Political Orientation of the work of WILPF (Polish Section)

The WILPF should realize to their full extent the principles established by its program and therefore

a) should make effective efforts to solve all conflicts by means of human solidarity as well as by the collaboration of all and not by means of an understanding with certain parties;

b) should contribute through its work, complete impartiality, consistent with firm opposition to acts contrary to the principles of the League even in States whose constitution otherwise enjoys its high consideration;

c) should in no case approve of the application of constraint even for a justifiable purpose, for, according to this program, the League must always maintain its position of defender of peace and of the method of evolution, proceeding by persuasion and propaganda;

d) should never take a decision on the problems of national sections without first coming to an understanding with national sections which, as being better informed as to local conditions and possibilities, should have a deciding voice in all cases which concern them.

Political Orientation of the Work of the WILPF (Tunis Section)

The Tunis Section having considering the declarations of the French and English Sections and the declaration adopted at the Executive Meeting of March 1934, and studied them in the light of its experience in a country where so many races and religions are face to face, is convinced that the League cannot and should not fuse its action with that of political parties, from which it is differentiated by its belief in non-violence.

At the present moment it appears to us that the action of our League should remain strictly pacifist. It certainly must endeavor unceasingly to combat violence. Making use of the press and of official channels, each Section owes it to itself to recall the public conscience to respect for human life and to tolerance.
Nevertheless if this truly pacifist activity should fail, our full material and moral support would, in accordance with the declaration adopted at the Executive Meeting (March 1934), go to those standing against Fascism for the defense of the ideas of peace and liberty, which are the raison d’être of our League.

A Peace Conference for Revision of Treaties (Mayreder Group, Austria)

The general situation is so threatening and conditions so intolerable that we see no way out except through the calling of a new Peace conference to deal seriously and definitively with the revision of the Peace Treaties.

We therefore propose as the chief work of our League that it should do its utmost to further such a Conference and bring it to pass.

National Minority - Antisemitism (Czecho-Slovak Section)

Jews in Germany have been deprived of equal rights on the ground of their racial descent and refused the rights guaranteed to Minorities. They are thus expelled from the ranks of peoples entitled to equality of status.

This is a violation of the moral principles on which human society is founded. The WILPF therefore urges the League of Nations to recognize the right of members of the Jewish population as entitled to be treated as a national minority and to secure them in this right by international guarantee.

Scientific Preparation for Peace (Dutch Section)

The WILPF, convinced that the old methods in the relations between nations have failed, urges the governments of the world to take the initiative

(a) for the organization of the scientific preparation of peace, based on expert study of the psychological methods, which may be applied for the creation of a better and purer international atmosphere;

(b) for the establishment of an International Institute under the auspices of the League of Nations, in which medical doctors, psychologists and sociologists shall study the psychological causes of war, the way to cure them, and the methods by which to create an atmosphere in which the peace-thought should so strongly prevail that it would be impossible to disturb it.

Explanatory statement: In making the suggestion we have especially in mind the methods applied by those, whose advantage lies in war and the preparation for war. They are sure to be excellent psychologists, in making the best use they can of the fact that mankind is easily led to believe that others are a menace to them.

As this is purely brought about by psychological methods and carries with it such disastrous results, we think it of the utmost importance that a special study be made
of the way in which psychological influence may be led into an other direction and be used for constructive purposes.

**International radio (Czecho-Slovak Section)**

Various speeches and pronouncements such as would create fear, war psychoses and hatred towards other countries have recently been broadcast by international radio from various countries.

The WILPF is urged to use its influence with the International Radio to induce it not to contribute to provocation and incitement to hatred by to serve all that makes for culture and better relations between peoples.

**Comparative Discussion of Socialist programs at a summer school (Czecho-Slovak Section)**

The Zurich Congress or one of the first Summer Schools that may be arranged should prepare a precise report in regard to the concrete aims of Socialist political parties (Social Democracy, National-Socialism, Communism) and send it to the National Sections.

**Establishment of a WILPF Committee on International Education (Mayredere Group of the Austrian Section)**

Our group again makes the proposal for the Establishment of an Educative Committee of our own.

Explanatory Statement: Our Education Committee have constantly felt the want of centralization of our work. It is not enough to oppose militaristic education, it makes its way nevertheless, directly and by all sorts of side routes, unless a whole new legal groundwork is established. Congresses at which official representatives of schools and educational systems make fine speeches are of little value. Our league ought to set up a Commission to bring together whatever is accomplished or needs to be accomplished in constructive work. This Commission should gradually win such recognition in educational and official circles that it might not only see to the carrying out of the resolutions adopted at Congresses and so forth but itself initiate them. It should therefore seek connection with the Geneva International Bureau of Education and also when possible with schools and other educational authorities in the separate countries. It is to be hoped that our League will also be represented at the Congress at Warsaw.

The way to carry out the establishment of the Educational Commission that is to be set up we leave to the Zurich Congress but we expressly declare that we are ready to collaborate most closely.
Emergency Resolutions at the Eighth Congress

Resolution on Equal Rights for Women - presented by Dr. Alice Paul, with 99 signatures

Whereas four American Republics have recently signed a Treaty to remove from their laws all discrimination based on sex, reading “The contracting states agree that upon the ratification of this Treaty, men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the territory subject to their jurisdiction”;

Whereas this international agreement points a practical and speedy way to establish Equal Rights for women throughout the entire world;

Whereas this victory is particularly heartening at this time when the forces of reaction are taking away from women in Europe a large part of their freedom;

Be it resolved that this Congress gives its approval to the Equal Rights Treaty and asks its Sections to work for it in their respective countries.

Resolution on Pacifists Imprisoned in Germany

The Czecho-Slovak Section earnestly begs the Congress to proceed as rapidly as possible to take action for the release of pacifists imprisoned in German concentration camps and there maltreated and slowly tortured to death. To this end the Czecho-Slovak Section makes the following proposals:

The Congress shall choose from its members one English woman, one French woman and one American, Dutch or Swiss woman and commission them to go to Berlin as representing the whole Congress.

All these chosen shall be from western countries and as far as possible internationally known personalities. The Congress shall endeavor to learn exactly what steps were taken in Germany by the English woman who rescued Frau Seger and her child. The delegates can thereupon make the best practicable plans for their visit to Berlin (visits to different Ministers, permits for concentration camps etc.)

The Congress shall provide the delegates with the necessary means.

The Congress shall endeavor to secure the fullest possible publicity for its undertaking through the international press.

The Congress shall commission the delegates to present the following memorial to all German official bodies that it is possible to reach and to reinforce it by personal representatives.
Draft for Congress Memorial: On behalf of Pacifist Prisoners in Germany.

The Eighth Congress of the WILPF, held at Zurich, September 3-8, 1934, addresses itself to the Government of Germany:

It respectfully begs the serious attention of the German authorities for the following considerations and requests them to give serious weight to the request submitted by the Congress.

The Congress is an international gathering of women who stand for peace and the reconciliation of peoples. They follow with profound grief the fate in the concentration camps of German pacifists with whom they are closely united by a common point of view and by former work together. They cannot believe that work done purely for peace can be harmful to any State.

They therefore regard the imprisoned pacifists as innocent victims and consider it as their first duty to help them. They herewith appeal to the Government of Germany to alleviate the fate of these unfortunates and to restore them to freedom. They make this appeal in the name of .....women from.....countries. They venture to say that they speak in the name of the civilized world. They suffering of Carl von Ossietzky, Kurt Hiller and the other imprisoned pacifists have horrified the world. It awaits and expects action. The Congress is convinced that the German Government realizes this fact, that it gives it due weight and that it is already considering the release of prisoners. The purpose of this memorial is to confirm the Government in this intention and to induce it to hasten its decision. The release of the pacifists from the concentration camps would be of the greatest significance. It would put an end to indescribable suffering and save valuable human lives from painful extinction. It would also procure fresh sympathy for the German people and greatly add to the weight of their peace assurances. The Congress is convinced that the German authorities will not close their mind to these considerations. It commissions the representatives of three (or four) nations to deliver this manifesto personally and to endeavor by personal conversation to secure its favorable reception. The Congress confidently hopes that the German Government will give a friendly reception of its delegations and make their heavy task as easy as may be.

Resolution Women Prisoners in Germany supported by a large number of signatures of delegates of different countries. It reads as follows:

The Eighth International Congress of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, which met in Zurich September 3-8, 1934, with 148 members from 15 countries, protests with the strongest terms against the arbitrary killing and brutal torture of men and women in Germany.

As women, women are peculiarly our concern. Women alike of “Aryan” and Jewish race, Women of the aristocracy, the middle class and the working class, Women regardless of age and opinion,
Nursing mothers with their babies, pregnant women,
Women who have been separated from their children for months are imprisoned,
tortured by medieval methods, and murdered in German police cells, prisons, S.A
and S.S. barracks and concentration camps.

We ask the “Fuhrer” of Germany:
Where is the wife of the Bavarian member of Parliament, Hans Beimler?
Where is the wife of the Prussian member of Parliament, Steinfurth?
Where are the wives of Dressel, Goetz and Hausmann killed at Dachau?
Where is Fanny Plankc of Oberwiesnenfeld in North Bavaria?
Where is the former member of the Reichstag Lene Overlach?
Where is the member of Parliament Lene Kirsch?
Where is Lotte Gehr mann from Berlin?
Who murdered Franziska Kessel from Mainz, member of the Reichstag?
Who murdered Wilhelmine Struth from Hamborn?
Who murdered Anna Roeder from Berlin?
Who murdered seventy years old Frau Bicki from Weissensee-Berlin?
Who murdered Frau Arbets from Gladbach?
Who murdered Gertrud Pieper, in the Brandenburg concentration camp?
Who murdered Kathe Senohof from Duisburg?
Who murdered Grete Messing from Selb?
Who is torturing to death Anne-Marie Jacobs, social worker from Hamburg?

Where, in a State where such crimes occur, is Democracy, in the mane of which
Fuhrer, when he proclaimed the plebiscite of August 19, proudly appealed to the
world?

Where is the Equality for Germans in Germany which the Fuhrer emperatively
demands from foreign countries?

We will not cease to make the truth about Germany known in our own countries
until the prisoners are released and amends given for the tortured and murdered
German women.

Resolution on deprivation of women’s rights passed by the Executive Committee
March 1934, to be endorsed by Congress with addition proposed by E. Waern-
Bugge. The text reads as follows:

The Executive Committee of the Women’s International League for Peace and
Freedom, meeting in Geneva, March 1934, is much disturbed by the developments
of many countries where more and more under pretext of the economic crisis,
women are dismissed from office or refused employment and are thus robbed,
together with their dependents, of all means of livelihood.

Not sex, but ability, knowledge and skill should be decisive in the choice of a person
for an office or job.
Even in times of economic crisis and political disturbance, women have the same right as men to the earning of a livelihood in any field and to all educational opportunities.

We claim also for mothers the right to guide their children as they see fit.

We demand that in every country where women have been deprived of these rights they shall be reinstated.

E. Waern-Bugge, in moving this resolution, calls special attention to the way in which recent German policies take away from mothers the possibility of guiding the manner in which their children are brought up as well as to the difficulties put in the way of their employment. She says that she is not herself satisfied with the text which she had not time to prepare as she wished.

Resolution on Concentration Camps

The Eighth Congress of the WILPF urges its members - as a matter of immediate urgency - to work

1) for the abolition of concentration camps and of all imprisonment without accusation and prompt trial by regular judicial processes;

2) against exposure of prisoners to personal maltreatment by police, prison or camp officials or at the hands of lynchers.

Resolution on Austria

1) the constant attacks which are made against the independence of Austria, constitute a most serious danger not only for Austria, but also for the Peace of Europe. The Congress in session in Zurich (Sept 3-8) urgently begs therefore that a State Member of the League of Nations call the attention of the Council to this danger and demand that the League take action (under Art. 11 of the League of Nations Covenant).

2) The position in Austria constitutes moreover a permanent danger so long as external interference prevents internal tranquility.

The Congress therefore demands the establishment of a permanent Commission of the League of Nations for the Study of the Austrian problem and offers the following points for consideration in judging the position

1. Political union with Germany is at present impossible and is not desired by Austria. The extension of the Nazi regime to Austria would mean the ruin of the country. France and Italy would never agree to such an increase of Germany’s power and the danger of war would become imminent.
The “Gleichschaltung” of Austria would have the same results; and independent Nazi-Austria would take orders from Berlin.

The restoration of the monarchy is unacceptable, if only for the reason that Czecho-Slovakia would see therein a threat of war.

The independence of Austria is urgently necessary, but it must be seriously meant and must not signify the protectorate of another State. To this end the neutrality of Austria and her return to democracy must be established under the guarantee of the League of Nations. The League of Nations Commission should include representatives of England, France and Czecho-Slovakia.

**Telegram to Senator Nye (proposed by Dorothy Detzer, US Section)**

Congress congratulates the Nye Commission on the excellent beginning made in its investigation of munitions, news of which has been carried through the world.