

FABIAN SOCIETY'S MEETINGS

MINUTES

From 21st September, 1888
To 10th April, 1891

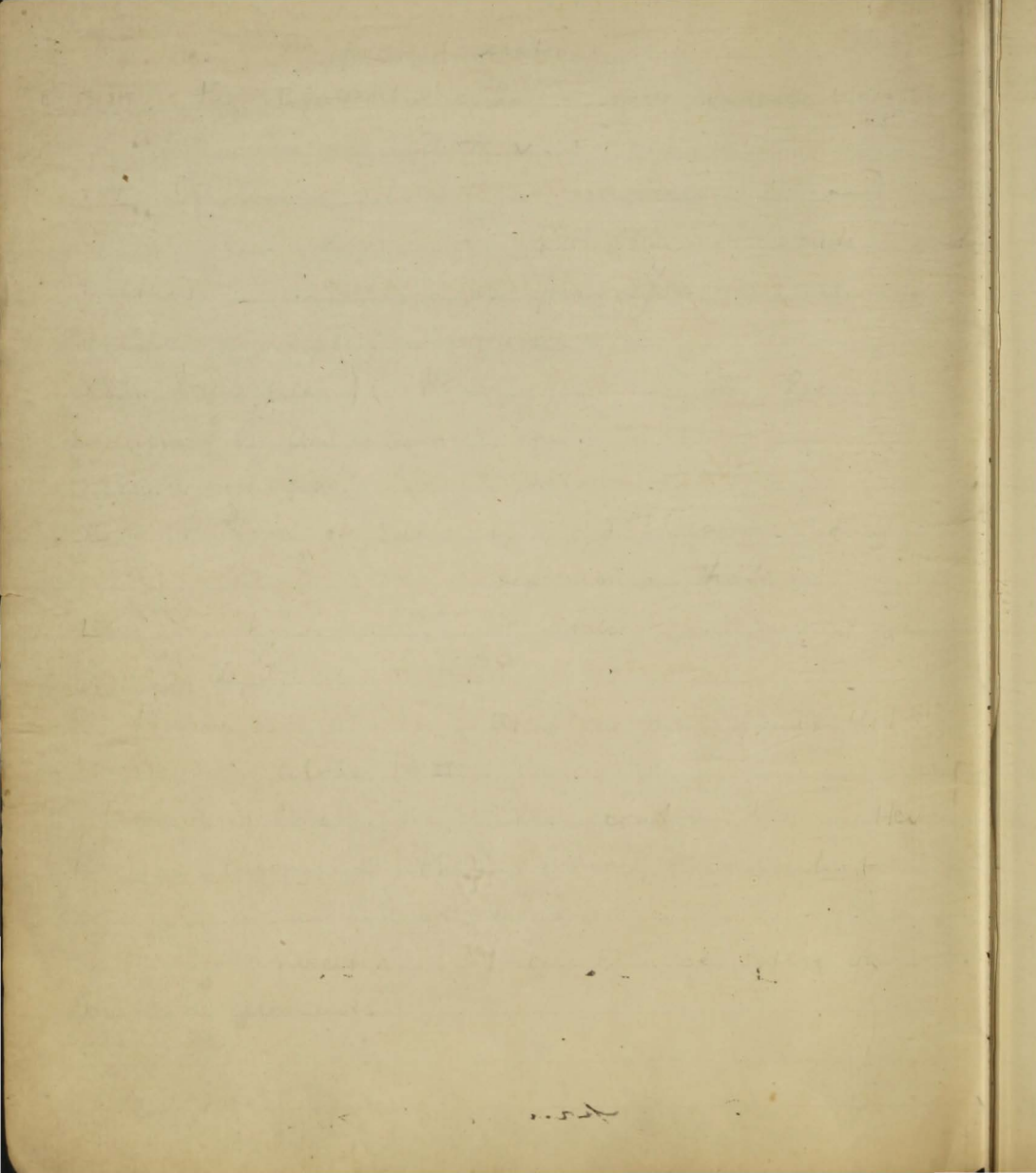
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No.

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on behalf of
the Publisher



Minutes &c
of the
fortnightly meetings and
Discussions
of the

Fabian Society.

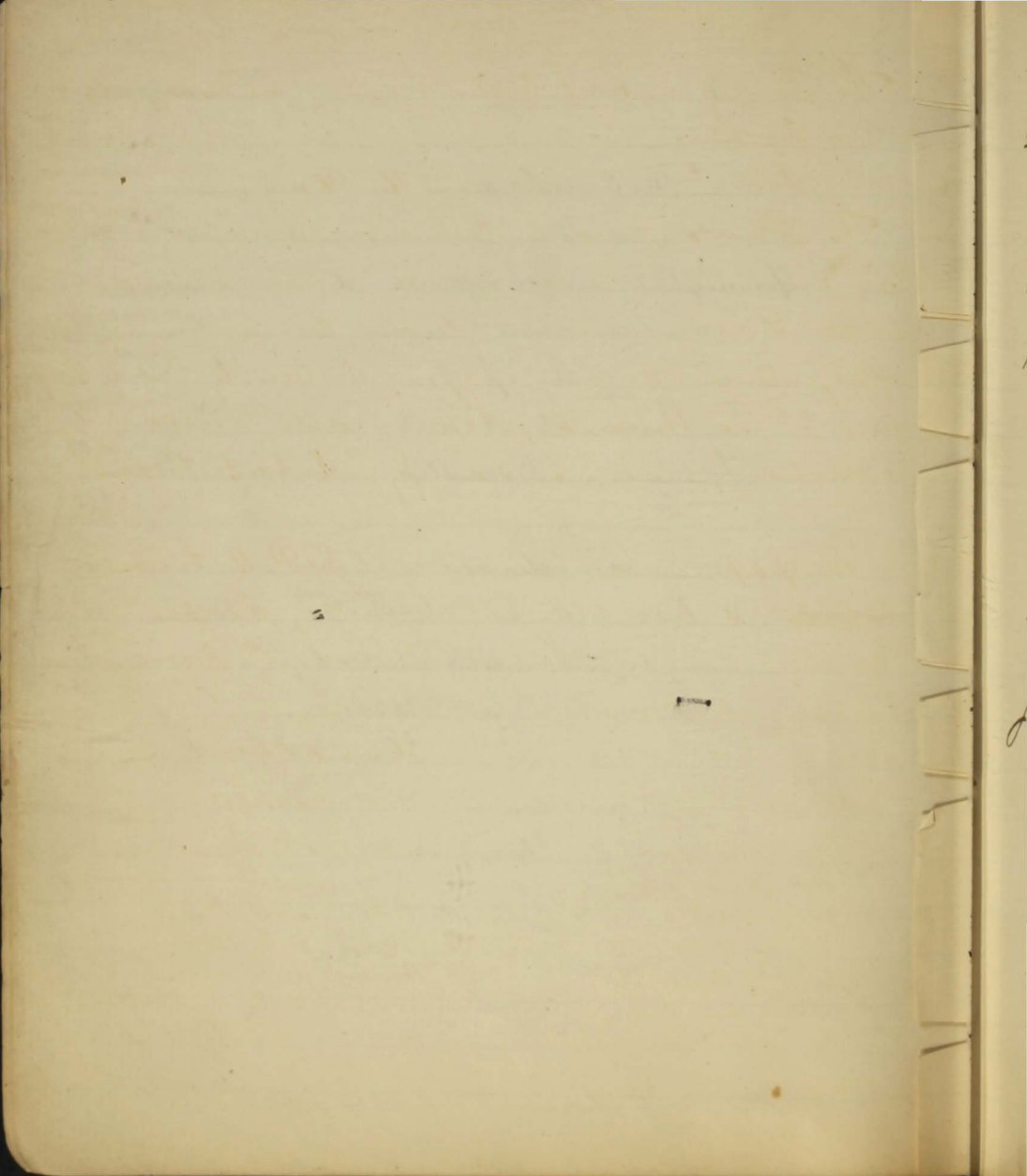
commencing
with the
Autumn Session
~~1889~~. 1888.

(2nd Book.)

21 Sep 1888

to -

10 April 1891



1888

(2)

The Society met at Willis' Rooms, on Friday the 21st of September.

Read S. D. Headlam in the Chair.

The Secretary read a statement with reference to the scope of the course of seven lectures arranged for the Society's meetings during the autumn, after which the first paper, written by Sidney Webb, on "The Historical Aspect of the Basis of Socialism," was read by Herbert Bland.

The paper was discussed by (Read P. H. Wicksteed
~~Hicks~~ & Messrs Hicks, Webster, ^{S. D. Headlam} Adolphe Smith,
Ignatius Singer, Herbert Bland, G. Bernard Shaw,
J. Burns, A. K. Donald, & A. B. Bradley.
Stewart & Headlam

Nominations for Membership passed unchallenged -

✓	Paradise Spooner	by	G. Wallas	&	S. D. Headlam
✓	Mrs Sandham	"	"	"	"
✓	Lena Wardle	"	T. B. B. &	H. Bland	
✓	G. S. M. Steele	"	H. Bland	&	G. Bland
✓	W. H. P. Campbell	"	A. Howard	&	S. Webb
✓	J. W. Hill	"	S. Webb	&	S. D. Headlam
✓	Oswald Murray	"	"	&	G. B. Shaw

Confirmed by Exec. Committee 26th Sept:

S. O.

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(3)

on Friday the 5th October.

the Society met at Willis' Rooms - for the second of the course of lectures on the "Basis and Prospects of Socialism".

The Rev S. D. Hadlam occupied the Chair

The Political Secretary reported on the action taken by the Delegates of the Society to the Central Democratic School Board Election Committee and presented copies of the manifesto issued by that body.

The Secretary reports that he had communicated with various bodies in Oxford and Cambridge with a view to extending the work of the Society in connection with the Universities.

G. Bernard Shaw read a paper on The Economic Aspect of the Basis of Socialism.

After several questions had been asked Messrs Carruthers, P. H. Wicksteed, Blanchard, Herbert Burrows, Graham Wallas, and Theodore Wright spoke on the subject of the paper, and G. B. Shaw replied -

Harold Cox

19. 10. 88

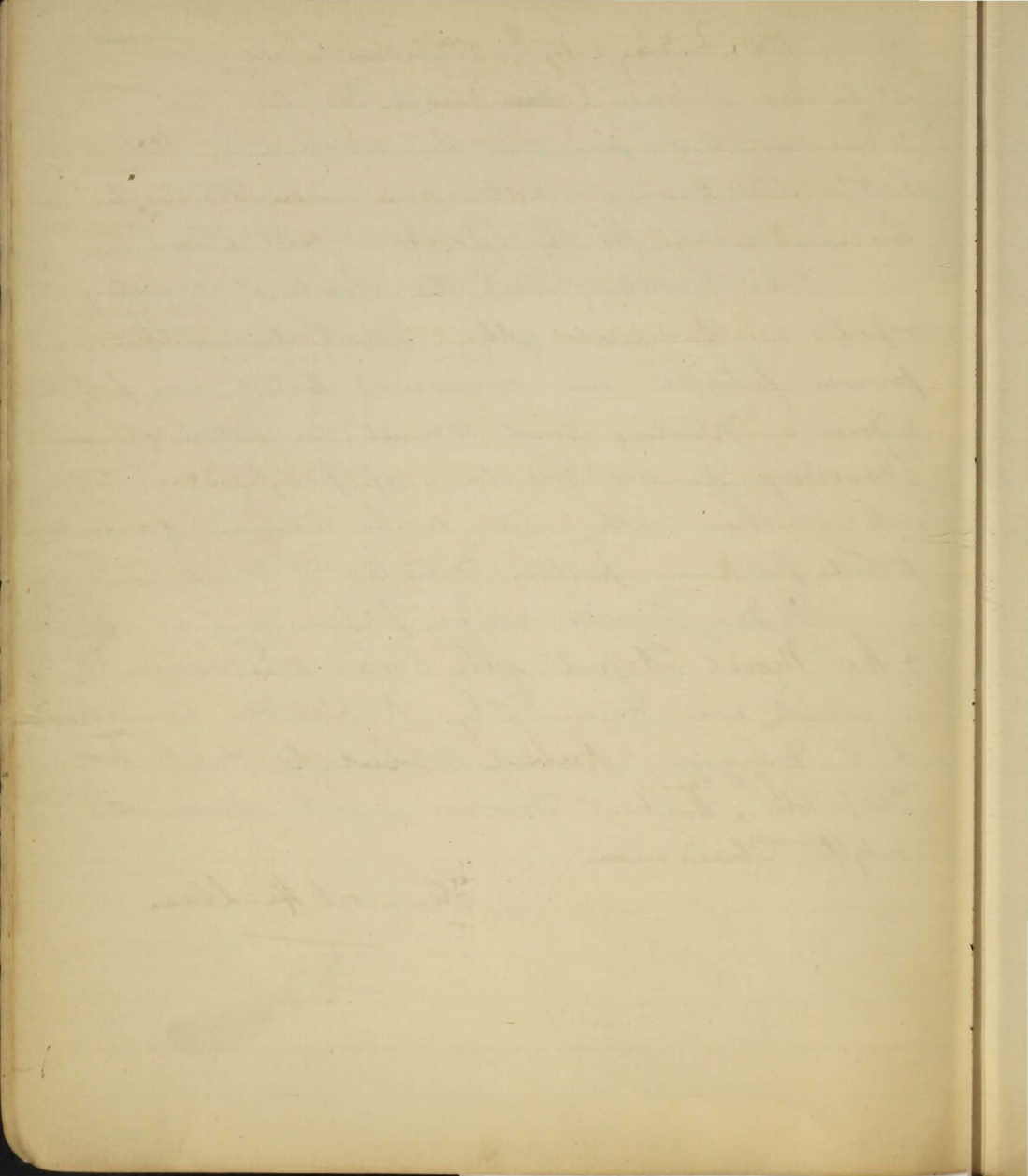
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On Friday 19th October
at Willis Rooms, ~~2~~ Harold Cor took the
Chair at 8.0. pm, in the absence of the
Rev S. S. Headlam on business connected with
his candidature for the London School Board.

The Secretary and the Political Secretary
reported on the work of the Society during the
previous fortnight, and announced that it was proposed
to form a Debating Society to meet on alternate
Thursdays for the discussion of points connected
with socialism with a view to the training of members
to take part in public debates.

Sydney Oliver read a paper on
"The Moral Aspect of the Basis of Socialism"
which was discussed by A. Cobden Sanderson,
H. C. Donovan, Annie Besant, W. H. Holt, Miss
Stapleton, ^{P. B. Shaw,} Herbert Burrows, and commented
only by the Chairman

Stewart S. Headlam



(5)

On Friday, 2nd November,
at Willis' Rooms

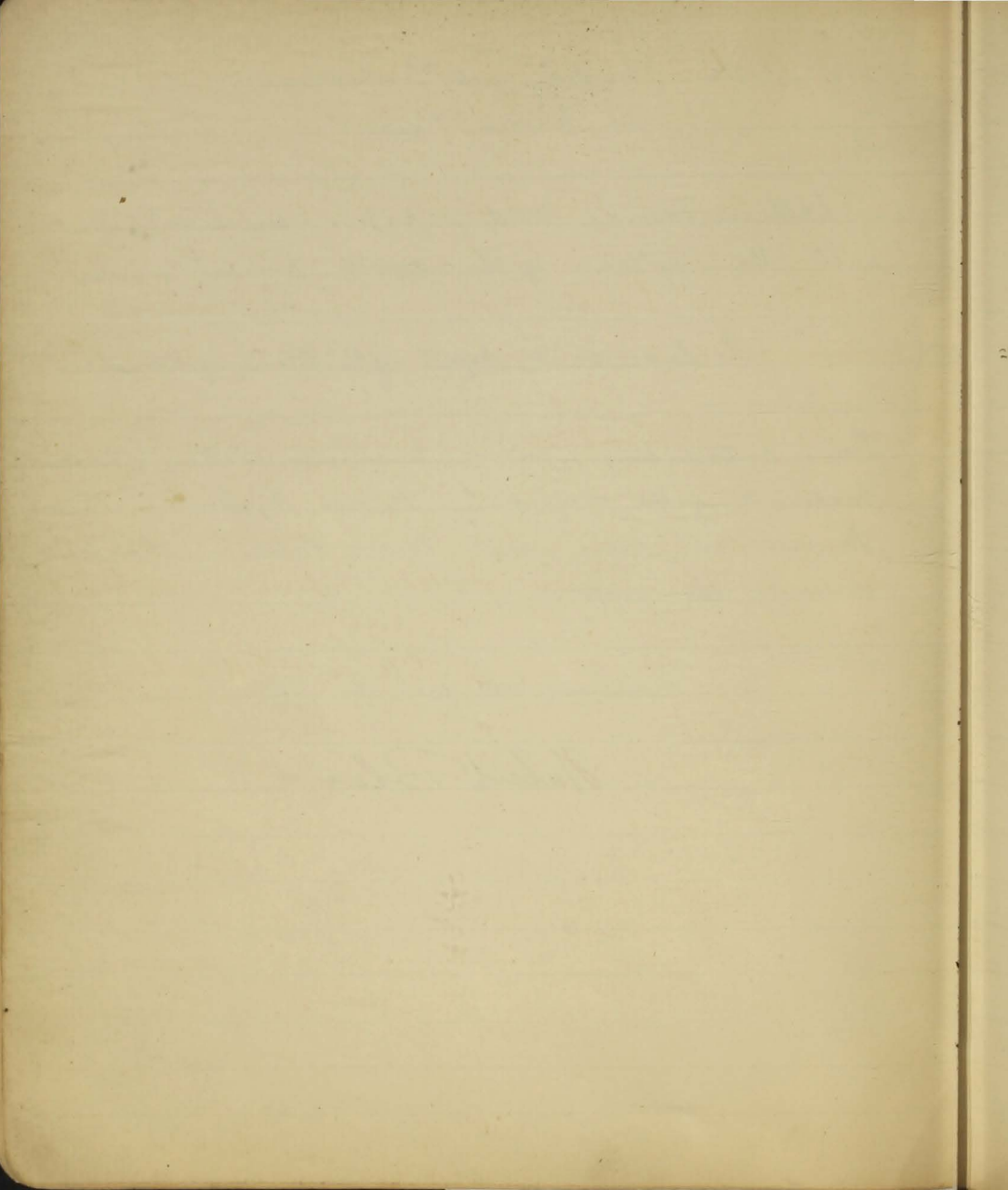
William Clarke read a paper, in accordance
with the syllabus of the course proceeding, on

"The Industrial Aspect of the Basis of Socialism"

Some contributions were made in illustration of his Clarke's
treatment of the subject by Messrs Hyndman, Prouns
Purrows and Shaw, and Messrs Hibt and Cantwell
criticised the paper.

Mrs Madlam occupied the Chair.

Hubert Bland



(6)

Meeting at Willis' Rooms
on Friday 16th November

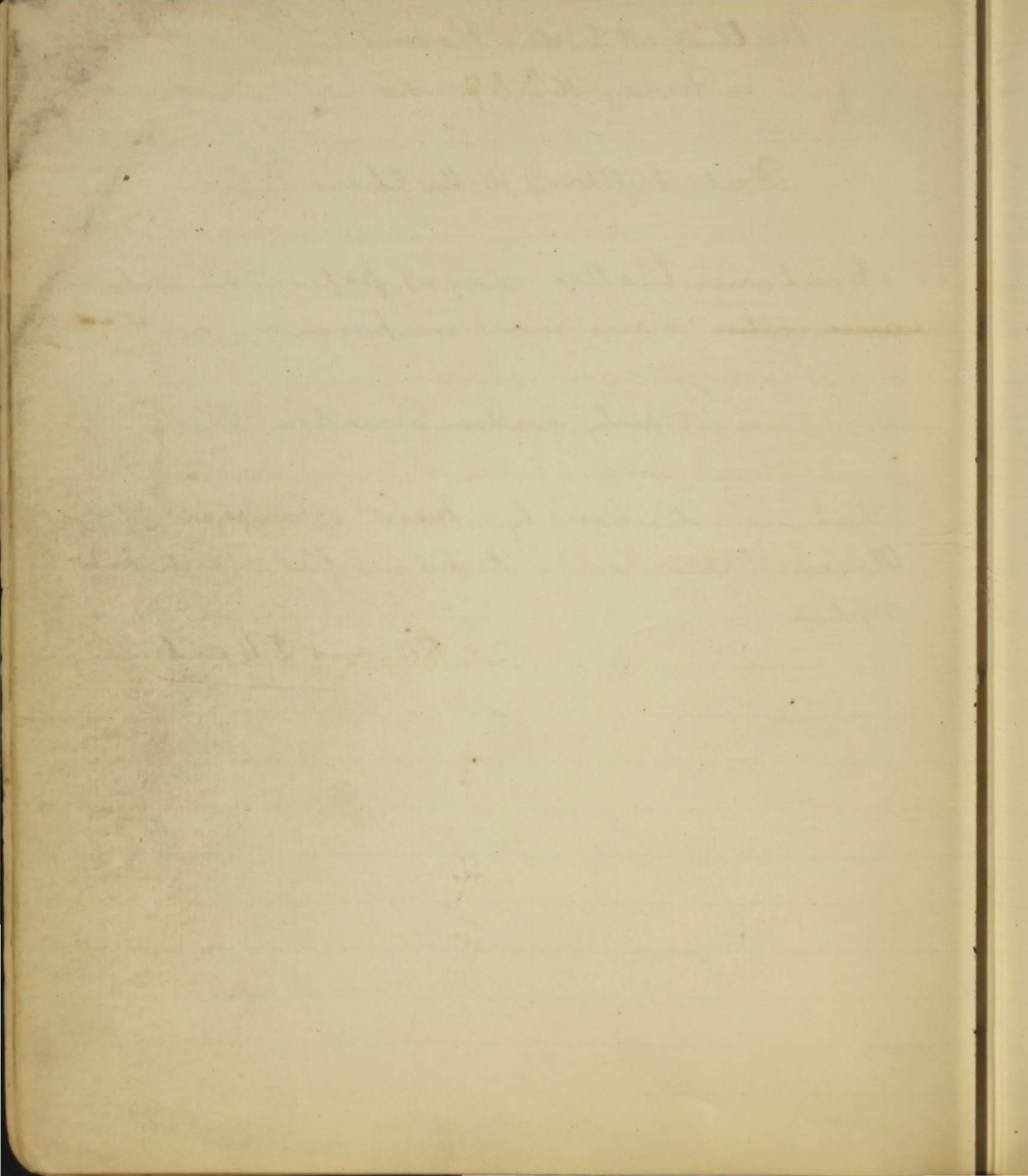
Hubert Bland in the Chair.

Graham Waller read a paper, in continuation of the series now in progress, on

"Property under Socialism"

which was discussed by Messrs Blanchard, Wright, Oliver, Shaw, and Ficht, after which Mr Waller replied.

Stewart J. Heallan



Meeting at Willis' Rooms.
on Friday 7th Dec.

(7)

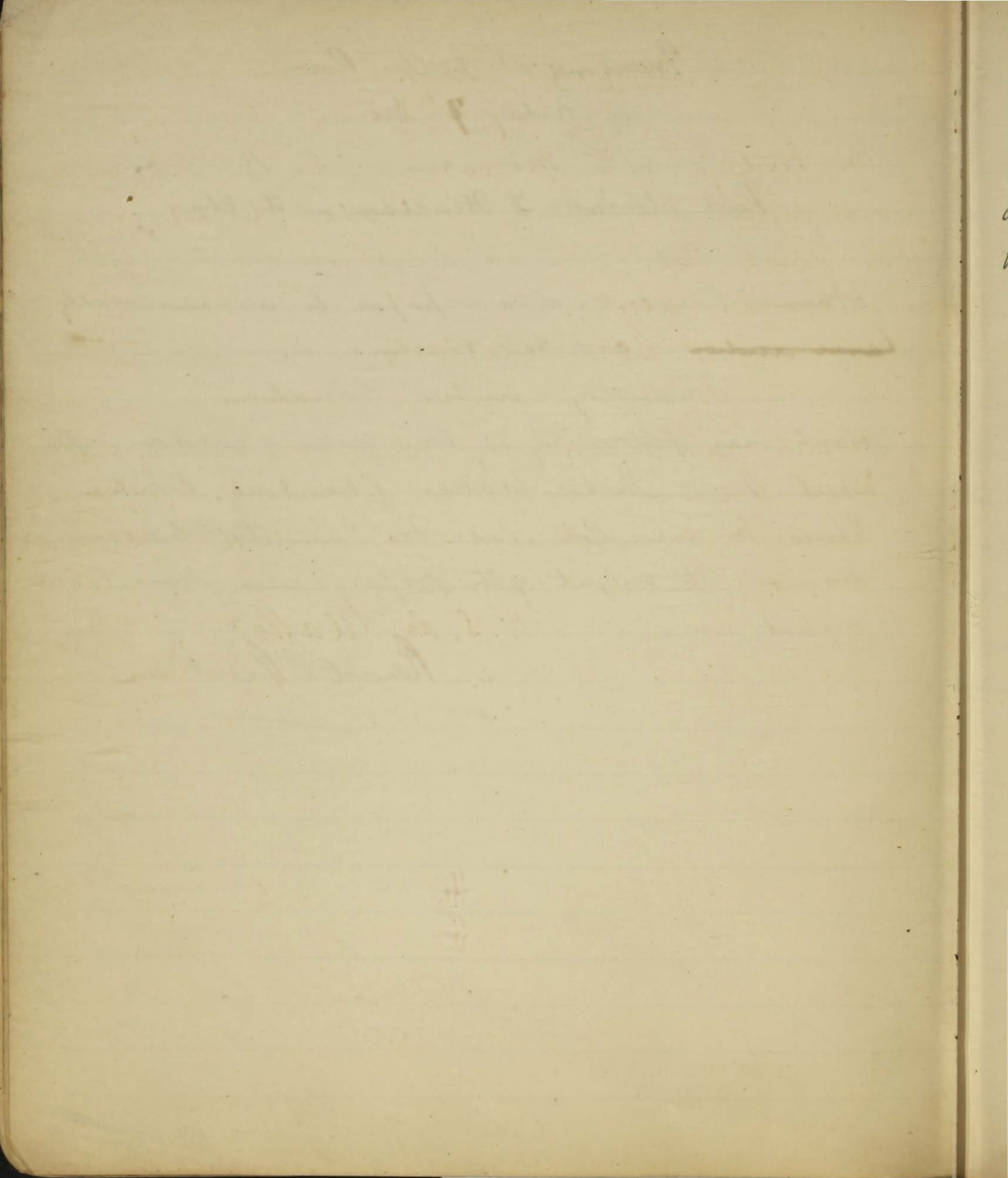
Rev^d Stewart & Headlam in the Chair.

Annie Besant read a paper to an unusually
~~large and~~ crowded meeting on

"Industry under Socialism"

which was followed by a long series of questions, after
which Messrs Hicks, Wallis, Blanchard, Prosser,
Shaw McEwen, Cox, Lane Fox, and the Chairman
discussed the subject of the paper, and Annie Besant
replied —

Stewart & Headlam



At Willis' Rooms.

(8)

On Friday 21st December, the Rev. S. D. Hadlam occupying the chair, Hubert Bland read the final Paper on the Prospects of Socialism, under the title of
"The Outlook"

which was discussed by Sidney Webb, Sydney Olivier, H. C. Donovan, Harold Cox, J. G. Stapleton, Graham Wallas, Annie Besant, W. S. de Mattos, G. Bernard Shaw, and the Chairman.

W. S. de Mattos

At Willis' Rooms.

(9)

On Friday 4th January 1889,
Theodor Wright in the Chair,

Edward Carpenter

read a paper on

"Civilisation, its Cause and its Cure"

which was debated by Messrs Hyndman, Webb,
Donovan, Mallett, Shaw, Bland, and
the Chairman.

W. S. de Wather

18th of January 1871

Dear Mother

I received your letter of the 14th

and was glad to hear from you

and to hear that you were all well

I am well

Yours

John

(10)

At 19 Avenue Road N.W.

on Friday, 18th January, 1889.

W. S. de Mattos in the Chair,

Sidney Webb discoursed at considerable length, on
"America, Today and Tomorrow". —

After a number of questions, showing much interest
in the subject, it was discussed by Annie Besant, Graham
Wallas, Sydney Oliver & G. Bernard Shaw. —

Arthur Kluck
Chairman

Nominations for membership passed unchallenged

A. L. Lake by H. Wilson Carr, S. Pines

Ernest Rhye S. Wallas, S. B. Shaw.

Confirmed by Exec. Committee 22nd Jan

S. O.

W. S. or Mathis, names Law and Pills

Mrs. Bland Wilson

Mrs

(11)

At Bloomsbury Rooms, Hart St. W.C.

On Friday, 1st February, 1889,

Robert Bland in the Chair

Mr Woodworth Donisthrope lectured on "Private Property"

Mr Donisthrope was severely handled by Sidney Webb, and supported by Mr Gumbros. Annie Besant, J. L. Shadwell, Ernest Radford, J. C. Miller, and Graham Waller spoke alternately in defence and criticism of his arguments, which were finally ~~disposed~~ ^{dealt with} by G. B. Shaw.

Mr Woodworth Donisthrope upheld

Ernest Radford

Nominations for Membership passed unchallenged

Rev A. W. Oxford, by Mrs Cotton & S. D. Hadlam

Mrs H. C. Shuttleworth, A. C. Shuttleworth & "

Confirmed by Exec. Committee 5th Feb:

S. O.

(12)

At 31 Upper Bedford Place W.C.

on Friday 15th February, 1889,

Ernest Radford in the Chair,

Perceval Chubb read a paper on

"The relation of Ethics to Economics" -

In the discussion which followed, G. Wallas, S. Webb, S. Olivier, the Chairman, Hubert Bland, G. B. Shaw, Herbert Burrows, William Clarke, Maurice Adams and A. C. Donovan took part

Mr. Chubb added some concluding observations -

Nominations passed unchallenged -

H. S. Salt by G. B. Shaw, H. Bland

Confirmed by Exec Committee, 19th Feb:

S.O.

1871 in the year of the...

on Monday 11th...

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of the...

Attest my hand and seal this 15th day of May 1862

John W. Adams

Notary Public for the State of New York

John W. Adams, Notary Public for the State of New York, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original of the same as the same appears from the records of the said Notary Public.

John W. Adams

Notary Public

Witness my hand and seal this 15th day of May 1862

(19)

At 13 Stratton, St. Piccadilly,

on Friday 15th March, 1884.

Graham Wallis in the Chair,

H. Widdon Carr read a paper on "The Organisation of unemployed Labour" describing ~~experiments in~~ State municipal and private experiments in creating agricultural and industrial colonies with pauper labour, which was discussed by several speakers.

Special Club

3 April 84.

Nomination for Membership passed without challenge
Alexander Macmillan, by S. Oliver.
(no second, not confirmed)

S.O.

1844

to the Hon. Secy of the Navy

Washington

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the proposed purchase of the schooner "Enterprise" for the service of the Navy. I have the pleasure to inform you that the same has been approved by the Navy Department and that the purchase is authorized.

Yours truly,

John C. Calhoun

Very respectfully,
John C. Calhoun

(15)

At 31 Upper Bedford Place W.C.

on Friday 5th April, 1889. -

Business Meeting for Members only, to receive the annual reports of the Executive and to elect officers for the coming year

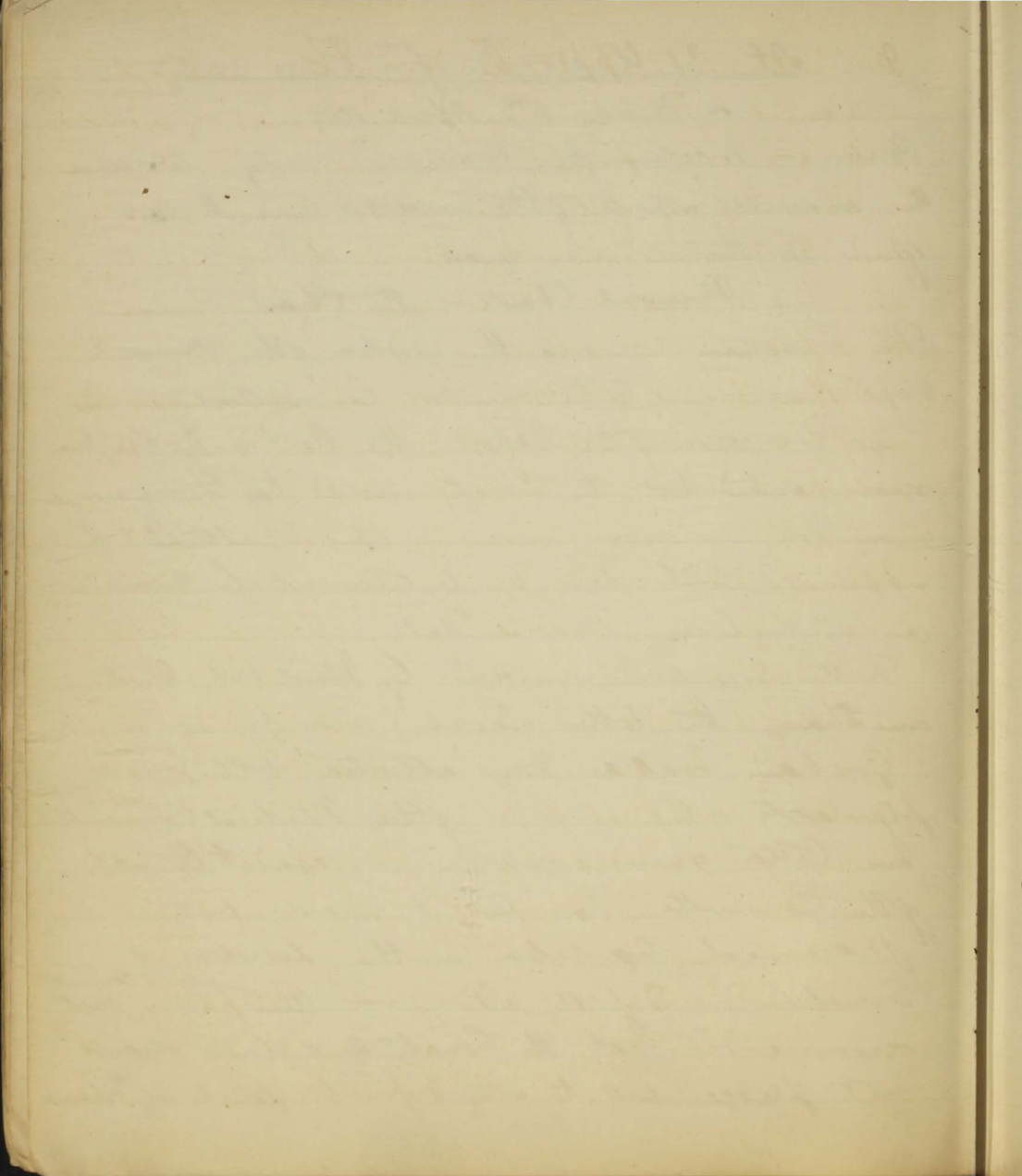
Prevalent Chubb in the Chair

The Secretary moved the adoption of the Annual Report submitted by the Executive Committee.

In discussion of the Report, the Rev. S. D. Hadlan recommended that the Society should try to organize more drawing room meetings and to attract the upper middle class by lectures at fashionable centres such as Prince's Hall.

Further suggestions were made by Messrs Webb, Chubb, and Shaw, the latter advocating more open air lecturing.

Graham Waller drew attention to the small popularity of the meetings of the Political Committee. Mrs Cotton raised a question with regard to the work of the Committee, how far it should further piecemeal legislation in the direction of Socialism. S. Webb advocated this policy ^{for the Committee} but recommended that the Society as a whole should not pledge itself to any definite political schemes.



Mr Webb also called attention to the average amount of the subscriptions made by members to the Society's funds.

The Report of the Executive Committee and the Treasurer Report on the finances, audited by Messrs Fells and Carr were accepted by the Society.

The Executive Committee having retired, they were, on the motion of the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary selected to serve for one year namely, Annie Bryant, Hubert Bland, Graham Clarke Sydney Davies, G. Bernard Shaw, Graham Waller, and Sidney Webb.

On the motion of W. S. de Mattos Mr Bland was appointed Treasurer, and Sydney Davies Secretary for the year.

Vote of thanks to Miss Hoatson and Miss Jones for their services as Assistant Secretary and Asst. Publ. Secretary was moved by H. Bland & S. Webb, and carried unanimously.

The Secretary reported on the arrangements made for holding a social meeting. These were criticised by T. Bloor, A. Varley and

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Then, and some discussion ensued. The settlement of the points raised was left to the Entertainment Sub Committee

Sydney Shires read a paper on the origin and early history of the Fabian Society, with extracts from the minutes.

Messrs Shaw, Bland, Podmore and the Chairman contributed reminiscences.

The meeting closed at 10.40 p.m.

Sidney Webb

Nominations for Membership passed unchallenged

- " D. G. Ritchie, by S. Webb, S. Shires.
- " Lily Haynes, H. Bland, Adeline Sergeant.
- " Mrs Moys, Miss Fowler, Miss Hull.
- " Mrs J. Ashley Petty, " " " "

Confirmed by Exec. Committee 9th Apr.

S.O.

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(15)

At Willis' Rooms, S.W.

on Friday 3rd May, Sidney Webb, in the Chair

H. S. Salt read a paper on
"Humanitarianism and the Development of the
Principle of Compassion"

which was discussed by Hubert Bland, E. R. Pease,
F. Podmore, A. Besant, Mr. Gosling, Mr. Leakey,
Howard Swan, W. L. Phillips, and the Chairman.

H. S. Salt replied to criticism -

Nominations for Membership passed unchallenged,

" H. Hood Barrs, by James Billson & H. Bland

" G. Hudson, " C. K. Skote & S. Oliver

" E. L. Manning, (Corr): " H. Bland & E. Bland

" Miss Lacey
Proposed by Exec. Committee 7th May

S.O.

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(19)

At Bloomsbury Hall, W.C.

on Friday 17th May, T. Bras in the Chair

Sidney Webb lectured on Mr Booth's
book on Life and Labours in East London.

The subject was discussed by Graham Waller,
Howard Swan, S. D. Medlam, A. C. Varley,
D. J. McEwen, Mrs Mallet and Evelyn
Smith, one of the contributors to the book

W. L. Phillips,

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[Faint signature or name, possibly "W. J. ..."]

(2)

At Bloomsbury Hall, W.C.

on Friday, 7th June, W. L. Phillips in the Chair

F. Podmore read a paper on
"English Experiments in Communism"

Contributions to the discussion of the paper were
made by Messrs. Wallas, Hadlam, Phillips and
Olivier

Mr Podmore replied to criticisms

J. Glodz Stapelton

Nominations for membership passed unchallenged

Miss J. H. Clapperton by Miss Brooke & Miss Clegg.

J. H. Skilbeck " Rev H. C. & Mrs Skutterworth

C. O. Skilbeck " " "

Confirmed by Exec. Committee 11th June

S. O.

(21)

At Bloomsbury Hall. W.C.

on Friday 21st June,

J. Glode Stapleton in the Chair

Hubert Bland read a paper entitled

"An Attempt to indicate the Philosophical Basis of Socialism" which was criticised, ~~in the main & partly~~ by the following members of the Society, namely Messrs Radford, Wells, Davies, Shaw and Wright. Mrs Peabody ~~and~~ supported the lecturer, Miss Lawton repudiated the assumption that Socialism had a philosophical basis, claiming that privilege for individualism, and Mr Phillips contributed some observations.

Mr Bland replied to his opponents —

Frank Podmore

Nomination for Membership passed unchallenged

" Robert Scotts , by S. Wells.

Confirmed by Exec. Committee 25th June

S. O.

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(21)

At Willis' Rooms.

on Friday, 5th July,

Frank Podmore in the Chair,
Mrs S. Cannon read a paper on

"The bearing of recent Economics on
"Individualism, Collectivism, and Communism"
which was discussed by

Nominations for Membership

D. G. Gostling by Mrs Gostling & S. Oliver

R. E. Bell " S. Oliver & S. D. Hadlam

passed unchallenged.

Confirmed by Exec. Com. 9th July.

S. O.

191 Little River

on property of J. J. ...
Part 1 of ...

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(23)

At 31 Upper Bedford Place

on Friday, 19th July, G. Bernard Shaw in the Chair,

Sidney Webb read the draft of a new tract
to be published by the Society, entitled
"Facts for Londoners"

Discussion followed, in which criticisms were
passed on some minor matters in the draft,
and suggestions made for its improvement.

It was resolved that the tract be printed
as Tract No 8 of the Society's series —

Sidney Webb

*
"A Committee to report on the Eight Hours' question, and to
draw up an Eight Hours Bill for introduction in Parliament"
(~~Instituted for the Eight Hours Bill Committee - H. Mann,~~
H. Cox, S. Oliver, E. R. Pease, G. B. Shaw,
G. Spooner, (Sec.) S. Webb, - by the Executive Committee
on notice of meeting, - at meeting, G. Waller, Mr. Costa,
Miss Groves, A. M. Hart, W. W. Bartlett, R. S. Dell.)

Subsequent accessions (in response to invitation) W. S. de Mattos
Joseph Ockershot, S. D. Hadlam, Mr. Sandham

(27)

At 180 Postdown Road W.

on Friday, 29th September, S. Oliver in the Chair,

a ~~first~~ meeting of members only was held at which it was decided to add ^{Messrs Webb and Bell} ~~A. R. & Co.~~ ^(S.O.) to the Universities Committee, and any other members having connection with any University, who might subsequently join the Society.

It was agreed that the Lecture Committee should not be reconstituted.

* And that ~~the~~ notice should be sent to all members of the Political Committee of meetings of the ~~the~~ ^{the} eight Hours Bill Committee, and that ~~the~~ members of the Society should be invited to join the Political Committee and attend such meetings -

G. Bernard Shaw reported on the progress of the edition of Fabian Essays now in the Press.

At the

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The nominations made by the Exec. Committee of the following members, ~~to~~ - G. W. Johnson, H. W. Just, S. Quire, G. B. Shaw, & S. Webb, to be appointed ~~to control~~ as a Committee "to control details of the publishing business of the Society" were passed without addition.

Nominations for Membership passed without challenge

- Mr Brownlow by Miss Fortes & S. Webb.
- Miss Dora ^(copy) Fortes " " " " "
- Miss Dora ^(copy) Fortes " " " " "

Confirmed by Exec. Committee Sept 24th -

S.O.

Sidney Webb

18/10/89

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At Willis' Rooms

(by the kind permission of the man in possession)
on Friday 4th October, Sidney Webb in the Chair,

After the Secretary, the Political Secretary, and the Lecture
Secretary had reported on the current work of the Society,
the Chairman introduced by some explanatory observations
the course of lectures to be given during the autumn
under the title

"A Century of Social Movements."

The first paper, on "Early Radicalism"
was then read by William Clarke, and after
some questions, was supplemented by remarks
and criticisms ~~from~~ from Graham Waller,
Theodor Wright, Hubert Bland, H. S. Salt,
G. Bernard Shaw, Howard Owen and Sidney
Webb; ₂ → Mr Clarke replied. —

Sidney Webb
18/10/89

1844

By the first of January 1844
the ship was at New York

and on the 10th of the same month
she sailed for New Orleans

and on the 20th of the same month
she arrived at New Orleans

and on the 30th of the same month
she sailed for New York

and on the 10th of the next month
she arrived at New York

and on the 20th of the same month
she sailed for New Orleans

and on the 30th of the same month
she arrived at New Orleans

and on the 10th of the next month
she sailed for New York

and on the 20th of the same month
she arrived at New York

and on the 30th of the same month
she sailed for New Orleans

and on the 10th of the next month
she arrived at New Orleans

At Willis' Rooms

on Friday, 18th October, Sidney Webb in the Chair
1887

The Secretary moved on behalf of the Executive Committee that a new Edition of Tract No 1, "Why are the Many Poor" be published at the expense of the Society -

~~The Motion~~ Reports were made on the work of the Political Committee in preparing a Bill to regulate Hours of Labour, and on the lecture work of the Society.

The Secretary announced that arrangements had been sanctioned by the Executive Committee for transferring the general work of the office of Secretary to E. R. Bax, the present Secretary continuing to act as Secretary for the publishing work of the Society.

Frank Podmore read a paper on "Early Socialism"

which was discussed by Messrs Metson, Bowker, Bax, Waller, Buxton, Wright, Phillips, Leonard, Dalziel & the Chairman - Mr Podmore replied -

The following nominations for membership passed without challenge -

Ross Chalmer, by W. E. Hill & S. Webb.

E. D. Girdstone, by R. E. Dill

Miss Henry, by Miss Graves & Miss Wesley

Rev. W. A. Morris, by R. E. Dill

T. C. Wallis, by W. Clarke & A. W. Oxford.

The election of these as members was
confirmed by the Exec. Committee on the 22nd inst.

William Clarke, Chairman.

At Willis' Rooms

on Friday 1st November, William Clarke in the Chair,

The Secretary Reported that the Draft of the tract in preparation, namely an Eight Hours Bill with further amendments to the Factory Act, had been settled by the Political Committee and would be submitted to the Society on the 22nd of November.

Graham Wallas read the fourth paper of the course now proceeding, on

"The Chartist Agitation"

Contributions to the subject of the lecture were made by John Burns, Townsend, S. B. Shaw and the Chairman —

The following names of candidates for membership were passed without challenge

F. C. Barker, W. E. Burton, N. L. Griffith, C. H. Stirling, T. Jarvis, and Mrs E. Roberts.

These nominations were confirmed by the Executive Committee on the 5th November —

Frank Johnson Chairman

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At Willis' Rooms

(29)

On Friday 14th November, Frank Podmore in the Chair

In private business motion was made on behalf of the Executive Committee for leave to print five hundred copies of the Eight Hours Bill pamphlet prepared by the Political Committee for distribution to members, and to meet an expected demand, in anticipation of the sanction of the Society to its issue as a Fabian Tract. The motion was agreed to.

Hubert Bland read a paper dealing with "The Protest of Literature and Sentiment" which provoked lively discussion, contributed to by Messrs. Stokes, Dryhurst, Whale, Lengwell, Hecht, L. Sargent, G. Samuel, Cohen, Mrs Stapleton, William Clarke, G. B. Shaw, H. W. Macrosty and G. Waller. -
William Clarke, Chairman.

At the office of the
Secretary of the
War Department
Washington, D. C.
The following is a list of
the names of the
officers and
enlisted men
of the
1st
Regiment
of
the
Army
of
the
United
States
who
were
killed
in
action
during
the
War
of
1861-1865.
The names are
arranged
in
alphabetical
order
of
their
last
names.
The names of
officers are
indicated
by
the
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The names of
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The names of
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The names of
enlisted men
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(30)

At 31 Upper Bedford Place
on Friday 22nd November, William Clarke
in the Chair,

The Society considered the pamphlet drawn up by the Political Committee, which published as an "Eight Hours Bill, in the form of an Amendment of the Factory Acts with further provisions for the improvement of the conditions of labor."

Some amendments were determined on and the Bill was approved for issue as Chart No 9 of the Fabian Series. —

at the office of the
in the year 1857
at the office

The Board of the
of the District
in the year 1857
at the office
of the District
in the year 1857
at the office

At Willis' Rooms

on Friday Dec. 6th

Hubert Bland in the Chair

Mrs Besant gave a lecture on the
Trades Union Movement.

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At Willis' Rooms

on Friday, 20th December, Edward
R. Pean in the Chair,

It was announced that the Edition
of Fabian Essays, being a reprint of lectures
delivered by members of the Society in the
year 1888 was ready for distribution to
subscribers.

G. Bernard Shaw read a paper
introductory to the subject of "The New
Politics", which was discussed by Ernest
Radford, J. C. Barker, ^{Louis Cohen} W. Burton
Mr. A. R. Dughurst, Sidney Webb, W. Pean
and the Chairman: after which Mr Shaw
continued his observations with comments
on the contributions of previous speakers.

~~Report~~ approved by meeting
Manning Prentice in chair
3/1/90.

At College, Boston
in charge of the
Library of the
Theological Seminary

It was arranged that the
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Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall, Hart St.
on Friday Jan 3rd 1890.

Manning Prentice in the Chair.

1. Minutes of last meeting read & confirmed.

2. Reports. Lecture Sec. reported conclusion of course of lectures at Leicester & opening of a new one at Nottingham & other active work. Also for Political Sec. that the G. E. R. is the worst of the Railway Coys. in respect of losses, & that any member who has a claim as shareholder or resident wd do good work to write to the directors on the subject, in view of the approaching annual meeting.

S. Oliver as Literature Sec. reported that "Fabian Essays" are in course of transmission to subscribers & are now on sale. He also reported that money is coming in, & took the occasion to urge members to be more prompt, if not more liberal in paying.

subscriptions. Out of about 150 members only some 30 had paid anything during the nine months of the current financial year: & with the large & increasing publishing business of the Society, funds are urgently needed. —

The Gen. Sec. reported that owing to the heavy cost, future meetings w^d probably be held in another Hall, & that this w^d be notified to members in the usual way & to others in the "Star" of the day of meeting. Also that owing to illness Mr. Flürscheim w^d probably not lecture on Feb 7th & his place w^d probably be taken by Mr. Tom Mann, on "The new Unionism".

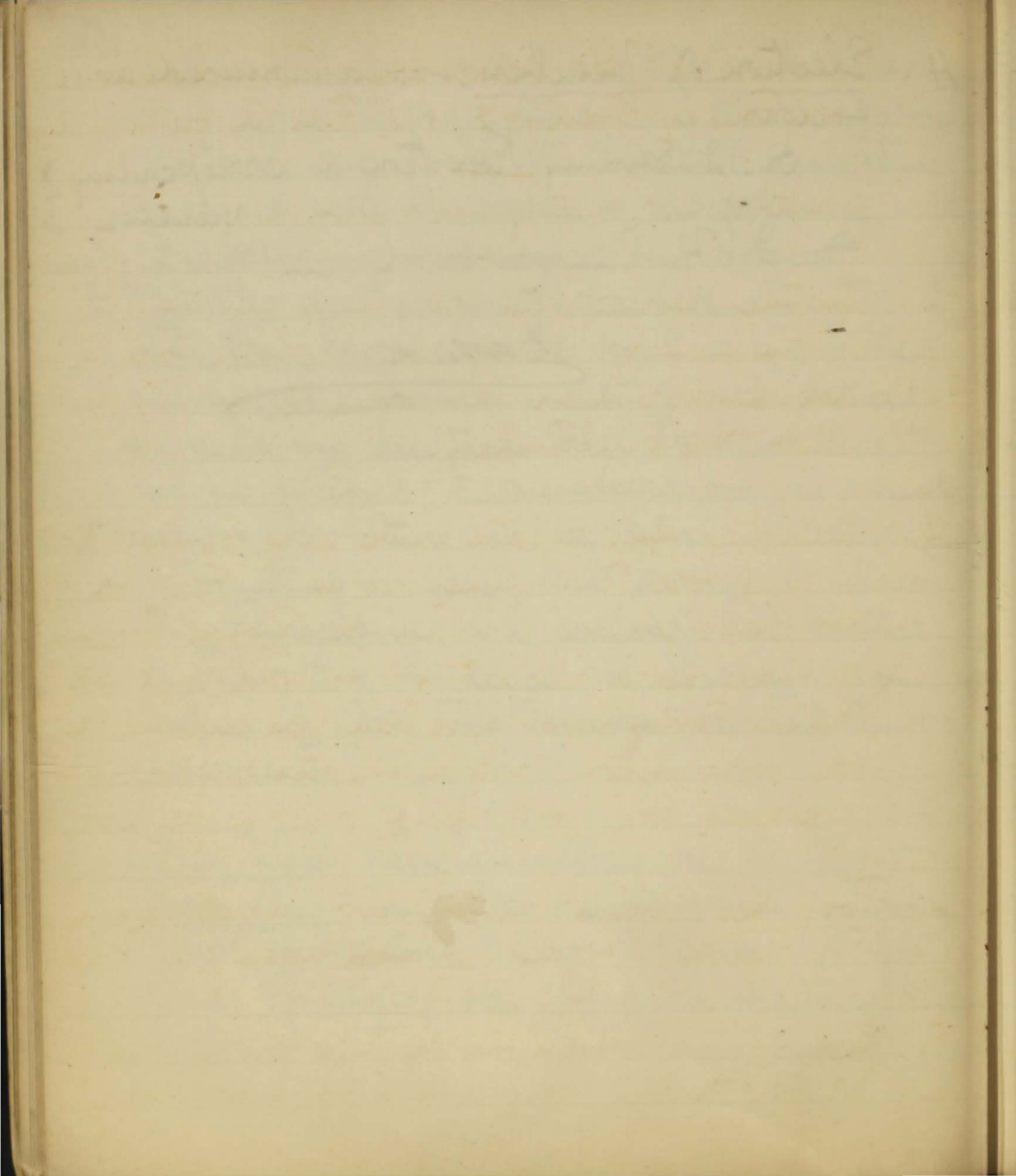
3. Sidney Webb gave an address on the Eight Hours Bill, & in the debate which followed Messrs Harold Cox, Shaw, McEwen, Wright, Pease, Phillips, the Chairman & others took part. —

4. Election of members was announced as follows.

Dr. J. Stirling Robertson as corresponding member

J. H. Maywood. — [Elected Jan 7th entered here in order.]

J. Stirling Robertson
Chairman.



(35)

Meeting at St. James Hall, French Chamber
on Friday Jan. 17th 1890, F. C. Barker in chair.

1. Minutes of last meeting read & confirmed.
2. Lecture Sec. reported opening of courses at
Nottingham & Oxford, & application from the
Gen. Labourers Union for a course in the W. News
Club, Eye St., Vauxhall.
3. Literature Sec. reported active sales for last quarter
of Eight Hours Tract; steady progress in Facts for
Londoners: renewed demand for Radical Programme,
so much that a new edition is proposed; and esp.
that the Fabian Essays have been well reviewed, &
the whole edition, with the exception of 3 dozen copies,
is already sold, & a second must be prepared.
4. Pol. Sec. (absent) per S. Webb, announced a
meeting for this day ~~well~~ week of the Pol. Com.
5. Gen. Sec. announced that the next Lecture, to be by
Mr. Tom Mann, would be in a hall to be notified

in due course. Also that a Parliament was being
formed in Marylebone wh. Socialists are urged
to join: J. Scott Allen 121 Marylebone Rd. N.W. being
Whip pro tem. —

b. Mr. J. Rowlands, Sec. of the Leaseholds Emfranchise-
ment Assoc., & M.P. for East Finsbury gave
an address on the just. named subject, wh.
was debated by Annie Besant, Shaw, Webb
Oliver, Adolphe Smith, & the Chairman.

W. S. de Mattos.

(36)

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall Hart-Stron
Friday 7th Feb. 7 1890, W. S. De Mattos in chair.

1. Minutes of last meeting were read & confirmed.
2. Lecture Sec. reported Nottingham course going well, & mentioned the interesting fact - that the Assist. Bishop of Rochester is lecturing on the relation of Soc^m & Xtianity at the Lambeth Baths; & allows discussion.
3. The Gen. Sec. reported that the Fabian Essays had not been hitherto formally recognized by the Society, because the authors were unwilling to saddle the Society with the risk of a loss. Now that the copy right proved to be worth some £200, they had, (excepting G. Wallas who is away ill), signed a deed conveying the copyright to the officers of the Society.
4. It was proposed by Theodore Wright, & seconded by F. C. Barker, & unanimously agreed to, that the Fabian Society accept the responsibility for the Fabian Essays & tender its thanks to the seven authors for their generous gift. -

5. The Gen. Sec. announced that Miss Newcombe
& Miss Mary L. Cameron were elected members.
6. The Sec. read a letter, received 2 days before, from
Mr. Tom Mann explaining that he was obliged
to be present at an important conee meeting about
the Hayo Wharf dispute, & therefore must break
his engagement to lecture. He further stated
that Mr. Tom Walker of the Alliance cabinet makers
had at 2 days notice most kindly agreed to take
Mann's place.
7. Mr. Walker then gave an address on the New
Trades Unionism, which was debated by
De Mattos, Pease, Mc Costy, Webb, Linden &
others. —

Confirmed
21 Feb 1890

H. W. Barr

(37)

Meeting at the French Chamber St. James
Restaurant, Piccadilly on Friday 21st Feb. 90
H. W. Carr in the Chair.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read & approved.
2. The Lecture Secy reported courses in progress at Croydon & Battersea.
3. The Gen. Sec. reported that there had been a correspondence in the Star, wh. had led ~~to~~ a number of persons to communicate with him.
4. He also reported that Mr. H. Holliday w^d lecture on Bellamy on the 4th March at Hampstead Vestry Hall & urged members to be present.
5. He announced that the next Meeting w^d be at Bloomsbury Hall & future ones in the room then occupied.
6. He announced that J. Polbury, the Rev. Stoford Brooke, Kentish Moore, & C. L. Woner (Con) were elected.

7. S. Oliver moved urgency for the following motion,
which was carried unanimously.

8. He then moved

"That this meeting most heartily congratulates
the Social Democrats of Germany on the repy-
nch. they have given in yesterday's elections
to the Imperial policy of repression & paternal
palliatives." Carried unanimously.

9. Bernard Bosanquet read a paper on

"The antithesis between Individualism & Socialism
philosophically considered", which was
discussed by Webb, Oliver Wright, Shaw, Dyhurst
Pease, Mrs Mallett & Chairman. —

William Dunt

(38)

Meeting at Bloomsbury (small) Hall, Hart St, W.C.
on Friday 7 March 1890.

Dr. W^m Burton in the Chair.

- 1 Minutes of last meeting read + confirmed
2. Reports. Lecture Sec. reported that the total of Lectures given wd exceed last year..
Literature Sec. reported 2nd Thousand Fabian Essays now ready.
3. Gen. Sec. reported election of W. Tom Walker
4. Gen. Sec. notified that the Executive had resolved, owing to the first Friday in April being Good Friday, that the annual meeting shd. be on March 28th, & that, although nominations would be valid if made on Mar 21st, ~~it~~ it was desirable they shd be made now. Members had received the Exec. circular on the matter.
5. The following were nominated for the executive, to be enlarged to 15, as proposed viz:—

F. C. Barker	R. E. Dell	F. Oakshott
Annie Besant	W. S. DeMatto	S. Olivier
Hubert Bland	Mary Grover	E. R. Peace
Edith Bland	Rev. S. Headlam	G. B. Shaw
H. W. Carr	Alice Hoatson	Graham Wallas
W ^m . Clarke	W ^m . Mallet	Sidney Webb

6. The Sec. announced that at the last moment, (thru' miscarriage of letters) he had heard that Mr. Flürscheim had gone to Berlin & could not fulfill his promise to lecture. In his difficulty Mr. Besant had most kindly consented to take his place.
7. Mrs. Besant then gave an address on "Socialism & the School Board Policy" which was debated by Bland, ~~Steele~~, Steele, Miss Cameron, Dell, Wallas, W^m. Mallet, Mrs. De Benitua, Miss Henry, Shaw, Dr. Burton & Webb.
8. In response to an appeal from Mrs. Besant, 5 members & 2 visitors handed in their names as willing to become School Managers, or assist in the Free Meals. —
 William Clarke.
 Chairman

Meeting at the French Chamber, St James
Hall Restaurant on Friday 21st March 1890
Wm Clarke in the Chair.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read & confirmed
2. The Lecture Sec. reported that the total of lectures wd exceed 1000 for past year. —
3. The Pol. Sec. reported that the Womens Liberal Assocⁿ had held a meeting conference recently wd. was much in sympathy with Fabian views.
4. The Gen. Sec. reported the election of Mrs Steele, Miss Doren & John Henderson.
5. Mess H. Clegg & N. L. Griffiths (both professional auditors) were chosen to audit the accounts. ~~Announcement~~
~~Order on the usual scale in the exist.~~ —
6. The Sec. y announced that F. C. Barber, W. H. Carr & Mrs Bland had withdrawn their names, & consequently only 15 candidates remained for the 15 seats proposed

on the new Executive. He also notified that
the words "including the Secretary & Treasurer"
w^d be omitted from the resolution, notice of wh.
had been sent to members. ~~Further that he~~
~~had received~~

7. He further gave notice that revisions of Tracts
b. & 7, & draft of a new leaflet w^d be considered
at the annual meeting.
8. Mr. H. Llewellyn Smith then read a paper
on the "Causes & Effects of Immigration
from the Country to Town" which was
discussed by Webb, G. Wallas, Wright
Pease, Oliver McEwen, Miss Cameron,
Mr. Tripping, T. J. Wallas, & others. —

Robert D. Lee.

Annual Meeting for business at 31 Upper Bedford Place on Friday Mar 28th 1890,
R. G. Dell in the Chair.

1. The minutes were read & confirmed.
2. The Secy reported that the following were elected members viz:- Mrs Apres Larcom-Jacobs, Jasper H.S. Nicolls, & Katharine Grace Dell, & the following corresponding members, viz:- F. W. Donaldson, Adolphus Ballard, Rev. Edw. C. Clarke, & Alfred Hayes. -
3. The Secretary read the draft annual report, & it was resolved, that it be referred to the old Executive Com^{ee} to revise & print the same.
4. The Treasurer read the accounts, with analysis of subscription &c. wh. report was to be included in the printed annual report as above. -
5. Resolved:- That the Executive Committee for the ensuing year be fifteen in number.

6. Resolved, That the following 15 members, being
the only ones duly nominated, be the Ex. Com^{tee}, viz:

Amie Besant	Mary Groves	Sydney Olivier
Hubert Bland	S. D. Headlam	Edw. R. Pease
Wm Clarke	Alice Hoatson	G. B. Shaw
R. E. Dell	Mrs. Mallett	Graham Wallas
W. S. de Mattos	Jos. Bakshott	Sidney Webb.

7. Resolved:- That a salary of one pound a week
be payable to the General Secretary from
the funds of the Society.

8. Resolved:- That Edw. R. Pease be General Secretary
for the ensuing year.

9. Resolved, That Hubert Bland be Treasurer
for the ensuing year.

10. Resolved:- That in Rule 9 the words "on personal
acquaintance" be expunged.

11. Resolved:- That in Rule 3 the second clause
in so far as refers to "Other Committees", be

expunged.

- 12. Resolved That the Executive Committee be charged with the duty of appointing Committees for special purposes.
- 13. Resolved that the thanks of the Society be given to Alice Hoatson & Mary Groves for their services in sending out the general, & political Comm^{ee} notices respectively.
- 14. Resolved That the Executive be authorised to print 5000 of the revised edition of Tract No 7. Capital & Land.
- 15. Resolved That the Executive be authorised to print & issue a leaflet summary of Facts for Londoners.
- 16. Resolved That the Executive be instructed to make arrangements for holding once a quarter a social meeting for the members.

17. The Secretary read the draft of the programme for the ensuing session & announced that the next meeting w^d. take place on April 18th —

W. S. de Mattos

Chairman 23/5/90.

Meeting in the French Chamber, St James' Hall Restaurant, on Friday 18th April 1890

Hubert Bland in the Chair

It was announced that tract No. 10 "Figures for Londoners" was now ready, price 6 for 1s, 1s per hundred.

The Chairman reserved the reading of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting until the next meeting of members only.

Sydney Oliver read a paper on Emile Zola.

W. Bonny, George Standring, Miss Cameron, ~~Thos~~ Shore, C. Hecht, N. L. Griffith, A. R. Dryhurst, E. Radford, W. A. Macdonald, and the Chairman commented on the subject of the paper.

Sydney Oliver

Meeting in the French Chamber
St. James Hall Restaurant on Friday 2nd May 90
Sydney Olivier in the Chair.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read & confirmed
2. The Secretary announced the election of Alfred I. Gansley & Mr. Bakerson.
3. The Secy. drew attention to a lecture of S. Webb for members only at Mr. Bakerson's, Oxford St. Mansions on "The existing Machinery of Political Organisation how it can be utilised for Socialist Propaganda" on Friday May 9th -
4. Also to the proposed reading circle & to the desire that Fabian Tracts sh^d. be sold on May 4th.
5. The chairman announced that a Social Evening w^d. be announced for June 9th.
6. The Secretary announced that Mr. Radford

(45)

was unable thro' illness to fulfil his promise
to lecture on Wm Morris, & that Wm Morris
himself had most kindly consented to fill
the gap by reading a paper.

7. Mr Wm Morris then read a paper on
"The Architecture"
which was discussed by Mr Dughurst, E. C.
Robins, Dell, Webb, Mr Besant, Shaw,
Mr Bateson, Hech. & the Chairman.

J. F. Oakesbott.
16. V. 90

Meeting at St. James Hall Restaurant
on 16 May 1890.
J. F. Oakshott in the chair.

1. Minutes of last meeting read & confirmed.
2. Announced that Mrs Radford
H. Roberts
A. E. Buckhurst
were elected members: Miss Johnson had withdrawn.
3. Secy gave notice of Private meeting on Friday
23rd to consider Tracts 11 & 12 at 31 Upper Bedford Place.
4. Secy gave notice that reading circle was formed to meet
on Fridays, fortnightly & read Walker's Pol. Economy.
5. A. R. Dyhurst read a paper on Pax Kirkup, Groveland,
& Bellamy, wh. was discussed by ~~Mr~~ F. Wilson,
Miss Henry, Webb Shaw, Samuel, Pease & Wright.

Sidney Webb 6/6/90

(47)

Members Private Meeting at 31 Upper Bedford
Place on Fri, May 23rd 1890. W. S. de Mattos in chair.

1. The Minutes of the Annual Meeting Mar 28th were read & signed as correct.
2. The Scheme of Organisation of Executive & the Minute of Financial arrangements were read
3. Tract #12 was ~~read~~ discussed & amended: the formal resolution to issue was not moved as sufficient notice had not been given.
4. Tract 11 was discussed & amended; and it was resolved that 10,000 be printed & issued.
5. Mr. Besant, at the desire of the Executive gave some account of the & statistics of the General Secretary's work.
6. Resolved That it shall be an instruction to the Sorée Committee that the proceedings on the 9th June must not conclude with a dance.

~~Read & signed~~

7. R. S. Dell stated that Canon Shuttleworth
would lend his club at 81st Queen Victoria
St. S.P. for a Social Evening --

8. Sec. announced particulars of Reading
Circle, & of campaign in Surrey of
Liberal Van, in wh. ~~at~~ Fabians
are invited to take part.

W. S. de Mattis.

(5)

Meeting at St. James Hall Restaurant on
June 6th 1890, S. Webb in the Chair

1. The Minutes of 16 Mar were read & confirmed
 2. The following should have been, but were not announced as elected members, viz:-
W^m Partridge, A. C. H. Graham
W^m C. B. P. Jones, Ethel M. Mallet
W. R. Reynolds, G. A. Beverford.
 3. Graham Wallas moved & it was resolved:-
That Tract 12 be printed & issued.
 4. The Sec. announced that Free Russia was on sale in the room, by special permission of the Exec. Com^{ee}.
 5. Stepanich delivered an address on "Tolstoi, Tchernyshevsky & the Russian School", including in his remarks Dostoevsky & Tourgenieff, & G. Wallas, W^m Mallet, G. Samuel, Geo. Whale, W^m Besant, Shaw & Webb discussed the subject.
- a very full meeting. =
- H. Hudson

Meeting at St. James Hall Restaurant, French
Chamber on Friday 20th June 1890
Frederic Hudson in the chair.

1. The Minutes of June 6th were read & confirmed
2. The election was announced of
R. R. Steele A. O. Barron
J. H. Buckingham Harry Somerfield
P. R. Pratt Mrs. W. W. Bartlett
& Henry H. Hitchison of Derby.
3. The Sec. announced that Tract 11 & Leaflet 12
were now on sale.
4. The Sec. announced that Capⁿ Bowers of Boston
was expected to be in England as an envoy from E. Bellamy
5. Dr. Wm. Boulting read a paper on Karl Pearson &
Edw. Carpenter which was discussed by G. Samuel
S. R. Pease, Salt, Oakeshot, Bland, Mrs. Chaplin &
the chairmans. —

Faust & Odenda

(96)

Meeting at St James Hall Restaurant
Banqueting Room on Friday July 4th 1890
Frank Podmore in the Chair.

1. The Minutes of 20th June were read + confirmed
2. The Reporter of the General ^{Comm.} Council, H. Bland announced that the 1st Quarterly Social w^d be on Monday next, & that there w^d be refreshments.
3. The Reporter of the Lit Comm^{ee} S. Wallas reported on the various Tracts in course of preparation.
4. The Secy announced that the Society is invited to discuss in Council the New Reform Bill at Hyde Park Mansions on Sat the 12th inst. —
5. H. Bland read a paper on Recent English Socialistic Novels, wh^{ch} was discussed by Wallas, Webb, Samuels, Dughurst + Shaw. —

Annie Besant

Meeting at the Banqueting Chamber, St.
James Hall on Friday 18th July 1890
Mrs Annie Besant in the Chair.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read & signed
2. The Secy announced the election of
Wm Scudamore Grant Allen
Louis Cohen W. H. Harland
T. H. Jackson S. Frank Plowright
W. Sanders Cecil R. Phillips.
3. The Reporters of the Literature & Political Com^{es} reported
on the work in progress.
4. The Secretary reported (for the record time) that a purse
had been left at the meeting of June 20th &
stated that the contents w^d. be handed over to the
Society if it was not claimed. —
5. ~~The~~ Mrs Besant, by request, made a statement
about the strike at Messrs Allen's Chocolate Works
at Bow, & intimated that a collection w^d.

(77)

be taken at the doors. The amount collected was
£10.16.7. -

6. The Sec. announced that the next meeting would be probably on Sep: 19th; and that the Executive were preparing a scheme for a course of 7 Lectures on Objections to Socialism, which would probably be given by lecturers, more than one each evening.
7. G. Bernard Shaw then read the last paper in the series, Socialism in Contemporary Literature on "Ibsen". The paper was a long one, & was briefly discussed by Calveshott, Webb, Samuels, Dr. Burton, Steffen, Necht, Sanders, Mrs Besant, & others. The meeting was a very large one, & the lecture was well received.

Sidney Webb

19/9/90

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Friday
19th September 1890, Sidney Webb in Chair.

1. Minutes of 18th July read & confirmed

2. Elections announced

Rev. A. W. Jephson M.S.B.	Rev. A. H. Kennedy
Claude Burton	P. Curran
Joseph Rogers,	Miss C. M. Hutchinson
Geo. Ellis	Wm. E. Ellis
Alex Stewart M.S.B.	Miss K. Dodd
G. A. Gaskell,	Geo. W. Wynne
Mrs M. Thomas	Sydney E. Burdette
Miss H. Bloch	Nelson Palmer
F. A. Green	W. Critchley
	Thomas Ritchie

3 Reports. General. Bland reported great increase in general activity, & especially that a branch was opened at Bombay & another in course of formation at Newcastle. Shaw gave report on Branches to be opened by him on 22nd inst. at Birmingham.

Publishing Sec. reported rapid sale of 5th Edition of the Essays, & that tracts are in progress.

(3) (cont'd) Webb reported plan of Campaign for Manchester, where 52 lectures have been arranged in Sep. Oct. & cooperative circular, inviting free lectures to cooperative societies.

Economic

4. Sec. announced that Reading Circle would resume its meetings short.

5. After some introductory remarks from the Chair, the course on Common Objections to Socialism was opened by a paper on

"Prof: Huxley & Natural Inequality" by Sydney Olivier & another on 'The Seven Deadly Sins' by G. B. Shaw.

A discussion followed mainly turning on the marked distinction between Olivier & the common gambler, & the question whether the latter species would, or would not be replaced by the former under Socialism. Messrs G. Standing, Donovan, Adolphe Smith, T. Bolas, G. Samuel, G. Wallas, the Chairman & several others took part in it. The Hall was crowded.

Sydney Olivier

3 Oct 1890

Meeting held at Bloomsbury Hall on Friday
3rd October 1890, Sydney Olivier in the Chair.

1. Minutes of 19th September read and confirmed.

2. Reports Shaw reported that 75 members had joined the Birmingham Branch, and gave some account of his experiences in the Lancashire campaign.

Webb reported that the surplus of the lectures had been largely expended on the Lancashire campaign, but that the lectures in London had been kept going. Applications for speakers were constantly being received from country clubs and Co-operative Societies.

The Trades union congress was an important advance towards Socialism. Webb stated that the general opinion, as far as he could ascertain, was that the Trade-option clause was the path by which Eight-Hours legislation must come.

4. Chairman read a message from Miss Black with regard to the strike of confectionery girls. Miss Henry also spoke on the subject. The Chairman recommended that anyone desirous to help should communicate with Miss Black

5. A paper dealing with the objection that 'Democracy has always broken down' was read by Sidney With, followed by another giving the reasons of the failure of Socialist experiments read by Graham Wallas.

The discussion, which followed, turned mainly on two points, (1) The question of democracy versus anarchy (2) The question of whether democratic organisation should aim in the first instance at the relief of unemployed workers, or the taking over into public control of useful and necessary public services.

In the discussion the Chairman and Messrs. Wright, , Donovan, Bolas, , Burns, and Bar joined.

Robert Black

Chairman. 6/17. 1890

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Oct 17th 1890
Hubert Bland in the chair

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read & confirmed.
2. The subject for the evening was the destruction of the Thesis That Socialism is ~~incompatible~~ contrary to Science. Grant Allen showed that it did not "interfere with Natural Selection" & Mrs Besant that "it would not, ^{certainly} cause a ruinous increase of population".
Miss Wright, Shaw, Standring & others took part in the discussion.
3. Miss Henry gave a report of the strike of Confectionery gents at Barretts, Wood Green, & made a collection at which £7. was collected.

W. S. de Mattos

1870

Members meeting at 31 Upper Bedford Place
on Friday 31 Oct. 1890. Bland in chair

1. Wallas read draft report from Lancashire Lectures,
& it was Resolved that the report be accepted
& printed, but leave be given to lecturer to amend
in any respect.

3. Tract 13. What Socialism is, was discussed & amended
& referred to Shaw for final literary preparation for press
It was resolved That Tract 13 be printed & issued.

2. The following alteration of rules was agreed to: addition
al rule, viz: -

"Whenever it is desired to appoint a Special Committee of the Society,
"other than the Executive Committee, to draw up a report to the Society on any
"matter, such Committee may be appointed either by the Executive Committee,
"or by the Society at any ordinary meeting, provided that fourteen days' notice
"be given to the Secretary by the member moving for such Committee, of the
"purpose of the proposed Committee, and the names of the members to be
"nominated by him. Notice of this motion, including the names of members
"nominated, shall be sent to the members but the Society shall have power
"to amend the terms of the motion, and to nominate additional members."

4. Agreed, That Tract 15, "The Progress ^{towards} of Social Democracy"
being an amended reprint of Webb's Tract
"The Progress of Socialism", be printed & issued.

5. The new Reform Bill (Tract 14) was discussed & amended, & not being finished,
6. It was agreed that This meeting adjourn to Thursday Nov. 6th at 8 pm. at same place, no additional notice to be issued to members. -

Hubert Bland
Nov 6-1890.

Adjourned meeting at same place
on Thursday 6 November
H. Bland in the Chair.

1. The new Reform Bill was further discussed & amended, & it was Resolved That the new Reform Bill be printed & issued.
2. Minutes of the previous private meeting were read & signed.

W. S. de Mattos

(51)

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Friday
7th. Novem: 1890. - De Mattos in the chair.

1. Minutes of Oct. 17 were read & signed.
2. Sec: read a letter announcing that a
"Consumer's League" for dealing with "fair houses"
was in course of formation.
3. Wallas gave a brief report of Lecture work, &
forthcoming tracts.
4. The subject for the evening was
That Socialism is incompatible with Political
Economy. W. Clark's paper combatted the proposition
that it wd check production & Louis Cohen's that
it wd fail to provide for efficient management of Industry.
Messrs Radford Langwill, Wallas, John Burns,
Barwick, Mr. Blaud, Wright & others took
part in the discussion.

Wm Sanders

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Friday Nov. 21st 90
Wm. Sanders in the chair.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read & confirmed

2. The following were announced as elected members:-

Harry Lowrie	Sid M. Pearse	Mrs J. G. Grenfell
Miss Crowder	John Tenney	W. S. Kemp
W. W. Brown	Miss E. Richardson	A. S. Williams
T. C. Davison	Mrs. Pütz	A. Cochrane
Jas. C. Kennedy	J. Bunnell	A. W. Barnwell
Dr. Geo. Brown	H. C. Price	E. S. Field
Henry Hill W. S. B.	E. B. Bishop	J. S. Broadbent
Hugh Sinclair	G. Palmer	J. Laidler M.S.P.
Chas. H. Keef.	Dr. R. M. Pankhurst	A. G. Hirstwood
Ramden Balmforth	Mrs Pankhurst	S. E. T. Dross
Miss Richardson	Dr. Farnivall	J. W. Buttery
John S. Hamilton	H. B. Shrewsbury	W. S. M. Knight
J. B. Toweron	H. S. Williams	T. B. Elliot
W. Hill M.S.B.	Mrs Williams	J. Child
Frank Drummond	Miss A. Williams	Rev. R. S. Clarke
? James Whitehead	E. Fraser	Tom Gidley
? J. H. Penny	J. W. Strayhan	F. G. Gamble

3. The Secy announced the resignation of Mrs de Benitua & Mrs Annie Besant, & read a letter from the latter expressing her great regret that "imperative necessity" compelled her to sever her connection with the Society, with whom her relations from first to last had been most cordial.
4. The Secretary announced that a Book a translation of Ebeen, belonging to one "M. S. Myers" had been left in the Hall, & ask for assistance to discover the owner.
5. He further announced a members meeting on Friday next.
6. Shaw reported that Essays were selling at the rate of 400 a week, & nearly 2000 had been sold: that Tracts 5, 9, & 12 were nearly out of print, & w^d be reprinted at once, & expressed a wish that the rate of sales might be greatly increased.
7. Wallas gave a report on the political situation, & the spread of the Eight Hours movement.
8. Gaheshott announced that he had on Tuesday attended a meeting in Manchester at which a Local Fabian was started in a satisfactory manner.

10. Bland then read his paper, to prove that Socialism does not lead to general depravity, as destroying religion, & J. F. Oakeshott followed with another paper to show that Socialism wd. not undermine morals. An animated debate followed in which Dr. Furnivall, A. H. Burn, A. O. Barron, Mrs Mallet, Mr Whale, F. E. M. Steele, Mrs Bland, Bernard Shaw, Graham Wallas, & Louis Cohen spoke. Replies from the lecturers concluded the meeting. —

A R Dyerhurst

Members meeting at 31 Upper Bedford Place on Friday 28th Nov: 1890, W.S. de Mattos in the Chair.

1. The minutes of May 23rd + Nov 6th were read & signed.
2. Graham Waller having read a draft tract on Eight Hours, it was Resolved That an eight page leaflet on ^{the} Eight Hours Bill on the lines of the draft Tract now read, be printed & issued, subject to revision by a special political Com^{ee}.
3. Webb's Article in the Contemporary for July 90 was partly read, & was discussed.
4. Resolved, That the Executive are hereby ~~advised~~ authorised, if they think fit, to publish Webb's article as it stands. -
5. Resolved That if the Executive decide to revise the P. L. article, ~~that~~ it be referred to a special Political Com^{ee} + be again brought before a Members Meeting.
7. Waller moved in order to move a resolution restoring the use of the Fabian motto. The vote was even, & so the proposal fell to the ground.

W.S. de Mattos

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Friday
Dec 5th 1890 A. R. Dryhurst in the Chair.

1. The minute of Nov. 21st were read & signed.
2. The secretary announced the following new members elected

Richard Whiteing
James Hudson Dew
J. G. Grenfell
G. E. Bottle
Robert Banner
F. W. King
A. H. Burn
Laurence Cohen
H. B. Holding
Leonard Jordan

Harry Sandilands
E. M. Shepherd
G. F. McCleary
John Howden
George Shephard
T. M. Watt
Miss L. H. Watt
R. A. Reeve
G. F. B. Hawes

3. Wallas gave a report on a Conference at Oxford & De Mattos a lecture at Peterborough.
4. The Secy announced the opening of a Manchester Fabian with 55 members.
5. H. W. Frost read the first paper under the heading 'The Coming Slavery, to ~~prove~~ disprove the assertion 'That Govt' can be dispensed with', & show the second, to deny that Socialism involves Beaucracy & Jobbery. In the debate which followed Crofts, Wiseland, Wm Dryhurst, Nelson (in about 20 speeches) Janquill, Whiting, Wallas, Bland, Blackwell, & others, took part. —

H. B. Holding

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Friday Dec 17th at
H. B. Holding in the chair.

1. The minutes of Dec. 5th were read & signed
2. The secretary read a report of the Manchester Fabian from the Manchester Guardian, & reported Tract 13 ready
3. Bland gave a report of his tour in the West
4. The secretary announced that as ~~too~~^{few} opponents could be persuaded to address us, no meeting would probably be held on Friday Jan 2nd
5. Papers were then read to disprove the thesis that Socialism is desirable cannot be brought about.

Because it would involve national dishonesty W. S. DE MATTOS.
 Because all except the destitute and reckless would be injured by the process FREDERIC HUDSON.
 Because the revolution would involve violence and bloodshed EDWARD R. PEASE.

In the debate which followed, Chatterton, Lowerson, Bland, Mr. Mallet, Shaw, & others took part.

6. A proposal that those only should be allowed to debate who had heard the papers, was ^{decided} defeated. -
Graham Wallas -

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Jan 2nd 1891
Graham Wallas in the Chair.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read & signed.
2. The Secretary drew attention to the debate between Shaw & Foste, to the new Lecture List, & to the lost property in his possession, viz:
1 Umbrella, 1 Book Case, one purse, 1 pair spectacles.
3. Harold Spender then gave an address on Land Nationalisation or Land Purchase in Ireland, & Messrs Webb, Shaw, Soper, Lowerson, Wallas, & others took part in the debate.

W. W. Battlett

16/1/91

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Jan 16th 1891
W. W. Bartlett in the chair.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read & signed
2. The Secy read the following list of elections :-

Walter Reed	by	A. C. H. Graham and W. C. B. P. Jones
Alfred B. Seel	"	David Fraser and M. Grover
Harcourt C. Barnard	"	A. W. Jephson and G. Wallas
Jules Maguy	"	G. B. Shaw and G. Wallas
Percy Brabazon	"	R. E. Dell and Lena Wardle
Sidney E. Dark	"	Leonard Jordan and S. M. Peartree
Alfred Barnard	"	W. H. Coffin and G. Wallas
Wm. Bullock	"	G. Wallas and Sidney Webb
Rev. Edw. P. Hall (Trowbridge)	"	H. Bland
Wm. Baster (Bristol)	"	H. H. Gore
Percy Dearmer (Oxford)	"	"
A. Ernest Pope (Cambridge)	"	Edw. R. Pease
Henry Pritchard (Tottenham)	"	General Secretary
H. S. Philpot (Worthing)	"	"
Mrs. H. Philpot (Worthing)	"	"
E. W. Bookey (Houghton Le Spring)	"	"
Fredk. J. Shaw (Newcastle-on-Tyne)	"	"
Samuel Maund (Worcester)	"	"

3. Reports. Graham Wallas reported Tract 15 English Progress to Social Democracy now ready: Tract 14 Plea for Eight Hours Bill ready to be printed: that Tract 14, Poor Law Reform would be issued shortly: ~~that~~ that a tract was preparing giving a list of Economic & Socialist works, to which suggestions are invited, that the Exec. intend during the year to double, if possible our list of tracts. He also mentioned that a Dutch translation of the Sisypus had been authorised, & negotiations for a German one were on foot.

4. Webb reported that Courses on the Distribution of Wealth were arranged & in course of delivery at Reading, Farnmouth, Tower Hamlets Coop. Society (due to two of our members on that body) & in Brompton. That a Lancashire Campaign on a small scale was being conducted by Bland & De Mattos. That an important course at South Place began on the 20th inst: That courses at Westminster Lib. Assⁿ, at Kentish Town Coop. Socy. on Coopⁿ, & at Bristol were in hand, & that applications from Wolverhampton & Rochester had come for lectures on Eight Hours.
5. De Mattos reported successful opening of course at Nottingham, to which ^{town} the largest known consignment of Fabian Tracts had just been sent.
6. The Secy announced that a new Branch, Local Fabian had just been opened at Addersfield, & that a members social evening was arranged for at Mr Shutteworths' club in Queen Victoria Street for Friday 30th Jan.
7. Sidney Webb then read ~~his~~ gave an

address on The Relation between Cooperation
Trades Unionism & Socialism, & Messrs
Blandford, Wallas, Crooks, Tarley, & others
took part in the debate that followed.

H Roberts

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Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Friday 6 Feb '91
H. Roberts in the Chair.

1. The ~~meeting~~ minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

2. Elections announced

Frank Smith	by	Graham Wallas and E. R. Pease
Harry Brazell	"	J. Henderson and E. R. Pease
Miss Mary M. Belcher	"	Mrs. Fagan and Mrs. Henderson
John F. Runciman	"	E. R. Pease and G. B. Shaw
Wm. Crooks	"	A. C. H. Graham and W. C. B. P. Jones
Alb. Tho. Marles (Leeds)	"	General Secretary
John Earl (Leeds)	"	"
Joe Dyson (Huddersfield)	"	"
Tom Lockwood	"	"
Moorhouse Dyson	"	"
Charles Merrifield	"	"
Henry Calasca (Newcastle)	"	James Pickersgill

3. Reports. Well reported on lectures at Jarmouth, Hampstead,
a elsewhere, & that newspapers were beginning to take our
tracts as good copy. Wallas reported on the ~~to~~ Social
Meeting of last week at Mr. Shuttleworth's Club in Queen
Victoria Street, and on the intended issue of a monthly
Fabian News in place of the irregular notices now sent.
De Malto reported on successful tour by himself & Bland
in Lancashire.

4. The Secy announced that this was a red-letter week
in the history of the Society, since no less than three
~~Branches~~ Local Societies had been formed.

The Bristol & Clifton Christian Socialists had dropped the word Christian & replaced it by Fabian. An ^{annual} spontaneous movement in the Midlands had resulted in the formation of a Wolverhampton ~~Board~~ Society: and another had been formed at Plymouth. Barrow also was moving in the matter, & a letter had just been handed him from Wellington N. Z., proposing to turn a Nationalist Club there into a Fabian Socy.

5. He also announced that the summer meetings would be held on the 2nd & 4th Fridays in April May June July.

6. Mr. Sillos then read his paper on

Profit-sharing and Co-operation: an Examination of the Theory and Practice of these Methods of Industrial Organization.

and in the debate that followed Messrs Webb, Blandford, Wallas, McEwen, Samuel, E. W. Greening & others took part.

Frank Smith

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Friday 20th Feb 1891
Frank Smith in the Chair

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read & signed
2. The Secretary gave notice that a private members meeting w^d. be held on Feb. 27th to consider some new Tracts.
3. Wallas (for Wells) reported on Tour in Cambridge & on preparation of Guardians Questions of S. Western Group: also on important meeting of Group Secretaries. He also reported that Tract 14 was on sale, & a number of new Tracts in the press.
4. Secretary reported that the provincial growth of the Society was continuing, & new Local Fabians were formed or projected at Hyde (Manchester), Stockton, Leeds, Reading & Belfast.
5. Mr. J. H. Levy then read a paper on An individualistic view of Capital & Interest, & in the debate Messrs. Tam, Shaw-Fawcett, Wallas, Wright, Cohen, Samuels & Capⁿ. P. P. P. took part.

W. S. A. W. W. W.
Muller & Co
No 6. 1891

Members Meeting at 31 Upper Bedford Place, W.C.
on Friday 28 Feb. 1891 W.S. de Mattos in chair.

1. Minutes of 28th Nov. were read & signed
2. Resolved: that the meeting approves of the proposal of the Executive to rent an office & engage an office-boy
3. Tract # 19, What the Farm Labourer wants was ordered to be printed as amended.
4. Tract 20, Questions for Poor Law Guardians was ordered to be printed as amended.
5. Tract 18 "Facts for Bristol" was approved in principle, & ordered to be issued by the Executive.
6. Tract 21 Bibliography was ordered to be put in proof, & discussed by the Society at a future meeting.

~~William Clarke~~
 W.S. de Mattos
 Secy.
 28 Feb. 1891
 William Clarke. Secy.

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on Friday Feb 6th 91
Hubert Bland in the Chair.

1. The minutes of Feb 20th were read & signed
2. The Secy announced that the following were elected members.

Bower Marsh	proposed by	H. Bland and N. L. Griffith
George Turner	"	G. Wallas and S. M. Peartree
D'Arcy W. Reeve	"	Sidney Webb and E. R. Pease
Olaf F. C. Block	"	Sidney Webb and Miss Warley
Miss Mary Lacey	"	Miss Sergeant and H. Bland
Miss B. Walter	"	Rev. S. D. Headlam and R. E. Dell
William Chismon (Thames Ditton)	"	E. B. Bishop and J. F. Oakeshott
Gustaf F. Steffen (Harrow)	"	G. Wallas and G. B. Shaw
Mrs. Oscara Sydow Steffen (Harrow)	"	G. Wallas and G. B. Shaw
Harriot Stanton Blatch (Basingstoke)	"	Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Mallet
John Coles, jun. (Frome)	"	General Secretary
William Routh (Bedale, Yorks.)	"	"
Alfred Mattison (Leeds)	"	"
David Rhys Jones (Cardiff)	"	"
William Henry Blythe, M.A. (Cambridge)	"	Sidney Webb

3. Sidney Webb reported on lectures at South Place & elsewhere & announced that two of our members are now accepted Liberal Candidates, Dr. R. M. Pankhurst, a recent addition to our ranks, for Rotherhithe, & John C. Forlger, one of our oldest members, for West Marylebone.
4. G. Wallas reported on literature, especially on Tract 20, Questions for Guardians, which he urged every member & every group to make effective use of.

5. De Matos reported successful lectures at Farnouth, Wisbech & Cambridge

6. The Secy ~~was~~ gave notice that nominations for the Executive must be made at the meeting on March 20th. : also that Tract 14 is out on sale.

7. Mr. ~~F~~ G.W. Foste gave an address on The Case against an Eight Hours Bill, & in the debate which followed Sidney Webb, John Burns, Graham Wallas & others took part.

H B Holding

Meeting at Bloomsbury Hall on
Friday 25th ~~Feb~~ March 91.

H. Bond holding in the Chair.

1. The Minutes of last meeting were read & confirmed.
2. The Secy. announced that a return of Executive Attendances wd be prepared: also that notices of motions for the ~~next~~ General Meeting must be sent in at once, in order to be inserted on the April news.
3. Sidney Webb gave a report on Lectures in progress, & on the new Lecture list containing 91 names.
4. Graham Wallas reported that Tract 19 "What the Farm Labourer Wants" & Tract 20, "Questions for P. L. Guardians" were now issued.
5. Kentish Moore & Frederic Anderson were nominated, & elected without opposition as auditors for the annual accounts.

6. The Secretary read out the following candidates already nominated for the Executive, & no more were received viz:-

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| H. Blanch | Miss M. Groves | H. W. Massingham | Mr Sandham |
| H. W. Carr | Miss A. Watson | J. F. Sahescht | G. B. Shaw |
| Louis Cohen | H. Bond Holding | S. Olivier | Graham Wallis |
| R. E. Dell | Harry Lowerison | E. R. Pease | S. Webb. |
| W. S. De Mattos | Mr. Mallet | Harry Roberts | |

The above are candidates for 15 seats.

7. The Secy announced the following as candidates who elected at the next Executive meeting

H. W. Massingham ...	Graham Wallis & Sidney Webb.
Thomas E. Webb ...	S. M. Peartree & Geo. Turner.
E. E. Williams ...	W. S. De Mattos & E. R. Pease.
Ben Tillett ...	Miss Sergeant & Mrs. Bland.
James Watson Grice	H. Lowerison & A. C. H. Graham.
Fred Butler	do. do.
Tom A Hannam (Stafford) ...	J. W. Buttery.
Arthur C. E. Parr (Cardiff) ...	General Secretary.
Benjamin Hill (Stockton) ...	do. do.
Wm. T. Anderson (Belfast) ...	do. do.
Wm. Mayne Knox "	do. do.
George Cummings "	do. do.
Robert Aickin "	do. do.
Alfred Dugdale (Manchester) ...	do. do.
H. M. Reade ...	do. do.
Rev. Dr. John Cullen (Fifeshire) ...	do. do.
Mrs. Cullen ...	do. do.
Miss Annie B. McDougall (Reading)	Miss Kate Dodd.
Miss C. E. D. Martyn "	do.

8. The Secy announced the formation of a Local Fabian Society at Oldham

8. Dr. R. M. Pankhurst then delivered
an address on Socialism & Radicalism
in the debate which followed.
White, Wright, Shaw, & others took part

Sidney Webb
Chairman 2/14/91

Annual Meeting at Barnardo's Linn Hallon ⁽⁶⁾
 on Friday 10th April 1891. -

Wm Clarke was voted to the chair.

1. The Minutes of members meeting Feb 28th were read & signed
2. The Secy notified the following members duly elected viz:-

P. Valera	Wm. Clarke and Sidney Webb
Ernest Scott... ..	Percy Brabazon and Geo. Palmer
Wm. A. Jones	Edith Bland and Alice Hoatson
Holland Crompton	E. R. Pease and Hubert Bland
A. E. Porter... ..	H. Lowerison and G. Samuel
Samuel Herbert, jr... ..	do. do.
James T. Dunlop	do. and G. B. Shaw
Wm. Aug. Steward... ..	S. M. Peartree and H. Somerfield
Geo. J. McCarthy	do. and G. Turner
Frank W. Galton	George Turner and H. Roberts
Wm. Edwin	do. and S. M. Peartree
Thos. Gorniot	do. do.
Ernest Jones	H. Roberts and H. Somerfield
Wm. Hazel	do. do.
Arthur L. Dawson	do. do.
Charles V. Burton	Claude Burton and J. C. Foulger
Wm. R. Wells	H. B. Holding and E. R. Pease
George Perry	J. F. Runciman & Harriet Block
Francis J. Coles	do. do.
George Willing	A. C. H. Graham & W. C. B. P. Jones
Fredk. Wm. Hayes... ..	F. Podmore and E. R. Pease
Jas. H. Stirling (Belfast)	W. T. Anderson & R. Aickin
Wm. F. Purvis (Northampton)	W. Scudamore
Geo. D. Grey (Weston-s-Mare)	E. J. Watson & H. H. Gore
Thos. Walker (Shipley)	General Secretary
F. Sydney Morris (York)	H. B. Holding

3. Frank Podmore, & Marshall Steele were proposed & elected scrutineers for the election of Executive.
4. The Treasurer made a statement of finances

4 gave details of the number of subscriptions received & amounts of them. F. Hudson on behalf of the auditors reported the audit incomplete, but ~~the~~ satisfactory so far. -

5. The annual report was taken as read, after Sidney Webb had given a summary of it. Agreed that the report be approved.

6 Dr. T. M. Watt moved his amendment to the Basis,

Amendment to Basis, proposed by Dr. T. M. Watt:
par. 3, line 1, omit words "without compensation" to "community" (line 3), and substitute "with such generous consideration for the expropriated as the community may deem fair and fitting"

altering it, by permission of the meeting, to be this: - To omit the words mentioned, simply. The proposal was seconded by H. B. Holding, opposed by Webb, Wright, & others, & the voting was For 8: against nearly all present.

7. During the discussion the scrutineers collected the Ballot papers. -

8. G. Wallas on behalf of the Exec. laid before

the Society the proposal of a member to give £500 to start a weekly or monthly review. The proposal was discussed by Wallas, R. W. Writing & the Chairman, & it was resolved That the Society accept with thanks the offer made, & instructs the new Executive to take steps to carry it out.

9. Resolved That the proposal made by the Executive to pay the Secretary £100 a year for his whole time be approved.

10. Resolved that Hubert Bland be Treasurer for the ensuing year

11 Resolved that Edw. R. Pease be Secretary for the ensuing year.

13. Graham Wallas announced on behalf of the Free that a much larger scheme for ~~Trade~~ ^{the Parliamentary Party} had been adopted. He gave details of it & after some discussion it was Resolved, That the proposal as made be approved.

14. The scrutineers announced the vote for the Executive Committee as follows:-

Sidney Webb	103
Es. B. Shaw	101
Graham Wallas	101
J. F. Oberholt	98
W. S. De Mattos	98
Sydney Olivier	98
Edw. R. Pease	97
Hubert Bland	90
Miss M. Grover	88
Mrs Mallet	82
H. W. Massingham	82
Mrs Sandham	67
H. Lowerison	65
Miss A. Hoatson	63
R. E. Dell	62

The above elected.

Louisa Cohen	58
H. B. Holding	47
Harry Roberts	43
H. W. Carr	34.

Total of Voting papers 117

Sidney Webb
Chairman
21/4/91

1840

1841

1842

1843

1844

1845

1846

1847

1848

