

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of the Meeting of Executive Committee, 2nd January, 1946,
at 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PRESENT. Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Miss Hayler,
Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Wright:
Visitors: Lady Unwin, Mrs. Hertzka.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Received from Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Castle, Miss
Haughton, Mrs. Stapleton, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Burton, Mrs. Phillips,
Mrs. McGregor Ross.

MINUTES of meeting on December 5th, 1945, were confirmed, after the
addition of the words accidentally omitted from page 2, first line:-
"preliminary adjudicators should be".

991. BUSINESS ARISING. Essay Competitions. Reported that the
printed leaflet had been sent to Universities, Women's Colleges,
Organisations, Girls' Public and Private Schools, and that immediate
response had been received asking for further copies from the Edin-
burgh University, who had put up two notices on their notice-boards,
and the Women for Westminster (200 copies). Miss Hayler would send
out 200 to picked Public Libraries with a covering typed slip. The
question of paying the cost of the prizes was considered and the
following proposals were AGREED:- that Vera Brittain be asked to
interest Mr. Schofield of the Cultural Relations Section of the
Foreign Office, in the Competitions; that Miss Haughton be asked to
consult the Secretary of the Youth Hostels' Association as to whether
he would be organising a party to Sweden this year, and whether re-
duced fares were possible if our prize winners went out with his
party; that the question of raising a Fund be considered at a later
Committee.

992. Women's Conference. January 26th at Swedenborg Hall, Blooms-
bury Way, W.C. 1 from 2.30 to 6 p.m. Reported that Captain Black-
burn, M.P. had given Mrs. Duncan Harris a verbal promise to speak at
2.30 p.m. on "Peacemaking in the Atomic Age. Confirmation was await-
ed. Mr. Gerald Bailey, M.A. had agreed to speak at the 4.45 session
on "Building one world - the possibilities of the United Nations Or-
ganisation." Mrs. Lucy Middleton, M.P., having consented to chair
the first session had now been asked to chair both sessions. Her
reply was awaited. Mrs. Irene Pickard hoped to attend and take part
in the discussions. To date, the following Organisations had appoint-
ed representatives:- International Women's Co-operative Guild, Women's
Liberal Federation, National Council of Women and the National B.W.T.A.U.
As Swedenborg Hall had no catering license, but could supply crockery
and the services of the Caretaker, gifts of cake, tea and milk will
be welcome. A charge of 9d each would be made for tea during the
interval.

A resolution proposed by Miss Hayler for putting to the Confer-
ence was discussed, after it had been agreed that the draft of any
resolution should be sent to Organisations beforehand, for considera-
tion, and instruction to delegates. After discussion the following
resolution was AGREED, to be sent without delay to Organisations who
had received invitations to send delegates to the Conference:-

"This Conference declares that the use of atomic energy
for the destruction of human lives is an outrage on humanity
which cannot be tolerated in a civilised world.

It therefore welcomes the recommendation of the Con-
ference at Moscow in December 1945, that the question of the
use of atomic energy should be the subject of a Commission
of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organisation
with a view to directing its use for peaceful purposes only."

994. Spring Lunches. Reported that to date a speaker had not been secured for the first meeting on Wednesday, 13th February, but that Miss Craven had consented to speak on Human Rights on March 13th. Miss Wright suggested that Miss Brett from Peking be asked, if she were home in time.

995. German women. The Chairman reported that she felt that this was a question which should be taken up by the W.I.L. and she proposed that Lt. Col. Rees-Williams, M.P. should be asked to meet a few interested people to talk over a lunch about the situation as regards the British zone in Germany and to consider if there is anything the W.I.L. could say to our own military authorities on the subject. AGREED, and the following consented to meet him if it could be arranged:- Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Bedford, and that the following be asked:- Miss Haughton, Miss Anderson and Lady Parmoor.

996. MEETING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE U.N.O. January, 1946, in London. AGREED to send the following to the British delegates to the Assembly of the U.N.O.:-

"The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (British Section) welcomes the fact that the first meeting of the Assembly of the United Nations Organisation is being held in London.

It urges the British Government from the moment of the initiation of the Organisation to keep in the forefront the goal set before us in the Atlantic Charter of August 14th, 1941 "that all of the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force," and to view all steps agreed upon in the light of this goal.

It further welcomes, as a step towards this ultimate goal, the decision of the Foreign Ministers' Conference at Moscow (December 1945) "to recommend for the consideration of the General Assembly of the United Nations the establishment by the United Nations of a Commission to consider problems arising from the discovery of atomic energy and related matters.

It urges that this Commission should retain direct responsibility from the Assembly and that its work should be related to that of the Economic and Social Council."

997. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood said she was looking forward to the subscriptions for 1946 coming in this month. At the end of 1945 there was £100 in the Congress Fund and the Penny-a-Week Fund had been steadily built up against the time when W.I.L.P.F. work could be recommenced, and the Congress in August next would be the first big piece of international work which would need financial help from the Fund. The emerald ring given us before the war had been sold for £20 and this was added to the proceeds of the November Bring and Buy Sale.

998. APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY-ORGANISER. Reported that Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. McGregor Wood had interviewed Miss Ethel Hayward, on the recommendation of Mrs. Vipont Brown and Miss Hilda Burton, who had talked with her in Manchester, and had engaged her at a salary of £300 per annum, her duties to commence on Thursday, 24th January. Miss Horscroft was remaining in the Office until the end of the month.

999. EMILY HORSCROFT. Agreed to put the following on record:-

"At the end of this month Emily Horscroft is retiring. We cannot let the last Committee which she will serve as Secretary pass without recording much gratitude for the service she has given over thirty years, and our deep sense of the great contribution she has made to the development and work of the W.I.L. Her

disinterested and steadfast devotion to the cause, her high ideals of loyalty to a task, her constant friendliness towards, and interest in, all our Branches and members, have been an asset we have valued highly. She goes to her well-earned retirement with the grateful thanks, the good wishes and the affection of all who have worked with her."

1000. Miss EMILY GREENE BALCH AND THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE. Reported that our American Section had asked us to secure nominations from influential people in this country, to reach Oslo by January 29th. The following had been approached, and a brief sketch of Miss Balch's activities, with a covering letter from John Dewey asking for Sir Norman Angell's nomination had accompanied our request for help:-

Lord Pethick Lawrence, Mr. Walter Ayles, M.P., Mr. Seymour Cocks, M.P., Mrs. Ayrton Gould, M.P., Mrs. Ridealgh, M.P., Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., Mr. G. Benson, M.P., Mr. A. Creech-Jones, M.P. Lady Noel-Buxton, M.P., Mrs. Lucy Middleton, M.P., Mr. Dumbleton, M.P., Miss Colman, M.P., Mrs Paton, M.P. Others were suggested as follows:- Canon Raven, Prof. Mitrany, Miss Margaret Bondfield.

This action was heartily endorsed. AGREED to send a letter to the Secretary of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee, endorsing the nomination.

1001 W.I.L.P.F. Affairs.

Mrs. Innes reported on news from Mrs. Hoppstock Huth, an old friend of the British Section, who had suffered great hardship in Germany during the war, but who was well.

Mrs. Innes also reported a suggestion from Gertrude Baer that an International Summer School should be held at the time of the Luxembourg Congress and that it should be organised by the British Section. AGREED this could not be undertaken this year, but consideration would be given to a weekend gathering of any delegates attending the Congress via England.

1002. W.I.L.P.F. CONGRESS at Luxembourg, August 4/9th, 1946. AGREED to send to Branches and Executive Members extracts from the March 1944 International Circular Letter, consideration of which has been urged by Gertrude Baer before the Congress, and a reminder that they should be studying the Statement of Aims.

Reported that resolutions and amendments to the Constitution must be considered at the February Executive.

AGREED to ask Branches, when nominating delegates for the Congress for the consideration of the Executive, to state their language qualifications especially as in all likelihood French might be the chief language used.

1003. MDLLE. DEJARDIN OF BELGIUM. Reported news had been received of the sudden death of Mdlle. Dejardin. Deep regret was expressed, and appreciation was voiced that she had been in touch with us during her stay in this country during the war. Mrs. Innes had sent a letter of sympathy to Miss Chalmers, her great friend.

1004. MRS. CLARA RAGAZ. Reported news of the sudden death of Professor Ragaz. AGREED to send a letter of sympathy to Mrs. Ragaz.

1005. PROPOSED MEETING OF W.I.L.P.F. CHAIRMEN OF SECTIONS IN SCANDINAVIA. Reported a letter from Dr. Sahlbon suggesting that the above meeting should be planned prior to the Congress. After discussion it was AGREED that the British Section would be willing to co-operate and to send one of the Officers, if Clara Ragaz is able to be present also.

1006. SCANDINAVIAN PROPOSAL TO APPROACH NOBEL INSTITUTE FOR THE SETTING UP OF A SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION TO EXAMINE THE CAUSES OF WAR. Mrs. Zouthen wrote acknowledging our letter reported that they had already made their proposals to the Nobel Institute and had received a refusal. She reported further a suggestion from Dr. Sahlbon of Sweden that the British should draft the proposals of which they had spoken. After discussion it was AGREED that as the British proposals were in fact only slight modifications of the Scandinavian proposals which had already been turned down by the Nobel Institute, it would not serve any useful purpose to make this fresh approach.

1007 U.S.A. SECTION. Letters were reported from Miss Dorothy Detzer in which she mentions their great efforts to get appropriation for U.N.R.R.A., their commencement of plans for sending delegates to the Congress and their hopes of raising 10,000 dollars; and their interest in the Scandinavian proposal for a meeting before the Congress.

1008. NEW ZEALAND SECTION. Reported news from Mrs. Gibson, Hon. Secretary, and copies of two resolutions passed at a meeting in September, 1945, as follows:- "That the New Zealand Government be asked that no peace-time conscription be imposed in New Zealand."
"That the Government be asked to approach the Governments of the United Nations at the coming Peace Conference demanding that the use of the Atomic Bomb be banned in warfare. This was done after the last war with regard to poison gas."

1009. W.I.L. CZECH MEMBERS. Reported a letter from one of the members who came over with our party seven years ago, and who has recently returned to her own country, giving a sad picture of happenings in her country and the present state of affairs, and her fears for the future. She had met another member also returned - Djina Retter, and looked forward to the day when she would see Mrs. Duncan Harris in Prague. She sent good wishes for the New Year, and many thanks for the hospitality she had enjoyed for so long, to all those members who remembered her.

Greetings from Mrs. Hanouskova were also reported.

Mrs. Duncan Harris said she thought Mrs. Rudinger would be returning to Czecho-Slovakia very shortly. AGREED to send her a letter wishing her all success in her work on her return.

1010. NEWS SHEET. AGREED to try to get 800 words from Mrs. Irene Pickard on the meeting of the General Assembly of U.N.O., 800 from Mrs. Corbett Ashby on the Paris Congress of Women; an article from Miss Wright on "Norway Today",

and News from India from Agatha Harrison

1011. INDIA. Reported (1) acknowledgment of our letter of 6th December from Lord Pethick-Lawrence re the Parliamentary Delegation to India which, he said, included Mrs. Wallhead Nichol, M.P.

(2) Mrs. Duncan Harris had sent the following letter to Mrs. Wallhead Nichol:- 27th December, 1945.

"Dear Mrs. Nichol,

I am writing on behalf of the above League to tell you how glad we are that you are going with the Parliamentary delegation to India. We have been feeling very strongly that there was very much a woman only could do. We have had very close connections with the All India Women's

Conference, and one of our Vice-Chairmen, Miss Agatha Harrison, whom I think you know, is now attending their Conference as a visitor from the International Suffrage Alliance.

Our association with Indian women has impressed us tremendously with the contribution which they will have to make in the building of a really peaceful world, and we very much hope that it will become possible for this contribution to be made.

May I extend to you our very warm wishes for the success of your Mission at this time and in this extremely complex situation. We shall await your return with much interest.

I would like also to hope that you would tell us about your contacts with the women of India when you return.

Yours sincerely, B. DUNCAN HARRIS,
Chairman.

1012. GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF U.N.O. Mrs. McGregor Wood undertook to get into touch with other women's organisations to see if any were contemplating organising a Reception for the women delegates, and if so, it was AGREED the W.I.L. should co-operate.

AGREED to send a letter of welcome to Mrs. Roosevelt and to ask her if she would receive a small deputation who would bring to her notice the resolution which is being sent to the British Government, and expressing to her appreciation of her husband's contribution in embedding in the Atlantic Charter the idea of the abandonment of force.

1013. BRANCH NEWS. Reported the Peterborough Branch had been re-started under the Secretaryship of Miss Jean Lay, who was formerly a member of the Cambridge Branch. AGREED to send congratulations and a warm welcome to the members.

Miss Myrtle Wright reported that, though a Branch at Bishop's Stortford had not been formed, a number of W.I.L. members there were very interested in our objects, and were having successful meetings in private houses. When Mrs. Sigrid Lund visited England they hoped to have her as a speaker at one of their meetings.

WELwyn Garden
Reported that owing to many difficulties, City Branch has disbanded, though it was hoped many of the 60 members would join Headquarters. AGREED to reply (1) that we realised and sympathised with their difficulties; (2) that we deeply regretted the closing down of the Branch before consulting Headquarters, especially at a time when it was beginning to be possible to open up international links and when work along the lines of the W.I.L. was more relevant and necessary than ever; (3) that later on, we hoped younger women would have more free time and would be in a position to restart the Branch; that we hoped the present members would join Headquarters.

Reported a letter from the Harrow Branch saying the Committee had considered the question of collecting subscriptions in small contributions, but members were not enthusiastic about doing it, as it was felt it would mean a great deal of work in keeping arrears paid up, and that it was much easier to get a single subscription, and be sure of it. The Branch will have a collection at each meeting, however, and so help to increase the Funds.

1014. CORRESPONDENCE: Reported letter from the Open Door Council enclosing a copy of resolutions adopted at their 18th Annual Meeting, referring particularly to the resolution on Social Insurance, and expressing the hope that the W.I.L. would pass a similar one. AGREED to take no action.

Reported a preliminary announcement of the Northern Conference in the series of simultaneous Conferences being arranged all over the world by the War Resisters' International, and a request for co-operation. AGREED to send notices, when ready, to our Branches in whose areas the Conferences would be held, and particularly to the Women's Permanent Peace League.

Reported an invitation from the Women's British-Soviet Committee to send delegates to a Conference on "The Care of Friendless Children and Youths in Gt. Britain and the Soviet Union, January 30th at 6.30 p.m. at Livingstone Hall, Broadway, S.W. 1. fee 2/- per delegate. Mrs. McGregor Wood AGREED to represent the W.I.L.

Reported Mrs. Longson had represented the W.I.L. at a meeting of the Status of Women Campaign Committee on 6th December. As an outcome of that meeting, arrangements were being made for a Public Meeting on March 25th at the Caxton Hall on "Women and the New Insurance Bill." Specimen pages of the proposed Publicity Booklet will be issued shortly. There is a possibility that publicity will be free to organisations but each organisation will be expected to buy at trade price.

This concluded the business.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, February 6th, at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C. 1.

S. J. Smith

B. Thomas Davis

6. 11. 46

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Meeting of Executive Committee, Wednesday 6th February, 1946, at
144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PRESENT:- Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Castle, Miss M. Anderson, Miss Myrtle Wright, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Ineson, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Grindley, and Miss Haughton. Visitors:- Lady Unwin (Vice-President) and Dr. Swoboda (Harrow Branch)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, received from Miss Burton, Miss Hayler, Frau Hertzka.

MINUTES of meeting on January 2nd were confirmed.

1015. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES. Essay Competitions. Mrs. Phillips reported that she had no further information of national importance. Mrs. Innes reported that leaflets had been sent to a long list of societies and colleges and that Miss Baker had queried as to whether she should be judge of the Junior section since the pupils of her school would be among Juniors competing. Suggested that Mr. Innes be judge of Juniors and Miss Baker of Seniors. AGREED. Suggested that Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Castle should "sift" for Seniors, and Mrs. Ineson and Mrs. Phillips for Juniors. AGREED.

The Chairman urged Branches to contact schools and suitable societies in their districts, particularly on behalf of the Senior group. Mrs. Phillips reported that Nottingham Branch had sent copies of the leaflet to all local schools, and persuaded the Nottingham Council of Social Service to distribute leaflets with their Bulletin.

1016. REPORT OF WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, 26th January 1946.

A short report, written by Miss Doreen Packham, was read by Mrs. Innes. Suggested report be attached to Minutes, and sent to organisations represented. AGREED. Mrs. Innes reported that the Resolution passed unanimously by Conference had been sent to the speakers and Chairman of the Conference, all women M.P.'s, and all the organisations represented.

"Resolution:-

"This Conference of women's organisations declares that the use of atomic energy for the destruction of human life is an outrage on humanity which cannot be tolerated in a civilised world.

It therefore welcomes the decision of the Assembly of the United Nations Organisation to appoint a Commission on the development of atomic energy, with a view to directing its use for peaceful purposes only."

The Chairman stated that the Conference had proved a very useful gathering, and emphasised the debt to the Chairman and speakers.

1017. GERMAN WOMEN. Mrs. Duncan Harris spoke of the concern of Miss Anderson regarding the position of women in Germany, of which a report had come from that country to the National Peace Council. The National Peace Council had considered the matter to be more particularly the concern of women. Accordingly a small group representing the N.P.C., W.I.L., Friends' Ambulance Unit, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance and the Union of Democratic Control met Colonel Rees-Williams, M.P., for a talk and lunch at the Westway Hotel. Miss Anderson reported that everyone at this representative gathering was in agreement that it is necessary to inform ourselves of the conditions of women in Germany, and that Mr. Harrison (F.A.U.)

and Colonel Rees-Williams confirmed our fears that the situation is serious. The food of the German women, they stated, is inadequate since they have no supplementary rations. The sex question is serious from the point of view of both women and troops.

Miss Anderson made suggestions in concluding her memorandum e.g.:-

1. Repatriation of German prisoners-of-war and men held for forced labour.
2. Improvement of economic conditions for women.
3. Reduction of the Armies of Occupation.
4. More frequent periods of leave for the Occupation forces.
5. Strict control of drink, since this is frequently the cause of sexual offences.
6. Increased supplies of drugs, especially to hospitals.
7. The employment of women police.
8. Permission for our troops to marry, when adequate reason is given.

Suggested that the memorandum be circulated to Women's Organisations and to individual women, asking them to support a proposed deputation to Mr. Hynd, the official in charge of matters concerning the occupied territory of Germany. AGREED.

Mrs. Innes reported the receipt of a communication from the War Resisters' International, enclosing a letter from Mrs. Hoppstock Huth of Hamburg, in which she reports "much interest for the W.I.L." and states that Miss Ellen Wilkinson when in Hamburg on a short visit "recommended the W.I.L. to the Military Government" which "turned out to be of great help".

Reported that Mrs. Brayshaw was going immediately to Germany, to Cologne - and that she would get into touch with Mrs. Hoppstock-Huth and bring back suggestions of methods of contact and help.

1018. Emily Greene Balch - Nobel Peace Prize. Mrs. Innes reported the receipt of a cable from the U. S. Section asking us to co-operate with them in seeking the Nobel Peace Prize for Emily Greene Balch. Reported that M.P.'s had been approached by correspondence and had appeared sympathetic. Lady Unwin had made contact with Lord Samuel. Nomination had been made by Cyril Dumbleton, M.P. and Lady Noel Buxton. Support had been sent by our International Chairmen.

1019. Spring Lunch Meetings. Reported that the meeting for 13th February had been cancelled, but that Fru Dalen, Norwegian delegate to U.N.O. and on the Economic and Social Council, would speak on the 7th February at Friends' House, Miss Myrtle Wright in the Chair, on the Work of U.N.O. Reported that no meetings had yet been arranged for May or June.

1020. GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION. Reported that Miss Hayler has been representing the American Section and has kept Dorothy Detzer supplied with reports of and general literature arising from U.N.O. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations has done valuable service with regard to U.N.O. in endeavouring to find methods by which Women's Organisations could make contact with Delegates, Alternates, Advisers, and Experts. A meeting had been arranged with Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, Chairman of the Economic and Social Council, when the status of women, considered as a human right, was discussed. On behalf of the W.I.L.P.F., Mrs. Duncan Harris asked whether the Demographic Commission, which had been announced, would be examining the problem of migration, this being a close concern of women. Sir Ramaswami assured the delegation that the Commission would take these matters into its purview. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the Chairman of the Liaison Committee has stated that she will welcome names of women sent by women's International bodies as suitable for membership of Commissions to be set up by U.N.O., such names to be sent on to Chairman of such

Commissions. Reported no meeting with Mrs. Roosevelt by Liaison Committee. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported meeting with Mrs. Roosevelt at the National Council of Women party.

1021. Miss Eleanor Rathbone.

Our Chairman spoke of our deep respect for the life-work of Miss Rathbone and reported her as having been "one Member of Parliament ready to lend an ear to any pleas we had to make" and "a very significant factor in the work for which we stand".

She expressed thankfulness that several of us had been present at the recent reception to Miss Rathbone held at the Dorchester Hotel on the occasion of the coming into being of Family Allowances, the subject of her life-work.

1022. DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT was read by Mrs. Innes and ADOPTED

1023. ANNUAL COUNCIL. The Agenda Committee was appointed, consisting of the Officers. First meeting to take place on March 4th. Mrs. Innes pointed out that all Resolutions and Amendments must be sent in by February 27th. Draft Resolutions proposed by the officers were discussed and endorsed for inclusion in Agenda. A resolution on Conscription was discussed. Mrs. Grindley was asked to consider the wording, and send in a resolution to the next Executive meeting for agreement. A Resolution proposed by Miss Hayler was discussed. Suggested that this resolution should be sent in in Miss Hayler's own name. AGREED. Discussion followed on views sent in by various Branches which may form resolutions for Annual Council Agenda. The preliminary Agenda will reach Branches by March 6th 1946. Suggested amendments must be sent in by March 13th 1946.

1024. FINANCE. Mrs. McGregor Wood reported the receipt of £150 in subscriptions during the month. The Essay Competition had cost a certain amount, but this might be refunded from fees paid. All other financial business was a matter of routine. Possible office accommodation was reported by the Treasurer.

1025. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Palestine. Mrs. Innes reported the receipt of a letter from Dorothy Detzer stating that representatives of the American Section have been appearing before Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry on Palestine. She stated that hardly any Arab groups had appeared. We were urged to attempt similar efforts and in particular to note that an International Conference on Migration is needed. The Chairman read a memorandum by the India and Colonies Committee of the British Section of the W.I.L.P.F. on Dorothy Detzer's statement for the American Section. AGREED to forward this to Dorothy Detzer together with an extract from "East is West" by Freya Stark, which Mrs. Ross would send in.

India. Miss Dickinson gave a report re the All India Women's Conference and stated that extra bulletins will be available for Branches at a cost of threepence or fourpence. The report stated that the Conference is introducing a Women's Charter of Rights. Miss Agatha Harrison was reported to have made a short speech during the Conference, and given a message from Mr. Gandhi to one of the Indian papers. Mrs. Phillips reported the sending of a W.I.L. message to the Conference and the receipt of an appreciative letter in reply.

Colonies. Mrs. Ross spoke of the setting up of the Legislative Council in Uganda. Amended to:- Mrs. Ross reported on the recent addition of three Africans to the Legislative Council of Uganda.

1026. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS.

Luxembourg Congress. The Treasurer spoke about raising funds for Congress expenses. When Branch members are chosen to go as delegates, it is hoped that all Branches will help to defray costs. The Penny-a-Week Fund and the Congress Fund will afford some help. Mrs. Duncan Harris urged Branches to be ready to pull their weight on this matter of raising money to be allocated

to a "Congress Fund" as such. Miss Anderson suggested appeals to individual people likely to respond.

Mrs. Innes reported that Frau Regaz has been asked by the office what the cost will be to individuals. Suggested that appeal be made in March News Sheet. AGREED.

Mrs. Duncan Harris stated that nobody should be debarred from attending Congress for financial reasons, and suggested that a letter be sent to the Branches and members by the end of February and a letter to the Press in the following month. She further suggested sending £50 for overhead expenses from our Congress Fund. AGREED.

Reported that Miss Balch had not a possible Chinese delegate to attend Congress, but it was hoped to find someone on this side of the Atlantic. Names of Russians to consult in Birmingham and Cambridge, and a means of finding a suitable Chinese woman were proposed. Mrs. Ballinger and Mrs. Innes to follow these up. The Chairman stated that letters had been sent to the Home Office and the Foreign Office intimating our journey to Luxembourg.

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Chairman asked the Committee to give thought to the appointment of our two Consultative members to the above Committee.

1027. MRS. DUNCAN HARRIS'S PROPOSED VISIT TO PRAGUE. Mrs. Duncan Harris stated that the date had not yet been fixed. With regard to the £81 in the Czech Refugee Fund, she asked the Committee, since money cannot be taken out, if any way could be suggested to help Czech Section with that money. Miss Myrtle Wright suggested that Mrs. Duncan Harris should find out the best use for the money when in Czechoslovakia. AGREED.

1028. LETTERS FROM SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES. Reported that Swedish Section invites a representative to attend the Annual Meeting in March. Miss Myrtle Wright reported that Sigrid Lund writes that she is coming over on March 4th until the day before Easter. She will be at the Oxford Council, and will have a little time to devote to Branches wishful to receive her.

1029. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY. The Chairman asked if the Executive Committee wished to co-operate this year. We have been asked to send delegates to a Conference on Saturday, March 9th:- "Women's Part in the World To-day." Decided to.

1030. CORRESPONDENCE. (not considered at Executive Meeting on February 6th 1946, reviewed by the Chairman after the meeting:-

Received from the Town & Country Planning Association, circular regarding Conference on March 7th 1946.

Received from the National Union of Women Teachers, Copy of resolutions passed at Annual Conference in Folkestone January 2-4, 1946.

Received from Mrs. Hubback, Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.1, notice that at five of the women's colleges in Oxford and Cambridge, Advanced Study Courses for non-graduates are being arranged. They offer residence and tuition for a month or six weeks during July and August. Please bring this to the notice of suitable candidates.

1031. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported as a "domestic matter" the presentation to Emily Horscroft, which was timed to take place at 4 p.m. This event was of deep interest.

Members of the N.P.C. and members of the W.I.L. other than the Executive Committee now joined us for the ceremony. Lady Unwin, as one who had known Miss Horscroft even before her thirty years of work for the W.I.L., had been asked to make the presentation, which she did with a few eloquent words, expressing our gratitude for the long and faithful service rendered.

Miss Dickinson had secured a charming box in which were cards bearing each a name, and also a cheque - a gift from the named members - for £350. Miss Hayler had collected the letters sent by members on hearing of Emily Horscroft's departure and had copied extracts from them into a beautiful album.

On receiving the gift, Miss Horscroft spoke to us in moving terms of her happy memories of work with and for the W.I.L. and spoke too of her hope of many happy, if unofficial, returns among us.

Mrs. McGregor Wood moved a heartily applauded vote of thanks to Mr. Harris, who had done all the work in connection with the donations received.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 6th March 1946
at Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Irvington Curtis
March 6th 1946.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

MINUTES of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 6th March 1946, at 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Present: Mrs. Mignon Castle in the Chair. Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Berwick-Sayers, Miss Dickinson, Miss Hayler, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Stapledon. Visitors:- Mrs. Thinan and Mrs. Dayan of the new North London Branch, Lady Dorothy Mayer, and Frau Minna Specht.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Mrs. Ineson, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Longson, Miss Burton, Miss Wright and Mrs. McGregor Ross.

THE MINUTES of the meeting held on February 6th were confirmed, after the amendment of minute 1025 to read:-

"Colonies:- Mrs. McGregor Ross reported on the recent addition of three Africans to the Legislative Council of Uganda."

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:-

1032. Essay Competitions. Further progress with the distribution of leaflets was reported. The Secretary was instructed to send the leaflet to the Girls Public Day Schools Trust.

1033. Spring Lunch Meetings. Reported that a meeting had been arranged for March 28th, when Mrs. M. W. Nichol, M.P., would speak about her recent visit to India. She had promised to bring along a fellow woman M.P. to take the Chair. The next date fixed is May 8th, and the possibility of Mrs. Brayshaw as speaker was discussed. It was suggested that she should speak on the position of women in Germany, in the light of her visit to that country.

1034. German Women. Miss Anderson reported progress with the memorandum to be sent to women's organisations, suggesting a joint deputation to Mr. J. B. Hynd, M.P. AGREED that the new draft memo. by read by Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Ballinger and Mrs. Innes, who would advise on the next step to be taken.

1035. Annual Council. The Preliminary Agenda was discussed in detail and Executive members undertook to propose the various resolutions standing in the name of the Committee. One amendment was decided upon. AGREED that Mrs. Grindley should draft a composite resolution on compulsory military service at a later stage, as it was felt that the resolutions on that subject now on the agenda would be out of date by April.

1036. FINANCE. The Treasurer stated that there was nothing out of the ordinary routine to report. She suggested that a "Bring and Buy Sale" should be held at Oxford. AGREED that Reading Branch be asked to organize.

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

1037. Report from Mrs. Innes. The difficulties of communication with people in Germany were discussed, and several means of sending letters to Mrs. Hoppstock Huth of the revived Hamburg Branch were decided upon. The possibility of communicating with Mr. Hynd, M.P. with regard

to the attitude of the German press in Hamburg to W.I.L. activities was also discussed.

1038. Luxembourg Congress. Mrs. Innes read a statement received from Miss Balch of the total estimated costs of Congress, and the basis on which they were arrived at. AGREED that the findings of the Birmingham Branch meeting on the aims of the W.I.L.P.F. be circulated to Congress delegates and alternates. AGREED that the Czech Fund be used to send Czech delegates to Luxembourg. AGREED that the appeal for funds for Luxembourg be delayed until the Annual Council, and that time should be allowed at Oxford for discussion of the question of expenses for Congress.

1039. Mrs. Innes read a letter from a Jewish Refugee asking for help to get to America, which had been held up, apparently by the British Censor, since 1941. AGREED that the letter should be sent to Victor Gollancz with a request to ascertain what could be done.

1040. Visit of Sigrid Lund. A letter from Miss Myrtle Wright was read, giving details of the arrangements for the visit to this country of Sigrid Helliesen Lund.

1041. NEWS SHEETS. Mrs. Innes asked, and it was AGREED, that she should reprint articles by Miss Balch and Miss Baer from a recent issue of "Four Lights" (U.S.A. Section) as they both bear on the coming Congress and the future of the W.I.L.P.F. The Treasurer proposed an increase in the price of the News Sheet to 2d monthly. AGREED.

1042. RESOLUTIONS adopted by the 1946 Annual Meeting of Reading Branch were submitted for approval by the Executive. After much discussion of the problems of the use of atomic energy, with special reference to the proposed tests of the atomic bomb, it was decided to send the first two of the Reading resolutions, in the name of the W.I.L., to the following:-

Prime Minister, Philip Noel Baker, Ernest Bevin, Sir John Anderson, The General Secretary of T.U.C., General Secretary of U.N.O., Secretary of U.N.A., Professor Blackett, Professor Oliphant, and our American Section.

1043. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Palestine. A letter from the General Secretary of Palestine House was read, inviting members of the W.I.L. to visit Palestine House.

India. A letter from Agatha Harrison was read. Miss Anderson was asked to draw up a resolution for the Annual Council regarding "Trusteeship and the question of Subject Peoples". AGREED that a letter of good wishes be sent to Lord Pethick-Lawrence on his departure to India. It was decided that the proposed letter to Lord Pethick-Lawrence dealing with the food situation in India be left in abeyance until the Annual Council. Miss Dickinson asked for a reference back to Minute 1025, India - to be altered to read "Miss Dickinson gave a report re the All India Women's Conference, and stated that extra Bulletins of the Indian Women's Movement will be available for branches at a cost of 3d or 4d. The report stated that the Conference is introducing a Women's Charter of Rights. Miss Agatha Harrison made a short speech during the Conference, and also sent a special message to the Sind Observer."

1044. Frau Minna Specht paid a short visit to the Committee and gave a very interesting and informative account of the difficulties confronting education authorities in Germany to-day, the varying problems presented by youth of different ages, the good impression created by women teachers who are now in a large majority in Germany, the inactivity of the newly formed trade unions, the possibility of a denominational split

between the Churches. Frau Specht was very warmly thanked by the Committee.

1045. CONSCRIPTION. AGREED that Mrs. Grindley and Miss Hayler should draft a letter to be sent to the Prime Minister deploring the introduction of a peace-time conscription scheme and urging H. M. Government to put before the General Assembly of U.N.O., at the earliest possible moment, proposals for an international agreement to abolish conscription.

1046. BRANCH REPORTS were received from North London, Liverpool, Croydon, Reading, Birmingham and Nottingham - the latter containing special reference to the Branch's recent reminders to M.P.'s of their answers to questions at election time on their views on conscription.

1047. CORRESPONDENCE. Received from Miss Macadam, reply to our letter of sympathy on the death of Miss Eleanor Rathbone. Received from the UNITED NATIONS, reply to our suggestion that the Economic & Social Council should have its Headquarters in Europe, preferably in the League buildings in Geneva. Received from Mrs. Longson, a report of the Conference on the Social Insurance Bill called by the Women's Freedom League, the Open Door Council, St. Joan's Social & Political Alliance and the National Union of Women Teachers.

1048. MEETING for Agatha Harrison on her return from India. After much discussion of the objections to arranging a dinner, it was AGREED that an informal supper should be arranged, at which she could meet members and friends and give them her impressions from her visit.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING. Wednesday, 3rd April, at St. Hilda's College, Oxford, at 2 p.m.

*Ingham Caselt
May 1st 1946.*

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, May 1st 1946, at 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Haughton, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. de Swiet.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss Hayler, Miss Hyde, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Brayshaw, Miss Burton, and Mrs. McGregor Ross.

A letter was read from Miss Burton thanking the Executive for messages of sympathy.

1052. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN. Mrs. Duncan Harris taking the Chair as President asked for nominations for Chairman, at the same time warmly thanking members of the Executive for their co-operation during the twelve years of her own chairmanship. Mrs. McGregor Wood proposed Mrs. Castle, after expressing the deep appreciation of the Executive for the many years of wise and stimulating leadership of Mrs. Duncan Harris as our Chairman, and voicing further the satisfaction of the Executive in that she is now to be our President. Mrs. Stapledon seconded the nomination of Mrs. Castle, who was elected unanimously and then took the Chair.

1053. WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE. Mrs. Castle speaking for the Executive, welcomed three new members, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Nuttall and Mrs. de Swiet. Proposed that letters be sent to Mrs. Longson and Mrs. Berwick Sayers (retiring members of the Executive) thanking them for past co-operation. AGREED.

1054. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMEN. Miss Harrison was proposed by Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Ballinger by Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Wood by Mrs. Ballinger, and Mrs. Ineson by Mrs. Duncan Harris. All four were elected unanimously.

1055. APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES.

Finance Committee. Mrs. McGregor Wood proposed that Officers and Treasurers be empowered to consider all questions of finance and to co-opt other members when necessary. AGREED.

India & Colonies Committee. Suggested that Committee be re-elected. AGREED.

Publicity Committee. Mrs. Wood suggested name be changed to "Publications Committee". AGREED. Proposed re-nomination of officers and Miss Dickinson as members. AGREED. Mrs. Wood proposed addition of Mrs. Phillips.

Organisation Committee. Proposed:- Officers ex-officio, and Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Phillips, and Miss Hyde. AGREED.

It was AGREED that at the next Executive meeting the formation of a "London Publicity Committee" should be discussed.

1056. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

Women's Advisory Council, U.N.A. Miss Dickinson nominated. AGREED.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE Miss Anderson nominated,
subject to consent. AGREED.

NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Following representatives
renominated:-

Mrs. Duncan Harris
Miss Harrison.
Miss Haughton.
Mrs. Longson.

Mrs. McGregor Wood nominated to take
the place of Mrs. Longson when she
leaves London. AGREED.

STATUS OF WOMEN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE. Mrs. Nuttall
nominated. AGREED.

Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations.

Mrs. Duncan Harris stated that she would no longer be
able to represent the W.I.L.P.F. She reported that a
special meeting is being arranged in Brussels, to which
each organisation is asked to send four representatives.
It was suggested that Mrs. Innes should write to Miss
Gertrude Baer asking her to find the representatives. Mrs.
Duncan Harris suggested that at a later date Mrs. de Swiet
may be able to act as representative.

ABYSSINIA ASSOCIATION. Miss Dickinson renominated, AGREED.

JOINT STANDING PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS
Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed. AGREED.

NO CONSCRIPTION COUNCIL. Miss Hayler and Mrs. Grindley
proposed, subject to consent. AGREED.

1057. NOMINATION TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Mrs. Duncan Harris
proposed Miss Lettice Jowitt to serve on Executive. Mrs.
Innes seconded. AGREED. Proposed that even if she is unable
to accept above, Miss Jowitt be asked, in any case, to serve
on India & Colonies Committee. AGREED.

1058. MINUTES OF LAST EXECUTIVE MEETINGS. Minutes of
meetings on March 6th and April 5th (Oxford) signed as correct
after names of their branches had been added to those of
delegates and alternates to Luxembourg Congress.

1059. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES. Mrs. Innes
reported acknowledgments, which showed interest in all and
selected Annual Council resolutions sent to them, from:-

Lady Megan Lloyd George.
National Council of Women.
Mrs. Middleton, M.P.
Mrs. Adamson, M.P.
Lady Davidson, M.P.
Secretary to Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P.
Labour Party.
Sir Alexander Cadogan (for U.N.O.)
U.S. Embassy, by which the resolution on the atomic
bomb tests has been sent to Washington.

Other formal acknowledgments were received.

Essay Competitions.

Mrs. Phillips reported receipt of 34 essays in the

Junior Section, and 54 in the Senior Section. She further reported that in the Junior Section the standard was particularly good. Mrs. Innes reported that the Senior Section essays were not equal in merit to the Junior Section though the standard here too was good. The essays came from all parts of the country but, the numbers being smaller than we anticipated, the financial result was disappointing. Mrs. Innes further reported that she and Mr. Innes, (who has judged the Juniors) were prepared to contribute a third prize to be divided between the two next best contributors. Suggested that the two prize-winners who would visit Sweden should be given literature explaining the origin and work of the W.I.L. and should be interviewed by members of the Executive. Mrs. Innes reported that eighteen senior essays were sent to Miss Baker for the final report, which had not yet arrived. Mrs. Phillips read an interesting letter from the Swedish section regarding their candidates and prize-winners, one of whom is a boy. Mrs. Castle suggested that the names of competitors in their districts should be sent to Branches. AGREED. Suggested that Miss Hyde assist Mrs. Phillips in writing appreciative letters to individual essayists. AGREED. Suggested that all competitors, Juniors and Seniors, be notified as soon as possible after results declared. AGREED. Suggested that Mrs. Phillips write to prize winners in Junior Section asking for a list of books chosen, from which we agree to buy. AGREED. Mrs. Phillips proposed that if senior prize-winners come to London they should be met by some members of the Executive. AGREED. Miss Hayward was asked to get into contact with prize-winners regarding their passports and other technical details. Proposed that all further discussion of matter be transferred to Organisation Sub-Committee. AGREED.

Spring Lunches. Reported that the booking of the room for 8th May had been cancelled, as no speaker had been obtained. Proposed that June 12th should also be cancelled. AGREED.

Miss Agatha Harrison. Proposed by Mrs. Innes that arrangements for the combined meeting to be organised in co-operation with the Liaison Committee be postponed until the arrival of Miss Harrison, and also that we continue to bear in mind the possibility of a "Family party" meeting among ourselves on her return. AGREED.

German Women. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that, following on the approval of the memorandum on conditions among women in Germany, drawn up by Miss Mosa Anderson, it is proposed that a deputation interview Mr. Hynd, M.P. Mrs. Florence Paton, M.P. will introduce the deputation, and Lady Parmoor and Lady Mayer will speak on the memorandum. Mrs. Phillips reported that a letter ~~relating~~ *Commenting on* the memorandum has been sent to Mrs. Hoppstock Huth in Hamburg, who has been put on the Hamburg Council as member of the W. I. L. Mrs. Hoppstock Huth discussed points in the memorandum with Hamburg members of W.I.L. When the question of prisoners-of-war arose, an appeal was made for efforts to secure the release of non-Nazi prisoners-of-war and their consequent return to Germany. A letter through the afore-said member of B.A.O.R. has conveyed this news. Mr. Fenner Brockway has recently gone to Germany and has taken messages to Frau Hoppstock Huth. Reported that a street in Hamburg has been named after Lida Gustava Heymann.

1060. OFFICE ACCOMMODATION. Reported that there has been no reply to our advertisements in the New Statesman and the Spectator. Mrs. Wood's offer of temporary accommodation in her Hampstead home was accepted with expressions

of gratitude. Suggested that if, in the meantime, suitable permanent accommodation be discovered, the Officers have power to accept. AGREED. Miss Hayward reported that the N.P.C. is willing that furniture be left until possible removal.

1061. FINANCE. The Treasurer stated that as the Executive was meeting on the first of the month there was no financial report.

1062. W.I.L.P.F.affairs.

Luxembourg. Mrs. Innes reported the choice at Oxford of delegates and alternates. Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Harrison were appointed Consultative Members of the International Executive. Replying to questions regarding resolutions for Luxembourg, Mrs. Innes reported that these will no doubt be placed on the agenda by Frau Ragaz. Mrs. Innes further reported receipt of various letters from European Sections.

From Norway - Miss Myrtle Wright reports details of the first session of their W. I. L. Annual Meeting, held in Oslo, where a personal greeting was sent from all to members of the British Section.

From Sweden.- a letter from Fru Greta Engkvist sums up the work of the Swedish section.

From Gertrude Baer - a letter has been received requesting that the British Section urge Government "that all mandatory countries become trust-territories". Mrs. Innes had sent notes in reply from Miss Anderson. Suggested that the letter be passed to India & Colonies Committee. AGREED.

From Lola Hanouskova (Prague) - a letter has reached Mrs. Innes which states: "We assure you that we are more than ever convinced of the necessity of working internationally for peace and freedom"

1063. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Palestine - Reported a letter from Dorothy Detzer, hoping the British Section will raise the whole question of Palestine at the International Congress. Proposed that reply drafted by India & Colonies Committee be approved and sent to Dorothy Detzer. AGREED. Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested calling emergency meeting of India & Colonies Committee to collaborate with Miss Lettice Jowitt on reply in view of the report just issued by the Anglo-American Commission on Palestine. AGREED. Mrs. Stapledon suggested we might ask for urgency at Luxembourg on the matter of Palestine.

X.
Mrs Duncan Harris & Miss Dickinson
attended a
tea party
given by the
Mission Club
on the
arrival of
Mrs
Hansa
Mehta
in London

India - Mrs. Ballinger reported meeting of India & Colonies Committee. Reported that Secretary and Press Secretary attended reception called by the India League for the purpose of welcoming Mrs. Hansa Mehta and Mr. K. C. Neogy as they passed through London on their way to New York, as delegates from India to Commissions of U.N.O. *X*. Reported letter from Miss Harrison describing growing atmosphere of hope among Indian leaders.

South Africa - Miss Dickinson requested Executive to empower those attending the meeting on May 1st organised by the National Peace Council to hear Mr. Ashwin Choudree, to take any necessary resulting action. AGREED.

Mrs. Ballinger reported the receipt of a letter from Mrs. Greta James after the recent Conference arranged by the Fabian Colonial Bureau. Mrs. James had sent Mrs. Innes a most interesting report, and would review the printed report, when issued, for the News Sheet.

Italy, - arising from a meeting of Nottingham Branch, Miss

Kathleen Cochrane, representing the "Foundation Resurrection", called for an interview during the Officers' Meeting on May 24th. She is shortly returning to Italy where she hopes to revive past activities, and spoke of the work of her organisation for world peace, and expressed the hope that when possible there might be co-operation with similar work by the W.I.L.

1064. NEWS SHEETS. Mrs. Wood suggested that winning competition essays be printed in the News Sheet. AGREED. Mrs. Phillips suggested notes for the News Sheet of letters from Germany.

1065. CORRESPONDENCE. Mrs. Innes reported a letter from Mrs. Cox, Oxford, re International Women's Service Groups and asking whether the Group in Oxford could now be taken over by the W.I.L. After discussion, during which it was established that work mentioned was chiefly that of relief, it was agreed that the W.I.L. could not absorb service side of I.W.S.G. Mrs. Wood suggested that members of the I.W.S.G. be invited to W.I.L. meetings.

Letter reported from Glasgow Branch enclosed report of work for May News Sheet, and also a card from Mrs. McNeil to say that the party who met with an accident on the way to Oxford were making a very slow recovery and had not yet been allowed to return home from Dumfries.

Letter reported from Ditchling intimating that the Branch there is obliged to close down, but individual members will continue to work with Brighton Branch.

Letter from Manchester Branch enclosed resolution re prisoners of war, which has been sent to the Government. Proposed that the Executive endorse this resolution. AGREED.

Mrs. Innes reported correspondence resulting in the booking of Elfinward, Hayward's Heath, for next Annual Council, March 26th - 28th 1947, with option of extension to 29th if decided upon later.

Reported letter from World Federation of U.N.A. Working Committee inviting us to send a representative or observer to attend next meeting, May 10th. Miss Dickinson proposed as observer. AGREED.

Letter from Miss Hayler expressing regret that the composite resolution drawn up by herself and Mrs. Grindley was not put at Oxford, and asking that a discussion on conscription be put early on June Agenda. AGREED.

1066. BRANCH REPORTS.

Bishops Stortford.	Reported that a Branch will shortly be formed.
Reading.	Reported that on May 28th a Garden Meeting will be held with the object of raising money.
Liverpool.	A Bring & Buy Sale to be held in support of Luxembourg will be opened by a Chinese woman. Annual Council Meeting will be reported.
Birmingham.	Films from the Ministry of Information to be shown after Annual Meeting. A letter of appeal re Luxembourg has been sent to every member. Bring and Buy Sale contemplated.
Nottingham.	Meeting held on "European Jewry after Hitler".
Golders Green.	New Branch formed.

1067. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Mrs. Wood said she understood that after receiving communications from delegates on the question of their personal contributions to Luxembourg, a letter was to be sent to Branches acquainting them with the amount each Branch should raise. After discussion it was decided that Branches be asked for a sum proportionate to the total Luxembourg expenses remaining after the personal voluntary contributions from delegates have been received.

1068. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING. June 5th, Flat 8, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Mignon Castle

June 5th 1946.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

MINUTES of Executive Committee Meeting held on Friday,
April 5th 1946, at St. Hilda's College, Oxford.

IN THE CHAIR - Mrs. Innes.

Present - Mrs. Duncan Harris, ^{Miss Kayler} Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs.
McGregor Wood, Miss Haughton, Miss Anderson, Miss Dickinson,
Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Stapledon.

1049. AGREED that the resolutions passed by the Annual Council
meeting should be circulated as follows:-

Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P.	- all.
Luxembourg Congress	- Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 13.
United Nations Organisation	- Nos. 2, 3, 4, 13.
Prime Minister	- Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18
Philip Noel-Baker	- Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.
Foreign Secretary.	- Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16.
Sir Alexander Cadogan	- Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6.
Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar	- Nos. 3, 5, 15.
Professor Oliphant.	- No. 4.
Professor Blackett.	- No. 4.
Capt. Raymond Blackburn, M.P.	- No. 4.
Prof. E.L. Woodward.	- No. 4.
Security Council, U.N.O.	- Nos. 4, 6.
Atomic Energy Commission	- No. 4.
Prof. Julian Huxley (U.N.E.S.C.O)	Nos. 5, 13.
Raj Kumari Amrit Kaur	- No. 5.
War Office	- No. 7.
Air Ministry	- No. 7.
Admiralty	- No. 7.
Labour Party.	- Nos. 8, 12.
T. U. C.	- Nos. 8, 12.
Miss Mary Sutherland	- Nos. 11, 12, 16.
Home Office.	- No. 11.
Women M.P.'s.	- Nos. 12, 12, 16.
Esperanto Society	- No. 13.
Press.	- Nos. 14, 17, 18.
Ministry of Food.	- Nos. 17, 18.
F. A. O.	- No. 17.
C.O.B.S.R.A.	- No. 17.
U. N. R. R. A.	- No. 17.
India League	- No. 15.
Lord & Lady Pethick Lawrence	- No. 15.
All-India Women's Conference	- No. 15.
Miss Agatha Harrison.	- No. 15.

It was also decided to send suitable resolutions to all
similar ~~women's~~ societies.

1050. The following were selected to attend the Luxembourg
Congress as delegates or alternates:-

Miss Anderson	- Executive.
Mrs. Ashworth	- Coventry.
Mrs. Ballinger	- Birmingham. (and Executive)
Miss Burton	- Executive. (Manchester)
Mrs. Castle.	- Executive. (Reading)
Mrs. Duncan Harris	- Executive.
Miss Hyde	- Executive.
Mrs. Ineson	- Executive. (Nottingham)
Miss Harrison	- Executive.
Mrs. Kay	- Liverpool.
Mrs. Kemp	- Executive. (Reading)

Mrs. Holland	-	Croydon.
Mrs. McGregor Wood	-	Executive.
Mrs. McLaren	-	Edinburgh.
Mrs. Paine	-	Manchester.
Mrs. Phillips	-	Executive. (Nottingham)
Mrs. Stapledon	-	Executive. (Liverpool)
Mrs. Tiller	-	Childwall.
Mrs. Turkie	-	Manchester.
Miss Wainwright	-	Manchester.

1051. It was unanimously agreed that Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Agatha Harrison should serve as consultative members on the International Executive Committee.

This concluded the business.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING - 1st May 1946, at Flat 8,
144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1

*Mignon Casst
May 1st 1946.*

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, June 5th, at 144, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. Castle in the Chair, Mrs. Bedford, Mrs. Ballinger, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Miss Hyde, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. de Swiet, Mrs. McGregor Wood.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Brayshaw, Miss Burton, and Mrs. Ineson.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were circulated and signed after the following amendment and addition:-

Minute 1059, German Women. Mrs. Phillips reported that a letter commenting on the memorandum has been sent to Mrs. Hoppstock Huth.....

Minute 1063, International Affairs. - India. Add, Miss Dickinson and Mrs. Duncan Harris attended a tea party arranged by the Liaison Committee on the arrival of Mrs. Hansa Mehta in London.

1069. MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES.

Essay Competitions. Mrs. Innes reported the names of the prizewinners in the Senior Section:- Miss D.J.M. Heath and Miss Sonja Rider. The Organisation Committee reported a meeting held on Tuesday June 4th to consider further arrangements. Miss Hyde was elected Secretary of that Committee. She reported that junior prize-winners had submitted the lists of books chosen for their prizes, which had been accepted, and the arrangements for purchasing the books were in hand. Most of them had been obtained already. The Committee had also considered arrangements for hospitality for the two prize-winners from the Swedish section, first in London and then in various Branches. With regard to financing the competition, an individual appeal to interested firms and persons was suggested. The question of using a grant from the Penny-a-Week Fund was also raised. Mrs. Innes suggested that, if the money was not forthcoming from other sources, some of the Jane Addams Fund could be used. Miss Dickinson suggested that the Anglo-Swedish Society be approached. The Committee also suggested that the press be asked to give interviews to the two Swedish prize-winners on their arrival here. Miss Hayward reported that it would facilitate the granting of visas for a visit to this country if the Home Office were written to, stressing the educational value of the visit. ✓

German Women. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that Mr. Hynd had been approached to receive a deputation, but so far had not been able to arrange a date. At his request, a copy of the memorandum had been sent to him. Since then no further communication had been received. Mrs. Phillips reported the receipt of a letter from a member of the British forces suggesting that we should ask for permission for German members to come here, or for our members to visit Germany. Proposed that the Hamburg group should apply for permission for one of our officers to speak in Hamburg. AGREED. Mrs. Phillips was requested to ask her correspondent to get the invitation through. Mrs. Phillips also reported sending a parcel of literature &c. to W.I.L. group in Hamburg through the same member. It was suggested that members should write individually, and if correspondence does not get through satisfactorily we should protest to the Government. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported writing to Mrs. Hoppstock Huth asking if there is any

possibility of making contact with our members expelled from Czechoslovakia to Germany.

Office Accommodation. Since the last meeting we have removed to 104 Southampton Row. Miss Hayward reported the receipt of a letter from Livingstone House, offering us four rooms which she had inspected, and upon which she reported. AGREED that any officers who could do so should go to see the rooms.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that an offer of office help from June to August, had been received from Miss K. Bourne, which it was AGREED should be accepted gratefully.

London Publicity Committee. Mrs. Phillips and Miss Hyde reported that the Organisation Committee had discussed future campaign and made the following propositions:-

1. A big meeting for London after the Congress.
2. The Press Secretary should "write up" the Congress.
3. The Press Secretary should send a written statement to the Press Agency.
4. Reception for delegates to Luxembourg, possibly given by the Luxembourg Consulate.

The possibility of a reception was discussed at some length and finally it was AGREED that we should invite officials from the Consulate to tea after the Executive Committee on July 3rd. The Press to be invited. Proposed that Miss Hyde should take charge of the arrangements with the help of Mrs. Duncan Harris. AGREED.

The London Meeting was discussed, and it was decided that a public meeting should be arranged at the same time as the Special Council Meeting. AGREED that the Executive should meet on September 17th, public meeting on the evening of that day, and the Special Council Meeting on September 18th.

Proposed by Mrs. Phillips that the Organisation Committee be empowered to co-opt London members, not necessarily members of the Executive. AGREED.

Also arising out of the minutes, Mrs. Innes reported a letter from Mrs. Ineson stating that owing to domestic difficulties she wished to decline the office of Vice-Chairman for this year.

1070. CONSCRIPTION.

Miss Hayler made a statement on the present position in the light of the Government White Paper. She referred to the petition to be organised by the No. Conscription Council in the various Parliamentary constituencies. AGREED to send a copy of the petition to Branches and that then Branches be asked to apply to the No. Conscription Council for extra copies and to co-operate with local co-ordinating committees when they exist or to try to set up such committees for the collection of signatures. AGREED. Proposed that the Executive Committee should send a letter to the Prime Minister and to the women M.P.'s protesting against the establishment of Peace-time conscription. AGREED.

Joint Standing Parliamentary Committee of Women's Organisations.

Mrs. Duncan Harris withdrew from representation on this committee in favour of Miss Hayler, who has been serving for us, but will act as proxy for her in case of need.

1071. FINANCE.

Statement of Income and Expenditure and Accounts for five months

over the 5 months

1st January 1946 to 31st May 1946, presented by Mrs. Stapledon. Present expenditure in excess of income, £56, partly due to expenses of moving to new office. Subscriptions this year to date were not so good as usual, possibly due to recent special efforts to raise funds. Proposed that Reserve Fund be drawn on to the extent of £100 for this year's capital expenditure, and £100 transferred from Thanksgiving Fund into Reserve Fund.

1072. NEWS SHEETS. Mrs. Innes reported that prize-winning Junior essay had been printed in June issue, but it would not be possible to print senior essays as they were too long. Proposed that copies of the two first equal essays should be typed and available at the office for borrowing. AGREED. Proposed that Mrs. Grindley be asked to write an article on conscription for the July/August News Sheet, which Miss Haughton would edit while Mrs. Innes was on holiday. AGREED.

1073. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. Luxembourg.

Reported that Miss Burton and Mrs. Ineson had both been compelled to withdraw from the list of delegates. After a lengthy discussion it was AGREED that Miss Pye and Miss Stansfield be asked to take the vacant places, failing them. Miss Blackburn of Miss Vera Brittain.

Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed that a warm letter of welcome to the Congress should be sent from the Executive to Mrs. Pandit. AGREED. ✓

Mrs. Innes read various items of news from the latest Circular Letter from Geneva. AGREED that delegates to Luxembourg should be circularised with all the resolutions at present on the agenda and also the findings of Birmingham Branch on the six points for study sent out in the circular letter of November 12th 1945. ✓

Mrs. Phillips stated that she is visiting Denmark and Sweden with her husband next month, and has made arrangements with the sections there for various meetings. AGREED that a warm letter of commendation be sent for Mrs. Phillips' use on this occasion. ✓

1074. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

India. Miss Dickinson reported a message from Agatha Harrison which had been sent to the Liaison Group urging them to keep an impartial and patient attitude to the divergences of party opinions in India, remembering that it is a long term policy that has to be decided, hence their anxiety. She also reported Mrs. Lankester's broadcast in the B.B.C. Overseas Service, on the work of the Liaison Group. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported news of Miss Harrison's work in India at the moment.

Palestine. Miss Dickinson gave the report of the India and Colonies Committee on the report of the Anglo-American Committee of Enquiry regarding the problems of European Jewry and Palestine. After lengthy discussion of the problems of Palestine, it was decided that no further action could be taken in the absence of more detailed information.

Ethiopia. Miss Dickinson brought up certain correspondence from the Abyssinia Association but owing to lack of time it was not possible to consider the matters in detail and the committee felt that no decision could be taken.

Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed that a letter should be sent from the Executive to Mrs. Brayshaw on her departure for South Africa. AGREED. ✓

It was proposed that the London Publicity Committee should arrange a series of discussion meetings in the autumn under the title of "Danger Spots of the World".

1075. BRANCH REPORTS. Miss Hayward reported receipt of a letter from Leeds informing us of the death of Mrs. Elgie.

1076. CORRESPONDENCE. Letter from Manchester Branch enclosing a resolution on the subject of the Greek Elections. Proposed that it be returned to Manchester Branch with the request that it be put into proper form as a resolution. AGREED. ✓

Message sent through Women's British-Soviet Committee on the anniversary of the Anglo-Soviet Treaty of Alliance on May 26th.

Letter from National Peace Council regarding our affiliation fee of £2.2.- for 1945. Agreed that this should be paid. ✓

Letters of acknowledgment of our resolutions on the food situation.

1077. REPORTS OF MEETINGS HELD BY OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

United Nations Association. Miss Dickinson gave a short report of the meeting of the Working Committee of the Proposed World Federation of United Nations Associations on May 10th, which she attended on our behalf as an observer.

Nationality of Married Women Campaign. Mrs. Nuttall gave a very full and comprehensive report of the meeting held at the Bonnington Hotel on May 8th.

Proposed that a panel be drawn up of members willing to represent the W.I.L. at outside meetings, so that they can be contacted immediately notice of any meeting is received. AGREED.

Date and Place of next Meeting. July 3rd 1946 at the Friends International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Wynne Curtis
July 3rd 1946.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, July 3rd, at Friends International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Present:- Mrs. Castle in the chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Hyde, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. de Swiet, Lady Unwin, and several visitors. *Mrs McGregor Ross.*

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Paine, Mrs. Phillips and Miss Wright.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were signed, having been circulated previously.

1078. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Palestine. Reported that the Officers Meeting had asked Mrs. Castle and her husband to draft a resolution on the question of Palestine, to be sent to the Government. Mrs. Castle proposed the following resolution:-

"In view of the state of tension existing in Palestine and the Arab Countries, this Executive Committee of the W.I.L. urges H. M. Government to make a statement of policy in regard to Palestine at the earliest possible moment. Furthermore, in the belief that the Jewish problem cannot be wholly solved in Palestine, this Committee also urges H. M. Government to express its willingness to admit into Great Britain a substantial proportion of the 100,000 Jews waiting to enter Palestine, believing that such action would point a way to a more general solution of the Jewish problem on a world scale."

The resolution was passed and it was AGREED that copies be sent to the Prime Minister, the Foreign Office and the Home Office.

At this juncture the meeting was interrupted to give a warm welcome to Miss Agatha Harrison, who had just returned from India.

It was proposed that a cable should be sent to the American Section, re Palestine, urging them to take similar action with their own Government. AGREED.

Mrs. Nuttall reported that ^{Abdun} Abdul Abdubrahim, of the Arab Office, 92, Eaton Place, S.W.1. was to be recommended as a speaker on the problems of Palestine. AGREED that this information should be passed on to Branches.

Mrs. de Swiet suggested that we should approach Jewish organisations in this country and it was AGREED that copies of the resolution should be circulated as widely as possible, with a covering letter. It was also AGREED that the resolution should be sent to Lord Samuel and Professor Norman Bentwich for information.

Operation Jetsam. Officers reported their acceptance of an invitation to co-operate in this proposed campaign, and especially in a conference to be held in the autumn. Pamphlets were distributed to Executive members for their consideration. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that we could co-operate through the National Peace Council.

World Friendship Association. Mrs. Innes reported that arrangements are being made for the exchange of several thousands of schoolchildren from this country with children from Holland and Switzerland this year, and asked that offers of hospitality should be sent direct to World Friendship Association, 29, Portman Square, W.1.

Swiss Peace Council. Mrs. Innes reported the receipt of information about the Swiss Peace Council, which was formed on the lines of our National Peace Council in December 1945, and in particular about their new weekly broadcast from Schwarzenbourg short wave radio station.

United Nations Association. Miss Dickinson reported that the first meeting of the proposed World Federation of U.N.A. would take place in Luxembourg at about the same time as our own Congress there.

Mrs. Innes reported correspondence between the Hon. Mrs. Franklin and Miss Garibaldi, who wishes to come to this country to lecture about her grandfather, and mentioned the steps she had recommended to Mrs. Franklin.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported receipt of a letter from the Norwegian Section submitting their views on the conscription of women for military service, for consideration by the various sections before Luxembourg. AGREED that a letter of acknowledgment should be sent from the Executive Committee, confirming Mrs. Duncan Harris's personal reply.

Mrs. Nuttall reported that the Status of Women Campaign Committee were considering whether to urge that conscription should apply to women equally with men, in view of our demands for complete equality, and she asked for the opinion of the Committee. The question was discussed at some length, and it was finally agreed that we should maintain our general opposition to conscription, for both men and women, and mention some of the special considerations applying in the case of women.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported a letter from Myrtle Wright in Finmark, giving a glowing account of her activities there. AGREED that a letter be sent to her from the Executive. Mrs. de Swiet suggested that she might be asked to write an article, which she, (Mrs. de Swiet), might be able to get into "The Fortnightly". AGREED to consult Myrtle Wright about this.

1079. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS - LUXEMBOURG.

Mrs. Innes reported receipt of a letter from International Headquarters urging that the utmost publicity should be obtained for the Congress, in newspapers and periodicals in all the countries represented.

Speakers for the public meeting at Luxembourg -
Proposed:- Miss Agatha Harrison, Miss Edith Pye, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Vera Brittain.

Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested that the British delegation should meet daily during the Congress, preferably early each morning, to consider the day's programme. The details would be fixed at the time.

The following were elected delegates:-

Mrs. Ballinger.
Miss Vera Brittain.
Mrs. Castle.
Mrs. Duncan Harris.
Miss Harrison.
Mrs. McGregor Wood.
Mrs. Phillips.
Mrs. Stapledon.
Mrs. Tiller.

and one of the following delegates from Manchester, to be selected by that Branch:-

Mrs. Coppock, Mrs. Paine, Mrs. Turkie, Miss Wainwright.

The following were elected alternates:-

Mrs. Ashworth.
Mrs. Holland.
Miss Hyde.
Mrs. Kemp.
Mrs. McLaren.
Miss Stansfield.

and three of the delegates from Manchester Branch.

The resolutions on the preliminary Agenda were considered in detail, movers and seconders for our own resolutions were arranged, and also speakers to the resolutions from other sections.

It was AGREED that we should ask the International Executive to table a resolution on atomic energy and advise them that our officers would bring a draft resolution for their consideration.

Mrs. Duncan Harris gave a resume of her report of the work of the British Section and asked for comments.

PRESS. AGREED that Mrs. Coppock and Miss Hyde should be responsible for issuing news from the Congress to the press in this country.

FINANCE. Mrs. Innes proposed that both the Jane Addams Fund and the Penny-a-Week fund be drawn upon for Congress purposes. Seconded by Mrs. Coppock. AGREED.

1080. INDIA. Miss Harrison gave a brief but most interesting and informative talk on events in India during her recent visit, and it was announced that she would be speaking at meetings on Friday July 5th and on Monday July 8th, and she also promised to keep a date free for a special W.I.L. meeting of a more informal nature.

Mrs. McGregor Ross, seconded by Mrs. Castle, expressed the thanks of the meeting to Miss Harrison.

1081. CORRESPONDENCE.

British Council for German Democracy. Request for signatures to a message to German women. AGREED that we should inform them that we prefer to keep in direct touch with our own groups in Germany.

No Conscription Council. Appeal for funds to be mentioned to Branches, in case individual members would like to respond.

Abyssinia. Branches are asked to consider the question of the future of Ogaden and Eritrea, and to write to the Abyssinia Association for any information they require.

Date and place of next meeting, September 17th, at Friends International Centre, 32, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

Ingham Castle
Sept. 17th 1946.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee meeting held at Friends International Centre on Tuesday, September 17th 1946.

Present: Mrs. Castle in the chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Grindley, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Hyde, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Stapledon, Lady Unwin, and visitors from Birmingham, Acock's Green, Croydon, Childwall, Liverpool and Manchester Branches.

Apologies were received from Miss Burton, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. McGregor Ross, and Miss Wright.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

Arising out of the minutes:-

1082. Essay Competitions. Miss Hayward reported that our two prizewinners had returned from a very interesting and enjoyable visit to Sweden, and that the two visitors from Sweden had spent their holiday in England visiting various branches and places of interest locally, as well as London, and had also been invited to stay at a guest house of the Co-operative Holidays Association at Hindhead, Surrey. Unfortunately, Mr. Claesson had developed tonsillitis during his stay with Mrs. Phillips, which had interfered with our plans for his visit. He was still in this country, hoping to obtain permission to stay for twelve months in order to improve his English. On the question of expenses there would be an adverse balance, which it was proposed should be paid in equal shares from the Jane Addams Fund and the Penny-a-Week Fund. AGREED.

1083. Conscription. A letter from the No Conscription Council had been received reporting the receipt of a donation as a result of an appeal which we recently circulated on their behalf. Nottingham Branch reported that in their house-to-house canvass for signatures to the petition they had an amazingly good response. Though only a small number of workers was available, out of the people approached some 70% had been only too glad to sign the petition. They had also asked Professor Joad if he would reply to an article printed locally by Mr. Quinton Hogg supporting conscription, and they suggested that one of the most useful functions of Branches in this matter was to watch the local press for articles of this kind. Reading Branch reported attempts to form a co-ordinating committee with the Society of Friends, which it was hoped would begin work in earnest in the autumn. Birmingham Branch suggested that Branches should be informed of the experiences of Nottingham Branch, with a view to further collection of signatures in the short time now available before the petition is closed (November 30th).

Miss Harrison suggested an approach to educationalists. Miss Dickinson proposed that we should write to the Headmasters Association, Headmistresses Association, and similar unions, asking for their opinions on the question of conscription. AGREED.

1084. German Women.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported receipt of three important documents:

1. from Dr. Auspitz on the question of women in the forthcoming elections.
2. from Friends Relief Service in Aachen (dealing with

the problem of illegitimate children of members of Forces)

3. from Frau Hoppstock Huth, and the Hamburg Group, addressed to the Luxembourg Congress.

Mrs. Duncan Harris, proposed that a sub-committee should be formed, drawn from W.I.L. members but co-opting other likely individuals such as the signatories to our memorandum to Mr. Hynd, to study the question as a whole. The possibility of visiting Germany was discussed, and as it appeared to be impossible for the time being it was suggested that we should take steps to get permission for Frau Hoppstock Huth to come to this country in time for the December Executive, and to ask if she wished to bring anybody else with her. AGREED. The following names were recommended for the German sub-committee:

Miss Brittain, Lady Parmoor, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Warner, and Mrs. Castle.

A letter from Manchester Branch was read reporting that they had written to Mr. Hynd in protest against the billeting of British Families in Germany, in conditions so much more favourable than those enjoyed by the German population, and the reply received from the War Office. Manchester Branch requested the Executive Committee to take the matter up, and Mrs. Coppock spoke for them. It was decided that a letter of protest from the W.I.L. should be sent to Mr. Hynd, Mr. Attlee, the War Office, and, for information, to Colonel Rees-Williams. The question of a deputation to the War Office was left in abeyance for the time being.

1085. Finance. The secretary reported an actual deficit over the eight months to the 31st August of £148.16.5½. Office expenses had been very heavy during the months prior to the Congress, and it was AGREED that the sum of £50 be transferred to the International Account towards the expenses of the Congress.

Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed a vote of thanks from the Executive to Miss Hayward for her services at the Luxembourg Congress in the absence of the Swiss Secretary.

Mrs. Duncan Harris raised the question of contributions from the National Sections to W.I.L.P.F. finances, but it was decided that this should be discussed at the Council Meeting.

Mrs. Innes reported receipt of a letter from Messrs Ford & Warren, solicitors of Leeds, informing us that the Leeds Branch could no longer continue to administer the Isabella O. Ford Memorial Trust, and suggesting that the administration of the fund should be taken over by Headquarters. AGREED.

Banking accounts - It was RESOLVED that cheques drawn on all our accounts with the Midland Bank Ltd., 237 Tottenham Court Road, W.I. shall in future be signed by any two of the following,

Mrs. Mignon Castle - Chairman.
Mrs. Barbara Duncan Harris - President.
Mrs. Agnes Z. Stapledon - Treasurer.
Miss Ethel Hayward - Organising Secretary.

1086. News Sheets. Mrs. Innes reported on the contents of next issue.

1087. Organisation Committee. Miss Hyde read the minutes of the meeting held on September 16th. The Executive Committee

endorsed the following suggestions from the Committee:-

That efforts should be made to make all Branch subscriptions and News Sheet subscriptions fall due on January 1st each year, to correspond with Headquarters.

That subscriptions of members joining after 1st October in any one year should cover the following year.

That a "Treasure Sale and Christmas Fair" should be held for the purpose of raising funds. The date suggested was December 3rd if a suitable hall could be obtained.

The question of an opener for the sale was discussed. At this point Mrs. Stapledon reported that several delegates to Luxembourg had considered, on the return journey, a list of names of prominent women who might be asked, if they were in sympathy with our objects, to allow us to use their names as sponsors. There was considerable discussion of the merits and demerits of this suggestion, and it was finally decided that the list of suggested names should be circulated to the Committee with minutes for further consideration.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that prior to the meeting of the Organisation Committee she had made preliminary arrangements for a birthday party to celebrate Miss Edith Pye's 70th birthday, to be held at Friends House on October 17th. Lady Unwin was asked to take the chair on this occasion. **AGREED** that final arrangements be left in the hands of Mrs. Duncan Harris and the Secretary.

1088. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. - India. It was reported that a cable of congratulations and good wishes had been sent to Pandit Nehru on the formation of the interim Government.

Miss Harrison gave the report of the India & Colonies Committee. The time given to questions concerning the Colonies was considered inadequate, and it was suggested that the Committee should be divided into two parts. The India Committee to be left as a Standing Committee, not to meet regularly at present. It was suggested that Liverpool and Manchester Branches should be asked to take charge of the Colonies Committee. The co-option of Mrs. Hogg to the India and Colonies Committee was endorsed.

Palestine. Reported that Miss Rose Gutman, who had just returned from Palestine after living in Tel-Aviv throughout the war, would meet interested members at Friends International Centre on Tuesday, October 1st at 4 p.m. It was proposed to have tea and the occasion would be an informal talk rather than a meeting. Suggested that any Branches who were interested might care to ask Miss Gutman to a similar function later.

Miss Harrison reported that Mrs. Pandit would be travelling to America to represent the case of the Indians in South Africa before the United Nations, and suggested it might be possible to arrange a meeting for her in London en route. She also reported that Pandit Nehru had invited thirty two Asiatic countries to discuss in an Inter-Asiatic Conference racial discrimination, and the status of women in Asiatic countries.

1089. W.I.L.P.F. AFFAIRS. Luxembourg Congress. The procedure for the special Council Meeting, and the delegates' reports was discussed.

1090. Correspondence. Letter received from Federal Union

invited us to send a delegate to forthcoming Conference in Luxembourg.

Letter from International Co-operative Women's Guild inviting us to send a representative to conference in Zurich, October, 3rd and 4th. Suggested that this be sent to Frau Ragaz.

1091. Reports of Meetings held by other Organisations.

Miss Dickinson gave a report of the United Nations Association Women's Advisory Council, with special reference to a resolution recently passed on the Nationality of Married Women.

Mrs. Holland had sent in a written report of the meeting held by the British Soviet Society on July 20th which was read.

Miss Hayward gave a report of the World Government Campaign up to date, and our adherence to the Campaign, and payment of the initial subscription of £5, was confirmed (proposed by Mrs. Stapledon and seconded by Mrs. McGregor Wood.).

Date of next meeting. Executive Committee on Wednesday, November 5th 1946 at Friends International Centre. Officers' Meeting on October 17th, at 11 a.m. at the office.

*Trigdon Castle
Nov. 5th 1946.*

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

It has been suggested that the following women be approached with a view to them becoming "Sponsors" of the British Section. Please give the list your consideration before the next Executive Committee Meeting.

Dr. D. Anderton Sharpe.
Mrs. Arnot Robinson.
Miss Beatrice M. Baker.
Miss Jean Batten.
Miss Marjorie Bowen.
Miss Ann Casson.
Mary Casson.
Mrs. Thelma Cazalet.
Miss Harriet Cohen.
Miss Grace Colman, M.P.
Mrs. Corbett Ashby.
Elizabeth Denby.
Dame Edith Evans.
Miss Eleanor Farjeon.
Mrs. Mary Graham White.
Mrs. Mary Agnes Hamilton.
Miss Caroline Haslett.
Dame Myra Hess.
Mrs. Eva Hubback.
Miss Margaret Storm Jameson.
Dr. Kathleen Lonsdale.
Mrs. Naomi Mitchison.
Mrs. Muriel Nichol, M.P.
Mrs. Florence Paton, M.P.
Mrs. Mabel Ridealgh, M.P.
Miss Dorothy L. Sayers.
Elizabeth Scott.
Miss Margaretta Scott.
Irene Scharrer.
Dame Sybil Thorndike.
Dr. Janet Vaughan.
Miss Barbara Ward.

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

TEL: CHAncery 7233.

Minutes of the Officers' Meeting held at the above address on Thursday, October 17th. 1946.

Present: Mrs. Castle, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Haughton, Miss Hyde, Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Stapledon.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Ballinger and Mrs. Grindley.

Arising out of the minutes of the last Executive Meeting:

1092. Essay Competitions. Mrs. Stapledon reported that from her impression of the Swedish prize-winner, who spent several days at her home, she felt that the competition had not resulted in a keen interest in international affairs. Mrs. Castle pointed out that from the beginning she had been opposed to the idea of the essay competitions, as being the kind of activity which could be more effectively carried out by a number of other organisations. It was AGREED that a letter be sent to the Swedish Section hoping that they will keep in touch with Miss Borgstrom, and that some benefit to the W.I.L. may accrue from her visit here, that Croydon Branch be asked to keep in touch with Miss Heath, and that an opportunity be sought for meeting our two prize-winners.

1093. Conscription. It was decided that the results of our correspondence with teachers' associations &c. should be communicated to the No Conscription Council as a matter of interest.

1094. German Women. After discussion of possible action, it was decided to ask Mrs. Duncan Harris to call a meeting of the new sub-committee to deal with the following points:-

Suggestion to contact signatories to recent letter in the "Times" re British families in Germany.

Enquiry into various church delegations now visiting Germany, and possibility of our sending a representative by the same means.

Suggestion from Vera Brittain that memorandum from Hamburg group be sent to Control Commission.

1095. Finance. A letter had been received from a Headquarters member, enclosing a donation of £3, and enquiring whether we had considered affiliation to the National Council of Women. This question of affiliation was referred to the Executive Committee.

Mrs. Stapledon suggested that, as the new Treasurer, she would like to write to Branches regarding outstanding quotas, affiliation fees &c.

The possibility of increasing the Branch quota so as to include our contribution to International funds, rather than make a separate appeal to Branches for international contributions, was discussed, but no conclusion was arrived at.

1096. India. Miss Harrison reported that Mrs. Lankester, possibly accompanied by her daughter, is going to the All India Women's Conference as a delegate. AGREED that a grant of £10 from the India Fund and £5 from the Penny-a-Week Fund be made towards her expenses. Mrs. Wood suggested that a social evening

should be arranged on the eve of their departure, and that we should consider if any London member might be willing to allow the use of a suitable room.

1097. World Government Campaign. We had been approached by the National Peace Council to supply names of contacts in various regions who would be willing to help in the preliminary organisation of regional conferences. AGREED that in this case we should make an exception to our usual rule not to furnish names and addresses and that we should also write to our Branches in the appropriate areas with information about our participation in the Campaign.

1098. Meetings for Mrs. Colby. The Secretary reported that Mrs. Colby is expected to arrive in England on November 15th, and meetings are arranged in Birmingham, Nottingham, Liverpool, Childwall, Croydon, Brighton, Cambridge, and Worthing. It was decided to ask the Organisation Committee to explore the possibilities of an afternoon tea meeting in London on Saturday November 23rd.

1099. Resolutions and Recommendations from Congress. AGREED that these should be put on the agenda for the next Executive Committee, having been referred to the Committee by the Special Council Meeting.

1100. Abolition of marriage bar in Civil Service. AGREED that a letter expressing our satisfaction at this step be sent to the Home office, or appropriate quarter. Also that a letter of congratulation be sent to Miss Monica Milne, who has recently been appointed to the diplomatic service.

Ingram Castle
Nov. 6th 1946.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee held at Friends International Centre on Wednesday, November 6th, 1946.

Present:- Mrs. Castle in the chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Hayler, Miss Hyde, Mrs. Ineson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Stapledon, Mrs. de Swiet, Lady Unwin, and Miss Georgia Lloyd, of the Chicago Branch.

Apologies were received from Miss Burton, Miss Graham, Mrs. Grindley, and Mrs. Phillips.

The Minutes of the last meeting, and of the Officer's Meeting on October 17th, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

Arising out of the minutes:-

1092. Conscription. The Secretary reported that all the educational associations suggested at the last meeting had been approached and none of them had apparently given much consideration to the question of conscription. As decided at the Officers Meeting, the replies had been shown to the No Conscription Council. The final date of the Petition Campaign had been extended to December 31st and a special circular letter urging branches to continue and extend their efforts to collect signatures had been sent out. The Council had suggested a limited house-to-house canvass in a selected number of streets, the results to be presented to local M.P.'s as representative of their constituencies. There was considerable discussion of the action we should take in view of the Prime Minister's announcement of the Government's scheme for permanent conscription. It was **AGREED** that a letter be sent to the Prime Minister expressing our regret at the decision, but that the letter should not be drafted until Miss Hayler had attended the No Conscription Council on November 7th to enable us to ascertain their reactions. It was also decided that the letter should ~~include~~ provision for absolute exemption on grounds of conscience. The letter to the Prime Minister to be circulated to the group of M.P.'s known to be against conscription, with a covering letter, and also to the Press, and Branches to be urged to write to their local M.P.'s as quickly as possible. Mrs. Nuttall reported from the Status of Women Campaign Committee a large majority in favour of conscription for women. *but not the Nat. Union of Women Teachers.*

Mention the need to

*branches of the Nat. Council of Women
Group*

1093. German Women. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the committee set up to deal with the questions arising under this heading, with the addition of several of the prominent women who signed our original memorandum to Mr. Hynd, had been called for November 6th.

The Control Commission had given permission for the visit of Frau Hoppstock Huth, and Branches had been asked whether they could arrange a meeting for her. She is expected to arrive about the end of November, and will be allowed to stay not longer than one month. **AGREED** that expenses,

for which we have to undertake responsibility, be taken from the Penny-a-Week Fund. In view of numerous reports received of other organisations sending visitors to Germany, especially the Churches, the committee reconsidered the advisability of making further efforts to obtain permission, but decided to wait until after Frau Hoppstock Huth's visit. It was AGREED that a tea-party be held at Friends International Centre after the Executive Committee on December 4th, and an evening meeting for Frau Hoppstock Huth arranged to which other women's organisations should be invited to send delegates.

Mrs. Duncan Harris spoke of the urgency of the food situation in Germany, emphasised by Lord Beveridge speaking to the National Peace Council, and asked for the Committee's approval of any action which might be decided upon that evening to urge women's organisations to take steps to influence public opinion about the German food situation, and to co-operate in a deputation to the Foreign Secretary. AGREED. Also to support the inclusion in the memorandum to be put by the deputation of strong recommendations to the Government to make provision for the ~~compulsory~~ support of illegitimate children of the British occupying Forces in Germany.

Also AGREED that a letter be sent to Branches urging them to establish contact with correspondents in Germany (Frau Hoppstock Huth would no doubt be glad to furnish names of women who would like to correspond) and also to send newspapers and magazines.

1094. Christmas Fair. Miss Hyde reported that owing to difficulties of booking a room we had to hold the Fair on November 27th, and the restaurant at Friends House had been booked and arrangements made for tea. She gave details of the suggestions for stalls etc. The proposal to have a W.I.L. Christmas card designed and printed was approved, and Mrs. Kemp was instructed to proceed with the matter, if the time was sufficient and they could be prepared for sale at the Fair.

1095. World Government Campaign. The Secretary reported the progress to date; a Special Conference to be held in London on November 30th, to which Headquarters representatives and local secretaries or correspondents of co-operating and other national organisations would be invited, regional conferences to be held in various parts of the provinces which our branches had been asked to co-operate in arranging, and a mass meeting to be held in the Albert Hall in February 1947.

1096. Mrs. Colby's Meetings. The Secretary reported arrangements for Branch meetings to be addressed by Mrs. Colby on her return from touring Europe, and the Middle East for the "Save the Children Fund". Reported that Miss Brittain wished to hold a party for W.I.L. and other peace workers to meet Mrs. Colby, in her home. Date to be left to Miss Brittain and the office.

1097. Sponsors. The list of sponsors had been circulated to Executive members for consideration. Opposition to the idea of appointing sponsors was registered on the ground that it was not democratic, and would be offensive to certain organisations with whom we might wish to co-operate. After detailed discussion of the proposal, it was decided to approach a selected number of the names on the list to become members, if in sympathy with our aims and objects, with a view to standing for election as Vice-Presidents at the next Annual Council.

Also arising out of the minutes, a letter was read from Mrs. Grace Lankester expressing her thanks for our good wishes and grant towards her expenses for the visit to the All India Women's Conference. AGREED that a message from the W.I.L. be taken to the Conference by Mrs. Lankester, (Miss Agatha Harrison to be asked to draft message).

1098. Revision of Rules. AGREED that an amendment to the rules to cover the recent decision to make subscriptions of new members joining in October or later cover the ensuing twelve months should be drafted for the January Executive Committee, for consideration prior to the Annual Council Meeting.

It was judged that the new rule regarding the election of twelve members of the Executive Committee by the twelve largest Branches does not affect their right to nominate members for the remaining twelve seats on the Committee. Also that all branches should be asked to supply membership figures as at 31st December in each year to decide eligibility for representation, and on which quotas and affiliation fees should be calculated.

1099. FINANCE.

The Treasurer reported that the financial situation was still extremely gloomy and there was no possibility of improvement until the outstanding Branch quotas were received. Very few Branches had paid their quota so far, and quite a number had not yet paid their quota for 1945. The deficit for the year's working to date, after allowing for drawing on the Thanksgiving Fund to the extent of £100, was £156.19.2. She spoke of the need to persuade Branches of the urgency of this state of affairs, and their responsibility for running the National Section. She proposed to write, as the new Treasurer, to each Branch in arrears.

The Treasurer also raised the minute from the last Officers Meeting:

"The possibility of increasing the Branch quota so as to include our contribution to International funds, rather than make a separate appeal to Branches for international contributions....."

After some discussion of the respective merits of making one comprehensive appeal, or separate appeals, it was decided for the present to concentrate on our national finances. The various suggestions were referred to the Treasurer and Officers for further consideration.

1100. Meetings of other Organisations.

Miss Dickinson reported upon the resolution passed by the Women's Advisory Council of U.N.A. on the Nationality of Married Women. As we were not unanimously in agreement with the way this resolution had been worded, it was regretted that the resolution had not been submitted to organisations represented on the Council for previous consideration.

Miss Dickinson also referred to the forthcoming Conference on the food situation and the World Food Plan organised by the Associated Countrywomen of the World, and mentioned that information about the Food and Agricultural Organisation could be obtained from the London Branch, Messrs Hubert Williams and Partners, 32 Gt. Ormond Street, W.C.I.

National Council of Women. A letter had been received from a Headquarters member asking whether we had ever considered affiliation to the National Council of Women. Agreed that we should co-operate when possible but there was no case for affiliation.

Women's Group on Public Welfare. Mrs. Castle raised the question of representation. The Secretary was instructed to make enquiries from the National Council of Social Service, 26 Bedford Square, W.C.1., and report to next Committee.

Secretary reported that Oxford Branch had enquired whether they were allowed to affiliate to the local Council of Social Service, and was instructed to reply that it would be better not to affiliate but to co-operate individually whenever opportunity occurred, on points within our own programme.

British Commonwealth League. A letter had been received asking us to replace Miss Anderson as our representative, during her absence abroad. Mrs. de Swiet volunteered to represent us, and her offer was gratefully accepted.

1101. Resolutions and Recommendations from Luxembourg Congress.

These had been referred to the Executive Committee by the Special Council Meeting, and were now considered in detail with a view to appropriate action to be taken by the British Section where necessary.

1102. International Affairs. The President and Chairman reported that upon reading of Philip Noel Baker's support in the General Assembly for consideration of the Russian proposals for disarmament, they had sent a telegram to him from the British Section, as follows:-

"British Section of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom welcomes your support for consideration of proposals for disarmament. Urge you use this and every opportunity advocate universal disarmament. Castle."

This telegram was endorsed by the Executive Committee.

Miss Hyde reported the receipt of a letter from Gertrude Baer, expressing her satisfaction with the reports on the Congress printed in our News Sheet.

Palestine. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported receipt of a statement on Palestine signed by Miss Balch, Miss Lous Mohr and Dr. Bussey, which we had sent to various Government departments concerned, and proposed to send to the Jewish and Arab delegations to the Palestine Conference when it resumed on December 16th.

Colonies. Reported that Manchester Branch did not feel able to assist in forming a committee with Liverpool, but would send in to the Executive Committee any material they thought required consideration. Miss Harrison reported that Liverpool and Childwall were prepared to discuss Colonial matters and suggested that Manchester should send to them, instead of to the Committee, material to be discussed, and Mrs. Malcomson would report to the Executive each month. AGREED.

1103. Literature. Secretary reported that stocks of literature were in need of replacements. The following were appointed to constitute a Publicity Committee and report to Executive:-

Miss Haughton
Miss Hyde.
Miss Hayler.
Miss Dickinson.
Miss Hayward.

1104. India. Miss Harrison reported briefly on the present situation; she said that the coming into the Interim Government of five members of the Muslim League was not by agreement with the Congress, but through negotiation between the Viceroy and the League. It could not be called a coalition government in the true sense, and was at best an uneasy alliance. On the other hand, the gravity of the Hindu Moslem riots might well be a basis for co-operation. Regarding the question of the treatment of Indians in South Africa now before the United Nations, there would be a struggle. General Smuts strenuously resisted raising the matter, saying it was a domestic issue. This situation should be watched by the W.I.L.

Date and Place of next meeting - Wednesday December 4th, 1946, at Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

Miss Harrison
Dec. 4 '46

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held at Friends International Centre, on Wednesday December 4th, 1946.

Present: Mrs. Castle in the Chair, Mrs. Ballinger, Mrs. Bedford, Miss Bourne, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Graham, Miss Hayler, Miss Harrison, Miss Haughton, Miss Hyde, Mrs. Kemp, Mrs. Malcomson, Mrs. Nuttall, Mrs. Stapledon.

Apologies were received from Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Grindley, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. de Swiet.

The minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated and after making the following amendments, were adopted and signed -

Minute 1092, line 21, to read "It was also decided that the letter should mention the need to include....." Line 27 to read "a large majority of branches of the National Council of Women and the Six Point Group in favour of conscription for women, but not the Nat. Union of Women Teachers." Minute 1093, page 2, line 21, the word "compulsory" to be deleted.

Arising out of the minutes:-

1105. Conscription. The Secretary reported that the letter of protest had been sent to the Prime Minister, and to all M.P.'s who were known to be against conscription. Interesting replies were received from A.E. Stubbs, Mrs. Lucy Middleton, Victor Yates, John Rankin, John Battley and Walter Ayles.

Reported receipt of a letter from Mrs. Grindley urging that a deputy be appointed in her place to represent us on the No Conscription Council. Proposed that Mrs. Nuttall fill the appointment during Mrs. Grindley's absence. AGREED.

1106. German Women. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported the arrival on Sunday, December 1st, of Frau Hoppstock-Huth, who was met at Victoria by several members. She proposed, with regard to travelling arrangements for Frau Huth's tour of branches, that she should travel first-class whenever necessary, and should also be told to take taxis when required. AGREED. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that she had also arranged for a semi-private meeting for Croydon Branch, to be held in her own home on Friday afternoon, December 6th. Secretary reported that branches to be visited were Nottingham, Coventry, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester, Liverpool, Oxford and Brighton, in that order, and that a meeting for London members would be held on December 19th, at Gas Industry House, at 7 p.m. It was also reported that two delegates from the National Council of Women travelled with Frau Hoppstock-Huth on a visit to this country. Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested that the proposed meeting of the sub-committee on Germany, together with representatives of organisations were prepared to co-operate, should be called if possible on December 20th, so as to have the advantage of Frau Hoppstock-Huth's presence.

Frau Hoppstock-Huth arrived at this juncture, and was warmly welcomed on behalf of the British Section by Mrs. Castle and others.

Mrs. Duncan Harris continued the report of the meeting of the committee on Germany, which had decided:-

- a) the need for a leaflet giving information as to how people could send books, newspapers &c. to Germany.
- b) to send to the "Times" a letter on the food situation in Germany, with a reference to the announcement of our extra Christmas rations, signed by women who had

co-operated with the group.

- c) to endeavour to obtain the co-operation of other interested organisations in a joint deputation to the Foreign Secretary, to include in a memorandum the questions of food, the provision of maintenance for illegitimate children of British personnel in Germany, and possibly the recommendation that a resident minister for the British Zone should be appointed.

With reference to (a) a leaflet was being printed by the N.P.C. which would be distributed as widely as possible as soon as available. (b) The letter had been published by the "Times" and copies were available. (c) The proposed joint meeting had been arranged, as already reported.

Frau Hoppstock-Huth, in a short speech to the Committee, said how happy she was to be in England and brought greetings and good wishes from many German women. She thanked the Section particularly for bringing about the visit, which was still a great exception. She referred to the helpfulness of the Military Government in Hamburg, both at the time of the Luxembourg Congress and in the present arrangements. She mentioned the first contact with England through Mr. Perkins, who had carried communications and parcels from Nottingham Branch when it was still not officially allowed, and she was delighted to have had the opportunity of speaking from the same platform with him on the previous evening. She spoke of the enormous hunger for spiritual food in Germany - people want to hear, they are starved for news, and she had promised many women to find correspondents for them here.

With reference to the deputation to the Foreign Secretary, Frau Hoppstock-Huth suggested the inclusion in the deputation of a mention of prisoners of war - she spoke in detail of the request of the German I. I. L. for the exchange of anti-Nazi prisoners for known supporters of the Nazi regime, and their efforts to obtain support for this plan from the Military Government. Other organisations in Germany had taken up the question, but nearly all asked for general release. Mrs. Castle spoke of the plans for re-education of prisoners here, which were proving almost futile because the prisoners did not return to their own country.

In reply to an enquiry, Frau Hoppstock-Huth said that she felt, in Hamburg at any rate, real progress was being made in the re-instatement of women in public positions &

The Committee offered to Frau Hoppstock-Huth its congratulations on her election to the Hamburg Town Council.

Mrs. Duncan Harris suggested that Frau Hoppstock-Huth should put each of our branches in touch with a German group, so that foodstuffs could be distributed in the best possible way. Mrs. Ballinger suggested joint food parcels from Branches, and this was supported by Mrs. Castle. Mrs. Kemp reported that in Reading action on these lines was taken as soon as the announcement about food parcels was made.

It was suggested that a special effort should be made by Branches to put schools here in touch with schools in Germany. It was felt that this would help to found international friendship and also help in spreading knowledge of languages.

1107. Christmas Fair. Reported that the total proceeds to date were in the region of £76, and it was still hoped to reach £80. We were very grateful to Lady Mayer for opening the Fair, and it was AGREED that Mrs. Castle should draft a letter of appreciation. Thanks were expressed to all who had helped in any way to contribute to the success of the occasion.

1108. World Government Campaign. The Secretary and Press Secretary reported upon the inaugural Conference of representatives and provincial delegates of co-operating organisations held on Saturday November 30th, at which the case for World Government was very well put by such speakers as Henry Osborne, M.P., James Avery Joyce, Rev. Henry Carter and Mr. Gerald Bailey. Future plans include similar conferences in various provincial centres, and a mass meeting in the Albert Hall on February 21st, 1947, at which it is hoped to have a really impressive platform.

1109. Meetings for Mrs. Colby. Reported that meetings had been held in Birmingham, Nottingham, Liverpool, Croydon, Worthing and Brighton, and glowing reports were received. A most successful and enjoyable party was held at the home of Miss Vera Brittain, attended by at least a hundred people, representative of W.I.L. and many other peace organisations. AGREED that the Chairman should write a letter of thanks for Mrs. Colby's work on our behalf.

1110. New Vice-Presidents. Reported no action had yet been taken to approach the list of public women to become members, with a view to standing for election as vice-presidents at the next Annual Council. AGREED that Mrs. Innes be asked to draft the letter to them.

1111. Women's Group on Public Welfare. Reported that the National Council of Social Service informed us that formal application for representation should be made, and it would be considered having regard to the field covered; they did not attempt to include all organisations. AGREED that we should make application on the grounds of international outlook.

1112. FINANCE. The Treasurer presented the statement of accounts to November 30th, which showed a slight improvement owing to the results of the Christmas Fair. She mentioned that one heavy item of expenditure was literature, which we did not at present recoup from sales. The Annual Report in particular was not selling well enough. Every member should be urged to purchase a copy.

It was agreed the Treasurer should suggest names for a Finance Committee, to be called the day before the Executive Committee when necessary, not necessarily every month.

1113. Isabella Ford Memorial Fund. The Executive Committee of the Women's International League, acting on behalf of its Leeds Branch Committee, appoints the following Trustees of the Isabella Ford Memorial Fund:-

Mrs. Kathleen E. Innes.
Mrs. Barbara Duncan Harris.
Mrs. Edmund Harvey

with the right to sign cheques and to transact all business.

1114. International Affairs.

Colonies. Mrs. Malcomson gave a very comprehensive survey of the situation regarding the annexation of South West Africa and after a long discussion it was decided to ask Mrs. Ferguson to draft two letters -

1. to Colonial Secretary asking that the Bechuanaland Chief be invited to this country to put the case of Bechuanaland against the proposal, and given priority shipping

2. to Secretary of State for the Dominions asking for details of reason why British delegate supported South Africa's claim at the United Nations.

Palestine. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the memorandum received from International Headquarters had been sent to Jewish organisations and Press on the recommendation of Professor Norman Bentwich, and to the Arab Office. It had also been sent to Miss Freda White, who could not agree with it.

India. Miss Harrison reported that Mrs. Lankester and her daughter had left for India, and took with them the following message to the All India Women's Conference from the W.I.L.-

"The British Section of the Women's International League congratulates Indian women for the outstanding part their leaders are taking in world conferences. In particular, women the world over rejoice that Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit has the unique position of being the first woman to lead a delegation to the United Nations Assembly in New York.

At this critical moment in the relationships between our two countries, we send special greetings and thoughts to your Conference at Akola. We are glad that one of our members, Mrs. Grace Lankester, can bring this message in person.

Holding to the belief that the transfer of power from British to Indian hands can be achieved by peaceful means, the British Section unites with you in the determination to do all possible to make this belief a reality."

The opportunity was taken at the Christmas Fair to say good-bye to Mrs. Lankester, and hand the above message to her.

Visit of the Indian leaders and Vice-roy to London.

Miss Harrison briefly sketched the background of this visit and said it was the outcome of the Cabinet Mission statement of May 16th, outlining the long-term and the short-term plan for India. Both Congress and the Muslim League were now in the Interim Government (short-term plan) and both had accepted the procedure for calling the Constituent Assembly (long-term plan). But differences of interpretation of the latter had arisen. The date for calling the Constituent Assembly was fixed for December 9th and at the last minute the Muslim League had refused to participate. Differences had also arisen between the Viceroy and some of the chief members of the Interim Govt.; Mr. Nehru's speech to the Congress at Meerut had further embarrassed the situation. Added to this was the grave communal tension. The British Government decided this was the time for consultation. There was a tendency here which might increase in the coming days to blame the Indian leaders for the impasse. She hoped that in all that was written and spoken during these days we as a reliable third party would take our share of responsibility for the present situation.

Reference was made to the situation, still undetermined, regarding the treatment of Indians in South Africa, on which the Indians were to present a very strong case at the United Nations.

Broadcasting - Radio Suisse. Reported receipt of letter from National Peace Council offering facilities for making record to be broadcast over Radio Suisse. AGREED that Mrs. Innes be asked to write material, Miss Pye to translate, and Lady Parnoor to make the record.

1115. Literature. Publicity Committee to be called as early as possible.

1116. Annual Report. AGREED that Miss Herscroft be asked to compile the material for the report of the year 1946-1947.

1117. Proposed joint magazine. Miss Haughton reported that she attended on our behalf a meeting called by the N.P.C. to consider the suggestion of a joint publication in place of various separate journals. She gave details of the advantages and disadvantages of such an amalgamation in a very comprehensive report. After lengthy discussion it was AGREED that Miss Haughton be asked to attend the next meeting and ascertain what would be involved in the way of financial responsibility and surrender of our paper allocation and report back.

1118. Date and place of next meeting. 8th January 1947, Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

1119. Christmas Closing. AGREED that the office should be closed from 21st to 30th December.

1120. Reports of other organisations. Miss Dickinson's report of the meeting of U.N.A. Women's Advisory Council on November 28th was read. She raised in her letter the question of sending a protest at the absence of women delegates to the United Nations. AGREED that a letter should be sent from this Committee to the appropriate department.

1121. W.I.L.P.F. Affairs. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported receipt of a letter from Frau Regaz and Dr. Stahelin giving information of an International Conference to be held in Zurich, March 22nd-24th 1947. AGREED that Mrs. Innes should be asked to go as delegate from British Section. Miss Graham and Miss Hargreaves both said they might be able to attend as visitors.

AGREED that the question of our contribution to International finances should be considered by the Finance Committee.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that a cable had been sent to Miss Balch congratulating her in the name of the British Section on the award of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported a letter of congratulation had been sent to Mrs. Florence Paton M.P. (one of our members) on her nomination as a member of the Chairman's Panel of the House of Commons.

1122. Correspondence. Reported receipt of letters from Miss Elizabeth Fox Howard giving details of organisation in Sweden called "Across barriers" which appeals for correspondents among English women. AGREED that notice should be put in the News Sheet asking any who wish to become correspondents to communicate

Reported receipt of acknowledgments from Miss Monica Milne, Sir Alexander Cadogan, Mr. Trygve Lye.

At the conclusion of the meeting, tea was served and Frau Hoppstock-Huth gave a most interesting and absorbing address.

Asalta Harner, 8. 1. 47