

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, 12th <sup>January</sup> ~~Decem-~~  
~~ber~~, 1937, at 55 Gower Street, London, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m.  
to 5 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Vipont Brown in the Chair in the morning and  
Mrs. Innes in the afternoon. Miss Karleen Baker, Mrs. Unwin,  
Miss Pye, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Thoday,  
Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Dickinson, Miss Chick,  
Miss White, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Anderson, Miss Marshall.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Received from Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Duncan  
Harris, Mrs. Thornycroft owing to illness, Miss B.M. Baker and  
Mrs. Sturge due to the ending of school holidays.

MINUTES of meeting on December 8th were confirmed, having been  
previously circulated.

313. BUSINESS ARISING.

Lady Barton's Meeting on December 15th was reported on  
by Mrs. Lankester.

A written report of the Conference of British Delegates  
to the Brussels Conference by Mrs. Thornycroft was read by  
the Chairman. Instructions were given to thank Mrs. Thorny-  
croft for her interesting and detailed report.

Dr. Clark, as W.I.L. representative on the Women's Ad-  
visory Council, said that the W.A.C. of the I.N.U. was under-  
taking the work of the Women's Commission of the International  
Peace Campaign.

The birthday letter to Miss Balch was reported.

Formal acknowledgments of our letter to Mr. Baldwin and  
Mr. Anthony Eden on the critical situation in Spain were re-  
ported.

Reported that Manchester and North Wales Branches had  
been dealing with Fascist propaganda in the press for some  
time. Glasgow was willing to co-operate in the Campaign.

The Executive did not feel it was their task to initiate  
the formation of Pacifist First Aid Classes but they commended  
it to the Branches in case they could pass on the suggestion to  
other Groups that first aid knowledge is desirable under any  
circumstances.

Miss Pye agreed to speak at the Sandwich Lunch in the  
Office on January 21st on her visit to Spain where she had  
recently been looking into the possibilities of relief for  
Refugee Children on behalf of the Friends Service Council and  
the Save the Children Fund.

314. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts from January to  
December, 1936, was adopted. The audit would take place short-  
ly.

Dr. Clark proposed and Mrs. Vipont Brown seconded that Mrs.  
Cicely Binyon should act as Assistant Treasurer and be empower-  
ed to sign cheques on the Women's International League Account  
and the International House Account. Mrs. Binyon kindly con-  
sented and this was AGREED to.

On the proposal of Miss Chick it was agreed to make a grant  
of £3 towards the work of the Peoples' Mandate to Governments.



This work would be concluded at the end of February.

315. SPAIN. Miss Pye gave a graphic description of her visit to Spain, where she has recently been looking into the possibilities of relief for Refugee Children on behalf of the Friends Service Council and the Save the Children Fund. Following this it was AGREED to write to the Foreign Office asking the British Government to consider the urgent need of help in the evacuation of women and children from Madrid by supplying lorries especially for that purpose, and stating that we have reason to believe that the French Government is only waiting for a lead from the British Government to take this step.

It was further AGREED that a copy of the letter should be sent to Lord Cranborne, for his information. Miss Pye agreed to try to get a letter into the "Times" on the subject.

316. GRAZ. Reported an appeal from the W.I.L.P.F. in Geneva urging the British Section to call on the Austrian Ambassador with a view to obtaining information regarding the action of the Graz Authorities in dissolving the Graz Group of the W.I.L. under the pretext that it had communist tendencies. Reported also a letter on the same subject from Madame Daugaard of the Danish Section asking us to let her know what action, if any, we proposed taking. After careful consideration it was AGREED to take no action, particularly as the members in Graz had specially asked not to be written to on the matter.

317. BULGARIA. Reported another appeal from the W.I.L.P.F., Geneva, urging the British Section to interest Members of Parliament and other Statesmen in the question of sentences made on 47 persons at Stara Zagora who were accused of anti-fascist and pacifist activities. It is understood that the trial will come up again in 4 or five weeks' time. The War Resisters' International had been consulted and Mr. Runham Brown had written to say they had no information at all, but they are getting a letter through to Bulgaria, with great discretion, and if any information is obtained they will pass it on to us immediately. He mentioned that much more detailed information would be needed to take any effective action. AGREED to take no further action for the moment.

318. GERMAN CHILDREN EXILES. Mrs. Innes reported a letter from Mrs. Adams of Selly Oak, Birmingham, in which she referred to a letter in the "Times" of December 9th concerning German exiles headed "The Punishment of Children." She asked if it would be possible to arrange a women's deputation to Ribbentrop. Miss Pye had seen the letter in the "Times" and had thought it wiser for us not to take such action. The Committee AGREED with Miss Pye's opinion.

#### 319. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Resolutions. After considering the question of drafting resolutions for the Council Meetings so far ahead, the Committee decided: ~~in view of the situation~~ to inform the Branches that in view of the changing situation in Europe, they wished to reserve the right to suggest subjects for the Council out of which resolutions might emerge.

Mrs. Lankester said that Miss Harrison would have just returned from India and a report from her on the situation there would be most valuable. The Officer, Miss White, Miss Sheepshanks and Dr. Clark were appointed as Agenda Committee.

Nominations for Officers and Executive Committee. The following have informed the Office that they are willing to stand again for re-election:



Mrs. Innes (Hon. Secretary), Miss Anderson, Miss Chick, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Marshall, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Thoday, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Sturge, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Karleen Baker, Dr. Clark, Miss Pye, Miss White, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Sheepshanks. Miss Harrison and Lady Unwin have not had time to reply.

Annual Report. Mrs. Innes read her draft Report which was adopted after some amendments had been made.

Twenty-first Birthday Party, February 23rd. Mrs. Innes reported that the members of the first Executive Committee, 1915-1916 were being invited to be Guests of Honour, and those who had attempted to attend the first W.I.L.P.F. Congress at the Hague were being specially invited. All members and Branches would receive invitations. Miss Elfrida Vipont had consented to sing for us during the evening. The Queen Mary Hall, Y.W.C.A., Gt. Russell Street, W.C. 1. had been booked for the evening.

321. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. It was reported that the Friends of Peace and Disarmament leaflet "Psychology and Peace" is now in the printers' hands.

After discussion on signed articles in the News Sheet, several suggestions were made and the matter left to the Publicity Committee.

322. INDIA. On the suggestion of Mrs. Lankester it was AGREED to ask the National Peace Council what action, if any, the special India Committee had taken over the question of the recent bombing of the North West Frontier. Mrs. Lankester also reported interesting letters from Miss Harrison and said that an article on India would appear in the next issue of Pax.

323. CORRESPONDENCE.

Women's Freedom League. Reported an invitation to co-operate in a Coronation Dinner on May 7th at which it was hoped that all sections of distinguished women would be represented. Before allowing the W.I.L.'s name to be printed on the handbill it was decided to inquire as to what special interest the Dinner is likely to have for an international political women's organisation. The decision re co-operating was left to Mrs. Innes after a reply had been received.

League of Nations Union. Reported that the L.N.U. was organising a Conference on "The Shorter Working Week" on February 16th, 17th and 18th, and invited us to send delegates. AGREED to ask Miss Sheepshanks if she would attend on behalf of the W.I.L.

Women's Peace Crusade. Dr. Clark drew attention to a new leaflet just issued. Copies were distributed to those present and instructions given for it to be sent to those members who were absent.

324. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. It was agreed to send congratulations to Sir Raymond Unwin on his being awarded the Gold Medal by the Royal Institute of British Architects. This concluded the business.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 9th.

B. Duncan Harris  
9.11.37



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st.1936

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INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Balance, Jan.1st.1936	143.19.	6.	By Rent	50. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	429. 1.	2.	Lighting & Heating	16.19.11.
Donations	266. 8.	9.	Office Expenses	16. 8. 2½
Bring & Buy			Wages	46. 5.10.
Sale:-			State Insurance	9. 6.11½
Dons.	15.0.0.		Travelling Expenses	35.11. 3.
Sales	42.12.5.		Affiliation & Dele-	
	57.12.	5.	gation Fees	7.12. 7.
Affiliation			Telephone & Postage	99.10. 6½
Fees	31.19.	0.	Audit Fee	7.17. 6.
Proceeds of			Press Agency	2. 2. 0.
Meetings	8.16.	3.	Stationery	27. 6.11.
Council "	8.17.	3.	Printing (including	
Sale of Liter-			News Sheets £42.0.9.	
ature & News			Annual Report	
Sheets	50.19.	3.	£26.15. 0. )	125.15. 4.
Histories			Purchase of	
(Greek &			Literature	14.15. 9½
French)	10.	5.	Office Salaries	432.12. 6.
			Expenses of Mtgs.	12. 1.10.
	854. 4.	6.	Council Meetings	34.19.11.
			Grants	19. 0. 0.
<u>Geneva</u>			Histories (Greek	
Subscriptions	42. 4.	0.	& French)	8. 7.
Pax "	6. 0.	0.		958.15. 8.
Jane Addams				
Fund	2. 0.	0.	Geneva:-	
			Subscriptions	42. 4. 0.
	50. 4.	0.	Pax	9.15. 3.
			Jane Addams Fund	2. 0. 0.
				53.19. 3.
			<u>Balance</u>	
			Cash at Midland Bk.	33.11. 4.
			Cash in hand	2. 1. 9.
				35.13. 1.
	£1,048. 8. 0.			£1,048. 8. 0.

Telephone Account not rendered



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for December 1936

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Balance	87. 6. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	Salaries	33.10. 0.
Subscriptions	19.17. 6.	Wages	3.10. 2.
Donations	10.15. 0.	State Insurance	16. 2.
Affiliation Fees	21.15. 3.	Rent	25. 0. 0.
Sale of News Sheet & literature	11.12. 7.	Postage & Wires	5.15. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bring & Buy Sale	5. 0.	News Sheet & Lit- erature purchased	5. 7.10.
Telephone refd.	3. 0.	Stationery	6.11. 5.
Greek & French Histories	6.10.	Printing	7. 7. 6.
<u>Geneva</u>		Lighting & Heating	6. 3. 2.
Subscriptions	17. 0. 0.	Office Expenses	2.16. 4.
Pax "	5. 0.	Travelling "	6. 7. 5.
Jane Addams Fund	2. 0. 0.	1937 Council Mtgs.	5. 5. 0.
		Histories (Greek & French)	8. 7.
	84. 0. 2.	<u>Geneva</u>	
		Subscriptions	23. 0. 0.
		Pax	2.14. 2.
		Jane Addams	2. 0. 0.
		<u>135.13. 2<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>	
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	33.11. 4.
		Cash in hand	2. 1. 9.
		<u>35.13. 1.</u>	
	<u>£171. 6. 3<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>		
		<u>£171. 6. 3<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>	

Outstanding Accounts 1/10. Greek & French Histories  
Account for Telephone not rendered.

Balance at Midland Bank on Jan. 11th. 1937	£47.16. 0.
Cash in hand	£28. 9. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>£76. 5. 9<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, February 9th.  
1937 at 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Miss Chick, Miss Mosa Anderson, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Maud Dickinson, Miss E.M.Pye, Miss C.E. Marshall, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Paul Sturge, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Freda White, Mrs. Thoryncroft, Mrs. Unwin.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Vipont Brown, Miss B.M.Baker, Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Binyon, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Rinder, Dr. Hilda Clark.

325. The Chairman reported that Mrs. Vipont Brown, Miss B.M. Baker, Mrs. Hunter and Mrs. McGregor Ross were not standing for re-election to the Executive and Lady Unwin was not continuing as Hon. Treasurer. Unanimously agreed that letters of appreciation be sent to them from the Committee for all the work they have done for the W.I.L. during their term of Office.

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

327. BUSINESS ARISING:

The Hon. Secretary reported (1) a letter from Miss Emily Balch thanking the Committee for their birthday greetings; (2) about 45 attended the Sandwich Lunch on January 21st. at which Miss Pye had spoken on her recent visit to Spain. The Women's Peace Crusade kindly vacated the front room in the basement for the morning so that the lunch could be served in it, which left the ground floor room free for the meeting. A profit of £1.1.4. was made which is being put to the purchase of folding chairs. (3) The Women's Freedom League had replied to our letter of 15th. January inquiring what special interest their Coronation Dinner would have for an international political women's organisation, that "Mrs. Corbett Ashby will be in the Chair and as she is President of the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship" they feel sure the international aspect will not be overlooked. Professor Winifred Cullis will speak also. The Committee AGREED to co-operate by allowing the name of the W.I.L. to be printed on the leaflets, and decided that nearer the time someone should be asked to represent the W.I.L. at the Dinner.

328.

FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts was adopted. The Chairman announced that no nominations had been received for the Hon. Treasurer. Mrs. Binyon had written to say that the Minute of the last Committee (314) was more definite than she had intended. She did not think that her offer to "try and help" meant a regular appointment. Suggestions were made by Mrs. Unwin and Mrs. Duncan Harris which they were asked to follow up. Members were asked to put forward suitable names, between now and the Council Meetings, if possible.



Appeals from other Organisations. Mrs. Innes reported an urgent appeal for Funds from Lady Hall on behalf of the International Peace Campaign. After discussion it was AGREED to make a grant of £2.

Miss Sheepshanks reported an appeal from Dame Elizabeth Cadbury on behalf of the National Peace Council, and in response it was AGREED to send £3.

329. SPAIN. Miss Pye put forward a Statement on the Spanish Situation, and after consideration the attached was adopted, and instructions given for it to be sent to Lord Plymouth, the Foreign Office, the Prime Minister, the Spanish, German, Italian and U.S.S.R. Embassies, the Geneva Office, etc.

Reported a letter from Lord Cranborne in reply to ours of the 13th. January re the need for lorries to evacuate the women and children from Madrid. He said that, while in Geneva last December, he made inquiries on this particular point from the representatives of the Spanish Government and was told quite definitely that the Government had no need of outside assistance with regard to motor transport for this purpose, and that it was made clear to him that they had adequate facilities at their disposal. Since then, however, he has had further information on the lines of our letter and he is making further inquiries. He pointed out that there seems to be no question of presenting this transport to the Spanish Government as it was made perfectly clear to him by the Spanish representatives in Geneva that they had plenty of money and that, if the time came when there should be need for acquiring additional motor transport, they were able and ready to buy it. He assured us that H.M. Government was only too anxious to do anything they could to assist those humanitarian efforts that are being made with regard to the tragic conflict in Spain.

Miss Pye raised the question of the lack of petrol for the lorries and she agreed to try to get exact information. In replying to Lord Cranborne's letter it was agreed, if Miss Pye's information suggested it was advisable, to express the hope that the supplying of lorries for the evacuation would not be held up on account of difficulties over supplying petrol for fear of its misuse for military purposes.

Reported a special meeting to give affiliated organisations an opportunity for further discussion of the situation in Spain was being organised by the National Peace Council on February 18th. at 7 p.m.

Senora Comas, who had been invited to the Committee, gave a short account of conditions in Spain.

330. POLITICAL PRISONERS. Dimiter Tchkatrov Reported a letter from M. Grouitch, the Yugoslav Minister enclosing a report relating to the sentence on this Bulgarian. Miss Anderson said a letter she had received from Belgrad contradicted statements in the Report and she thought that probably part of each statement was true. In acknowledging the letter and report it was agreed that we should say that we were glad that his term of imprisonment would come to an end this year and that we shall look forward to hearing of his release.

It was also AGREED to write to Lord Noel-Buxton thanking him for all the trouble he had taken in response to our request, on behalf of Dimiter Tchkatrov.



331. BULGARIA.

Reported a letter from Mr. Runham Brown of the International War Resisters saying that it was quite true that 47 persons had been brought to trial in Bulgaria, but that it was not a case of simple anti-fascist or pacifist activities, but of a Communist Plot of some kind. Mr. Brown thinks this information may be taken as absolutely reliable, and although the War Resisters' International are only too glad to help wherever possible they cannot do anything in this case. This information was sent to the Geneva Office, but Mrs. Innes reported that Gertrud Baer said they have different information.

Miss Anderson reported the death at the beginning of February of Madame Chichmanova who was, for many years, Hon. Secretary of the Bulgarian Section of the W.I.L.P.F. She was a woman of considerable literary gifts and had many friends in this country. Miss Anderson was asked to convey to the Secretary of the Section the Committee's deep sympathy in their great loss.

332. ITALO-BRITISH AGREEMENT. Reported that a Manchester member was very much concerned over this Agreement and felt that a protest should be made. The Manchester Committee thought that any protest would better come from Headquarters. After consideration it was agreed that no action be taken.

333. GERMANY Miss Sheepshanks asked if, after Hitler's speech this was not the time to say something about Colonies. She suggested trying to get our members to study the question of Colonies and Raw Materials, and so help to form public opinion. Miss White paid a tribute of appreciation to Miss Anderson's pamphlet "Opening the Empire Door". She recommended for study the Labour Party's pamphlet "The Demand for Colonial Territory and the Equality of Economic Opportunity".

334. AUSTRIA. The Chairman reported that Frau Irene Harand, who is organising a World Union against Race Hatred in Vienna is coming to London about 20th. February until the end of the month. She would be glad to give addresses at any meetings that could be arranged for her during that time.

It was agreed to co-operate in a meeting which is being arranged by the Women's Peace Crusade; (2) to invite Frau Harand to tea at the March Executive if she is still in London.

335. GERMANY. Reported an invitation to join with the Six Point Group in the holding of a Mass Meeting to demand the release of Mrs. Beimler, who was arrested by order of the Nazi Government in 1933 when they were unable to lay their hands on her husband, who was a member of the Reichstag. Miss Pye had consulted the Friends German Emergency Committee and had been advised that such a demonstration might do more harm than good. AGREED not to co-operate.

335. W.I.L.P.F. CONGRESS

Mrs. Innes reported that she had attended the Brussels Committee arranging the Congress. Considerable time had been spent in trying to meet the wishes of the American Section over the place, but in the end, for many reasons, it was found impossible to do so and the place decided on was Czecho-Slovakia. The dates to meet the U.S.A. Section were July 25th.-31st. Proposals and resolutions for the Agenda had to be in the Geneva Office by Sunday, April 25th. The British Section was asked to send in a resolution on the Equal Status of Women.



The Constitution of the W.I.L.P.F. would come up for discussion on the last afternoon and voting would take place about 5.30 p.m.

The Executive Committee Meetings would be held one day before and two days following the Congress.

This concluded the Report.

Mrs. Innes asked if the Committee would accept a suggestion to put the British proposals on the Constitution in the form of a resolution, and she read the draft she had prepared.

After discussion this was agreed to in principle and the resolution would come before the March Executive for consideration.

336. W.I.L.P.F. APRIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS. Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Innes were appointed Consultative Members to these meetings, which are to be held in Geneva. It was AGREED that their expenses should be paid.

337. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Urgency Resolutions. Reported that at the Agenda Committee Miss White, Dr. Clark and Miss Pye had agreed to prepare an urgency resolution on Spain in time for the Council.

Miss Marshall and Miss White (subject to her consent) were asked to prepare a resolution on the situation in Central Europe, and if necessary to consult Mr. Thomas Balogh, who had consented to give a survey of the European situation on Tuesday afternoon, at 2 p.m. It was agreed to circulate the resolution at the morning session so that it could be considered during the afternoon.

It was AGREED to take the resolutions 2 and 3 on a World Conference on Economic and other Grievances, and the Reduction of Trade Barriers on Wednesday or Thursday morning, and to ask Miss Richenda Payne if she would give a short address on either of these days at 10.30 on the points on which we should concentrate for economic appeasement at the present moment. Miss Pye offered to arrange a meeting, if possible, between Miss Payne and Miss Sheepshanks with a view to the preparation of an addendum to the resolution on a World Conference. Decided sessions should be open to the Press from 2 p.m. on Tuesday and on succeeding days.

338. 21st. BIRTHDAY PARTY. The Arrangements Committee had felt that 7.30 was too early to commence and had therefore arranged the programme to commence at 8 p.m. They also felt that there would not be time for any musical items and Mrs. Duncan Harris had been asked to write to Elfrida Vipont explaining the position. Mrs. Duncan Harris said that she had not written the letter, though she had mentioned the matter to Mrs. Vipont Brown.

The Executive, however, felt strongly that the Party should commence at 7.30 p.m. and that Elfrida Vipont should be asked to sing from 8.10 to 8.30 p.m. Mrs. Innes agreed to write to her. The Committee agreed that Miss Courtney should be asked to speak for ten minutes, particularly as Mrs. Harold Hills had said she would only wish to speak for a minute or two. Miss Sheepshanks consented to call the Roll of Honour. The programme was then agreed to as follows:-



- 7.30 p.m. Reception by the present Executive Committee.
- 8.10 - 8.30 Songs by Elfrida Vipont
- 8.30 p.m. Roll Call of the Guests of Honor,  
Messages from those prevented from attending, to  
be read by Mrs. Innes.  
Photograph.
- 8.50 p.m. Speeches of not more than five minutes each from  
Miss Courtney, Miss Bondfield, Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence,  
Mrs. Harold Hills (failing her Miss Cooper Willis,  
subject to her consent), Mrs. Duncan Harris.
- 9.30 p.m. Miss Ashton and Mrs. Philip Urwin to cut the  
Birthday Cake.

The Committee instructed Miss Baker to engage a Photographer, and to invite the Press to be present.

339. INDIA. A written Report from Mrs. Lankester was read. It stated that Mrs. Margaret Cousins had been elected the President of the All India Women's Conference for the year, and the new Liaison Officer in India is Mrs. S. N. Ray. Mrs. Lankester had sent them messages of greeting and good wishes from the Liaison Group which included the W.I.L.

Mrs. Rama Rau had been made A.I.W.C. 'correspondent' in England and Begum Hamid Ali, who is travelling in Europe for a year, their 'foreign representative'.

It had been suggested that the Liaison Group, with other women's Societies should write to the Government here and in India to urge the appointment this year of an Indian Women on the League of Nations Committee on Welfare of Women and Children.

Miss Harrison was due to arrive home on February 20th. or 21st. A joint meeting of the Liaison Group and the Women's Advisory Council on Indian Questions is being arranged for her on February 26th.

The Report further urged that the Executive should watch the results of the elections for the Legislature in India which are now being published.

Agreed to send a letter of thanks to Mrs. Lankester and tell her that we wish the W.I.L. to be associated with the Liaison Group in urging the appointment of an Indian Woman on the League of Nations Committee on Welfare of Women and Children. It was suggested that this proposal should be sent to the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations.

It was decided to ask Miss Harrison to speak at our next Sandwich Lunch.

340. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

Leaflet on Anti-Semitism in this country. Miss Pye put forward a suggested leaflet for the consideration of the Committee. The following sub-Committee was appointed to consider the leaflet with a view to producing it for use at meetings, etc; Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Karleen Baker, Mrs. Kraft and Miss Pye.



The question of the price of the pamphlet, "Opening the Empire Door", was raised, as the Friends Book Stall thought they might sell a number if the price were reduced. It was agreed to sell at 1d. each, postage extra.

The Friends of Peace and Disarmament leaflet "Psychology and Peace" had been distributed to the Secretaries of the Movement. etc.

Reported that the Geneva Research Centre was issuing periodically a brief News Letter giving a summary of outstanding events at Geneva plus certain factors, "notably the 'climate', which although not always available outside Geneva, may go far to elucidate or explain the actual facts." This letter will be issued without charge to any who can make use of it, but it must not be quoted or published. Miss Marshall, Mrs. Thoday, Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Duncan Harris would like copies and it was agreed they should all come under one cover to this Office for distribution.

#### 341. CORRESPONDENCE

Reported that the Annual Meeting of the Council for the Representation of Women in the League of Nations would be held on February 19th. at 3.15 p.m. Miss Harrison, our representative on this, would not be in England and was therefore unable to attend. No representative was appointed.

Miss Marshall and Miss Sheepshanks agreed to attend the Second National Congress of Peace and Friendship with the U.S.S.R. on March 13th. and 14th. at Friends House, Euston Road.

Reported that (1) The Thirteenth Annual Conference of the British Commonwealth League was being held on May 26th. 27th. and 28th. at the Y.W.C.A. AGREED to appoint representatives nearer the time.

(2) a Women's Peace Procession will be held in Holland on the 18th. May, Goodwill Day.

(3) the National Peace Congress was being held on April 9th. to 12th. in London. Miss Dickinson and Mrs. Innes (if possible) undertook to attend some of the meetings.

(4) The Child Protection Committee of the Save the Children Fund had sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies a resolution re the publication of the Mui Tsai Commission Report.

(5) Miss Houghton asked if the Executive would like to appoint another representative in her place to serve on the Moral Welfare Committee of the National Council of Women as she was seldom able to attend their meetings. No other representative was appointed and Miss Houghton was to be asked to attend as many as she could.

(6) the Friends of Abyssinia were organising an International Rally to meet Ethiopian Exiles on Saturday, March 6th. at 2.20 at the Caxton Hall, Westminster. An offer of a Lantern Lecture at London meetings was to be passed on to the London Branch Secretaries. No representative was appointed for the meeting on March 6th. but the Office was asked to see if any members would go on behalf of the W.I.L.

342. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Provisionally fixed for 10.30 on February 23rd. in the Queen Mary Hall, Y.W.C.A., and it was proposed that the newly elected Executive should meet at the close of the meetings on the 24th. for a short time.

This concluded the business.

B. Duncan Harris  
9. 11. 37



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Statement on the Spanish Situation adopted by the Executive Committee of the Women's International League at its meeting on Tuesday, February 9th, 1937.

"The Non-Intervention Committee has completely failed to give practical effect to the agreement of the countries composing it to withhold from Spain the assistance of armaments or armed forces.

Its delays and continual postponements have laid its members open to a well-founded charge of hypocrisy and of connivance in the continuation of armed assistance to the rebels.

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League, seeing in this a situation of increasing danger to the peace of Europe and of grave injustice to Spain,

Urges His Majesty's Government to use its utmost influence even at this late hour to bring about a genuine cessation of foreign intervention in Spain, and to this end:

To make a strong protest against the sending of armed troops by outside Powers, and a demand for their immediate withdrawal.

To announce that no financial or economic arrangements can be made with Germany or Italy as long as armed intervention in Spain continues."



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Statement of Accounts for January 1937.

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure.</u>	
Balance	35.13. 1.	Salaries	42.17. 6.
Subscriptions	149. 6. 6.	Wages	4. 7. 6.
Donations	1.16. 0.	Insurance	1. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Birthday Gifts	42. 1. 6.	Office Expenses	1.10.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Affiliation Fees	1.12. 6.	Travelling "	5. 9. 4.
Sale of News Sheets and Literature	3. 1. 4.	Postage	6. 2. 7.
Office Expenses refunded by the W.P.C. (June- December 1936)	17.17. 5.	Stationery	1. 2. 6.
Jan.21st.Lunch	1. 1. 4.	Telephone	4. 6. 6.
		News Sheets & Literature purchased	3.17. 9.
		Printing	5. 6. 0.
			76. 0. 9.
Geneva Subscriptions	3. 0. 0.	<u>Balance</u>	
	219.16. 7.	Cash at Midland	
		Bank	171.10. 6.
		" in hand	7.18. 5.
			179. 8.11.
	£255. 9. 8.		£255. 9. 8.

BANK Balance on February 8th. £298. 0. 5.

Less due to Geneva 16. 0. 0.

£282. 0. 5.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of the Executive Committee, March 9th, 1937, at 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Miss Karleen Baker, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Kraft, Miss Pye, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Binyon, Mrs. Savage, Miss Harrison, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Rinder. Lady Unwin represented Golders Green Branch.

In taking the Chair at the commencement of the meeting Mrs. Innes said that the first item on the Agenda was the APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIRMAN. Mrs. Duncan Harris was unanimously re-elected and expressions of appreciation of her work during the past year came from all sides.

Mrs. Harris then took the Chair. She thanked the Committee for the help each member had given to her since her Chairmanship.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Chick, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Sturge, Mrs. Unwin, Miss Warner.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMEN. The following were nominated and consented to act as Vice-Chairmen for the year: Miss Pye, Miss Sheepshanks and Mrs. Thoday.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. TREASURER. The Chairman explained that in accordance with the instructions from the Council efforts had been made to obtain an Hon. Treasurer. Up to the last moment it was hoped that Lady Unwin or Mrs. Binyon might be able to reconsider their decision not to serve, but they both felt that prolonged and frequent absences from town or even from the country made it impossible for them to accept the Office. With Mrs. Innes's consent Mrs. McGregor Wood, a member living in Hampstead, had been approached and had accepted nomination, with some diffidence owing to her lack of knowledge regarding our work. The Committee expressed their desire to have Mrs. Wood as Hon. Treasurer and Miss Pye formally moved and Miss Baker seconded the appointment. Mrs. McGregor Wood was unanimously appointed Hon. Treasurer, with power to sign cheques on behalf of the W.I.L. and the International House Account. Lady Unwin and Mrs. Binyon undertook to give any help they could to Mrs. Wood in the initial stages of her work.

Deep regret was expressed that Lady Unwin was not serving on the Committee this year. Miss Pye said that though she realised she was suggesting an unconstitutional action, she wished to propose that Lady Unwin, subject to her consent, be appointed a Vice-President. It had not been possible to obtain her consent before the Council as she was ~~xxxxx~~ abroad and there was still a hope that she might still remain Hon. Treasurer. Lady Unwin said she was willing to become a Vice-President if the Committee wished, and the appointment was there<sup>fore</sup>/unanimously agreed to.

DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE. The second Tuesday in every month was AGREED TO.



MINUTES OF MEETING on February 9th were confirmed, having been previously circulated.

343. BUSINESS ARISING. Reported formal acknowledgments from the Government of the Statement on the Spanish Situation adopted at the Committee on February 9th.

Arrangements had been made for Miss Harrison to speak AT OUR NEXT SANDWICH LUNCH on March 17th. Tentative inquiries had been made from the International Peace Campaign for one of their Czecho-Slovakian speakers to address an Office Luncheon Meeting in the near future. A charge of ~~xxx~~ less than £1 over and above the normal travelling expenses in Britain was being made to all Organisations engaging the speakers. Mrs. Innes explained to the Committee that there would be no travelling expenses as our meeting would be in London. After discussion it was agreed to ask for a speaker, preferably a Czech W.I.L. member on April 15th, or the 12th.

A further suggestion for a Luncheon meeting or a larger meeting for Lady Layton and Miss Ralbone to speak on their tour in Central Europe was referred to Dr. Clark as Hon. Secretary of the Women's Peace Crusade and Mrs. Innes.

344. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts, showing a balance of £323.14.6 was adopted. This amount included donations received for the Birthday Party of £165.14. 9d. The outstanding accounts for the Party amounted to £25.5.2½d. A donation of £3.3.0 from the Liverpool Branch was reported. Acknowledgments of Grants to the International Peace Campaign and the National Peace Council were reported.

345. COUNCIL MEETINGS. Reported that the resolutions from the Council Meetings had been sent to their respective quarters and formal acknowledgments received. The resolution on the Armistice Day Services had resulted in a letter in the "Glasgow Bulletin" stating that "the W.I.L. wants the military ceremonial at Armistice Day Services reduced, and delegates have deplored the fact that Armistice Day ceremonial is so closely connected with the fighting forces." Mrs. Innes had replied that the Correspondent "appears to have only seen a report and not to have read the resolution, which neither deplores the military ceremonial nor asks for its reduction. It wished to secure the laying of greater emphasis upon constructive peace in the commemoration of Armistice Day. She reminded the Correspondent that Armistice Day is a celebration of the day on which over four years of slaughter was ended and it was not only soldiers who rejoiced at the Armistice, nor soldiers alone who mourned their dead. We desired to see more adequate expression given to the point of view of the civilian at a national (and not merely a military) ceremony.

With further reference to the letter from the Manchester W.I.L. in the Manchester Guardian on February 25th in which it was asked that the peace movement in this country, equally with each and every phase of our national life, may be represented at all national celebrations, Mrs. Muter Wilson of Manchester suggested that the Authorities be asked to invite the W.I.L. to be represented at the Coronation. After consideration it was felt that no action could be taken in the matter.



The question of admitting the Press to future Council Meetings was considered and it was agreed that invitations to attend should continue to be sent to the Press. Mrs. Lankester reported that one of the Press Reporters afterward told her that she was much impressed by the harmony and good-feeling of the Council.

346. W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS. Mrs. Innes reported a letter from Frau Clara Ragaz, Joint Chairmen of the W.I.L.P.F. which stressed the importance of considering the future work of the W.I.L.P.F. Frau Ragaz thought the aims of the League did not need revising, but she felt that opinions differed as to the ways and methods of achieving these aims. She asked (1)

- (1) Should the work of the League have a more education<sup>al</sup> or a more political character;
- (2) Should action be primarily national or international. With regard to (1) she admits that international work has become more difficult owing to Fascism and National Socialism paralysing whole nations.

With regard to (2) if the main stress is to be laid on National work there must be provision in the Constitution, giving National Sections more room in the Executive and giving the Executive and Officers executive power only. But if international political work is decided on then there must be an Executive not too big or too slow and Officers competent to take political action between meetings of the Executive.

Madame Ragaz quoted amendments to Paragraph IV Executive Committee in the Constitution which are being proposed at the Congress by the British and Swiss Sections.

Mrs. Innes put before the Committee the notes on Frau Ragaz's letter which she proposed putting before the W.I.L.P.F. Executive Committee at Bruges in April, subject to the British Committee's approval. Dr. Clark supported Mrs. Innes's proposed contribution to the discussion at the W.I.L.P.F.

Mrs. Innes also reported a letter from the Polish Section regarding changes in the Constitution dealing with Executive members and Consultative Members.

The Council resolution on the Constitution was then considered and slightly amended, for forwarding to the Geneva Office for the Congress Agenda.

347. W.I.L.P.F. CONGRESS. Details of place, date and approximate cost were reported as follows:-

Place: Luhacovice, Czecho-Slovakia.  
Date: July 25th to 31st inclusive.  
Approximate Cost: Return Fare to Ujezdec, then by local train or coach to Luhacovice.  
First Class to Ujezdec £17. 5. 0  
Second " " " £10.13. 6  
Third " " " £ 7.15. 4  
Exchange about Kc 150 to the £1.  
Accommodation: Price for room and full board is Kc. 45 - 50 per day. The Czech Section offers hospitality to two delegates from each Section (bed and breakfast).



An appeal for Funds for the Congress expenses was reported from Geneva, and after discussion it was AGREED to send £5 immediately and to consider later the possibility of sending a further Grant nearer the time of the Congress. The question of making an appeal to our own Branches and Members for helping any of the British delegates was deferred for the time being.

The provisional Congress Agenda was reported. All resolutions must be received in the Geneva Office not later than Sunday, April 25th.

Miss Marshall agreed to arrange under the headings of the Congress Agenda, items (1) (2) (3) and (4) of the Statement on Safeguarding Peace in Central Europe, which the Council referred to the Executive for the Congress. Her proposal that the paragraph in her article in the February News Sheet re sovereign power over resources which are needed by all, be included, was accepted.

The resolution on the Equal Status of Women, drafted by Miss Sheepshanks, was then considered. A few amendments were suggested which she agreed to insert. It was then to be sent to the Executive with a request that they should send in, in writing, any amendments they wish to make. The amended draft will be considered at the next meeting of the Executive. It was agreed to send it to Geneva as a Congress resolution, with the request that the two points be dealt with separately. It was suggested that as an alternative it might be used as a basis for discussion, or in the form of amendments to the other resolutions if that seems more suitable when we see them.

It was agreed that the Council's resolutions (1) World Conference on Economic and other Grievances, and (2) Reduction in Trade Barriers, should be adapted for the Congress for consideration at the next Committee, with a view to sending them forward as a basis for discussion.

An appeal from Geneva was made to Sections to suggest names of Interpreters to be responsible for translating at the Congress, such Interpreters to be members of the delegations, for preference. It was agreed to wait until our delegates were appointed to see if there was an interpreter amongst them. In the meantime Miss Pye suggested that Miss Moll might be approached as to whether she would be free and what her expenses would be. It was further agreed to make a list of those Executive members who thought they might be able to attend the Congress.

348. LEAFLET ON FREEDOM. Miss Baker said that the sub-Committee appointed to consider Miss Pye's draft had not yet been able to meet but they hoped to do so soon.

349. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester again urged members and Branches to watch the situation in India. Miss Harrison has been instrumental in arranging a broadcast on India and the B.B.C. has invited Lord Lothian to give a talk on the 29th instant.

350. SPAIN. In speaking of the Non-Intervention Committee's proposal to put a naval watch from Malaga to the Spanish French Frontier in the hands of German and Italian ships, with all its danger of the refugee population being starved,



Miss Pye urged that, if the need arose, Branches and members should be asked to send resolutions protesting against the present plan and asking for a better arrangement of supervision, to the Government, and to lobby their Members of Parliament on the matter.

Miss Pye, in consultation with the Officers, agreed to draft a statement for use, and to prepare further material for later distribution, if required.

Agreed further to bring the matter before the Women's Peace Crusade and the National Peace Council.

351 APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES.

The members of the following Committees were appointed, subject to their consent:-

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

Native Races: The Officers, Miss Anderson, Dr. Clark, Miss Marshall, Mrs. McGregor Ross, Mrs. Charles Robertson: Consultative Members Miss Freda White and Miss Sheepshanks. Agreed to ask Miss Anderson to be Convener.

Publicity: The Officers, Miss Baker, Miss Chick, Dr. Clark, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Unwin, Mrs. Kraft and Miss Sheepshanks.

India: The Officers, Miss Anderson, Miss Baker, Miss Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Polak, Miss Pye, Miss Rinder, Miss Patterson, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. McGregor Ross, ~~Dame~~ Catherine Furse, Mrs. Longson (to attend when possible). Mrs. Lankester and Miss Harrison will continue to watch the situation and call emergency meetings when necessary.

Friends of Peace and Disarmament: The Officers, Mrs. Unwin, Miss Baker, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Isabel Fry, Miss Chick, Miss Dickinson, Miss Hayes, Mrs. Thornycroft.

352. CORRESPONDENCE. Reported that Mrs. Duncan Harris had sent a letter on 18th February to the Prime Minister protesting against the Government's proposed Defence Policy.

Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations. Reported that neither Mrs. Innes nor Mrs. Hoppstock Huth could attend the meeting of this Committee on March 16th. Lady Unwin agreed to act as W.I.L.P.F. representative.

International Peace Campaign. Reported that the I.P.C. were considering organising an Albert Hall Meeting in April in support of the I.P.C. but before reaching a decision regarding it they were wanting to know how far their co-operating societies would co-operate. Mrs. Innes's reply that, if the meeting is held the W.I.L. will help as far as it can over publicity, was endorsed.

During the tea interval Frau Irene Harant of Vienna spoke of her campaign against the evils of racial antagonism, and of her preparations for an International Congress to combat Race Hatred, in Vienna from July 27th to 7th August.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

B. Duncan Harris  
13. IV. 37



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for February 1937

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Income		Expenditure	
Balance	179. 8. 11.	Salaries	34. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	131. 12. 0.	Wages	3. 10. 0.
Donations	3. 2. 6.	Insurance	1. 0. 2½
Birthday Gifts	115. 1. 3.	Office Expenses	2. 12. 1.
Affiliation Fees	1. 10. 0.	Travelling "	1. 7. 8.
Sale of News		News Sheets & Lit-	
Sheets & Lit:	6. 19. 10.	erature purchased	4. 12. 7.
Birthday Photos:	2. 5. 0.	Stationery	4. 4½
<u>Geneva</u>		Postage & Wires	7. 15. 5.
Subscriptions	5. 0. 0.	Council Meetings	14. 14. 0.
Jane Addams Fund	10. 0. 0.	Birthday Party	6. 6. 2½
		Grants	8. 0. 0.
		Delegates' fees	2. 0.
	275. 10. 7.	Loaned to House	
		A/c	56. 3. 9.
		<u>Geneva</u>	
		Jane Addams Fund	10. 0. 0.
			150. 8. 3½
		<u>Balance</u>	
		Midland Bank	296. 14. 5.
		Cash in hand	7. 16. 9½
			304. 11. 2½
	£454. 19. 6.		£454. 19. 6.

Approximate Statement for March 1-6th. 1937

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Balance	304. 11. 2½	Expenditure	12. 19. 11½
Income	19. 8. 8.	Balance	310. 19. 11.
	323. 19. 10½		£323. 19. 10½

Outstanding Accounts

Stationery	£3. 3. 5.
Printing	18. 15. 0.
Y.W.C.A.	13. 10. 9.
Geneva Subscriptions	8. 0. 0.
	£43. 9. 2.

Due from House Account £56. 3. 9.

BALANCE    £323. 14. 6.

Accounts not rendered for Coal, and reprint of W.I.L. Re-Statement.  
Annual Report.



Resolution re the W.I.L.P.F. Constitution which the British Section is putting forward at the Congress in July 1937.

This Congress decides:-

- (1) That Consultative Members shall speak and vote as members of the Executive at all meetings.
- (2) That between Executive Meetings emergency action in matters clearly in line with the W.I.L.P.F. policy, shall be taken by unanimous agreement between the three Chairmen, and subject to the agreement of any Sections affected by such action, unless circumstances make the obtaining of a reply impossible.
- (3) That in matters not requiring 'urgency' the members of the Executive elected by Congress shall be given time to submit comments, together with any Sections concerned in any proposed action. Action shall be taken on a two-third majority of the Executive and with the agreement of any Sections concerned.
- (4) That the rules in the Constitution affected by these decisions, be altered in this sense.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Suggested resolutions for the W.I.L.P.F. Congress.

1. World Conference on Economic and other Grievances.

This Congress of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom urges the Governments to support action through the League of Nations for the setting up of an International Commission to make practical proposals for meeting grievances, whether economic, territorial, financial, or of any other kind, such as the problems of migration, with a view to the calling of a new World Peace Conference as soon as the preliminary bases have been satisfactorily established.

2. This Congress of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, believing that in the modern world nations are all members one of another, economically if not politically, and believing that such an agreement as was reached with regard to currency by the democratic countries of U.S.A., France and Great Britain must further the cause of peace as one of the first steps towards free co-operation,

Urges the Governments to bring about

- (a) the reduction of the barriers that hamper international trade;
- (b) the principle of the open door both in the home countries and in all Colonies and Protectorates;
- (c) immediate co-operation between all countries which are endeavouring to lower tariffs and to extend the freedom of trade and the waiving of the claim to most-favoured nation treatment in such cases.



1. General Resolution on Prevention of War,  
and the Establishment of a New Peace based on  
Justice and Freedom.

Statement for discussion.

A guiding principle of international policy, directed to the prevention of aggression or resort to armed force should be the elimination of all incentives to such action. Among such incentives are fears of aggression by others, fear of economic insecurity, the enforced submission to imposed inequality, the suppression of freedom, and a belief that freedom and justice will not be obtained otherwise than by resort to force.

In order to remove these incentives measures should be taken without delay to give effect to Art. XIX of the Covenant, and to secure the voluntary adoption by all States in whose territories they are applicable of the provisions of the Minorities Treaties and the principles and regulations governing the administration of Mandates under the League of Nations.

Every National Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom should urge its own Government to give a courageous and generous lead for the righting of wrongs and the establishment of peace, freedom, justice and security for all peoples.

C.E.M.



## 2. Sovereign Rights

Statement, for discussion, when considering the basis of a really effective League of Nations; and under the heading of economic Foundations of peace.

The possession by any one State or any limited group of States, of Sovereign power over resources which are needed by all is, and must be, a fruitful cause of war and one of the most serious obstacles in the way, of Disarmament.

The only right course in the interest of justice, the only safe course in the interest of peace, is to take these sovereign powers out of the hands of individual States and vest them in some international body, as widely representative as possible, making that body responsible for assuring to all the world such basic necessities as security of access to food supplies and raw materials, and the unimpeded use of the routes by which they must travel.

C. E. H.



3. Proposals for strengthening the League of Nations.

- (1) Provision for membership of the League of Nations to carry with it a number of material advantages (such as reciprocal tariff reductions and trading advantages,) which will not be open to non-member States and will be automatically forfeited by a Covenant-breaker.
  
- (2) The devising of some form of material pledge to be given by every State Member of the League as an "effective guarantee of its sincere intention to observe its international obligations" (Art. 1. of the Covenant)

Such provision should be made retro-active, applying to original members of the League as well as to States seeking admission or re-admission.

C.E.M.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

4. Action to Safeguard Peace.

The present international Situation.

This Congress of the W.I.L.P.F. urges upon the States Members of the League:

(1) The immediate setting up of League machinery, on the lines suggested in the Report of the Committee of Thirteen appointed by the League of Nations in 1935, for working out (before any actual aggressor is in the field) suitable means for applying economic sanctions against any State resorting to war in disregard of its Covenants.

(2) A decision by the Council of the League (before any actual aggressor is in the field) that Economic sanctions shall be applied immediately in the case of armed aggression, or armed intervention in a Civil War between the Nationals of another State, or any action calculated to impair "the territorial integrity or existing political independence of another State Member of the League" (Article X of Covenant).

Such Sanctions should include the cessation of all supply of arms and munitions of war to the offending State, but should not include a food blockade.

C.E.M.



in fifth line after "Executive Committee had sent" insert "by airmail letters to both Lord Linlithgow and Mr. Gandhi expressing their concern over the constitutional crisis urging that a way might be found for the Viceroy and Congress leaders to meet. They expressed to Mr. Gandhi their deep sympathy in the difficult crisis through which the people of India are passing in their search for social reconstruction and for freedom. They also urged Lord Linlithgow to use all his powers to bring about this meeting between himself and the leaders of the Congress Party.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday April 13th. 1937 at  
55 Gower Street from 11 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

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PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Miss Baker, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Warner, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. McG. Wood, Miss Chick, Mrs. Thoday, Mrs. Thornycroft, Miss Dickinson, Miss Rinder, Miss Marshall, Miss Pye, Miss Anderson, and Miss White.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Paul Sturge (whose little daughter is ill), Mrs. Savage, Dr. Clark (through illness) and Mrs. Unwin.

The Chairman reported that owing to the illness of Mr. Unwin, Mrs. Unwin was obliged to resign from the Committee. The Committee asked that a letter be sent to Mrs. Unwin expressing their sympathy in her trouble and thanking her for all the work she has done for the W.I.L. before and since she became a member of the Committee.

The Chairman also reported that on hearing of the sudden death of Mr. Hunter, she and Mrs. Innes had written to Mrs. Hunter, and a reply was read.

MINUTES of meeting on March 9th. were confirmed, having been previously circulated.

353. BUSINESS ARISING:

Members were urged to attend the Lunch and Meeting on Thursday, the 15th. when Dr. Eltz would be speaking on the Peace Movement in Czecho-Slovakia.

Reported a letter from Miss Courtney on behalf of Dr. Clark re the proposed meeting for Lady Layton and Miss Rathbone on their tour in Central Europe. She did not think a public meeting would be a draw, but she thought a meeting, as part of the W.P.C. Council meeting might be arranged. If we would let her know whether the W.I.L. would wish to co-operate in a meeting or leave it to the W.P.C. to have an informal afternoon meeting, they would consider the next steps. Agreed to reply that the Committee thinks a meeting similar to the one the W.P.C. arranged for Frau Harand at the close of their Council Meeting, would be suitable.

354. FINANCE The attached financial statement was presented by the Hon. Treasurer, and adopted. Mrs. Wood raised the question of getting the International House accounts audited by an Honorary Chartered Accountant. Mrs. Innes said the Council had appointed the Auditor for the 1937 accounts. Miss Chick, as one of the House Trustees, and Mrs. Wood were asked to consult together on the matter.

355. INDIA. Mrs. Harris reported that, while she was attending the Bruges Committee, she had a telephonic conversation with Mrs. Lankester over the India Debate in the House of Lords on Thursday, April 8th, as a result of which, the International Executive Committee had sent an airmail letter to Mr. Gandhi expressing their deep sympathy in the difficult crisis through which the people of India are passing in their search for social reconstruction and for freedom. An Air-mail letter was also sent to Lord Linlithgow expressing deep concern over the crisis which has arisen over the New Constitution for India, and asking that all his powers be used in bringing about a meeting between himself and the leaders of the Congress Party.



Miss Harrison gave an account of the present situation in India, which included the question of political prisoners. She paid tribute to the great help given by the Editor of the Manchester Guardian in opening its paper to letters and articles on the subject. The New Statesman had also helped. In referring to the cable sent to the Viceroy by Mr. Lansbury imploring him for the sake of peace to arrange a meeting between the Congress leaders to discuss the way out of the deadlock, Miss Harrison suggested that members might care to contribute a small sum towards the cost of that cable.

Mrs. Lankester brought to the notice of the Committee the newly published Indian Bulletin.

After discussion the following decisions were reached: (1) that a letter of appreciation be sent to the Editor of the Manchester Guardian; (2) that the Chairman should send Lord Zetland, Secretary of State for India, copies of the International Committee's letters to Mr. Gandhi and Lord Linlithgow, with a covering letter endorsing them on behalf of the British Section, and urging consultation between the Viceroy and the Congress Leaders; (3) that the W.I.L. representative on the N.P.C. North West Frontier Committee on Monday next should press for an economic, political and social survey of India. Lady Unwin and Mrs. Duncan Harris hoped to attend this meeting and would put forward the above suggestion; (4) that a letter should be sent to the Howard League for Penal Reform concerning political prisoners in India, after information had been obtained from Mr. Carl Heath, which Miss Harrison undertook to get. Miss Harrison also consented to help draft the letter; (5) that Hilda Cashmore should be asked to give an account of her work in India at a Luncheon Meeting on a date convenient to herself; (6) that free copies of the printed India Bulletin should be sent to the International Executive Committee members, to consultative members from National Sections; also to our Branches with a covering letter suggesting that they should subscribe to it regularly, that they should follow the example of the Leicester Branch and give a watching brief on India to a member interested in the subject. It was also agreed to send to the Branches information concerning books about the North West Frontier.

356. SPAIN:

Mrs. Innes reported acknowledgments of copies of our letter to Branches dated March 16th. which Miss Pye had sent for information to Miss Rathbone and Mr. Noel Baker.

After discussion on Franco's threat to interfere with ships trying to get into Bilbao and the warning by the Government to British ships not to go into the danger zone, and in view of the debate in the House to-morrow (Wednesday) it was agreed to send express letters to the Prime Minister, the Foreign Office and the Admiralty urging them to arrange for the convoying of British Food ships into Bilbao in order to prevent the threatened interference with food for the starving population; express letters should also be sent to the following Members of Parliament urging them to press this action on the Government:-

Mr. Attlee, Major Hills, Harold Macmillan,  
Captain Macnamara, Sir Archibald Sinclair,  
Vyvyan Adams, Lady Astor, Harold Nicholson,  
Winston Churchill and Lord Winterton.

It was also agreed that letters should be sent to the Branches asking them to send telegrams to their Members of Parliament before the Debate to-morrow (14th.)



Mrs. Innes reported a request from Miss Balch (U.S.A. Section) for the British Section to support the action of the crew on the S.S. "Linaria" in refusing, while in the U.S.A. to transport to Spain what they believed to be material for war. It was agreed to inform the Seamen's Union that the matter had been referred to us by our Section in the United States and to ask them for information which, when received, would be considered by the Officers and Miss Marshall who, if satisfied, would then take what action they thought best.

357. W.I.L.P.F.

Miss Pye reported (1) on reports of work presented to the Executive Committee from Section which have been duplicated and can be obtained, if desired, Further news of the Sections can later be sent to those who are interested, (2) that there were 999 International members; (3) that "Pax" received universal praise; (4) that the Maison Internationale was being rented for another year; (5) that the financial position was about the same as last year; (6) that Gertrud Baer's tour in Central Europe had been very successful; (7) that a plan was on foot to make a presentation of money to Dr. Augspurg on her 80th. birthday. In connection with this Miss Pye agreed to help to raise a sum in this country.

Mrs. Innes reported (1) on the arrangements for the Congress and the Programme, details of which would appear in the June Pax, (2) that the Dutch Section had proposed that a statement arising out of discussions should be issued rather than many resolutions; (3) that the Luhacovice Broadcast Station was being put at the disposal of the Congress, (4) that arising out of the discussion on the Constitution a proposal was made that there should be a truce as regard changes of the Constitution. If this were carried the existing arrangement of agreement between the three Chairmen in case of action between Committees would continue; (5) notice had been given that the British Section's resolution on the Constitution would be sent in in accordance with the instructions of the Annual Council Meetings. The Finnish Section would almost certainly be putting forward a resolution on the Constitution. Mrs. Innes expressed the belief that the so-called "truce" would be adopted at the Congress.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported (1) that it was proposed that the Jane Addams Memorial Fund, now reaching 9,000 Swiss francs, should take the form of a permanent W.I.L.P.F. Prize, to be awarded to a Section or Sections, or an individual for some special peace work, i.e. an international Jane Addams Week, research work, travel, etc. The applications would be dealt with by the Jane Addams Committee. The Danish Section were continuing their collection for the Fund and had suggested special Collecting Boxes which would be at the disposal of Sections at Luhacovice, if desired; (2) a very successful social evening had been held on the last night of the Committee.

Miss Pye further reported (1) that the International Executive did not feel that they should ask for a permanent place on the Executive of the International Peace Campaign; (2) that the International Committee hoped their would be a delegation of five members from each Section to the R.I.G.M. (Rassemblement contre la Guerre - le Militarism) Conference in Paris, 2nd/5th. August. The Sections were encouraged to send other representatives if they wished.



Mrs. Innes reported that she had received an invitation to attend a meeting of Pacifist Organisations in this country to consider co-operation in the campaign, on Thursday the 15th. at 11 a.m. in Friends House. Unfortunately she was not able to attend, but Miss Sheepshanks agreed to go as the W.I.L. Representative. She was authorised to say that the W.I.L. hoped to co-operate as far as possible.

After these reports the attached resolutions, which had been previously circulated to the Committee were endorsed. They would be sent to Geneva for the Congress Agenda before the 25th. April.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that a Summer School on the Status of Women was being organised this year in Salzburg by the Open Door Council.

Nominations for Hon. President and the International Executive. On the suggestion of the Chairman it was agreed to ask Miss Emily Balch by cable if she would consent to allow herself to be nominated as Hon. President on the same terms as Jane Addams. It was also agreed to send forward the following names for the International Executive Committee:-

Miss Pye, Mrs. Olmsted, Miss Mohr, Gertrud Baer, Frau Ragaz, Madame Drevet, Madame Ramondt-Hirschmann, Dr. Sahlbom, Mrs. Hanouskova, Mrs. Innes and Mrs. Zotkovic.

It was reported that Madame Ramondt-Hirschmann had said she could not continue to serve on the Committee, and it was agreed to send her a letter expressing deep appreciation of her many years of work for the W.I.L.P.F. and to ask her if she would reconsider her decision.

British Delegates to the Congress. Miss Pye would be attending in her own right as a member of the International Executive Committee, while Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Innes would go as Consultative Members from the Section. The following nominations had been received to date:-

Mrs. Thornycroft, Miss Marshall, Miss Karleen Baker, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Thoday, Lady Unwin, Mrs. Smallpage, Miss Hayler.

Glasgow and North Wales Branches hope to nominate someone. Mrs. Wood expressed her desire to attend but would like to go as an Alternate. Miss B.M. Baker of Bristol was very doubtful of being able to get away, but if she could the Committee would like her to attend. It was agreed that Miss Horscroft should attend the Congress.

With regard to an Interpreter from the British-speaking people, Miss Pye reported that Miss Moll, who had been approached, was going to Ireland but on her return would let us know if she would attend the Congress as Interpreter.



The Officers were empowered to write to the Branches and to individuals appealing for contributions towards the expenses of the British Delegation. Mrs. Wood would endeavour to arrive at a figure that would be necessary after finding out how many delegates would need a Grant towards their expenses.

358. PUBLICITY

Mrs. Innes reported on correspondence she and Dr. Clark had had with Mrs. Swanwick over an offer from the latter to write an article for the News Sheet on Collective Neutrality. It was agreed that the Executive Committee should meet to discuss the subject on May 3rd from 2 to 7 p.m. in the Office.

359. DATE OF NEXT MEETING was fixed for Tuesday, May 4th.

360. CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER BUSINESS was left to the Officers owing to the shortness of time.

361. FRAU HERTZKA from Austria (and a member of the International Executive Committee) then gave a vivid account of the existing conditions in Austria.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

*B. W. Innes as H. Innes*

*4. V. 37*



## EQUAL STATUS OF WOMEN.

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom demands full civil and political equality for women with men.

With regard to (a) protective legislation for women in industry, and (b) laws and regulations on nationality, it does not believe that equality is secured by insisting on uniformity. Such theoretical equality may inflict serious injuries on women.

(a) The enactment of certain "protective" legislation and its development and improvement are supported and demanded by organised industrial women, as stated in resolutions by international and national organisations. They believe it to be in their best interests and necessary to protect them from exploitation by employers. The W.I.L.P.F. upholds the democratic principle that it is the right of the organised women concerned to decide what is in their own interests, and that it would be wrong for an organisation composed largely of non-industrial women to oppose the expressed views of organised workers on this point. At the same time, no "protective" legislation should be accepted without the approval of organised industrial women.

(b) The W.I.L.P.F. holds that a married woman should be entitled to acquire automatically her husband's nationality or to contract out and to retain her own nationality. In certain countries where conditions for naturalisation have been made uniform for men and women, the poorer class of immigrant women have suffered severely.

April 1st. 1937.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for March 1937.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	
Balance	304.11. 2½	Salaries	33. 2. 0.
Subscriptions	14.11. 8.	Wages	3.10. 0.
Donations	4.15. 6.	Office Expenses	1.16.10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Birthday Gifts	13. 8.10.	State Insurance	12. 1½
Affiliation Fees	2. 5. 0.	Lighting & Heating	1. 5. 0.
Sale of News Sheets & Literature	2. 6. 7.	Printing	7.14. 0.
Proceeds of March 17th. Lunch	3. 6.	Stationery	7. 6.10.
	<u>37.11. 1.</u>	News Sheets & Litera- ture purchased	5.13. 3½
Geneva		Postage	5. 6. 0½
Subscriptions	4. 0. 0.	Travelling Expenses	5. 8. 2.
Pax	2. 8. 0.	Audit Fee	7.17. 6.
	<u>6. 8. 0.</u>	Grants	
		Consultative Member	6. 4. 1.
		W.I.L.P.F. Congress	5. 0. 0.
		Council Meetings expenses (Balance)	7.12. 0.
		Birthday Party "	20. 6. 9.
			<u>118.14. 8¼</u>
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	216. 7. 5.
		Cash in hand	13. 8. 2¼
			<u>229.15. 7¼</u>
	<u>£348.10. 3½</u>		<u>£348.10. 3½</u>

Approximate Statement for April 1 - 12, 1937  
inclusive.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Balance	229.15. 7¼	Salaries	17. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	13. 2. 6.	Wages	1.15. 0.
Affiliation Fees	10. 0.	State Insurance	8. 1.
Sale of News Sheets & Literature	1. 2. 6.	Office Expenses	1.15. 9.
Council Travelling expenses	1. 7. 9.	Literature purchased	17.11.
		Lighting & heating	4. 9. 5.
Loan refunded from International House account	56. 3. 9.	Rent	12.10. 0.
	<u>72. 6. 6.</u>	Affiliation Fees	4. 8. 7.
		Postage & telephone	5. 4. 1.
			<u>48. 8.10.</u>
		Geneva	
		Subscriptions	12. 0. 0.
		Pax "	2. 8. 0.
			<u>14. 8. 0.</u>
			<u>62.16.10.</u>
		Balance at	
		Midland Bank	231. 3. 4.
		Cash in hand	8. 1.11¼
			<u>239. 5. 3¼</u>
	<u>£302. 2. 1¼.</u>		<u>£302. 2. 1¼</u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Printing headed paper	4.18. 6.		
Stationery	2. 6.	5. 1. 0.	
Accounts not yet received			
Coal	1. 5. 0.		
Annual Reports	18. 7. 0.	19.12. 0.	
	<u>£24.13. 0.</u>		
		BALANCE	<u>£214.12.3¼</u>



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, May 4th, 1937 from 11 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at 55 Gower Street.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Baker, Mrs. Innes, Miss Freda White, Mrs. Wood, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Thoday, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Harrison, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Savage, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Binyon, Lady Unwin (Golders Green).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Warner, Mrs. Sturge, Dr. Clark, Miss Pye, Miss Chick, Mrs. Kraft, Miss Marshall. Decided to write to Dr. Clark sympathising over her illness, wishing her a good journey to South Africa, and saying we should look forward to her return, and to Miss Pye, sending good wishes for her work.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON APRIL 13th were confirmed, after the following correction had been made to Minute 355 INDIA:-

in fifth line after "Executive Committee had sent" insert "by airmail letters to both Lord Linlithgow and Mr. Gandhi expressing their concern over the constitutional crisis urging that a way might be found for the Viceroy and Congress leaders to meet. They expressed to Mr. Gandhi their deep sympathy in the difficult crisis through which the people of India are passing in their search for social reconstruction and for freedom. They also urged Lord Linlithgow to use all his powers to bring about this meeting between himself and the leaders of the Congress Party."

362. BUSINESS ARISING: Minute 355. Reported that Hilda Cashmore had consented to speak at a Lunch Meeting on Friday, May 7th on "The Problem of the Educated Young Indian and the Villages."

Minute 357. R.I.G.M. (Rassemblement International contre la Guerre et le Militarism). Miss Sheepshanks reported on the meeting to consider the proposed R.I.G.M. Congress in Paris in August. Five hundred pounds would be needed for it and it was suggested the British Peace Societies might be able to contribute £300. The representatives present, however, thought they might manage £100. Mr. Capper Johnson, who was attending a meeting in Paris was asked to suggest that the Congress be planned much more economically. The month chosen was an inconvenient one for most and it was agreed to try to get the date altered to some time in September. Miss Sheepshanks felt that the Society distinctly overlapped with the work of the War Resisters International and the Peace Pledge Union. The Aims of the R.I.G.M. were read, with the list of the Comite d'honneur.

After discussion it was agreed to take no action until the date had been fixed.

Minute 353. Reported that the Women's Peace Crusade had decided not to arrange a meeting for Lady Layton and Miss Rathbone on their visit to Central Europe, because they were arranging one for Friday, May 7th, when Mrs. Beer would speak on "Spain."

363. FINANCE. The Treasurer presented the attached Statement of Accounts, which was adopted.



Congress Funds. The Committee appointed to consider how to raise Funds for the Congress proposed various methods, including a Garden Party, a Grant from General Funds or a Grant from the International House Account, an appeal to Headquarter Members and Branches.

After discussion it was agreed (1) that a Garden Party should be held at a date convenient to Lady Baker, who had kindly consented to lend her garden for the purpose; (2) that a Grant from General Funds should be made for the present, to be replaced by an appeal later, and (3) that the Trustees should be asked to look into the suggestion of making a Grant from the International House Account.

The Treasurer suggested that it would be an advantage if a continuous Congress Fund was planned in order to have money in readiness for the Congress every three years. This was agreed to.

The Treasurer was asked to write to the Branches about Funds for the forthcoming Congress.

#### 364. INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

Imperial Conference. Miss White proposed that a letter should be sent to the Chairman of the forthcoming Imperial Conference urging that the Ottawa Agreement should be modified, and that the Open Door regime should be restored in non-self-governing territories.

After discussion it was agreed to send the attached letter to the Chairman of the Imperial Conference, and copies to each member of the delegation, to Mr. Malcolm Macdonald, and to the Press.

Abyssinia. A letter was reported from the Abyssinia Association urging that resolutions should be passed on the recent massacre in Addis Ababa. It was agreed to reply (1) that as an affiliated Society in the Women's Peace Crusade we shared in the action taken by them in urging the Government immediately to protest against such methods of warfare, (2) that some of our Branches had taken action, particularly our North Wales Group which had sent a copy of their resolution to the Abyssinia Association, and Worthing Branch.

Spain. Reported that a number of Branches had taken action in response to our letter suggesting that they send a wire immediately to their M.P.'s at the House of Commons urging them to press the Government to convoy British food ships to Bilbao to prevent interference with food for the starving population. In addition some had succeeded in getting publicity for the letter signed by the Officers.

Correspondence in the Manchester Guardian on the same subject was reported between the Officers and Lady Horsley.

Miss Courtney's letter on behalf of the Women's Peace Crusade to the Government expressing horror at the bombing of Guernica and urging it to protest against such methods of warfare, was endorsed, but the Committee felt that such a protest should be related to the action of our own Government in allowing bombing on the N.W. Frontier of India.

On the suggestion of Mrs. Lankester it was agreed to write to the Secretary of State for India protesting against the methods that are being used on the North West



Frontier, which create a sense of hypocrisy in our protests on humanitarian grounds against such outrages as occurred at Guernica.

Also agreed (1) that copies of the letter should be sent with covering notes to Mr. Eden, Mr. Baldwin, Lord Cecil of the International Peace Campaign, Dr. Maxwell Garnett of the League of Nations Union, the Peace Pledge Union, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the Friends Peace Committee, the All India Women's Conference, the Women's Peace Crusade and the National Peace Council. Miss Baker would try to get publicity for it, and the Branches were to be asked to write to their Members of Parliament and get publicity, if possible.

Reported a request for signatures of people well-known in the world of art, literature, science, to an International Memorial relating to the social and cultural losses of the Spanish people through the invasion of their territory by armed forces from other countries, and urging the withdrawal of those forces. The Memorial was initiated by Dr. Sahlbom of the Swedish Section at the International Executive Committee at Bruges. It was agreed to co-operate in this Memorial.

With regard to the refusal of the Crew of the SS. "Linaria" to transport to Spain what they believed to be material for war, a reply had been received from the National Union of Seamen stating that on making inquiries "they found that the cargo of nitrates was not intended for munition purposes but for fertiliser and was one of similar cargoes shipped by the same shippers and to the same consignees in Seville for the past 25 years....Some time ago the British Government decided that no munitions of any kind could be carried in British ships to either the Rebels or the Government forces in Spain; this, of course, carrying out the policy of non-intervention. In coming to this decision, the British Government issued a list of commodities which could not be carried, nitrates, however, did not appear in that list. The crew in their statement said they refused to carry nitrates or any other cargo to Spanish Rebel ports. In view of the British Government's policy of non-intervention, you will appreciate what would transpire if it was left to the crews of all ships to decide what cargoes they should carry to Spain or any other country..." In view of all the information they had obtained they had "advised the Crew to proceed on their voyage," which advice was not accepted.

Miss Balch had sent us a copy of a letter from Alexander Robson, the leader of the "Linaria" strikers. But in view of these facts it was agreed that no action should be taken.

India. Reported an acknowledgment from the Manchester Guardian. Miss Harrison reported on the situation in India.

365. W.I.L.P.F. CONGRESS. Reported:

(1) letters of thanks had been received from six of the nominees the British Section were proposing for the International Executive Committee.



(2) an appeal from the Geneva Office for help in translating French and German resolutions into English. Miss Sheepshanks offered to help with this work.

(3) Miss Hayler of Croydon had undertaken to report on the Internationalisation of Civil Aviation;

(4) A resolution for the Congress on the Equal Status of Women. On this subject it was reported that a letter from the Liaison Committee had been received, though it should have gone to the Geneva Office. Miss Harrison urged that the W.I.L.P.F. be asked to accept the formula proposed in the letter which is more likely to unite opinion in Geneva. In suggesting that the proposal be accepted it was also proposed that for the sake of clearness the words "of rights and citizenship" should be included in the third paragraph, and that the title should be "Equality of Rights and

It was agreed to ask the Geneva Office if an interpreter into English is being provided, and if not, to write to our Sections in Czecho-Slovakia, Austria and Switzerland to see if they can provide an interpreter on payment of expenses. Miss Moll had replied that she regretted she was unable to help this year.

After consideration the following Delegates and Alternates were appointed to attend the Congress:-

Delegates: Miss Karleen Baker, Mrs. Brayshaw (Manchester) Miss Hayler (Croydon), Mrs. Lankester, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Smallpage (Bristol), Mrs. Steven (Glasgow), Mrs. Thoday (North Wales), Lady Unwin, Mrs. Lennard (Birmingham).

Alternates: Miss B.M. Baker (Bristol, if able to go) Mrs. Henson (Marazion), Miss Holland (Birmingham), Miss Horscroft, Mrs. McGregor Wood.

The following will attend, with full voting rights:-

Consultative Members: Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Innes.

International Executive Member: Miss Edith Pye.

It was agreed that where necessary grants towards expenses should be made to delegates but not to alternates.

366. FRIENDS OF PEACE AND DISARMAMENT Mrs. Innes reported that the replies to the questionnaire which had been sent out had not been satisfactory, and she thought it was necessary to consider whether the work should be continued. Before coming to a decision it was agreed that Miss Horscroft should endeavour to interview some of the Secretaries in and near London and report back to the Committee. It was agreed to issue another leaflet.

367. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Mrs. Lankester agreed to serve on the National Peace Council in place of Miss Chick. Our other representatives were Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Innes and Miss Baker.

The appointment of delegates to the N.P.C. Congress was left in the hands of Mrs. Innes as so many of the Executive would be attending in other capacities, and many of the



Branches were sending delegates. Agreed to co-operate in the Procession to Trafalgar Square on Sunday, May 30th.

Lady Unwin reported that she had attended the Joint Conference on Air Raid Precautions and Civilian Defence on behalf of the W.I.L.

368. PEACE ARMY. Reported that on behalf of the W.I.L. Miss Gill was attending a Conference to consider peacemaking in Palestine.

369. WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL, L.N.U. Agreed that the appointment of a representative in place of Dr. Clark at meetings of the Council during her absence abroad should be left over until the next meeting of the Council was called.

370. BRITISH COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE CONFERENCE It was agreed to ask permission to use the two delegates' tickets between three or four people. Mrs. Lankester, Miss Dickinson and Mrs. Duncan Harris were prepared to attend some of the sessions.

371. INTERNATIONAL PEACE CAMPAIGN. Mrs. Innes reported that she was unable to continue to serve on the Council of the I.P.C.

372. DUTCH WOMEN'S PEACE PROCESSION. In response to an appeal for messages to a mass meeting of women at Utrecht on the 18th May, it was agreed to send the following:-

"The W.I.L.P.F. (British Section) sends greetings and best wishes to the women of Holland, demonstrating for peace on May 18th."

373. MRS. EVERETT. Reported a letter suggesting that Miss Helen Fraser would be willing to speak to W.I.L. Meetings on the Misconception of Money and the distortion of values brought about by the vested interest of world financiers. Agreed to consult the British Commonwealth League before taking action.

374. MUI T'SAI COMMISSION. Reported that Miss Harrison and Mrs. Barrs Davies were representing the W.I.L. at a small Conference to consider the Report on the Mui T'sai Commission at the House of Commons on 7th May.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

B. Duncan Harris  
8. VI. 37



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for April 1937.

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Balance 229.15. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$   
 Subscriptions 15. 5. 0.  
 Donations 1. 5. 0.  
 Donations to  
 Congress Fund 1. 1. 0.  
 Affiliation Fees 12. 8.  
 Sale of News  
 Sheets &  
 Literature 4. 9. 6.  
 Birthday photos 7. 6.  
 Council Travel-  
 ling "Pool" 4. 5. 11.  
 Loan Refunded  
 from House AC. 56. 3. 9.  
 Proceeds of  
 April 15th.  
 Lunch 1. 2. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$   
 Geneva  
 Pax 2. 6.  
 Subs. 1.0.0.  
 1. 2. 6.

85.15. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

£315.11. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

Salaries 42.10. 0.  
 Wages 4. 7. 6.  
 Office Expenses 2.11. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ .  
 Insurance 1. 4. 3.  
 Travelling Expenses 3. 2. 6.  
 Affiliation Fees 4. 8. 7.  
 News Sheets &  
 Literature  
 purchased 6.17.10.  
 Printing (including  
 Annual Report  
 £18.7.0; Letter  
 headings £4.18.6.) 23. 5. 6.  
 Stationery 1.13. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$   
 Postage 10. 6. 9.  
 Telephone 5. 6. 8.  
 Press Agency 2. 2. 0.  
 Lighting & heating 7.10. 1.  
 Rent 12.10. 0.  
 Council "Pool"  
 Delegate Fee to  
 Air Raid Pre-  
 caution Conference 1. 0.  
 Grant (for India  
 Bulletin) 2. 2. 0.  
 Geneva  
 Pax 2. 8. 0.  
 Subs: 12. 0. 0.  
 14. 8. 0.  
 150. 0. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$   
 Balance at  
 Midland Bank 159. 9. 7.  
 Cash in hand 6. 1. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
 165.10. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

£315.11. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

Outstanding Accounts

I.P.C. (for Dr. Eltz) 17. 6.  
 Coal 1. 5. 0.  
 Geneva Pax & Subs. 1. 2. 6.

£3. 5. 0.



Copy of letter to the Rt. Hon. Anthony Eden, M.P.,  
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Downing  
Street, Whitehall, S.W. 1.

Dear Sir,

The Executive Committee of the Women's  
International League, profoundly shocked by the terrible  
bombing of Guernica, desire me to urge you to make every  
possible effort to avert a repetition of such actions  
under any circumstances.

In this connection we deplore more than ever  
the recent bombing raids on the North West Frontier of  
India which, as Italian Press shows, nullify any such  
efforts Great Britain may make, and create a feeling of  
hypocrisy and shame in English men and women who protest  
on humanitarian grounds against such outrages in Spain.

We enclose a letter we have to-day sent to  
the Secretary of State for India, a copy of which is also  
being sent to the Press.

Yours faithfully,

(SIGNED) B. DUNCAN HARRIS,

Chairman.



# Women's International League

BRITISH SECTION OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM.

*Hon. Treasurer:*  
Mrs. MCGREGOR WOOD.

*Hon. Secretary:*  
Mrs. K. E. INNES.

*Executive Committee:*

*Chairman:* Mrs. DUNCAN HARRIS. J. P.

*Vice-Chairmen:*

Miss EDITH PYE  
Miss MARY SHEEPHANKS.  
Mrs. THODAY.

Miss MOSA ANDERSON.  
Miss KARLEEN BAKER.  
Mrs. BINYON.  
Miss MARY CHICK.  
Dr. HILDA CLARK.  
Miss MAUD DICKINSON.  
Mrs. GREENWOOD.

Miss AGATHA HARRISON.  
Mrs. KRAFT.  
Mrs. LANKESTER.  
Mrs. LONGSON.  
Miss C. E. MARSHALL.  
Miss W. G. RINDER.  
Mrs. SAVAGE.

Mrs. PAUL STURGE.  
Mrs. THORNYCROFT.  
Mrs. PHILIP UNWIN.  
Miss DORA WARNER.  
Miss FRED A WHITE.

*Hon. Press Secretary:* Miss KARLEEN BAKER, B.Sc. Econ.  
TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: MUSEUM 3179.  
INQUIRIES: 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

*Office Secretary:* Miss E. HORSCROFT,  
INTERNATIONAL HOUSE,  
55 GOWER STREET, LONDON, W.C.1.

*Vice-Presidents:*

Miss MARGARET ASHTON.  
Miss VERA BRITTAIN.  
Mrs. DE BUNSEN.  
The Hon. Mrs. FRANKLIN.  
Mrs. E. PETHICK LAWRENCE.  
Dr. MAUDE ROYDEN.  
Lady UNWIN.  
Mrs. BASIL WILLIAMS.  
Dr. ETHEL WILLIAMS, J.P.

Copy of letter to The Chairman, Imperial Conference, St. James's Palace, S.W. 1. dated 13th May, 1937.

Dear Sir,

At the Imperial Conference the Members of the British Commonwealth will review the world situation.

The British Section of the Women's International League believes that there is at present a particularly important opportunity for economic progress which would contribute to political appeasement. Suggestions for the lessening of trade restrictions have been made by Mr. Cordell Hull of the United States, M. Daldier of France, M. Colijn of The Netherlands, M. van Zeeland of Belgium and Dr. Schacht of Germany. The two practical initiatives have come from the United States and the Oslo Group. This situation is dominated and in some respects



controlled by the British Empire.

We therefore respectfully propose that the Ottawa Agreements should be so modified that the present high level of tariffs on foreign imports may be reduced. Also that the Open Door regime should be restored in non-self-governing territories. Most favoured Nation rights should be waived in order to permit of the low-tariff group proposed by the Oslo States. The British Empire should adhere to that Group. A long-range policy should link membership of the League of Nations and partnership in a collective system and disarmament with the economic advantages to be gained by freer trade, in such a way that Germany may join in a common plan.

Yours **f**aithfully,

(Signed) K. E. INNES,

Hon. Secretary.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting of Executive Committee, Tuesday, June 8th 1937 at 55 Gower Street, London, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Miss Baker, Mrs. Sturge, Mrs. Savage, Mrs. Wood, Miss Pye, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Miss Chick, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Longson, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Kraft. ~~Miss Marshall.~~

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Were received from Dr. Clark, who is now on her way to South Africa, Miss Warner, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss White, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Lankester ~~Mrs.~~ Greenwood, Mrs. Thornycroft.

Mrs. Innes reported that on behalf of the Committee she had sent a message of sympathy to Lady Snowden on the death of her husband.

MINUTES of Meeting on 4th May were confirmed, having been previously circulated.

375. BUSINESS ARISING: Miss Harrison reported that the Mui Tsai Conference At the House of Commons in May, which she and Mrs. Barrs Davies had attended on behalf of the W.I.L. was well attended and the following resolutions had been passed:-

1. "This meeting calls upon the Government to secure the prohibition of all buying and selling of human beings which violates the principle laid down in Article 1 of the Slavery Convention of the League of Nations."
2. "This meeting is in favour of the recommendation of the minority report of the Hong Kong and Malaya Commission for legislation which will make it necessary to notify to a government official any transaction under which any child, irrespective of its nationality, is transferred from the custody of its parents to the custody of some person other than a near relative."

With regard to the second resolution she said that several organisations were anxious to strike at the question of slavery which was the principle underlying the Report of the Commission. Mr. Ormsby Gore was being asked to receive a deputation on the subject. Miss Harrison undertook to watch the situation and report further at a later Committee.

It was agreed to let Sir John Harris know that the W.I.L. appreciated the calling of the meeting and that we shall be glad to be kept in touch with future developments.

The Chairman reported that Mrs. Pethick Lawrence had consented to act as Hon. Treasurer for the Dr. Anita Augspurg Fund. So far £63. 13. 6 had been received. It was hoped that we should be able to collect £80 - one pound for every year of her life.

Reported a letter from Mr. Koestler, former News Chronicle Correspondent in Spain, expressing grateful thanks for everything the W.I.L. had done to help to secure his release from prison in Seville.

Reported that the crew of the S.S. "Linaria", who refused to take a ship to Spain with a cargo of nitrate, won their appeal at Liverpool on Monday on a technical point. The journey to Spain was not in their contract and they were entitled to refuse. Agreed to inform Miss Balch of this decision.



376. FINANCE. The Treasurer presented the attached statement of accounts calling attention to the fact that of the balance shown, the sum of £63. 13. 6. was ear-marked for the Dr. Augspurg Fund. Thus our balance in hand is £124. 18. 6. She reminded the Committee that the expenses of the Congress were to be met out of General Funds but that the Garden Party on July 3rd was really being held for this special need.

The Committee agreed that three tickets for this should be sent to members of the Executive in the hope that they would be sold to friends.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that the Croydon Branch was also arranging a Garden Party on June 23rd, by which it was hoped to realise sufficient for the expenses of the delegate living at Croydon.

In connection with the Jane Addams International Peace Fund it was agreed to order six collecting boxes from Madame Cederfeld of ~~Sweden~~<sup>Denmark</sup>, as samples.

377. INDIA. Reported acknowledgments of our letter of 6th May re the bombing of the North West Frontier. The Secretary of State for India replied that "the Government of India have the various aspects of this subject under constant consideration by means of expert inquiries and otherwise. They have prominently in view the desirability of improving the economic conditions of the tribes and in recent years much has been done towards this end." The Chairman reported that the Friends Peace Committee have taken similar action, while the National Peace Congress passed a resolution on the subject. Miss Dickinson said that Sir Gilbert Murray was bringing the question before the Executive Committee of the League of Nations Union. Several W.I.L. Branches had also taken action in response to the Committee's appeal.

The Women's Peace Crusade had replied that it agreed with what the W.I.L. said about the bombing of tribesmen, but it felt that the urgent need of the moment after the dreadful affair at Guernica is to try to organise a protest strong enough to save Bilbao and possibly Madrid from a similar fate. It, therefore, thought it better to keep to the one course. Agreed to write again to the Crusade.

Miss Harrison said that our letter to Lord Zetland had been printed in several papers in India and had created much interest there. She advocated no further action about an inquiry until Mr. Bhulabhai Desai had arrived from India as she would like him to meet and advise representatives of the Peace Organisations on the matter. It was agreed to ask Mr. Bailey if he would be willing to call a meeting for the purpose.

Miss Harrison then gave a brief survey of the general situation in India and mentioned that she would be speaking on the subject to several Branches in the near future.

378 SPAIN. Miss Pye gave a report of the arrival of the Basque children into this country and of the excellent voluntary help that was being given to them. The Municipal support through the country is indicative of the widespread interest, but the British Government, unlike the French Government, is not contributing anything either in money or kind. It is in fact, charging for the loan of the tents, etc. After discussion it was agreed to urge the Chancellor of the Exchequer to give practical support by means of a money grant.



It was further agreed to send copies of this letter to other Organisations, Sir John Simon and Lady Simon.

The following resolution concerning the bombardment of Almeria as a reprisal for the bombing of the "Deutschland" was passed, and instructions given for it to be sent to the Foreign Office, the German and Italian Embassies, and to the Chairman of the Non-Intervention Committee with a covering letter:-

"The members of the Executive Committee of the Women's International League, which has always considered reprisals to be unworthy of civilised nations, wish to express to you their horror at the bombardment of Almeria by Germany, a member of the Non-Intervention Committee, through which non-combatant men, women and children have lost their lives.

We desire to express our deep sympathy with the relatives of the sailors of the "Deutschland" as well as with the Spanish victims. We feel sure that the sorrow of the former will not be mitigated by the knowledge that Spanish people have been murdered in revenge.

We note with satisfaction that the Foreign Secretary has refused to accept the principle of retaliation. We believe that public opinion in this country is strongly against it, and we beg him to uphold this opinion in the Non-Intervention Committee."

Miss Pye undertook to be the Referent on Spain at the W.I.L.P.F. Congress at Luhacovice.

A letter was reported from the W.I.L.P.F. to the International Federation of Trades Unions urging them to ask their Trade Unions not to put difficulties in the way of refugees entering their countries on the ground of their taking work in the country.

Reported receipt of two pamphlets from the Union of Democratic Control on (1) Italian aggression in Spain, (2) Evidence of recent breaches by Germany and Italy of the Non-Intervention Agreement, compiled by the Committee of Inquiry into Breaches of International Law relating to Intervention in Spain. Copies were ordered for sale at the Executive during the afternoon and they were to be offered to the Branches.

Reported that a number of influential British signatures had been secured to a Memorial regarding the threatened destruction of the cultural life of the Spanish people.

The W.I.L.P.F. Chairmen sent the following letter to General Franco:-

"The W.I.L.P.F. expresses its deep indignation at the cruel bombarding of Guernica, for which there was no reason whatever, not even the excuse of military necessity. It considers this act as a violation of all human and cultural laws, by which those who are responsible for it, place themselves outside the scope of civilisation."

Reported that Mrs. Soljak of New Zealand, W.I.L., had drawn our attention to a report that at the League of Nations Council the speech of the New Zealand representative concern-



ing the Spanish situation had been altered in the Council by Mr. Eden, which caused such embarrassment and confusion that he was unable to follow the lines of his notes. It was agreed to ask Mr. Eden if he would give us the true facts of the incident.

378. AFRICA. Mrs. Savage raised the question of making a protest (1) against allowing Southern Rhodesia complete control of its native policy, and (2) against letting the Union recruit native labour in British tropical dependencies. Mrs. McGregor Ross had been consulted and had sent two resolutions for the consideration of the Committee, with the recommendation that if the Branches are asked to pass resolutions a reprint from "The Times" on the Native distress in Nyasaland, should be sent to them at the same time. Miss Anderson also put forward two resolutions, and after consideration of all the material before the Committee the attached resolutions were passed, and instructions given for them to be sent to the proper quarters.

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

Reported a letter from the Chairmen of the W.I.L.P.F. to the Bureau of the Disarmament Conference appealing that a Disarmament Conference be called as soon as possible. The Committee warmly endorsed the letter.

Congress. Reported that Miss Steven of Glasgow was unable to attend the Congress owing to illness. It was agreed to ask Miss Sutherland if she could attend and take part in the discussions on the Status of Women. Failing her Miss Anderson said she would see if it were possible for her to go. It was agreed to ask the following delegates to take part in the discussions on:-

A World Conference on Economic and other Grievances,  
Mrs. Thoday (and possibly Miss Anderson or Miss  
Sutherland).

The Prevention of War and the Establishment of a New  
Peace, Miss Catherine Marshall.

The Strengthening of the League of Nations, Mrs. Brayshaw  
and Mrs. Innes.

Sovereign Rights, Miss Marshall.

The Right of Asylum, Miss Pye.

Equality of Status of Women Miss Sutherland or Miss  
Anderson.

Nationality, Lady Unwin.

India, Mrs. Lankester.

Constitution of the W.I.L.P.F. Mrs. Duncan Harris.

Miss Karleen Baker was undertaking the Press work for the British papers and Miss Hayler was reporting on the Internationalisation of Civil Aviation.

Mrs. Innes expressed the fear that in view of the critical situation in Spain there would be a strong tendency to support the Dutch resolution about postponing



discussion on the Constitution, and she had written suggesting that this particular resolution should be taken among matters of policy and not be regarded as a proposal for a change.

After discussion it was agreed to suggest that the discussion on the Dutch resolution be taken at the end of the morning before the Constitution is discussed in the afternoon and that a limit be put to the discussion and a vote taken at the end of the morning.

It was possible that Frau Misar and Frau Feichtinger would interpret into English at the Congress.

Reported a letter from Miss Balch consenting to allow herself to be nominated for the Office of Hon. International President.

380. BY-ELECTION LEAFLETS. Miss Baker reported that the Publicity Committee had drafted questions for the consideration of the Executive as there were eleven by-elections pending and it was urgent that a leaflet should be issued immediately. The questions and notes to accompany them were then considered and the attached was adopted.

It was agreed to send copies of these questions and notes to other Organisations asking for co-operation of their members in the Constituencies in getting the questions put to the Candidates.

381. NATIONAL PEACE CONGRESS. After the delegates had given their reports about the Congress it was agreed to send the following points to Mr. Bailey:-

(1) regret that no larger place was found for women in the programme, in view of their contribution in the work of the Peace Movement.

(2) that it was too soon to have the Congress again in London and the hope that it would not be held there again for some time.

(3) that it would be better to hold the Congress alternate years and not every year. This to be passed on as the opinion of some in the discussion.

(4) that processions in London arranged as part of something else are a mistake, and that in any case it is a pity that a Procession and a Service should be arranged at the same time.

(5) that it was felt that the Congress had achieved a unity which did not seem likely at the beginning, and

(6) that Bishop Barnes had been an admirable Chairman.

382. DEVELOPMENT OF W.I.L. WORK. The Chairman reported that through the active work of Mrs. Savage a W.I.L. Group had been formed in Norbury to study the causes and cure of war, and it was hoped that in the near future a Branch would be formed.

The view was expressed that our work could be developed and our policy strengthened if individual members could arrange meetings of little groups and if our Branches could spread their work over larger areas.



383. CORRESPONDENCE. Reported an invitation to send a representative to a Social Meeting of the Women's Freedom League, to celebrate Mrs. Despard's birthday on Tuesday, 15th June in the Caxton Hall at 7.30 p.m. Representatives will be asked to sign a Roll of Homage which will be sent to Mrs. Despard, who, owing to illness is unable to travel to London. Miss Dickinson offered to represent the W.I.L. and was accordingly authorised to sign the Roll on its behalf.

Reported that the Hon. Secretary had sent greetings to the Congress of the International Abolitionist Federation which met in Paris May 20/22nd.

The Officers were left to try to find a representative to attend the Rassemblement International contre la Guerre et le Militarisme which was being held in Paris 1/5th August.

Miss Marshall consented to represent the W.I.L. at the British National Committee of the International Peace Campaign at the House of Commons on 10th June, 4.30 p.m.

Miss Karleen Baker consented to represent the W.I.L. in place of Dr. Clark at the meeting of the Women's Advisory Council of the League of Nations Union on 14th July, at 11 a.m.

Reported an appeal for help in providing equipment for the Cotswold Bruderhof in Wiltshire, which was explained by Mrs. Sturge. Interested as many of our members were in the Movement the Committee agreed that the decision made long ago that the W.I.L. could not undertake relief work, must be adhered to.

Agreed to inform the Branches of the offer from Dr. Ruth Schulze-Gavernitz to lecture on such subjects as The Contemporary Near and Far East in relation to Great Britain; Nations of the Mediterranean and Near East in relation to England; The Spanish Crisis and what it involves; Eastern and Western Europe and the Problem of Peace and War, etc.

Reported the formation of an International Committee for World Peace Prize Award to Rosikia Schwimmer which Award, it was hoped, would be presented to her on her sixtieth birthday on 11th September.

This concluded the business.

Date of next meeting, Tuesday, July 13th.

B. ~~to~~ *Harris*  
13. VII. 37



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for May  
1937  
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<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure.</u>	
Balance	165.10. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Salaries	33. 1. 3.
Subscriptions	5.18. 6.	Office Expenses	2. 1. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Donations		State Insurance	12. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
General	8.14. 6.	Wages	3.10. 0.
Anita Augsburg		Postage & Wires	5.13. 2.
Fund	57.10. 6.	Travelling Expenses	4. 4. 8.
Affiliation Fees	2. 6.	Stationery	1.11. 6.
Sale of News		News Sheets & Literature purchased	5. 5. 3.
Sheets & Lit.	6.17.11.	Lighting & heating	1. 6. 0.
Birthday Photo	2. 6.	I.P.C. for Dr. Eltz	17. 6.
Council Travelling Expenses		Delegates' Fees	1. 0. 6.
"Pool"	5. 2.		
Proceeds of Lunch, May 5th.	3.11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Geneva	
Geneva		Subs:	2.1. 0.
Subs.	1.1.0.	Pax	2. 4.6.
Pax	2.2.0.	Jane	
Jane		Addams	1. 0. 0.
Addams	1.0.0.		<u>5. 5. 6.</u>
	<u>4. 3. 0.</u>		64. 8.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
		Balance at Midland Bank	180. 5. 5.
		Cash in hand	4.14.11 $\frac{1}{2}$
			<u>185. 0. 4<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>
	<u><u>£249. 9. 3.</u></u>		<u><u>£249. 9. 3 .</u></u>

Approximate Statement for  
June 1 - 7th.

Balance	185. 0. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Expenses	12. 4. 4.
Income	15.16. 0	Balance	188.12. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>£200.16. 4<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>		<u>£200.16. 4<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Resolution passed by the Executive Committee of the Women's International League at its meeting on Tuesday, June 8th, 1937.

AFRICA.

"The Executive Committee of the Women's International League notes with satisfaction the declaration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies that, as regards the territories in Africa under his control, he hopes to be able to ratify the International Labour Office Convention on Migrant Labour.

It believes, however, that the value of such ratification will be much lessened owing to the refusal of the Union of South Africa to ratify the Convention and it would suggest that our influence should be brought to bear upon the Union to conform to the standards agreed upon at Geneva.

Further, the Women's International League records its horror at the conditions disclosed in the recent Nyasaland Report on Migrant Labour, and urges that in order to prevent such an excessive exodus of the able-bodied male natives to earn money by labour in other territories, His Majesty's Government should recommend the encouragement of local agriculture and marketing schemes, in order that alternative means of support should be available."



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Resolution passed by the Executive Committee of the Women's International League at its meeting on Tuesday, June 8th, 1937.

AFRICA.

The Executive Committee of the Women's International League has welcomed the statements by the Secretary of State for the Dominions that His Majesty's Government does not contemplate any alteration in the Constitution of Southern Rhodesia, under which the Legislature, is for all practical purposes only representative of the interests of the white population.

It would deplore any weakening of such powers of control of Native policy as still remain in the hands of H.M. Government and suggests that never was the need for a close scrutiny of the claims of trusteeship for a politically defenceless people greater than it is to-day, when a policy of segregation is being advocated and put into practice.



## WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday, July 13th. 1937 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1.

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Miss Baker, Mrs. Paul Sturge, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Agatha Harrison, Miss E.M. Pye, Miss Maud Dickinson, Miss Warner, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Freda White, Mrs. Binyon and Miss Mosa Anderson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. Savage, Miss Marshall, Miss Chick and Dr. Hilda Clark, Mrs. McGregor Wood.

MINUTES of June 8th. meeting were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

### 384. BUSINESS ARISING

Reported that the Anita Augspurg Fund to date had reached the sum of £87.16. 6. In reply to a letter from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the Treasurer of the Fund, asking if a wider appeal could not be made among the W.I.L. members, it was agreed to recommend that she write to those people who have not responded to the first appeal and explain the difficulty of sending an appeal for this particular purpose to all our members.

Miss Pye explained that as long as the amount collected in England is known at the Congress it would not matter if the money were not sent until September.

Miss Sheepshanks spoke in warm terms of appreciation of the Garden Party at Lady Baker's house on July 3rd. and said that many people had expressed their delight in the beautiful garden and in the way everything had been organised. The financial results (£55.9.9d) had been highly satisfactory but she also thought the social side had been a very great success. The Committee expressed their gratitude to Miss Baker for all she had done and it was agreed that a letter of appreciation and thanks be sent to Lady Baker.

Mrs. Duncan Harris said that the Garden Party in Croydon had also been very successful, financially and socially. £23. 18.0. had been received, £15. had been handed over for the expenses of the delegate to the Congress from Croydon and £8.18.0. had been handed over to Headquarters towards the expenses of other delegates. Agreed that a letter of gratitude be sent to the Croydon Branch.

Reported that the leaflets issued for use in By-Elections had been sent to the Constituencies where By-Elections were being held. Unfortunately many of them were in places where we had no Branch, or members, but we were able to send the leaflets to the Secretaries of the Women's Co-operative Guild and the National British Women's Total Abstinence Union. The Kingston Peace Council had used the leaflets in the Kingston By-Election and the National Peace Council and the Union of Democratic Control had distributed copies to their affiliated societies.

With regard to the reported incident at the Council of the League of Nations between Mr. Eden and the New Zealand representative, it was stated that the denial of the truth of these Press Reports by Mr. Eden and Mr. Jordan, had been sent to the Branches, and the Executive for their information.



Miss Pye reported a letter from Dr. Clark who had talked with General Smuts about the Union of South Africa's native policy.

Mrs. Duncan Harris recommended for holiday reading Margery Perham's "Ten Africans".

385. FINANCE. In the absence of Mrs. Mc Gregor Wood, who was at present out of London following an illness, the attached statement of accounts was considered and adopted.

Mrs. Innes reported a letter from Madame Cederfeld saying that the collecting boxes for the Jane Addams Fund were not yet ready, but a model box would be on view at the Congress. The Committee was reminded that the British Section had ordered half a dozen.

386. AFRICA. Reported formal acknowledgments of our resolution on June 8th. from the High Commissioner of the Union of South Africa and from the Dominions Office.

387. SPAIN. Reported a formal acknowledgment from the Chancellor of the Exchequer of our letter of June 14th. Acknowledgments of the copy of the letter we had sent had been received from Lady Simon, the National Joint Committee for Spanish Relief, and the Friends Peace Committee of the Society of Friends. Dr. Maxwell Garnett of the League of Nations Union had said that our copy had come before the L.N.U. Executive on June 24th. and Professor Murray had been asked to write to Mr. Eden supporting our request for Government help in connection with the Basque children in this country. Dr. Garnett enclosed a copy of Mr. Eden's reply to Professor Murray, in which he said that the National Joint Committee had raised the question of a Government grant of £1. for £1. but the Government had felt that the British refugees from Spain had first call on public funds, The fact, however, that the Government were unable to make a grant should not be taken to mean that they were not prepared to co-operate in an international scheme for relieving distress in Spain on a strictly impartial basis. Mr. Eden also said that he had received an appeal for funds from the International Red Cross Committee to enable it to continue its humanitarian work in Spain, and if other Governments come forward, and provided the assistance offered is acceptable to both parties in Spain, he would consider the possibility of making an application to the Treasury for a grant from public funds to that Committee. He further said that the question of the loan of War Office material is a matter for that department and a copy of Professor Murray's inquiry was being forwarded to Mr. Hore Belisha for his consideration.

It was agreed that no further action could be taken for the moment.

Reported acknowledgments from Mr. Anthony Eden and the Earl of Plymouth of our resolution of June 8th. re the bombardment of Almeria.

Also reported that the N.P.C. resolution urging the summoning of a special meeting of the League Assembly to secure the immediate withdrawal of foreign military, naval and air forces from Spain, and a cessation of the bombardment of open towns, had been sent to our Branches with the suggestion that they should send similar resolutions to the Government, their local Members of Parliament, and the Press. The following Branches had reported action: Manchester, Leicester and North Wales.



Miss Warner reported Captain Waterhouse's reply to the questions sent by the Leicester Branch expressing the fear that the summoning of an extraordinary meeting of the League Assembly could not help and might confuse the issue, and saying that it was not clear to him what the League meant by urging H.M. Government not to support or condone the retaliatory action by Germany and Italy. Miss White promised to help Miss Warner in drafting a reply to the letter.

388. THE FAR EAST. Serious consideration was given to the grave situation between China and Japan and it was agreed that the N.P.C. and the L.N.U. Executives should be asked to consider the suggestion that the British Government be asked to get into touch with the U.S.A. Government with a view to considering joint measures which might deter Japan from continuing its aggression against China.

It was agreed that a copy of the letter should be sent to the Friends Peace Committee, Peace Pledge Union and other interested Societies, including the U.S.A. Section asking for their co-operation.

It was agreed that if the Executives of the N.P.C. and the L.N.U. did not see their way to act, the W.I.L. should approach the Government direct. Agreed that the Branches should have their attention drawn to this matter but at the moment it was not a question of their taking action.

389. INDIA. Miss Harrison (1) urged the Committee to make a careful study of the Congress Election Manifesto, duplicated copies of which were now available from the Office, price 6d. each; (2) reported that Mrs. Hamid Ali was attending the Congress at Luhacovice from the All India Women's Conference. This was the first time they had sent a delegate to our Congress and she hoped that the Congress, in particular the British Section would support the just aspirations of India and of Indian women and we must be prepared to hear the demand for complete independence. This was agreed; (3) undertook to draft a short message to be sent to Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Nehru congratulating them on the ending of the deadlock between the Government and Congress.

Miss Harrison visualised the possibility of a regional Conference of Women on Peace called by China, Japan and India, to which she hoped at least some women from the Continent would be able to go.

Miss Harrison also reported that Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, the leader of the Opposition in the Assembly had spoken on the question of the North West Frontier at a meeting of the National Peace Council on June 24th.

390. PALESTINE. A short discussion on Palestine took place but it was felt that until members had had an opportunity of reading the Report of the Royal Commission a detailed discussion was not possible. This was therefore referred to the September Committee.

391. LOANS TO GERMANY. Miss Sheepshanks said Mr. van Zeeland is said to be recommending that as part of the scheme of restoration Gt. Britain should make loans to Germany and Italy, but many Germans are protesting against such loans. If, however, we did urge any action we ought to say that in no circumstances should loans be made to these countries, unless as part of a general European settlement associated with measures of disarmament in which the strictest guarantee should be taken as to the use of the loans. After discussion Miss Sheepshanks agreed to draft a paragraph for the British delegation to take to Luhacovice

anti-  
Nazi  
B.H.H.



392. W.I.L.P.F. CONGRESS. Reported that the following were now unable to attend the Congress:- Mrs. Lankester & Miss Marshall owing to illness, Miss Anderson, to pressure of work. Mrs. Woodd and Miss Holland were also not attending as Alternates. Mrs. Coppock of Manchester might, however, find it possible to go as a delegate, and a telegram inviting her had been sent, and Miss Horscroft would go as a delegate. Miss Agatha Harrison promised to see if she could rearrange her engagements so as to be free to attend as a delegate.

The Committee expressed their great regret that Mrs. Lankester and Miss Marshall were prevented from going owing to ill-health and agreed that letters should be sent to them.

It was reported that one of the delegation would be asked to give a short report on the political and economic developments in Great Britain since the Spring Executive Committee.

Lady Unwin undertook to act as the spokesman for the British Section on the Nationality of Married Women, Mrs. Duncan Harris taking the Status of Women.

Mrs. Innes will take over the subject which had been apportioned to Miss Marshall.

Mrs. Innes asked for advice on the attitude to be taken by the British Section regarding the admission of the Ukrainian delegates to the Congress, arising out of the letter sent to delegates from Miss Sheepshanks.

After consideration it was agreed to support their claim for admittance as delegates if the Ukrainians in Poland could get their credentials from within the Ukraine, particularly as they formed a Section in the Ukraine on the promise of autonomy which was never given to them.

It was agreed that a meeting for members in London should be arranged in the early Autumn at which delegates would report Congress proceedings, and it was hoped that meetings throughout the country would also be arranged and delegates booked to speak at them. A suggestion was made that delegates from other Section might speak at the meetings, if they happened to be in England in the Autumn, or if invited.

Mrs. Innes reported that an urgency resolution proposed by the Dutch Section might come before the Congress recommending to the Sections the organisation of women's peace processions everywhere on the 18th. of May. The Committee expressed the view that the idea might be supported but we could not promise ourselves to carry it out.

Miss Pye explained a difficulty over Madame Comas attending the Congress and asked if there would be any funds available to make a grant towards her expenses. Mrs. Innes thought if all the delegates went there might even be a deficit, and the question of a grant was left to the discretion of the Officers.

393. FRIENDS OF PEACE AND DISARMAMENT. Miss Horscroft reported that as a result of her inquiries into the working of this Movement she had reached the conclusion that it was not working satisfactorily as far as the membership cards were concerned. The leaflets were distributed freely at meetings and not given in many cases to those members who had signed the card. Cambridge had worked along the original lines suggested for a long time but for various reasons felt that it was not a useful piece of work to continue. The leaflets had been very



much appreciated everywhere, and the suggestion had been made by two local Secretaries that speakers at their meetings to explain the leaflets would be very welcome.

After discussion it was agreed to give up the plan of the membership card but to continue printing periodically simple leaflets for wide distribution, retaining the help of the local Secretaries wherever possible.

394. Rassemblement international contre la Guerre et le Militarisme. Reported that a representative had not been found to attend this Conference in Paris from August 1/5th. Agreed to ask Mrs. Brayshaw if she could go.

395. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. Reported that Mrs. H.M. Swanwick's new book "Collective Insecurity" would be out in September.

Miss Pye reported an offer from Mr. Lyall of the Permanent Central Opium Board of the League of Nations, to pay for the issue of a pamphlet on Opium Smoking In China if the cost did not exceed £50. Some such title as "Does Opium Smoking threaten a man's life" was suggested. It was agreed to publish it under our name on the understanding that it involves us in no expense. Miss Pye and Miss Baker agreed to try to get it out as quickly as possible and the International Executive Committee was to be asked if it would have it distributed in Geneva at the time of the Assembly in September, and make it known to all W.I.L.P.F. Sections.

396. CORRESPONDENCE.

Decided to co-operate in a Conference of the Women's Freedom League on "Women and Political Action: More Women in Parliament, or a Woman's Party?" on Friday, 22nd. October from 10.30 to 5.15 p.m. Agreed to appoint four delegates at the September Committee.

Agreed to make known to our Branches a Pacifist Convention on September 18th. from 2.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. organised by the Parliamentary Pacifist Group.

A letter of thanks for our good wishes to the Central Committee of the Women's Peace Procession at Utrecht on 18th. May was reported.

Mrs. Basil Williams, Chairman of our Edinburgh W.I.L. had written to say that owing to leaving Edinburgh she was giving up the Chairmanship, but that Mrs. Crawford was taking up the Office.

Reported the International Peace Campaign had adopted a resolution advocating the calling of an immediate meeting of the League of Nations Council to deal with the question of intervention in Spain and the continuation of the war there.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING, September 14th. unless an emergency meeting is necessary before then.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS.

B. to me as Harris

14.18.37



Copy of letter sent to the Secretary of State for India  
by the Women's International League, 55 Gower Street, W.C. 1.

May 6th.1937

The Most Hon. The Marquess of Zetland,  
P.C., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,  
India Office,  
King Charles Street, S.W. 1.

Dear Sir,

The Executive Committee of the British Section of the Women's International League desires me to write to you on their behalf, as they wish to put on record their protest against the methods that are being used on the North West Frontier of India to deal with the turbulent tribesmen.

We are well aware that the analogy of Spain is by no means exact in detail, that it will be claimed that punitive measures were rendered necessary by the provocative action of fanatical leaders in Waziristan, and that before bombing operations take place warning is given so that non combatants can escape. At the same time my Committee feel that charges against us of hypocrisy by other nations are not altogether without reason when on the same day that protests were made in the British press with regard to the bombing at Guernica, it was possible for such headlines to appear as "Trapped Tribesmen mown down by R.A.F. on Indian Frontier" and for the 'Times' correspondent to write of the 'enemy presenting good targets of which full opportunity were taken by aircraft and artillery'.....'suffering heavy casualties'. We realise also that those of the 'enemy' who were wounded would be without any skilled medical aid.

Being convinced that no solution of the problems will be found in successive punitive expeditions, which have been tried for many years without any lasting appeasement, we would urge that the Government appoint without delay a commission of both British and Indian experts to enquire into the economic and other causes of the ever prevalent unrest. We consider that such an enquiry is long overdue, and that while present methods of attempting to subdue the tribesmen on the Indian Frontier is causing resentment in many parts of India, there is also in Great Britain a growing opinion which holds that the cause of world peace is being seriously retarded by this kind of action on the part of the British Government.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) B. DUNCAN HARRIS,

Chairman.

P.S. A copy of this is being sent to the Rt. Hon. Anthony Eden, and to the Press.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

Statement of Accounts for June, 1937.

Bal. at Bank.....180. 5. 5	Salaries.....43. 0. 0
Cash in hand..... 4.14.11½	Wages..... 3.10. 0
Subs.....43. 6. 6	Postage..... 5. 9. 1½
Dons..... 16. 0	Insurance..... 1.12. 4
" Congress..... 10. 0	Stationery..... 2.12. 1½
" Garden Party..21.13. 0	Office Expenses.. 2. 7. 3
Dr. Augspurg Fund 12.10. 6	Histories..... 1. 5. 8
News Sheet..... 9.14. 2½	News Sheets..... 3.17. 6
Literature..... 14.11½	Printing..... 3.19. 0
Histories..... 1. 3.10	Fares..... 2. 4. 7
Pax..... 2. 6	
Council "Pool."... 1. 2. 4	69.17. 7
91.13.10.	Balance at Bank..203. 9. 6
	Cash in hand..... 3. 7. 1½
£276.14. 2½	£276.14. 2½

Statement of Accounts from 1st to 12th July, 1937.

Statement of Accounts from 1st to 12th July, 1937.

Balance at Bank.....203. 9. 6	Salaries..... 11. 0. 0
Cash in hand..... 3. 7. 1½	Wages..... 1.15. 0
Subs.....11. 5. 6	Heating & Lighting 8. 6. 5
Dons. Congress.... 8.18. 0	(for 1 quarter)
Dr. Augspurg Fund 10.10. 0	Office Expenses... 3.11. 6
News Sheet & Lit. 1. -. 6	Postage..... 1. -. -
Office Expenses	Insurance..... 8. 1
refunded from	Congress Expenses
W.P.C..... 13.13. 9	re delegates.....28. 0. 0
Garden Party:-	54. 1. 0
Dons..... 5. 6. 0	Balance at Bank 224. 3. 8
Sales, including 27. 6. 9½	Cash in hand.... 6.12. 6
tickets.....	£284. 17. 2
78. 0. 6½	Ear-marked for 80. 11. -
£284.17. 2	Dr. Augspurg.
	£204. 6. 2



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee meeting held on 14th. September, 1937 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 55 Gower St. W.C. 1.

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PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Wood, Miss Baker, Mrs. Sturge, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Lancaster, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Binyon, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Warner, Mrs. Longson. The following Congress delegates attended as visitors: Mrs. Lennard (Birmingham) Mrs. Coppock (Manchester) Miss Hayler (Croydon) Miss Gill (London).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Chick, Dr. Clark, Miss Dickinson, Miss Marshall, Miss Pye, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Savage. The following delegates were also unable to be present: Mrs. Smallpage, Mrs. Henson, Miss Hopcroft, Mrs. Brayshaw.

It was AGREED to send a letter of sympathy to Miss Rinder who had very recently lost her Mother.

397. NOMINATION FOR CO-OPTION TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Mrs. Duncan Harris moved from the Chair that Mrs. Brayshaw be co-opted to the Executive in place of Mrs. Unwin. Supported by Mrs. Lennard, and AGREED unanimously.

398. MINUTES OF MEETING OF JULY 13th. having been previously circulated, were confirmed after the addition of the words "Anti-Nazi" preceding "Germans" in the fourth line of Minute 391 had been approved. Miss Sheepshanks said she would like to bring further corrections before the October Committee.

Reported a letter from Mrs. Adams of Acock's Green Branch suggesting that the persecution of the Jews and non-Aryans should be more specially mentioned in the Minute (391), AGREED to note the suggestion, but as this subject had not come up for discussion at the July Committee, not to alter the minute.

399. BUSINESS ARISING:

Reported that under cover of a letter from Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence, Hon. Treasurer of the Anita Augspurg Birthday Fund for the British Section, a cheque for £100 had been sent to Madame Ragaz. A list of contributors had been attached. Madame Ragaz in acknowledging the receipt of the money had said that, to date, about 4,000 Swiss francs had been collected for Dr. Augspurg's birthday present. Dr. Augspurg's birthday was on 22nd. September.

AGREED to invite the following to represent the W.I.L. at the one day Conference on October 22nd. of the Women's Freedom League on "Women and Political Action: More Women in Parliament, or a Woman's Party?": Miss Marshall, Mrs. Maxwell and a member from Golders Green Branch if the Secretary could get someone to attend. Discussion on the subject revealed unanimity against a Woman's Party, but there was a strong desire in the Committee to get women to take a greater interest in Women Candidates and for them to work through political parties to get women into Parliament. AGREED that these views should be forwarded to our prospective delegates. Attention was drawn to the fact that the Conference was being held on the opening day of the I.P.C. National Congress.



REPORTED a formal acknowledgment from Mr. Gandhi of our letter of July 16th. congratulating him on the ending of the deadlock between the Government and the Congress.

REPORTED a letter from Dr. Gilbert Murray enclosing a copy of a letter he had received from Mr. Hore-Belisha, Secretary of State for War. on the subject of the equipment the War Office has lent to the Joint Committee for Spanish Relief. As the Camps are closing, there is no need to pursue the matter.

REPORTED that the pamphlet on Opium Smoking in China had been published. The W.I.L.P.F. Committee had undertaken to distribute it to every member of the Assembly of the League of Nations. Copies had been sent to W.I.L. Branches and Executive and elsewhere according to lists supplied by Miss Pye. IT WAS AGREED that if anyone raised the question of price they should be invited to make a contribution towards the cost of postage as the pamphlet had been published at Mr. Lyall's expense. A notice of the pamphlet had appeared in the Manchester Guardian on 10th. September. Anyone knowing of suitable places of distribution is asked to inform the Office.

400. FINANCE The Treasurer presented the attached Statement of Accounts which was adopted. In drawing attention to the very low balance in hand she reminded the Committee that money had also been raised for the Anita Augspurg Fund and the Congress this year. It was pointed out, however, that these were not general appeals. Mrs. Wood put forward several proposals for stimulating interest in our work amongst members and non-members and for raising funds. The views were expressed that unless definite constructive pieces of work were organised it would be difficult, if not impossible, to stimulate interest or to raise funds, as people would not be so willing to contribute to the running expenses of an Office unless there was a clear objective to work for. After discussion it was AGREED:

- (1) that a Finance Committee be appointed, composed of the Officers, Mrs. Binyon and Miss Chick (subject to her consent);
- (2) that a list be compiled of members who were willing to be called on for different kinds of work as occasion arose;
- (3) that the Chairman should hold an Annual Reception for new members, the first Reception to be arranged as soon as possible;
- (4) that a letter over the names of Chairman, Hon. Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer, should be sent to all Headquarter members describing the work the Committee is hoping to carry out in the months to come, asking for their help in getting group meetings for the W.I.L. in fresh areas, and offering to send someone to talk with them if a group of ten or more could be guaranteed; telling them of the proposed Bring and Buy Sale in the Autumn, and finally, asking them to send a contribution to enable the Committee to work out its plans.
- (5) that our Branches should be invited to arrange a Bring and Buy Sale to help Headquarters.
- (6) that Branches should be invited to send a representative to Headquarter Executive Committee Meetings each month.

Regarding a suggestion that an additional grant might be made towards the expenses of Senora Camps in connection with the Congress, it was AGREED that our funds would not allow of this and that the matter should be left to the W.I.L.P.F. Executive.



401. CONGRESS AT LUHACOVICE

Reports were given by many of the delegates present: Mrs. Duncan Harris expressed appreciation of the part played in the Congress by members of the British Delegation. She was glad to say that Mrs. Hamid Ali (India) as a gesture of goodwill, associated herself with the British Delegation; as also had Senora Camps (Spain). Mrs. Gutman, an Associate Member of the British Section, who had been working in Palestine trying to get co-operation between Jews and Arabs, had been much with them.

The British Section's resolutions on the Status of Women and on the Constitution had not been voted on by the Congress. The question of the Status of Women is such an involved one that the delegates were not really competent to deal with it in the time left for discussing it. There were very many differences of views, but finally a resolution was adopted which she felt was the most we could hope for. The resolution ran:-

"Whereas the views as to protective legislation for women are different in all countries and all classes - also among women themselves;

"Whereas the question encourages a technical discussion which time does not allow

"This Congress in adopting this resolution repeats with strength its belief in women's liberty in all shades of life and protests against all attempts to reduce women's rights to decide in their own affairs."

With regard to the Constitution, the actual resolutions were not voted on as a resolution agreeing to a truce was adopted. It was obvious, however, that some of the Sections, particularly the Scandinavian, were anxious to see changes in the Constitution. Ultimately an Official Committee was appointed to examine Constitutional questions in readiness for the next Congress, and she (Mrs. Duncan Harris) had been appointed Convener. Although we had not secured "de jure" acceptance of our proposals it seemed likely that "de facto" recognition had been secured for some points. Three international chairmen had been appointed, including Mrs. Innes who was warmly welcomed and would be fully consulted. The composition of the new committee also promised greater harmony.

The following International Committee had been appointed

Madame Ragaz, Madame Ramondt-Hirschmann, Fraulein Baer, Madame Hanouskova, Miss Mohr, Miss Pye, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Olmsted, Frau Hertzka, Dr. Sahlbom, Madame Engkvist, Miss Daugaard.

Mrs. Innes read a report from Mrs. Brayshaw which gave an outline of the speeches given during the first two days of the Congress upon which Mrs. Innes's summary was based.

*Section in Poland,*  
It was also reported that our Sections in Belgium, the Ukrainian and Greece are to be visited, the Section in Mexico is to end as contact with Headquarters has not been maintained for a long time.

A Section in Egypt has been admitted. Mrs. Duncan Harris said she thought it was important and necessary that the British Section should keep in close contact with this new Section. There should be the same kind of link between



the two countries as the link we have between India and Great Britain through the Liaison Committee and particularly through Mrs. Lankester and Miss Harrison.

Later in the afternoon, Mrs. Lankester, who has been invited to attend the All India Women's Congress this year, consented to visit members of the Egyptian Section at the beginning of December or the end of February. The Committee expressed their warm approval of this proposed visit and AGREED that a contribution must be made towards her expenses. It was further agreed that Miss Pye should be asked to write a letter on the subject of Mrs. Lankester's visit to the W.I.L. Secretary in Egypt.

An exchange of telegrams between the Japanese Section and the Congress was reported, together with a telegram to the Non-Intervention Committee sitting in London, urging the withdrawal of foreign troops from Spain before any decisions were taken, and condemning any effort to accord to Franco the belligerent rights which put the aggressor and the victim on the same footing.

Resolutions were adopted on Spain, The Right of Asylum, Political Prisoners, Abyssinia, The Scottsborough Negroes, Status of Women, while a Statement on Neutrality by Miss Detzer, U.S.A., was accepted in principle. Madame Drevet's proposals for Disarmament were referred to the Executive Committee.

Miss Hayler gave a picturesque description of the social side of the Congress.

Mrs. Duncan Harris reported on the meetings of the Executive Committee after the Congress.

It was regretted that the British Press had not reported on the Congress, except the Birmingham papers which had accepted articles from Miss Hopercroft.

402. LLIAISON COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS Reported a request from the Geneva Office to find a representative to attend meetings of this Committee in London in place of Mrs. Hoppstock Huth, who was unable to attend further meetings. Miss Harrison said she thought it would be useful if a representative were appointed to attend. She acted on behalf of the Y.W.C.A. and would be willing to help anyone who was willing to serve. Mrs. MCGREGOR WOOD agreed to act as W.I.L.P.F. representative, and would report the meetings to the Geneva Office.

403. PROGRAMME OF WORK. Thought was given to plans for the Winter's work. It was agreed:-

(1) to organise a Public Meeting in London on October 12th. at the Swedenborg Hall (if possible) in order to follow up the work of the Congress. Speakers to be asked were Mrs. Ramondt-Hirschmann from Holland, Mrs. Hamid Ali (India) Dr. Bussey (U.S.A.), Senora Camps (to move a general resolution), Miss Pye. Mrs. Innes, as International Chairman, agreed to take the Chair. Admission was to be free, with some 1/- reserved seats, and a collection was to be taken during the meeting. The arrangements were left to the Office in consultation with the Officers.

Birmingham, Manchester and Croydon are also arranging meetings at which reports of the Congress will be given.



(2) to ask Branches to help headquarters to spread a wider interest in its work and to get many new members by getting groups started outside their own areas. Headquarter members were also to be invited to gather round them a group of ten or so who might be interested to hear of the peace work women were endeavouring to do in this and other countries. AGREED to offer to send a speaker to any group of ten or more.

(3) to ask the Literature Committee to bring forward definite suggestions for leaflets, and where possible drafts. Subjects suggested were :-

"What is the W.I.L. doing now?"

"The International Labour Office" (draft leaflet already written by Miss Gibberd which Mrs. Innes is studying)

"The bases of a new International Order."

"State Sovereignty"

"There are worse things than War." (Mrs. Lankester agreed to draw up notes starting from Lord Halifax's Sermon)

(4) to a Lunch Hour Meeting in October, with Miss Freda Utley, an authority on Japanese affairs, as the speaker if we were able to secure her. Agreed to offer her a fee. Failing her Owen Green, Editor of the "North China" or Mr. Gore also an authority on China were suggested

(5) to secure support for Mrs. Lankester's visit to Egypt and India.

Mrs. Innes read a proposal from Miss Bunbury, a W.I.L. member, that the W.I.L. should organise a great and dramatic appeal to the consciences of men all over the world to face their own psychology and where it leads them. A very interesting discussion followed, but it was AGREED not to follow up the suggestion by special action. The need for intensive educational work and specially for sound methods of education for children was the lesson drawn.

A proposal from Miss Hadley that the W.I.L. should organise a Peace Ballot was read, but the Committee felt that this was not the moment for another Ballot.

#### 403. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Abyssinia. Reported on acknowledgment from the Foreign Secretary of the resolution on Abyssinia which had been passed at the Congress, and forwarded to him for information by Mrs. Innes. A formal acknowledgment was also received from the Foreign Secretary of a letter from Mrs. Innes on 18th. August in which she expressed the hope that the British Government will continue at the forthcoming Assembly of the League of Nations to support the non-recognition of the Italian occupation of Abyssinia.

The following Branches had taken prompt action in response to Mrs. Innes's appeal to them to send resolutions and telegrams to the Government on the same lines as above:

North Wales, Worthing, Liverpool, Leicester, Manchester Acock's Green, Golders Green, Glasgow, Brighton, Tunbridge Wells.

Miss Sheepshanks reported on the all-day Conference and Public Meeting on September 9th. in the evening on Abyssinia, a long account of which appeared in the Manchester Guardian of the 10th.



- 6 -

*the atrocities still reported to be taking place in Abyssinia*

Miss Sheepshanks drew attention to the Emperor of Abyssinia's appeal to the League of Nations and to the facts which he gave concerning the War in Abyssinia. If they were true she thought they should be brought to the notice of our Government. It was AGREED to consult Sir John Harris as to whether the facts of the case as stated by the Emperor are true, and whether it is a fact that the country is not conquered by Italy except for about fifty miles around Addis Ababa ] X

SPAIN. Mrs. Duncan Harris reported that, after consulting Mrs. Innes and Miss Sheepshanks, on behalf of the W.I.L. she had responded to an appeal from Miss Rathbone, M.P., to sign the following telegram, jointly with other women's organisations, which was sent to the leaders on both sides of the war in Spain;)

"We, the undersigned, on behalf of the Societies we represent, venture to address ourselves to the leaders on both sides of the war in Spain.

"We note that there have been recent victories on both sides, in which large tracts of territory have changed hands. Remembering certain deplorable events in the earlier stages of the war, we feel deeply concerned for the safety of those who may have been taken prisoner, both combatants and non-combatants, especially for the safety of leaders of political parties, of municipal government and of organised labour, lest their political views should be made the excuse for severe punishment.

"We implore the victors to show mercy in the hour of their triumph, remembering that by their treatment of the governed no less than by their success in war the world will judge their claim to govern."

Mrs. Innes reported a letter from the W.I.L.P.F. sent on the request of the I.P.C. asking Sections to send a message to the President of the Assembly of the League of Nations on the present situation. She also reported a later request from the I.P.C. through Miss Courtney to sign a statement urging the Assembly to adopt an international policy based upon the Covenant of the League. After considering both Statements it was agreed to send the latter as requested to the Secretary of the Rassemblement Universel pour la Paix, Geneva, the following <sup>was</sup> signed by Mrs. Duncan Harris and Mrs. Innes.

"In view of the present disastrous world situation, we urge that at the XVIII Assembly of the League of Nations, an international policy should be adopted based upon the Covenant of the League, designed to restore confidence in the League of Nations, to organise world peace and to prevent aggression." Women's International League

It was agreed that a copy should be sent to the W.I.L.P.F. Geneva, for information, and that Dame Adelaide Livingstone, I.P.C., should be informed of the Statement sent.

CHINA & JAPAN. After discussing the Sino-Japanese situation it was agreed to inform the Foreign Secretary that the W.I.L. supported China's appeal to the League of Nations.

Miss Harrison reported hearing on the wireless news a few weeks ago that an appeal had been sent officially by some Missionaries in Shanghai to the International Missionary Council here and to the Federal Council of Churches in America urging them to protest against the situation in China, and particularly the bombing of Shanghai. It was agreed that we should ask the International Missionary Council here for information concerning this appeal.



It was agreed that a note should be inserted into the News Sheet pointing out the lessons to be learned from the bombing that is going on. Mrs. Innes said it had been reported that one bomb dropped by the Chinese in the International Settlement killed 275 people and wounded over 400. The bombers were aiming at Japanese battleships. It would be futile in the next war to try to protect ourselves against bombs by pasting up our windows and putting on gas masks

INDIA. Mrs. Lankester reported she had received an invitation as the Liaison Officer between the Indian Women's Associations and the British Women's Associations (of which the W.I.L. is one) who are interested in India, to attend the All India Women's Conference in December, and she hoped that it would be possible for her to accept. The Liaison Committee were considering the matter this week.

Miss Harrison said that the women specially wanted to meet Mrs. Lankester because they had got to know her through her work during the last three years as Liaison Officer. She very much hoped that the W.I.L. would give her their support. The Committee expressed their pleasure at the thought of Mrs. Lankester attending the ~~Congress~~ *Conference.*

As reported on page 4 Mrs. Lankester agreed to visit Egypt either before or after the All India Women's Conference.

Mrs. Lankester reported that at the meeting of the Standing Committee of the All Indian Women's Conference they had drawn up a constructive programme of work. It was, she said, encouraging to hear of the number of women already in Office in the new Legislature. Arising out of a letter from Miss Whateley the matter of Protective Legislation in India was going to be raised at the Liaison Committee this week. It was agreed that Mrs. Lankester should be sent a copy of the resolution on this subject passed at the Congress, together with our own British resolution.

Miss Harrison asked the Committee to watch the changes of policy in India, the North West Frontier, the use to be made of Indian troops sent to China, the opposition to the proposed basis for Federation. She also thought we should demand the abolition of the Andaman Islands as a penal settlement, about which Mr. Heath had written a pamphlet which it was agreed to circulate to the Executive.

Reported an All-day Conference on Civil Liberty in India was being organised for Sunday, 17th. October. Particulars of this Conference were to be given to Miss Harrison.

PALESTINE. The Chairman reported that the N.P.C. had given up the idea of arranging a Conference dealing with Palestine as it was felt not to be the most fruitful thing to concentrate on at the moment. As the suggestion of a Conference had come from the W.I.L. she asked if the Committee wished to do anything in the matter. Agreed to take no action at present.

WEST AFRICA. Reported a letter from Mr. Lewis of Bathurst, West Africa, saying that his wife and other women would very much like to get into close touch with British women working for peace and that they would like to form a Section of the W.I.L. in Bathurst. It was AGREED to write to Mrs. Lewis telling her how to form a Section and assuring her of our great interest in the efforts of the women of Bathurst to work for peace and our desire to keep in close touch with each other.



A letter was also reported from Mrs. Obasa of Lagos, Nigeria describing the collection of signatures from nearly 6,000 women associated with the Lagos Women's League to a Peace Petition, many signatures being by mark of thumb or a X. The signatures are in the Office. Agreed to send a cordial letter of appreciation, and inform them that the signatures were being sent to Geneva. Decided to keep in touch with Mrs. Obasa and to send her illustrated leaflets from time to time. Agreed to send a sheet for the Golden Book to Geneva and to write to the Aga Khan, President of the Assembly, saying that we have received this very interesting reflection from Africa of the mind of the people who were standing for peace. Copies of our letter to the Aga Khan were to be sent to the Members of the Mandates Commission for their information, and to Lord Lugard, though he is not now a member of the Committee. Agreed also to inform the Peoples Mandate Commission in America.

Further, it was agreed to try to get an account of this into the Press, and to add a paragraph to the appeal to Headquarter members.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA. Agreed to send a letter of sympathy to the Czech Section on the death of Dr. Masaryk.

GERMANY. Reported a request from Miss Daugaard for advice from Friends as to the advisability of sending a deputation from the Scandinavian countries to Berlin to protest against the death sentence of Liselotte Hermann, who had been arrested and sentenced on account of her Anti-Nazi ideas. Mrs. Duncan Harris immediately consulted people at Friends House who, however, had not had sufficient information about the case to do more than to protest against the death sentence. Miss Pye in her personal capacity, supported by Friends, had signed a telegram to the German Chancellor urging commutation of the death sentence.

404. BY-ELECTIONS. Reported action taken in connection with the By-Elections at Springburn (Glasgow) and North Islington.

405. CORRESPONDENCE.

(1) Reported that Miss Kinloch, member of our Glasgow Branch, had attended the Boeke Trust International Conference at Birmingham, and had sent to the Office a very interesting report of it.

(2) a letter from Mr. Bayard Price asking for support in a World Peace Referendum. Agreed to reply that at the moment the W.I.L. does not feel it would be effective to repeat a Peace Ballot.

(3) An invitation to appoint delegates to the International Peace Campaign National Congress on October 22nd, 23rd. and 24th. Mrs. Innes and Miss Baker hoped to attend.

This concluded the business.

Date of next Meeting, October 12th. 1937.

B. Duncan Harris  
12. X. 37



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for July and August 1937.

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Balance	206.16.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ .	Salaries	75.0.	0.
Subscriptions	17.4.	0.	Office Expenses	5.11.	8.
Donations			Wages	9.12.	6.
General	10.0.		State Insurance	1.14.	10.
Congress Fund	8.18.	0.	Stationery	4.0.	
Garden Party			News Sheet &		
Sales	28.1.	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Literature pur-		
Donations	5.16.	0.	chased	15.11.	
Sale of News			Telephone & postage	10.13.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sheets &			Lighting & heating	9.7.	2
Literature	1.12.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	Travelling Ex-		
Office Expenses			penses	3.16.	0.
refunded by			Congress -		
W.P.C.	13.7.	2.	Delegates' Ex-		
Anita Augspurg			penses	48.18.	1.
Fund	29.19.	0.	Garden Party		
			Expenses	10.0.	
	105.8.	3.	Anita Augspurg		
			Fund	100.0.	0.
				266.3.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
			Balance at		
			Midland Bank	39.1.	1.
			Cash in hand	7.0.	4.
				46.1.	5.
	<u>£312.4.</u>	<u>10<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>		<u>£312.4.</u>	<u>10<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Stationery	16.6.
News Sheets (2 months)	7.15.0.
International House	
Rent	12.10.0.
	<u>£21.1.6.</u>



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee held on Tuesday, October 12th. 1937  
at 55, Gower Street, London W.C. 1. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

-----

PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Chick, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Lankester, Mrs. Binyon, Mrs. Sturge, Miss Pye, Miss Harrison, Miss Rinder, Miss Baker, Mrs. Savage, Miss Warner, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Thoday.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Dr. Clark and Mrs. Thornycroft.

406. MISS CHRYSYAL MACMILLAN. The Chairman said she was sure the Committee would wish to put on record their deep sense of loss at the death of Miss Chrystal Macmillan. On the proposal of Miss Sheepshanks the following resolution was unanimously adopted and instructions given for it to be sent to the family, the Open Door Council, the International Women's Suffrage Alliance and to any other appropriate organisation:-

The Executive Committee of the British Section of the Women's International League expresses its deep sense of the loss which the women's movement has suffered by the death of Chrystal Macmillan, who devoted her life to the struggle for the equal status of women with men in all departments of life.

The Women's International League owes her also its gratitude for the great service she rendered it in its initial stages during and immediately after the war at the Congresses at the Hague in 1915 and at Zurich in 1919. Her work was of the greatest value in shaping the policy and constitution of the W.I.L. of which she continued her membership until the end of her life."

407. MINUTES OF MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 14th. were confirmed, after the following amendments had been made to

Minute 401 in last but one paragraph after "our Sections in Belgium" amend to read "the Ukrainian Section in Poland."

Minute 403, page 6 top line delete the words from "the Emperor" down to "war in Abyssinia" and insert "the atrocities still reported to be taking place in Abyssinia."

Minute 403. India. page 7. delete first paragraph and insert "Mrs. Lankester reported she had received an invitation as Liaison Officer between a group of British Women's organisations (of which the W.I.L. is one) which co-operates with the All Indian Women's Conference, to attend the annual session of the latter in December, and she hoped that it would be possible for her to accept. The Liaison Committee were considering the matter this week.

India, page 7 second paragraph, last word add "Conference " instead of "Congress".

India, page 7, fifth paragraph. Delete all after "penal settlement" and add: "She spoke of Mr. Heath's pamphlet on Federation which it was agreed to circulate to the Executive."

408. BUSINESS ARISING.

Dr. Anita Augspurg. Mrs. Innes read a letter from Dr. Augspurg expressing her deepest gratitude and thanks to the British Section for their birthday gift and good wishes on her 80th. birthday. Miss Pye said that the joint gifts from Sections had amounted to 5,000 Swiss francs.



Women's Freedom League Conference. Delegates appointed to attend this Conference were Mrs. Maxwell, Miss Marshall and Miss Dickinson. It was hoped that the Golders Green Branch would be appointing a fourth on behalf of the National Executive.

Jane Addams Collecting Boxes. The Chairman reported that the money collected in these boxes was for the establishment of a "Jane Addams Prize", application for which could be made by Sections or individual members of the W.I.L. for definite peace work. Each application would be considered by the Executive on its merits. This year 5,000 Swiss francs had been allocated for W.I.L.P.F. press work. The British Section has ordered 12 boxes which it was hoped the Branches would use at all their meetings so that the Fund would be continually replenished.

Lagos Women's Peace Petition. Mrs. Innes reported that the International Chairmen suggested that the sheet for the "Golden Book" should be presented to the League of Nations Secretariat at the time of the American Section's presentation of their signatures for the People's Mandate to Governments. This suggestion was accepted and it was AGREED to ask the Geneva Office to keep the signatures to the Petition until America was ready to present their's.

It was reported that one of our Members, Miss Gibberd, was visiting Nigeria this winter and had offered to help in any way to encourage the Women's League at Lagos to become more closely associated with women working for peace in other parts of the world. Mrs. Lewis of Bathurst and Mrs. Obasa, Lagos had been written to, regarding the formation of W.I.L.

#### 409. CHINA AND JAPAN

Reported (1) a formal acknowledgment by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of our letter of September 15th. supporting China's appeal to the League of Nations;

(2) a letter from the International Missionary Council in reply to ours of the 17th. September stating that the Council had received a cable from one of the Secretaries of the National Christian Council of China asking that a protest should be made by the Churches and the missionary societies in this country and America to their Governments with regard to the Japanese bombing of refugees and civilians. The Council had taken up the matter without delay and both Governments had been informed of their views. It has reason to believe that our Foreign Office have been active in the matter.

The Chairman reported that since the last meeting of the Executive, in consultation with the Officers, she had on September 25th:-

(1) sent a protest against the bombing of the civil population in China to the Japanese Ambassador;

(2) written to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs protesting against the bombing and urging the British Government to bring pressure on the Japanese Government to put a stop to the massacre (a copy of the letter to the Japanese Ambassador had been enclosed).

(3) written to Lord Cranborne to urge that the British Delegation at the League of Nations Assembly in Geneva should do its utmost to ensure that the League's Advisory Committee on the Far East should take up the consideration of the bombing by Japan on China, and of ways and means of bringing it to an end;



(4) sent copies of the above letters to the Branches urging them to take action on similar lines;

(5) sent a letter, drafted by Miss Pye, to the Chinese Ambassador expressing grief and horror at the wholesale slaughter of the Chinese people and the destruction of so much that is of value not only to China but to the world.

Acknowledgments from the two Ambassadors and the British Government had been received and there had been prompt and effective response from the Branches.

The Chairman further reported that, in view of the reply of the Japanese Government to the widespread protest against the bombing in China, she had, in response to an urgent appeal through the National Peace Council, written on 4th. October to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs asking that the British Government should make it clear that the protest was not only a humanitarian protest against specific acts of barbarism, and should urge the League of Nations to declare the strength of public opinion in condemnation of the Japanese policy of aggression. On the same day a telegram had been sent to Mrs. Innes, who was in Geneva, asking her to approach the British Delegation to the League of Nations with a view to its urging the League of Nations to condemn Japanese aggression.

A formal acknowledgment to our letter of the 4th. October was received from Mr. Eden, and Mrs. Innes immediately responded to the telegram by writing to the Rt. Hon Walter Elliott, Leader of the British Delegation. She had not received a reply.

Miss Pye reported that, remembering the connection the W.I.L.P.F. had with Madame Chiang Kai-Shek when she and Madame Drevet visited China in 1927, she had in consultation with the Officers sent a telegram of sympathy to Madame Chiang Kai-Shek at Nanking.

The Chairman reminded the Committee that the Women's Peace Crusade and the National Peace Council resolutions urging an embargo on war materials and a boycott on imports from Japan, had been sent to them for their consideration.

Mrs. Brayshaw presented a resolution adopted by the Manchester Executive Committee asking its members to refuse to buy any Japanese goods, and calling upon the National Executive to endorse this action and to press for its adoption by the whole W.I.L. at home and abroad. Mrs. Brayshaw, who had taken the Chair at the Manchester meeting, said the Committee were unanimous in wishing for this personal boycott of Japanese goods throughout the W.I.L. It is only fair to say, however, that she herself felt doubtful about such action.

Reported the Cambridge Branch had also asked for a lead on the question of a boycott. Difference of opinion was expressed in the Committee and it was decided to leave any action on these lines to individual decision.

Mrs. Innes reported that the International Chairmen had sent recommendations for immediate action to the National Sections as follows:-

I. to send a deputation to their respective Governments urging the adoption of an international policy:

a) in support of the Chinese appeal to the League of Nations for diplomatic, moral, economic, financial, political, and juridical measures:

b) in the refusal of imports from Japan;



c) in calling upon Japan to conform to her obligations under the Nine Power Treaty and the Kellogg Pact;

d) in the pressing for the abolition of air warfare and the internationalisation of civil aviation.

II. to ask their Governments

a) to place an embargo on war materials, arms and munitions to Japan;

b) to prevent the extension of official and possibly private loans and credits to the Japanese Government;

c) to refrain from sending technical assistance to the Japanese Government.

III. to organise mass meetings of protest.

The Chairmen had sent a telegram to some delegations of the Assembly demanding the express recognition and condemnation of Japanese aggression. Mrs. Innes further reported that following President Roosevelt's speech a letter had been sent to the U.S.A. Section to be forwarded, if approved, to the President welcoming his speech and expressing the hope that any non-military measures agreed upon by the other Powers to stop aggression and to do justice to the victim in the Far East, will be supported by the full co-operation of the United States.

National Sections had been asked to write to the President on similar lines.

On the proposal of Miss Rinder it was agreed to send a telegram to President Roosevelt expressing approval of his speech.

Mrs. Innes also reported that the W.I.L.P.F. Chairmen had sent a proposal to the League of Nations Secretariat urging that neutral representatives of the League of Nations should go to zones where peace is threatened, and suggesting that such a delegation should be sent at once to the Far East.

In opening the discussion Mrs. Duncan Harris said the Officers had taken no action which would commit the Section to a boycott, other than through the Women's Peace Crusade and the National Peace Council to which organisations the W.I.L. was affiliated. She said there is a widespread concurrence in the proposal of a boycott of Japanese imports and the prohibition of the export of war materials to Japan. But we are not called upon to demand vindictive measures but to seek some constructive measures which will end the war.

Miss Harrison said she must, in the light of her experience while in China and Japan, abstain from voting on any proposal for a boycott.

The various proposals before the Committee were then considered, including an amendment to the N.P.C. resolution proposed by Mrs. Lankester urging the abolition of air warfare.

Miss Pye hoped that a resolution based on the W.I.L.P.F. proposals would be adopted as they had been the W.I.L. policy for years.

Miss Sheepshanks in raising the point as to the object of Japan's action, referred to the W.P.C. Memorandum and to the fact that this Spring Japanese leading business men who were sent on a deputation to North China returned and advised the Government



Correction of Minute:

to forward the appointment of an International Commissioner and a relief fund. This seemed possible at one time, but in the end nothing had been done. She understood that the former opposition of the Spanish Government to an International Commissioner and a relief fund from private sources did not apply to an official relief fund contributed by Government.



that the time had come to alter their policy of militarism in North China, and to meet the Chinese on equal terms and to regulate their trade in a peaceful and friendly manner. On the other hand the Chinese had said that if they had had a little longer time they would have been able to discuss matters in ~~an~~ <sup>equal</sup> friendly spirit. ~~terms~~ The Japanese Commanders in North China were however determined to make it impossible for the Japanese Government to stop a war on China. There was no doubt that the Japanese armies were working against the wishes of many of the Japanese people. We are, therefore, faced with the necessity for urging measures likely to terminate the war and to allow the best considered Japanese opinion to override the Japanese military offensive.

Miss Rinder called attention to the circular letter from the Association of Japanese Business Men in London to the Chambers of Commerce in Great Britain attempting to suppress the boycott. Particulars of the circular appeared in the News Chronicle. She thought that the boycott to be effective must come from the business people and not only from individuals.

Mrs. Innes said that the Members of the League of Nations were asked in a resolution not to send military technical assistance and to help China wherever possible.

Miss Rinder, replying to a question from Miss Marshall, said there were no direct Government means to prevent private loans. Loans are made through big Banks with the concurrence of the Bank of England upon which the Government can put pressure if it wishes. In discussion it was realised that Japan had legitimate grievances and the way to settle them was through an International Conference and the Government should be urged to invite Japan to such a Conference where her case would be sympathetically considered.

During the lunch interval Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Brayshaw and Mrs. Sturge drafted a resolution embodying the various proposals and later in the afternoon the attached resolution was adopted. Instructions were given for it to be sent to the Government, the W.I.L.P.F. in Geneva and America, the National Peace Council, the Women's Peace Crusade and to other appropriate quarters and to the Press.

410. SPAIN. It was reported that the telegram referred to in the September Minutes of the Executive Committee, which Miss Rathbone proposed sending to the leaders on both sides of the Spanish conflict, had not been sent as it had been found impossible to collect enough signatures to make it effective.

Miss Pye reported that refugees were pouring in from North Spain and being sent in small boats to France. Private enterprise for feeding them was quite inadequate. The National Joint Committee for Spanish Relief had sent a representative to Geneva to try to get the appointment of an international Commissioner for relief, but the difficulty had been the refusal of Spain at that time to have such a Commissioner. She thought the W.I.L. might urge the British Government to make a grant for the relief of these refugees and to press on the League of Nations the appointment of a Commissioner to deal with the situation. Miss Pye said that after the meeting of the Friends Spanish Committee the following day (October 14th.) she would be willing to draft a letter to the Government, a copy of which should be sent to the Branches also, asking them to get it into their local press.



411. EGYPT. Mrs. Lankester said that the Liaison Committee of British Women's Organisations co-operating with the All India Women's Conference would be glad to know a little later how much money the W.I.L. would be able to contribute towards her visit to India in view of her breaking the homeward journey at Egypt. This question was referred to the Finance Committee.

412. INDIA. Miss Harrison (1) drew attention to a meeting of the Indian Conciliation Group to be held on October 20th. at 3.30 p.m. at Friends House when Mr. Joshi would be the speaker; (2) asked for the appointment of another delegate to the Civil Liberties Conference on Sunday 17th. October at Transport House. (Agreed to ask Miss Dickinson if she could attend); (3) reported that Mrs. Hamid Ali was obliged to return direct to India from Geneva instead of coming back to England

413. REFUGEES. Miss Pye whose opinion had been sought, reported Mrs. Ormerod, whom she had consulted, had said there was at the moment no action the W.I.L. could usefully take over the treatment of German refugees coming into this country, but she would watch the situation and inform us at once if there were anything we could do.

Miss Pye also said that the whole question of the League of Nations and Refugees was a difficult one. The British Delegation and particularly Lord Cranborne, took an active stand in favour of the League taking up the question of the legal protection of refugees.

414. GENEVA. Mrs. Innes further reported on the meetings of the joint Chairmen of the W.I.L.P.F. in Geneva recently. She said it was hoped that the Congress Report would be out by Christmas. The next regular Executive Meeting was due to meet before Easter. It was proposed that it should be called from January 5th.-9th. either in Geneva or Basle.

It was pointed out that as Mrs. Innes, who had acted as a Consultative Member, is now on the International Executive it was necessary to review the appointment of the two Consultative Members in time to attend the January Meeting. AGREED to appoint Mrs. Duncan Harris and Miss Karleen Baker. It was agreed that Geneva would be the best place for meeting.

415. INTERNATIONAL PEACE CAMPAIGN. Miss Sheepshanks reported that at the meeting of the I.P.C. which she attended instead of Mrs. Innes, she had been very cheered to hear of the reports of activities of the I.P.C. in many countries. She understood that it was of European importance that the Congress to be held during the week-end commencing October 22nd. should be successful. Miss Marshall said that the Peace Pavilion in the Paris Exhibition was well done and attracted crowds every day.

416. Miss Sheepshanks reported that the W.I.L. LUNCHEON MEETING on October 5th, when Miss Utley spoke on the Sino-Japanese situation, had been very good and had been of special interest to several members of our American Section.

416. FINANCE. Mrs. Wood presented the attached statement of accounts. She said that the House Trustees had been asked to make a loan of £50 from the International House Account, but they had felt this to be impossible. Dr. Clark very generously enclosed a cheque for £50. to be looked upon as a loan in order to tide us over the present emergency. The Branches and Headquarter Members had been appealed to for financial and other help but up to the time of making out the Statement only £6.15. 6d. had been received. Since then a very generous donation of £25. had been received from Miss Chick. Mrs. Wood emphasised the very critical position of the finances. The financial statement was adopted.



The Chairman raised the question of future development. The Office had filled in, on a map, the places where Branches and Headquarter Members lived but the map showed far too many empty spaces, and she would like to see the development of groups in many other parts of the country. Members had been offered the help of a speaker if they could guarantee at least an audience of ten. Mrs. Savage said she would like to see something of our activities described pictorially for propaganda work. In this she was supported by members who were active in Branch work. It was felt that an Extension Committee would be useful and it was agreed to ask Branch members on the Executive to have lunch together in the Office at the meeting of the Executive on November 9th. to talk over the best methods of propaganda. It was also agreed to ask our National Sections if they could send us photographs of some aspects of their work for use in our Extension Campaign.

417. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. Mrs. Savage was co-opted on to the Publicity Committee. Miss Baker reported that Mrs. Lankester will write a leaflet on "There are worse things than War" as soon as possible; Miss Sheepshanks might be able to draw up a leaflet based on the summary of discussion on a New International Order. It was also suggested that a pamphlet on the W.I.L.P.F. written by Madame Jouve (French W.I.L. Section) if translated and brought up to date might be very useful.

418. "BRING AND BUY" SALE. Agreed that this should be held on Tuesday, November 16th. The Office was left to get together a small Committee and to enlist the help needed.

419.

CORRESPONDENCE: Reported that letters had been received from Frau Kulka, a member of our Czecho-Slovakian Section asking the British Section to support the appeals on behalf of Liselotte Hermann, the young German woman who has been sentenced to death. This matter had been considered at the Executive Committee in September but on receiving the letters from Frau Kulka Miss Pye had written to Frau Schultz-Klinck asking for reliable information as to what has happened to the woman and her child.

Mrs. Innes reported a paragraph in the News Chronicle of September 28th. re the trying of Rumanian children by an Army Court. Agreed to send the paragraph to the Howard League and to the W.I.L.P.F. in Geneva.

Later in the afternoon Mrs. Dryer of Vancouver gave an account of the work by the W.I.L. Branch there. The Committee asked her to take back to her Committee greetings from the British Committee and best wishes for the continuance of their work.

This concluded the business.

*B. Duncan Harris*  
9. XI. 37



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1937

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Balance	46. 1. 5.	Salaries	26.10. 0.
Subscriptions	14.19. 6.	Wages	1.15. 0.
Donations	2. 2. 0.	Office Expenses	12. 0. $\frac{1}{2}$
Sale of Literature & N.S.	15. 6.	State Insurance	1. 1. $5\frac{1}{2}$
LOAN	50. 0. 0.	Postage & Telephone	6. 7. $5\frac{1}{2}$
		Literature purchased	7. 9.
		Travelling Expenses	4. 8. 6.
	67.17. 0.	Delegates' Fees	5. 0.
			41. 7. $0\frac{1}{2}$ .
		Balance at Midland Bank	66.16. 7
		Cash in hand	5.14. $9\frac{1}{2}$
			72.11. $4\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>£113.18. 5.</u>		<u>£113.18. 5.</u>

Approximate Statement for October 1/11th. inclusive.

Balance	72.11. $4\frac{1}{2}$	Expenditure	43.17. $8\frac{1}{2}$
Income	37.15. 1.	Balance	66. 8. 9.
	<u>£110. 6. <math>5\frac{1}{2}</math></u>		<u>£110. 6. <math>5\frac{1}{2}</math></u>

Outstanding Accounts.

Electric Light	1. 0. 4.
Stationery	3.10. 6.
Printing	11. 0.
News Sheets (3 mths.)	11.12. 6.
Rent	25. 0. 0.
	<u>£41.14. 4.</u>

Account for printing Social Tickets not yet rendered 9/6  
 " " Hall for Social not yet rendered £3.3.0.



Resolution passed by the Executive Committee of the British Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom at its meeting on Tuesday, October 12th, 1937.

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SINO-JAPANESE SITUATION

The Women's International League warmly supports the universal protests against Japanese aggression in China, and urges that in order to be effective these protests should be accompanied by action, the first object of which should be to cause that aggression to cease.

With this end in view, and in the earnest desire that our own country shall abstain from participating even indirectly in the crime that is being perpetrated in the Far East, we ask that so long as hostilities continue the British Government should

(1) place an immediate embargo on the export to Japan of all supplies necessary for carrying on the war, including fuel oil;

(2) use its influence to prevent the granting of loans and credits or the sending of military technical assistance to Japan;

(3) co-operate with the U.S.A. and the Netherlands in an agreement to exclude all imports from Japan.

It should be clearly stated that such measures of economic restraint would be temporary, for the sole purpose of stopping the war, and would be followed as soon as possible by the calling of a Conference for the free and equal discussion of world economic needs.

In view of the world-wide detestation of the use of aerial bombardment by the Japanese forces the Women's International League urges the British Government to renounce all use of aircraft for such purposes and to take the initiative in a movement for the total abolition of military and naval aircraft.



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee, Tuesday, November 9th, 1937,  
at 55 Gower Street from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PRESENT Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Miss Baker, Miss Pye, Dr. Clark, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Chick, Miss Dickinson, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Lankester, Miss Marshall, Mrs. Savage, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Sturge, Mrs. McGregor Wood.

Before commencing the business on the Agenda the Chairman said she knew the Committee would wish to put on record their deep regret at the death of Miss Margaret Ashton. Several members paid warm tributes to her memory. Mrs. Innes, who was to have been her Guest during a series of meetings in Manchester, said she had been privileged to attend the Funeral Service and the Memorial Service in the Manchester Cathedral. She said our Manchester Branch in particular had suffered a very heavy loss and the Committee's heart-felt sympathy went out to them in their sorrow. It was agreed that

"We record with deep regret the death of Margaret Ashton, and we wish to preserve in our Minutes the appreciation of her written for our November News Sheet by her friend Mrs. Swanwick."

The Committee stood in silence in memory of Miss Ashton. Agreed to send the Minute to Lady Bryce and the Manchester Branch.

The Chairman said the Peace Movement had lost another great worker in the sudden death of Canon "Dick" Sheppard and she asked the Committee to record its sense of loss at his death. The following was adopted:-

"This meeting of the Executive Committee of the Women's International League records a deep sense of loss at the death of Canon Sheppard. We share with all peace workers in gratitude for "Dick" Sheppard's great work of rallying pacifist opinion and for the spirit of hope, comradeship and sincere goodwill which radiated from him to the whole peace movement. We wish to offer our sympathy to the members of the Peace Pledge Union in the great loss which they have sustained."

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Sheepshanks, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Brayshaw, Mrs. Greenwood and Miss Warner. Miss Warner was prevented from attending owing to a Public Meeting of the Branch in Leicester that afternoon at which Mrs. Corbett Ashby was speaking. The Committee instructed a telegram of good wishes to be sent to the Branch.

MINUTES OF MEETING on 12th October were confirmed after the following corrections were made:-

Minute 409. page 5 in fifth line, delete the words "in a friendly spirit" and insert "on equal terms."

Minute 410. page 5 delete all after the fifth line in last paragraph and insert "to forward the appointment of an International Commission and a relief fund. This seemed possible at one time, but in the end nothing had been done. She understood that the former opposition of the Spanish Government to an International Commissioner and a relief fund from private sources did not apply to an official relief fund contributed by Governments."

420 BUSINESS ARISING: Minute 406 Miss Chrystal Macmillan. Reported a letter of thanks from the Open Door Council for the extract from our Minutes of Committee.



420. Minute 403a. September, 1937. Dr. Masaryk. Reported a letter from the W.I.L. in Czecho-Slovakia expressing thanks for our letter of sympathy.

Minute 408. Agreed that a letter of greetings, and a Pax Badge, should be sent to Mrs. Obasa, Hon. Secretary of the Women's League at Lagos, through Miss Gibberd, one of our members who was paying a visit to Nigeria in December.

421. FINANCE. The attached Statement of Accounts was adopted. In addition to the £33. 7. 0 ear-marked for Mrs. Lankester's visit to Egypt, £5. 10. 0 had been received that morning, making a total of £38. 17. 0. It was agreed to inform the Liaison Committee of British Women's Organisations which co-operates with the All India Women's Conference that a grant of £30 would be made from the Women's International League, especially towards Mrs. Lankester's visit to Egypt.

Agreed to pay the affiliation fee of £1 now due to the Women's Peace Crusade. Reported the W.P.C. offered to increase their grant of 7/- to 10/- for use of room and cleaning.

Agreed to defer until next January consideration of a renewal of our donation of £2 paid last January to the I.P.C.

Reported that arrangements for a Luncheon Meeting in the Office had been made for Friday, 12th November, with Mrs. Joyce Pollard as speaker on Palestine and Miss Freda White as Chairman.

Also reported that arrangements were going ahead for the Bring and Buy Sale on November 16th, at which there would be no formal speech-making, though it was hoped Committee members would make opportunities of talking to members, and others. An exhibition of Photographs of past activities was being prepared for which a small charge would be made. Provisions for the teas would be welcome.

Mrs. McGregor Wood reported the following proposals arising from a meeting of the Officers:-

- (1) that Branches should be urged to make a collection for their funds at all their meetings. Approved.
- (2) that meetings having speakers from Headquarters should be asked to give a donation of 5/- towards Headquarters Funds, in addition to travelling expenses. Approved.
- (3) that a cupboard for antiques, etc. should be kept in the Office out of which members and friends might make purchases, the proceeds to go to Headquarters Funds. Approved.
- (4) that a notice board should be kept in the Office for paid advertisements. Approved.
- (5) that an adhesive stamp with the words "Women unite for Peace" should be printed for sale amongst our own members and other women's organisations. (In this connection several designs and an estimate had been obtained). Not agreed to.
- (6) that owing to the shortage of Funds the Office should be run with a Staff of two instead of three. Miss Horscroft and Miss Stroud were willing to work with-



out the help of an Office Girl until the Funds were in a better state. Since the Officers' Meeting the Office girl, Florrie Chapman, had obtained a more responsible position which she was entering upon on Monday, the 22nd instant. Approved and agreed the question of Staff should be reviewed in three months' time. The Committee expressed their warm appreciation of the work done by the workers in the Office, and their good wishes to the Office Girl in the new work she was about to undertake.

(7) that Miss Karleen Baker, in her capacity as Press Secretary should rank as an Officer.

#### 422. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS, 1938.

It was agreed (1) to hold these on or about March 15th, 16th and 17th; (2) to make inquiries as to the cost of Caxton and other Halls, but in any case not to hold the meetings at Denison House. The Officers were left to make plans and report to December Committee.

423. EXTENSION CAMPAIGN. Mrs. Innes reported that several members of the Committee who are actively engaged in Branch work had lunched together to talk over plans for developing the work and making it attractive to the outsider. Among other things emphasis was laid on:

- (1) the need for leaflets which would appeal to the emotion as well as to the intellect;
- (2) graphic descriptions, supported, if possible, by pictures of women's work for peace in other countries, was needed for meetings;
- (3) the need to make peace heroic by means of personal sacrifice;
- (4) dramatic demonstrations likely to appeal to the Press, such as a good send off at the Station when Mrs. Lankester goes to India;
- (5) Women Peace Pilgrims in Caravans or Cars, holding meetings in towns and villages throughout Great Britain.

The question of leaflets and pictures was already being dealt with by the Publicity Committee. Miss Harrison thought the Send-Off for Mrs. Lankester might be difficult to arrange as the W.I.L. was only one of the four organisations in the Liaison Group, but she would see what could be done about it.

The Committee supported the idea of Women Peace Pilgrims touring Great Britain next Spring and Summer, and the following agreed to become Pilgrims for different periods: Miss Marshall, Mrs. Duncan Harris, Mrs. Thornycroft, Mrs. Innes, Miss Baker, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Savage, Miss Horscroft. It was agreed that preliminary plans could be started immediately.

#### 424. CHINA AND JAPAN.

Reported (1) formal acknowledgments and Press notices of resolution adopted by the Committee on October 12th. The press notices were almost entirely the result of Branch work; (2) a letter from Miss Dorothy Detzer acknowledging copy of our cable to President Roosevelt, and saying that it expressed exactly the contrary to what the U.S.A. Section is doing. With the letter was enclosed a copy of their letter to President Roosevelt in which they referred to his failure to invoke the Neutrality Act.

Miss Detzer also expressed some surprise at our sending the cable as she said the U.S.A. had always taken the position that Sections should act without necessarily consulting the Sections involved, whereas the British Section has been one of



of the Sections which has stood out against taking such action without first consulting the Section involved.

Mrs. Innes had replied that the British Section has never suggested that individual national sections should not be perfectly free to express their views to anyone in any country on any subject, but it has always contended that the International must not do so over the heads of any disagreeing Section. Mrs. Innes's letter was endorsed by the Committee.

Mrs. Innes reported that we had received both from Miss Dingman and from the Women's Peace Crusade a copy of a telegram from women in Shanghai as follows:-

"Representative Shanghai Chinese American and European women assembled witnessing humanitys suffering plead that all womens and peace movements urge their respective national representatives at Brussels Conference to uphold sanctity of and devise practical methods to implement intent of treaties."

Miss Harrison spoke of the importance of this message coming as it did from 200 Chinese, American and European women in Shanghai - an international group appealing for help to an international Committee."

Reported we had also received from the National Peace Council a Statement regarding the Brussels Conference of the signatories to the Nine-Power Treaty.

Mrs. Innes had, in consultation with the Officers, responded to the appeal by sending a copy of the telegram to the Foreign Secretary saying that it had our endorsement and support. A copy of the N.P.C. Statement was enclosed saying that we believed it met the points raised by the telegram from China, which the W.I.L. endorsed. This action was endorsed by the Committee.

A letter from the W.I.L.P.F. joint Chairmen to the President of the Nine Power Conference, Brussels, dated 4th November, was also reported.

A further letter from the W.I.L.P.F. Joint Chairmen to the President of the League of Nations Council, Geneva, dated 8th November, re Refugees in China was also reported. It was agreed to ask Miss Gertrud Baer for further information about the proposals, and to ask if the W.I.L.P.F. were committed to helping finance any action regarding the sending of someone privately to investigate conditions among the refugees.

Dr. Clark reported a resolution on the Sino-Japanese situation adopted at the meeting of the Women's Advisory Council on 20th October. She also gave a review of the situation at the present time.

The question of a personal boycott of Japanese goods was once again raised, but it was explained that part of our membership is against such action and that the resolution adopted on October 12th was a careful summary of the discussion on the whole Sino-Japanese situation, and included the request to the British Government for co-operation with the U.S.A. and the Netherlands in an agreement to exclude all imports from Japan. Agreed that no further action could usefully be taken at the moment.

425. SPAIN. Reported a letter to Mr. Eden, Foreign Secretary dated 23rd October, had been sent by Mrs. Innes, in consultation with the Officers, urging the British Government to make a grant in aid of the refugees in Catalonia and to ~~propose~~ the appointment of an international representative by the League of Nations to control the distribution of relief funds contributed by Gov-



ernments. A letter on similar lines had been sent to the press and was printed in the Manchester Guardian of 29th October.

Arising out of a letter from Madame Ragaz, Chairman of our Swiss Section, Mrs. Innes, in consultation with the Officers, had sent a letter dated 29th October to the Government pressing for assistance to be given over the rescue of the Asturian refugees. This letter had been supported by a cable to Mr. Eden from the W.I.L.P.F. in Geneva.

It was agreed that Dr. Clark's newspaper article on the Non-Intervention Committee should be sent to the Branches, Executive and members who had previously expressed a desire to receive reports.

426. INDIA. Mrs. Lankester said that she was leaving England on 2nd December for the annual session of the All India Women's Conference. It was agreed that a message should be given to Mrs. Lankester to take to the Conference. Mrs. Lankester said she would try to find out if there were any possibilities of W.I.L. Groups being formed in India. It was agreed to suggest to our Branches that they might like to arrange meetings for Mrs. Lankester on her return in March. The Annual Council Meetings would be made an occasion for her to report on her visit to India and Egypt.

It was announced that Mrs. Paul Sturge was going to India in January.

427. EGYPT. Reported a letter from the new Egyptian Section welcoming the proposed visit to Egypt of Mrs. Lankester.

428. SOUTH AFRICA. It was reported that on seeing in "The Times" of October 29th General Hertzog's statement on Protectorates in South Africa, Mrs. McGregor Ross had been consulted as to her opinion of its accuracy. Mrs. Ross, who attended the Committee as a visitor, said she believed there was a growing feeling that the Protectorates will have to be transferred to the Union of South Africa, though she believes this cannot be done without the full acquiescence of the natives. She had drafted a letter to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs for the consideration of the Committee, asking for information as to whether it is a fact that in 1910 the British Government undertook "that these territories would be transferred to the Union whenever the Parliament of the Union took a resolution on these lines", and urging that in addition to the willing acquiescence of the Protectorate natives, the British Government makes the stipulation that the Protectorates are to be ruled by the Union under the same technique, as regards annual reports and liability to oral examination of an accredited representative at Geneva, as would apply if they were B. Class Mandated Territories.

After discussion Mrs. Ross undertook to consult Sir John Harris and others before any action was taken.

429. PALESTINE. Reported that Mrs. Sturge would be visiting Palestine shortly.

430. RUMANIA. Mrs. Innes reported that the Howard League for Penal Reform had no information concerning the report of children charged with Communist activities sentenced by a military court to imprisonment. The W.I.L.P.F. Chairmen had written on the matter to the Minister of Justice and Mrs. Innes had written to the British Ambassador in Bucarest. No replies had yet been received to these letters.

431. W.I.L.P.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Reported this is to be held at Basle, Switzerland from January 5th to the 9th, 1938. Suggestions for the Agenda were required before December 1st. No suggestions were made.



Reported a request from the W.I.L.P.F. in Geneva that proposals concerning the Traffic of Women and Children, or on the question of obscene literature, be sent to Melle. Gourd, who is the W.I.L.P.F. Liaison Officer between our League and the Commission on Social Questions of the League of Nations. It is probable that only those organisations which have sent in proposals will be asked to continue to serve as a Corresponding Member. Personal co-operation of private organisations is no longer admitted on the Commission. Agreed to ask Dame Rachel Crowdy to send us information on the white Russian prostitutes in China, and also obtain information concerning Abyssinian women.

The W.I.L.P.F. also asked Sections to urge their Governments to insist that the Government Conference for the Refugees from Germany held in February, 1938. Gertrud Baer has reason to believe that this Conference will again be indefinitely postponed unless every thing is done to bring pressure to bear on the respective Governments. Agreed that in a month's time a letter should be sent to Sir Neill Malcolm and (perhaps) to Lord Cranborne on the subject.

Mrs. Innes reported that the W.I.L.P.F. wished to support the following proposals coming before the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organisations on November 15th:-

- (1) proposals for a Women's Peace Day in 1938;
- (2) the proposal for a Women's International Congress, but they do not think there should be two Congresses (i.e. Madame Duchene's proposal should be amalgamated with that of Frau Emmy Freundlich);
- (3) The W.I.L.P.F. would like to be represented on the Ad Hoc. Committee or Committees to be set up to make arrangements. Mrs. Innes undertook to pass on to Mrs. McGregor Wood and Miss Harrison the wishes of the W.I.L.P.F.

432. NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL. Agreed to urge the Branches to endorse the N.P.C. Charter for Peace and Social Justice and to arouse interest in their areas for it, and to ask Headquarter Members to bring it to the notice of local organisations. Mrs. Duncan Harris signed the Endorsement on behalf of Headquarters.

433. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE. Miss Baker reported several leaflets would shortly be ready. National Sections had been asked by the W.I.L.P.F. Office to send us any pictures of their work for peace. Inquiries were to be made from the Friends Peace Committee about Mrs. Innes's leaflet on Women and War. Mrs. Innes had been asked to consider a leaflet on Air Raid Precautionary Measures for Women and Teachers. It was agreed to have a discussion on this latter subject at 4 o'clock at the Executive Committee on December 14th.

434. REPORTS were given on:-

- (1) the deputation to Mr. Ormsby Gore on the question of Mui Tsai in British Territories;
- (2) the International Peace Congress;
- (3) Women's Freedom League Conference.

435. ARMISTICE DAY SERVICE to be held in Regent's Park, organised by the Peace Pledge Union. Agreed to close the Office to enable the Staff to represent the W.I.L.

Reported that the Officers were meeting the Secretary of the Peace Pledge Union on the 12th in the Office to talk over possible co-operation between the W.I.L. and women members of the P.P.U.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: December 14th.

This concluded the business.

B. Duncan Harris  
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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Account for October 1937.

Balance (including £50. loan)	72.11.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Rent (2 quarters)	25. 0. 0.	
Subscriptions	8. 8. 0.		Salaries	41.18. 0.	
Donations			Wages	4. 9. 6.	
General	57. 3. 6.		Insurance	1. 0. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Egypt	17. 7. 0.		Lighting & Heating	1.12. 5.	
Bring & Buy			Postage & Telephone	13.17. 2.	
Donations	5.12. 6.		News Sheets & Lit- erature Purchased	12. 7. 2.	
Sales	11.10.		Travelling Exps.	1. 9. 8.	
Affiliation fees	3.15. 0.		Luncheon Meeting	2. 1.11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
News Sheets & Literature sold	1.11. 9.		Social Meeting	5.12. 6.	
Social Mtg.	3.10. 0.				109. 8. 7.
Lunch Meeting	3. 1. 6.		Balance at		
Congress Expenses refd.	3. 0. 0.		C.P.B. for next		
Office Expenses refunded	5. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$		Congress	2. 0. 0.	
	<u>104. 6.10<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>		Midland Bank	45.15. 4.	
	<u>£176.18. 3.</u>		Cash in hand	19.14. 4.	
					67. 9. 8.
					<u>£176.18. 3.</u>

Approximate statement for November 1st. - 8th.1937

Balance	67. 9. 8.		Salaries	8.10. 0.	
Subscriptions	2.19. 6.		Wages	17. 6.	
Egypt Dons	16. 0. 0.		Petty Cash	15. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Bring & Buy	1.10.10.				10. 2. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
News Sheets & Pax	2. 9.		C.P.B. for next Congress	2. 0. 0.	
	<u>20.13. 1.</u>		Balance	75.19.11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
					77.19.11 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>£88. 2. 9.</u>				<u>£ 88. 2. 9.</u>

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

Printing	2. 11. 6.
News Sheets & extra Pax	4. 15. 6.
Stationery	2. 4.10.
Geneva Pax	5. 0.
	<u>£9 . 16.10.</u>

BALANCE £68.3.1 $\frac{1}{2}$  (earmarked £33. 7. 0. for Egypt).



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, December 14th. 1937 at 55 Gower Street, London W.C. 1.

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PRESENT: Mrs. Duncan Harris in the Chair, Mrs. Innes, Mrs. Binyon, Miss Anderson, Dr. Clark, Miss Dickinson, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss Harrison, Mrs. Longson, Miss Marshall, Miss Pye, Miss Rinder, Mrs. Savage, Miss Sheepshanks, Mrs. Thoday, Miss Warner, Miss White, Mrs. McGregor Wood, Mrs. Brayshaw, and Mrs. Thornycroft.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Miss Bker, Miss Chick, Mrs. Sturge and Mrs. Lankester.

MINUTES OF MEETING ON NOVEMBER 9th. were confirmed, having previously been circulated.

436. BUSINESS ARISING:

*12 D. 4*  
Minute 421. A question was raised about the money collected (£43.19.0.) for Mrs. Lankester's visit to India and Egypt and the grant of £30. sent to the Liaison Committee. Mrs. Harris explained that in making the appeal she had included the journey and the need for the continuation of the work in the background which made the visit possible.

*of the W.I.L.*  
Miss Margaret Ashton. Reported acknowledgment of our letter of sympathy from Lady Bryce.

Minute 421. Reported that the Luncheon Meeting on Palestine on November 12th. had been very successful.

Reported also that the Bring and Buy Sale on November 16th. had resulted in a net profit of about £40. The Committee expressed thanks and appreciation to all those who had worked to make the Sale a success.

Minute 431. re Government Conference for the Refugees from Germany. Miss Pye asked for this to be put on the Agenda for the January meeting. Agreed.

It was agreed that the contents of a confidential letter received in the Office about the immoral treatment of Abyssinian women by the Italian soldiery, should be sent to our Headquarters for Mlle. Gourd, with the suggestion that she be asked to draw the attention of the League of Nations Commission on Social questions to the need to pursue inquiries into this evil.

No reply had been received from Dame Rachel Crowdy asking for information on the white Russian prostitutes in China.

Minute 430. Reported a letter from the Foreign Office (Dec. 8th.) saying that Mr. Eden had received a report from the British Ambassador in Bucarest on the trial at Cernauti of 37 children charged with communist activities. The report said that it is a fact that a considerable number of persons (whose ages are not given in the press account of the proceedings) have been condemned at Cernauti to various penalties. The Foreign Office reminded us that legislation was passed about four years ago in Roumania introducing a modified form of martial law and providing that certain charges, including accusations of subversive activities, should be tried by Military Courts. Mr. Eden regretted his inability to intervene in the matter.

Mrs. Innes had thanked him for his message.



437. FINANCE. The attached statement of accounts was adopted. The Treasurer drew attention to the generous donations from some of the Branches. A donation of £5. from the Beeke Trust was reported. The "cupboard" had already brought in over £2. and the advertisements on the notice board were bringing in a little money, she felt it the duty of the Executive to work actively in securing more members.

After meeting outstanding accounts amounting to £68.17. 4. there would be a balance in hand of £79.15. 9. The Treasurer therefore, recommended the repayment of the £50. loan to Dr. Clark. This was agreed to. The Committee expressed their gratitude to Dr. Clark for kindly advancing the loan.

Miss Harrison promised a jade green sweet dish for sale, which Madame Chiang Kai-Shek had given her when she was in China. This offer was gratefully accepted and it was agreed that a reserve price must be put on it.

438. CHINA AND JAPAN. The Chairman reported that at the request of Miss Sheepshanks two resolutions on the question of a personal boycott of Japanese goods had been sent to the Committee, for their consideration. She reminded the Committee that decisions had been reached on this subject at the two previous meetings, but she asked for permission to re-open the matter. Before the discussion she thought it advisable to have the pertinent Minutes of the October and November Meetings read. The Committee then agreed to give further consideration to the question.

Miss Sheepshanks, in moving the following resolution, said she had the support for it of Dr. Clark, Miss White and Miss Marshall.

"The Executive Committee of the Women's International League reaffirming the belief that the Japanese invasion of China could and should be checked by international Governmental measures of economic pressure and that in no case should this country continue to supply Japan with war materials, or money, considers that in the absence of such Governmental action the responsibility for refusing to supply Japan with the means of buying materials of war falls upon the private citizen.

"While recognising that this must be a matter of individual conscience, the Executive recommends all members who support the principle of refusing economic and financial help to an aggressor to join in the voluntary boycott of Japanese goods."

She felt that the situation had changed considerably since the Committee had taken action. We had asked the Government to put on a boycott and it had refused to do so. The Brussels Conference had broken down, and the Government which signed the Nine-Power Treaty had refused to act within the terms of that Treaty, and China had been left alone to become the victim of aggression.. Some of the leading International Peace Organisations, notably the I.P.C. are urging that as the Governments have failed to act, the peoples should act and show clearly their repudiation of this aggression - not as a punitive measure as is suggested in the article by Nevin Sayre in the December issue of Reconciliation which had also been circulated to the Executive. The idea is that we should do everything we can, to avoid helping Japan in her acts of aggression. She appreciated the difficulties of those people who objected to any sort of boycott and pointed out that the proposed resolution leaves it open to people to act according to their consciences.

B.D.H.

but in order to shorten the war.



Miss White, in seconding the resolution, said she was one of those who had changed their minds. She had previously considered a personal boycott unimportant but a Governmental boycott vital and that every effort should be made to bring pressure on all Governments. Since, however, the Government would not do anything about it, she felt the responsibility must fall on the individual citizen. She believed that the refusal to buy Japanese goods - although it will not affect Japan seriously - has two important aspects: (1) the effect upon Japan's world trade by people continuously refusing to buy from the shops goods because they are Japanese: traders may get rid of their existing stocks but they may be chary of ordering further goods; (2) the political effect on our Government and probably on the Japanese Government. The Trading economic elements in Japan are averse to war with China and many of the educated classes in Japan have tried to secure a rational Chinese policy, particularly a special delegation of business men which was sent to China early this year.

As far as Great Britain is concerned, Miss White thought that a personal boycott was the only means by which we could get our Government to realise the genuine feeling against Japan's action and to get Britain to stop supplying munitions of war.

It was agreed that the question should be thrown open for discussion and the vote was then taken on accepting the resolution in principle.

Mrs. Innes moved and Miss Rinder seconded an amendment of the last paragraph of the resolution to make it read.-

"While recognising that this must be a matter of individual conscience, the Executive supports all member who in addition to advocating the principle of refusing economic and financial help to an aggressor, wish also to join in the voluntary boycott of Japanese goods." VOTING: 10 for. 5 against.

The following resolution as amended was put to the vote and carried with 13 in favour, 3 against and one abstention.

"The Executive Committee of the Women's International League reaffirming the belief that the Japanese invasion of China could and should be checked by international Government measures of economic pressure and that in no case should this country continue to supply Japan with war materials, or money, considers that in the absence of Governmental action the responsibility for refusing to supply Japan with the means of buying materials of war falls upon the private citizen.

"While recognising that this must be a matter of individual conscience, the Executive supports all members who in addition to advocating the principle of refusing economic and financial help to an aggressor, wish also to join in the voluntary boycott of Japanese goods."

Miss Pye asked what was the attitude to be of representatives attending meetings of other organisations, such as the I.P.C., the W.P.C., etc. Agreed that representatives should in future abstain from voting, making it clear that the W.I.L. supports those members who feel they should support a personal boycott.

439. ITALY. Mrs. Innes said that a new situation had been created by Italy's definite alignment with Germany against the League of Nations, the repercussions of which she thought would become apparent in the weeks to come. It made a League and an anti-League bloc a danger, which it would need much

amended  
B.D.H



foresight to avoid. She thought we should concentrate on pressing for the development through the League of international co-operation for the human good, and on pressing the League members always to use peaceful means in the settling of their quarrels.

Miss Marshall said we should also work to develop the advantages to be gained in dealing with groups like the Oslo Group.

Mrs. Duncan Harris proposed the holding of an Executive Week-end Conference to discuss these subjects, and the Officers were asked to examine the suggestion and bring proposals to the January Executive.

440. ANGLO-FRENCH and ANGLO-GERMAN LONDON TALKS. Miss Rinder outlined the essential points of a resolution to be used as a basis for discussion at the January meeting. This was to be circulated beforehand.

441. GERMANY. Miss Rinder gave an interesting account of her recent visit to Germany, and consented to give a talk on it at our Luncheon meeting early in the New Year.

441. EGYPT. The Chairman reported Mrs. Lankester's departure from Victoria Station for India on December 2nd.

442. INDIA. Attention was drawn to the following leaflets:-

The North West Frontier of India by Carl Heath, Price 2d.  
Drink in India, the Rev. Herbert Anderson, Price 1d.  
The Military Burden on India, by F.G. Pratt, Price 1d.

Branches were to be informed that these could be obtained from the W.I.L. Office.

Reported that early in January Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose, the well-known Bengal leader will probably be in London for a few days before returning to India. He is likely to be the President of the Congress next year. Some years ago he was "detained at His Majesty's pleasure" under the 1818 Act, and has never been brought to trial. The ban on his entry into this country was removed last week on account of representations that were made to the Secretary of State and to the Government of India. The Indians in London are arranging a welcome of a social nature at which it is hoped several members of the W.I.L. Executive would be present, and the Indian Conciliation Group will have a meeting for him.

443. SOUTH AFRICAN PROTECTORATES. Reported that after consulting other people, Mrs. McGregor Ross had sent a draft of another letter for the consideration of the Executive. The letter expressed the hope that the British Government will not hand over to the Government of the Union of South Africa the three South African Protectorates, Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland, and we believe that this would be contrary to the wishes of the inhabitants. It also urged that H.M. Government has a task before it in carrying out the suggestions made by Sir Alan Pim for land reclamation and economic development, and in improving the social, educational and health services of the Protectorates. This letter was approved.

444. REPORT OF MEETING OF OFFICERS, 23rd. November. Mrs. Innes reminded the Committee of her letter of the 24th. November advising them of the proposed Public Meeting to protest against the crime of war, including in the protest China and Spain, the persecution of the Jews and air-warfare, and asking for any suggestions members may have to make. The majority of the Committee had



approved the suggestion. She reported that to date the following had agreed to speak: Dr. Royden to take the Chair, and speak, Miss Wellington Koo on China, Miss Mary Sutherland on the general aspect. The date and place chosen were Tuesday, January 18th. at 8 p.m. in the large Hall at Friends House (at a reduced rate). Jean Batten had been unable to accept the invitation and a reply had not been received from C.W.A. Scott. Herr Viruly, who gave up his position in the Dutch army because of his pacifist views, had been asked, but there had not been time for a reply. A speaker for Spain was wanted. After discussion it was agreed to ask Wilfred Roberts, M.P., failing him John Langdon Davies. Further agreed that Dr. Royden be asked to include in her speech, the persecution of the Jews.

The following resolution was adopted for printing on the handbill, and it was agreed to add a note that if circumstances demanded, the resolution should be amended to deal with the immediate political situation.

"This meeting, deeply deploring the violence and intolerance which prevail over so large a part of the world at the present time:

"Urges H.M. Government to take the lead towards reconciliation and understanding:-

(1) By announcing its readiness to give up exclusive privileges in trade and colonies so as to clear the way at the earliest possible moment for frank and open discussion for the remedying of economic and territorial injustices,

(2) By seeking opportunity to renew discussions on disarmament and specially to work out immediate plans for the total abolition of the air weapon, and the effective control to that end of civil aviation."

The Officers did not advocate the sale of the I.P.C. Cards as a means of raising funds for the W.I.L. Mrs. Thornycroft regretted this and on the motion of Miss Pye it was suggested that the card and accompanying leaflet should be sent to Branches for their information.

Mrs. Innes reported an outlined plan for the Women Peace Pilgrims next year. Cambridge and Brighton Branches had written that they were thinking of the possibility of co-operating in the scheme. Mrs. Hodgkinson, who was present as an observer from Cambridge Branch, said that the Branch thought Saffron Walden would be a possible place. Decided to send a message to Cambridge saying that we hoped they would be able to organise centres where they could help the Pilgrims.

With regard to the Annual Council Meetings, inquiries as to inexpensive halls had been made, including the Ethical Church Queen's Road, Bayswater, which Miss Dickinson and Miss Horscroft had visited and which had very generously been offered to us through Miss Dickinson free of charge. Unfortunately it was decided that the inaccessibility of the place made its acceptance impossible. Rooms 7, 8 and 9 at Friends House, Euston Road, had been booked provisionally. Miss Pye expressed the view that these rooms were not altogether suitable for Council Meetings as there was a good deal of noise. After discussion it was agreed to make inquiries at 21 Gower Street and the Officers were authorised to go to £12.12.0. for a Hall for the whole period of the Council.



445. W.I.L.P.F. INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETINGS, Basle, January 5th. - 9th. Items on the International Agenda were reported, but not discussed. Mrs. Harris said she would like to put forward the British view during the discussion on Colonial Problems, when Gertrud Baer was presenting a resolution on the subject.

446. W.I.L.P.F. other business. It was agreed to order 50 copies of the Congress Report and to send review copies to Time and Tide, The New Statesman, The Spectator, and the Manchester Guardian. With regard to the latter paper, it was decided that it should be suggested to Miss Evelyn Sharp that she ask the Manchester Guardian if she can review the Report for it.

A letter was also reported from Madame Chiang-Kai-Shek concerning the boycott of Japanese goods

Reported that the leaflets (1) to Mothers and Educators on Air Raid Precautionary Measures, (2) A New International Order, were now ready and copies would be sent to Branches etc.

447. REPORTS OF MEETINGS OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS attended by W.I.L. representatives:-

Miss Marshall reported on the meeting (1) of the British National Committee of the I.P.C. on 2nd. December (Minutes filed in Office): (2) of the Provisional Committee of Women's Societies on the meeting to consider the question of "more women in Parliament and on all public elective bodies." (Women's Freedom League - Minutes filed in Office)

Mrs. Innes reported on the meetings of the Council and Executive of the National Peace Council held on December 6th. and 13th. respectively. She was unable to attend the special meeting of the Council which had been called for December 20th. to consider a resolution on the present situation which the previous Council had asked the Executive to draft, and she would be glad if another member would act as her proxy. Reported that a proxy was also required for Mrs. Lankester. It was left to the Office to try to find these proxies. Miss Pye said she would let the Office know on Monday if she were able to attend for Mrs. Innes.

448. CORRESPONDENCE. Reported a letter from the Women's Advisory Council of the League of Nations Union asking for the name of our representative for 1938. Dr. Clark consented to continue to represent the W.I.L.

Miss Partridge. Reported a letter from Miss Partridge of Exeter urging a campaign in which women of the world should join together to forbid war. Mrs. Innes had informed her of our work and outlined plans in hand at present.

Metropolitan Borough of Holborn. A representative had called to ask if a resident would be willing to assist in the air-raid warden service in Holborn. Such residents would be required to act as a link between the Town Hall and all the residents in Holborn; (2) to learn about the A.R.P. organisation; (3) to act as advisors to their neighbours on A.R.P. matters. Mrs. Innes was asked to inform the other tenants in the house and Miss Horscroft said she would be willing to inform herself of the steps to be taken by the authorities.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: January 18th. 1938.

This concluded the business.

*B. B. Harris*

*F.I. 38*



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Statement of Accounts for November 1937.

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Balance (including loan)	67. 9. 8.	Salaries	32. 0. 0.
Subscriptions	25. 3. 6.	Wages	3.10. 0.
Donations		State Insurance	14. 3.
General	27.15. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Travelling Exp.	5. 1.10.
Egypt	24.12. 0.	Affiliation	
Bring and Buy		Fee W.P.C.	1. 0. 0.
Sales	27. 6. 4.	Office Exps.	1.15. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Donations	8.12. 6.	Postage &	
Sale of News		telephone	3. 0. 9.
Sheet & Lit:	2. 3. 7.	Literature	
Affiliation fees	2.12. 0.	purchased	11. 6.
Delegate's fee		Luncheon Mtg.	
refunded	2. 6.	provisions	1. 2.10.
Luncheon Mtg.	2. 4. 9.	Bring & Buy	
Geneva		Sale	15. 0.
Subs.	17.1.0.	Grant to Mrs.	
Pax	1.12.0.	Lankester for	
	18.13. 6.	Egypt visit	30. 0. 0.
Greek & French			79.11. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Histories	2. 9.	Balance	
	139. 8. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	C.P.B. for	
		Congress	3. 0. 0.
		Midland Bank	19.10. 5.
		Cash in hand	4.16. 6.
			127. 6.11.
			£206.18. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

Approximate Statement for December 1 - 10th. 1937.inclusive

Balance	127. 6.11	Salaries	15. 0.0.
Subscriptions	6. 1. 4.	Office Expenses	9.10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Donations	13.17. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Postage	2.10. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bring & Buy		Wages	1.15. 0.
Sales	13. 6.	Insurance	6. 2.
Donations	10. 0.		20. 1. 1.
News Sheets &		Balance	
Lit. sales	4.19. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	C.P.B.	3. 0. 0.
Affil. Fees	3.12. 6.	Bank	140. 2.10.
Geneva		Cash	5. 9. 3.
Pax	1.12. 6.		148.12. 1.
Subs	10.0. 0. 11.12. 6.		
	41. 6. 3.		
	£168.13. 2.		£168.13. 2.

Outstanding Accounts.

News Sheets	7.15. 0.
Congress Pax	18. 0.
Printing	4.14. 6.
Stationery	5.15. 2.
Heating	11. 8.
Literature	1. 7. 9
Rent	12.10. 0.
Geneva for Pax,	
Subscriptions &	
Literature	35. 2. 6.
Greek & French	
Histories	2. 9.
	68.17. 4.
Loan	50. 0. 0.
	118.17. 4.