the next twelve months

- (a) Suburban lectures to be continued next Autumn, especially in connection with local Fabian Groups and Societies.
- (b) Big meetings to be arranged in the provinces under the auspices of local Fabian Societies with prominent <sup>members as</sup> speakers.
- (c) Educational courses to be arranged for members. A small registration fee to be charged (say 1/).
- (d) Two Queen's Hall Meetings to be organized, one on "Unearned Incomes" & the other on "Unemployment".
- (e) Large Meetings to be organized in suburbs under auspices of Local groups. This programme to be in addition to the organization of new provincial groups and societies.

- (9) Medical Group. It was agreed that efforts should be made to form a Medical Group.
- (10) It was agreed that the E. Com. be recommended to <sup>offer</sup> ~~give~~ a prize for the selling of literatures to the local groups.
- (11) Private meeting. Owing to an oversight the meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup> to be addressed by Miss Murby on the Woman Question was not announced in Fabian News as for members only. Instructions were given that postcards be sent to members, associates, and subscribers, informing them of that visitors would not be admitted.

Stewart S. Healdham

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Meeting held at Offices Monday May 5.08 5.30pm.

Present. Steadman (in chair) Bland (later in chair)  
 Miss Murby, Ensor, Pease, Sanders.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed.

Annual Soiree. Reference from E. Com. was considered  
 Atg Sec. reported that Dodd and he had  
 visited Portman rooms and they both  
 considered them to be suitable. The price  
 for hire would be eight guineas; refreshments  
 could be arranged from 9 per head <sup>approx.</sup> It  
 was decided that the cost of holding the  
 soiree at (a) Portman Rooms and <sup>at</sup> (b)  
 The New Gallery be submitted to the  
 E. Com. for them to decide which should  
 be engaged. Also that a small band  
 be engaged and that the price of the  
 tickets be two shillings.  
 Grafton Hall & Holborn Town Hall were reported  
 as unsuitable.



Proposed Manchester University Fabian Society. Letter was read stating that the Vice Chancellor refused to allow the formation of a Manchester Fabian University Fabian Society. The Org. Sec reported that similar difficulties had occurred at Birmingham Sir Oliver Lodge being against the formation of a Fabian Society in connection with the University. It was agreed to consult Webb as to Birmingham. Benson promised to take Manchester in hand.

Memorandum by Montague Storaam on Rural Propaganda. was read and it was agreed that if the J.L.P. were dealing with the matter that the Society express its willingness to confer with that body, as to the action that should be taken.

Org. Secretary's Report. Org. Sec. reported <sup>(a)</sup> that seven Groups had expressed desire to run Suburban Courses. (b) that a group was being formed in Northbury district. (c) proposing that one of the projected Queens Hall meetings be held in the new St. James's

Hall. (d) proposing that Percy Vaughan be asked to give one of the proposed educational courses for members. Course to be on the History of the Socialist movement in France & Germany. (e) Proposing that the press be circulated as last year offering lecture to societies. (f) Reporting that he had arranged to go to York to open new F.S. and probably to Hill.

Report and proposals adopted.

Millicent Murray .

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Meeting held at Offices Monday May 18<sup>th</sup> 1908 at 5.30 p.m.

Present. Miss Murby, Bland, Hobson, Mr<sup>s</sup> Snowden.  
Sanders.

- (1) Miss Murby was elected chairman of the Sub Committee.  
The election of ~~sub~~ vice chairman was held over.
- (2) Minutes of last meeting were read & confirmed.
- (3) Source. <sup>(a)</sup> Org. Sec reported Portman Rooms engaged;  
<sup>(b)</sup> Agreed to engage orchestra of 5 persons from  
Musicians Union at a cost not exceeding  
3 guineas. <sup>(c)</sup> Decided to ask Mrs Beatrice Linn  
to provide entertainment. <sup>(d)</sup> Held over the  
number to be guaranteed for Refreshments.  
<sup>(e)</sup> Form of ticket submitted approved.
- (4) Suburban Lectures. <sup>(a)</sup> Org Sec reported that 8 Societies  
& Groups were arranging to hold courses  
as follows; Lewisham; Kensington;  
Croydon; St Paneras; Clapham;  
Forest Gate; Paddington; Dulwich.

2) Suburban Lectures. (cont'd) (b) agreed to give Wallington S. S. a course.

- 5) Societies & Groups.
- (a) Org. Sec. reported New Societies formed at York (visited by Org. Sec.) and at Marlboro'
  - (b) Bristol D. being organized.
  - (c) Organizing Sec. to visit Hull on June 5<sup>th</sup> also leads to revive Societies.
  - (d) New Groups being formed at Crosby and Broomham.
  - (e) Medical Group. Mc Cleary advised postponement of formation; Dr. Eiler forming a medical socialist Society.

6) Large Meetings in Provinces.

Org. Sec. reported that Shaw had agreed to lecture for the Liverpool D. D. in October; and that other meetings were under consideration.

7) Meetings in Queens & St James's Halls.

Agreed that the Ex. Com. be recon? to fix the dates for these meetings for Nov. next & March 1909. and that the subjects be the "Unemployed"

7) Meeting in Queens & Mr. Alf. Sidney Webb the speakers;  
St. James's Hall. & "Sources of Socialist Revenue"  
cont? speakers to be agreed upon later.

8) Annual Conference. It was agreed that the local  
societies and the Groups should  
be asked to send in subjects for  
discussion at the Conference and that  
Chiorna Money be asked to open a  
discussion on the "Sources of Socialist  
Revenue".

9) Opening of Pioneer Pub Works } On the invitation of the S.O.P. it was  
agreed to send a rep. to the opening  
of these works on Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup>  
and pay the fare (2/9) Mrs Underwood  
to be invited to go as rep. of Society.

10) Date of next meeting was fixed for as Monday June 1<sup>st</sup>  
6.30 pm.

J. Lawson Secy  
June 1<sup>st</sup> 08

Neel

Pres

1. Min

2. Com

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Meeting held at Offices Monday June 1<sup>st</sup>/88 8.30pm

Present. Miss Murby, Bland, Dodd, Ensor, Mr. Snowden  
& Sanders.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.
2. Correspondence was read from (a) Hughes of B'ham Soc. Centae as to a Fabian Society in Nalsall; (b) from Glasgow F.S. asking for advice as to Propaganda. Decided that the org. sec deal with these.
3. New Societies Groups. Org. sec. reported (a) correspondence with the sec. of the Manchester University Soc<sup>y</sup> Society from which it appears that when the Union Bldgs are complete the Societ<sup>y</sup> will become a Fabian organization; (b) that progress was being made in Bristol in connection with the proposed F.S. which it was anticipated would be ready for formation in Sept. next; (c) that a meeting had been called to reform Leeds F.S. to be addressed by Org. Sec.; (d) that the org. sec. wd.



open Leicester H. S. on June 15: that a Group  
was being formed at Oideup.

(4)

Provincial Propaganda. Org. Sec. reported <sup>that</sup> Bland had  
agreed to lecture for the Liverpool H. S. the  
Glasgow H. S. having re-opened the question of  
the Org. Sec. spending a fortnight in Glasgow  
for Propaganda purposes it was agreed that the  
Org. Sec. be allowed to go if suitable dates could  
be arranged.

(5)

Suburban Lectures. Org. Sec. reported Courses ~~to be~~  
arranged as follows :-

Lewisham (F.G.); Kensington (F.G.);  
Croydon (F.S.); St. Pancras (F.G.); Clapham (F.S.);  
Forest Gate (F.G.); Paddington (F.G.); Dulwich (F.G.)  
Wood Green (F.G.); Ilford (F.S.); and  
Wallington (S.S.) on the proposal of Dodd it  
was agreed that a course be arranged at  
Furnbridge Mills, and in other profitable districts if  
desired.

(6)

Conference. It was decided that the Ann. Conference be

held at University Hall, Gordon Square. Also  
that hospitality be arranged for country delegates.

(7)

Source. It was decided that invitations be sent to the  
following with consent of E.C. Hyndman;  
Hardie; Burrows; Mallas; Sir Oliver Lodge; &  
Victor Grayson.

Next Meeting was fixed for June 22<sup>nd</sup>

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Meeting held at Offices June 22<sup>nd</sup> (Monday) 5.30pm. 1908

Present. Miss Murby, Ensor, Bland, Pease, <sup>Sanders</sup> Bland, Dodd.

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting were read & confirmed.
- (2) Vice-chairman. Ensor was elected vice-chairman of the sub com.
- (3) Correspondence. Letter from Kelly was read giving information as to Socialist organisations in America. From G. Steffen stating he would be at Voice Conference if permitted.
- (4) Provincial Propaganda. Org. Sec. reported <sup>(a)</sup> visit and lecture to Hull F.S.; visit to Leicester & formation of F. Society there; visit to Leeds and reformation of Fabian Society. (b) <sup>#</sup> also for Bland that arrangements had been made for to lecture at <sup>Sheff</sup> to lecture at Edinburgh, York, Liverpool & Hull Cardiff (or Hull) in addition to Liverpool & F.S. Societies; <sup>#</sup> (c) That York, Hull & other Fabian Societies desire courses of

lectures <sup>(4)</sup> That the Sec and he considered that provincial lecturing activities should be revived and that a professional lecturer be engaged.

The Report was adopted. As the E. Com had approved ~~of~~ the proposal to revive provincial lecturing and engage ~~the~~ a professional lecturer it was decided to put an advt. in Fabian News asking for applications for post of professional lecturer for, say, six courses of four lectures each.

(5) London Groups. Org. Sec. reported formation of new Group at Sidcup.

(6) Suburban Lectures. It was agreed that a course be given at Sidcup under auspices of the Fabian Group.

(7) Conference. List of delegates and proposals to be discussed sent in by Societies + Groups was presented. It was decided that the E. Com. be recommended not to refer to the Conference

195/89

the question of the payment by the local Societies of their proportion of the affiliation fee to the Labour Party, as it would raise the subject of the constitution of the Society, and its relation to the local Societies in a difficult form.

(8) None. Very few tickets reported sold. Agreed that if any special action be necessary it should be brought before the Com at its next meeting.

(9) Date of meeting. It was decided that the Sub Com. meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays in the month.

(10) Joint Meeting Mr J. Stees. It was agreed to recommend <sup>the S.C.</sup> that the Society pay hire of hall for this meeting, cost not to exceed £5.

13.7.08

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(189/50)

Meeting Monday July 13<sup>th</sup> 1908 5/30 p.m.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Bland, Headlam, Sanders & Pease.

Minutes of the previous meeting, were read & confirmed.

Correspondence. Letters were read from Reeves & Edwards announcing a probable North of England Fabian Conference. It was agreed that the Org. Sec. attend this should it take place.

Provincial Lecturers. The candidates for this position were Messrs Jackson, Park, Schlessler & Greenwood. It was decided that the first three be appointed and that they be guaranteed at least 3 courses of four lectures each, one guinea per lecture & travelling expenses.

Org. Secretary's Report. The Org. Sec. reported the formation of a New Group at Harrow. That he had agreed to lecture for a fortnight in the New Year for the



Glasgow Fabian Society. That he had fixed  
up a number of lecturing engagements for  
Parker in the provinces. That he had  
received an invitation to give four lectures in  
Paravia on the English Socialist movement  
On the last point it was agreed that, <sup>the org sec accept</sup> with <sup>the invitation</sup> what  
the consent of the C.C. the Society should pay  
the expenses of the Org Sec. if necessary.

Rewert S Headlam

(45/9)

Meeting Monday Sept 28<sup>th</sup> 1908. 5.30pm. Office

Present. Headlam (in chair) Hobson, Miss Murby,  
Pearse & Sanders.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed

Provincial Lecturing. Org. Sec. reported that arrangements were being made for Jackson, Sharp, & Schlessler to give lecture courses at Letchworth, Hitchin, Luton, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Bootle, St. Helens, Cardiff, Manchester, Darwen, York, Sheffield, Hull, Newcastle Bath, Yeovil, Coventry and Brighton. Applications from other places were being considered. The report was adopted.

Suburban Lectures. Org. Sec. reported that arrangements had been made for courses to be given at Kensington, Epsom, Croydon, St. Pancras Clapham, Forest Gate, Paddington, Wallington, Woodgreen, Ilford & Harrow. Preliminary steps had been taken in connection with Dulwich, Norwood & Hornsey. The Report was adopted.

New Societies. Org. Sec. reported that a Society was to be formed at Bristol on the 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. & that steps were being taken to form a Society at Reading. The Report was adopted.

Lecture offers. Org. Sec. reported that letters offering lectures had been sent to about 250 newspapers & journals.

Proposed Meeting at Queens Hall.

Org. Sec. reported that Queens Hall was engaged every evening until middle of December. It was agreed that Webb be asked to give his lecture on the Unemployed at St. James's Hall and that the 2<sup>nd</sup> large meeting be not considered for the present.

Meeting Monday October 12<sup>th</sup> 1908 5/30pm. Office.

Present. Miss Murby (in the chair) Dodd, Emot, Hobson  
Sanders.

- Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.
- Report as to Provincial lectures was adopted as under.

**1.- Provincial Courses: definitely fixed:-**

Lecturer.	Place.	Date.
Sharp.	Liverpool Clarion C.)	Commenced October.
	Birkenhead I.L.P. }	
	New Ferry I.L.P. }	
Jackson	Hull Fabian Society }	Commenced October
	Driffield I.L.P. }	
Schloesser	Letchworth F. S. )	Commenced October
	Hitchin I.L.P. }	
Jackson	York F. S. }	Commence in November.
	Jackson	
	Manchester F.S. }	
	Halifax I.L.P. }	
Sharp or Schloesser	Bath I. L. P. }	Commence in January
	Yeovil I. L. P. }	
	Radstock I. L. P. }	
Jackson	Liverpool F. S. )	Commence in January
	Bottle I.L.P. }	
	St. Helens S.S. )	
Sanders	Brighton F. S.	Commence in November

**Provincial Courses: arranged preliminarily.**

Sharp or Schloesser	Four or five Courses in neighbourhood of Newcastle.	Commence in November or December.
Sharp or Schloesser	Three Courses in North Wales	Commence in January.
Sharp-or-Schloesser	Three-Courses	
Sharp or Schloesser	Dundee, Perth, Glasgow, Edinburgh.)	Commence in December
Sharp or Schloesser	Courses in Cardiff & South Wales	Commence in February.

3. Suburban Lectures were reported upon as follows  
The report was adopted.

**Courses definitely arranged**

Lecturer.	Place
W. Sanders	Croydon F. S.
H. Snell	Forest Gate F. S.
Palmer & H. Snell	Palmer Green F. S.
W. Sanders.	St. Pancras F. G.
W. Sanders	Paddington F. G.
H. Snell	Wallington S. S.
H. Snell	Ilford F. S.
H. Snell	Kensington F. G.
W. Sanders.	Harrow F. G.
Lewisham W. Sanders	Lewisham F. G.

**Courses booked but dates not definitely fixed**

W. Sanders.	Sidcup F. G.
	Dulwich F. G.
	Tunbridge Wells
	Clapham F. S.
	Norwood.

4. New Societies. Org. Secretary reported formation of a St. Society at Bristol which he is to visit on October 19<sup>th</sup>; as to steps to form a Society at Reading which town he will visit on October 29<sup>th</sup>; as to enquiries as to formation of a Society at Walsall, also at Shuddersfield  
Report was adopted

5. Large Meetings. Letter was read from Webb stating he was unable to fix a date for the proposed meeting at St. James's Hall. It was decided to make the following recommendation to the E.C. and to ask the H.P. subcom to concur.

That three meetings be held after Xmas on Friday evenings in place of three meetings at Essex Hall; at each of the meetings one of the most prominent Fabians to be in the chair and two good Fabian lecturers to give propaganda addresses on some aspect of Socialism. Admittance to the meetings to be free to the members, associates and subscribers and a charge to be made to strangers.

6. Report as to Propaganda Work. It was decided that a summary of the seasons activities in this propaganda work should appear in the January 7. News.

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(157/98)

Meeting, Monday October 26<sup>th</sup> 1908 7/30 pm. Office

Present Miss Murby (in chair) Dodd, Bland, Ensor,  
A. G. Hobson, Sanders.

1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

2) Organizing Secretary's Report. (a) Reported he had visited  
Bristol and addressed a  
meeting held under the auspices of the <sup>newly formed Fabian</sup> Society.  
(b) arranged to visit Reading to form Society on  
October 29<sup>th</sup> to form Society. (c) also to visit Walsall  
for same purpose. (d) Visited Marlborough and given  
opening lecture of course to a relatively good audience.  
(e). Arranged to visit Manchester on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>  
to attend Northern Fabian Conference and to give  
lecture under auspices of local Fabian Society.  
Report was adopted.

Suburban Lectures. (a) Satisfactory Reports were given of  
the courses commenced at Croydon, Forest Gate,  
Wood Green, Paddington.  
(b) New courses had been booked at Grays & Hornsey



and a Course offered to Richmond & L.P.

Provincial Lectures Not altogether satisfactory reports were given of the Courses at Hull, (Jackson) Liverpool, Birkenhead + New Ferry (Sharp). Better accounts were given of the Courses at Driffeld, <sup>(Inverness)</sup> Hitchin + Letchworth. (Schlaeser)

St. James's Hall Meetings It was decided that the following arrangements (subject to the approval of the Ex. Com.) be made for these meetings:

Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> Subject: "The Politics of Socialism."  
Chairman. G B Shaw  
Speakers. Sanders + Ennot.

Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> Subject: "Socialism + Christianity"  
Chairman. A Bland  
Speakers Lilley + Noel.

Mar. 19 Subject: "Socialism + Physical Millbary"  
Chairman Sir Victor Horsley  
Speakers. Dodd. + Dr. G. Berkham.

That members, associates, + subscribers be admitted free; strangers to pay 1/ per lecture

or 2/6 per course. It was decided that the  
Ex. Comm. agree be recommended that a lecture by Mrs Mander  
be given in Gresser Hall east in St. James's.

Willicent Quilley.

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Meeting, Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> /08 5.30 p.m. Office

Present Mrs Murby (in chair) Dodd, Ensor, Hobson, Sanders

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.
- (2) Organizing Secretary's Report. Org. Sec. reported he had visited Reading and formed Society with about 20 members; visited Walsall on Nov. 12 and formed Society with about 24 members and 3 Associates. Arranged to visit Huddersfield on Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> to form Society. Further reported that he had attended the Northern Conference of Fabian Societies on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. The proceedings would be reported in the December "News".
- (3) Provincial Lectures. Organizing Sec. reported successful courses at Hitchin, Letchworth by Schlusser. Successful course at ~~Bed~~<sup>Donned</sup> and not very successful at Hull by Jackson. The courses at Liverpool, New Ferry & Birkenhead by Sharp

had been fairly well attended. Courses  
in progress at Sheffield, York, Manchester and  
Halifax by Jackson had drawn very good  
audiences. Courses at Leicester and Marlboro'  
by Org. Sec. had been well attended. Sharp  
had been compelled to give up his lectures  
in Scotland after holding our highly successful  
meeting at Kilmacolm; Schlessler had taken  
his place.

(4) Suburban Lectures. Org. Sec. reported that completed courses  
at Wood Green and Forest Gate had been  
well attended. Lecturer: Snell. The org. sec.  
had had fair audiences at Croydon. Courses  
at Wallington, Ilford, Paddington, St Pancras  
& Hornsey had started with satisfactory  
audiences.  
A course had been booked at Richmond.

(5) St. James's Hall Meetings With regard to  
second <sup>meeting</sup> ~~lecture~~ it was agreed that the E. Com.  
be recommended to alter subject to "Christianity  
and the Churches". Noel had accepted invitation

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to speak; Temple declined. Decided to recommend  
E.C. to invite Clifford to speak and, on the suggestion  
of Bland, Headlam to take chair. With regard to  
third meeting Hovvley had declined to take chair;  
Dr Ethel Bentham had agreed to speak. Title to be  
"Socialism or Race Welfare". Agreed that for Geo.  
Hutchinson he asked to take chair. Failing him the  
E.C. to be recommended to invite Dr. Dudley Buxton  
and failing him Dr. Lionel Daylor. The first meeting  
was to be as arranged at previous meeting. The  
E.C. had added  $\frac{1}{6}$  reserved seats for members to those  
not more than 200 seats to be reserved in all.  
recommended by Sub. Com. Advertising meetings.  
Org. Sec. was instructed to enquire as to cost of  
advertising on Tube Stations.

W. H. H. H. H.

14. 12. 28.

Meeting Monday December 14<sup>th</sup> 1908 5.30. p.m.

Present: Miss Murby (in the chair) Bland, Hobson,  
Sanders.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed

2. Organizing Secretary's Report. Org. Sec. reported that an attempt was being made to form a Cardiff University Fabian Society. The Principal refused permission. He had advised that a Cardiff University Students Fabian Society should be formed and that the members should at once join the London Society.

Report was adopted

3. Provincial Lecture Courses. Reports (favourable) were given. Org. sec. reported that courses had been fixed at Coventry, Malsall and Leeds Maldon & Midhurst. Newcastle course abandoned.

Report was adopted.

4. Suburban Courses. Favourable Reports were given of

completed course at Horsey and course in progress at Harrow. Proposed course at Sidcup abandoned.

5. St. James's Hall Meeting.

- (a) It was decided that Hubert Bland be chairman for third meeting Sir John Hutchinson having declined.
- (b) Advertisements. It was agreed that the meetings be advertised on the Tube Stations 6 sheet dble crown posters to be used; sixteen of these to be <sup>ordered</sup> used. Ten pounds in all to be spent on advertising.

Hubert Bland



Meeting Monday January 11<sup>th</sup> 1909. 5.30 p.m. office

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Headlam, Hobson,  
Sanders, Ensor.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.
2. Suburban Lectures. Org. sec. reported on Course commenced at Richmond. Attendance satisfactory (over 100). New Courses had been booked at Thornton Heath and Westminster. Report adopted.
3. Provincial Lectures. Org. sec. reported on Courses commenced by him at Maldon and Chelmsford. Audiences satisfactory when size of towns considered. Good Report received from Reeves of Liverpool relative to course by Jackson at Doober. Excellent account from Glasgow F.S. with regard to Schloessers lectures in

## Glasgow. Report adopted.

4. New Societies. Secretary reported formation of S<sub>2</sub> at Huddersfield and that steps were being taken to form a lit<sup>y</sup> S<sub>7</sub> at Edinburgh. Correspondence had taken place regarding formation of a S<sub>7</sub> at S<sup>t</sup>. Andrews, -also at Aberdeen. Report adopted.

5. S<sup>t</sup>. James Hall Meetings. Org<sup>y</sup> Sec reported that about £8 had been taken for tickets; that he had advertised on certain Sub<sup>st</sup> relations and proposed to advertise in press. For March 5<sup>th</sup> when Wbb was speaker with Shunt in chair, ~~where~~ he proposed the tickets should be 2/6 1/ and 6<sup>d</sup> - no free seats. Agreed. It was further decided that there should be questions and discussion at Wbb's meeting.

4. Constitution Amendments. It was agreed that the secretary should prepare a return shewing the number of members of local Societies who are members of local London Society. It was provisionally agreed that the Propaganda Com: members plus the supporters of the amendment to the Com: to ~~also~~ consider the amendment. Miss Hutchins was also added and on her nomination Miss Atkinson. The secretary was further instructed to write to the local Societies asking if they had any views on the subject. Also to Allen of Glasgow, Hallswoth of Manchester and Edwards of Liverpool asking if they were suggested as members of the Com: would they be prepared to serve.

William Charles

(45/60)

Meeting

~~1909~~

Meeting Monday January 25. ~~1909~~ 1909 5/30 pm  
Offices.

Present.

Miss Murby (in chair) R.C.K. Ensor, Headlam  
Sanders.

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed
- (2) Duburban Lectures. Dulwich series cancelled. Course booked at Finchley Kingston. Org. sec. reported he had had good audiences at Lewisham Richmond; Snell had had fair audiences at Chelsea Norwood.
- (3) Provincial Lectures. Org. sec. reported he had commenced course at Nottingham with audience of 500.
4. St James's Hall Meetings. Financial Report. Tickets sold for the four meetings to date £36.5.6. Of this £28 was for first meeting; about £5 for meetings on Feb 26 1909 and the balance for Webb's meeting on March 5.

Profit on first meeting about £8. Literature sold £5.4.2. Total cost of four meetings to date about £70, less £36. tickets sold leaving cost to be met by further sale of tickets £34.

5. New Societies. Org. sec. to visit Edinburgh on Feb. 9. to form Edinburgh City Fabian Society.

6. Org. Sec. reported that progress was being made with the collection of materials for the Committee on Amendments to Constitution. It was agreed

7. Rural Propaganda. Long letter from Fordham was read urging that rural propaganda should be undertaken. It was agreed that Fordham be asked to confer with the Committee on Monday Feb 1st

8. Org. Sec. reported that Womens Group had sent a long and interesting report which she offered recommended should be printed in the F. News

Agreed.

W. H. ...

Special Meeting <sup>February</sup> ~~March~~ 1. 09. Monday 5/30pm.

Present, Miss Murby (in chair) Pease, Sanders, Ensor,  
Hobson Todd & Fordham.

Fordham gave an account of the present position in the rural districts especially in connection with Small Holdings & Land Clubs. He suggested that the Society should publish a pamphlet on Small Holdings <sup>Societies</sup> & Land Clubs which he would be prepared to write. This should be followed by letters to the country press on the lines of pamphlet; organization of rural opinion; formation of Land Clubs; members to be circularized asking them to push ideas contained in proposed pamphlet; selling of Land Club pamphlets at Fabian Meetings. It was agreed to accept offer of pamphlet and ~~arrange~~ to consider the question further when it was sent in.

Philippa Murby

Meeting held March 8<sup>th</sup> /09. 5.30pm. Office.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Glad Benson, Pease & Sanders.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed
2. Organizing Secretary reported that he had held ten lectures under the auspices of the Glasgow Fabian Society with fairly satisfactory results. Report adopted
3. Northern Fabian Conference. Org. sec. reported that arrangements had been made to hold the annual Northern Fabian Conference at Sheffield on May 1<sup>st</sup>
4. Minority Report Campaign. The org. sec. reported that arrangements had been made for Daney Webb and Mr Webb to address meetings under the auspices of the local



Fabian Societies at Liverpool, Manchester, Hull,  
Leeds & Sheffield on the Poor Law (Minority) Report.  
The org. sec. would address similar meetings at  
Darwen Burnley, York & Huddersfield. The  
meetings would take place the last week in  
April.

(5) New Societies. The org. sec. reported that he had  
formed a new Society at Edinburgh, and  
that a Society was in course of formation  
at Blandudno as a result of Clifford Sharp's  
lectures.

(6) The date of the first meeting of the Constitution  
Committee ~~has been~~ <sup>was</sup> fixed for March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

(7) Annual Soiree. It was agreed that the  
E.C. be recommended to hold no Soiree  
this year.

8. Annual Conference. It was decided to  
recommend the E.C. to fix the date of  
the Annual Conference for Sat. July 10<sup>th</sup>;

place to be arranged when number of representatives attending is known.

7. St. James's Hall Meetings. The receipts up to date for the four meetings were about £116 of which sum £65 was taken for Webb's meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>. The total cost of the meetings was estimated to reach £70. Net profit will be about £50.

8. Provincial lectures. Reports were given by the Org. sec. as to opinions expressed on the lecturing capacities of Sharp, Schloesser & Jackson by members of provincial F. S. ties. Opinions on the two first named were very favourable. On the latter less so.

9. Suburban lectures. Org. sec. reported he had commenced courses with fairly good audiences at Westminster, Finchley & Kingston. Snell had commenced a course at Thornton Heath.

V. Vincent Purley

Special Committee on Amendments to  
the Constitution. -

Meeting at Office on Monday March 22<sup>nd</sup> '09  
at 5pm.

Present - H. Bland <sup>W. A. Colegate</sup>, Miss Hurly, Miss Hutchins,  
Lawson Dodd, Haden Guest R.P.K. Snesor  
& S.R. Pease (of the Executive) and  
Miss Atkinson W.A. Colegate, Sydney Herbert;  
Clifford Sharp, H.H. Schlessner, ~~W.A. Colegate~~,  
Geo. Allan (of Glasgow) & J.W. Brooks (Letchworth)  
Absent - Sidney Welch & Bernard Shaw (abroad) &  
W. Sanders, (Letchworth) of the Executive  
& F. Keeling.

1. Hubert Bland was elected chairman.
2. A general discussion on the resolution adopted at the ~~annual~~ members meeting followed.
- (3) It was agreed that the promoters of the amendment draft a definite scheme to be laid before the next meeting.

(4)

EXHIBIT  
AT A  
W.A.

(55/69

(4.) It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 5:10pm.

*Miles Blane*

EXAMINED  
AT AUDIT  
W.H.T.

For Report- submitted to this  
Comtee see later on.

Special Committee on ~~the~~ Amendments to the  
Constitution -

Meeting at Office on Tues. April 20 1909  
at 5.15 pm -

Present Bland (in chair), Webb, Emsor, Sanders  
Pease, Miss Murly of the Executive: 1  
Keeling Colegate, White, Sharp, J.W.  
Brooks, Jas. Allan, Schlosser, Miss Alkerson  
Herbert.

Absent. Miss Antchins, Dodd, Mrs. Keene Shaw

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.
2. Proposal referred to the Com<sup>ee</sup> & the Exec: -

No candidate for membership of the Society shall  
be entitled to vote as a member of the Society till  
six months after the publication of his name in  
the "Fabian News".

After a short debate it was agreed that no  
action be taken & the discussion be ad-  
journed sine die.

- (3) Proposal of the Executive Committee that

3 (cont'd) The Rules be amended as follows:—

To alter the word "fifty" in the following rule

(No. 18) to "one hundred":—

"Any mover of a resolution which at a meeting of the Society has been supported by not less than fifty members may claim a poll of the whole Society, the voting to be by letter".

And to secure the right of claim to a poll to the mover of a resolution defeated by an amendment.

After a brief debate it was agreed to report to the Exec. that the Committee is in favour of amending the Rule as proposed.

4. The annexed report was generally discussed & ultimately it was moved & allan & seconded by Sharp

That this meeting is of opinion that it is desirable that the Constitution should be so amended as to give some mandatory power to an Annual Conference.

J. W. Brooks moved & this was seconded an amendment to delete "mandatory" & substitute "additional". On a division 7 voted for the

chs/66

(4) (cont'd) amendment 4 & 8 against. The amendment was therefore lost.

(5) A vote was then taken on the resolution which was carried 9 8 votes to 7.

(6) The Committee then adjourned till Monday Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5.15.

August Blain

Reports opposite were presented  
to the meeting of March 22<sup>nd</sup> '09

- Enclosures. 1. Annual Report.  
2. Particulars of Local and University Societies.  
3. Statement shewing distribution of Provincial members &c.  
4. Statistics relating to ~~the~~ item 4 on the Agenda.

Memorandum by the Organising Secretary.

The existing constitution of the Society provides for the government of the Society by an Executive Committee elected by ballot, and general meetings of the members. The total number of members is 25 2457, of which 1311 are in the London District (an area within the 20 miles radius of Charing Cross), and 1146 distributed in the country and abroad, as shewn in the enclosed statement. The relations of the local Fabian Societies to the London Fabian Society are set out in the By-laws in the Annual Report. The number of members of local Fabian Societies who are also members of the London Fabian Society is 509; non-members of the London Society who are members of the local Fabian Societies number 531. ~~Deducting these~~ Of the former, 100 belong to local Fabian Societies in the London District. Deducting these, to the 409 left must be added the 304 University Fabian Society members outside London in order to ascertain the number of country members and members living abroad who are attached to the London Fabian Society only. This number is 433 (1146-713).

Members of local Fabian Societies may join the London Fabian Society on payment of 2/6 annual sub. Members of University Fabian Societies pay only 1/- per annum. The Executive Committee desires to call attention to these extremely low subscriptions.

Wm. Sanders.



LOCAL SOCIETIES.

Society.	Total number of Members.	Non-members of London Society.	Members of London Society.	Remarks of Society on proposed Amendments.
Bedales	5	2	3	None
Brighton	23	17	6	Not anxious for
Bristol	41	37	4	Under consideration
Buckhurst Hill	24	16	8	Generally in favour
Burnley	11	4	7	Approve None
Bute	13	13	-	None
Canterbury		Suspended		
Cardiff	19	11	8	
Carnarvon	30	18	12	Approve
Chelmsford	14	7	7	None
Coventry	17	8	9	
Croydon	69	14	55	Against. Want Co-op members on E. C.
Darwin	14	12 Societies.	2	None
Edinburgh		Only just formed.		
Glasgow	113	-	113	Strongly in favour
Hull	30	-	30	None
Huddersfield	20	18	2	
Ilford	25	-	25	Generally against change.
Leeds	24	12	12	None
Leicester	24	6	18	
Letchworth	115	96	19	Against
Liverpool	112	108	4	None

02/10

Approve

Not anxious for

Approve None

None

Approve

Against. Want Co-op members on E. C.

Strongly in favour

None

Generally against change.

None

Against

None



Distribution of Country Members.

*Car 170*

Brought Forward		Brought Forward		Brought Forward	
Bedfordshire				221	
Bedford	2				
Luton	1	2	Southampton (Hants)	5	
Others	3		Bournemouth	2	
Berkshire			Petersfield	6	
Reading	12 + 24 +		Portsmouth	6	
Newbury	3		Southampton	3	
Others	2		Isle of Wight	1	
Buckinghamshire			Hereford	1	
Amersham	4	19	Hertfordshire		
Buckingham	1	108	Letchworth	19 +	
H. Wycombe	1		Watford	17	
Cambridgeshire			Hemel Hempstead	5	
Cambridge	6		Huntingdonshire		
University F.S.	95		St. Neots	1	
Cheshire			Kent.		
Chester	5		Ashford	1	
Birkenhead & District	8		Canterbury	2 +	
Stockport	6		Dover	2	
Cornwall	3		Folkestone	3	
Cumberland			Isle of Thanet	3	
Carlisle	1		Maidstone	2	
Workington	1	14 +	Lancashire		
Derbyshire			Burnley	7 +	
Derby	2		Bury	3	
Others	3		Lancaster	5	
Devonshire			Liverpool	8 +	
Barnstaple	1		Manchester		
Plymouth	1		F. S. 40 & 32	72 +	
Stoke	1		Ashton	1	
Torquay	1		Blackburn	1	
Teignmouth	1		Barrow	1	
Dorsetshire			Clitheroe	1	
Portland	2		Darwen	2 +	
Weymouth & c.	3		Oldham	1	
Durham			Padiham	3	
Gateshead	1		Preston	1	
Darlington & c.	6		Others	5	
Stockton	3		Leicestershire		
Sunderland	5		Leicester		
Essex.			F. S. 11 & 7	18 +	
Chelmsford	7 +		Lincolnshire		
Colchester	4		Louth	1	
Malden	11		Billinghay	1	
Newport	2		Norfolk.		
Gloucestershire			Great Yarmouth	1	
Bristol	4 +		Runstanton	1	
Gloucester & District	8		King's Lynn	2	
			Norwich	3	

Carried for'd 221

Carried Forward

440

807/7

Brought forward	440
Northamptonshire	
Kettering	2
Northumberland	
Newcastle	
F.S.14 & 12	26 +
Nottinghamshire	
Nottingham	2
Oxfordshire	
Oxford	12
University P.S.	102
Shropshire	
Ludlow	1
Somersetshire	
Bath	2
Bridgwater	1
Taunton	1
Others	5
Staffordshire	
Burton	1
Leek	1
Stafford	3
Stoke-on-Trent	2
Walsall	14 +
Wolverhampton	2
Others	2
Sussex	
Brighton	6 +
Chichester	3
Eastbourne	1
Hastings	4
Others	10
Warwickshire	
Coventry	9 +
Birmingham	26
Others	1
Westmoreland	2
Wiltshire	
Marlborough	4 +
Worcestershire	
Droitwich	1
Worcester	1
Yorkshire	
Bradford	6
Hull	30 +
Leeds	12 +
Middlesbro'	5
Sheffield	48 +
York	3 +
Wakefield	2
Rotherham	2
Harrogate	3
Huddersfield	2 +
Others	9

Brought Forward	809
SCOTLAND	
Aberdeen	3
Edinburgh	5 +
University F.S.	39
Glasgow	113 +
University F.S.	54
Other places	21

IRELAND	
Belfast	3
Cork	3
Dublin	1
Other places	2

WALES	
Cardiff	8 +
Carnarvon	12 +
Bangor	3
Newport	4
Swansea	7
Other places	21

Country      Total      Total      1,108

Suffolk (omitted)      3

1,111

Less 49 Country members  
purged 12/3/09      49

TOTAL.      1,062

Towns marked thus +  
have a local F.S.

Members in London District 1311  
" Abroad 84

Blonppf 10LW894  
440  
Cesf72  
Item No 4.

The object that we have kept before us is to provide a practical

The claim to a Poll.

When the present rule was passed in April 1893 the membership of the Society was as follows:-

London	Country	Abroad	Total
899	206	35	640

An eighth of the London members, or one-thirteenth of the whole membership, could then demand a poll. The membership of the Society is now as follows:-

London	Country	Abroad	Total
1,311	1,062	84	2,457.

The proposal of the Executive Committee would give one-thirteenth of the London members or one-twenty-fourth of the whole membership the right to claim a poll.

Note. The figures given above do not include the members of local Fabian Societies who are not members of the London Fabian Society. These number 531.

...of the London members on one-twenty-fourth  
 the proposal of the Executive Committee would give one-  
 ...membership the right to claim a poll.

1,311	1,000	84	2,395
-------	-------	----	-------

Note. The figures given above do not include the members  
 of the Society in now as follows:-

of local Fabian Societies who are not members of  
 whose membership could then demand a poll. The membership  
 of the London Fabian Society. These number 331.  
 an eighth of the London members, or one-thirtieth of the

200	200	32	430
-----	-----	----	-----

London	Country	Abroad	Total
--------	---------	--------	-------

the membership of the Society was as follows:-

When the present rule was passed in April 1892

The claim to a poll.

...	...	31
...	...	24
...	...	110
...	...	20
...	...	2
...	...	2

Reports opposite presented to  
 Meeting April 20<sup>th</sup> 1909.

Special Committee on Amendments to the Constitution. Society.

Preliminary Note.

The object that we have kept before us is to provide a practical constitution suitable for the Fabian Society as it now exists. The simplicity beloved of theorists is forbidden by the complexity of the situation; but this is no reason for delaying action. The outstanding fact that we have to consider is the urgent need for some change by which local Fabian Societies may be brought more closely into touch with one another and may feel themselves to be fully-qualified branches of an effective national organisation instead of mere isolated groups of Socialist students. This need must be satisfied by a temporary re-organisation in order to pave the way for that very development of provincial strength which require and justify a more complete scheme. Hence in the scheme set forth below we have attempted to provide only for the circumstances of the immediate future. We are aiming at the achievement of a practical scheme and not of a theoretically perfect democracy.

(1) Definitions

"The Central Society." means the original Fabian Society and includes all members wherever resident who pay their subscriptions themselves direct to the London office.

(N.B. Those who are members of provincial societies will, in future, under this scheme, pay through their own local secretary).

## 1. Definitions (continued)

A Central Member means a member of the Central Society.

A Provincial Member means a member of a Provincial Society.

The National Organisation includes the Central Society and the Provincial Societies.

2. Executive of the National Organisation.

(a) To be elected in April by all members, Central and Provincial; any elector to be eligible for nomination provided he has been a member for two years and is prepared to attend the meetings of the Executive with reasonable regularity.

(b) To fulfil the functions of a governing body both of the Central Society and of the National Organisation.

(c) To appoint a standing sub-committee of its own members (with power of co-optation) to deal with National affairs including the reports of the Organising Secretary and the arrangements for the Annual Conference.

Finance.

(a) All members of the Central Society to pay a minimum subscription of 5/-.

(b) All provincial societies to pay an annual sum to the Central Society representing at least 2/6 for each of their members.

(N. B. Exceptional ~~conditions~~ consideration might be given to the cases of certain societies - to the University societies for example, it has been suggested.)



1915/16

The Annual Conference. Conference (continued)

To be composed of all resolutions of which due notice has

- (a) The Executive the Executive or by any Society or
- (b) Representatives of Provincial Members
- (d) To Each provincial society having more than 20 members to have the right of sending one representative for every 50 members (or part thereof) for whom they have paid subscriptions to the Central Society during the previous 12 months.
- (c) Representatives of Central Members.
- (e) The London members to have the right of sending one representative for every 50 members (or part thereof); such representatives, their total number being determined to be appointed partly by the various local and subject groups (we suggest one for each group) and partly by a General meeting of Central members.

Extra-ordinary Conference.

Note: If these proposals were adopted the constitution of the Conference this year would be approximately as follows:-

Executive	21
Provincial Representatives	32
Central do.	
Appointed by Groups	17
" " General Meeting	<u>17</u> <u>34</u>
Total	87

Functions and Powers of Conference.

- (a) To meet annually in the month of June.
- (b) To receive and approve the Annual Report with power to refer any part of it back to the Executive for alteration.

Functions and Powers of Conference (continued)

General Provisions.

- (c) To consider all resolutions of which due notice has been given by the Executive or by any Society or recognised Group of "Fabian News" monthly and of each tract as the Executive may think fit.
- (d) To pass resolutions as to general policy which resolutions may be either advisory or mandatory to the Executive and to the governing Committees of the Provincial societies; but the Executive shall have power at any time to refer any resolution to the decision of the entire membership by means of a postal Referendum.
- (e) To alter or amend the Rules of the society (including those relating to its own constitution) but only after due notice published in "Fabian News" and by a two-thirds majority of those voting.
- (f) To alter or amend the Basis - by a three-fourths majority.

Extra-ordinary Conference.

An extraordinary Conference may be summoned at any time by the Executive and the Executive shall be obliged to summon such a Conference upon receiving a requisition duly signed on behalf of so many Groups and Societies as represent one-third of the membership of the Conference. But such an extraordinary Conference shall not be competent to deal with any business other than that for which it has been expressly called summoned.

(c) To consider all resolutions of which the notice has  
been given and to elect a Committee of Enquiry (continued)

General Provisions.

All members, Central and Provincial, shall receive a copy of "Fabian News" monthly and of each tract as the Executive may think fit to send out.

The Annual Report of the outgoing Executive shall be sent out to all members at the beginning of May and a General Meeting of the Central Members shall be held in London in May at which the Report shall be considered and the representatives above referred to elected. Any resolutions passed at this meeting shall be taken as instructions to the Central Representatives.

A business meeting of the Central Members may be called at any time by the Executive for the transaction of any ordinary business as heretofore; and one such meeting shall always be called in December or January when the Chairmen of the standing Sub-Committees shall report upon the work of the preceding half-year. But any resolutions passed at such a meeting other than those relating solely and strictly to London affairs shall be advisory only and not binding upon the Executive.

(45/78)

Special Com<sup>ee</sup> on Amendments to the Constitution.

Meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1909 at 5.15 pm.

Present. Bland (in chair), Welt Euseb Sanders  
Miss Mury, Miss Hutchins Miss Alkerson  
Sharp, Shaw, Dodd + Secretary:  
Weite, Schlosser Colegate Herbert Keeling Bruchs

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed
2. The annexed memoranda were considered. (See next page)
3. A memorandum in M.S. of Welt was read, & ordered to be circulated before next meeting.
4. The Secy was ordered to ascertain the cost of sending 1000 extra Fabian news with Tracts in bulk to the Local Societies.
5. The next meeting was fixed for Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> inst at 5.15 pm.

*W. E. Sanders*

Castro

Memoranda submitted  
to the Constitution  
Amendment Comm<sup>ee</sup>  
see opposite.

Constitutional Amendments Committee.

Memorandum by Sidney Webb.

Accepting the provisional decision of the Committee that the Annual Conference is to be made a feature of the constitution, and that proportionate representation at it is to be secured to the Local Societies, there seem to be two alternatives open. One plan - that now before the Committee - proceeds on the basis of making all the members of the Local Societies full members of the parent Society for voting and representation purposes, but diverting from the parent Society all their personal contributions. In return, the Local Society is to contribute to the parent Society an affiliation fee of half-a-crown per member - it is not clear whether on all its membership, or only on so much of it as it desires to claim representation on! This would be a serious financial blow to the parent Society, as it would lose at one stroke more than a quarter of its direct personal subscribers, and of the persons to whom it can now address a special appeal. On that the Treasurer will probably have something to say. But it might not be welcome to the Local Societies them selves. At present these Societies pay nothing collectively, and some of them have very few members contributing individually. The proposed affiliation fee of half-a-crown seems to me quite insufficient, but even at that low sum, the Liverpool Fabian Society would have to pay £14 a year, and the Letchworth Fabian Society £14.7.6 a year out of their corporate funds. I do not think that this will be either welcome to the Local Societies, or a wise step.

-  
Committee on the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution  
of the Society of Friends

Constitutional Amendments Committee.

(14/17)

Another way, it seems to me, would be to let the present arrangement alone by which members individually join the parent Society if they like, (at whatever minimum subscription it may be necessary to fix) and the Local Society make its own arrangements as to membership of its own body. Then, if the Local Society desires representation at the Conference, it should be entitled to get it upon (a) the number of its members who are members also of the parent Society, and (b) such of its other members as it cares to pay an affiliation fee for (whether the present rate of half-a-crown a member or a revised rate). This would leave it free as at present to increase its local membership at a low rate, without imposing any cost on the parent Society, and to be represented at the Conference though only by one member, without necessarily seeing any of its scanty corporate funds (except for the Conference Fee) diverted to London. If it wanted to be represented in proportion to its local membership it would be open to it to secure this at no great expense.

Constitutional Amendments Committee.

Memorandum by Hubert Bland, Hon. Treasurer.

The proposal to invite more provincial members to join the Society at an annual subscription of 2/6 and to permit university members to remain at an annual subscription of 1/-, it seems to me, would soon render critical a financial state of things already grave.

I have for some time been of opinion that the finances of the Society need serious consideration and re-adjustment, and the accounts for the past year have strongly confirmed my view.

The annual cost of running the parent Society, omitting altogether the London meetings - of which in the past year the net cost was £8 - now exceeds £1740 which sum is made up as follows

	£	
Office Expenses	1160	
Fabian News	137	
General Printing	102	
Provincial Lectures	286	
Organiser's expenses	17	
Grants	40	£1742.

This amounts to more than 14/- a member.

For the expenditure of this sum of £1742 each member, whether London Provincial or University, gains an equal advantage: - that advantage being the existence and activity of the Society and the consequent spread of Socialist ideas.



THE PROPOSED TO THAT THE MORE BROADLY THE MEMBERSHIP  
MEMORANDUM BY HENRY BRUCE\* NOV. 1908

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE

cas/05

an amount at least approximating to the present average subscription.

Of course special cases might be specially considered dealt with as they are now, by the admission of the candidates on payment of subscriptions considerably smaller than the average.

In addition to the annual subscription societies sending delegates to a conference with mandatory powers should be called upon to pay a Conference Fee per representative sufficient to cover the travelling and other expenses of the Conference.

I think it should be made clear to the local societies that any change in the direction proposed would have to be accompanied by the raising of the present minimum of 2/6 from such members as join the parent Society to an affiliation fee of, say, 10/- per annum.

The case of university societies must be considered separately. The subscriptions for the year 1908-9 amounted to £1496. For the year 1907-8 to £1608, a decrease of £112 and this in spite of the fact that membership of the Society increased by 447 members.

It is worth noting that of these members 192 were London and 269 provincial and university members.

The cost of printing and distributing Fabian News increased by £42, that is 336 subscriptions at 2/6.

CONFIDENTIAL

Functions and

**Constitutional Amendments Committee.**

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202/102

Memorandum by Sydney Herbert, Clifford Sharp, H. H. Schloesser, G. R. Blanco White, and W. A. Colegate in further explanation of the scheme before the Committee.

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**Local Autonomy.**

-----

The Conference to have no control over local finance other than power to determine amount of affiliation fee.

The control of the Conference over local affairs will be limited automatically to within the extent of its moral control over local Societies since the association is and must remain an entirely voluntary one. In practice its control will only be effective where united action is demanded.

**Affiliation Fee.**

-----

Provincial Secretaries will pay affiliation fees upon such members as do not subscribe direct to the Central Society.

Existing local societies may join the National Organisation or not but if they elect and join it they must pay affiliation fees on the whole of their members. Each such Society may make its own arrangements as regards associates or subscribers on whose behalf no affiliation fees will be paid, and who will have no rights as regards the election of the delegates.

Direction of the scheme before the Committee.  
G. H. Blandford M.P. and A. V. Cotterill M.P. in support of  
amendment by Mr. Herbert. CITIZENS' GROUP. H. H. GORING.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE

185/85

**Functions and Powers of Conference.**

The funds of the Central Society to be divided into two portions - a National Fund and a London Fund, the former alone being under the control of the Conference. The National Fund to consist of the Affiliation Fees and 2/6 per London member and Conference fees - and to be used for National Expenses e.g. Fabian News, Cost of Conference Organiser's Salary and expenses, Loss on Tracts (details to be discussed

If the affiliation fee is fixed at 2/6 there will probably be a loss shown on the Balance Sheet of the National Fund for some time to come. This loss will be met by a voluntary grant from the London Fund, thus giving London effective control of the whole of the Society's finance until such time as the Conference chooses to become ~~independent~~ independent by increasing affiliation fees.

This arrangement will introduce no book-keeping complications but will merely involve a new division of the Annual Balance Sheet.

That portion of the Annual Report which deals with specifically London affairs (e.g. Book Boxes and Suburban lectures) shall be printed under a separate heading and shall not be subject to discussion by the Conference but only by the London meeting.

The postal referendum referred to under section (d) should refer to sections (d), (e) and (f).

expenses incurred by members

London Fund to be used for National Expenses

Meeting held April 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 5.30 p.m. 1909

Present. Mrs Murby (in chair.) Envt. Headlam  
Blana Tanders.

1. Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

2. Org. sec. Provincial Suburban lectures. Org. sec. gave final report on Provincial Suburban lectures showing that 32 courses had been given under provincial scheme, cost to date £286; and 20 courses under the Suburban scheme, cost to date £170.

Report adopted.

3. New Societies. Org. sec. reported New Society formed at Clondudno and steps being taken to revive Society at Tunbridge Wells.

Report adopted.

4. Clondudno H.P. requested grant towards local expenses incurred in organizing Fabian lectures. Decided to ask for further information.

5. Autumn London Propaganda } Org. sec. proposed that a Queens  
Hall meeting be held in November.  
It was decided to postpone consideration  
of the suggestion.

6. Poor Law Report Campaign. Org. sec. reported that  
arrangements had been made for Mr  
Mr. Nibb to address public meetings on  
the Report of the Minority at Hull, Leeds,  
Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, and  
the org. sec. to address meeting on the  
same subject at Burnley, Darwen,  
York, Huddersfield. All meetings would  
be under the auspices of the local  
Fabian Societies and expenses would  
fall on London Society except travelling  
exp. of org. sec.

Report adopted.

## Constitution Amendment Committee.

Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> Mar 1909.-

Present- Bland (in chair), Webb, Miss Murby  
Sharp, Dodd, Eneur, Sanders, Secy,  
Weite, Colegate, Schloesser, Brooks, Herbert,  
Keeling.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

2. The following report was presented:-

Report from Standing as to Cost to the Society of 1,000  
additional copies of "Fabian News" (monthly) and  
1,000 additional copies of each of six tracts.

## Receipts.

1,000 affiliation  
fees @ 1/- £50.0.0.

Expenditure.  
(Standing Estimate)

1,000 extra copies "Fabian  
News" 8pp. £1.7<sup>6</sup>. x 12  
£16. 10. 0

1,000 extra copies  
Tract 16 pp.  
@ £1.10.0. x 6 £ 9. 0. 0

Making up and  
despatching say  
50 x 12 parcels  
@/- per 50 £ 3. 12. 0

Carriage on say  
50 x 12 parcels  
@ 4d. per parcel £10. 0. 0

£39. 2. 0

Balance (profit) 10. 18 0£50. 0. 0

3. The Resolutions (annexed) of the Northern Fabian Conference were submitted.

4. Draft Report (annexed) prepared by Sidney Webb was considered & amended. As amended it was unanimously adopted & ordered to be submitted to the Executive.

5. The Committee adjourned sine die.

*Walter Storer*

Cesler

Resolutions passed at the Northern Fabian Conference  
held at Sheffield May 1st. 1909.

The Relation of Provincial Societies to London.

"The Conference is in favour of a policy of local autonomy (outside the basis), local Societies to keep their own money and to pay their own expenses for the present (subject to an affiliation fee) and looking to federation in the future, and adopts Mr. Edwards' four suggestions namely that a fee of 1/- per member be paid to London to be refunded in copies of "Fabian News" and new tracts for all members; that a national Conference (not legislative) be instituted annually, one delegate from each of the local Societies or Groups per hundred members meeting with the whole of the London Executive; that the Organising Secretary of the London Society have a monthly report from Societies for publishing in "Fabian News"; that the expenses of the National Conference be pooled."

Carried with two or three dissentients.

Fabian Societies and Political Action.

"That this Conference considers Fabian Societies should remain, as at present, free to take whatever action they consider best under local and other circumstances in connection with the promotion of parliamentary and municipal candidates, providing such action does not infringe the terms of affiliation of the Fabian Societies with the Labour Party."

Carried with four dissentients.



Draft Report

Prepared by Sidney Webb

To be considered at the Meeting on

Thursday 13th. May, 1899 at 5.15 p.m.

*Cas/lee*

allows the local society complete freedom of action, and control of  
 whatever may be the advantages of this loose connection, which  
 has been arranged and paid for by the London Society. But  
 the need of membership. Such national conferences have been  
 a year, which very inadequately represents the average expenditure  
 to full membership at the low minimum subscription of half-a-crown  
 they are encouraged to join; and those who wish to join are admitted  
 members need necessarily be members of the London Society, though  
 organization of lecturing and other propaganda. None of these  
 positions to enable everyone of their members to be able to

*Cas/lee*

Local Societies come very little into contact with the national

The resolution of the Members' meeting of the 8th.

January 1909 and the enquiries set on foot by the Committee may be taken to indicate the existence of a feeling that it would be desirable to bring the Local Societies into closer and more constant touch with the London members; and especially to provide more systematically than at present for the interchange of opinions and discussion of Fabian methods.

We think that experience has shown that the existing organisation has both advantages and disadvantages. At present, the Local Societies accepting the name and basis of the Fabian Society are wholly autonomous. As local organisations or groups they contribute nothing to the funds of the Fabian Society of London; nor do they bear any share of what may be called the national expenses of the movement such as the work of the Central office, the printing of tracts, the issue of "Fabian News" and the organisation of lecturing and other propaganda. None of their members need necessarily be members of the London Society, though they are encouraged to join; and those who wish to join are admitted to full membership/ at the low minimum subscription of half-a-crown a year, which very inadequately represents the average expenditure per head of membership. Such National Conferences as have been held have been arranged and paid for by the London Society. But whatever may be the advantages of this loose connection, which allows the Local Society complete freedom of action, and control of all its funds, it has the disadvantage that the members of the

The resolution of the members, meeting of the ...  
Local Societies come very little into contact with the national  
movement, and seldom have opportunities of meeting the members of  
the Fabian Societies outside their own towns. The London members,  
and the Executive Committee of the London Society lose the stimulus  
and advantage of meeting the members of the Local Societies.

Case 127

Among various proposals to which the desire for closer  
association has led is one for the transformation of the whole group  
of Fabian Societies (London and provincial) into a single single  
national organisation, with a single membership, with a national  
Delegate Meeting and local branches, with branch subscriptions for  
local expenses and an affiliation fee to a national fund for all  
expenditure of a national character. To this plan, there has been  
expressed the objection that the creation of a Delegate Meeting with  
legislative powers could hardly fail, even if those powers were limited  
to so-called national questions to a diminution of the complete  
autonomy now possessed by the Local Societies; that the Local Socie-  
ties would become, in effect, branches; and that there would be no  
compensating gain in an annual meeting of delegates. Moreover, as  
the expenditure not specially connected with any one locality now  
exceeds, however calculated, £1000 per annum, and amounts, as some say,  
to much more, the affiliation fee that would be required to meet this  
expenditure, if assessed equally on the whole membership of about  
3000, would involve a heavy drain on the funds at present available  
for expenditure by the Local Societies; and would, in fact, bring  
some of them to an end. It is understood that proposals will have  
to be made at an early date for raising the present minimum subscription

the British Secretaries... the members of  
movement and seldom have opportunities of meeting the members of  
most societies some ask that the Congress should be national

As an alternative it has been suggested that the constitu-  
tion of the several societies should remain as at present, each  
Society making its rules, settling its own membership fee, and  
spending its own money; but that the arrangements for the National  
Conference should be definitely settled, and made more effective.  
The main purpose of Conference should be to exchange ideas, discuss  
methods of action with the object of learning from each other's  
experience, and generally to enable the several societies to stimulate  
each other's local activities. At the same time, it is suggested that  
the Conference might assume an authoritative position, and be entitled  
definitely to be consulted, before any action were taken by any  
Society, in the nature of affiliation or formal alliance with any  
political or other organisation, or the termination of any such  
affiliation or formal alliance. Moreover, it is suggested that there  
would be great advantage in the Local Secretaries being put in a  
position to supply everyone of their members, as a matter of course,  
with Fabian News monthly, and with all Tracts as issued. In order to  
meet the cost of this, and of the correspondence conducted by the  
Central Office it is suggested that an affiliation fee of half-a-crown  
per member a year should be paid by each Local Society. In order to  
equalise the cost to societies in all parts of the Kingdom, the travel-  
ling and other expenses of representative attending the Conference  
should, it is suggested, be paid by the Treasurer, and covered by an  
equal Conference Fee for each representative, to be paid by the  
Society sending him or her.

With a view to carry into effect the suggestions that have

The membership for this purpose shall be reckoned as including  
been made, in such a way as to preserve the advantages of the  
present organisation, whilst remedying its defects as far as  
pecuniary and other circumstances will permit, the following pro-  
posals have been drafted. So far as can be ascertained, these pro-  
posals appear, broadly, to command widespread assent. But before  
proceeding further with them, the Committee feel that they ought to  
be considered by the Local Societies, without whose cordial concurrence  
nothing effective can be done. It is therefore requested that each  
Local Society consider them very carefully, and send up any suggestions  
and criticisms before the 5th. of June next.

Proposed addition to Bye-laws for Local  
Fabian Society and Group Organisation.

## I

With the object of stimulating and promoting the work of  
Local Societies and Groups, and for conferring upon questions of common  
concern, the Executive Committee shall, at least once a year, convene  
a Conference of duly elected representatives of Groups and Local  
Fabian Societies.

## II.

The Conference shall consist of (a) the members of the  
Executive Committee, together with (if not members of the Executive  
Committee) the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Organising Secretary  
and the Trustees of the Parliamentary Fund; (b) one representative  
of each Group or Local Society, having a membership as hereinafter  
defined, of not more than 50, together with an additional representa-  
tive for every 50 additional members or part thereof.

The membership for this purpose shall be reckoned as including  
(a) all the members of each Group and such members of each Local Society as are also members of the Fabian Society (of London), and  
(b) members of the Local Fabian Societies who are not members of the Fabian Society (of London) on whose behalf the Local Society has remitted to the Treasurer an affiliation fee of half-a-crown.

### III

To every member of the Conference residing more than 10 miles from the place of meeting, the Treasurer shall pay the amount of 3rd. class railway fare there and back, and (unless hospitality can be offered and is accepted) a sum of ten shillings per night spent away from home for other expenses. A Conference Fee sufficient to cover the total of these and the other necessary expenses of the Conference (which ought if possible not to exceed £1. per representative) shall be payable to the Treasurer by the Group or Society sending the representative.

### IV.

There shall be laid before each Conference, for discussion and such resolutions as may be decided on by the members present,

- (a) A Report by the Executive Committee upon the progress of the work of the several Societies and Groups since the last Conference;
- (b) Any suggestions sent in for consideration by the Conference or prepared by the Executive Committee as to the work of the several Societies and Groups such as,

- (1) Methods of Propaganda

The membership for this purpose shall be reckoned as including

- (II) Organisation of Lecturing
- (III) Literature
- (IV) Education of members and economic investigations or study.
- (V) The political activities within the reach of each Society.
- (VI) Any other subject that may be deemed within the scope of the Conference.

(c) The arrangements for the Conference itself.

On any of the above matters, any resolutions arrived at by the Conference should take the form of recommendations to the Executive Committee, or to the several Groups or Local Societies

If it should be necessary at any time to take action on any of the following matters, such action shall not be taken by the Executive Committee, or by any of the Local Societies until the proposal has been brought before the Conference for discussion and (if so decided) order for Referendum:-

- (a) Any alteration in the name or basis of the Fabian Society
- (b) Any union, affiliation or formal alliance with any other Society or with any political party, whereby the freedom of action of any Society or Group, or of the officers or members thereof is in any way limited or any termination of such a union, affiliation or formal alliance already entered into
- (c) Any change in the constitution of the Conference, or in the amount of the affiliation fee.

(IA) Education of members and...  
(III) Reference  
(II) ...

On any of the above matters, the resolutions of the Conference may be either in terms of recommendation, or else mandatory. In the latter case they shall be binding on the Executive Committee, the Groups and the Local Societies; unless the Conference itself, the Executive Committee or any six Local Societies ask that a Referendum of the members entitled to be taken.

Case 1/14

V.

There shall be supplied free of charge to the Secretaries of Local Fabian Societies, (the cost being deemed to be covered by the affiliation fee) a sufficient number of copies of "Fabian News", and of all tracts supplied gratuitously to members, to enable every member on whose behalf an affiliation fee has been paid to receive a copy; and the Local Societies shall be bound to place such copies without delay in the hands of all their members, by post or otherwise.



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## Committee on Amendments to the Constitution

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PROVISIONAL PROPOSALS, as a whole unan-  
imously agreed to, for submission to  
Local Societies.

THE resolution of the members' meeting of January 8th, 1909, and the enquiries set on foot by the committee may be taken to indicate the existence of a feeling that it would be desirable to bring the local Fabian Societies in other towns into closer and more constant touch with the London members; to secure to their members more adequate representation; and especially to provide more systematically than at present for the interchange of opinions and discussion of Fabian methods.

We think that experience has shown that the existing organization has both advantages and drawbacks. At present, the local societies accepting the name and basis of the Fabian Society are wholly autonomous. As local organizations they contribute nothing to the funds of the Fabian Society of London; nor do they bear any share of what may be called the national expenses of the movement, such as the work of the central office, the printing of tracts, the issue of FABIAN NEWS, and the organization of lecturing and other propaganda. None of their members need necessarily be members of the parent Society, though they are encouraged to join; and those who wish to join are admitted to full membership at the low minimum subscription of half-a-crown a year, which very inadequately represents the average expenditure per head of membership. Such national conferences as have been held have been arranged and the collective expenses met by the London Society. But whatever may be the advantages of this loose connection, which allows the local society complete freedom of action and control of all its funds, it has the disadvantage that the members of the local societies come very little into contact with the national movement, have few opportunities of expressing effectively their view on matters of common concern, and seldom have opportunities of meeting the members of the Fabian Societies outside their own towns. The London members and the Executive Committee of the parent Society lose the stimulus and advantage of meeting the members of the local societies.

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- (a) A report by the Executive Committee upon the progress of the work of the several societies and groups since the last conference.
- (b) Any suggestions sent in for consideration by the conference or prepared by the Executive Committee as to the work of the several societies and groups, such as :
  - (1) Methods of propaganda.
  - (2) Organization of lecturing.
  - (3) Literature.
  - (4) Education of members and economic investigations or study.
  - (5) The political activities within the reach of each society.
  - (6) Any other subject that may be deemed within the scope of the conference.
- (c) The arrangements for the conference itself.

On any of the above matters (a), (b), (c), any resolutions arrived at by the conference should take the form of recommendations to the Executive or to the several groups or local societies.

If it should be deemed necessary at any time to take action on any of the following matters, such action shall not be taken by the parent Society or by any of the local societies until the proposal has been brought before the conference for discussion and (if so decided) order for referendum :

- (d) Any alteration in the Basis of the Fabian Society.
- (e) Any union, affiliation, or formal alliance with any other society, or with any political party, whereby the freedom of action of any society or group, or of the officers or members thereof, is in any way limited, or any termination of such a union, affiliation, or formal alliance already entered into.
- (f) Any change in the constitution of the conference or in the amount of the capitation fee.

On any of the above matters (d) (e) (f) the conference may pass resolutions, either in terms of recommendation or else mandatory. In the latter case they shall be binding on the Executive Committee, the groups and the local societies ; unless the conference itself, the Executive Committee, or any six local societies ask that a referendum of the members entitled to be represented at the conference be taken.

#### V.

There shall be supplied free of charge to the secretaries of local Fabian Societies (the cost being deemed to be covered by the capitation fee) a sufficient number of copies of FABIAN NEWS, and of all tracts supplied gratuitously to members, to enable every member on whose behalf a capitation fee has been paid to receive a copy ; and the local societies shall be bound to place such copies without delay in the hands of all their members, by post or otherwise.

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New Committee 1909-10.

Members:-

Miss Atkinson

Dr. Ethel Bensham.

Dodd

Ensot.

Headlam.

Miss Murby.

Sharp.

Mrs. Wells.

Meeting, Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. 1909. 5.30pm.

Present. Miss Murby, Miss Atkinson, Dodd,  
Ensor, Sharp, Sanders. [Headlam was  
excused on letter]

Miss Murby occupied the chair at the beginning.

1 Chairman. Miss Murby was elected chairman

2 Vice Chairman. Clifford Sharp was elected vice-  
Chairman.

3 Day & hour of meeting. It was decided that meetings  
be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> ~~Wednesdays~~ <sup>Monday</sup> days in month  
Next meeting however, to be held on  
June 7<sup>th</sup> and the following on June 28.  
Time 5.30pm.

4 Title of Committee. It was agreed that the Executive  
Com: be recommended that this be  
"Organizing Propaganda Committee."

5. Amendments to Constitution Committee. It was agreed to recommend the C.C. to print and issue to Societies & Groups the preliminary proposals of the above Committee.
6. Conference of Northern Fabian Societies. The Org. Sec. gave a report of the proceedings of this Conference which was received.
7. ~~Agreed~~ Proposed Conference of London Group Secretaries. It was decided (on subject arising on a letter from the Central District Group) to hold a Conference of secretaries of London Groups in order to prevent overlapping of work.
8. Minority Report Campaign. Org. Sec. gave a report of Mr. & Mrs. Webb's meetings at Hull, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds & Sheffield and of his own meetings at Darwen, Burnley, York & Huddersfield. He reported future meetings to be addressed by Mr. & Mrs. Webb at Hampstead

Oxford, Glasgow, Birmingham, Edinburgh  
& probably Newcastle.

9. New Societies. Secretary reported preliminary steps ~~take~~ had been taken to form Fabian Societies at Bolton, Nottingham, Watford & Hale.

10. Suburban Lectures. Preliminary arrangements reported by Org. Sec for lectures to be given at Camberwell, Beshnal Green, Dulwich, Southall, Chiswick, Willesden, Cucklewood Woodgreen. Approved.

11. Provincial Courses. (a) Application from Claudius J. P. for contribution towards local expenses of course given in that town which had resulted in formation of local F.S. Agreed that the S.C. be recommended to pay £3. (b) Glasgow F.S. applied for further courses from Sharp or Schlosser. Agreed that they be given if arrangements can be satisfactorily

made.

- Annual Conference. (a) Place. Org. Sec. was instructed to ask for terms for "Clifford's Inn Hall & (b) Memorial Hall (small room). If terms were above 35/- to book University Hall. It was further agreed that offers of hospitality be requested at Society meetings.

- (3) Diagrams. Certain Diagrams relating to social conditions were referred to the Nursery for consideration and report.

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Meeting, Monday June 7<sup>th</sup> 1909. 5.30 p.m.

Present, Miss Murby (in chair), Miss Atkinson,  
Dr. Ethel Beutham, Doad, Kealam, Mr.  
Wells, Sharp & Sanders.

(1) Minutes of previous meeting were read and  
confirmed.

(2) Suburban Provincial lectures. The org. sec  
proposed that a new course of lectures  
be arranged for the Autumn & Winter  
next based upon the doctrine of the  
National Minimum and the Minority  
Report of the Poor Law Commission.

Approved.

(3) The Forest Gate Group requested that  
the Society should supply a different  
speaker for each lecture of the course  
of four for their district. This was declined  
but the Group was offered a subsidy  
towards the cost of a proposed meeting  
to be addressed by G. Lansbury on the



Minority Report. The Group was also offered a lecture course on the ordinary terms.

3. Provincial Courses. Org. sec. reported a course booked for Plymouth on the same lines as at Leicester & Nottingham last season, the local Org. to pay railway fares also courses booked for Glasgow & District. Approved.

4. Newcastle Fabian Group was reported to be dissolved. Balance of funds amounting to  $\frac{1}{6}$  (six shillings and sixpence) was in the Society's hands.

5. Southport Fabian Society. It being pointed out that this Society announced itself as being an I. L. P. Branch the Org. Sec. was instructed to write for particulars.

6. Annual Conference. It was decided to book University Hall for the Ann: Conference on July 10<sup>th</sup>. price 25/-. Memorial Hall room being £2/10/- and Cliffords Inn Hall £3/2/-. It was

decided to put the ~~present~~ preliminary proposals of the Committee on the changes in the By Laws for Local Societies and Subject and Local Groups on the Agenda; also the subject of the campaign for the Minority Report. Resolutions sent in by Groups and Societies were submitted.

7. Request for literature from Liberia was ordered to be complied with.
8. Conference of Elected Persons. It was decided to arrange if possible a lecture to be given by Webb or another prominent member of the Society to the Conference of Elected persons held in connection with the J. L. P. Conference at Easter next year.
9. Letter from Mr. Staubury asking for professional lecturing. Decided to be informed that the ~~matter~~ <sup>matter</sup> ~~question~~ would be considered when any vacancy occurred in the lecturing staff.
10. Request was received from Mr. Hyson Dale through

CAS/104

AD Lewis for 300 copies of Tract No 140  
for sending to M.P. she to pay postage.  
Granted.

11. New Society. Org. Sec. reported that he was to  
visit Bolton to form a new S.C.
12. Letter was read from Mr Shaw of Wolverhampton  
as to a meeting to be addressed by Miss Atkinson  
in that town. Left for the org. Sec. to arrange.

Clifford Hunt

M

3. 1822

1. M

2. C

3. M

4. P

5. C

Meeting June 28<sup>th</sup> 1909. 5.30 pm.

Present. Sharp (in chair) Dr. Ethel Penham, Miss  
 Murley, Miss Atkinson, Dodd, Ensor, Sanders.  
 (Headlam excused on letter)

1. Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed
2. Conference. Agenda for Conference was arranged and finally approved. It was agreed that Sharp be chairman.
3. New Society. Org. sec. reported he had visited Bolton on 10<sup>th</sup> June and formed a Fabian Society. He reported revival of Fabian Society at Tunbridge Wells. New S<sup>ty</sup>h reopened at Holders Green on July 9.
4. Provincial Lectures. It was agreed that the Org. Sec. might give two lectures at the Leicester F.S. instead of four.
5. Conference of Groups. The proposal of the Org. Sec. that conferences of Com. with London Groups be held periodically was adopted.

6. Lectures by G. B. Shaw. Org. Sec. reported that G. B. Shaw had consented to lecture for the Huddersfield, Llandudno, Walkall & Leicester Fabian Societies and for the Lidcup Fabian Group.
7. Wolverhampton Letter was read from Mr. Arnold Shaw in reference to a meeting in Wolverhampton to be addressed by Miss Mabel Atkinson. The matter was left in the hand of the Secretary.
8. Toronto F.S. Letter of considerable interest from McKillop with regard to this Society was read and certain literature ordered to be sent to the Society:
9. Fabian Law Group. Letter was read from enclosing correspondence with reference to a proposed Socialist Law Society. Mr. B. suggested formation of a Fabian Law Group and getting socialist legal persons

to join the F.S. Latter proposal was adopted  
but no action was ordered on formation of  
the suggested Branch.

10. Circular with Tract 140. Org. sec. was instructed  
to prepare a circular to be issued with Tract  
140 to be sent to certain members of Parliament.

William Mackay

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M

P

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(2)

(3)



Meeting July 12<sup>th</sup> 1909 5.30 p.m.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Ensoot, Dodd, Sharsh  
 J. E. Penham, Mrs Atkinson & Sanders Headlam on  
 d. b. b. business was excused.

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.
- (2) Southport Fabian Society. Letters were read from the Society with regard to its affiliation with the I. L. P. and stating that the affiliation would be dropped.
- (3) The University Fabian Societies Subscription.

The following recommendation referred to the Committee from the <sup>Finance &</sup> General Purposes Committee was considered:-

"That the Executive raise the subscription of 1/- per annum asked from University Members and that this resolution be reported to the Organising & Propaganda Committee: and they be requested to forward it to the Executive with their opinion;" and it was decided to recommend that the

Executives make no change in the subscription charged to members of Universities other than Oxford and Cambridge and that Oxford University Fabian Society be asked to fix the subscription to the parent Society of its members at 2/6 being the amount paid by the members of the Cambridge F.S.

(4) The New Lecture Course. The syllabus of the first three of the four lectures on the "Abolition of Poverty" was submitted and generally approved.

(5) Suburban & Provincial Lecture Courses. It was decided to recommend to the E. Committee that at least the same number of lectures be given in the suburbs and provinces in the coming session as last year and that the Trustees of the account be requested by the Executives Com. to make a grant sufficient to cover that portion of the cost which cannot be met

out of the ordinary income of the Society.  
 It was further agreed that the org. sec.  
 should announce the Courses in the  
 press. The org. sec. announced that a  
 steady demand had already arisen for the  
 courses.

### (6) New Societies

Org. sec. reported that a new Society had  
 been formed at Golders Green and that  
 he would visit Rochdale later in the  
 year to form a Society there.

(7) Next meeting was fixed for Monday Sept 13.

V. J. B. T. Pauling

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(49/107)

Meeting Monday September 20<sup>th</sup> 1909. 5.30pm

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Miss Benham, Mr Mills,  
Headlam, Dodd, Sharp, Pease & Sanders.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.
2. New Societies. Org. Sec reported new Society formed at Christchurch N.Z. with a Basis slightly different from ours. Org. Sec. instructed to write pointing out difference and suggesting that the Basis be brought into conformity with ours. Other Societies formed at Wairaki N.Z. and at Melbourne, Victoria. Movements were on foot to form Societies at Oset, Colchester, & Marple.
3. Suburban Lecture Courses. Org. Sec. reported that

see over

Courses on "The Abolition of Poverty" booked (in some cases provisionally) at Cricklewood, Willesden, Southall, Chiswick, Dulwich, S. Hackney, Forest Gate, Wood Green, Greenwich (Lewisham F.G.) Bethnal Green, Camberwell, Golders Green, Catford, Bermondsey, Streatham, Brixton, Putney, Merton, Sydenham, Croydon, Dulwich I.L.P., Clapham F. S. (1st. Course), Clapham F. S. (2nd. Course), New Cross (Lewisham F.G.), Ilford, Woodford, and Walthamstow.

*The report was adopted.*

4 *Provincial Lecture Courses* *Org. Sec reported*

Courses booked (in some cases provisionally) at Plymouth, Chelmsford (2 lectures only), Leicester (2 lectures only), Hanley, Tunbridge Wells, Colchester, Glasgow (3 Courses) Edinburgh, Manchester, Southport, Walsall, Coventry, Elland, Leeds, Otley, Halifax, Pontypool, Abergavenny, Briffithstown, Newport, West Hartlepool Middlesbrough, Sunderland, Darlington, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Bath, Swindon, Olney, Banger, Carnarvon, Mold, Taunton, Yeovil, Newton Abbot, Merthyr, Aberdare, Treharris, and Cefncoed.

*The report was adopted*

5 *Provincial Lecturer.* Owing to the uncertainty, as to time that could be given for lecturing by Clifford Sharp, Schlessers, & Holbrook Jackson it was decided that an advt. be placed in Fabian News for a lecturer prepared to give lecture courses in the provinces.

6. Lecture Syllabus. It was agreed that the lecture syllabus be reduced to a single leaf sheet.
7. Cost of Lectures (Provincial + Suburban.) It was decided that the cost of these Lectures (estimated at £450 about the same as last year) should be reported to the Ex. Com.
8. Education Group Meetings. An application was received as a matter of urgency from the Education Group asking if that the Society should pay the cost of Cliffords Inn Hall for 6 lectures to be given under the auspices of the Group. It was agreed that the request be complied with and that the E. Com. be asked to confirm this action.
9. Days of Meeting. It was decided that the Com should meet, as a rule, on the

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays in each month.

W. B. Harley

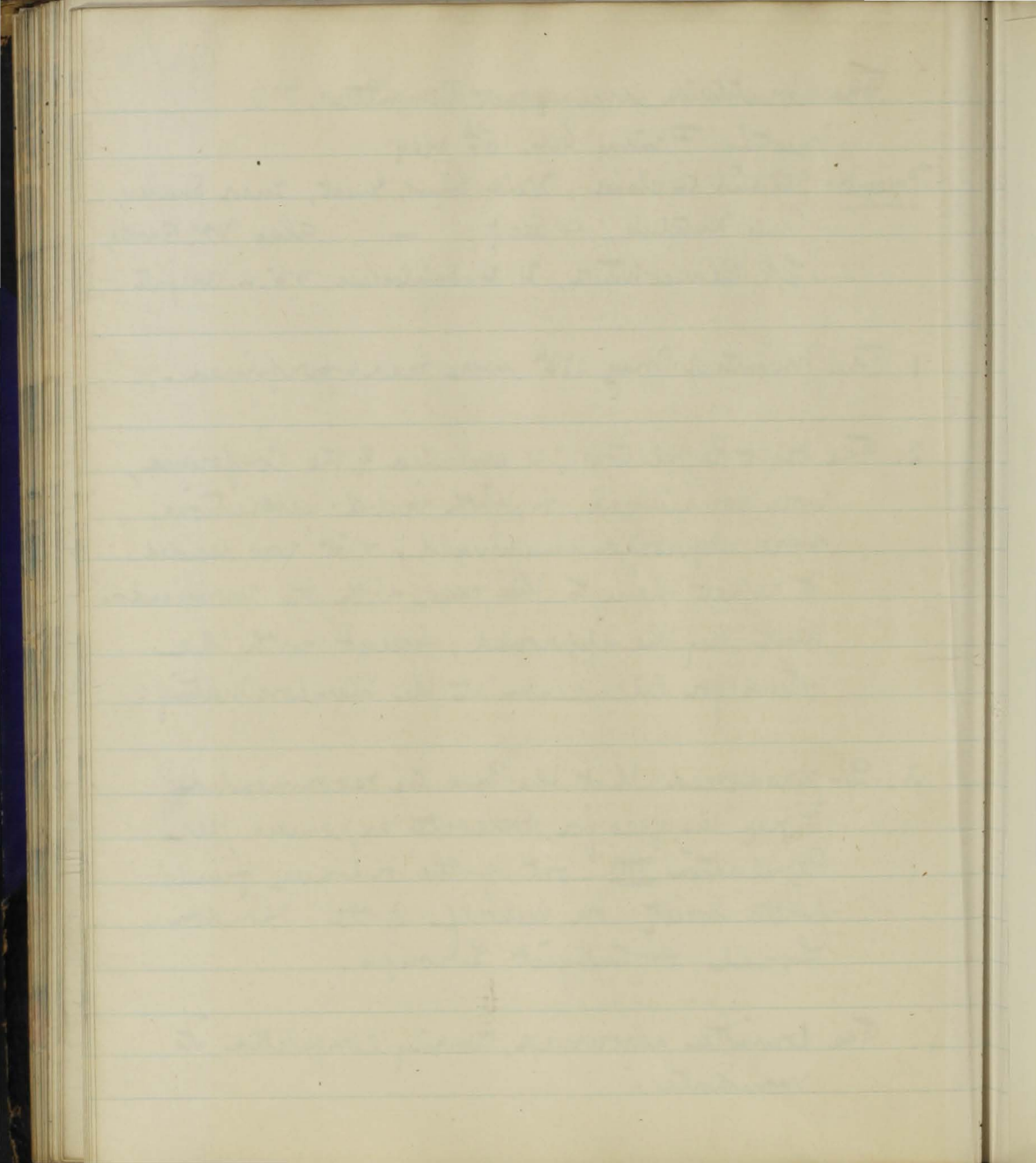


## The Constitution Amendment Committee.

Meeting Friday Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> 1909

Present: Bland in chair, Webb, Shaw, Guest, Enos Sanders,  
Miss Hutchins, & Sec'y. — also J.W. Brooks,  
G.R. Blanco White, H. H. Schlosser, & W.A. Colegate.

1. The Minutes of May 13<sup>th</sup> were read & confirmed.
2. The Draft Regulations, as amended by the Conference, were considered, & with verbal alterations, were approved as annexed, & it was decided to report them to the Exec. with the recommendation that they be approved, & sent with the News for discussion at the members meeting.
3. It was agreed that the Exec. be recommended to pay the fees for Delegates expenses per Regulation III out of the ordinary funds of the Society, on behalf of the London Local & Subject Groups.
4. The Committee adjourned, having completed its mandate.



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PROOF

# The Fabian Society.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS to the Constitution in relation to Local Societies, submitted by the Executive Committee; with Report on the reasons for their adoption.

THE resolution of the members' meeting of January 8th, 1909, and the enquiries set on foot by the committee may be taken to indicate the existence of a feeling that it would be desirable to bring the local Fabian Societies in other towns into closer and more constant touch with the London members; to secure to their members more adequate representation; and especially to provide more systematically than at present for the interchange of opinions and discussion of Fabian methods.

We think that experience has shown that the existing organization has both advantages and drawbacks. At present, the local societies accepting the name and basis of the Fabian Society are wholly autonomous. As local organizations they contribute nothing to the funds of the Fabian Society of London; nor do they bear any share of what may be called the national expenses of the movement, such as the work of the central office, the printing of tracts, the issue of FABIAN NEWS, and the organization of lecturing and other propaganda. None of their members need necessarily be members of the parent Society, though they are encouraged to join; and those who wish to join are admitted to full membership at the low minimum subscription of half-a-crown a year, which very inadequately represents the average expenditure per head of membership. Such national conferences as have been held have been arranged and the collective expenses met by the London Society. But whatever may be the advantages of this loose connection, which allows the local society complete freedom of action and control of all its funds, it has the disadvantage that the members of the local societies come very little into contact with the national movement, have few opportunities of expressing effectively their views on matters of common concern, and seldom have opportunities of meeting the members of the Fabian Societies outside their own towns. The London members and the Executive Committee of the parent Society thus lose the stimulus and advantage of meeting the members of the local societies.

Among various proposals to which the desire for closer association has led is one for the setting up of a national organization with a single membership, of which such Fabian Societies as agreed to come

in would become parts, with branch subscriptions for local expenses which would be under local control, together with a capitation fee to a national fund under the control of a conference of representatives empowered to legislate on matters of national concern. To this plan some members have expressed the objection that the creation of a national conference with legislative powers could hardly fail, even if those powers were limited to so-called national questions, to diminish the complete autonomy now possessed by the local societies; that the local societies would become, in effect, branches; and that there would be no compensating gain in an annual conference of representatives. Moreover, as the expenditure not specially connected with any one locality now exceeds, however calculated, £1,000 per annum, and amounts, as some say, to much more, the affiliation fee that would be required to meet this expenditure if assessed equally on the whole membership of about 3,000, would involve a heavy drain on the funds at present available for expenditure by the local societies. Indeed, proposals have been under consideration for raising the present minimum subscription.

It has, therefore, been suggested that while the constitution of the several societies should remain as at present, the arrangements for the national conference should be definitely settled and made more effective. The main purpose of the conference should be to exchange ideas, discuss methods of action with the object of learning from each other's experience, and generally to enable the several societies to stimulate each other's activities and to realize that they are an integral and effective part of a national organization. At the same time the conference might assume an authoritative position, and be entitled definitely to be consulted before any action were taken by any society in the nature of affiliation or formal alliance with any political or other organization, or the termination of any such affiliation or formal alliance. Moreover, it is suggested that there would be great advantage in the local secretaries being put in a position to supply every one of their members, as a matter of course, with *FABIAN NEWS* monthly and with all tracts as issued. In order to meet the cost of this, and of the correspondence conducted by the Central Office, it is suggested that a capitation fee of eightpence per member a year should be paid by each local society on its members who are not members of the parent Society. In order to equalize the cost to societies in all parts of the kingdom, the travelling and other expenses of representatives attending the conference should, it is suggested, be paid by the Treasurer of the parent Society, and covered by an equal conference fee for each representative, to be paid by the society sending him or her.

With a view to carry into effect the suggestions that have been made in such a way as to preserve the advantages of the present organization, whilst remedying its defects as far as pecuniary and other circumstances will permit, the following proposals were drafted and laid before the conference of Fabian Societies and groups in July last by which, with some amendments, they were approved.

PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE OF THE FABIAN SOCIETIES AS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE IN JULY, 1909.

I.

With the object of stimulating and promoting the work of the local societies and groups, and for conferring upon questions of common concern, the Executive Committee shall, at least once in each year, convene a conference of duly elected representatives of groups and local Fabian Societies.

II.

The conference shall consist of (a) one representative of each group or local society having a membership as hereinafter defined of not more than fifty, together with an additional representative for every fifty additional members or part thereof; (b) the members of the Executive Committee of the parent Society, together with (if not members of the Executive Committee) the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Organizing Secretary, and the Trustees of the Parliamentary Fund.

The membership for this purpose shall be reckoned as including (a) all the members of each group and such members of each local society as are also members of the parent Society, and (b) members of the local Fabian Societies who are not members of the parent Society on whose behalf the local society has remitted to the Treasurer a capitation fee of one shilling.

III.

To every member of the conference residing more than twenty miles from the place of meeting the Treasurer of the parent Society shall pay the amount of third class railway fare there and back, and (unless hospitality can be arranged) a sum of seven shillings and sixpence per night spent away from home for other expenses. A conference fee, sufficient to cover the total of these and the other necessary expenses of the conference (which ought, if possible, not to exceed one pound per representative) shall be payable to the Treasurer of the parent Society by the group or society sending the representative.

IV.

There shall be laid before each conference for discussion and such resolutions as may be decided on by the members present:

- (a) A report by the Executive Committee upon the progress of the work of the several societies and groups since the last conference.
- (b) Any suggestions sent in for consideration by the conference or prepared by the Executive Committee as to the work of the several societies and groups, such as:

- (1) Methods of propaganda.
- (2) Organization of lecturing.
- (3) Literature.
- (4) Education of members and investigations or study.
- (5) The political activities within the reach of each society.
- (6) Any other subject that may be deemed within the scope of the conference.

(c) The arrangements for the conference itself.

On any of the above matters (a), (b), (c), any resolutions arrived at by the conference should take the form of recommendations to the Executive or to the several groups or local societies.

If it should be deemed necessary at any time to take action on any of the following matters, such action shall not be taken by the parent Society or by any of the local societies until the proposal has been brought before the conference for discussion and (if so decided) ordered for referendum :

(d) Any alteration in the Basis of the Fabian Society.

(e) Any union, affiliation or formal alliance with any other society, or with any political party, whereby the freedom of action of any society or group, or of the officers or members thereof, is in any way limited, or any termination of such a union, affiliation, or formal alliance already entered into.

(f) Any change in the constitution of the conference, or of these regulations, or in the amount of the capitation fee.

On any of the above matters (d), (e), (f), the conference may pass resolutions, either in terms of recommendation or else mandatory. In the latter case they shall be binding on the Executive Committee, the groups and the local societies, unless the conference itself, the Executive Committee, or local societies containing not less than one-tenth of the societies entitled to be represented at the conference, ask that a referendum of such members be taken.

There shall be supplied free of charge to the Secretaries of local Fabian Societies (the cost being deemed to be covered by the capitation fee) a sufficient number of copies of FABIAN NEWS, and of all tracts supplied gratuitously to members, to enable every member or associate on whose behalf a capitation fee has been paid to receive a copy; and the local societies shall be bound to place such copies without delay in the hands of all their members, by post or otherwise.

*See over.*

Minutes of meeting, October 11<sup>th</sup> 5.30 p.m. 1909

<sup>at</sup> Present Miss Murby B. (in the chair) Miss E. Benham, Headlam,  
Mrs Atkinson, Sanders.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

2. Lecture Courses. Org. sec. reported on lecture Courses at Forest Gate, Golders Green, Plymouth, Chiswick, Sydenham & Leicester. Audiences had been generally good averaging about 125.

3. New Societies Groups. The org. sec. reported that he had visited Colchester and addressed a meeting with the object of forming a Society in that town. Also that steps were being taken to form a Group at Chiswick.

4. Provincial Lecturer. As already reported to the Ex. Com: the org. sec. stated that he had with the concurrence of Pease engaged Hubert Beaumont for four courses of lectures in the North of England.



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further engagements to be subject to a favourable report.  
The action of the org. sec. (which had been submitted to the  
Committee by post) was approved.

T. B. T. Peabody

Meeting November 9. 09. 5.30 pm.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Wood, Miss Bertram,  
Sanders, Miss Atkinson.

1. Minutes of the last meeting, were read and confirmed.

2. Provincial Suburban Lectures. Reports were given of courses finished or in progress at Chiswick, Forest Gate, Sydenham, Golders Green, Wood Green, Raynes Park, Ilford, Creekwood, Willesden, Batford, Croydon, Leicester, Plymouth, Chelmsford, Oley, Elland, Leeds & Halifax. Generally audiences had been good and considerable interest had been aroused in the subjects dealt with.

3. Societies Groups. It was decided that a special circular be issued to London members urging them to join existing Groups and to help to form Groups where

they do not at present exist. Reports were given shewing good progress was being made with the Golders Green F.S. and by the Chiswick F.S. Also that the proposed Society at ~~Chalmsford~~ Colchester had been formed.

4. General Election. A proposal, <sup>was considered</sup> from Shallard that the Society should secure from the Labour Party a list of its candidates standing at the General Election together with full particulars as to head quarters &c and issue the information with the December News to members with a request that they should indicate whether they can offer assistance in canvassing speaking &c to any of the candidates. It was decided to recommend the Ex. Com: to carry out the proposal.

5 Labour Daily. A letter from Benson, Treasurer L.P., asking that an appeal be sent out to the members of the F.S. for assistance to found a Labour Daily Paper. It was agreed that the Ex. Com: be recommended to ~~agree~~ comply with request.

William T. M. .

Meeting December 13 1909 5/30pm.

Present. Miss Murby, <sup>(in chair)</sup> Sharp, Mrs Atkinson,  
D Bensham, Sanders. Headlam excused.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2) Provincial and Suburban Lectures. Org. sec. reported that he had cancelled a number of provincial and suburban lectures courses arranged to be held in January as the General Election was now fixed for that month. Org. sec. gave reports on Courses completed or in progress by Jackson, Snell, Schloesser and himself. Generally audiences had been satisfactory. Letters from Sunderland, Hartlepool, Darlington & Middlesboro' were read in which great satisfaction was expressed with the lectures given by H Beaumont.

(3) New Societies. Org. sec. reported that abundant news

Society had been formed at Sevenoaks and steps were being taken to form one at Chesterfield.

- (4) Bristol & Cardiff Societies. Webb sent a suggestion that courses should be offered to Bristol & Cardiff Y. Societies. Org. Sec. reported that this had been done already but it was agreed that the offer should be repeated.
- (5) Shaw's Meetings. Org. Sec. reported that Shaw had had good meetings at Llandudno & Huddersfield. Also that the Walsall F.S. had sent a sub. of £ to the Parly Fund out of the proceeds of the Shaw meeting in that town.
- (6) Provincial Lecturers. Schloesser sent a suggestion that the provincial lecturers should be co-opted as members of the Com. It was decided that they be asked to attend the Com. when matters were discussed on which they might be able to give

information.

(7) Miss Atkinson's visit to Scotland. It was agreed that Miss Atkinson be paid two guineas towards her expenses to Scotland where she would give lectures to the Glasgow and Edinburgh Fabian Societies.

(8) Provincial lectures. As Schlessor, Sharp and Jackson were practically unavailable for provincial lecturing it was decided that a notice be put in Fabian News asking for names of persons willing to undertake this work.

W. G. T. Mackay

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Meeting January 24/1910 Offices. 7/30pm.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Dodd, Miss Atkinson, Clifford Sharp, Dr. Penham, Healdam Sanders.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

(2) Provincial Lecturer. Org. Sec. reported that in answer to notice in Fabian News that a provincial lecturer would be required Mrs Stanbury, Shallard & Greenwood had notified their desires to undertake the work. It was decided that a course be arranged for Mrs Stanbury near London as an experiment and that Shallard's name be held over for the present.

(3) Lectures. (a) Courses were reported to be arranged for Feb & March as follows.

- (1) Newton Abbott, Larnion, Tevel. (Beaumont)
- (2) Walsall, Corenby, Stourbridge (Beaumont)
- (3) Merthyr, Aberdare, Treharis. (Approved first defunctly)

Lectures (contd)

(4) Manchester

(5) Usbridge, Clapham, Hanley, Ashford. (Sanders)

(6) Greenwich (Snell)

(b) It was decided that courses should be fixed for April if possible.

New Societies. (a) Org Sec. reported that New Societies had been formed at Chesterfield & Southampton.

(b) Steps being taken to form a Society at Plymouth.

(c) Toronto Fabian Society - adopts our Basis.

Society Dissolved. Sec. of the Southampton Fabian Society reported that the Society had been dissolved. Noted.

Circular on Public Meetings. Org Sec. presented a circular drafted by Webb on org of public meetings. It was agreed that this should be put in type and circulated to members.

17.7.15 Meeting.



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Meeting Monday Feb. 14. 1910. Office 5/30 pm.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) D. B. Bensham, R.C.K.  
Ensor & Wm Sanders. Headlam & Doda excused

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed

(2) Lectures Org Sec. reported that local people had cancelled courses in S. Wales and at Manchester; Bristol F.S. declined offer of course. Courses had been arranged at Bath, Swindon, Sevenoaks & Hiccup. It was difficult to arrange courses in April as societies were not anxious to book engagements after the General Election. He proposed to arrange a course for Mrs Stanbury near London if possible so that a report upon her as a lecturer could be obtained. Open air lectures. It was decided that the Society take up open air work professionally this summer. The Org Sec reported that he might be invited to give a month to a campaign of lecturing in the

Proteries for the Local Labour organization  
the local people paying expenses. It was  
agreed that he be allowed to accept the  
invitation if it be made. Sunderland  
J.L.P. asked for assistance towards the  
local expenses of lecture course given in  
Nov. It was agreed that the C.C. be  
recommended to pay £1.20. for adv<sup>ts</sup>

(3) New Societies Org. Sec. reported that he had  
formed a Fabian Society at Newcastle  
under Lyne and that one had been  
formed at the Liverpool University

(4) Circular on Org. Mts. It was agreed that Webb's draft  
should be amended and recommended  
to be printed and used to local  
Societies

(5) London Groups Org. Sec. reported that the Lewisham Group  
would shortly divide into two - Lewisham  
and Deptford. He asked to be instructed  
to write a strong letter to J. Wilson with

645/120

regard to the St. Pancras Group.

Misses & Madams

Organizing and Propaganda Committee Meeting  
Feb. 28: 1910. 5.30pm.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Sanders. O'Benham,  
Miss Atkinson.  
Doad was excused

(1) Minutes of previous meeting were read & confirmed. (3)

(2) Lectures. Satisfactory Reports were received of courses at Taunton, Newton Abbott, Yeovil by Beaumont; Hanley & Clapham by Sanders (org. sec) and Greenwich by Snell. Org. sec. reported that courses remained to be given or completed were at Walsall, Dourbridge, Coventry by (Beaumont) Swindon, Sevenoaks, Usbridge & Hiden (Sanders) & Bath (Schlosser) He did not anticipate that any more <sup>indoor</sup> lectures could be arranged before next Autumn. (4)  
It was decided that the courses next session should be on the Abolition of Poverty. Outdoor Lectures It was decided that 4 courses of lectures be arranged as an experiment 2 in London. (5)

and 2 in provinces. That Beaumont take the 2 courses in provinces and that D. Mason Phillips be recommended to the C.C. to take the courses in London. ~~and~~ That the sum of £25 be voted by the C.C. for these courses.

(3) Burnley Resolution. A resolution from the Burnley Society was read with reference to the action of A Chancellor in opposing A Burrows at Haggerston. It was agreed to report its reception to the C.C.

(4) Northern Fabian News. Letter was read from a Sheffield member proposing formation of a "Northern Fabian News". Sec. reported that he had written a discouraging letter: action app.

(5) Fabian Conference. It was agreed that the Conference be held on July 2<sup>nd</sup> (Sat) and place be Cliffords Inn and that the C.C. be recommended accordingly.

Millicent Trenchard

Meeting, Monday April 11. 1910. 7/30 pm.

Present. Lawson Doad (in chair) Miss Atkinson  
D. Ethel Penham. - Org. sec.

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting were not read, committee at commencement being composed of members not present at previous meeting.
- (2) Lectures. Org. sec. reported <sup>(a)</sup> that at Bath, Schlosser had had good audiences; at Walsall and Coventry Beaumont had attracted large gatherings but at Stourbridge he had not been quite so successful; at Silecup, Sereuaks & Uxbridge the org. sec. had had good meetings but at Swindon somewhat poor. <sup>(b)</sup> That he had made arrangements with D. Marion Phillips to work regard to the courses of open air lectures. <sup>(c)</sup> That he had arranged to give a course of lectures for the Colchester F.S. in April <sup>(meow)</sup> <sup>(d)</sup> That he had arranged to give single lectures at Sheffield, Huddersfield and Chesterfield. <sup>(4)</sup>

The Report was adopted.

1) Societies & Groups. Org. Sec. reported that he had arranged to visit Dover at the end of the month to form a local Society, and that a new Group had been formed at Chelsen; 2 new Groups were being formed at Deptford & Treadsham.

4) Annual Conference. Org. sec. reported that the Clifffords Inn Hall had been secured for the Conference and preliminary announcements had been sent out.

(5) Voice. It was decided to recommend the C.C. that a voice be held this year.

(6) Next meeting. It was decided that the next meeting should be on April 25. if business required it.

William T. Purley

Meeting. Monday April 25/1910 5:20 pm.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) D. E. Bentham,  
 Mrs Atkinson, Stewart & Headlam,  
 Sanders.

Minutes of the two previous meetings were read  
 & confirmed.

Notice. Reference from Executive Com: was  
 considered and it was decided to take  
 the advice of the Social Committee  
 on the matter - a joint meeting of  
 the two Committees to be arranged if  
 necessary.

New Groups. Org. Sec. reported that new groups had  
 been formed at Deptford & Streatham

M. L. H. & M. L. H.



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New Committee. 1910-11.

Miss Atkinson.

Dr. E. Bentham.

~~Guest~~

Headlam

Miss Murby

Schlosser.

Stanring.

Minutes of meeting held ~~be~~ Monday May 9<sup>th</sup> 1910.  
5.30 pm.

Present. Miss Murby, Miss Atkinson, Schlosser +  
Org. Sec.

1) Chairman & Vice Chairman. Miss Murby and Miss Atkinson were elected, Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively.

2) Day of Meeting. It was decided that for the present meetings should be held on ~~Thursdays~~ Mondays ~~but for the present~~ but that the question should be raised again at a future meeting.

3) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

4) Notice. The report annexed from the Social Committee was considered and recommended generally ~~for adoption~~ for adoption by the E.C.

(5) Groups & Societies. The org. sec. reported that he had visited Dover and formed new Society there. He had formed a new Group at Streatham and steps were being taken to form a new society at Cambridge. The secretariats of the St. Pancras Hampstead Kensington Groups were still vacant. Report was adopted. It was decided that more prominent advt. of the vacant sec'tships should be given in Fabian News.

(6) Open Air Lectures. Courses in addition to those previously announced were reported as being booked for St. Marion Phillips at Acton Regent's Park.

(7) Annual Conference Business of the Conference was held over for a special meeting of the Committee on ~~Monday~~ Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup>.

(8) Long Book Mrs Atkinson and the org secretary were appointed a Coms - with power to add

1912/123

Enact to consider and report upon the possibility of publishing a Socialist Song Book

Minutes July

Report of the Social Committee to the Organising and Propaganda Committee of the Fabian Society.

At a meeting of the Social Committee held on Thursday 5th. May, the Hon. Sec. stated that she had been requested by Mr. Sanders to ask her Committee for suggestions for the annual entertainment.

The Committee agreed to the following suggestions:-

- 1.- The proceedings to be from 8-12 p.m. and to consist of
  - (a) Reception of guests
  - (b) A short play (? How he lied to her Husband), to be acted by members of the Society, and 3 songs to be sung by members or professionals (if by the latter, Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck has offered to pay the cost:) with a string band which would play in the intervals and
  - (c) from 10.30-12 for dancing.
- 2.- The date to be the day before the Annual Conference, viz on Friday July 1, to enable provincial representatives to attend.
- 3.- The entertainment to be given at the Suffolk Street Galleries, Haymarket.

On this basis the minimum cost of the whole entertainment for 300 people would be as follows:-

Hire of Suffolk Street Galleries	£12. 12. 0
Hire of Band	4. 14. 6
Refreshments at 1/4 per head (if 300 people were guaranteed)	20. 0. 0
	£37. 6. 6.
	£37. 6. 6.

This represents nearly 2/6 per head.

With regard to refreshments it is recommended that, if possible, a tariff on the lines of the 1/6 or 2/- tariffs herewith be followed rather than the 1/4. This might be regulated according to the number of tickets sold, for the cost of the other items would be constant.

The cost of postage and stationery has not been allowed for.

Meeting. Wednesday May 18<sup>th</sup> 1900 Offices 5.30pm. (3)

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Miss Atkinson,  
D. E. Benham, G. Standing Org: Sec: Penn

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2) Lecture Courses. Org: Sec: reported that the following Lecture Courses had been arranged:-

\* Summer (Open air)

Maldstone  
Tonbridge  
Fulham  
Surbiton  
Streatham  
Willesden  
Marylebone  
W. Ealing  
Forest Gate  
Westminster

\* Whether all of these will be given depends upon the success of the four trial courses.

Autumn & Winter (Indoor)

Acton  
Kensal Rise  
N. Ealing  
Streatham  
Chiswick  
Hanley  
Portsmouth.  
Nottingham  
Newcastle-under-Lyme  
Sevenoaks  
Carlisle  
Whitehaven  
Maryport  
Workington

The Report was adopted.

(3) Annual Conference The Org. sec. reported that the following were the only resolutions received so far for the Annual Conference:

Resolution from the Chiswick Fabian Group.

"That the Conference deprecates the use of the London Meeting for the passing of Resolutions on matters affecting the political policy of the whole Society, and is of opinion that the proper place for the passing of such resolutions is, in the first place the Fabian Conference."

Resolution from Golders Green F. S.

"That in the opinion of this Society it is desirable that the Conference shall be held, in future, in such place as will permit the members of the Parent Society, Societies and Groups to attend."

Resolution from the Local Government Group.

"That the Conference requests all Fabian Societies and Groups to follow the example set by the Hull, Bristol and other Fabian Societies and to prepare a report on the social conditions, housing and other deficiencies in their district and the activities (if any) of the various local authorities in combating these evils, and further requests each local Society and Group to forward all such information to the Local Government Group in London, and, in addition the Conference requests the Local Government Group to keep a register of all such information for purposes of propaganda or publication."

The Org. sec. reported that it was likely that resolutions would come in from the Women's Group. It was decided that the E.C. be recommended to adopt the proposal that Mrs Atkinson should read a paper

at the Conference on the place of a second Chamber in the constitution. Exact title to be settled later.

4. Soiree. It was decided that there should be a joint meeting with the Social Com: on Wednesday May 25. Org. sec. reported that Peace had endeavoured to get Barker to help provide entertainment at Soiree. Letter was read from Barker suggesting Dukes be secured. Agreed that if possible both Barker + Dukes be pressed into service.

(5) Resignation of Haden Brest as member of the Com: was received with regret.

H. Schloesser



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Joint Committee Meeting Wed. May 25<sup>th</sup> 1910  
Present Organising + P. Com<sup>ce</sup> Miss Murby, (in chair)  
H. H. Schloesser, Miss Atkinson, + E. R. Pease  
Social. Com<sup>ce</sup> Mrs. Townsend, Mrs. Hylton Dale  
St. John G. Ervine, T. Wilson  
By Invitation Ashley Dukes.

- It was agreed to recommend the Exec.:-
- (1) That a Soirée be held at Suffolk St. Galleries on Friday July 1<sup>st</sup>, 8-12 pm, if Granville Barker will consent to read a play, but unless he will do this or some other equivalent characteristically Fabian attraction be provided, no Soirée be held.
  - (2) Subject to above, that a band be engaged at £5.5.0, Lady Sybil Smith be asked to sing 2 songs + H. G. Baynes one.
  - (3) That the tickets be 2/6, + 3/- a week before date.
  - (4) That refreshments at 1/4 be provided, but Miss Atkinson get an estimate from Miss Deltore.

H. Schloesser

Meeting Monday June 13. 1910 Offices 5/30pm

Present. Miss Atkinson (in chair) Schloesser,  
Dr. Bensham, W<sup>m</sup> Stephen Sanders.

1. Minutes of previous meeting and joint meeting with  
Social Committee were read  
and confirmed.

2. New Society. Org. Sec. reported he had visited  
Cambridge and formed a Society for  
the town with about 20 members of a  
good type. Report adopted.

(3) Open Air Lectures. Favourable reports were  
received from Dr. Marion Phillips, Hubert  
Beaumont and the Organizing Secretary on  
open air courses given at Westminster,  
Streatham, Ealing & Huddersford.

(4) Autumn & Winter Courses. The org. sec. was  
empowered to send letter to the Press  
announcing that Lecture Courses would

be provided by the Society next autumn and winter.

(5) Lectures by Fernara Shaw. Org. Sec: reported that as in previous years Shaw had promised to give a number of lectures under the auspices of local Societies Groups next autumn-winter.

(6) Offer of a Banner design. Letter was read from Mr. Cole (member of the Sevenoaks F.S.) offering a design and materials for a banner. Decided that the matter be adjourned so that the design might be seen by the Committee.

(7) Tabern Annual Conference

(a) The following Agenda was arranged for submission to the E. Com: and recommended for adoption. (see over)

(b) It was decided that the E. C. be recommended to propose Ensor for the chair.

(c) It was decided to ask ~~of~~ the E. C. if they wished to add anything to the Agenda.

# FOURTH ANNUAL FABIAN CONFERENCE

TO BE HELD AT

CLIFFORD'S INN HALL, FLEET STREET, E.C. (near the Law Courts).

SATURDAY, JULY 2nd, 1910, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## AGENDA.

1. Election of Chairman.
2. Chairman's opening address.
3. Report of the work of the Societies and Groups since the last Conference.

### RESOLUTIONS TO BE PROPOSED.

4. *By the Local Government Group.*

That the Conference requests all Fabian Societies and Groups to follow the example set by the Hull, Bristol, and other Fabian Societies, and to prepare a report on the social conditions, housing and other deficiencies in their district, and the activities (if any) of the various local authorities in combatting these evils; and further requests each local Society and Group to forward all such information to the Local Government Group in London; and, in addition, the Conference requests the Local Government Group to keep a register of all such information for the purposes of propaganda or publication.

5. *By the Clapham F.S.*

That the Conference is of opinion that the policy of running Fabian Parliamentary Candidates has been a failure, and recommends that it should be abandoned in order that the energies of the Society may be set free for more effective work.

6. *By the Golder's Green F.S.*

That, in the opinion of this Conference, it is desirable that the Conference shall be held in future in such place as will permit the members of the parent Society, Societies, and Groups to attend.

7. *By the Women's Group.*

That, in the furtherance of social reform, Socialists, men and women, should oppose legislation and

methods of administration tending to increase the economic dependence\* of women.

[Example of the sort of legislation meant: an extension of the period during which a childbearing woman is prohibited from earning her living in a factory, unaccompanied by any arrangement for compensation such as the disability allowance advocated by Fabian Tract No. 149, "The Endowment of Motherhood."]

8. *By the Local Government Group.*

That, having regard to the existing confusion of the areas of local authorities and the inefficiency of administration resulting therefrom, this Conference of Fabian Societies and Groups urges the President of the Local Government Board to appoint a Departmental Committee to enquire into the question, giving special attention to the desirability of instituting larger areas for urban administration.

9. *By the Local Government Group.*

That, in the opinion of this Conference, the Government should treat the reform of local taxation and of imperial subventions to local authorities as a question of urgency.

10. *By the Chiswick F.G.*

That the Conference deprecates the use of the London meeting for the passing of resolutions on matters affecting the political policy of the whole Society, and is of opinion that the proper place for the passing of such resolutions is, in the first place, the Fabian Conference.

11. Paper by Miss Atkinson on "The Problem of the Second Chamber; a Socialist's Solution."

To be followed by a discussion.

\*The meaning of the words "economic dependence" as here used will be found on page 3 of the enclosed pamphlet.

(6) International Socialist Congress.

- as It was decided to recommend the E.C.  
 read (a) That the Congress fee of 7/- per delegate  
 be paid for a limited number of  
 delegates.  
 (b) That no credentials be given to any  
 member unless the Society pays his  
 Congress fee.  
 (c) That no instructions be given to  
 the delegates.

(9) Lantern Slides

Letter was read from the J.L.P.  
 asking for gift or loan of lantern  
 slides. Decided to recommend the E.C.  
 to present our slides to the J.L.P.

William V. ...

Minutes Meeting June 27<sup>th</sup> 1910 7:30pm Office.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Miss Atkinson.  
Schlosser Sanders.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2) Offer of Banner Decided to recommend the E.C. to accept offer of Mr. Cole to give design re of Banner providing that members can be found to work it. Org. Sec. to approach Mrs. Townsend.

(3) Conference Agenda. (a) Decided to leave it to the Executive to decide whether united action shall be taken on any of the motions on the Agenda. (b) It was agreed that the E.C. be recommended to move urgency for a motion calling upon the Government to give facilities for the passing of the Women's Suffrage.

Bill now before the House through all its stages.

(c) Decided to inform Social Committee that they cannot be represented at the Conference but a member of the Committee might attend and with the permission of the Conference speak but not vote.

(14) Lecture Courses etc. The Org. sec. reported<sup>(a)</sup> that further lecture courses had been arranged to be held at - Cambridge, Southampton, Watford, S. Hackney, Tottenham, Wood Green, S. Pancras, Forest Gate, Deptford & Dulwich. (b) That he had arranged for Shaw to speak at Reading, Newcastle - u. - Lyme, Manchester, Cambridge University, Bristol, Sevenoaks, Streatham.

(c) It was decided that there was no objection to the Org. sec. lecturing on the subject of "Germany" for the Free Trade Union.

(5) Group Secretaries Org. Sec. reported he had secured secretaries pro. tem. for Hampstead, Kensington, & S. Pancras Groups.

(6) International Socialist Congress The question of going

the delegates to the Congress instructions was held over until the Congress Agenda had been received.

Political Planning.



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18<sup>th</sup>

Meeting July 18. 1910. 5/30 p.m. Office.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Headlam, Standring,  
Pease, Schlosser, Sanders.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed.

(2) Offer of Banner. Org. Sec. reported Miss Townshend  
unable to organize a working party. Decided  
to put notice in the "News" asking for workers.

3  
(3) Annual Conference Org. sec. reported that the attendance  
at the Conference at Cliffords Inn, July 2.  
was as follows: - ~~Executive~~ Executive Committee 17; 15  
Groups represented by 21 delegates; 17 Provincial  
and University Societies represented by 23 delegates.  
The full return of expenses of provincial delegates  
was not to hand but the org. sec. did not  
expect that the total expenses of the Conference  
would be more than £20. about one third  
of which would be due from provincial  
Societies.

(4) Outdoor Lectures. Reports were received from (a)  
Dr. M. Phillips stating that courses at

Fulham, Marylebone, Harlesden and Forest Gate had been ~~partly~~ satisfactory; (b) from the Org. Sec. stating that courses were <sup>in progress</sup> at Kingston & Ballersen; (c) from the org. sec stating that he had arranged to give this month 4 <sup>lectures</sup> ~~courses~~ at Northampton, 1 at Rugby and one at Derby. The Reports were adopted.

(5) Common Action among Socialists. As a matter of urgency, a circular letter ~~from the~~ "Provisional Committee for the Promotion of Common Action among Socialists" was considered. The letter asked a series of questions with regard to our willingness to cooperate with other Socialist bodies for certain purposes. It was decided to report to the Executive Com: that we consider that a self-constituted committee formed without the cognizance of the national Socialist societies has no claim ~~upon~~ to serious consideration. This letter has, we understand, been also sent to our groups and provincial

Societies as well as branches of other Socialist organisations. We consider that action on enquiries of this nature should not be taken without the ~~consent~~ approval of the central bodies of the national Socialist organisations and we therefore recommend that no action be taken on the letter and that our groups and the provincial Societies be informed of this decision.

Christchurch F.S. N. Zealand. ~~Received~~ Received a letter from the secretary of the Christchurch F.S. reporting election of herself (at the top of the poll) and another Fabian to a local authority; and other interesting matters. Report to Ex. Com.

7. Date of Next Meeting The next meeting of the Committee was fixed for Monday Sept 26. 1910.

W.B.F. Kelly

Meeting, Monday September 20<sup>th</sup> 1910. Office.

Present. Mrs Murby (in chair) Schloesser Sanders

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Day of meeting. It was decided to alter the day of meeting to Thursday, alternating with the meetings of the Finance Committee.

Plan of Organization submitted by a resident of Gibraltar was reported upon by the chairman as being impracticable the writer to be so informed as politely as possible.

Syllabus of Nursery lectures. It was agreed that the C.C. be recommended to pay the cost of printing a syllabus of lectures which are to be given by the Nursery.

London groups. The Org. Sec. reported that her had arranged meetings to reconstitute the St Pancras and Central District Fabian Groups, and the Kensington

Group and steps were being taken to hold a meeting to restart the Hampstead Group.

Provincial & Suburban Lectures. Org: Sec: reported lecture courses arranged as follows:-

Provincial.

- Hanley
- Newcastle-under-Lyme F.S.
- Nottingham
- Cambridge F. S.
- Coventry F. S.
- York F. S.
- Aston Manor
- Sevenoaks F. S.
- Southampton F. S.
- Sheffield F. S.
- Glasgow & District F.S.
- (4 Courses)
- Whitley Bay
- Ashington
- Seaton Delavel
- Blyth
- Byker

Suburban.

- Marylebone
- Barnet
- Ealing
- Kensal Rise
- Dulwich F. G.
- S. Hackney
- Acton Acton
- Wood Green
- Chiswick F. G.
- St. Pancras
- Streatham F. G.
- Richmond
- Deptford F. G.
- Watford
- Enfield
- Forest Gate F.G
- Tottenham

Report was adopted.

Liverpool Fabian (University) Society desiring a member of the C.L. to address the opening meeting of the Society it was agreed that Schloesser should go his fare to be paid if necessary.

Stewart & Healdan

Meeting Thursday October 13. 1910. Office 5.30 p.m.

Present Readam (in chair at first) Miss Atkinson  
(later in chair) Schlosser Dr. Bensham, Sanders.

Apologies. Org. Sec. reported Pease could not attend  
owing to sickness in family. Excused.

Lectures Org. Sec. reported <sup>as</sup> that at his courses at  
Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stanley, Barnet,  
Marylebone, Baling + Kensal Rise he had  
had good audiences; <sup>(b)</sup> that he had booked  
courses at Chatham, Woking + Southall to  
be given by Schlosser. <sup>(c)</sup> That he had booked  
dates for Shaw's meetings at Streatham,  
Bristol + Reading. Report adopted.

Combined Syllabus. The reference from S. Com. with regard  
to a combined syllabus on the lines of one  
issued <sup>on</sup> by the Minority Report by the Nat. Com.  
for the prevention of Destitution was discussed  
and it was decided that it was not practicable  
to adopt the proposal.

New Societies Org. Sec. reported that a new Society had been formed at Finchley and steps were being taken to form one at Bradford. Report was adopted.

Annual Conference. Report of cost of Annual Conference was presented showing total cost £16.17.4. Due from London Society £11.6.7; the balance from Provincial Societies working out at 5/2 per delegate.

Groups (London). Org. Sec. reported he had held meeting to reconstitute the St Pancras Group and a Committee had been appointed to work up the Group.

Long Book Committee. It was agreed to co-opt Miss Hankinson, Mr Behrend, Mrs Rush, Sunahan, Mr Baker Wood, Kemmes, onto this Committee.

Philippa Mackay.

Meeting Thursday November 10<sup>th</sup> at 5.30pm office

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Dr. Bensham, Standing  
Schlosser, Miss Atkinson Sanders.

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting, were read and confirmed.
- (2) Lectures. The organising secretary reported (a) that he had completed courses at Barnet, Kensal Rise, Marylebone, Baling, Hanley, and Newcastle-under-Lyme, generally with good audiences; ~~the~~ Smell had completed courses at Enfield and Watford; additional courses had been arranged at Berrymondsey, Brixton, Tooting, Ilford (F.S.), Croydon, Sydenham, Northing, Lushall Chatham; the org. sec. had commenced courses at Hellingham, Cambridge (F.S.) and Hackney; (a full list of courses arranged to take place between September and April attached)
- (b) The org. sec. had given single lectures at Leicester for the local F.S., Southampton (F.S.) and the Oxford University Social Study Society.



(c) Shaw had agreed to lecture at a large meeting at Hanley in Feb. for the Newcastle F.S. (d) The Educational Course being held by the Nursery had been so far highly successful.

Lecture Courses arranged for the season 1910-11.

- |                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Marylebone         | Hanley                    |
| Barnet             | Newcastle-under-Lyme F.S. |
| W. Baling          | Nottingham                |
| Kensal Rise        | Cambridge (F.S.)          |
| S. Hackney         | Sevenoaks (F.S.)          |
| Dulwich            | Southampton (F.S.)        |
| Aston              | Coventry (F.S.)           |
| Wood Green (F.S.)  | York (F.S.)               |
| Chiswick (F.G.)    | Aston Manor               |
| Croydon            | Sheffield (F.S.)          |
| Sydenham           | Chatham                   |
| St. Pancras        | Worthing                  |
| Streatham          | Southall                  |
| Bernadsey          | Whitley Bay               |
| Brixton            | Ashington                 |
| Tooting            | Seaton Delavel            |
| Watford            | Blyth                     |
| Enfield            | Byker                     |
| Tottenham          | Glasgow and neighbourhood |
| Richmond           | (Several courses)         |
| Deptford (F.G.)    |                           |
| Forest Gate (F.G.) |                           |
| Ilford (F.S.)      |                           |

... met up till now ...

... of each affiliated organization. At the Congress ... the International Com- ... the British National Committee ... the whole question of ... should be re- ... the Bureau. It may be mentioned that it is not necessary for ... the British National ...



Continued.

Great Britain has 20 votes as a nation. These 20 votes are divided up as follows: Labour Party and the Trade Unions 10 votes; Independent Labour Party 4 votes; S.D.P. 4 votes; Fabian Society 2 votes. On this basis the Fabian Society would pay £10 per annum instead of £14 as at present.

Another point to be considered is the representation of Great Britain on the Bureau. At present there are two delegates selected by the British section meeting at the triennial International Socialist Congress and one elected by the British parliamentary Labour Party. With regard to the two elected by the British section, the S.D.P. claim the right to have one. The British section refuses to acknowledge this right but the matter is under consideration of the International Socialist Bureau. If the S.D.P. contention is upheld we think that

the whole question of representation fees should be re-considered without the possibility of our society would then be practically the Bureau. It may be mentioned that it is not necessary for the Fabian Society to pay fees to the British National Committee in order to secure representation at the International Socialist Congresses, because being affiliated to the Labour Party our delegate could go as representing a section of that Party. But in that case we should lose our identity and our two votes out of the British twenty would be lost to us.

We have also discussed the methods of the International Socialist Bureau and we consider that they are in need of improvement. For instance, the Bureau should meet more frequently instead of only once a year as at present and that notice should be given of the business to be discussed at the Congress.

A meeting will shortly be held consisting of two delegates from each Society affiliated or desiring to be affiliated to the British National Committee, together with the Secretary of the British National Committee and the British representative on the Bureau. At this meeting the above questions will be discussed and we recommend

- (a) That two delegates be sent to this meeting
- (b) That the delegates be instructed to move
  - I. That the affiliation fee be in proportion to the voting power of the affiliated bodies at the International Socialist Congress.
  - II. That the S.D.P. claim to the right to have one representative on the Bureau be repudiated.
  - III. That the necessary steps be taken to secure more frequent meetings of the Bureau and longer notice of the business to be transacted at the International Socialist Congress.

CAS/199

(4) June Book. Org. sec. reported that the E.C. had agreed to the formation of the June Book Committee and to the members proposed for co-optation thereto as follows: Miss Sanaham, Mr. E. Wood, Mr. Dehrend, Miss Hankinson, & Kemmis.

(5) London Group Org. sec. reported that the Pancreas members interested in revival of the local Group had decided to abandon their attempt; that a meeting would be held on Nov. 11 to endeavour to reconstitute the Kensington Group.

5/11/1955 T. J. G. G.

Meeting Thursday December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1910.

Present. Miss Murby (in chair) Dr. Bensham,  
& Standring & Sanders.

1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed

2) Lecture Courses. Org. Sec. reported that the Courses given by him at Nottingham & Cambridge had attracted good audiences; the course at S. Hackney was poorly attended; the Courses by Snell at Depford and Forest Gate had been interrupted by the Gen: Election and would be resumed later; the course by Snell at Tottenham had been completed by Beaumont; the course at Worthing by Schlosser had been highly successful. Courses at Chatham & Croydon had been abandoned owing to the General Election & course at Wood Green had been transferred to a later date. A course had been arranged at Bilton (T.S.) for the Org. Sec. and at West Ham (Forest Gate T.S.) for Schlosser

(3) New Societies Org. Sec. reported that movements were on foot to form Fabian Societies at Belfast, Lancaster, Stirling & Dundee.

(4) Correspondence (a) Letter was read from Womens group with reference to a Conference to organize the British delegation to the Women's Socialist Int'l Congress 1913. Decided to wait for invitation to take part as a Society.  
(b) Letter from the Int: Soc: Bureau relative to resolution at Copenhagen Congress on Armaments. Agreed to leave it to the British National Committee.

(5) Dinner to Crooks. It was agreed that the C.F. be recommended to hold a dinner to celebrate the return of Crooks to Parliament, the first successful Fabian candidature. Function not to be divided into dinner and soiree. Date in Feb. next.

- (6) Huddersfield Election. Org. Sec. reported that the election expenses would be about £375 of which the Society would pay about £220.
- (7) Kensington Group. Org. Sec. reported that only eight or nine members were willing to join the Kensington group and further action had been adjourned until it had been found whether these members were prepared to go on with the Group.
- (9) Request for services of Org. Sec. was received from the Church Staffs. J.F.P. for a month during June next. Agreed to recommend G.C. to comply with request.
- (10) Anti-Fabian attack on Tottenham. Org. Sec. reported he was endeavouring to arrange a course of lectures on Socialism in Tottenham and exploit the advertisement given to the Society by the anti Fabian literature issued against Percy Alden. approved.

(11) Anti-Socialist Union of the Free Churches.

Circular from this body offering debates was read, Org. sec. reporting he had sent copies to all local groups and Societies. Approved.

Henry H. Schloesser



[45/192

Meeting. Thursday. January 26<sup>th</sup> 1911 office.

Present. Miss Atkinson, Miss Murby, D. Kenham,  
Standing, Schlosser, Sanders.

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.
  - (2) Lectures.
    - (a) Org. sec. reported he had given courses at Sevenoaks (F.S.) and Tooting to good audiences; at Sydenham to small attendance.
    - (b) ~~org. sec. reported~~ Snell had had good audiences at a course at Ilford;
    - (c) Beaumont had worked up good meetings at N Shields, Whitby Bay, Byker and Ashington; at Blyth meetings small.
    - (d) courses had been booked at Barking and Epping
    - (e) Sreasham G. had organized a debate between H Belloc and Org. sec. with G. K. Chesterton in the chair.
    - (f) Shaw will lecture for the Newcastle-under-Lyme F.S. on Feb 15<sup>th</sup> next.
- Reports adopted.

(g) It was decided to recommend the C.C. that no professional outdoor courses of lectures should be arranged this year.

(2) New Societies Org. Sec. reported proposal to form Society for Old Paulines. Held over for further report.

(4) Fabian Dinner. Org. Sec. reported that March 31<sup>st</sup> seemed the best available date for the dinner. He had booked Holborn Restaurant provisionally for that date Dinner 4/. Souree 1/. It was agreed that the C.C. be recommended to hold dinner on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Tickets: - Dinner Souree 5/; Souree only 2/-; that all Fabian Members of Parliament and J.L.P. members not Fabian be invited; Crooks to be principal guest; Social Com. to cooperate in making arrangements; small band to be engaged; socialist songs to be sung by those present.

CS/193

(5) Donation of £5 (2/10/- from Creasham and  
2/10/- from Clapham Groups)  
was reported, being part of nett proceeds of  
recent Shaw lecture.

(6) Request of Assistance in issuing leaflet was  
received from Scotch University. F. Ches  
held over for further information.

William T. G. G.

Minutes of meeting held at Office Thursday  
16<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1911. 5.30 pm.

Present. Dr. Penham, Skadlam, Schlessner, Miss  
Murby Miss Atkinson, G. Standring, Janaro

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and  
confirmed.

(2) Lecture Reports Org. sec. reported <sup>(a)</sup> that he had  
had good meetings generally at his  
lectures at York, Louthampton, Coventry  
and Sheffield and Lydenham Cpping  
(b) that he had received report from  
Beaumont that his lectures in and  
around Glasgow were going well.  
(c) It was decided to appoint a committee  
consisting of Schlessner, Sanders,  
Sharp & Miss Murby to draw up a  
new series of lectures.

(3) Tabernacle Dinner. Org. sec. reported that Brooks had  
accepted date March 31<sup>st</sup>. It was

decided to appoint recommend that Bland be chairman. It was further agreed that Provincial and University Societies be urged to attend dinner.

(4) New Societies. Org. Sec. reported that movements were on foot to form Fabian Societies at Birmingham University + Leytonstone.

(5) University Fabian Societies A suggestion was made ~~that~~ by Webb that the University Societies should be supplied <sup>free</sup> by the parent Society with a circular inviting students to join. Also that the S.C. offer to supply free a printed calendar of the lectures given at the Universities on subjects of interest on social reform subjects if the matter be supplied by the University Societies.

(6) Christchurch F.S. (A.S.) requested that a resolution of condolence to Countess Solovoi on the death of her husband be sent ~~to~~ on their behalf.

William T. ...

Minutes of meeting March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1911. 5.30pm office.

Present. Miss Mackay (in chair) Miss Atkinson,  
Dr. Bensham, Schlessers, Headlam,  
Sanders, Sandring & Prase.

- (1) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.
- (2) Lecture Courses (a) Organising secretary made a Report ( appended ) on lectures given by him at Southampton, Coventry, York, Sheffield & Walsall.
  - (b) In reply to a request for a confidential report on H Beaumont's capacity as a lecturer the Secretary of the Glasgow. F.S. sent his personal opinion which was favourable and promised to place the request before his Committee.
  - (c) Snell had had good audiences at a Course at Elford and Schlessers course at W. Ham had been fairly well attended.

(13) Barbara  
C85/196

(4)

Report on Lectures given at Southampton, Coventry, York,  
Sheffield and Walsall Fabian Societies by Organising  
Secretary and on the position of the Societies.

---

SOUTHAMPTON. Lectures (4) were held in conjunction with the local I.L.P. Audiences about 100; considerable proportion middle-class. In every way satisfactory. The Society has concentrated this winter upon the Minority Report and done a large amount of propaganda in connection with it. Its members work in close co-operation with the I.L.P. and have secured most excellent headquarters for that body. A considerable number of doctors in the Society.

COVENTRY. Lectures (4) were not very well attended audiences ranging from 30 to 45. Town exceedingly busy work. Society is chiefly run by Widdrington who concentrates on the Coventry "Sentinel". Good Secretary is needed but can't get. Society works cordially with the I.L.P.

YORK. Lectures (4) were excellently attended; audiences 200 to 300. Father Vaughan gave a lecture in York against Socialism which stimulated interest. The Society is run mainly by Frank Rowntree. It is entirely middle-class and works with the I.L.P. and the Labour Party.

SHEFFIELD. Lectures (2) fairly well attended about 100 present; first meeting small. Audience entirely middle-class. Society works in close touch with the I.L.P. and Labour Party and gives many propaganda lectures during the season.

WALSALL. Lectures (2) fairly well attended, about 35 present. The Society is run chiefly by Dr. Layton who has got together quite a good circle of middle-class men-teachers, municipal servants and lawyers, who have influence in the town. The Society works in co-operation with the I.L.P.

My general impression is that these five societies are "alive" and that they draw into the Socialist movement men who are not touched by the I.L.P. or the S.D.P. I was struck by the greater proportion of business men, ministers of religion, doctors, teachers and clerks in the audiences than used to be the case a few years ago in the provinces.

no office copy a specimen available  
William's Files

(45/197

(3) Fabian Dinner The arrangements for the dinner were considered further and it was decided to recommend the P.C. to write <sup>(a)</sup> Mr. Brooks and Miss Brooks and also Arthur Henderson M.P. and (b) that there be two toasts, one congratulating Brooks and the other Fabian Victor; the other to be the Socialist movement throughout the world to be proposed by Ensor and responded to by Kier Hardie. <sup>(c)</sup> That two songs selected by Miss Murby and Miss Atkinson be sung.

The org. sec: reported that seven M.P.s had accepted invitation.

(4) New Societies Org. sec. reported he had arranged to visit Birmingham to open University T.S. there; and that new society would be formed at Leytonstone on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

(5) Circular for University T.S. It was agreed that the office draft a specimen circular.

William T. ...



Minutes of meeting March 16. 1911. 5.30. p.m.

& Present. Miss Murby (in chair), H. A. Schloesser,  
Mrs Atkinson, Ständerung, D. E. Bentham,  
† Sanders.

(1) Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2) Tabian Dinner (a) Webb not being able to be present. Hand to take chair; (b) Mr Butts to sing at dinner and a song to be sung by members at the time to be printed. (c) The Social Committee promises to help to steward. (d) Dodd, Miss Hankinson & Mrs Dischoff, Collins were appointed a small sub-committee to arrange for the seating of guests.

(3) New Societies. Leytonstone Society was reported to have been formed on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

(4) Cambridge University, F. S. announces that they

compelled through heavy local expenses to reduce their membership fee to the parent Society to 1/- per member.

(5) Lecture Courses. Organising secretary reported that he had good audiences at courses at Bolton, and fair audiences at courses at Birmingham, Preston & Wood Green.

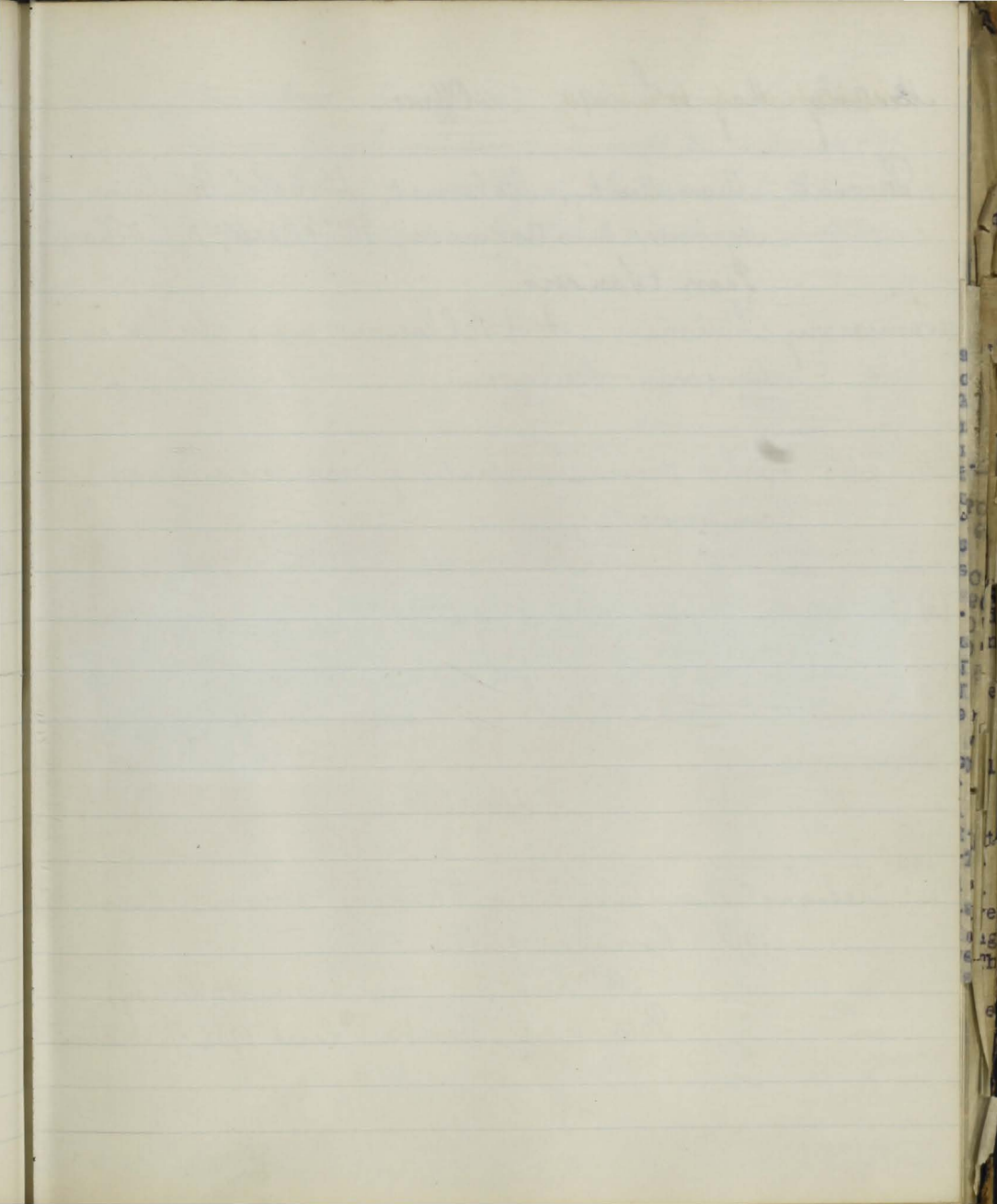
(6) Workers Ed. Ass<sup>n</sup>. Org. Sec. reported that he had seen secretary of this org<sup>n</sup> with regard to the suggestion that the Fabian Society should assist in supplying books to the ass<sup>n</sup>. but the secretary seemed anxious that the Fabian Society should not be associated with the ass<sup>n</sup>. and hoped to secure books in another way.

(7) Northern Fabian Conference. It was agreed that

the Org. secretary should attend the Conference on May 6<sup>th</sup> next. at Manchester

HEAN H. H. Besser  
acting chairman.

Minutes of meeting



Meeting May 4<sup>th</sup> 1911. Office.

Present. Mrs Murby, Schlosser, D. Ethel Beusham,  
Harben, Mrs Atkinson, Mr. Sharp, + C. D Sharp.  
Pearse + Sanders.

(1) Temporary Chairman. H. H. Schlosser was elected as  
temporary chairman.

(2) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and  
confirmed.

(3) Election of Candidates, 18: last year, 33

Men 1 @ 15/-, 3 @ 10/-, 1 @ 5/- . Average 10/-:  
last month 7/11.

Women 1 @ 10/6, 1 @ 7/6, 2 @ 5/- . Average 7/-:  
last month 5/1

Joint average 8/8; Provincial &c. 5 @ 2/6, 4 @ 1/-  
Average total, 5/3: last month 6/3.

All elected.

(4) Resignations. Miss Elsie Chapin, London. March 1910.  
Reason given  
Mrs Lupton (nee Gwen. Holliday)  
Petersfield, Hants. Sept 1908. 57. Married.

1919

Surge of members. Lists (a) of members who have received final notices and will be struck off in default of a reply to the special letter, and (b) ~~list~~ of members without addresses to be struck off.

List of Members in default to be struck off.

Name.	Place.	Elected.	Last.	Sub.
Miss Rachel Barrett *	Hendon	1907	10/6.	June '09
H. R. Baylis * <i>no.</i>	Slough	1905	21/-	May '09 (two years)
F. G. Bex *	Edgware	1907	10/-	June '09
Rev. A. E. Boyce *	New Cross	1908	5/-	Oct. '09
Miss Tita Brand <i>paid</i>	Kensington	1906	£1.	March '09
Jas. Chappel <i>resigned</i>	Sunderland	1906	2/6.	Sept. '09
Hon. D. M. Charleston *	Adelaide, S. Aus.	1892	£1.	Dec. '05 (8 years)
A. B. Christen *	Newcastle-on-Tyne	1908	2/6.	June '09
Rev. G. W. Clitheroes.	Wimbledon	1908	5/-	June '09
Frank Cole *	Birmingham	1907	5/-	Feb. '07
Thos. Crossland <i>resigned</i>	Burnley	1907	5/-	June '09
Miss Eva Doe *	Willesden	1908	5/-	Aug. '09
Arthur F. Dunn <i>paid.</i>	Leicester	1907	£2.2.0.	July '09 (2 years)
Isaac Edwards *	Belton	1908	5/-.	May '09
Bernard J. Ellis <i>resigned</i>	Letchworth	1907	10/-.	April '09
Bernard S. Gilbert *	Lincoln	1906	10/6.	Jan. '07
Edwin Good-child <i>paid</i>	Crofton Park, S.R.	1903	£1.1.0.	Sept. '07 (2 years)
Alf. Grainger <i>merged</i>	Hull	1905	7/6.	June '07
Joseph C. Harris <i>paid</i>	Brit. Columbia	1896	£1.	Jan. '08 (2 years)
Miss Winifred Heath <i>resigned</i>	Regents Park	1906	6/-.	May '08
Miss Hester L. Hunter *	Winnipeg, Canada	1908	5/-	July '09
Miss Elizabeth C. James *	Gunnersbury	1908	5/-	Aug. '08
Edgar Jepson	Bedford Park	1903	10/-	July '09
Mrs. Jepson	Do. Do.	1906	5/-	Dec. '07
A. J. Jones *	Stroud	1908	5/-	March '09
Mrs. A. C. Kimpton *	Addlestone	1907	5/-	May '09
Edwin Kingham, Junr. *	Farnham	1907	5/-	June '09
Thomas Logan *	Tranent, N. B.	1908	3/-	April '09
Arthur R. Lord <i>resigned</i>	South Africa	1900	13/-	April '07 (2 years)
Am. Lunn, Junr. <i>paid</i>	Leeds	1896	10/-	Feb. '07
P. G. Mawer *	Ilford	1907	10/-	May & Nov. '07.
Frank L. McDougall *	Adelaide S. Aus.	1908	10/-	June '09
Mrs. A. D. Macpherson *	Chelsea	1909	5/-	March '09
Philippi Millet <i>resigned</i>	Paris	1905	£1.	Feb. '05
F. H. Minett *	Hammersmith	1908	5/-	Jan. & Oct. '09.
Mrs. Peake <i>resigned</i>	Edgware	1908	5/-.	April '08
H. Polak <i>paid(?)</i>	Amsterdam	1895	10/-	April '04 (4 years)
Spencer Pryse *	Seho	1907	10/-	May '07.
Thomas Reed <i>resigned</i>	Hastings	1901	12/6.	Nov. '05 (3 years).
Iter B. Alcock	Denmark Hill	Dec. '10	Nov. '07	10/-
s. Pearce	Herne Hill	March '11	Feb. '06	10/-
Phippen	Holland Park	Oct. '10	Nov. '08	10/6
. E. Righthouse	Chatham	Nov. '10	June '07	5/-
ter E. Speed	Hackney	Jan. '11	June '07	5/-.
nk A. Wilmer				

(47/1909)

Purge of members. Lists (a) of members who have received final notices and will be struck off in default of a reply to the special letter, and (b) ~~list~~ of members without addresses to be struck off.

Name	Address	Date	Notes
James Smith	Tranent, N. B.	1908	2/8. Aug. '09
Charles Spooner	Chiswick	1899	£1. 11. 6. April '09 (3 years)
W. Aug. Steward	Highbury	1891	£1. March '07 (2 years)
E. W. Watt	Canada	1899	2/5. Aug. '02
Mrs. Godfrey J. Williams	Plaistow	1909	5/- April '09
Miss Mary E. Wilson	Hammersmith	1906	3/- June '09 (2 years)
A. E. Shipbottom	Cardiff	1908	2/6. May '08

(48/1900)

Name	Address	Date	Notes
Frederick Richardson	Mill Hill	1906	£1. March '09
Edgar Smith	Braintree	1908	5/- April '08
Frank Smith, L.C.C.	Fleet Street	1891	10/- June '09 (2 years)
James Smith	Tranent, N. B.	1908	2/8. Aug. '09
Charles Spooner	Chiswick	1899	£1. 11. 6. April '09 (3 years)
W. Aug. Steward	Highbury	1891	£1. March '07 (2 years)
E. W. Watt	Canada	1899	2/5. Aug. '02
Mrs. Godfrey J. Williams	Plaistow	1909	5/- April '09
Miss Mary E. Wilson	Hammersmith	1906	3/- June '09 (2 years)
A. E. Shipbottom	Cardiff	1908	2/6. May '08

List of Members whose addresses are lost.

Name. Last Address. Date of Loss. Elected. Sub.

It was agreed that these names be struck off if replies are not received or if addresses do not turn up, with the exception of Jepson who Schlosser promised to see.

Chairman. Miss Atkinson was elected Chairman of the Committee.

Vice Chairman. H. H. Schlosser was elected vice Chairman of the Committee.

New Societies. Org. Sec. reported he had formed a new society at Brews and would visit Dover on May 10th to form society there.

Circular for University Fabian Societies Org. Sec. reported he had written the University Societies making the offer to supply circular in regard to membership and requesting draft forms.

Lectures (a) It was decided that the question of Provincial and Suburban lectures be considered later ~~in connection with a new scheme of propaganda.~~

1884



and that in the meantime all applications for lecture courses be considered on their merits.

*J.P.* ~~That the E.C. be requested to sanction the expenditure of about £400 on propaganda work including lectures for the present year, details of the proposed work to be submitted later.~~

(b) It was agreed that the Org. Sec. should give courses at Greve, Manchester (3 courses), Newcastle-under-Lyme under the auspices of the Y.P. and at Stanley under auspices of the I.L.P.

Conference on L.C.C. Elections 1912 Report of Org. Sec. as delegate as appended was received.

Attended on April 29th. the Conference at the Food Reform Restaurant called by the I.L.P. to consider what steps should be taken to prepare for the running of Labour and Socialist candidates at the next County Council election, March 1913. It was decided that a Central Committee be formed as follows:-

- 4. from the Divisional Council of the I.L.P.
- 2. from the Fabian Society
- 2. from the Women's Labour League
- 1. each from each of the local Trades Councils, Labour Parties, or other properly constituted Labour and Socialist organisation which puts

Hull Fabian Society: Org. Sec. reported receipt of letter from Hull <sup>15</sup> stating that the S<sub>7</sub> was in a poor condition and suggesting that the Org. Sec. should attend a meeting of the S<sub>7</sub> to reinvigorate it or to wind it up. Agreed that the Org. Sec. attend the proposed meeting.

Annual Fabian Conference Clifford Inn Hall was reported as booked for July 8<sup>th</sup> for the Conference. Question of business to be considered to be held over until next meeting.

Fabian Dinner etc Receipts reported to be £62.19.0: Expenditure £62.18.0, not including printing & postage. Report adopted.

Henry D. Halber

May 18<sup>th</sup> 1911



Minutes of meeting May 18<sup>th</sup> 5.30 p.m.

Present. Harben (in chair) Mr<sup>s</sup> Shaw, Mrs  
Bentinck, Miss Murly, Schweser, Dr  
Bentham Sanders.

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting were amended  
and confirmed.

(2) Apology received from Miss Atkinson and  
accepted.

(3) Membership. The following resignations were received  
and accepted:-

John E. Miller Feb 1908. 7/6.

Mr Gabler May 1907 5/.

R. W. Coit. reply to special letter

The following resignation was received  
but consideration postponed until Jan the  
E.C. had dealt with it.

Hubert Blund.

(4) University Fabian Bureau Alban Gordon<sup>see</sup> of the

Birmingham University Fabian Society, submitted a scheme for a central organization for the University Fabian Societies. The principle was approved, but a ~~detail~~ ~~connection~~ ~~with~~ the suggestion that University Fabian Society members should cease to be members of the London Society was disapproved. It was decided to inform Gordon of these views and to advise him to consult Clifford Allen of the Cambridge University F.S. who was formulating a similar scheme.

(5) Suburban Provincial Lectures. Consideration of these were adjourned for the Org. Sec. to submit a Report on the working of the lecture schemes during the last three years, giving a list of places at which lectures had been given, and for him to submit a syllabus for a new course.

(6) Annual Fabian Conference. Letter <sup>was read</sup> from the Birmingham U.F.S. asking for date of Conference to be changed from July 8<sup>th</sup>. Request declined. It was decided to consider proposals to be placed

on the Agenda next week.

- (7) New Societies Org. Sec. reported he had had a good meeting at Dover promoted by the new local Fabian Society.
- (8) Bircular for University Fabian Societies Org. Sec. reported that he had had only one or two acceptances of the offer of the E.C. to supply the circular. Societies accepting were drawing up the necessary copy.
- (9) Local Government Group Org. Sec. reported that an excellent secretary had been found for the local government group - A. B. Lander.
- (10) Education Group Tract. Letters were read from the Sec. of the Group and one of the authors answering criticisms expressed at the Annual Meeting.
- (11) Joint Committee with the F.L.P. Org. Sec. reported that the first meeting of this body would be held on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

(45/709)

(12) London for Labour Committee for L.C.C. Elections.

Invitation from the I.L.P. was read to appoint  
two delegates to this Com. The C.P. had  
already ~~appointed~~ appointed delegates.

Mabel Atkinson.  
June 1<sup>st</sup> 1911

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May 19<sup>th</sup>

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Minutes of Meeting. June 1. 1911. 5/30 p.m.

Present. Miss Atkinson (in chair) Mr. Bensham, Mr. Shaw  
H. H. Schlosser, Mr. Bentinck, Miss Murby, Sanders  
and Pease.

(1) Minutes of the previous Committee meeting were read  
and confirmed.

(2) Apology was read from Harben. Excused.

(3) Membership. (a) Resignations accepted:-

A. R. Baylis already purged pays and resigns  
Mrs Ada Brandon Jan 1907 10/6: no reason  
Mrs E. Sutch Feb 1910 5/. no reason  
Mr. Pease already purged pays and resigns.

(b) Election of candidates. 31: last year 37.

Subscriptions:

Men. 1 @ 20/-, 4 @ 10/-, 1 @ 8/-, 1 @ 7/6  
2 @ 5/-, 1 @ 2/6  
Average 8/10: last month 10/-  
Women. 1 @ 40/-, 1 @ 20/-, 1 @ 10/-, 1 @ 6/-  
4 @ 5/-, 1 @ 2/6.  
Average 10/11: last month 7/-.  
Joint average 9/9. Provincial 11 @ 1/-  
Average total 6/6: last month 5/3.



1905/205

(c) Mrs E Foster Brown, Rev. J Matthews, F. W. Taylor  
Mrs Trumble struck off for non-payment <sup>of</sup> and  
loss of address.

(4) (a) Letter was read from Bland on his resignation.  
Decided to recommend Ex. Com. to ask him  
to remain.

(4) Org. Sec's visit to Hull F.S. Org. Sec. reported  
he had had a ~~good~~ satisfactory meeting of the  
Hull F.S. and it was decided to continue the Sg.  
A new secretary was appointed and a plan  
of work for next session was sketched out.

(5) Annual Fabian Conference

(a) Resolution sent in from Clapham on  
Equality (see list)

(b) Resolution sent in by Women's Growth on  
Insurance Bill <sup>see</sup> list

(c) Resolution sent in by Golders Green F.S.

(d) Resolution promised by Cambridge W. F.S.  
subject not stated.

## 5) Annual Fabian Conference (cont<sup>d</sup>)

(e) Resolutions to come from the E.C.

(1) On joint action with the J.L.P. (see list)

(2) On the Insurance Bill.

(3) On application with the W. E. Associations.

f) Social Committee offers to give an "At Home" to ~~the~~ delegates at the Conference. It was agreed that provincial delegates be guests but other delegates and members of the F.S. should pay 9<sup>d</sup> each

## 6) Suburban Provincial Lectures.

(a) The appended Report on the past three years lectures was submitted and received.

(b) Draft syllabus for course for next season was submitted and approved. (app<sup>3</sup>)

(c) It was decided that £250 be spent this year on Suburban and Provincial lectures under the auspices of Fabian Societies and Groups <sup>only</sup> except under special circumstances.

## 7) Educational Work of Nursery

Report of nursery educational work (appended) was submitted and received.

(9) Standing Joint Committee with the I.L.P.

The following Report was submitted.

Meeting of the Standing Joint Committee of the I.L.P.  
and the Fabian Society. May 19th 1911

Present: Anderson and Holmes (I.L.P.); Miss Murby, Schloesser, Sharp,  
Pease and Sanders (Fabian Society).

1.- Chairman. W. C. Anderson was elected Chairman of the Committee.

2.- Secretaries. It was agreed that F. Johnson and W. Stephen Sanders  
be joint secretaries.

3.- Finance &c. It was agreed that application should be made for a  
grant of 10/- from each constituent Society for  
expenses, and that the secretaries obtain a suitable  
minute book.

4.- Title of the Committee.  
It was agreed that the title of the Committee should be  
"The Standing Joint Committee of the I.L.P. and the  
Fabian Society".

5.- Co-operation between I.L.P. branches and local Fabian Societies.  
Anderson and Sanders were appointed to draw up a circular  
giving suggestions with regard to methods of co-  
operation between the two organisations.

6.- Joint Lectures.  
It was agreed to recommend that a course of propaganda  
lectures be held jointly by the I.L.P. and Fabian Society  
on Friday evenings next session in place of usual  
Fabian lectures: suggested subjects, "Next Steps to  
Socialism". Lectures to be held at Queen's Hall or  
large Memorial Hall. Number of lectures six or eight.  
Lecturers suggested, Shaw, Snowden, Mrs. Webb, Macdonald,  
Clynes, Ensor, Anderson, Hardie. Tickets to be issued  
for reserved seats to cover cost.

7.- Educational Lectures.  
Schloesser, Sanders, Anderson, Sharp (with Mylles co-  
opted) were appointed to deal with a scheme for promot-  
ing educational lecture courses on the lines given by  
the Nursery last session.

8.- Nationalisation of Industries.  
It was decided to recommend that a Joint Committee be  
appointed to draw up a scheme for the Nationalisation  
of the Coal Supply and to plan a joint campaign.

9.- Literature. The question of joint action in producing and distribut-  
ing literature and exchanging advertisements was de-  
ferred until next meeting.

10.- Next Meeting was fixed for June 20th. at 5. 30 p.m.

Standing Joint Committee with the J.L.P. (contd)

It was decided to recommend the E.C. to approve No 3. H & 8 and to approve the principle of Joint Lectures suggested in No 6 but without committal to number and other details. No 7 was withdrawn as inaccurate. The other items are information.

(9) Conference with London Local Group Secretaries.

It was agreed that a Conference of the London Local Group Secretaries with the Org. Prop. Com. be held in the first week in July.

Mabel Atkinson

Suburban and Provincial Lecture Schemes.

195/207

I was instructed at the last meeting of the Sub-Committee to Report on the working of the Suburban and Provincial Lecture schemes.

Suburban Lectures.

The Suburban Lecture scheme which took the place of the Hutchinson Trust lectures was first undertaken in 1906 on the following lines. The Executive Committee approved a syllabus for a Course of four lectures on Modern Socialism drawn up by a Committee consisting of H. Snell and I.W. Macrosty. The Course was offered to Socialist and other Societies in and around London who were to make all the necessary arrangements for securing an audience. The Fabian Society guaranteed the whole cost of the Course including hire of hall, printing and posting (50 to 100 D/c Posters and 1000 syllabuses) and the Lecture fee of one guinea per lecture. Towards the cost reserved seat tickets were sometimes sold or a collection made which sometimes covered the hire of hall. In most cases the lectures have been organised locally by branches of the I.L.P. and local Fabian Societies. In 1909-10 the subject of the Courses was "The Abolition of Poverty" four lectures based on the Minority Report and the National Minimum. In 1910-11 this new Course was continued but the one on "Modern Socialism" was also given to about the same extent. The places at which the Courses have been given during the past three years are as follows:-

<u>1908-9</u>	<u>1909-10</u>	<u>1910-11</u>
Lewisham F. G.	Bexley Heath	Acton
Chelsea F. G.	Catford	Barking
Croydon F. F.S.	Chiswick	Barnet
S. Pancras F.G.	Chelmsford	Bermondsey
Forest Gate F.G.	Clapham (2) F.G.	Brixton
Paddington F. G.	Cricklewood	Tarnham Green F.G.
Wallington	Croydon W. F.S.	New Cross F.G.
Ilford F. S.	Deptford F. G.	Ealing
Tunbridge Wells F.S.	Forest Gate F.G.	Enfield
Harrow	Golders Green	Epping
Hornsey	F.S.	Forest Gate F.G.
Grays	Greenwich F.G.	Hackney
Richmond	Ilford F.G.	Ilford F.G.
Maldon	Raynes Park	Kensal Rise
S. Norwood	Sidcup F.G.	Marylebone
Thornton Heath	Southgate	Richmond
Finchley	Tunbridge	St. Pancras N.
Westminster	Wells F.S.	Sevenoaks
Kingston	Wandsworth	Streatham F.G.
Wood Green F.G.	Willesden	Penge
(20)	Woodford F.S.	
		(33)

Including the eight given in the open air 74 Courses were given at 59 different places. These places where more than one Course has been given during the three years are Clapham (F.G.) (2), Croydon (F.S.) (2), Ilford (F.S.) (3), Tunbridge Wells (F.S.) (2), Ealing (2), Richmond (2), St. Pancras (2), Wood Green (F.G.) (3), Marylebone (2), Streatham (F.G.) (2), Westminster (2). In the cases of Westminster, Marylebone, Streatham and Ealing the second courses were given in the open air; in the cases of Clapham, Croydon, Ilford and Richmond the courses were not given in the same halls or in the same part of the district. In the other cases the subjects of the two courses was not the same and the lecturers were different. In planning the courses it has always been kept in mind that except under special circumstances the same ground should not be gone over twice in less than three years. The lecturers for these courses were H. Snell and W. Stephen Sanders except in the cases of open air lectures which were nearly all given by Dr. Marion Phillips. The net course cost of each course was about £7.7.0.

### Provincial Lectures.

The Provincial Lecture Scheme came into operation in 1908. The scheme differs from that of the Suburban Lectures in that the Fabian Society pays on the Lecture fee (one guinea per lecture) and travelling expenses of the lecturer and provides 1,000 syllabuses. The cost of the Hall and advertising is defrayed locally. The Courses given are the same as those under the Suburban scheme. The lecturers appointed have been Holbrook Jackson, Clifford Sharp, H. H. Schloesser, H. Beaumont and for special occasions (chiefly in connection with local Fabian Societies) W. Stephen Sanders. The places at which courses have been given since the inception of the scheme are as follows:-

1908-9	1909-10.	1910-11.
Letchworth (F.S.)	Abergavenny	Ashington
Hitchin	Bath	Aston Manor
Liverpool (F.S.) (2)	Colchester	Blyth
Birkenhead	Coventry F.S.	Bolton F.S.
New Ferry	Darlington	Byker
Carnarvon	Griffithstown	Cambridge F.S.
Llandudno	Halifax	Coventry F.S.
Festiniog	Hanley	Glasgow (5)
Brighton (F.S.)	Leeds	Hanley
Glasgow (F.S.)	Leicester F.S.	Maidstone (open air)
Perth (F.S.)	Middlesbrough	Newcastle-under-Lyme
Edinburgh (F.S.)	Newport	North Shields

Bath  
 Yeovil  
 Radstock  
 Wakefield  
 Coventry (F.S.)  
 Leeds (F.)  
 Walsall (S.)  
 Marlborough (F.S.)  
 Driffiel  
 Halifax  
 Manchester (F.S.)  
 York (F.)  
 Sheffield (F.S.)  
 Hull (F.)  
 Midhurs  
 Nottingham  
 Leicest  
 St. Hel's  
 Bootle  
 (32)

Newton Abbot  
 Otley  
 Plymouth  
 Pontenydd  
 Sevenoaks (F.S.)  
 Stourbridge  
 Sunderland  
 Swindon  
 Taunton  
 Walsall (F.S.)  
 Eglad  
 Uxbridge  
 West Hartlepool  
 Yeovil  
 (26)

Nottingham  
 Sheffield  
 Southampton  
 Tonbridge (open air)  
 Walsall (F.S.)  
 Whitley Bay  
 Worthing  
 York  
 (24)

Eighty two courses have been given under the scheme in 63 different cities and towns. The cases in which more than 1 Course has been given in the same city or town are Glasgow (F.S.) (6), Walsall (F.S.) (3), Coventry (F.S.) (3), Liverpool (F.S.) (2), Bath (2), Halifax (2), Leicester (S.) (2), Leeds (F.S.) (2), Hanley (2), Sheffield (F.S.) (2), York (F.S.) (2), Nottingham (2), Yeovil (1). With regard to Glasgow the courses were given by different lecturers and in different districts of the city and its suburbs; in all the other cases except Hanley the courses were on different subjects by different lecturers. The cost of each case was about £7.3.0.

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 General Remarks on both Schemes.  
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It is of course impossible to estimate the result of these lectures in spreading Socialist ideas and in making the Society known. The audiences vary considerably in numbers and quality. Those held under the auspices of the local Fabian Societies and Groups are generally the best but some I.L.P. branches have secured big meetings. I have lectured to audiences bigger than at some of our own central lectures at Memorial Hall, in Nottingham, York, Wood Green, Leicester &c. and to gatherings of thirty and forty at other places. Undoubtedly the Societies advertised by the lectures which are always announced as "Fabian" lectures. They are also a means of getting our literature

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of the Nursery.

Socialism and English politics. The origins of British  
 . No a German importation. The effects of the Industrial  
 1. Robert Owen the Father of British Socialism. His revol  
 ndustrial conditions. His economic teachings. The political  
 nd political philosophy he attacked. The actual contributio  
 ark. The results of his criticisms. Their influence upon  
 sold. For instance at two small meetings at Sheffield I addressed  
 this winter over £1. worth of literature was bought by the audience.  
 The local Fabian Societies are always anxious to have the courses  
 as they give a fillip to their general lecturing work and keep them  
 in touch with the parent Society. When the first part of the  
 scheme was undertaken in 1906 there were 10 local Fabian Societies  
 including 3 University Societies; there are now forty six Local  
 Societies including nine in connection with Universities. The  
 total membership of the Society in 1906 was 1267; it is now 2664.  
 It is fair to assume that the Lecture Courses have had something to  
 do with this increase by bringing the Society directly before the  
 enquiring public.

Wm. Stephen Sanders.

Socialism cannot be brought about at once. What is "revolu-  
 socialism? Violent Revolution and Evolution. Political  
 Revolutions. How Socialism will probably progress. The  
 modern thinkers on this subject. How far Socialism has  
 Will all land and capital be owned by the State and the  
 authorities? The gradual substitution of co-operation for  
 . Some possible consequences of common ownership of land  
 . The various Socialist organisations in Britain: the  
 cratic Party, the Independent Labour Party, the Fabian  
 Their several policies and methods.



1st. Lecture.

Socialism and English politics. The origins of British Socialism. No a German importation. The effects of the Industrial Revolution. Robert Owen the Father of British Socialism. His revolt against industrial conditions. His economic teachings. The political economy and political philosophy he attacked. The actual contribution of Karl Marx. The results of his criticisms. Their influence upon British Socialist thought. How far his forecasts have been justified. The present system of production and distribution of wealth. The evil outcome of competition. The latest ideas with regard to Socialism.

2nd. Lecture.

The relation of material conditions to morality. After bread, education. Morality and religion. Socialism not anti-religious. The growth of Socialist thought among Christian teachers. The contradiction between modern individualism and Christianity. Socialism and the survival of the fittest. Who is the "fittest"? Why a "struggle for existence"? ~~The real causes for the increase~~ The influence of "Mutual Aid" in evolution. The attitude of Socialists to Religion and Ethics.

3rd. Lecture.

The unconscious development of Socialism. The attack upon Municipal ownership of services. Do publicly owned services "pay". The increase of local taxation not due to Municipal trading. Is Municipal trading Socialism? The real causes for the increase of local financial burdens. The possibility of these burdens being lightened. The growth of municipal enterprise at home and abroad.

4th. Lecture.

Socialism cannot be brought about at once. What is "revolutionary" Socialism? Violent Revolution and Evolution. Political and Social Revolutions. How Socialism will probably progress. The views of modern thinkers on this subject. How far Socialism has arrived. Will all land and capital be owned by the State and the municipal authorities? The gradual substitution of co-operation for competition. Some possible consequences of common ownership of land and capital. The various Socialist organisations in Britain: the Social Democratic Party, the Independent Labour Party, the Fabian Society. Their several policies and methods.

Memorandum on the Educational Work

of the Nursery.

C48/712

When, at the beginning of the session, the Education Sub-Committee was appointed, we had in view two distinct objects. Distinct, and yet mutually dependent. The one being capable of attainment without the other, though leading up to an incidentally accomplishing it. On the one hand we desired to present to our younger members to the young or new Fabians generally, and to the general public, an ordered account of the Socialist outlook on Modern Life; and at the same time to explain the policy of the Fabian Society. On the other hand we hoped to discover a systematic method of producing new lecturers capable of addressing large outside audiences. The working of the ordinary Nursery method of training will be referred to later.

We were quite sure of the methods that we ought to adopt to accomplish the first part of our programme, but not at all sure of the best way to go about the second part: events have justified both our confidence and our diffidence.

A syllabus with a bibliography was drawn up, and printed at the expense of the parent Society. Eleven lectures were delivered at Prince Henry's Rooms, to audiences whose number averaged rather more than fifty. The cost of the Rooms was defrayed by the parent Society; and all through the venture the Executive showed itself sympathetic and as recognising the value of our efforts. The syllabus itself has been sent to places as remote as Wolverhampton, Portsmouth, Edinburgh and even Siam. The course is also being given to the Finsbury I.L.P., the audiences averaging in number close on forty.

It is difficult for us to speak of the quality of the Prince Henry's Room lectures, but several attained an exceptionally high level and with one unfortunate exception, all were good and adequate to their purpose.

The other aspect of the work must now be dealt with. Excepting Gibson all the original lecturers at Prince Henry's Rooms were experienced speakers and expert in their subjects. Gibson had to get a new subject up, and till he undertook it, had had no experience whatever of lecturing; so that in his case, he owes what experience and training he has got, practically entirely to the work of the Sub-Committee. The difficulty of repeating the course to the I.L.P., with identical lecturers, caused the Sub-Committee to call upon three men who had attended the first course. Maude, Burns and Kelsey having listened to the lectures of their more experienced colleagues, were able to undertake to lecture on "The Socialization of Industry", "The Socialist Program" and "The National Minimum". The expressed satisfaction of the Finsbury I.L.P. is a fair proof of their success.

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We may fairly claim, that, besides instructing something a hundred people in the elements of Socialism, the Sub-committee succeeded in giving a considerable measure of training to four individuals. Besides the rather advanced education thus afforded the Sub-committee, the Nursery has continued its practice of writing papers and lectures from totally untried persons. In what way a number of members have been induced to study subjects that have been subjected to the Fabian discipline of questions and debate. Several of the people who have thus been discovered and encouraged have already lectured to local groups. To take two examples personally known to the drafter. Alwyn Lloyd who spoke to the Nursery on "Town Planning" has also lectured to the Golders Green Group, and Arnold Gibson who worked up a lecture on "The Economics of Marx" has since delivered it to the Chelsea Group. It must therefore be evident that the Nursery already possesses the machinery for bringing out lecturers. It was essential that, in our endeavour to do our utility, we should go slowly, so that we should discover whether we possessed the ability to train, before we tried to practice that difficult art. Further, it was even more necessary to create some confidence, before we offered, too freely, our services in this matter to the Society and to the Movement. Now that we have proved ourselves, we may confidently go forward more ambitiously. We shall co-ordinate the ordinary Nursery opportunities and those of the Education Sub-committee, with the activities of the organising secretary. In short, experience has convinced us that the Executive is not mistaken in the trust it reposed in us, and we are confident that our increased maturity will enable us to carry any further burden that the wishes of the Executive, or our own initiative, may lay upon us.

For the Nursery Committee

Jack Gibson

Hon:Sec: Ed: Sub-Committee.

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Minutes of meeting, Friday June 30<sup>th</sup> 1911. 5.45 pm.

Present. Miss Atkinson (in chair) Dr. Bensham, Schlessner  
Sanders. Peasr. MacMurby (non-members. Dodd. Mr. Wilson)

(1) Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2) Apologies were received and accepted from Harben and  
Mr. Bentinck.

(3) Annual Conference

(a) It was agreed that the E.C. be recommended to nominate H. H. Schlessner chairman.

\* (b) The Agenda. It was agreed that No 3 was non-contentious; that 4 be moved by Miss Murby; that No 5 be altered so as to read "Societies" instead of "Society"; that the E.C. move an amendment to 6. amendment to be drafted by Miss Atkinson; that No 5 and 6 be left open questions; that in No 9 the word "proposal" be changed to "principle"

\* See over for agenda

(c) Conference Social. It was agreed there be no speaking but an effort made to secure music.

(4) Hampstead Group Donation. It being reported that the Hampstead Group had donated £5.5.0 to the Society it was agreed that a vote of thanks be passed to the Group.

(5) Conference with Secretaries of the London Local Groups

(a) Org. Sec. reported date fixed Wednesday July, 5<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed that the hour be 7.30 pm.

(b) The following suggestions were agreed upon for the Agenda:-

(i) Local cooperation with the D.L.P.

(ii) Campaigns on local questions: Housing, School Clinics, Feeding of School Children etc (iii) Propaganda meetings. (iv) Endeavour to get Trade Union Branches and other org. to receive lecturers on Socialist subjects

(6) Org. Sec.: in Potteries. Org. Sec. reported he had had a fairly successful time during his campaign.

(3) Report of Cambridge F.I. Draft submitted. Agreed that the F.I. be recommended to contribute a sum not exceeding £2. towards cost of printing.

(4) Webbs suggestions to Special Committee  
agreed that the following suggestions be recommended for adoption to the F.I.:-

- (a) That a Press Committee be established
- (b) That the work of the Social Committee be made more important.

(5) New Society Org: Sec: reported that steps were being taken to form a Fabian Sq at Portsmouth.

(6) Lecture List. ~~Whereas~~ It was agreed that the Lecture list be revised and reissued. Org: Sec: to submit a circular to be sent to members at next meeting.

7. The Conference of the Org: Prop: Com: with London Local Groups and Societies. ~~was~~ The annexed Report of the Conference was considered

Wednesday July 5th. 1911.

Present. Members of Executive: Miss Atkinson (in chair), Schloesser, Harben, Miss Murby, Sanders. Secretaries: Tiffen (Lewisham (Deptford)), Kratzel (Hampstead), Anderson (Lewisham) Mrs. Schloesser (Chiswick), Miss Challenger (Slapham), Miss Hayland (Marylebone), Gilbert (Streatham).

All the London local Groups were represented at the Conference which lasted about 2½ hours. The difficulties of Group work were discussed at considerable length. The chief one seems to be the slackening of interest of the Group members after the first two or three seasons. Most of the Groups are able to hold successful propaganda meetings for a year or two and then they begin to drop off in numbers. It was generally felt that the holding of lectures should be supplemented by other activities which should be stimulated by the Executive. The following suggestions were adopted by the Conference

- 1.- That the local Groups be asked to nominate members of special Committees.
- 2.- That financial and other assistance be given to local Groups by the E. C. in getting up occasional big meetings.
- 3.- That the local Groups be set to work on a town planning campaign in connection with their districts.
- 4.- That the local Groups be urged to take up the question of Local Taxation.
- 5.- That the local Groups be urged to promote the work of the Workers Educational Association.
- 6.- The Lecture List should be revised and Groups to use it in securing invitations to lecture to other organisations.
- 7.- That a Conference of the Committee and Secs. of local Groups be held periodically in June and December.

8. That Sunday meetings be held at Deptford if possible by the local Group; the E.C. to assist in finding speakers.



It was <sup>decided</sup> ~~agreed~~ that the B.C. be recommended  
to agree to Nos 1. 2. 3. 5. 6. 7. & 8.

No 4 was considered to be too technical and  
too difficult for local study. On No 3 it was  
further agreed to recommend that the B.C.  
arrange for a lecture on Town Planning at  
Memorial Hall a memo. to that effect to  
be sent to the G.P. Com.

Annual Fabian Conference. The proceedings of the  
Conference were considered and it was  
agreed that resolutions No 4 be communicated  
to all Societies and to the Labour Leader.

Mabel At Kinson  
Chairman left 28<sup>th</sup>. 1911.

(95/219)

### Annual Fabian Conference, 1911.

THE Annual Fabian Conference will take place on Saturday, July 8th, at Clifford's Inn Hall, Clifford's Inn, Fleet Street, London, from 10 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. The conference is open to members of the Society as visitors.

#### AGENDA.

1. Chairman's address.
2. Report of the work of societies and groups, 1910-11.
3. Golder's Green F.S. :

That this conference is of opinion that it is desirable for the Fabian Society and as many local societies as possible to take an active part in the promotion of town planning schemes and in the formation of local committees under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.

Further, that the Fabian Society should publish a Tract at an early date on the practical application of the Town Planning Act.

4. Executive Committee of the Fabian Society :

JOINT ACTION WITH I.L.P.—That this conference welcomes the formation of the Joint Standing Committee of the I.L.P. and the Fabian Society, comprising delegates from the National Administrative Council of the I.L.P. and the Fabian Executive, and recommends that local joint committees be formed by the local Fabian societies and groups and the I.L.P. branches.

5. Executive Committee of the Fabian Society :

That the Fabian Society should apply for affiliation to the Workers' Educational Association.

6. Sheffield F.S. :

That this conference emphatically protests against the prevailing practice of restricting appointments and promotions to the higher branches of the public service to persons who have received their education in the great public schools and older universities, and desires the Prime Minister to appoint a select committee to inquire into the whole question of Civil Service appointments and promotions.

7. Clapham F.S. :

That this conference recommends the Executive to inquire into the subject of economic equality with a view to emphasizing the principle in Fabian propaganda.

8. Fabian Nursery :

That in the opinion of this conference membership of the Fabian Society should be restricted to those who support the Labor Party and are not members either of the Liberal or Conservative Parties.

9. Fabian Women's Group :

That this conference, whilst cordially accepting the proposal of State aided national insurance in sickness and maternity, considers that the Bill now before Parliament needs drastic alteration to safeguard the interests of women.

A general discussion on the National Insurance Bill will be taken in connection with this resolution.

1911.

Meeting Thursday Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> 1911.

Present. Miss Atkinson (in chair) Mr. Bentinck,  
D. Ebel Benham, H. H. Leidesdorff, Pass and  
Sanders.

(1) Apologies were received from Harben and Miss Murby  
and accepted.

(2) Minutes of the previous meeting were read and  
confirmed.

(3) Membership. The following Report was <sup>submitted.</sup> ~~adopted.~~

(a) Election of July Candidates. 14: last year 10.

Subscriptions:

Men. 1 @ £3., 1 @ 25/-, 2 @ 10/6.

Average £1.3.5: previous month 12/6.

Women. 1 @ £3., 2 @ 10/-, 1 @ 2/-.

Average £1. 0. 6: previous month 7/6.

Joint average £1. 29.0.: last month 10/-.

Provincial, 2 @ 2/6, 3 @ 1/-.

Average total 14/8: previous month 6/6.

Election of August Candidates 5: last year 7.

Subscriptions:

Men. 1 @ 10/6, 1 @ 5/-, 1 @ 4/-. Average 6/6.

Women. 1 @ 5/-.

Joint average 6/1: previous month £1. 2. 0.

Provincial member, 1 @ 2/6.

Average total 5/5: previous month 14/8.

(b) Resignations.

Name.	Address.	Elected.	Last Sub.	Reason.
H. Solomon,	Kensington	'08	10/- 9/3/10	None
J. Cardwell,	Co. Down.	'08	20/- 3/10/10	Out of touch
Mrs. Murphy,	Wallington,	'08	20/- 3/10/10	Illness.
R. Hodder,	Penge.	'09	5/- 17/6/10	None
A. Dugdale,	Manchester.	'07	5/- 8/11/10	Liberal
Miss F. Smith,	Streatham	'07	10/- 3/11/10	None
C.H.C. Osborne,	Oxford	-	1/- -	Society not Socialist enough
H. Garden,	Brighton	'02	20/- 8/8/10.	None.
<i>9. H. R. Malloy, Godalming Cambridge University</i>				

- (c) Result of final letter to Members purged last May.  
 Paid and remained members 11  
 Written resigning 10  
 No Reply 28.

- (d) Resignations held over.  
 G.B. Cole withdraws resignation  
 Miss M. Robertson. Miss Atkinson to Report  
 Mrs. Bertrand Russell persists.

The Report was received; ~~Resolutions~~ Resolutions were elected  
 Resignations accepted except that of Miss Smith who  
 was to be written to by Mrs Atkinson.

4. Lectures. The report (on other side) was received  
 On (a) The Organizing Secretary was instructed to  
 go forward with the arrangements for Provincial  
 and Suburban lectures up to the limit fixed of £250.  
 On (c) It was decided to recommend the P.C. to agree  
 to meet any loss on this course.  
 On (f) action was held over until reply was received from worker  
 of letter.  
 \* see also end of minutes.

4. <sup>contd</sup> Lectures arranged:

- (a) Suburban and Provincial Courses  
Hahley; Newcastle F.S.; Manchester F.S. (3 Courses)  
Oldham; Leytonstone F.S.; Ilford F.S.; Southampton F.S.  
Sevenoaks F.S.; (2 lectures only) Forest Gate F.S. (2  
Courses); Ipswich.
- (b) Other Lectures.  
The Nursery has arranged to give 80 lectures in Courses  
to various I.L.P. Branches in London; about 30 Lectures  
have been arranged through office to be given by members  
of the Society to various organisations.
- (c) Nursery Course at ~~Clements-Inn~~ Cliffords Inn Hall.  
The Nursery has arranged to give a Course of Lectures  
at Cliffords Inn. The Course has been arranged in con-  
nection with the I.L.P. The Nursery has taken the res-  
ponsibility of the cost of the Course but they desire  
to ask for a grant as last year towards the expenditure.
- (d) The Organising Secretary has arranged to visit and lec-  
ture to the Edinburgh F.S. on Nov. 2nd. and Liverpool F.S.  
on Nov. 6th. He will lecture at Dundee on Nov. 5th. \*
- (e) Arrangements have been made for two big meetings to be  
addressed by Bernard Shaw at Acton and Forest Gate.
- (f) Letter from Nonconformist Minister asking to be appoint-  
ed lecturer for the Society.

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5. New Society The Org. Sec reported he had made  
arrangements to visit Loughborough  
on Oct. 4 and form a Fabian Society.

6. Shaw - Chesterton Debate The org. Sec. presented  
the following Report which was  
approved and adopted.

Shaw-Chesterton Debate.

Sometime ago the S.W. London I.L.P. Federation secured a promise from G.K. Chesterton to debate with Bernard Shaw on Socialism providing Shaw agreed. The Federation then approached Shaw through the Org. Sec. and he consented. The Org. Sec. proposed that the Debate should be held under the joint auspices of the Fabian Society and the I.L.P. and Shaw made that one of the terms of his consent; also that Chesterton should be offered one half of the surplus, the other half to be divided between the Fabian Society and the I.L.P. Shaw was willing for the debate to be held at the Queens Hall, but Chesterton would not venture on a hall larger than the Memorial Hall. The Org. Sec. has booked Memorial Hall for the date agreed upon vizt. Nov. 30th., and commenced to advertise the event. Shaw and Chesterton both wanted Beloe to be chairman and he has been secured. Chesterton has not decided whether he wishes to share surplus. The Org. Sec. has advertised seats @ 5/-, 2/6, 1/-. The gross proceeds ought to reach £100 and the expenses ought not to be more than £12, including hall.

7. Scheme for the Instruction of Lecturers.

In accordance with the reference from E.C. it was decided to appoint four members, Schlosser, Miss Atkinson, Sharp and Mr. Pentonick to form with four members of the Fabian Nursery Executive a Committee to deal with this subject and to ask Dodd to attend the Committee.

8. Lecture List. Draft form to be sent to members asking if they were willing to be placed on Lecture list was approved

9. Press Committee. Held over till next meeting.

10. Conference on Socialist Unity. Invitation was received from the S. D. P. to attend Conference on Sat. ~~Even~~ Sept 30<sup>th</sup> and Oct 1<sup>st</sup> at Salford. It was decided not to accept invitation. (Dealt with as a matter of urgency)

11. Letter on Public School Boys and Socialism was read from G. H. L. Malloney suggesting education of Public School Boys in Socialism. Decided he be written to for a scheme.

12. Next meeting was fixed for Monday Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>; after then meetings to be on Thursdays.

4 cont. It was also decided that the Special Committee on office Staff and Lecturers be asked to Report as quickly as possible in order that arrangements for professional lecturing may be expedited.

Mabel H. Kinson  
Chairman Oct 30<sup>th</sup> 1911

Meeting of the Committee Monday October 30<sup>th</sup> 1911.

Present: Mrs Atkinson (in chair) Sharp, Sanders, Mrs Murby, Mr Bentinck.

(1) Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.

(2)

Membership.

(a) Election of September Candidates

14. - last year 20.

Men - 1 @ 21/- 2 @ 20/- 1 @ 12/6 2 @ 10/- 2 @ 5/-  
average 13/- previous month £1.3.5.

Women - 1 @ 10/- 1 @ 6/- 3 @ 5/- average 6/2  
previous month £1.0.6.

Provincial (University) 1 @ 1/-

Total average 9/8 - previous month 14/8.

(b) Resignations.

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Address.</u>	<u>Elected.</u>	<u>Last Sub.</u>	<u>Reason.</u>
Walter M. Clement	Hampstead	'07	5/- 19.3.10.	None
Mrs. W.M. Clement		'07	5/- 19.3.10.	
Hon. Mrs. E. O. Fordham,	Steeple Merden.	'07	5/- 21.4.10.	Opposed to Minority Report
Laurence Irving	The Boltons, S.V.	'07	21/- 5.11.09.	Out of Town so much.
Letter from Mrs. Oswald Cox, a sort of resignation.				What action?

The Candidates were elected. Resignations were accepted accepting Mr Cox who was to be kept for the present. It was agreed that Mr & Mrs Clement be asked why they resign.



(3) Org. Secretary's Report on his lecture tour.

(\*) The following Report was received.

- (a) Hanley. Course of 4 lectures on "Socialism of Today". The lectures were given at Wolstanton Labour Church in a new suburb of Hanley. The audience, averaging about 40, were composed of fairly well-paid artisans.
- (b) Newcastle-under-Lyme. Course of 4 lectures on Socialism and Local Government. The lectures were held under the auspices of the Newcastle Fabian Society. The audiences ranged from 40 to 60 composed entirely of middle-class people including local aldermen, councillors &c. The Conservative candidate for the constituency, took the chair on one occasion; on the other evenings it was taken by a councillor, an alderman and a Nonconformist minister respectively.
- (c) Oldham. Course of 4 lectures on "Socialism of Today". The lectures were held under the auspices of the local I.L.P. Audiences ranged from 100 to 150 mainly well-to-do artisans with a sprinkling of middle-class. Ministers of religion attended including the Rector of Oldham.
- (4) Marple. Course of 3 lectures on "Socialism of Today". Lectures held under the auspices of the Manchester Fabian Society. Marple is a middle-class distant suburb of Manchester. The audiences ranged from 40 to 100 mainly middle-class. The local Fabians say that the course was the most successful held in the district. Schoolmasters and business men occupied the chair.
- (e) Didsbury. Course of 3 lectures on "Socialism of Today". Lectures held under the auspices of The Manchester Fabian Society. Didsbury is another middle-class Manchester suburb. Audiences small about 20 to 25, all middle-class. A professor of Manchester University & a big business man occupied the chair. Charge made for admission.
- (f) Sale. Course of 3 lectures on "Socialism of Today". Lectures held under the auspices of The Manchester Fabian Society. Sale is another middle-class Manchester suburb. Audiences about 200, all paying for admission, mostly middle class. Local minister, a business man and the chairman of Urban District Council occupied the chair.

Castrol

The Courses for the Manchester Fabian Society have been useful to the local Fabian Society which has started the session in a very promising manner with its own meetings in the centre of Manchester. The Society is now in a much more healthy condition than it has been for two or three years. The members are endeavouring to secure a distinguished audience of Manchester financiers for Pease's promised lecture on Banking to be held in November. The Society are running a course of lectures on the Fabian Basis on lines similar to the course held by the London Society.

Shaw-Chesterton Debate. Reported that all tickets were sold except for platforms. Decided that the members of the F.S. Executive of the E.C. of the S.W. London Federation of the I.L.P. may each have a ticket at 2/6. Other tickets to be sold for 5/- each. It was decided to leave the allotment and division of time of the debate to the principals but suggesting that there be three rounds. The Org. Sec. was instructed to approach Shaw & Chesterton on the question of printing a verbatim report.

Bristol Fabian Society. Letter sent by office (in answer to an enquiry) advising the proposed joint committee of the F.S. and I.L.P. not to take in other bodies was approved. Org. Secretary reported that he had visited Bristol and found the F.S. there in a healthy condition.

New Society The Org. Sec. reported he had formed a  
New Society at Loughborough on Nov. 4.

Mabel Atkinson.

Nov. 9<sup>5</sup> 1911.



