Papers Rosa Manus
Inventarisnummer: 0033
MINUTES

A BOARD MEETING of the above Committee was held on Thursday, 29th February 1940 at 10.30 a.m. at 51, Route de Florissant, Geneva.

The following officers were present:

- Miss K. Courtney, Vice-President
- Madame Dreyfus-Barney, Vice-President
- Madame H. Thelin-Flournoy, Treasurer
- Mrs. L. Puffer Morgan, Technical Adviser
- Miss D. M. Arnold, Executive Secretary

The Chairman, Miss Courtney, opened the meeting at 10.30 a.m. with apologies from Miss Rosa Manus and Miss Heneker who had not been able to make the journey to Geneva, and also from Fru Begtrup.

FINANCIAL REPORT

(a) Authorization for the Treasurer, Madame H. Thelin-Flournoy, to sign checks on the account of the Peace and Disarmament Committee with the National City Bank of New York, New York.

The Treasurer reported that Miss Dingman had been asked to write to the above Bank to notify them that the Committee wished to arrange for the withdrawal of the signature of Miss Rosa Manus and the substitution in its place of that of Madame H. Thelin-Flournoy. Miss Dingman had replied that she was powerless to alter the situation as any such change necessitated formal action on the part of the Committee. The Board unanimously decided to withdraw the signature of Miss Rosa Manus and to authorize Madame H. Thelin-Flournoy to sign checks on the account of the Committee with the National City Bank of New York. The Executive Secretary was requested to send a copy of the Minutes to the Bank.
(b) Payment of subscriptions by British and French subscribers.

Miss Arnold reported that a number of British subscribers had written to say they were unable to forward their subscriptions owing to the restrictions in sending money out of Great Britain and the Dominions. The same restrictions existed in France, but the number of subscribers affected was smaller. After discussion, it was decided that Miss Courtney would approach Mrs. Zangwill, Treasurer of the Women's Peace Crusade (Great Britain) and enquire if she would be willing to collect subscriptions on our behalf from subscribers in Great Britain and the Dominions and to pay the proceeds into a London Bank where the money could remain for the time being. With regard to the French subscriptions, it was to be ascertained whether small amounts could still be sent out of the country. Madame Dreyfus-Barney said she was willing, if necessary, to receive payments from our French subscribers and that she could later make an adjustment through her bank in Geneva.

MONEY RAISED BY MISS DINGMAN IN U.S.A. -

The Chairman referred with very great appreciation to the sum of Five Hundred Dollars which Miss Dingman had undertaken to collect on our behalf in the U.S.A. during the course of 1940. This appreciation was fully shared by the members of the Board present at the meeting. It was decided to ask Miss Dingman to pay this money into the account of the Committee with the National City Bank of New York and not to send it to Geneva.

EXPENDITURE FOR PERIOD JULY 1st - DECEMBER 31st 1940 -

The Treasurer presented the budget for the above period. She pointed out that the satisfactory state of the treasury was not due to decreased expenditure but owing to the fact that the amount of Fr. 1,500 which at the last Committee Meeting it had been decided to put at the disposal of the Executive Secretary for six months had at her request been allocated for the period January - December 1940.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS IN ARREARS IN PAYMENT OF DUES -

The Executive Secretary was asked to report at the following Board Meeting on the Member Organisations who were in arrears in the payment of their annual dues.

INFORMAL INTERNATIONAL GATHERING AT WASHINGTON -

It was decided that the report received from Miss Dingman, entitled "Some Essential Elements of a Permanent World Society" was to be sent to Member Organisations with a letter explaining that these findings were the result of discussions at the above informal
gathering; also that because of lack of time no topic had been fully discussed and that it was recognised that there were other important elements not mentioned.

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE –

It was decided that whereas any change in the name of the Committee must come before the members for their decision, it was advisable to insert immediately beneath the title an explanatory sentence as to the raison d'être of the Committee and the date when it came into being. The following sentence was unanimously agreed upon: “established September 1931 in support of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments.”

FUTURE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE –

Mailings: In view of the increase in the cost of paper it was decided to make the Mailings shorter and instead of reproducing articles to give summaries of their contents. It was also suggested that it would be very helpful if we were to send out material suitable to the needs of different countries rather than to send out the same "News Service" to all. It was also decided to continue to give news of the constructive activities of the League and the I.L.O. which at present could be done by utilizing Mrs. Morgan's interesting reports for the Geneva Research Centre.

Study Group: Since attendance at the series of discussions inaugurated in the autumn had decreased, it was decided to put to the Committee Meeting the advisability of discontinuing the fortnightly talks.

Summer Study Course: The difficulties in the way of travel made it unlikely that international visitors could attend a summer study course. It was decided to refer this matter for discussion to the Committee Meeting.

The Meeting was adjourned until Saturday March 2nd when it was decided to meet at the headquarters at the Palais Wilson at 10.15 a.m.
MINUTES

A meeting of the above Committee was held on Thursday 29th February 1940 at the Headquarters, Palais Wilson, Geneva.

The following officers were present:—

Miss E. Courtney (in the chair) - Vice-President
Madame Dreyfus-Barney - Vice-President
Madame Thélam-Flournoy - Treasurer
Mrs. L. Puffer Morgan - Technical Adviser
Miss D. Arnold - Executive Secretary

The following organizations were represented:—

International Council of Women
International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
World Union of Women for International Concord
International Federation of Business and Professional Women
International Federation of University Women
League of Jewish Women
Women's Polish Organisations
European Federation of Soroptimist Clubs

Miss van Eggen
Dr. Renée Girod
Mrs. Marjorie Martin
Madame Bakker van Bosse
Mlle E. Gourd
Mlle Lotti Birch
Mlle M. Nobs
Madame Paulding de Bac
Miss K. Courtney
Madame Emery
Madame R. Aberson
Madame Emery
Dr. Gourfein-Welt

ROLL CALL AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman, Miss Courtney, opened the meeting at 2.15 P.M. and welcomed the members present. Apologies for absence were received from Miss Rosa Manus, Fru Bodil Bøgtrup, Miss Dorothy Heneker and Mlle Schaezterl. Telegrams of greeting were received from Miss Dingman, Miss Manus and Miss Heneker. Miss Courtney said this Committee was the first to be held since the resignation of Miss Dingman, and she felt sure members joined her in sending all good wishes to our Hon. President in her new field of work. The Committee owed a great deal to Miss Dingman for her years of devoted service, and were especially indebted to her vigilance in watching over the finances, the satisfactory state of which was mainly due to her care and forethought.

IN MEMORIAM

The Chairman called upon members present to stand in silent tribute to the memory of Mrs. Potter, whose recent death had been a great sorrow to her many friends in Geneva. Mrs. Potter's interest in the Committee had been sustained to the last and her intelligent collaboration had been much appreciated in the field of international work in which she would be greatly missed.
MINUTES -

The Minutes of the December Meeting having been distributed and no corrections or additions having been received, these Minutes were taken as approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was presented by the Treasurer, Madame Thélin. The attached budget presents the financial position up to the end of December 1940. The Treasurer pointed out that there had been considerable decrease during the past six months in the number of subscriptions received from "Friends" owing to general financial stringency and also because of the difficulty in getting permission to send money out of the various countries. Members expressed their appreciation at the satisfactory state of the Committee's finances. The Chairman stressed the importance of urging Member Organisations to continue the prompt payment of their annual dues in order that the Committee should be in a position to meet such financial demands upon its treasury as would be necessitated by greater activity and expansion of the work, if at any time developments in the international situation made this possible.

It was moved by Miss van Eeghen and seconded by Mile Nobs that the Treasurer's Report be adopted.

REPORT ON THE INFORMAL INTERNATIONAL GATHERING AT WASHINGTON -

Mrs. Morgan reported on the informal international gathering held in Washington at the time of the Conference on the Cause and Cure of War and said Miss Dingman had been successful in organising a conference which had been attended by most of the leaders of the American Women's Organisations associated in the Conference on the Cause and Cure of War, besides representatives of six other countries. Telegrams of greeting had been received from the following:

- Women's Peace Crusade (England)
- Dr. Rydh (Sweden)
- Courtney - Heneker (England)
- Bakker - Manus (Holland)
- Pichon - Barney (France)
- Pecson (Manila)
- Morgan - Thélin (Geneva)
- Saunders, Y.W.C.A. (England)

About 50 visitors attended the morning session which was held in the Sun Parlour of the Hotel Washington. Miss Dingman had written to say that the meeting had been successful beyond her expectations.

A list containing the names of those present at this gathering together with a report of the discussions held was read and a short discussion followed as to the best way in which to circulate to Member Organisation these informal "findings" of the Washington meeting. It was decided that these should be sent out accompanied by a letter under the signature of Miss Courtney explaining the purpose of the gathering and stressing its informal character.

Mrs. Morgan further reported that about 83 persons had attended the luncheon given under the auspices of the Peace and Disarmament Committee and that this luncheon had been a most successful and enjoyable function. The subject of the address given at this luncheon was "News of Women's Activities in other Countries."

PEACE ROLL OF INDUSTRY -

Madame Dreyfus-Barney reported that when she was in the U.S.A. last year, she had been able to consult with a number of competent personalities as to the best way in which to distribute copies of the Peace Roll of Industry pamphlet. After careful consideration, she had been advised to send copies only to such individuals, institutions, libraries, commercial groups, etc., as would appreciate the value of the remarkable effort represented by this publication. As a result of these consultations, copies of the Peace Roll of Industry had been sent to the following:

To the Library of the State Supreme Court in each of 48 states (U.S.)
To the Library of the Senate in each of 47 states in the U.S.
" " " House of Representatives in each of 47 states in the U.S.
" " " combined Senate and House of Nebraska.
" " " Senate in each of 15 Latin American countries.
" " " Chamber of Deputies in each of 15 Latin American countries.
" " " Unicameral Legislative bodies in each of 5 Latin American countries.

Copies have also been sent to 19 of the largest colleges in the United States and to the leading commercial organisations in each of the 26 largest cities. Some 200 copies were still available in Washington and correspondence was in the process of exchange with a view to ensuring the best distribution of these remaining copies. A letter was to be sent to Miss Heneker to ascertain the exact number of copies on hand at the printer's office in Worthing.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY -

Miss Arnold gave a brief report of the activities of the office since the last Committee Meeting. These had been concerned mainly with a) Study Group; b) Mailings; c) Correspondence.

Study Group: The fortnightly talks, followed by discussion, which had been given on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month since September 1939 had continued to arouse keen interest. The following subjects had been presented by different speakers since the beginning of the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 26th 1940.</td>
<td>Theory and Practice of Communism in the International Field</td>
<td>Mr. Noel Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 3rd</td>
<td>Economic Development Policy for Federal Union</td>
<td>Mr. A. Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 23rd</td>
<td>Ideological Factors in the Peace Failure: Germany and the West</td>
<td>Dr. Visser t' Hooft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mailings: Miss Arnold reported on the mailings that had gone out since last December. Mlle Gourd expressed a wish to have the Latin view-point more fully included and said she would appreciate résumés of articles appearing in current French newspapers. Miss Nobs suggested members might assist by forwarding to the office cuttings from French newspapers. It was agreed that a small committee be formed to help Miss Arnold. Mlle Gourd, Miss van Eeghen and Mrs. Martin were asked and agreed to assist in this work.

Correspondence: Miss Arnold read extracts from a number of letters, expressing warm appreciation of the News Service. About 60 such letters had been received and all stated their hope that the work of the Committee would continue.

FUTURE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE -

Raison d'être for continued Existence of the Committee: Madame Dreyfus-Barney asked members constantly to bear in mind that the raison d'être for the continued existence of the Committee did not lie in the subsidiary activities of the office, however useful and constructive these were, but in the decision to hold ourselves in readiness to resume activity wherever and whenever the international situation developed in such a way as to enable us usefully to do so.
It was unanimously decided to continue the work of the office until the end of 1940 on the lines that had been discussed and agreed upon at the Committee Meeting held on December 4th 1939. The Treasurer in presenting the budget of expenses estimated for the Period July – December informed members that at the Executive Secretary's request the sum allocated to her for the six months January – June was to cover the period until the end of the year. Mlle Gisaud was leaving the office on March 15th, and her work would be done as far as possible by Mrs. Prideaux-Brune who was giving her whole-time service to the work in a voluntary capacity. It was agreed that Miss Arnold should have extra help at any time she felt this to be necessary.

It was moved by Dr. Giraud and seconded by Mrs. Martin that the estimated budget of expenses for the period July-December 1940 be adopted.

News Service : It was agreed to try to make these as informative as possible. Because of the increase in the cost of paper, it was suggested that an effort should be made to contribute resumés of the subject matter contained in outstanding articles appearing in current newspapers and periodicals rather than to reproduce the whole of these articles.

Lunches : While it was recognized that the time was not appropriate for frequent social functions of this nature, it was nevertheless agreed that on special occasions when distinguished visitors were in Geneva for any particular purpose, such as the forthcoming International Labour Conference, gatherings of this kind served a most useful purpose in getting people together for an informal exchange of views, and it was decided to continue whenever possible the good work done in the past under the auspices of the Peace and Disarmament Committee when such luncheons had been a most successful feature of our activities.

Summer Study Course : In the past, successful and well attended sessions have been held under our auspices during the summer months for the convenience of foreign visitors interested in problems dealing with international cooperation and kindred subjects. In view of the unlikelihood of English speaking visitors being able to travel in the existing circumstances, it was decided after some discussion to leave the initiative of arranging to hold a Summer Study Course in German and in French (if possible in the German speaking section of Switzerland), to the World Union of Women for International Concord in consultation with the Peace and Disarmament Committee.

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE -

The question of changing the name of the Committee was discussed. It had been suggested that it was advisable to make a change as the title was thought by some members to be a misnomer in its present form and to raise difficulties in the way of those who had to apply to their home authorities for permission to visit Geneva in order to attend our gatherings.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that this question had come up for consideration at the Committee Meeting held on June 14th 1938 when those in favour of making a change had argued that the use of the word "Disarmament" was misleading and needed constant explanation. Those in favour of making no change had argued that to do so might be regarded as a retreat from a principle and moreover that the constant explanation needed in connection with the word "Disarmament" was educational and useful propaganda. It had been decided at that time to refer the matter to the Member Organisations. At the following Committee Meeting held on September 13th 1938, Miss Courtney presented the answers received from the Member Organisations and reported that the majority were in favour of no change in the title.

There being division of opinion in the present Meeting, the Chairman asked members if it was their pleasure to again refer the question back to their Organisations in order that their wishes might be known before the next meeting of the Committee early in June. Miss Courtney reminded the meeting that our Constitution demands that any amendments of this nature must be brought forward in the first instance at the meeting preceding the Annual General Meeting to be adopted at that Meeting only if carried by a two thirds majority of the Constituent Member Organisations.
It was moved by Mrs. Bakker van Boase and seconded by Mrs. Martin that the proposal to change the name of the Committee be put to the Member Organisations and their wishes ascertained in order that the matter could be discussed at the June Committee Meeting. The majority being in favour, this motion was adopted.

It was agreed immediately to add a sentence below the present title explaining the origin of the Committee in the following words: "Established September 1931 in support of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments".

COMMITTEE MEETING CALLED FOR JUNE 3rd - 4th

It was decided to call a Committee Meeting for the first days of June, before the opening of the International Labour Conference on June 5th.

INFORMAL REPORTS

The Chairman asked members present to give brief reports of the activities of their organisations.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom: Mlle Birch said the W.I.L.P.F. had, according to the decisions taken by its International Executive Committee in December, continued to study the problem of a New Peace, especially the question of basing any new international organisation on the recognition of the fundamental principles of human rights. She added that National Sections, especially those of Scandinavia and the U.S.A. were very active.

World Union of Women for International Concord: Mlle Nobs reported on the activities of her Organisation in promoting civil education in the Schools. Many thousands of circulars had been distributed to this end, and personal visits had been made to educational authorities in many different centres.

The Union had also been successful in organising a study and discussion group that had met regularly to study the problems involved in building a new world order. Mlle Nobs was happy to report that the interest of the audience had not merely been maintained, but had steadily increased throughout the winter. The talks had always been followed by discussions and in her opinion these discussions were as valuable in forming opinion as the lectures themselves.

World's Young Women's Christian Association: Mrs. Martin gave a short report on the activities of the Association in Roumania where their workers had been occupied in bringing solace, spiritual and educational, as well as material, to the many unfortunate refugees interned in that country as a result of events in Poland. The Association was also doing much work in connection with the evacuated population in France. Centres had also been organised for women whose husbands were interned, and the Association had formed many foyers for women occupied in war work.

International Council of Women: Miss van Eeghen reported briefly on the activities of the Council in the many different countries affected by the war. The Council was endeavouring to keep closely in touch with its various centres and doing all it could to keep alive the sense of international union among its members, who, in such countries as Finland, Hungary, Roumania, etc. were reaching out for an exchange of contact.

Dr. Gourfein-Welt said that the Soroptimist Club of Geneva were holding a meeting in the near future and she would endeavour to get a report at that time.

No further business arising for consideration, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.
A Board Meeting of the above Committee was held on Monday March 4th 1940 at the Headquarters, Palais Wilson, Geneva, at 10.15 a.m.

The following officers were present:

Miss K. Courtney       Vice-President
Madame Dreyfus-Barney   Vice-President
Madame Thelin-Flourney  Treasurer
Mrs. Puffer Morgan      Technical Adviser
Miss D. M. Arnold       Executive Secretary.

OFFICE FURNITURE -

Miss Arnold raised the question of the disposal of the office furniture in the event of the Committee deciding at any time to close down the office. It was decided that in such an event all persons listed in the detailed Inventory should be written to and their wishes ascertained as to the disposal of such items of office furniture as had been lent by them to the Committee. The question of the stencilling machine was also raised as misunderstanding had occurred in the past as to its ownership. It has been ascertained that the position in regard to this machine is as follows:

The machine was originally purchased by Madame d'Arcis (second-hand) for the sum of Fr.500 and had been given by her into the keeping of the Peace and Disarmament Committee on the understanding that the Committee would credit the World Union of Women for International Concord with a yearly amount until such time as the machine had been paid for. This amount was to figure on our books in lieu of a yearly subscription from the World Union of Women. In accordance with this arrangement, the World Union of Women for International Concord were credited from December 1933 to November 1935 with the sum of Fr.540 (as per our account books) whereas the original cost of the machine was Fr.500. It was decided to write and inform the World Union of Women of the above facts.

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS (in arrears with the payment of dues).

(a) Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas: It was decided to write to Madame Blatter and find out to what extent the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas were still active. The American Women's Club in London had written to say that they were no longer in a position to send a subscription and that their Club House had been closed. It was also decided to follow up the letter to Madame Blatterner by a call from Frau Ehnli, as we had not received any reply to our last letter dated June 14th 1939.

(b) Continental European Federation of Soroptimist Clubs: Dr. Gourfein-Welt had agreed to approach this organisation on our behalf with a request for a report in regard to their present activities and future plans; also to try and persuade them to settle their dues which were in arrears.
(e) **League of Mothers and Educators for Peace:** The question of the international status of this organization which was raised at the December Board Meeting was further considered. Miss Arnold read a letter, dated April 17th 1939, from Madame Eidenschink-Patin to Miss Dingman in which she stated her acknowledgment of the fact that her Association did not fulfill the requirements of our Constitution in this respect but that nevertheless she hoped the League of Mothers and Educators for Peace could retain their association with this Committee. It was decided to remove the name of the Association from the list of Constituent Members on our letter-head and to put it under that of Associate Members.

(d) **World's Women Christian Temperance Union:** It was decided that a letter should be written to Mrs. Boole (copy to be sent to Miss Slack) telling her that Miss Dingman had left Geneva, but that we hoped very much that her organization would continue to give us its support and so help to maintain a sense of international solidarity between the Women's Organisations.

(e) **Association of Slavic Women:** A letter had been received from Madame Grouitch, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, in which she expressed her hope that contact might be maintained between Belgrade and Geneva in spite of the tragic international situation.

(f) **Women's Polish Organisations:** No communication from the above organisation can be traced on the files for the past two years. Madame Emery has written to Paris to find out whether any branch of the Women's Polish Organisations has been formed in that city, but she cannot trace the existence of any such group.

**FUTURE WORK OF THE OFFICE**

It was decided that after Mlle Gibaud's departure, Miss Arnold would have the help of Madame Meumann twice a week, if necessary.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

It was agreed that Member Organisations were to be notified of the proposal to change the name of the Committee in view of the difficulties occasioned by its present title which gave rise to misunderstanding in the existing international situation. Member Organisations were to be requested to inform us of their views in this connection, and if in favour of making any change to forward us their suggestions before the June Meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting to be closed.
MINUTES

A BOARD MEETING of the above Committee was held on Saturday, March 2nd 1940 at the Headquarters, Palais Wilson at 10.15 a.m.

The following officers were present:

Miss K. Courtney
Madame Dreyfus-Barney
Madame Thelin-Flournoy
Mrs. Puffer-Morgan
Miss D.H. Arnold

Vice-President
Vice-President
Treasurer
Technical Adviser
Executive Secretary

PEACE ROLL OF INDUSTRY

Madame Dreyfus-Barney gave a brief report of the present position in regard to the "Peace Roll of Industry". A letter had been received from Mr. Huntington of Washington stating that after judicious distribution on his part there remained on hand about 200 copies of these pamphlets. A letter had been sent to Miss Dingman and to Mr. Huntington asking them to get into touch with each other. It was decided to ask Miss Heneker to ascertain from the printer how many copies were still in his possession; also that envelopes bearing the address of the printer should be printed and used for future distribution of the "Peace Roll of Industry" booklets which were to be mailed directly from the printer's office.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

It was decided that Miss Courtney would draft a letter to Miss Dingman giving the point of view of the Board in regard to the Washington "findings", and expressing the warm appreciation of the Board Members for what had been done by Miss Dingman to make the informal International Gathering a success.

The question of how best to present this report to our Member Organizations was discussed and it was decided to circulate them together with an accompanying letter from Miss Courtney stating that the report had been sent to us by Miss Dingman and represented the "findings" of the informal international gathering held in Washington at the time of the Conference on the Cause and Cure of War; that the meeting fully recognized that owing to lack of time no topic was fully discussed and that there were other important elements not mentioned.

In regard to Miss Dingman's suggestion that "these findings
be circulated in the hope that they would stimulate discussions along the same lines and send their results to Geneva”, Miss Courtney said she would stress this point in her letter.

With reference to the query whether we should promote an unofficial conference of men and women in the early days of the official Peace Conference, it was felt that the time had not yet arrived for serious consideration of such a proposal.

Miss Courtney said she was attending a meeting of the International Suffrage Alliance in Paris when the question of organising some sort of international Women’s Conference would certainly arise. It had been suggested that Miss Schain might accept an invitation to make a trip to Europe to confer with women leaders on the present international situation. Miss Courtney thought the question of locality would likewise come up for discussion. It was agreed to stress the advisability of holding any such gathering at Geneva as in view of the forthcoming I.L.O. Conference on June 5th many notable and distinguished personalities would be in Geneva at that time.

**COMMITTEE MEETING CALLED FOR JUNE 3rd- 4th.**

It was decided to call a Committee Meeting for June 3rd - 4th, to be preceded by a Board Meeting on June 2nd.

It was also agreed to organise a luncheon party during the period of these gatherings. We should avail ourselves of the presence of important visitors and include these (men and women) in our list of invitations. Women delegates to the I.L.O. Conference were to be specially invited.

The Meeting was adjourned until March 4th.