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DOCUMENTS
ON
THE STATUS OF WOMEN

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Women's Bureau • Bulletin No. 217

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

L. B. SCHWELLENBACH, Secretary

WOMEN'S BUREAU

FRIEDA S. MILLER, Director



INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON
THE STATUS OF WOMEN



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TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ST. LOUIS

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,
WOMEN'S BUREAU,
Washington, April 20, 1947.

SIR: I have the honor to present a report that outlines the work in official international organizations for status of women. It traces the work of the United Nations Subcommission on Status of Women through its first session, and the beginning of such work in the earlier period of the League of Nations.

The countries of the world naturally look for leadership to a nation that has progressed as far as has the United States in providing for the needs of women and in making use of the contribution women can make to their government and the life and work of their times.

The Women's Bureau has responded to requests by women's organizations that it serve in a continuing advisory capacity in work with them toward representing to the United Nations the viewpoints of organized women in the United States; and it has cooperated closely with the State Department toward furthering the policies desired by American women in the framework of the United Nations.

The present summary of the developments in expressing the aspirations of women through two official world-wide organizations is greatly in demand for background use in the immediate work programs of women's organizations. The report was planned and written by Mary Elizabeth Pidgeon, with the collaboration of Rachel Conrad Nason and Rachel Fesler Nyswander, and the assistance of Betty Jane Roberts, all of the Women's Bureau staff.

Respectfully submitted.

FRIEDA S. MILLER, *Director.*

Hon. L. B. SCHWELLENBACH,
Secretary of Labor.

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THE UNITED NATIONS AND STATUS OF WOMEN
June 1945—June 1946

FROM THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS
26 June 1945

Article 55

The United Nations shall promote: * * *

c. Universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

Article 68

The Economic and Social Council shall set up commissions in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights, and such other commissions as may be required for the performance of its functions.

FROM RESOLUTION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
CREATING SUBCOMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN

16 February 1946

Section B

1. The Economic and Social Council, considering that the Commission on Human Rights will require special advice on problems relating to the status of women, Establishes a Subcommission on the Status of Women.

2. The subcommission shall submit proposals, recommendations, and reports to the Commission on Human Rights regarding the status of women.

3. The subcommission may submit proposals to the Council, through the Commission on Human Rights, regarding its terms of reference.

FROM RESOLUTION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
CREATING COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN

21 June 1946

The Economic and Social Council, * * * decides to confer upon the Subcommission the status of a full commission to be known as the Commission on the Status of Women.

1. Functions

The function of the Commission shall be to prepare recommendations and reports to the Economic and Social Council on promoting women's rights in political, economic, social and educational fields. The Commission shall also make recommendations to the Council on urgent problems requiring immediate attention in the field of women's rights.

The Commission may submit proposals to the Council regarding its terms of reference.

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From League of Nations Covenant to United Nations
Commission on Status of Women, 1919—1946

FOREWORD

The provisions in the Charter of the United Nations that relate to women's participation, when compared with similar provisions in the Covenant of the League of Nations, may prove a significant index to progress in this field. Two other measures for comparison of the newer international organization with its predecessor may be promptness in creating organs to deal with women's status, and service of women in responsible posts.

It is notable that in the Charter of the United Nations the broad references to achievement of "fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to * * * sex * * *" underlie the provision that the organization should "place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs."

This is a far more sweeping mandate than the single statement in the Covenant of the League of Nations that women shall be eligible for "all positions under or in connection with the League." Still it is important that the League of Nations, the first continuing body of government representatives available for focusing world public opinion on the needs of peoples, did from the time of its organization specifically recognize women as participants in its work.

Growth also is reflected in the prompt creation in the United Nations of an appropriate agency to consider the status of women. This subject was accorded a formal place in the debates of the First General Assembly; and the Subcommission on the Status of Women was established during the first sessions of the Economic and Social Council, to which the Charter had assigned the responsibility of creating commissions for the promotion of human rights. Following the first meetings of this Subcommission, it was at once made a permanent full commission. All this activity occurred within the first year of the United Nations' existence.

In the League of Nations, on the other hand, the subject of the status of women was not brought to the fore in the Assembly until the 11th year (1930), and not until the 18th year (1937) was an organ created for the express purpose of dealing with

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it—the committee of experts to study the legal status of women throughout the world. The work of this committee led naturally to the demand for a continuation of such developments in the structure and work of the United Nations.

The third index of progress may be the service of women in responsible places in these international agencies. In the United Nations six countries sent women as full delegates to the organization conference in San Francisco, and five sent them as full delegates to the first General Assembly, held in London. But in the League of Nations it was not until the 10th year (1929) that any woman was a full delegate to the annual assembly. During its entire existence only 8 countries ever sent a woman in this capacity, and only 10 women ever were appointed full delegates, though it must be noted that from the beginning some women served competently in the League Assembly as substitute delegates and technical advisers, and, all told, 29 countries placed women in these posts.

PART I. THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND STATUS OF WOMEN

PROVISION AS TO WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS COVENANT, 1920

When the Covenant, or constitution, of the League of Nations was first drafted in 1919, it did not provide for women's eligibility to positions connected with the League. Disturbed by this and anxious to assure women's participation in the League's work, a committee representing two large international women's organizations—the International Council of Women and the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship—sought an interview with President Woodrow Wilson in Paris and with the commission drafting the Covenant. As a result, the Covenant of the League of Nations, which went into effect early in 1920, contained the following wording in Article VII:

All positions under or in connection with the League, including the Secretariat, shall be open equally to men and women.

LEAGUE ORGANIZATION AND WOMEN OFFICIALS

The primary operating arms of the League of Nations were its Council, virtually its major executive body, which met five times a year; its Assembly, which corresponded to an international parliament and met once a year; its Secretariat; and various Commissions, some temporary, some permanent, set up by the Council as a result of certain resolutions passed by the Assembly at its annual meetings.

In a few cases a woman was appointed by her government as an official delegate for her country to the annual Assembly. Such were perhaps the most important political posts women held under the League. At no time was a woman on the powerful Council.

A considerable number of women were appointed by their countries as substitute delegates to the Assembly. The post was a very influential one, for although such an official had no separate vote in the Assembly, she could represent and vote for her country in one of the Assembly's six committees, on each of which every member nation had a right to be represented. Many women received appointments to the Secretariat during the life of the League, and to a number of the expert commissions set up by the League, in some of which women's work was an outstanding contribution. (For list of appointees, see Appendix, p. 99 ff.)

WORK OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS—LIAISON COMMITTEE

Following their efforts to see that women's place was assured in the League Covenant, women's organizations were active in urging the appointment of qualified women to League positions and the inclusion of women in the official government delegations to the annual Assembly. Close touch was kept with various branches of the League's work through an informal Joint Standing Committee of Women's International Organizations, which was active in Geneva from 1925 on. By 1930 it was constituted as the Liaison Committee of Women's International Organizations, known more briefly as the Liaison Committee and representing 11 big women's organizations, as follows:

- International Council of Women
- International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship
- World's Women's Christian Temperance Union
- World's Young Women's Christian Association
- International Federation of University Women
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
- World Union of Women for International Concord
- St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance
- International Federation of Business and Professional Women
- Equal Rights International
- International Federation of Women Magistrates and Lawyers

The Liaison Committee's interest soon expanded beyond its original objective of pressing for the inclusion of women on the various bodies set up under the League, and for women to be appointed as their governments' delegates to the Assembly meetings. Such questions as equal pay for equal work, marriage laws and child marriage, nationality, the employment of women at night, slavery, forced and indentured labor, opium traffic, refugees, and disarmament, were of major concern to the Committee because of the interest the component national organizations had in these matters in their own countries.

The Liaison Committee therefore sent recommendations on specific points that came before the League in these fields. Both in this way, and by their competent service in various official capacities as mentioned above, women had a constructive part in building the League's program. The Liaison Committee's support for the study of the status of women will be mentioned in the succeeding pages as action by the League on this topic is outlined; but with no organ directed primarily toward developing the status

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of women, it was not until the League had been in existence for 10 years that positive consideration was given to this subject.

CONSIDERATION OF STATUS OF WOMEN BY LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The first definite action on status of women in the League of Nations Assembly was the discussion centered on the effort to revise the provisions on the nationality of women included in the Convention (treaty) proposed by the International Conference for Codification of International Law, which had met at The Hague in April 1930. The Convention concerned conflicting nationality laws and included provisions on nationality of wives and of children. The Hague Conference also had passed a Resolution (No. VI) recommending that the various states study the question of whether they could in their own laws effect equality of the sexes in matters of nationality. (See Appendix, p. 35 ff.)

DISCUSSION OF NATIONALITY BY LEAGUE'S 12TH ASSEMBLY (1931)

The League's Council in session in January 1931 (after the Hague Conference) adopted a resolution, presented by Guatemala, Peru, and Venezuela, to place on the agenda for the 12th Assembly (fall of 1931) the question of the continued study of the nationality of women. The Council at the same time requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Assembly after consulting organizations especially concerned with the nationality of women. It was suggested further that the Secretary-General might request such organizations to set up a committee consisting of two representatives from each.

In response to this January action of the Council, the Secretary-General in February 1931 invited nine international women's organizations "to enter into communication with one another with a view to the establishment of a committee." Eight responded and set up a committee, described in the Assembly minutes as the "Committee of Representatives of Women's Organizations," though known unofficially as the "Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality." This Committee existed throughout the League's separate consideration of the nationality of women.¹ It is not to be confused with the larger, informal Liaison Committee

¹ The name "Consultative Committee" did not appear in the official list of League committees published in the League Year-Book; later (1935) the Secretariat stated, "the title assumed by this Committee does not indicate that it is a technical advisory committee of the League."

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mentioned earlier, which continued effective work in Geneva; some organizations were represented on both committees.

In July 1931 the Committee of Representatives of Women's Organizations made a report urging reconsideration of the Hague Nationality Convention and the submission of a new Convention to governments for ratification. Representatives of the following organizations signed this report:

- International Council of Women
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
- Inter-American Commission of Women
- Equal Rights International
- World Union of Women for International Concord
- All-Asian Conference of Women
- International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship (with reservations)
- International Federation of University Women (with reservations)

The World's Young Women's Christian Association had preferred not to be represented on the Committee, as it had never adopted official policy on this question.

The report of the Committee of Representatives of Women's Organizations was brought to the attention of the 12th Assembly of the League in the fall of 1931 and discussed in the First Committee.² The Assembly passed a resolution, its first on this subject, thanking the women's committee for its report and requesting the Council to ask governments to submit their observations, including their views regarding the Hague Nationality Convention of April 20, 1930, so that this question could be given further consideration in the 1932 Assembly session. On instructions from the Council, therefore, the Secretary-General requested such statements from governments of League members, and also from non-member states that had been invited to the Hague Conference. At the same time the Assembly also passed a resolution asking the Council to examine ways in which the women could cooperate more fully in the League's work. (For texts of these two resolutions, see Appendix, p. 38 f.)

The women's organizations continued their activities, for at the same time the Assembly decided that it would consider any further observations which the above-mentioned Committee of

² The First Committee of the League Assembly was that on Legal and Constitutional Questions, to which the subject of Status of Women was assigned. Under League procedure, the Assembly, after action of its Committees, made proposals to the League Council. In turn, the Council directed the Secretary-General to send communications to governments or organizations.

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Representatives of Women's Organizations ("Consultative Committee on Nationality") might desire to present in addition to its 1931 report. The larger Liaison Committee (which, as stated, included representation of some of the same organizations as the "Consultative Committee"), was also giving closest attention to developments in the League on this matter.

ACTION ON NATIONALITY BY LEAGUE'S 13TH ASSEMBLY (1932)

The 13th Assembly had before it the replies of 33 governments, observations from various women's organizations, and international petitions and communications.³ The majority of these replies expressed one of two opinions on the Hague Convention on Nationality of Women: (1) They did not favor reconsidering it, or (2) they thought its provisions the maximum then obtainable.

Accordingly, the Assembly decided against a conference for redrafting the Hague provisions. The First Committee discussed this matter at length and called attention to the fact that "the women's organizations have other means of action besides direct appeal to the community of nations," and "might direct a large part of their efforts towards the reform of the municipal legislation of the various countries."

Further, a pointed resolution was passed (proposed in the First Committee, on the sponsorship of the Canadian Delegation, with additions by the Austrian and French Delegations), expressing the hope that states having signed the Hague Nationality Convention would enact laws necessary to give it effect. The resolution also requested the League's Council to follow the developments of public opinion to determine when further action would be justified.

The Assembly also prepared another resolution expressing appreciation of the work done by women in support of the League and suggesting measures that could be taken by the women to give effect to the provisions of Article VII in the League Covenant. (See p. 3; for texts of these two resolutions, see Appendix, p. 39 f.)

REQUEST FOR REPORTS ON NATIONALITY BY LEAGUE'S 14TH ASSEMBLY (1933)

Replying to the League's request that governments report upon the effect they had given to the Hague Convention, the

³ The First Committee, to which these reports were referred, appointed as Rapporteur on this subject, M. René Cassin of France, who later (1946) was a member of the Subcommission on Status of women in the United Nations. (See p. 28.)

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Chilean Government, on July 22, 1933, asked that the question of women's nationality be placed on the supplementary agenda for the 14th Session of the Assembly (September-October 1933). On August 30th the Secretary-General communicated this letter to the governments. The question was placed on the agenda, and the Assembly adopted a resolution, again as in 1932, requesting governments to report the effect they had given to Resolution No. VI of the Hague Conference recommending study of the possibility of securing in their own laws equal nationality for the sexes. (See p. 5.)

DELAYED REQUEST TO CONSIDER EQUALITY IN LEAGUE'S 15TH ASSEMBLY (1934)

When the 15th Assembly met in 1934, a request from 10 Latin-American countries was received that for the first time asked the League to consider the equality of women in all its aspects. The request followed lines that had been proposed for the 7th International Conference of American States in Montevideo, Uruguay, December 1933, though the topic had not been on the official agenda of this conference.⁴

The text of this Latin-American letter was presented to the delegations of the various countries and to the General Committee; but since it had come only a week before the session convened, the Assembly deemed it too late to include the question of equality on the agenda, but agreed to refer it to the agenda of the next Assembly (1935).⁵

Meanwhile, the Liaison Committee of Women set up a temporary subcommittee to work more intensively on this subject.

ACTION ON NATIONALITY AND STATUS OF WOMEN IN LEAGUE'S 16TH ASSEMBLY (1935)

Nationality of Women

At the 16th Assembly of the League, final consideration was given to the separate question of nationality of women. Replies had been received from 31 governments on the extent to which they could introduce into their law the principle of equality of

⁴ The Montevideo Conference adopted both a Convention on the Nationality of Women and a Resolution (XIX) on the Civil and Political Rights of Women. Four countries in attendance signed, independently of the Conference itself, a Convention on Equality of Women (Cuba, Ecuador, Uruguay, Paraguay).

⁵ The representative from Denmark, Mme. Forchammer, who had an unbroken record of membership on her country's delegation (either as expert or substitute delegate) in every Assembly since the formation of the League in 1920, addressed the 15th Assembly urging close attention of the governments to this matter.

nationality between the sexes. Extensive reports submitted by various international organizations of women were also circulated.⁶ The topic was on the agenda at the request of 15 governments.

On September 27, 1935, the Assembly adopted a Resolution on the Nationality of Women, in which it renewed its 1932 recommendations that governments ratify the Hague Convention, and that the League's Council continue to follow this important problem to determine when further international action would be justified; and asked further that the attention of governments be called to the fact that the Montevideo Convention on nationality of women (December 26, 1933) was open for ratification to all states.

In this resolution, which history now shows to be the closing chapter in the League's separate consideration of equality of nationality between the sexes, the Assembly again took occasion to express formal thanks to the women's organizations for their assistance. (For text of Resolution, see Appendix, p. 40 f.)

Civil and Political Status of Women

The question of study of status of women in all its aspects was given its first consideration in this 16th session of the League Assembly (1935). It had been formally placed on the Agenda at the request of 10 governments. In discussing this subject, the Assembly's First Committee distinguished between "the question of conditions of employment, whether of men or women," deeming this to be "a matter which properly falls within the sphere of the International Labor Organization," and the somewhat different "question of the political and civil status of women."

The latter was decided by the League to be within its jurisdiction. Accordingly, on September 27, the same day that final action was taken on the nationality of women, a separate Resolution was passed on women's civil and political status. (See Appendix, p. 41 f.) This matter was referred to the governments "for their observations, including observations as to the action which in their view the League might take in the matter," and for information as to the position of women under their existing law. The women's international organizations also were asked

⁶ In circulating the reports from the various women's organizations, prior to the meeting of the 16th Assembly, the Secretary-General stated that he did not consider that he could circulate reports presented by organizations solely national in scope; neither could he circulate long reports from certain international organizations that practically were duplicates of the report made by the Committee of Representatives of Women's Organizations ("Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality").

to present statements to the Assembly. No date was fixed for further consideration of the question by the Assembly, and it was not until 1937 that reports were sufficiently in hand for presentation.⁷

REPORTS ON STATUS OF WOMEN TO LEAGUE'S 18TH ASSEMBLY (1937)

The question of civil and political status of women was on the agenda of the 18th Assembly (1937) at the request of 15 countries. (For list, see Appendix, p. 42.) It again was referred to the First Committee, in which it was extensively discussed by delegates from many countries. The Liaison Committee of Women again, as in 1934, set up a temporary subcommittee to work on this subject.

During the preceding 2 years, 38 countries from all parts of the world had sent information in regard to the legal status of women.⁸ These countries included 24 in Europe, 4 in Asia, 2 in Africa, 7 in America (including the United States and Canada), and the Commonwealth of Australia. The material was reviewed and summarized under the seven headings on which inquiry had been made as to the rights of women:

To have own nationality

To vote in parliamentary elections and be eligible to Parliament

To vote and be eligible for local government posts

For married women to choose own domicile

To guardianship of their children

To work

Regarding property, income, and earnings

The rapporteur for this subject in the First Committee, Mlle. Hesselgren of Sweden, who for 10 years had been a member of

⁷ The first collection of data on the status of women throughout the world were collected in 1902, through a list of 28 questions sent to responsible women in various countries by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. At the same time she called the first international conference of women, which met in Washington in February, and the replies to the questions were published in the official report of this conference. This meeting paved the way for a permanent organization, which was established two years later (1904) as the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

⁸ The United States report used in the 1937 League Report referred to here was prepared in the Women's Bureau and subsequently issued as its Bulletin 157, *The Legal Status of Women in the United States of America*, by Sara Louise Buchanan. It was preceded by summaries of laws in this country issued by the National League of Women Voters. Begun by Mrs. Catherine Waugh McCulloch, Chairman of the League's Committee on Uniform Laws Concerning Women, it was completed by an attorney, Miss Elizabeth Perry, and published in 1924 by Miss Esther Dunshee, then Chairman of the Committee on Legal Status of Women. A further revision, prior to the Women's Bureau study, was made in 1930 by Mrs. Savilla Millis Simons under the direction of Dean S. P. Breckinridge, then Chairman of the League of Women Voters' Committee on Legal Status of Women.

her country's delegation in the League Assembly, stated in summary:

"I need not say that quite apart from juridical niceties, conditions vary greatly in different countries, and therefore the data given must be of a very rough nature. A more concise survey would ask for preparation and analysis by legal experts. These remarks apply to this matter as a whole.

"I am, however, left with the impression of a very great variety and of a growing process of evolution. Many countries are reporting recent or planned changes in their legislation. I also venture to add that the progress made towards complete emancipation of women is more substantial than people generally are aware of." (For the complete report, see Appendix, p. 43 ff.)

LEAGUE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON STATUS OF WOMEN (1937)

The First Committee recommended, and the Assembly passed, a resolution for the establishment by the League of a small committee of experts to determine the outlines of further study of the legal status of women to be conducted through competent scientific institutions. (For text of resolution, see Appendix, p. 49 f.) The League Council appointed to the Committee for the Study of the Legal Status of Women the following, four of whom were among those who had been recommended by the Liaison Committee of Women:

Mr. H. C. Gutteridge, K. C. (United Kingdom) (chosen as Chairman), Professor of Comparative Law at the University of Cambridge.

Mme. Paul Bastid (France), professor in the Faculty of Law of the University of Lyons.

M. de Ruelle (Belgium), Legal Adviser of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

Mme. Anka Godjevac (Yugoslavia), Doctor of Law, Technical Adviser of the Yugoslav Delegation at the Codification Conference, The Hague (1930).

Mlle. Kirsten Hesselgren (Sweden), Member of the Second Chamber of the Riksdag, Rapporteur on the Status of Women to the First Committee of the Assembly (1937).

M. Paul Sebestyen (Hungary), Counselor of Division, Head of the Treaties Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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Miss Dorothy Kenyon (United States of America), Doctor of Law, member of the New York Bar, and legal adviser to a number of national organizations.

The Fourth (finance) Committee of the Assembly voted the sum of 25,000 Swiss francs for the use of the Committee of Experts on Status of Women, specifying that 20,000 francs were to be used for two meetings of the Committee. The first of these meetings was held in April 1938, and at that time representatives of international organizations of women were heard. (For list of organizations appearing, see Appendix, p. 50 f.) In accordance with the recommendation made in the Resolution that created it, the Committee allocated various branches of the study to three competent legal bodies. It asked that a study of women's status at civil law be made by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law in Rome; at public law, by the International Institute of Public Law in Paris; and at criminal law, by the International Bureau for the Unification of Penal Law, The Hague.

The Committee of Experts held a second meeting in January 1939 to hear initial reports from these institutes. At a third meeting in July 1939, no report was made, although a report on the legal status of women had been prepared by the International Institute for Unification of Private Law in Rome for consideration by the Committee. World War II interrupted the entire work, but an initial survey of Hindu law, which differs from other systems, had been made for the Committee by a jurist specializing in Indian law, Sir N. Sircar. (See recommendation, p. 91, for continuance under the United Nations of the type of work done by the Committee of Experts on Status of Women.)

MEMORANDUM OF DECISIONS
OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

June 20, 1950

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**CHRONOLOGY OF UNITED NATIONS ACTION
ON STATUS OF WOMEN**

June 1945—June 1946

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| | 1945 |
| June 26 | United Nations Charter adopted (San Francisco) |
| | 1946 |
| February 5 | Open Letter to the Women of the World, from women delegates and advisers to First General Assembly (London) |
| February 13 | Discussion of women's participation in work of United Nations in First General Assembly (London) |
| February 16, 18 | Creation of Subcommittee on Status of Women by Economic and Social Council (London) |
| April 29 | First meeting of Subcommittee (New York) |
| May 13 | Report by Subcommittee (New York) |
| May 14 | Subcommittee Report made to Human Rights Commission (New York) |
| May 28 | Subcommittee Report given by Human Rights Commission to Economic and Social Council (New York) |
| June 21 | Creation by Economic and Social Council of full COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN |

PART II. THE UNITED NATIONS AND STATUS OF WOMEN

THE SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE

The United Nations Conference on International Organization met in San Francisco April 25, 1945. "The Conference had one purpose, and one purpose only: to draft the Charter of an international organization through which the nations of the world might work together in their common hope for peace," as stated by the chairman of the delegation for the United States. The Preamble of the Charter contained provisions for equal rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion. These were accepted by the official delegates, men and women alike, as of basic importance to future progress.

Participation of Women

Of the 50 nations at San Francisco, 26 sent some women, 24 sent none. There were all told 268 official delegates, and of these 6 were women, who had been appointed by the United States, Brazil, Canada, China, the Dominican Republic, and Uruguay. Four of these women were among the official signers of the Charter for their countries. Some of these nations and seven others sent women also as assistant delegates, advisers, counselors, technical experts, and the like. Another 13 sent women as technical assistants, as interpreters, and in secretarial capacities, the last including two women Secretaries-General of their countries' delegations. (For list, see Appendix, p. 105.)

The United States delegate, Dean Virginia C. Gildersleeve, was among the signers of the Charter. Miss Gildersleeve had been head of Barnard College for a number of years and also had served as president of the American Association of University Women and of the International Federation of University Women. Each delegate was immediately assigned to one or more of the Conference Committees dealing with particular aspects of the Charter, a first draft of which had been prepared in advance by a meeting of the leading Allies at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington. Dean Gildersleeve represented the United States on Committee 1 of Commission I, on the Preamble, Purposes and Principles; and on Committee 3 of Commission II, which dealt with Economic and Social Cooperation, including matters affecting Human Rights. One of the technical advisers of Committee 3 was Dr. Esther

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Caukin Brunauer of the Department of State, later appointed the representative of the United States to the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The United States delegation included as technical experts and in other capacities a number of other women, some of whom were special advisers added to the State Department staff for the Conference (see Appendix, p. 106.)

To amplify its contacts with citizen organizations capable of offering significant comment on the proposals under discussion, the U. S. Department of State invited 42 national organizations to send representatives to act as consultants to the American delegation. Among these were five national women's organizations—the American Association of University Women, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, the National League of Women Voters, and the Women's Action Committee for Victory and Lasting Peace (now The Women's Action Committee for Lasting Peace). Of the additional organizations, two sent women as consultants, and nine included women as associates to their chief consultants. (For list of women consultants and associates, see Appendix, p. 106 f.) The consultants held frequent meetings in San Francisco during the Conference, sometimes with delegates or their advisers. In regard to the national organizations represented, the Secretary of State says in his Report to the President:

“Included among them were leading national organizations in the fields of labor, law, agriculture, business, and education together with principal women's associations, church groups, veterans' associations and civic organizations generally. * * * Their presence in San Francisco meant that a very large body of American opinion which had been applying itself to the problems of international organization played a direct and material part in drafting the constitution of the United Nations.”

Provisions in the United Nations Charter Affecting Women

Provisions in the Charter on which interest in women concentrated were those which (1) gave the assurance of equal opportunity to participate in United Nations work, (2) established procedure for consultation with international non-governmental organizations (including women's organizations on an equal basis), and (3) made possible the establishment of an effective agency, within the United Nations, on the status of women. Statements on the Conference discussion and action on these items are quoted

below from the Secretary of State's Report to the President on the results of the San Francisco Conference. (For pertinent Charter provisions, see Appendix, p. 64 ff.)

Equal Participation. "Some consideration was given at Dumbarton Oaks to the possibility of providing that positions in the Secretariat be open equally to men and women. It was, however, decided that such a provision, if considered desirable, might be inserted by the Conference at San Francisco. The question of the desirability of this turned out to be the primary issue confronting the Committee of the Conference considering Chapter III of the Charter. While there was no objection to the insertion of an appropriate clause, there was difficulty in agreeing on the exact text. Some delegations felt that such a provision should apply only to the Secretariat. It was argued, however, that a broader provision including other organs and agencies of the Organization would be more desirable. The principal question arose over the wording of an amendment introduced by the Uruguayan Delegation to the effect that 'Representation and participation in the organs of the Organization shall be open both to men and women under the same conditions.' This was open to the objection that it implied that members of the Organization might be obligated to apply the principle in appointing their representatives on various organs of the Organization. It was argued that the Organization could not place restrictions upon members in the appointment of their own representatives. Consequently, after considerable discussion, it was agreed that it would be more suitable if the Charter merely provided that the Organization should 'place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs.' This is the phraseology now found in Article 8."

The United States delegation supported this proposal. The principal organs of the United Nations are designated in Article 7 of the Charter as the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Security Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.

Equality in Consultation. "The close and fruitful cooperation between the United States Delegation and its consultants, representing private American organizations, pointed to the desirability of some orderly channel through which national and international organizations of a non-governmental character, having interests in international problems

falling within the competence of the Economic and Social Council, could bring their views to the attention of the Organization. In an unprecedented example of cooperation and unanimity, a recommendation was addressed to the United States Delegation by consultants representing major organizations in the fields of agriculture, business, education and labor in the United States, suggesting that there be added to the Charter a paragraph providing for consultation and cooperation between non-governmental organizations, national and international, and the Economic and Social Council.

“Article 71 is the answer of the Conference to this proposal:

“The Economic and Social Council may make suitable arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which are concerned with matters within its competence. Such arrangements may be made with international organizations and, where appropriate, with national organizations after consultation with the member of the United Nations concerned.”

“This paragraph stands on its own and needs no interpretation. It opens the way to close and orderly cooperation between the Economic and Social Council and the non-governmental organizations most vitally concerned in its work.”

A Commission on the Status of Women. “The Brazilian Delegation issued a declaration recommending the establishment of a Commission of Women to study the status and opportunity of women and, particularly, any discriminations and limitations placed upon them on account of their sex.⁹ Although the United States Delegation did not favor the establishment of such a commission composed exclusively of women, it did express its full agreement with any move designed to eliminate such discriminations and limitations as may still exist. In this connection the Delegation requested that the following statement be incorporated in the records of the Committee before which the matter was discussed:

“The position of the United States on the subject of equal opportunity for women is so well established and has been so often demonstrated in action that it does not need to be elaborated here. We expect women to play a constructive role in the development of the international community which the United Nations are today striving to organize. We

⁹ For text of Brazilian declaration, see Appendix, p. 67.

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are confident, also, that they will share in the benefits which will flow to the people of all lands from the cooperative efforts of their governments to solve economic and social, educational and cultural, and related human problems. Where women as a group suffer from discriminations, we believe that the commission on human rights contemplated in the draft Charter of the United Nations will be effective in helping to bring about the eventual disappearance of such disabilities. Moreover, the Delegation of the United States hopes that the excellent work of the Committee of Jurists appointed by the League of Nations to study the legal status of women throughout the world may be continued in an appropriate form, either as an advisory body to the Economic and Social Council or as a part of the commission on human rights which this Council is intended to establish.' ”

Further, measures might be initiated by the Commission on Human Rights that would include the interests of women, as the Report to the President stated :

“* * * the commission on human rights will have the opportunity to work out an international bill of rights which can be submitted to member nations with a view to incorporation in their fundamental law, just as there is a Bill of Rights in the American Constitution. It can furthermore be expected to take up, in the early stages of its existence, such problems as freedom of information, of press, the radio and the screen and to prepare draft conventions on these and other subjects. These are freedoms which cannot be attained by declarations and resolutions alone. Hard work extending over many years, careful studies, and long-range planning will be necessary to attain these freedoms throughout the world and to make them secure. The commission on human rights might also undertake to promote equal rights for women, be it in the fields of politics or economics or with respect to their legal status.”

ACTIVITY OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

After completion of the United Nations Charter in San Francisco, women's organizations that had been represented by consultants there (see Appendix, p. 106 f) urged wider attention to the needs of women in other countries and to the possibilities of work through the United Nations to improve the general status of women. They took the initiative in calling a conference of

about 50 interested organization leaders in Washington in the fall of 1945.

Early Conference on Implementing Charter Provisions

This conference demonstrated immediately an energetic determination to achieve practical implementation of the pronouncements in the Preamble of the Charter for "equal rights of men and women." The conference first reviewed the Charter provisions applicable to its task. (See text of these in Appendix, p. 64.) It then considered at length what type of agency in the United Nations would be most effective to implement the Charter provisions for freedom and equal participation.

It must be remembered that this conference took place prior to the first session of the United Nations Assembly, that the conception of a Subcommission on Status of Women had not been developed, and that the organs provided for in the Charter had not yet been fully formed. The only one of these organs that would have specifically within its purview women's particular interests as such was the Economic and Social Council.

The Conference emphasized the belief that attention to women's interests must be carefully coordinated with the work of all the various committees and activities of the United Nations in order to prevent isolating the problems of women from the general problems of society. However, caution was expressed against assuming continuous effort on women's interests by general agencies that also have many other areas of work to cover. Further it was observed that at San Francisco some countries having the greatest problems with respect to women seemed to have little consciousness of them. The experience of women who had worked in organizations connected with the League of Nations indicated that the participation of women as technical experts and staff workers in United Nations agencies would not in itself guarantee attention to the special problems of women.

Finally, this conference urged the removal of discriminations against women "wherever they exist" and called for the "cooperation and use of women in the United Nations to the fullest possible extent." It concluded that an international body would be needed with the special function of scrutinizing the work of international technical committees and suggesting to them full attention to women's needs.

The organizations most closely concerned with these continuing efforts were the American Association of University Women, the American Civil Liberties Union, the General Federation of

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Women's Clubs, the National Consumers' League, the National Council of Catholic Women, the National Council of Jewish Women, the National Council of Negro Women, the National Council of Women, the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, the National League of Women Voters, the National Women's Trade Union League, and the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association. These are organizations vitally concerned to improve the status of women in the United States and throughout the world, that have worked toward this objective for many years; most of them also have international affiliates active in this area. Some of them have had long experience in combined conference and committee work along various lines of joint interest. For these particular consultations, they sought to bring together members who had international background and whose thinking in this field would have national significance. Valuable assistance was also given by more than 20 other women's, labor union, and professional organizations who participated in one or more of the sessions.

Continuing Activities of Conference Group

With their work well under way before the first session of the United Nations General Assembly, the representatives of these organizations conferred further at intervals during the following winter and spring, during the developing organization and initial work of the Economic and Social Council, the Human Rights Commission, and finally the Subcommission on Status of Women. In these subsequent discussions, the representatives of women's organizations expanded their recommendations. From time to time they made proposals looking toward adapting their earlier suggestions on policies and procedures to pertinent proposals actually being considered in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council's Commission on Human Rights.

THE FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Participation of Women

The first General Assembly of the United Nations met in London in January of 1946. Five of the 51 United Nations sent women as delegates, and 6 other countries sent women as alternate or assistant delegates, or as advisers.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt was a member of the United States Delegation, and among the advisers to the Delegation were Miss Frieda Miller, Director of the Women's Bureau in the United States

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE WOMEN OF THE WORLD
FROM THE WOMEN DELEGATES AND ADVISERS AT
THE FIRST ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

This First Assembly of the United Nations marks the second attempt of the peoples of the world to live peaceably in a democratic world community. This new chance for peace was won through the joint efforts of men and women working for common ideals of human freedom at a time when need for united effort broke down barriers of race, creed and sex.

In view of the variety of tasks which women performed so notably and valiantly during the war, we are gratified that seventeen women delegates and advisers, representatives of eleven member states, are taking part at the beginning of this new phase of international effort. We hope their participation in the work of the United Nations Organisation may grow and may increase in insight and skill. To this end we call on the governments of the world to encourage women everywhere to take a more active part in national and international affairs, and on women who are conscious of their opportunities to come forward and share in the work of peace and reconstruction as they did in war and resistance.

We recognize that women in various parts of the world are at different stages of participation in the life of their communities, that some of them are prevented by law from assuming full rights of citizenship, and that they therefore may see their immediate problems somewhat differently.

Finding ourselves in agreement on these points we wish as a group to advise the women of all our countries of our strong belief that an important opportunity and responsibility confronts the women of the United Nations:

- 1) To recognize the progress women have made during the war and participate actively in the effort to improve the standard of life in their own countries and in the pressing work of reconstruction so that there will be qualified women ready to accept responsibility when new opportunities arise.
- 2) To train their children, boys and girls alike, to understand world problems and the need for international cooperation as well as the problems of their own countries.
- 3) Not to permit themselves to be misled by anti-democratic movements, now or in the future.
- 4) To recognize that the goal of full participation in the life and responsibilities of their countries and of the world community is a common objective toward which the women of the world should assist one another.

SIGNAL FEBRUARY 5, 1946 BY :

- Bodil Begtrup Mrs. Bodil Begtrup
Denmark
- Minerva Bernardino Miss Minerva Bernardino
Dominican Republic
- Frieda Dalen Mrs. Frieda Dalen
Norway
- Dorothy Fosdick Miss Dorothy Fosdick
United States of America
- Olga Hilova Mrs. Olga Hilova
Czechoslovakia
- M. H. Lefaucheux Mrs. M. H. Lefaucheux
France
- Jean McKenzie Miss Jean McKenzie
New Zealand
- L. McPhee Miss L. McPhee
New Zealand
- K. M. Midwinter Miss K. M. Midwinter
United Kingdom
- Frieda S. Miller Miss Frieda S. Miller
United States of America
- C. I. Rolfe Miss C. I. Rolfe
United Kingdom
- Eleanor Roosevelt Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
United States of America
- Gertrude Sekaninova Mrs. Gertrude Sekaninova
Czechoslovakia
- Evdokia Uralova Mrs. Evdokia Uralova
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic
- H. Verwey Mrs. H. Verwey
Netherlands
- Ellen Wilkinson Miss Ellen Wilkinson
United Kingdom
- Fena Zafiriov Miss Fena Zafiriov
Greece

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LONDON

Department of Labor, and Miss Dorothy Fosdick of the State Department Division of International Organization Affairs. As at San Francisco, the delegates served on various committees; Mrs. Roosevelt was a member of the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee, which dealt with the problems of refugees and of general relief. (For full list of women delegates and advisers, see Appendix, p. 109.)

Debate on Women in the Assembly, February 13, 1946

At the request of the French delegation, the question of participation of women in United Nations conferences was placed on the Assembly agenda. The General Committee considered this, but decided that while the contribution of women to delegations was of great value, it would in principle be inadvisable for the General Assembly to make any definite recommendations to nations as to their appointments. However, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly discuss the participation of women in the United Nations, and a debate on this subject took place on February 13.

The floor was first taken by M. Paul Boncour, the leading member of the French delegation. In view of the subject under discussion, he yielded first place to Mrs. Roosevelt. She spoke briefly and presented an "Open Letter to the Women of the World," which had been drawn up and signed by the women delegates and advisers at the Assembly. This letter noted the participation of women as delegates and advisers in this Assembly and called on governments of the world to encourage women to take a more active part in national and international affairs. Speeches on the position of women and the importance of their being members of their countries' delegations were made by Miss Bernardino (Dominican Republic), Mrs. Dalen (Norway), Mrs. Verwey (Netherlands), M. Paul Boncour (France), Mr. Fraser (New Zealand), Mr. Fusco (Uruguay), and Mr. Noel-Baker (United Kingdom). The full text of these speeches and the text of the "Open Letter" and the list of its signers appear in the Appendix, page 69 and following.

Creation of Subcommittee on Status of Women

During the discussion in the Assembly, Mr. Fraser (New Zealand) stated the intention of the Economic and Social Council (see paragraph next below) to establish a Subcommittee on the Status of Women within its Commission on Human Rights. The resolution taking this action was passed in the Economic and

Social Council on February 16. The full text of the resolution by which the Economic and Social Council established the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Status of Women appears in the Appendix, page 80 and following.

Organization of Commissions Under Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council referred to (called for brevity the ECOSOC) was holding its first meetings in London during part of the General Assembly sessions. Under the Charter provision enabling it to establish various commissions "in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights" (Charter, art. 68), the ECOSOC created at this time six commissions—the Economic and Employment Commission, the Temporary Social Commission, the Statistical Commission, the Commission on Human Rights, the Temporary Transport and Communications Commission, and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

To expedite organization of these commissions, and the Subcommission on the Status of Women as well, it was decided that each of them should consist temporarily of a nuclear group of nine members to be named, in the capacity of individuals, by governments. Under this plan it was possible for each government to be represented on only three of the commissions then set up. The United States asked for membership on the Commission on Human Rights, to which Mrs. Roosevelt was appointed, on the Statistical Commission, and on the Economic and Employment Commission.¹⁰

Communications From Women's Organizations

Although consultation by the Economic and Social Council with non-governmental organizations is provided for in Article 71 of the Charter, the full machinery for this purpose had not yet been worked out (see p. 66). Hence, numerous communications from national and international organizations were addressed directly to the President of the General Assembly or to other officers of the United Nations. These included a resolution from British women's organizations urging, under appropriate Charter provisions, a draft convention to remove discriminations against

¹⁰ The method of appointment of these initial commission members was as follows: The ECOSOC invited each member to make one nomination for each of two or three commissions. Members were free to nominate nationals of other countries, and in some cases did so. The ECOSOC subcommittee handling this matter then agreed on a selected list, which was approved by the full Council. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs was an exception to the "nuclear" plan; because of its particular functions it was clear which countries would most suitably compose its permanent membership.

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women. (For text, see Appendix, p. 68.) Later, when the report of the plan for the Subcommittee on Status of Women reached America, the representatives of women's organizations that had been most actively interested sent to the President of the Economic and Social Council a statement expressing pleasure at this plan and urging that the Subcommittee consider the economic and social opportunities of women in their broadest application, as well as the legal status of women.

PART III. THE UNITED NATIONS SUBCOMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The Subcommittee on the Status of Women held its first meetings April 29-May 13, 1946, at Hunter College, New York City, where temporary United Nations headquarters had been established.¹¹ The Human Rights Commission, through which it was to report to the Economic and Social Council, also met at this time, as did also several other commissions of the ECOSOC, including the Temporary Social Commission. (For a list of women members of the various nuclear commissions of the ECOSOC, see Appendix, p. 109.)

MEMBERSHIP

The United States was not a member of the Subcommittee on the Status of Women, because of the limited number of commissions on which any country could be represented, and because the United States had asked for membership on other commissions (see p. 25). The members of the Subcommittee on Status of Women who sat at this first session, and those who were initially appointed but were unable to attend, were as follows:

China—Mrs. Way Sing New (replacing first appointee, Miss Wu Yi-Fang).

Chile—(Miss Gabriela Mistral appointed, but resigned).

Denmark—Mrs. Bodil Begtrup, chairman.¹²

Dominican Republic—Miss Minerva Bernardino, vice chairman.¹²

France—Mme. Marie H el ene Lefauchaux (replacing first appointee, Mme. Vi enot).

India—Mrs. Hansa-Mehta (replacing first appointee, Rani Amrit Kaur).

Lebanon—Miss Angela Jurdak, rapporteur.¹²

Poland—Miss Fryderyka Kalinowska.

USSR—(No delegate appointed).

Members ex officio from Human Rights Commission (with no vote on Subcommittee on Status of Women):

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt (U. S. A.). (Also chairman of the Human Rights Commission. See Appendix, p. 109.)

¹¹ These turned out to be its only meetings, since it was superseded by the full Commission on Status of Women (see pp. 30, 94-95).

¹² As elected by the Subcommittee at its first meeting April 29, 1946. Its secretary was Mrs. Janine Bernheim, Assistant Secretary Miss Catherine Rolfe. Mrs. Begtrup was a substitute delegate from her country to the League of Nations Assembly in 1938.

M. Dusan Brkic (Yugoslavia).

M. René Cassin (France). (Formerly a member of League of Nations Committee considering women's status. See p. 7.)

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM UNITED STATES WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

All members of the United Nations, whether or not they were members of the nuclear groups, were invited to make suggestions on the agenda and plans for the commissions and the subcommission. Hence the women's organizations in the United States that had met after the San Francisco Conference (see p. 19) reviewed their earlier recommendations and defined the function, program, and procedure they believed desirable for the Commission on Status of Women.

There still was concern that the work for the status of women and an interest in women's needs should permeate all United Nations activities rather than become concentrated too exclusively in any single organ of the United Nations. A report of this conference group on March 29, 1946, states this concern as follows:

"The fundamental objective of the Subcommission should be conceived of as increasing the effectiveness of the commissions and specialized agencies which are concerned with such fields as employment, labor standards, education, health, social welfare, etc. The Subcommission can play a unique role in appraising programs in these fields from the point of view of recommending approaches, including the incorporation of standards and general principles, which would help remove the legal and customary handicaps imposed upon women. This would constitute a significant contribution toward helping achieve success in each of these fields. This concept places a premium on cooperation and coordination, and minimizes duplication."

At a later meeting, held just prior to the session of the Subcommission, the group further defined the basic objectives and procedures they thought applicable, as follows:

"The objective of the Subcommission on the Status of Women is to remove discriminations against women wherever they exist, and to equip women, through suffrage and through participation in every phase of national and international life, to maintain their own status and carry effectively their responsibilities as individuals and citizens.

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“For this purpose the Subcommission would have two major functions:

- (1) An area of primary responsibility for accumulating information and promoting standards in relation to the status of women as reflected in laws and their enforcement, in customs and administrative rulings.
- (2) An area in which its function should be that of review and appraisal of the work of other agencies, to see that the work of these agencies does not perpetuate discriminations, if necessary working out with them new procedures and standards.

* * * * *

“Much important work of the Subcommission will develop through its relations with other agencies, inside and outside the United Nations. Procedures to ensure creative cooperation will be of the utmost importance.”

As points of immediate importance this group also urged such program items as assistance to women who had not yet secured, or had only recently achieved the franchise, and the continuation and expansion of the survey begun by the League of Nations Committee on the Legal Status of Women. The policies outlined in the foregoing were submitted to the Subcommission through official channels. The organizations also urged that the United States seek membership in future on the Subcommission.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF THE SUBCOMMISSION

A preliminary agenda and suggested procedures for the Subcommission had been developed in the Secretariat after conference with appropriate personnel in various governments. The Subcommission's sessions were conducted in English, although none of the members came from English-speaking countries. Its activities naturally were influenced by the mandate of its superiors, the Human Rights Commission and the Economic and Social Council, but from the outset the Subcommission assumed a broad field for discussion and recommendation based on comprehensive provisions in the United Nations Charter (Arts. 62, 66, 68; see Appendix, p. 65 f). It began its work by considering its function, or “terms of reference,” and its permanent organization and membership. This included its size, composition, representation by geographic region, terms of office, and whether members should be appointed in their individual capacities or as government representatives, decisions on all of which are embodied in its Report to the Commission on Human Rights.

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The Subcommittee presented its Report to the Commission on Human Rights May 14, 1946. It first outlined policies, proposing "that world public opinion be stimulated in favor of raising the status of women as an instrument to further human rights and peace." In practice, the Report said, priority had to be given political rights, since without them little progress could be made. These were stated as "equal participation in governments and possibility to exercise all the rights and assume all the duties of a citizen," and defined in detail. Beyond this the Subcommittee also listed improvements in civil, educational, social, and economic fields, which it was important to develop simultaneously.

For the Subcommittee's program of immediate activity, the Report proposed a reliable survey of laws pertaining to the status of women, and of their application; work for equal opportunity for full education, including training in specialized fields; calling of a United Nations Women's Conference to develop the program; furthering of the political rights referred to in the policies outlined. (For full text of Report, see Appendix, p. 83 ff.)

When the Commission on Human Rights, through its chairman, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, made its report to the Economic and Social Council, it not only submitted the full Report of the Subcommittee on Status of Women together with its own recommendations to the Council concerning the Subcommittee, but arranged for the Chairman of the Subcommittee, Mrs. Bodil Begtrup, to address the full Economic and Social Council. Mrs. Begtrup presented in person the major points in the Subcommittee's Report and at the same time cited the wish of her colleagues to recommend that the Subcommittee be made a full commission under the Economic and Social Council. Before the close of its session, the Council acceded to this request and created a full Commission on the Status of Women. Excerpts from the Report of the Human Rights Commission, the Address of the Chairman of the Subcommittee before the Economic and Social Council, and the Resolution of the Economic and Social Council creating a full Commission on the Status of Women, will be found in the Appendix, page 90 and following.

PROVISIONS FOR CONSULTATION WITH ECOSOC

Article 71 of the Charter provided that the Economic and Social Council could make suitable arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations (see p. 66). Accordingly,

U. N. SUBCOMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN

the ECOSOC at the close of its first sessions in London, on February 16, 1946, set up a committee to consider suitable procedures and make recommendations to the next sessions of the ECOSOC in the early summer. This Committee on Arrangements for Consultation with Non-Governmental Organizations (called for brevity the NGO Committee) corresponded directly with national and international organizations that had indicated an interest in presenting their views to and in having observers at sessions of United Nations organs.

The ECOSOC adopted the recommendations of this Committee at the final meeting of its second session, June 21, 1946. The principles thus established provide that to be eligible for consultation an organization should be concerned with matters falling within the competence of ECOSOC, should have aims and purposes conforming with the spirit of the Charter, should be of recognized standing, should have an established headquarters and authority to speak for membership, should be international in structure with international policies determined by its voting members. It should represent a substantial proportion of the organized persons within the particular field of interest to be represented. Organizations solely national in scope normally should speak through their own governments, or through international bodies to which such organizations belong.

In establishing procedure, provision was made for a standing Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations—again called for brevity the Council NGO Committee—to review applications for consultative status. So far as any individual commission is concerned, consultative status for organizations having special competence is provided for either directly or through the commission's own committee established for the purpose.

The NGO Committee Report further urged that since the peoples of the United Nations have a basic interest in all United Nations work, the Secretariat be so organized as to render all appropriate assistance to non-governmental organizations and offer to them all appropriate facilities. (For excerpts from the Report of the NGO Committee, see Appendix, p. 95 ff.)

The Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, in which you request information regarding the operations of the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, in connection with the proposed merger of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri.

The Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, has the honor to inform you that the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, is currently engaged in a study of the proposed merger of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, and that the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, is currently engaged in a study of the proposed merger of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri.

The Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, has the honor to inform you that the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, is currently engaged in a study of the proposed merger of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, and that the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, is currently engaged in a study of the proposed merger of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri, with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Missouri.

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APPENDIXES

A. INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS CONCERNING STATUS OF WOMEN

- I. The Hague Conference (1930)**
- II. The League of Nations (1920-39)**
- III. The United Nations (1945 and 1946)**

B. WOMAN PERSONNEL IN LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND UNITED NATIONS

- I. League of Nations**
- II. United Nations**

C. SUFFRAGE FOR WOMEN IN COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD, 1946

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**APPENDIX A. International Documents Concerning
Status of Women**

**I. EXTRACTS FROM DOCUMENTS, HAGUE CONFERENCE
FOR CODIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW,
THE HAGUE, APRIL 1930**

**1. Extracts from Convention Adopted on Certain Questions
Relating to the Conflict of Nationality Laws, and
Ratification of Same, April 1930¹**

CHAPTER I—General Principles

CHAPTER II—Expatriation Permits

CHAPTER III—Nationality of Married Women

Article 8

If the national law of the wife causes her to lose her nationality on marriage with a foreigner, this consequence shall be conditional on her acquiring the nationality of the husband.

Article 9

If the national law of the wife causes her to lose her nationality upon a change in the nationality of her husband occurring during marriage, this consequence shall be conditional on her acquiring her husband's new nationality.

Article 10

Naturalization of the husband during marriage shall not involve a change in the nationality of the wife except with her consent.

Article 11

The wife who, under the law of her country, lost her nationality on marriage shall not recover it after the dissolution of the marriage except on her own application and in accordance with the law of that country. If she does recover it, she shall lose the nationality which she acquired by reason of the marriage.

CHAPTER IV—Nationality of Children

Article 12

Rules of law which confer nationality by reason of birth on the territory of a state shall not apply automatically to children born to persons enjoying diplomatic immunities in the country where the birth occurs.

¹ Source: Report on Conference for Codification of International Law (1st) The Hague, 1930.

The law of each state shall permit children of consuls de carriers, or of officials of foreign states charged with official missions by their governments, to become divested, by repudiation or otherwise, of the nationality of the state in which they were born in any case in which on birth they acquired dual nationality, provided that they retain the nationality of their parents.

Article 13

Naturalization of the parents shall confer on such of their children as, according to its law, are minors, the nationality of the state by which the naturalization is granted. In such case the law of that state may specify the conditions governing the acquisition of its nationality by the minor children as a result of the naturalization of the parents.

In cases where minor children do not acquire the nationality of their parent as the result of the naturalization of the latter, they shall retain their existing nationality.

Article 14

A child whose parents are both unknown shall have the nationality of the country of birth. If the child's parentage is established, its nationality shall be determined by the rules applicable in cases where the parentage is known.

A foundling is, until the country is proved, presumed to have been born on the territory of the state in which it was found.

Article 15

Where the nationality of a state is not acquired automatically by reason of birth on its territory, a child born on the territory of the state of parents having no nationality, or of unknown nationality may obtain the nationality of the said state. The law of the state shall determine the conditions governing the acquisition of its nationality in such cases.

Article 16

If the law of the state whose nationality an illegitimate child possesses recognizes that that nationality may be lost as a consequence of a change in the civil status of the child (legitimation, recognition), such loss shall be conditional on the acquisition by the child of the nationality of another state under the law of that state governing the effect of the change in civil status upon nationality.

CHAPTER V—Adoption

CHAPTER VI—General and Final Provisions

Signed by:

Germany	Cuba *	Luxemburg
Austria	Denmark	Mexico
Belgium *	Free City of Danzig	Netherlands *
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Egypt	Peru
Canada	Spain	Poland
Australia	Estonia	Portugal
Union of South Africa	France	Salvador
Irish Free State	Greece	Sweden
India *	Hungary	Switzerland *
Chile	Iceland	Czechoslovakia
China	Italy	Uruguay
Colombia *	Japan *	Yugoslavia
	Latvia	

* Certain reservations stated.

Ten ratifications or accessions are required for effectiveness. (Arts. 25 and 26 of the Convention.) By April 1937, there were ten ratifications or accessions, though one of these did not accept Arts. 8, 9, 10, and another did not accept Art. 16. They were as follows:

Norway, March 1931 (Treaty Inf. Bull., April 1931, p. 5).

Monaco, April 1931 (Treaty Inf. Bull., June 1931, p. 6).

Brazil (except Art. 16), October 1931 (Treaty Inf. Bull., November 1931).

Sweden, July 1933 (Treaty Inf. Bull., August 1933, p. 4).

Great Britain and Canada, April 1934 (League of Nations Journal, May 1934).

Poland, June 1934 (Treaty Inf. Bull., July 1934, p. 5).

China, February 1934 (League of Nations Journal, March 1935, p. 442).

Great Britain for India, October 1935 (Treaty Inf. Bull., November 1935, p. 7).

Netherlands (except Arts. 8, 9, 10) April 1937 (Great Britain, Treaty Series No. 33. Cmd. 5553, 1937, pp. 33-35).

2. Resolution No. VI, Recommending Study of Equal Nationality. Adopted at the Hague Conference for Codification of International Law, April 1930 ¹

The Conference recommends to the states the study of the question whether it would not be possible:

1. To introduce into their law the principle of the equality of the sexes in matters of nationality, taking particularly into consideration the interests of the children;
2. And especially to decide that, in principle, the nationality of the wife shall henceforth not be affected without her consent either by the mere fact of marriage or by any change in the nationality of her husband.

NOTE.—As the purpose of this Conference was to codify existing law, adoption of a proposed Equal Rights treaty was not officially discussed.

¹ Source: The Hague Conference, Official No. A.15.1932.V.

II. LEAGUE OF NATIONS DOCUMENTS, 1920-39

I. Resolutions of League of Nations Assembly Relating to Status of Women

COOPERATION OF WOMEN IN THE ORGANIZATION OF PEACE— RESOLUTION PASSED BY 12TH ASSEMBLY (1931)¹

The Assembly,

Convinced of the great value of the contribution of women to the work of peace and the good understanding between the nations, which is the principal aim of the League of Nations,

Requests the Council to examine the possibility of women cooperating more fully in the work of the League.

¹ Source: League of Nations, The League Year-Book, 1932, p. 369.

NATIONALITY OF WOMEN—RESOLUTION PASSED BY 12TH ASSEMBLY (1931)¹

The Assembly,

Having examined with the greatest interest the report of the Secretary-General on the question of the nationality of women, presented in accordance with the resolution of the Council of January 24th, 1931, and the report and proposals of the Committee of Representatives of Women's International Organizations which are annexed thereto;

Notes the desire of the said Committee that steps should be taken to bring about the reconsideration of the Hague Nationality Convention, bearing in mind the principle of equality between men and women;

Thanks the Committee of Representatives of Women's International Organizations for its report; and

Requests the Council, in harmony with the recommendation No. VI of the Conference for the Codification of International Law held at The Hague, March-April 1930, to transmit to all governments the report of the Secretary-General on the question of the nationality of women, including the Report of the Committee of Representatives of Women's International Organizations, and the letter of the International Union of Leagues of Catholic Women of August 19, 1931, together with the Minutes of the First Committee of the Assembly on this subject, and to request governments to submit their observations on this subject (including their views regarding the Hague Nationality Convention) for reconsideration of the matter by the 13th Assembly, to which any

¹ Source: League of Nations, The League Year-Book, 1932, p. 377.

observations which the above-mentioned Committee thinks fit to present will be communicated.

**NATIONALITY OF WOMEN—RESOLUTION PASSED BY 13TH ASSEMBLY
(1932)¹**

The Assembly, * * *

Noting that, in their observations, a large number of governments express the opinion that Articles 8 to 11 of the Hague Convention represent the degree of progress which can at present be obtained by way of general international agreement in regard to the question of the nationality of women;

Considering that any amendment outside the normal procedure for revision would prove impracticable and, therefore, that it is not possible even to eliminate from the text the words that seem to have created a misconception as to a discrimination of sexes in regard to nationality;

Being satisfied, therefore, that the coming into force of Articles 8 to 11 would in no way prejudice further concerted international action, when such action becomes practicable;

Recognizing that their coming into force would not, in the meantime, place any restriction upon the freedom of action of any state that may desire to give further effect in its nationality laws to the principle of the equality of the sexes;

Considering, finally, the question of the nationality of women to be in process of evolution and connected with the change of women's position in social, economic and political life;

Expresses the hope that the states which have already signed the Hague Nationality Convention will introduce such legislation as may be necessary to give effect thereto, and will deposit their ratifications at an early date;

Draws the attention of the states that have not yet passed the necessary legislative measures to give effect to the Convention to the possibility of enacting their internal legislative measures in a form more appropriate to meet the wishes of the women's organizations;

Instructs the Secretary-General from time to time to ask the governments to give him information as to the effect which they have found it possible to give Recommendation No. VI of the Codification Conference;

Requests the Council, on the basis of the information so obtained, to follow the development of public opinion on this important question, in order to determine when such development

¹ Source: League of Nations, *The League Year-Book*, 1933, pp. 233-239.

has reached a point at which further concerted international action would be justified.

**COLLABORATION OF WOMEN IN THE WORK OF THE LEAGUE—
RESOLUTION PASSED BY 13TH ASSEMBLY (1932)¹**

The Assembly,

Expresses its warm appreciation of the work done by women in support of the League of Nations, and welcomes wholeheartedly the efforts made to increase their collaboration;

Notes that the Women's Organizations consulted are unanimous in declaring that equal status between men and women is a prerequisite of effective collaboration of women in the work of the League, and that their collaboration can be most effectively exercised through the competent official organs of the League and of the governments;

Reminds all the States-Members of the League of Article 7 of the Covenant, which has in view the possibility:

- (a) For the governments of the States-Members to appoint competent women to Assembly delegations to conferences and on governmental committees of the League;
- (b) For the Council to appoint competent women on technical League committees, as assessors and experts;
- (c) For the Secretary-General to include competent women in the higher posts of the Secretariat.

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. A. 53. 1935. V; The League Year-Book, 1933, p. 248.

**NATIONALITY OF WOMEN—RESOLUTION PASSED BY 16TH ASSEMBLY
(1935)¹**

The Assembly,

Considering that the collaboration of women is particularly desirable in the study of matters which concern them; conscious of the importance of the subject:

- (1) Remarks with interest the achievement accomplished by the American states in drawing up a Convention in accordance with Recommendation VI of the Conference of The Hague of 1930;
- (2) Draws the attention of the members of the League of Nations to the fact that the Montevideo Convention is open to the accession of all states;
- (3) Thanks the women's international associations for the assistance which they have rendered and will render to the League of Nations in this field;

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. A. 53. 1935. V.

- (4) Renews its recommendations that the states which have signed the Hague Convention of 1930 will deposit their ratifications at an early date;
- (5) Requests the Council to continue to follow the development of this important problem, both in national and in the international field, in order to determine when such development has reached a point at which further concerted international action would be justified.

**POLITICAL, CIVIL, AND ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN—RESOLUTION
PASSED BY 16TH ASSEMBLY (1935)¹**

The Assembly,

Noting that the question of the status of women was placed on the agenda of the present Session for examination, at the instance of a number of delegations, with particular reference to the Equal Rights Treaty signed at Montevideo on December 26, 1933, by representatives of the Governments of Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay;

Considering that the terms of the Equal Rights Treaty should be examined in relation to the existing political, civil and economic status of women under the laws of the countries of the world;

Recognizing that the question of conditions of employment, whether of men or women, is a matter which properly falls within the sphere of the International Labor Organization:

(1) Decides that the question of the political and civil status of women shall be referred by the Secretary-General to the governments for their observations, including observations as to the action which in their view the League might take in this matter, and that the governments shall be requested to supply to the Secretary-General, together with their observations, information as to the existing political and civil status of women under their respective national laws;

(2) Recommends that the women's international organizations should continue their study of the whole question of the political and civil status of women;

(3) Requests that the observations and information communicated by the governments and the statements of the said international organizations shall be sent to the Secretary-General for consideration by the Assembly of the League of Nations at a subsequent Session;

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. A. 60. 1935. V; Industrial and Labor Information, Oct. 21, 1935.

(4) Expresses the hope that the International Labor Organization will, in accordance with its normal procedure, undertake an examination of those aspects of the problem within its competence—namely, the question of equality under labor legislation—and that it will, in the first place, examine the question of legislation which affects discriminations, some of which may be detrimental to women's right to work.

Note.—For ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION CREATING COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON STATUS OF WOMEN, 1937, see pages 49-50.

2. Countries Requesting Consideration by Assembly of League of Nations of Matters Relating to Status of Women, 1931-37

1931—Request to Council to put nationality of women on Assembly Agenda: Guatemala, Peru, Venezuela.....	3
1932—Governments that had replied to questionnaire as to whether to revise Hague Convention on Nationality of Women	33
1933—Request to put nationality of women on Assembly Agenda: Chile	1
1934—Request to put status of women on Assembly Agenda (came only about a week before the session, too late for inclusion): Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay	10
1935—a. Request to put nationality of women on Assembly Agenda: Argentina, Chile, China, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Latvia, Mexico, New Zealand, Panama, Siam, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia	15
b. Request to put status of women on Assembly Agenda. Placed on Agenda in response to 1934 request which came too late.	
1937—Request to put status of women on Assembly Agenda: Albania, Bolivia, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Finland, Haiti, Latvia, New Zealand, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Yugoslavia	15

3. Status of Women. League of Nations Assembly, 1937**REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE FIRST COMMITTEE TO THE ASSEMBLY
OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS, 1937¹***Rapporteur:* Mlle. Hesselgren (Sweden)

1. It was in 1935 that the question of the status of women in all its aspects first appeared on the agenda of the Assembly. Its insertion on the agenda was the result of a joint request made at the Assembly's previous session by ten delegations—namely, those of Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and Uruguay. The Assembly had already been called upon to consider the nationality of women in 1931, 1932, and 1933, and this subject was also on the agenda in 1935.

2. In 1935, the question of nationality and the more general question of status formed the object of separate discussion in the Assembly, and two separate resolutions were adopted. As regards nationality, the Assembly, on September 27, 1935, called the attention of the members of the League to the fact that the Montevideo Convention of December 26, 1933, on the nationality of women (which forbids any differentiation between the sexes in regard to nationality) was open to accession by all states and repeated the request which it had made on October 12, 1932, that the Council would follow the development of the problem. As regards the status of women, the Assembly on the same date adopted a resolution which distinguished between "the question of conditions of employment whether of men or women" which was stated to be "a matter which properly falls within the sphere of the International Labor Organization" and "the question of the political and civil status of women." The latter question was referred to the governments "for their observations, including observations as to the action which, in their view, the League might take in the matter." The governments were at the same time asked to furnish information as to the position under their existing law. The women's international organizations were also asked to present statements to the Assembly.

3. A large number of governments and associations responded during the years 1936 and 1937 to the Assembly's request for information. The documents A.14, 14 (a), 14 (b), and 14 (c). 1937.V. and A.33. 1936.V contain replies from the following governments: Union of South Africa, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Den-

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. A. 54. 1937. V.

mark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, India, Latvia, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland (Danzig), Rumania, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Yugoslavia.

A statement from the Government of the United States of America was received too late for distribution to the First Committee, but was studied by the rapporteur and will be published as soon as possible. On the other hand, the documents A.14 and A.14 (d). 1937. V contain information and statements of their desiderata drawn up by the following women's international organizations: International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship, World's Young Women's Christian Association, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, International Council of Women, Equal Rights International, Union internationale des Ligues féminines catholiques, Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality² and the International Federation of Business and Professional Women.

The members of the First Committee have not failed to give most serious consideration to the views expressed, not merely by the governments, but also by the organizations.

4. In the present year, the question of the status of women has been put on the Assembly's agenda by a joint request from fifteen governments—namely: Albania, Bolivia, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Finland, Haiti, Latvia, New Zealand, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia.

5. The figures given in the last two paragraphs appear to show a growing interest on the part of governments in the demand of women for equality of status. This impression is reinforced by the debates in the First Committee. These debates have shown that the question of equality is not merely one in regard to which women in general are anxious that the maximum progress should be made, but one in regard to which the governments, while obliged to take account of the practical possibilities of legislation and of international action, appreciate and feel sympathy with this demand.

6. The documentation supplied by the governments and the associations regarding the present position of women under the law of different countries could not, of course, be studied in detail by the First Committee, but a general survey of the situation

² This Committee is composed of representatives of the International Council of Women, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Inter-American Commission of Women, the Equal Rights International, and the All-Asian Conference of Women.

which it discloses was given to the Committee by the rapporteur in the following terms:

“According to the wish expressed at the last meeting, I have tried to get a sort of general survey of the present situation as it is recorded in this material, adopting a purely practical standpoint and without going into details. I have tried to find in how many countries a woman has full personal rights or, as far as married women are concerned, equality of rights with her husband, in certain specified matters.

“In so short a time and with data not always complete or entirely corresponding to each other, I cannot guarantee that my figures are absolutely exact, but I think I can say that they may give you a fair idea of the situation. From a juridical point of view, they need, of course, qualifying in many respects.

“They concern thirty-eight countries all over the world, of which twenty-four are in Europe, four in Asia, two in Africa, seven in America including the United States of America and Canada, and finally, there is the Commonwealth of Australia.

“The facts are, as I said, taken from the governments’ replies supplemented by the information given by the women’s organizations. Where the information has shown divergency, I have always depended on that furnished by governments.

“The points investigated, seven in number, are as follows:

“I. Equality of right to their own nationality is allowed to women by ten countries and refused by twenty; eight have not given any information.

“II. The right to vote in parliamentary elections and eligibility for election to Parliament on equal footing is enjoyed by women in twenty-four countries and refused in fourteen (nine in Europe).

“III. An equal right to vote and eligibility in local government on an equal footing is accorded to women in twenty-nine countries, refused in seven countries (four in Europe); two have given no information.

“IV. An equal right for married women to choose their domicile is given only in four countries, twenty-four refuse it; ten give no information.

"V. In seven countries, married women have an equal right to the guardianship of their children; in twenty, they are refused it. Eleven countries give no information.

"VI. The question of women's right to work was very difficult to answer from the data supplied. However, it seems that fourteen countries give a woman, married or unmarried, practically the right to engage in every kind of work, while restrictions of different kinds are imposed in sixteen countries; no information is given from eight countries.

"VII. Equality of rights as regards property, income and earnings is given women in twenty-four countries and refused in ten; no information from four countries.

"I need not say that, quite apart from juridical niceties, conditions vary greatly in different countries, and therefore the data given must be of a very rough nature. A more concise survey would ask for preparation and analysis by legal experts. These remarks apply to this matter as a whole.

"I am, however, left with the impression of a very great variety and of a growing process of evolution. Many countries are reporting recent or planned changes in their legislation. I also venture to add that the progress made towards complete emancipation of women is more substantial than people generally are aware of."

7. The draft resolution which the First Committee submits to the Assembly for adoption provides for a comprehensive and scientific inquiry into "the legal status enjoyed by women in the various countries of the world as the result of the provisions of national law and the application of those provisions." This inquiry would be under the control of a committee of experts of both sexes appointed by the Council. It will be evident from the work which the committee has to do that the First Committee has primarily in mind a committee of legal experts. It has refrained from using this expression in the draft resolution, in order that the Council, if it thinks fit, may put on the committee persons whose qualifications are not primarily legal but who possess special qualifications of another kind for the work in question. The committee will settle the scope of the inquiry and the distribution of the work among the scientific institutions by which it is to be accomplished, and it will review the work accomplished before its publication by the League, with a view in particular to ensuring that there is included a synthetic survey of the whole situation. It is not, of course, intended that the committee shall be bound to draw up this survey itself.

8. It is proposed that the inquiry itself should be entrusted to suitable international scientific institutions. In this connection, the resolution mentions the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, which is an institute placed at the disposal of the League and which, by its purpose and constitution, is especially qualified to deal with questions of private law and related questions. Other aspects of the inquiry would be entrusted to such institutions as the committee of experts considered most suitable for the purpose: a number of delegations considered, for example, that recourse might be had to the International Institute of Public Law and the International Bureau for the Unification of Penal Law for questions falling within their field.

9. The reasons for such a proposal can be briefly stated as follows:

The replies of the governments and the debate in the First Committee, in which no fewer than 23 delegations took part, have shown that the status of women is not a question which at present one can hope to see settled for all countries by the adoption of a simple and all-embracing formula. Although some speakers were inclined to consider that it would ultimately become possible to secure general acceptance for an international convention on the subject, no delegation proposed that the League should at present attempt to have such a convention negotiated under its auspices, and certain delegations declared that, in the opinion of their governments, the status of women was so essentially a matter of domestic jurisdiction that it ought not to be considered to fall within the field of action of the League. Other delegations feel that, at the present stage, legislative progress may be coordinated as the result of League action. If the First Committee's proposal is accepted the League, on the completion of the proposed inquiry, will be put in possession of an entirely objective picture of the actual legal position of women. The publication of such a comprehensive survey should be of assistance to governments and to all organizations and persons interested in the problem. On its completion, the Assembly will be absolutely free to consider taking further steps in the matter.

10. The First Committee very much hopes that the comprehensive study can be completed in 3 years. The progress of the work will be notified to the Assembly in the Secretary-General's annual reports, and if the committee of experts finds it impossible to complete the work in the time proposed, it will of course call the Assembly's attention to the position. The proposed resolution contemplates that, so far as necessary, the committee of experts

will maintain contact with the institutions which are carrying out the study. This contact will of course be maintained in the normal way through the Secretariat and, in the opinion of the First Committee, it need not necessarily involve meetings of the committee of experts, although such meetings may prove to be desirable.

11. Two aspects of the status of women are excluded from the scope of the contemplated comprehensive survey. In the first place, that survey cannot obviously extend to matters which the Assembly has already formally recognized to belong to the competence of the International Labor Organization and in regard to which the Organization is already prosecuting an inquiry which the Assembly has requested it to undertake. Any difficulty in this connection will be removed by collaboration between the committee of experts and the competent authorities of the Labor Organization. Moreover, there may no doubt be matters in regard to which the experience of the Labor Organization would enable it to assist the committee in a consultative capacity, and the First Committee has no doubt that the Organization will be glad to give such help. Secondly, the Committee considers that the Assembly should maintain the decisions which it has already taken with regard to the nationality of women. This implies that questions of nationality are in principle excluded from the contemplated survey. It is not, however, intended that the survey should not contain such general information regarding the nationality of women as may be necessary to complete the picture which it is intended to give.

12. On the other hand, questions regarding the status of women which are regulated by international conventions will, of course, fall within the scope of the survey.

13. The draft resolution empowers the committee of experts to invite the cooperation of the women's international organizations in such manner as it finds desirable. The resolution makes no reference to proposals which the organizations may desire to submit to the committee. It is understood that, in the normal course, the Secretariat would bring to the attention of the committee any proposals from the organizations which were relevant to the committee's task.

14. The committee of experts will have full and entire responsibility for the form and content of the publications which are circulated to the Assembly and published by the League as the result of the contemplated inquiry. It will therefore rest with the committee to decide whether and in what shape the results of par-

ticular inquiries, or communications which the committee may have received from organizations, are to be printed.

15. The proposal now submitted by the First Committee to the Assembly is the result of the general feeling of the Committee that the question of the status of women cannot usefully be further discussed by the League until after a study such as is now contemplated has been completed.

16. The First Committee submits to the Assembly the following draft resolution:

DRAFT RESOLUTION [CREATING COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON LEGAL STATUS OF WOMEN, ADOPTED BY LEAGUE OF NATIONS ASSEMBLY, 1937]¹

“The Assembly,

“(1) Having regard to the information concerning the question of the legal status of women, more particularly their political and civil status, which has been collected by the Secretary-General in accordance with the resolution of the Assembly adopted on September 27th, 1935;

“(2) In view of the fact that, in general, the trend is for law to develop in the direction of equality between the sexes;

“(3) Considering it to be desirable that a comprehensive study should be prepared and published giving full information on the legal status enjoyed by women in the various countries of the world as the result of the provisions of national law and the application of these provisions;

“(4) Considering that, by its resolution of September 27, 1935, the Assembly recognized ‘that the question of conditions of employment, whether of men or women, is a matter which properly falls within the sphere of the International Labor Organization,’ and expressed the hope that the Organization ‘will, in accordance with its normal procedure, undertake an examination of those aspects of the problem within its competence—namely, the question of equality under labor legislation—and that it will, in the first place, examine the question of legislation which effects discriminations, some of which may be detrimental to women’s right to work;’

“(5) Considering that the International Labor Organization is engaged in the study contemplated by the Assembly’s resolution and that the comprehensive study now in view should not cover matters which have been recognized by the Assembly to fall within the scope of the International Labor Organization;

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. A. 54. 1937. V.

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“(6) Considering, furthermore, that this comprehensive study should also not extend to questions of the nationality of women, in regard to which the Assembly maintains the decisions which it has already taken;

“(7) Considering it desirable that the study of the other elements of the question should be entrusted to the competent scientific institutes, which should be given instructions enabling them to coordinate their work;

“(8) Considering that, for private law, the League of Nations possesses in the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law an organ well qualified to carry out such a study of comparative law; and that for other aspects of the question it would be desirable to have recourse to other competent scientific institutes;

“(9) Considering that a small committee of experts, comprising members of both sexes, should be set up for the purpose of determining the exact scope of the contemplated comprehensive study and of distributing the work among the various scientific institutes, and that this committee should, so far as necessary, maintain contact with the institutes during the progress of the study and examine and settle the final form and content of the resulting documents, with a view to the preparation of a synthetic survey; which should accompany the documents when they are published by the League;

“(10) Considering that this committee should have power to consult women’s international organizations and invite their cooperation in any form which it thinks advisable:

“(11) Asks the Council to appoint a committee of experts of both sexes for the purposes above mentioned and expresses the hope that the committee will receive the cooperation necessary for the successful execution of the present resolution.”

4. Committee for the Study of the Legal Status of Women, 1938–39

MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH MEETING, 9 APRIL 1938¹

Chairman: Professor Gutteridge

The women’s organizations were represented as follows:

International Federation of Business and Professional Women

Mrs. Corbett Ashby

International Council of Women

Mme. Renee Girod

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. C. S. F./1st Session/P. V. 12 (1).

International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship

Mlle. Emilie Gourd

International Cooperative Women's Guild

Mrs. Corbett Ashby (observer only)

Equal Rights International

Miss Dorothy E. Evans

St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance

Mrs. Corbett Ashby

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Mme. Gertrud Baer

World's Young Women's Christian Association

Mrs. Beresford Fox

International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues

Mlle. J. C. H. H. de Vinck

Open Door International

Mrs. Winifred LeSueur

Women's Party International Committee

Miss Alice Paul

World Union of Women for International Concord

Mlle. Margaret Nobs

International Federation of University Women

Mlle. Anne Weigle

Women's Consultative Committee

Miss Alice Paul, Miss Dorothy E. Evans

SPEECH BY THE CHAIRMAN (Professor Gutteridge)

The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, welcomed the representatives of the women's organizations and expressed his appreciation of the opportunity of establishing contact and holding a useful exchange of views.

* * * * *

The Committee had received its terms of reference from the Assembly, and it was important to remember that it had no power to go beyond those terms of reference. The immediate object, as he understood it, was as follows: the first step towards abolishing divergencies in the laws of the different countries concerning the legal status of women was to institute preparatory studies—a purely technical matter in itself, but an essential preliminary to further progress. The Committee were like engineers going ahead of an army to remove obstacles in its path but knowing nothing of its actual plan or method of advance.

The Committee's task, in point of fact, was to fill in gaps in the data concerning the legal situation of women in different countries, and to ascertain where the highest level had been reached and where it was still low. The Committee would work on purely objective lines. Even if it wanted to, it was not free to express an opinion on the findings it might have to submit; it must not say whether this or that legislation was good or bad, desirable or

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undesirable, or whether or to what extent such legislation should be abolished.

That certainly did not mean that the Committee viewed its task as a purely automatic one. First, the necessary documentation must be collected. Then a synthetic study of the documentation must be made, in order to obtain as complete a picture as possible of the present situation under the laws of the different countries. The Committee would deal with the problem according to subjects, and its work would be so arranged that anyone interested in any specific aspect of the status of women could obtain the information from the study when published. That prepared the way for further progress where found necessary, though the Committee was not asked to express an opinion as to whether action must be taken or what form it should take.

The women's organizations would see from the texts already framed by the Committee that the Scheme of Work² it had drawn up was essentially technical in character.

* * * * *

The Chairman then referred, in order of importance, to the principal questions on the list.

The most important, in his view, was to decide how far the Committee could enlist the help of the women's organizations. The Committee was anxious that they should work together as far as possible, but a somewhat technical question arose: it was not easy to say exactly what form that collaboration should take. He felt that the women's organizations could render the Committee very valuable service, especially by ascertaining whether the existing legislation was invariably applied. There were cases, for instance, in which rules of law existed but for one reason or another remained a dead letter. In other words, the Committee wanted the women's organizations to bring to its notice not cases in which the law seemed to them inadequate, but cases in which the judge called upon to apply the law did not seem to have taken the attitude that the women's organizations might have expected. For practical purposes, any objective data supplied by the women's organizations should be sent not to the Committee, or to individual members, or to the scientific institutes, but to the Secretariat, which would forward the information to the proper quarter.

He could not promise that such information would invariably be utilized, but he could give an assurance that it would be very carefully examined and that the Committee would go thoroughly

² See C. S. F./13 (p. 54).

into the question of the use to be made of it and the action to be taken upon it.

The women's organizations could help the Committee to collect documentation more particularly on countries distant from Europe—details of collaboration would have to be decided later. The Committee felt that the women's organizations were particularly well qualified to obtain documentary material relating to such countries.

* * * * *

Another important point was the "geographical" scope of the proposed inquiry. Interpreted in their widest sense, the Committee's terms of reference appeared to embrace the whole world. The Committee had discussed the question at length and had realized the difficulty of framing a program on so vast a scale. Even as it stood, the program of work was a vast one. For a country such as France it covered no less than a third of the Code Napoleon, and if that example were followed for every other country, it would cover a third of the civil legislation of the world. Nothing of the kind had ever before been attempted on such a scale. The Committee had been trying to ascertain from the information at its disposal, the time that would be required for an inquiry into the legislation in civilized countries. The nearest estimate, reached with the help of the experts of the three scientific institutes, was at least two years; the institutes expected to have their material ready in that time, provided that the study was limited to the legislation in civilized countries.

As to native customs, the Chairman, as Secretary of the British Society of Comparative Legislation, knew from experience how difficult such studies were and how carefully the documentation on the subject had to be studied, since the data were not always reliable. An inquiry covering the whole world would take years and years. Under the Assembly resolution, the Committee would be held responsible for the accuracy of the study, and it was determined not to allow anything to be published that was not strictly in accordance with the facts.

In those circumstances, although no definite decision had yet been taken, the Committee felt that the first step was to study the laws of civilized countries—a tremendous undertaking in itself. That would be the first stage. When that study was completed and the results published, the question could then be reopened and it could then be decided to what extent the work could be carried further, and in what direction. The Committee was strongly of

opinion that to undertake any inquiry beyond those limits might ruin the present undertaking.

There were special difficulties in regard to Moslem and Hindu law. The question of Moslem law was under consideration. The Committee was trying to ascertain whether it would be possible to obtain the necessary documentation. There was a mass of literature from the pens of European and Eastern jurists, and Koranic law could be studied up to a certain point. The difficulty lay in the fact that Koranic law was not uniformly applied in all Moslem countries, owing to the existence of many different sects.

One special difficulty in the case of India arose from the existence of castes. The Committee had left the question open and proposed to deal with it at a later session.

* * * * *

In conclusion, the Chairman pointed out that the women's organizations had already afforded the Committee their collaboration in the form of the copious documentation which now appeared in print. That material had of course been communicated to the scientific institutes already referred to.

Any further information to be supplied to the Committee or, more correctly, to be sent to the Secretariat, should be transmitted by one of the international organizations otherwise the Secretariat and the Committee might be placed in an embarrassing position. National organizations wishing to communicate with the Secretariat were therefore asked to do so through one of the international organizations.

SCHEME OF WORK, 12 APRIL 1938¹

It will be necessary not merely to describe the position of women as such but also to deal with differentiations made between women themselves on the ground of marriage, age, education, number of children, etc.

In some cases moreover a law which *prima facie* affects both sexes equally is in reality of a nature to operate adversely to women.

Section I. Public Law

- a. The franchise:
 1. national,
 2. regional or local,
 3. other cases.

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. C. S. F./13.

- b. Eligibility:
 - 1. in the national sphere,
 - 2. in the regional or local spheres,
 - 3. in other cases.
- c. Educational facilities for women (e. g., admission to schools, universities, etc.).
- d. Admission to public functions² and participation in public services.
- e. Right to exercise a profession or other independent occupation.²
- f. Position of women as regards personal freedom and safety, liberty of speech and of assembly.
- g. Fiscal laws affecting women as such.
- h. Certain benefits peculiar to women (allowances, pensions, etc.).²

Section II. Private Law

A. Capacity

- a. *Capacity in general of women:*
 - 1. Majority, emancipation and deprivation of capacity.
 - 2. Marriage; its operation in modifying or suspending capacity.
 - 3. Authorization for the performance of legal acts by women under incapacity.
- b. *Rules of capacity applicable to the following particular cases:*
 - 1. Right to enter into contract.
 - 2. Right to represent the household.
 - 3. Right of a married woman to carry on business or industry.
 - 4. Right to acquire, hold, manage and dispose of property.
 - 5. Right to institute or defend legal proceedings.
 - 6. Right to give evidence and to attest documents.
 - 7. Testamentary capacity, including donations *mortis causa*.

B. Family Law

- a. *Marriage:*
 - 1. Betrothal, promise of marriage and their consequences.
 - 2. Requirements for a valid marriage.

² This matter falls within the competence of the International Labor Organization as one of those in regard to which a proper relationship must be maintained between the work of the Committee and the work of the International Labor Office.

3. Nonexistent, void and voidable marriages and their effects. Putative marriages.
4. Judicial and other forms of separation.
5. Dissolution of marriage by divorce.
- b. *Personal relations of the spouses (during the marriage and after its dissolution):*
 1. The personal rights and duties of the spouses compared.
 2. Name and legal rank of the married women.
 3. Obligation of either spouse to maintain the other.
 4. Possibility for a married woman to obtain a separate passport.
 5. Separate residence or domicile of the married women.
- c. *Pecuniary and proprietary relationships between the spouses (during the marriage and after its dissolution by divorce or judicial separation):*
 1. Matrimonial regimes.
 2. The right of a woman to dispose of her earnings.
 3. Contracts between the spouses and contracts entered into by the wife in the name of the husband.
 4. Liability in tort of one spouse towards the other.
 5. Liability of one spouse to third parties for the acts of the other.
 6. Actions for debt between the spouses; the ranking of the married woman in the event of levy of execution on, or insolvency of, the husband.
- d. *Relations between parents and children (during the marriage and after its dissolution):*
 1. Authority over the children.
 2. Custody and guardianship.
 3. Obligations as to maintenance.
 4. Right of the parents to the services, or to the earnings or other income of the children or to their property.
 5. Right of daughters to a dowry.
- e. *Law of adoption as it affects women.*
- f. *Effects of the prolonged absence of the husband.*
- g. *Irregular unions:*
 1. Ascertainment of the mother or the father.
 2. Legal position of the woman.
 3. Legal position of the children.
 4. Authority over the children.
 5. Right of illegitimate children to maintenance.

C. Law of Succession and Donatio Mortis Causa

1. Rules of the law of succession which apply exclusively to women.
2. Right of a married woman to be nominated as executor, administrator or trustee.
3. Succession in the case of illegitimacy.

D. Legal Position of the Widow

Section III. Criminal Law

- a. Criminal responsibility of women:
 1. in regard to offences in general;
 2. in regard to sexual offences.
- b. Detention pending trial, penalties and measures of security applicable to women. Method of execution of such penalties and measures.
- c. The application to some women of rules relating to the suspension of sentences, release on probation or parole and the after care of prisoners.
- d. Protection afforded to women by the criminal law.
- e. Prostitution and traffic in women.
- f. The law of vagrancy as it affects women.
- g. Special provisions of criminal procedure relating to women.
- h. Participation of women in police activities, in the administration of justice in the criminal courts and in prison administration.

**EXCERPTS FROM AIDE-MEMOIRE FOR THE SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTES,
12 APRIL, 1938¹**

2. The object of the proposed survey is to furnish an objective picture of the legal status of women at the present time. For this reason it is important that nothing should appear in the survey which savors of criticism or of direct or indirect propaganda. * * * *

5. The mandate conferred on the Committee by the Assembly speaks not only of the law as such but also of its application. The Committee is at present not prepared to take a final decision as to the matters which may properly be considered to fall under this heading. This is a question which can only be dealt with satisfactorily when more experience has been gained in the course of the work. It will be discussed again at the Committee's next meeting.

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. C. S. F./12 (2).

* * * * *

8. It is the intention of the Committee that, at least for the present, the survey should not extend beyond the study of laws of the Western type, using that term in its widest sense.² The consultation which has taken place with the three Institutes mentioned by the First Committee of the Assembly has shown that these bodies have no adequate means at their disposal for studying other systems of law, with possibly the exception of such rules of Mohammedan law as may be enforced in Europe. The Committee is exploring the possibility of organizing the study at a future date of the systems of law which at present have been reserved.

* * * * *

12. The survey is intended both to give a general picture to the reader and also to serve as a work of reference for lawyers, legislators and other specialists. It is, therefore, important on the one hand that it should not include too much minute detail and on the other hand that the references and the sources from which fuller information can be obtained should be clearly and fully indicated. It will not be advisable as a rule to set out the text of a law or legal decision in full. A summary will be sufficient provided that the essential points appear clearly from it.

² There are countries particularly in the Near and Far East in which the law relating to women is in part of the Western and in part of the Oriental type. For the time being, for the reason given, the latter law cannot be dealt with.

REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE INQUIRY, ADOPTED 10 JANUARY 1939¹

At the close of its second session, the Committee feels it convenient that it should report to the Council on the progress of its work.

Origin and Method of the Inquiry

In September 1937, the Assembly decided that the League should publish a comprehensive survey of "the legal status enjoyed by women in the various countries of the world as the result of the provisions of national law and the application of those provisions" (resolution of September 30, 1937). The compilation of the survey was to be carried out by "the competent scientific institutes." The Assembly itself requested the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law at Rome to undertake the part of the survey which related to civil law. For public law and criminal law, it was suggested that recourse should be had to

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. C. 59. M. 21. 1939. V.; C. S. F. 25 (1).

the International Institute of Public Law at Paris and the International Bureau for the Unification of Penal Law. It was contemplated that other appropriate scientific bodies might also take part in the work.

The Assembly's resolution directed that the task of determining the scope of the survey, arranging for its compilation and approving the results for publication should be entrusted to a small expert committee set up by the Council. The present Committee was appointed for the purpose by the Council on January 28, 1938.

The Assembly contemplated that the Committee would obtain the cooperation of the women's international organizations. It was owing to the efforts of these organizations that the League was led to discuss the status of women, and they had already placed a mass of information on the subject before the Assembly.

Scope of the Survey

The Assembly has refrained from fixing any limits for the survey and has left it to the Committee to make it as "comprehensive" as possible.² This fundamental question of the scope of the survey can only receive a complete solution as experience of the progress of the work shows what is actually practicable. It need hardly be said that the Assembly cannot have contemplated an encyclopaedic statement of all the points of difference between the legal status of men and women throughout the world. A work of such a character, which would involve a detailed analysis of the civil, constitutional and administrative, and criminal law of every country, would take a very long time to produce and fill a very large number of volumes.

The amount of detail which can be included in the survey and the extent to which the "application" of the law can be dealt with are not suitable matters for discussion in the present report, but two important questions of "scope" should be mentioned.

In the first place, the Committee does not feel able to take responsibility for planning or directing the compilation for primi-

² The Assembly's resolution excluded detailed treatment of questions of nationality and "the question of conditions of employment," which by its resolution of September 27, 1935, the Assembly had recognized to fall within the sphere of the International Labor Office [which] has already published on the latter subject a very complete and interesting study entitled "Le Statut Legal des Travailleuses" (Etudes et Documents, Serie I (Travail des femmes et des enfants), No. 4). The English edition of this book will appear shortly under the title: "The Law and Women's Work: A Contribution to the Study of the Status of Women." The Committee has had the assistance of a representative of the Labor Office in discussing the delimitation of its sphere from that of the Office.

tive races of a survey such as is contemplated by the Assembly's resolution.

This decision does not, of course, in any way prejudice the question whether such a study should be made by the League.

In the second place, the institutes mentioned above have informed the Committee that they are not equipped to deal with Mohammedan law in its various forms, Hindu law and other traditional legal systems of India, or generally with law which is not of the Western type. The Committee is endeavoring to find a method of overcoming this difficulty.

There is, of course, no question of omitting Oriental countries as such.

Work of the Scientific Institutes

The Committee is glad to report that the three institutes above mentioned have very willingly undertaken to deal with the branches of law of the Western type for which they are respectively equipped. At its second session, it has been able to examine the work already done with the representatives of the institutes and reach agreement with them on many important questions both of method and of principle.

Cooperation with the Women's International Organizations

A most satisfactory feature of the Committee's work is the help which it is receiving from the women's international organizations. It has to thank them not merely for the efficient arrangements which they are making to supply information which supplements or acts as a check upon that directly available to the scientific institutes, but also for their readiness to understand and make allowance for the difficulties which technical and practical considerations sometimes place in the way of meeting their wishes as to the contents of the survey. The Committee has held two meetings with the representatives of the organizations, at which it has explained the measures it is taking and discussed the suggestions made by the organizations and the way in which they could best assist it in its work.

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS THIRD SESSION, 19-22 JULY 1939¹

I. Oriental Law

1. The Committee approved the measures taken by the Chairman in regard to the study of the status of women in India.

¹ Source: League of Nations, Official No. C. S. F./34 (1).

Public and criminal law, as well as private law, should be dealt with by the Indian researchers without prejudice to appropriate references being also made in the surveys produced by the Institutes of Paris. It was agreed that the study of Indian law must appear in the same book as that of Western law.

2. As the result of the information obtained by the Chairman from the Indian Office, it was agreed that Burma could not be included in the contemplated publication.

3. The same decision was taken in regard to the Netherlands Indies as the result of Mr. van Kleffens' letter.

4. The Committee asked the Chairman to invite the Institute of Comparative Law of Lyons, which had been approached by Mme. Bastid, to undertake the preparation of two synthetic studies, such as was contemplated for India, one dealing with French Indo-China and the other with Near Eastern countries (Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, and possibly Iran).

5. It was recognized that, as it was not materially possible to cover the whole field of law of the Oriental type, the Committee must confine itself to providing, by the side of the survey of Western law, a survey of those forms of Oriental law which it had found satisfactory means of investigating.

6. It was agreed that the surveys of Western law made by the scientific institutes should include the law of Eastern countries (China, Iran, Japan, Thailand) insofar as that law was of the Western type.

II. The Committee's Future Program of Work

1. Noting that the First Committee had expressed the hope that the Survey could be published in 3 years from September 1937, and that the Women's Organizations were disappointed at the length of time which was proving necessary for producing it, the Committee considered that every effort must be made to produce the book before the Assembly of 1941.

2. The Committee, therefore, decided to ask the scientific institutes to arrange the work so that:

(a) The whole mss. of their respective studies would be in the hands of the Secretariat not later than December, 1940;

(b) The work would be done in sections; each section, as completed, would be forwarded to the Secretariat so that the latter could send copies to the members of the Committee and have the text translated into English;

(c) The work should go to press at the beginning of 1941.

3. The Committee noted that its task was to determine the scope and organize the preparation and publication of the Survey, but not to edit it in detail or be responsible for the information contained in it. It hoped that after the present session it would not be necessary for it to meet for the sole purpose of examining particular sections of the work of the Institutes. At the same time it recognized that special measures were desirable to avoid errors in regard to the law of the United States of America, owing to its complexity and the absence in Europe of adequate source material.

III. The Form in Which the Survey Should Be Published

The format, typography and arrangement of the specimen submitted by the Secretariat were approved, with one modification.

IV. Date of the Information Given in the Survey

The committee decided that the authors of each section of the survey should indicate the date for which the information given in that section was up-to-date.

V. Private Law

The study submitted by the Institute of Private Law was approved, subject to certain suggestions.

VI. Criminal Law [see p. 57]

The study on point (h) was approved, subject to certain suggestions.

The Committee approved a proposal of M. Donnedieu de Vabres that the Bureau should submit the completed sections of its study to its correspondents in order that the information might be checked and brought up to date. It noted that sections dealing with points (a), (b) and (c) were expected to be ready for communication to it in October next, and that questionnaires dealing with points (d), (e), (f) and (g) would be sent to the correspondents in the near future.

The different sections would be sent to the Secretariat at the same time as to the correspondents in order to be translated and to be communicated to the members of the committee.

VII. Public Law

1. The Scheme of Work² (document C. S. F. 13) [see p. 54 ff] was modified as follows:

² As regards point (d) the Committee explained to the Representative of the Institute the changes which, in its opinion, would be desirable in the study already made by the Institute.

APPENDIX A—LEAGUE OF NATIONS DOCUMENTS

(a) The franchise and (b) Eligibility.

The extent to which point 2 is dealt with in each case will depend on the available information. Point 3 is omitted in each case.

(f) The questions here mentioned arise only in a few countries which have adopted legislation of an exceptional character.

(g) and (h). These points were struck out.

(c) Seeing that the admission of women to educational establishments does not appear to give rise to any claims as regards primary and secondary institutions, and that the question of discrimination mainly arises in connection with certain establishments for higher education, the Committee decided that the Institute of Public Law would not deal with point (c), but that the attempt should be made to induce the International Bureau of Education to take up the matter and supply a survey which, if necessary, would be published separately from the main work on the Status of Women. The Secretariat would take appropriate steps to this end.

(e) The words "or other independent occupations" were suppressed.

2. As regards points (a), (b), and (e), it was agreed that, apart from its other sources of information, the Institute might consult the Women's International Organizations if this could be arranged with the help of Miss Hesselgren who would ascertain whether the application could be addressed to the Liaison Committee.

3. On M. Laferriere's suggestion, it was decided that the study of public law should, in general, represent the law as on January 1, 1939, but, if the information was available, might be brought up to date to a later date.

III. UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENTS, 1945-46

1. Conference on International Organization, San Francisco, April-June, 1945

The United Nations Charter had two aspects: One, the prevention of war, the motive behind the Security Council; the other concerned with human welfare, economic and social questions, represented by the Economic and Social Council. It is largely in connection with this second aspect that the status of women appears in the Charter.

PROVISIONS OF UNITED NATIONS CHARTER APPLYING TO STATUS OF WOMEN, JUNE 1945

Preamble

* * * to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, * * *

Purposes and Principles (Purposes)

Article 1-3. To achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion, * * *

Organs

Article 8. The United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs.

The General Assembly (Functions)

Article 13-1. The General Assembly shall initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of:

- * * * * *
- b. promoting international cooperation in the economic, social, cultural, educational, and health fields, and assisting in the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

International Economic and Social Cooperation

Article 55. With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and

friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, the United Nations shall promote:

* * * * *

c. universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

Article 56. All members pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55.

The Economic and Social Council (Functions and Powers)

Article 62—2. It may make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.

The Economic and Social Council (Procedure)

Article 68. The Economic and Social Council shall set up commissions in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights, and such other commissions as may be required for the performance of its functions.

International Trusteeship System [for territories]

Article 76—c. to encourage respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion, and to encourage recognition of the interdependence of the peoples of the world.

PROVISIONS OF UNITED NATIONS CHARTER INDICATING PROCEDURES USEFUL FOR SUBCOMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN, JUNE 1945

International Economic and Social Cooperation

Article 57

1. The various specialized agencies, established by inter-governmental agreement and having wide international responsibilities, as defined in their basic instruments, in economic, social, cultural, educational, health, and related fields, shall be brought into relationship with the United Nations in accordance with the provisions of Article 63.

2. Such agencies thus brought into relationship with the United Nations are hereinafter referred to as specialized agencies.

Article 58

The Organization shall make recommendations for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies.

The Economic and Social Council

Article 62

1. The Economic and Social Council may make or initiate studies and reports with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health, and related matters and may make recommendations with respect to any such matters to the General Assembly, to the Members of the United Nations, and to the specialized agencies concerned.

2. It may make recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.

3. It may prepare draft conventions for submission to the General Assembly, with respect to matters falling within its competence.

4. It may call, in accordance with the rules prescribed by the United Nations, international conferences on matters falling within its competence.

Article 63

1. The Economic and Social Council may enter into agreements with any of the agencies referred to in Article 57, defining the terms on which the agency concerned shall be brought into relationship with the United Nations. Such agreements shall be subject to approval by the General Assembly.

2. It may coordinate the activities of the specialized agencies through consultation with and recommendations to such agencies and through recommendations to the General Assembly and to the Members of the United Nations.

Article 66

1. The Economic and Social Council shall perform such functions as fall within its competence in connection with the carrying out of the recommendations of the General Assembly.

2. It may, with the approval of the General Assembly, perform services at the request of Members of the United Nations and at the request of specialized agencies.

Article 71

The Economic and Social Council may make suitable arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which are concerned with matters within its competence. Such arrangements may be made with international organizations and, where appropriate, with national organizations after consultation with the Member of the United Nations concerned.

The Secretariat*Article 101*

2. Appropriate staffs shall be permanently assigned to the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, and, as required, to other organs of the United Nations. These staffs shall form a part of the Secretariat.

THE BRAZILIAN DECLARATION RECOMMENDING ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMISSION OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED NATIONS, JUNE 1945¹

"The Brazilian Delegation wish to make the following Declaration to be brought before Commission II, Committee 3.

"Whereas the status of women in different countries has to be radically improved and their rights have to be extended to attain the objectives of the Economic and Social Council to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of sex;

"and whereas the part that women have played in the war makes the consideration of their status and rights an urgent problem requiring solution:

"The Delegation of Brazil recommends that the Economic and Social Council should set up a special commission of women to study conditions and prepare reports on the political, civil and economic status and opportunity of women with special reference to discrimination and limitations placed upon them on account of their sex."

The Delegation of Mexico proposed that the Declaration include the following sentence: "This Commission shall cooperate with similar official commissions in different parts of the world."

This proposed amendment to the Brazilian Declaration was accepted by the Delegate of Brazil.

The Brazilian Declaration, as amended by the Mexican Delegate was supported by representatives of thirty-five other delegations who associate themselves with the Declaration. The Delegate of Brazil responded and expressed appreciation of the support given the Declaration.

¹ Source: Journal of United Nations Conference on International Organization, No. 38, June 7, 1945, p. 134; Minutes of Meeting of Committee II/3, June 6.

2. First General Assembly, London, January—February, 1946

RESOLUTION OF BRITISH WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS TO FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNITED NATIONS, 25 JANUARY 1946¹

The British Federation of Business and Professional Women had set up an Ad Hoc United Nations Committee to consider the problem of a special Commission of Women in the United Nations. Representatives of all the leading British women's organizations were invited to a Round Table Conference, which was presided over by Miss Caroline Haslett, and at which the following resolution was passed:

Resolution

Passed at a Conference of British Women's Organizations and Sent to the United Nations Assembly

The British women's organizations represented at a conference convened by the British Federation of Business and Professional Women held in London on January 25, 1946:

Recognizing the need to provide machinery whereby the principle of the equal rights of men and women reaffirmed in the Charter of the United Nations, and subscribed to by 51 nations may be implemented.

Welcome the provision made under Article 68 of the Charter whereby the Economic and Social Council is empowered to set up Commissions in economic and social fields and for the provision of human rights.

Urge that under such a Commission on Human Rights a Committee composed of men and women be set up forthwith to draft a Convention to remove the discriminations against women as to their civil and economic status and opportunities wherever they exist and so to implement:—Article 1 (section 3); Article 8; Article 13 (section 1b); Article 55 (section c); Article 76 (section c) of the Charter of the United Nations.

Suggesting that in this work the Committee might take note of the work accomplished by the Committee on the Legal Status of Women appointed by the League of Nations in 1938.

Sent by—The British Federation of Business and Professional Women, 20, Regent Street, London, S. W. 1. January 25, 1946.

The resolution was sent in the name of the meeting to the Executive Secretary of U. N. O., to the Prime Minister, and all

¹ Source: Women at Work, Spring 1946, p. 19. (Publication of British Federation of Business and Professional Women, London, S. W. 1.)

members of the British Delegation, to Mrs. Roosevelt and all the women delegates to U. N. O.

The resolution was also circulated to all organizations attending the Conference for formal ratification by their governing bodies, with the request that when they had ratified it they should notify U. N. O. and the British Delegation of their formal support. It stood in the name of the British Federation of Business and Professional Women, the National Council of Women, the National Federation of Women's Institutes, and some thirty of the leading women's organizations in Great Britain.

**AN OPEN LETTER TO THE WOMEN OF THE WORLD FROM
THE WOMEN DELEGATES AND ADVISERS AT
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF UNITED NATIONS, 5 FEBRUARY 1946¹**

This First Assembly of the United Nations marks the second attempt of the peoples of the world to live peaceably in a democratic world community. This new chance for peace was won through the joint efforts of men and women working for common ideals of human freedom at a time when need for united effort broke down barriers of race, creed and sex.

In view of the variety of tasks which women performed so notably and valiantly during the war, we are gratified that seventeen women delegates and advisers, representatives of eleven member states, are taking part at the beginning of this new phase of international effort. We hope their participation in the work of the United Nations Organization may grow and may increase in insight and skill. To this end we call on the governments of the world to encourage women everywhere to take a more active part in national and international affairs, and on women who are conscious of their opportunities to come forward and share in the work of peace and reconstruction as they did in war and resistance.

We recognize that women in various parts of the world are at different stages of participation in the life of their communities, that some of them are prevented by law from assuming full rights of citizenship, and that they therefore may see their immediate problems somewhat differently.

Finding ourselves in agreement on these points we wish as a group to advise the women of all our countries of our strong belief that an important opportunity and responsibility confronts the women of the United Nations:

1. To recognize the progress women have made during the war and participate actively in the effort to improve the standard of life in their own countries and in the pressing work of recon-

¹ See footnote 1, p. 71.

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struction so that there will be qualified women ready to accept responsibility when new opportunities arise.

2. To train their children, boys and girls alike, to understand world problems and the need for international cooperation as well as the problems of their own countries.

3. Not to permit themselves to be misled by antidemocratic movements, now or in the future.

4. To recognize that the goal of full participation in the life and responsibilities of their countries and of the world community is a common objective toward which the women of the world should assist one another.

Following is the list of women delegates and advisers signing the Open Letter:

Mrs. Bodil Begtrup, Denmark
Miss Minerva Bernardino, Dominican Republic
Mrs. Frieda Dalen, Norway
Miss Dorothy Fosdick, United States of America
Mrs. Olga Hillova, Czechoslovakia
Mme. M. H. Lefauchaux, France
Miss Jean McKenzie, New Zealand
Miss L. McPhee, New Zealand
Miss K. M. Midwinter, United Kingdom
Miss Frieda S. Miller, United States of America
Miss C. I. Rolfe, United Kingdom
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, United States of America
Mrs. Gertrude Sekaninova, Czechoslovakia
Mrs. Evdokia Uralova, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic
Mrs. H. Verwey, Netherlands
Miss Ellen Wilkinson, United Kingdom
Miss Rena Zafiriov, Greece

DECLARATION ON THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS. REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE TO FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 11 FEBRUARY 1946¹

The General Committee, at its meeting held on 11 February 1946, considered the request for inclusion on the agenda of the proposal on the participation of women in United Nations Conferences, submitted by the Delegation of France (A/BUR/27).

The Committee decided that it would on principle be inadvisable that the General Assembly should undertake to make any definite recommendation to delegations as to their composition.

¹ Source: United Nations, Official No. A/46.

The great value of the contribution which had been made by women representatives on delegations, both in the present General Assembly and in past conferences, was however, fully recognized.

The General Committee therefore recommends that the item be placed on the agenda of the General Assembly so that a declaration on the subject may be made.

[The subject was discussed in the General Assembly as follows.]

DEBATE ON WOMEN IN FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNITED NATIONS, 13 FEBRUARY 1946¹

Report of the General Committee: Declaration on the participation of women in the work of the United Nations (A/46).

The PRESIDENT: The second item on our agenda is the consideration of the report of the General Committee containing a declaration on the participation of women in the work of the United Nations.

I call on the delegate for the United States.

Mrs. ROOSEVELT (United States of America): I am sorry to have been slow, but I thought the delegate for France was going to speak first.

I have only a short statement to make and I will take up very little of your time. As you know, a number of women have been present in the various delegations either as delegates or alternates or advisers. We met together and we wrote a statement which we addressed to "the women of our various countries." We are very happy to have the opportunity (I am speaking for my colleagues), we are very happy to have the opportunity to present to the delegates here this statement and to ask your cooperation when you go home, in relation to your governments and to the various ways in which this statement may be given publicity, because we feel that the women of all our countries should have an opportunity to receive this letter.

[Mrs. Roosevelt then read aloud the statement—"An Open Letter to the women of the world from the women delegates and advisers at the First Assembly of the United Nations." See p. 69.]

Every woman here represented signed that letter, and we only ask for the cooperation of every delegate here.

In closing I want to thank the Assembly for giving me the opportunity of presenting this letter here and to say that I have been grateful for the opportunity to be here with you to see the work which has been accomplished, and that in the end I hope

¹ Source: United Nations, Journal of the General Assembly, First Year, No. 30, 13 February 1946, p. 527 ff.

none of us will go home without remembering that we have a great responsibility to carry to our peoples the feeling that this can be an instrument, if we give to it as much work as we have given in the past to winning the war, this can be an instrument to win the peace.

The PRESIDENT: I call upon Miss Bernardino, delegate for the Dominican Republic.

Miss BERNARDINO (Dominican Republic): As a delegate of my country, the Dominican Republic, to the first Assembly of the United Nations, and especially as Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, an official organization composed of twenty-one members appointed by the Governments of the Americas to study and report on the status of women, I would like to give the strongest support to the letter read by the delegate for the United States, my distinguished colleague, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, and to the declaration of the French delegation that "a more important place should be given to the participation of women in the different delegations of the United Nations at the next Conference."

I wonder, if in the history of the world, women have ever been confronted with graver responsibilities, have ever enjoyed greater opportunities than those which are theirs today.

I do not mean exclusively women who have official, high ranking positions; nor necessarily those who are gifted through talent and training with superb gifts of leadership which enable them to clear the way and set the example for others to follow; nor do I mean only those delegated by their governments to attend international parleys. Rather, I refer to the wife, the mother in the home; the teacher in the school; the church-worker; the missionary; the social service worker, who goes from door to door helping to set weary feet back on the beaten path; the nurse, who at this moment in hospitals throughout the world is taxing her strength to aid the restoration of sick and wounded to health and normality.

In short, women everywhere who have turned their minds and hearts to the problems of humanity, and to the even more formidable undertaking of reeducating, readjusting, and enlightening the recalcitrant peoples of the conquered countries.

The work which is ours must be carried on quickly, definitely, with sympathy, discernment and judgment. It must have the benefit of every effort of experience on the part of women, but, we cannot forget, that women in many parts of the world are still handicapped by the lack of right to play any role in the discus-

sions of peace and international affairs. We still find women in some parts of the world who have graduated from law schools but are prevented from practicing their profession because of strict prohibitions in their countries' laws.

The fact that in the preamble to the Charter of the United Nations there is an affirmation of the faith in the principle of equal rights of men and women and the fact that article 8 of the Charter "established that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs" is a powerful reason for the women to demand the fulfillment of those principles.

That is why the creation of a committee under the Commission on Human Rights to study and work for the status of women, is so important, as it will contribute to the abolition of any existing discrimination by reason of sex, which retards the prosperity and the intellectual, social and political development of the nations of the world.

In the name of the women of my country, who for many years have been enjoying the same rights and privileges that men enjoy, and in the name of the women of Latin America, and especially those from countries that still walk in obscurity, without the inherent rights to which the dignity of their sex, and their responsibilities as mothers of the race should entitle them, I salute all the delegations here present for the full support they have given to our appeal.

I hope that in future assemblies, as my outstanding colleague from France, Madame Lefauchaux, proposed, we will have more women delegates to cooperate with men to the end that all peoples may enjoy the essential human freedoms proclaimed in 1941 by that great world leader of all time, President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The PRESIDENT (Interpretation): I call upon Mrs. Dalen, the delegate for Norway.

Mrs. DALEN (Norway): I shall be very brief; but I feel that I must say how very grateful I am to the French delegation for moving this declaration. On behalf of the Norwegian delegation I heartily support it. During the war women in all countries participated and worked in the armed forces, in factories and in the resistance movement in a way never before thought of. During the war women's experience, insight and strength were highly appreciated and thought of. When the nation was in danger the women were called upon and they came, did their jobs, sacrificed

and suffered. Now, when the war is over and the United Nations are trying to build a new world, trying to lay the foundations of peace and freedom for humanity, the world cannot afford to do so without the rich resources that women's experience and capacity for work, women's insight and equipment mean for the various nations of the world. All human beings have to cooperate in dignity and unity and fidelity. Then we shall succeed in building up a happy, peaceful and harmonious world.

The PRESIDENT (Interpretation): I now call upon Mrs. Verwey, the delegate for the Netherlands.

Mrs. VERWEY (Netherlands): Might I, to begin with, express my gratitude to those male members of this Assembly who have so warmly supported this motion? We know that we, who represent here the women of our countries, have many friends in this Assembly, and that they will always help us to express our views and those of other women not represented here. But I should like to add that I have missed something, and that is an opposing voice to this motion. No one has so far said that he does not want the women of his country to speak and to act here. I am afraid that they abstained not because they agree with the purpose of this motion, but because they think that this does not concern them. They might be of opinion that women in their countries are just faithful wives and mothers, that they do not want to be members of delegations, and that they are not qualified for it and take no interest in it. To them I want to say a few words.

There is no one in this Assembly who supposes that a recommendation like this would result in a future Assembly with as many women as there are men. There are very strong reasons why, in public life, women will always be in a minority. There are biological, sociological and psychological reasons; biological reasons because, after all, the first essential woman's right is the right to be a mother; and the opportunity to enjoy that right to the full. And this means that we would never agree to a world in which social conditions resulted in a situation in which married women should be permanently obliged to work in the factories and on the farms and to neglect their families; but this does not mean that we should forever compel all women to confine themselves to the home. There are women whom nature and man have denied the right to have children and some women think that they can manage to do some good public work apart from their domestic life, and it is very essential that they should have all the opportunities they want.

There may be social reasons against feminine participation as well. In most societies women seem to be marked out for special jobs, for the school and the office, rather than for the meeting room. But we should be not too eager to draw our conclusions from facts like that.

A hundred years ago, before Miss Florence Nightingale started her campaign, there was no question of women training to be nurses. Ten years ago there were many doubts, even I think in this country, about women's services. Some views about jobs fit for women are inclined to be changed rather rapidly.

Then, in the third place, some people might quote psychological reasons. They might point out that this is still a man-built world and that women feel strangers as soon as they venture into it. This is true in a way. I must say that men have built this world quite impressively and that we feel duly impressed at first. After a certain time, however, some of us feel inclined to say: Is that all? All this pomp and all these intricate sentences can be translated into quite simple relations and words; and from that moment we feel quite capable of playing our part.

What I should like to emphasize is this: There may seem to be very strong reasons why no woman of your country can participate in an international function. But are you sure? Is there no woman somewhere hidden away in a corner, no teacher, no woman professor, no woman doctor, no one who would be a credit to your delegation and who would be extremely glad to have this opportunity to meet men and women in an international sphere? It is on their behalf and on behalf of the women they represent that we make this recommendation.

The PRESIDENT (Interpretation): I call upon Mr. Paul-Boncour, delegate for France.

Mr. PAUL-BONCOUR (France) (Interpretation): The General Assembly I feel sure will understand why I did not take the floor when our chairman called upon me to do so. I preferred to leave the honor to a woman whose presence among us means so much; not only because of the great name which is hers and which will be universally and, I hope, manifestly respected, but because of her presence and personal participation in our work, a participation which was so active, so important, and which has contributed so much to these debates.

The French delegation in bringing here the statement which I am about to read does not think only of the gesture of gallantry, but of the gesture of justice. The events in this terrible war have brought the role of women to the forefront and to the limelight

everywhere. In my country rules, which have been voted at my instigation last year, were at last applied. Apart from the women in the auxiliary services and many women in the active services there were women who had a part in the resistance movement which we prepared.

There were also so many who without taking an active part in the fight exerted such a great importance in keeping the home front going, and there were many women with men who helped to alleviate our economic difficulties. In my country nearly 80 percent of the agricultural workers were women during the war.

This shows the prominent role which was played by women during this war, and this role was fully recognized by the Charter in many of its dispositions. The presence of so many women among us testifies to it and their participation in our work showed that the Charter has been right.

That is why the French delegation at the instigation of Mme. Lefauchaux, my colleague, who is unfortunately absent today, has proposed this as an encouraging gesture without wishing to interfere, of course, in the internal work of any country, but as friendly advice to the delegations when they return to each of their respective countries. They might help more the spirit of the Charter by associating, even more than has been done so far, the women with these debates. This is the statement which I wish to make to this effect. The statement regarding the participation of women in the conferences of the United Nations.

With regard to the participation of women in the conferences of the United Nations, the French delegation wishes to make the following statement:

“Considering that it is necessary to recognize the role played by women during the war and their participation in the resistance organizations in the armed forces, and in order to associate more directly all the women of the world with the works of the organization of the United Nations and to the maintenance of peace and social progress;

“Considering that it is necessary to apply the text and the spirit of article 55, paragraph (c) of the Charter; precisely that the aim of the Economic and Social Council is in particular to promote universal and effective respect of the rights of men and of fundamental freedom for all without distinction of race, sex, language, or religion;

“The French delegation thinks that a much larger place should be accorded to women in the different delegations of the United Nations to its next conference.”

The PRESIDENT (Interpretation) : I call upon Mr. Fraser, the delegate for New Zealand.

Mr. FRASER (New Zealand) : I join with the expression of regret from all those who have spoken at the absence of Mme. Lefauchaux who brought forward the resolution which has been moved in a general way by Mrs. Roosevelt and supported by Miss Bernardino, et cetera, and by M. Paul-Boncour. There is no need to stress the necessity for pushing on the practical work of the parts of our Charter which have emphasized the equality of women. The intellectual battle has been won, after very considerable time. The political battle in practically every country has also been won and I would suggest that if there are any countries where the women are not politically active, and none spring to my mind at the moment (are politically equal I should say and I hope politically active also) then the sooner these countries bring their women politically up to what is the normal standard in all democratic countries the better for the world and for the United Nations. But there is something more than the intellectual battle and something more than winning a political victory in the various countries and that is the economic status and the social status of women. Here I know that it is easier to state the problems than to solve them, but the question of solving them is an obligation upon the United Nations, and during the course of this Assembly meeting and the meetings of the committees the women delegates have been very busy endeavoring to see what was the best way that the questions of economic and social equality in respect to women could be pushed ahead.

At San Francisco I supported them also in regard to a committee or commission composed of women exclusively, not in an exclusive way but to let women do the preliminary work. That was agreed to. I do not think that is material at all, but when some delegates said they did not think a committee of women could do the job, well, I simply had to say they could and that was all. From my experience I could prove that a committee of women is very practical when you get practical women; there are impractical women just as there are impractical men.

I want to say, however, that my experience at this Assembly with the women delegates on the Committee (I think all of them were on the Committee that I was chairman of) has shown me that to talk about their equality would be patronizing. It is just there, a self-evident fact, equality, at least to most of us. I can say that in their grip of the problems, in their intuition, in their application to the work in their clarity of thought and diction—

well I believe in equality they are equal to any there. So there is no question any more about the equality or the capacity of women who are sent to these international assemblies and if they are not up to the normal standard they ought not to be sent any more than men ought to be, and that is the sound attitude to take in regard to sex equality.

Now the parties have been made and I have been particularly interested in knowing what progress has been made because otherwise a resolution would have to be introduced (in fact it was framed) into our Committee but the matter was taken up very very speedily by the Economic and Social Council and I would just like to recount briefly what has been done so that when delegates go away they will understand what has been done by the Economic and Social Council. I just pause to say that I endeavored to get Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar, the Chairman of the Committee, to attend this meeting, but it is not possible for him to come, and, therefore, he cannot explain, but the explanation I have been able to gather is as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council has been keenly aware of the importance of establishing a subcommission on the status of women.

"The Committee of the Economic and Social Council on the Organization of the Council has instructed its drafting subcommittee to submit a draft providing for the establishment by the Economic and Social Council of a subcommission of the Commission on Human Rights to deal with the question of the status of women. This drafting subcommittee is now preparing a draft on this subject incorporating the recommendations made by the Committee of the Council.

"It is proposed that the subcommission on the status of women be established by the Council at its present session, and that it initially consist only of a nucleus of a few members. This initially constituted subcommission would, among other things, be called upon to make recommendations to the Council concerning the definitive composition of the subcommission and its terms of reference."

Now I have only to read that to show that the Economic and Social Council is dealing with this problem in a very practical way and what I believe will be a very effective way, and there are problems that cut across custom, problems that in some instances may even impinge upon religion. There are many difficult problems and we do want patience and we do want tolerance. While never lowering our flag in regard to equality we still have

to take into consideration the circumstances in the various countries and get the support and the sympathy of the various governments and organizations of the various countries so that the women of the world will march forward to progress and a better society hand in hand and side by side with the men and that they will help to bring in (as the women delegates and M. Paul-Boncour so elegantly stated) a world of peace and human brotherhood and a world of social justice and equality. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT (Interpretation): I call upon the delegate for Uruguay.

Mr. FUSCO (Uruguay) (Interpretation): I must begin by saying that I was so moved by the appeal made by Mrs. Roosevelt that I was prompted to speak in a language which I do not know perfectly. I want to say, first of all, that of all the women who could be found to interpret the wishes and aspirations of women no better than Mrs. Roosevelt could have been found. Of all women during the war, Mrs. Roosevelt was a most delightful representative of womanhood in its deepest and nicest sense. She was, among all women, the woman who gave us proof of her tenderness to her great man in upholding the aspirations of mankind.

I must add that in Uruguay we will be the most faithful interpreters of Mrs. Roosevelt's wishes, but we do not need any practical measures to reach that result because my country, many years ago, did what Mrs. Roosevelt has asked for all women in the world. In Uruguay women enjoy the same equal rights as men. In our Parliament, in our Chamber of Deputies, in our Senate, there are many women who take part in our debates; and even at San Francisco, where the Charter was born, there was a woman among the members of the Uruguay delegation.

I had occasion recently to travel in the war-shattered area of Europe, and I had the good fortune, if one can call it good fortune, to see how equal women had been to men in this struggle. I was able to witness their effort in the fight for freedom and in the hope of a better world and happiness for mankind. While in Europe I was able to see that women had fought, suffered and died just as men fought, suffered and died.

Here, too, in this Assembly I have been able to observe their participation in our debates and I have been able to witness that women were equal to, and sometimes surpassed, the efforts of men, because they add to the work their sentiments and their emotion.

It will, therefore, be our pride to have been, in Uruguay, one of the first countries to give these equal rights which are now, I hope, going to be extended throughout the world.

The PRESIDENT (Interpretation): I now call upon the delegate for the United Kingdom.

Mr. NOEL-BAKER (United Kingdom): I am reluctant that the voice of the United Kingdom should not be heard in this debate, if only for the reason that it was in our country 40 years ago that the first struggle for the political rights of women took place. I have not chosen to express my adherence to the proposed declaration or to the cause of the rights of women. I have chosen only to draw the attention of the Secretary-General, very respectfully, to two practical points: first, that there ought to be representation of women in responsible posts in the Secretariat itself; and secondly, that the services of the information section of the Secretariat ought to keep close contact with the great women's organizations throughout the world. (Applause.) I think, in those ways, the views of Mrs. Roosevelt, and her colleagues, so eloquently expressed, could well be served. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT (Interpretation): The general discussion is closed. There is no formal proposal to submit to the vote, but I think I can safely tell Mrs. Roosevelt and those who supported her intervention, that the manner in which it was received by the General Assembly leads us to hope that it will be taken into very serious consideration.

3. First Session Economic and Social Council, London, February 1946

RESOLUTION OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ESTABLISHING HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND SUBCOMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN, LONDON, 16 AND 18 FEBRUARY 1946¹

Resolution of the Economic and Social Council of 16 February 1946 (document E 20 of 15 February 1946), on the establishment of a Commission on Human Rights and a Subcommission on the Status of Women, supplemented by the action taken by the Council on 18 February 1946, completing paragraphs 6 and 7 of Section A and paragraphs 4 and 5 of Section B concerning the initial composition of these bodies.

Section A.

1. The Economic and Social Council, being charged under the Charter with the responsibility of promoting universal respect

¹ Source: United Nations, Journal of the Economic and Social Council, First Year, No. 12, 10 April 1946, p. 123 ff.

for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, and requiring advice and assistance to enable it to discharge this responsibility, ESTABLISHES A COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. The work of the Commission shall be directed towards submitting proposals, recommendations and reports to the Council regarding:

- (a) An international bill of rights;
- (b) International declarations or conventions on civil liberties, the status of women, freedom of information and similar matters;
- (c) The protection of minorities;
- (d) The prevention of discrimination on grounds of race, sex, language or religion.

3. The Commission shall make studies and recommendations and provide information and other services at the request of the Economic and Social Council.

4. The Commission may propose to the Council any changes in its terms of reference.

5. The Commission may make recommendations to the Council concerning any subcommission which it considers should be established.

6. Initially, the Commission shall consist of a nucleus of nine members appointed in their individual capacity for a term of office expiring on 31 March 1947. They are eligible for reappointment. In addition to exercising the functions enumerated in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, the Commission thus constituted shall make recommendation on the definitive composition of the Commission to the second session of the Council.

7. The Council hereby appoints the following persons as initial members of the Commission:

Mr. Paal Berg (Norway)

Professor René Cassin (France) [elected vice chairman]

Mr. Fernand Dehousse (Belgium)

Mr. Victor Paul Haya de la Torre (Peru)

Mr. K. C. Neogi (India), [rapporteur]

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt (United States of America)
[elected chairman]

Dr. John C. H. Wu² (China)

and, in addition, persons whose names will be transmitted to the

² In accordance with the procedure laid down by the Economic and Social Council, Dr. C. L. Hsia has since been nominated in place of Dr. John C. H. Wu.

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Secretary-General not later than 31 March 1946 by the members of the Council for the USSR³ and Yugoslavia.⁴

Section B.

1. The Economic and Social Council, considering that the Commission on Human Rights will require special advice on problems relating to the status of women, ESTABLISHES A SUB-COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN.

2. The subcommission shall submit proposals, recommendations, and reports to the Commission on Human Rights regarding the status of women.

3. The subcommission may submit proposals to the Council, through the Commission on Human Rights, regarding its terms of reference.

4. Initially, the subcommission shall consist of a nucleus of nine members appointed in their individual capacity for a term of office expiring on 31 March 1947. They are eligible for reappointment. In addition to exercising the functions enumerated in paragraphs 2 and 3, the subcommission thus constituted shall make recommendation on the definitive composition of the subcommission to the second session of the Council through the Commission on Human Rights.

5. The Council hereby appoints the following persons as initial members of this subcommission:

Mrs. Bodil Begtrup (Denmark)

Miss Minerva Bernardino (Dominican Republic)

Miss Angela Jurdak (Lebanon)

Rani Amrit Kaur⁵ (India)

Miss Mistral⁵ (Chile)

Mrs. Viénot⁶ (France)

Miss Wu Yi-Fang⁶ (China)

and, in addition, the names of one national each from Poland⁵ and the USSR⁵ to be transmitted to the Secretary-General, not later than 31 March 1946, by the member of the Council for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and three members⁵ ap-

³ [Mr. Alexander BorISOV was the Russian representative from 13 May on.]

⁴ Dr. Jerko Radmilovic has since been nominated by the Member of the Council for Yugoslavia. [In his place Mr. Dusan Brkic later was nominated and seated.]

⁵ [Later, Mrs. Hansa-Mehta of India was appointed in place of Rani Amrit Kaur; Miss Gabriela Mistral of Chile resigned; Miss Fryderyka Kalinowska was appointed from Poland; no appointment was made for the USSR; the following were appointed ex officio from the Commission on Human Rights: Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt (U. S. A.), Mr. Dusan Brkic (Yugoslavia), R. René Cassin (France). For list of members, first session, see p. 27.]

⁶ In accordance with the procedure laid down by the Economic and Social Council, Madame M. H. Lefauchaux has since been nominated in place of Madame Viénot. Similarly, Mrs. Way Sing New has been nominated in place of Miss Wu Yi-Fang.

pointed by the Commission on Human Rights to serve as ex officio members of this subcommission.

4. Subcommission on Status of Women, New York, April–May 1946

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN TO COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, 13–14 MAY 1946¹

The Subcommission on the Status of Women, established by the Economic and Social Council under Council Resolutions of 16 and 18 February 1946 to submit proposals, recommendations and reports to the Commission on Human Rights regarding the status of women and to submit proposals to the Council through the Commission on Human Rights regarding its terms of reference and definitive composition met at Gillet Hall, Hunter College, New York City, during the period 29 April to 13 May 1946 under the chairmanship of Mrs. Bodil Begtrup. Discussions centered on the fundamental principles to be adopted, the scope and program of work to be undertaken, and the composition of the full Subcommission.

There was a general feeling among the members of gratitude towards the Economic and Social Council for taking up the question of the status of women, and for setting up this Subcommission to study the problems involved, and in this way, implementing the principle stated in the preamble of the Charter "the equal rights of men and women."

It was recognized that the Subcommission was set up to advise the Commission on Human Rights on problems relating to the status of women. In consequence, the Subcommission must work in harmony with that Commission. There was general agreement that the Subcommission should study the status of women in all its aspects and make the broadest possible recommendations to the Commission on Human Rights on the scope of the work to be undertaken by the Subcommission when fully constituted. The ideals at which to aim, and guiding principles on which to work, were defined by the members as a preliminary to their detailed discussions. Members considered that the work of the Subcommission should last until women had reached the point where they were on equal footing with men in all fields of human enterprise. In practice priority had to be given to political rights since little progress could be made without them. Nevertheless,

¹ Source: United Nations, E/HR/18, 13 May 1946; Journal of the Economic and Social Council, First Year, No. 14, 24 May 1946, p. 169 ff.

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improvements in civil, educational, social and economic fields were especially important and therefore, these problems should be attacked simultaneously.

The question whether the Trusteeship Council, when it came into being, should be invited to consult the Subcommission regarding the status of women in the non-self-governing territories placed under its charge was discussed, having in mind Article 76 (c) of the Charter. It was generally agreed that this was a matter that could well be left for later sessions of the full Subcommission.

During the discussion on the question of definitive composition of the Subcommission, the advantages and disadvantages of a small membership were carefully weighed. A smaller body could be more efficient, although a large one would give more universal representation of women's activities. It was decided to recommend a minimum figure of fifteen, to include three ex officio members from the Commission on Human Rights. The additional members were to be selected from regions insufficiently represented in the nuclear Subcommission, and particularly from countries where women had reached different stages in status. There was a difference of opinion on the question of representation. Some members considered that representation should be on a governmental basis since without the support of governments the work of the Subcommission could not be effective. Others were of the opinion that members should be elected in their individual capacity in the same way as the nuclear Subcommission had been appointed by the Economic and Social Council. The members reached the conclusion that since, in practice, the Economic and Social Council would not appoint individuals who were *persona non grata* with their governments the selection should be made according to individual capacity, by the Council. With regard to term of office, the members felt that continuity was necessary during the first years of the application of their program. After 1950 a system of rotation should be put into effect which might follow the lines laid down by the Economic and Social Council for the other commissions.

In the course of the discussions the members of the Subcommission expressed their belief that democracy is now the only social order in which women can enjoy full rights as human beings, and that women, a great number of whom have made so many sacrifices in the cause of democracy and liberty and who have proved in action that they are able to face all duties and

tasks, affirm their resolution to work in the service of world peace with all their heart, mind and will.

Accordingly, the Subcommission recommends that the full Subcommission should be guided by the following ideals in its future work:

Freedom and equality are essential to human development and whereas woman is as much a human being as man and, therefore entitled to share them with him;

Well-being and progress of society depend on the extent to which both men and women are able to develop their full personality and are cognizant of their responsibilities to themselves and to each other;

Woman has thus a definite role to play in the building of a free, healthy, prosperous and moral society and that she can fulfill this obligation only as a free and responsible member;

In order to achieve this goal, the purpose of the Subcommission is to raise the status of women to equality with men in all fields of human enterprise.

I. *Policy*

Therefore the Subcommission recommends that its aims shall be as follows:

A. **Political**

Equal participation in governments and possibility to exercise all the rights and assume all the duties of a citizen which comprise:

1. Universal suffrage.
2. Equal right to vote.
3. Equal right to be elected.
4. Equal right to hold public office.

B. **Civil**

1. *Marriage*. Freedom of choice, dignity of the wife, monogamy, equal right to breach of marriage.

2. *Guardianship*. Equal right to have guardianship of her own and other children.

3. *Nationality*. Right to keep her own nationality, and her children having the right to choose the nationality of the mother on majority.

4. *Property*. Equal right to hold and acquire, administer and inherit property.

C. Social and Economic

Full possibility of taking equal part in social life, which implies full opportunity of fulfilling her duties toward society.

1. To prevent discrimination against women in social and economic status and customs.

2. (a) To abolish prostitution by removing the legal and customary provisions pertaining to it.

(b) To take strong measures to put down traffic in women and children.

(c) To prevent clandestine prostitution by providing conditions that make it no longer necessary for women to earn money by these means.

(d) To enable former prostitutes to return to normal life without discrimination by providing work for them as well as a broad and widely accessible educational system.

3. While no disability should be attached to woman on the ground of her sex, in regard to the enjoyment of full equality, in the exercise of social and labor rights and in the assumption of social and labor duties, special consideration on grounds of health may be given equally to men and women and special consideration to women on grounds of motherhood.

4. There shall be an effective scheme of health and social insurance legislation which will provide equal preventive and remedial opportunities for women and will include special provisions for maternal and child care.

D. Education

Equal opportunity for compulsory, free and full education, equal opportunity in all specialized fields as well as training in eugenics—the right to enjoy scientific discoveries applied to human growth and development.

To achieve these aims, the Subcommission proposes:

1. That world public opinion be stimulated in favor of raising the status of women as an instrument to further human rights and peace. The Subcommission also recommends that in view of the fact that the governments of all the United Nations in signing the Charter recognized that one of its principal aims, as stated in the Preamble, was “to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,” the Subcommission on the Status of Women expects the full collaboration and support of the governments of all the United Nations in their

endeavors to raise the status of women throughout the world. At the same time, this Subcommission earnestly desires to render all possible assistance to those governments, in the application of the principle of equal rights as between men and women;

2. That the Subcommission collaborates with United Nations commissions, with governments, with specialized agencies, with public and private agencies, with international and national women's organizations,² with any other experts deemed necessary, and that representatives of the former organizations should be invited to participate as observers or as consultative agents;

3. That the Subcommission welcomes reports and recommendations.

II. Program

Bearing in mind this broad outline of their goal the Subcommission proposes the following program of work:

1. To undertake a world-wide up-to-date, reliable and valid survey of laws pertaining to the status of women, their application and the actual status of women. (The Subcommission should secure the information through governments, specialized agencies, women's organizations, academic institutes, trade unions and others.)

2. To conduct polls in various regions to sound public opinions on matters of interest to the Subcommission.

3. To organize a forum to hear the views of the consultative agents.

4. To call a United Nations women's conference to further the program.

5. To arrange for international exchange of all categories of manual and intellectual women workers, including the industrial, agricultural and cultural fields.

6. To collect and systematize records on women's affairs in the form of books, pamphlets, charts, etc. (preferably as a section of the United Nations' archives).

7. To implement the proposal to create a world-wide public opinion through the media of the press, radio, publications, lectures, motion pictures, etc.

8. That the United Nations Information Section prepare material about the United Nations to be distributed on request.

9. To request reference to the Subcommission of all communications and information concerning matters of interest to women received by the United Nations.

² See Appendix I, p. 89 f.

10. To train leaders in a course on women's affairs and to encourage the promotion of scholarships.

11. That public and private agencies be urged to plan and equip the homes in ways which will enable the housewife to devote more time to participate actively in civic affairs.

12. That an executive office on women's affairs be established as part of the Secretariat to deal with all work of the Subcommission, under the leadership of a highly competent woman who will be appointed after consulting the Subcommission and will be assisted by qualified staff.

13. That an executive committee be formed from members of the Subcommission residing in the vicinity of the headquarters of the United Nations. The purpose of this committee shall be to guard the general policy of the Subcommission.

III. *Composition*

Following the terms of reference in document E/27, Section B.4, that the nuclear Subcommission shall make recommendations on the definitive composition of the Subcommission, the nuclear Subcommission recommends:

1. That the future composition should be fifteen members including three members from the Commission on Human Rights.

2. That the members should be appointed by the Economic and Social Council in their individual capacity.

3. That the additional members should be selected from the regions of the Balkan States, Great Britain, Latin America and the United States of America to make up the definitive composition of the Subcommission.

4. That selection should be made from among women prominent in public affairs.

5. That before final appointment by the Economic and Social Council, the chairman of the Subcommission should be consulted.

6. That in view of the fact that the present Subcommission is eligible for reelection and that its work cannot begin before October or November 1946, all members be reelected for a period of three years commencing on 1 April 1947, to serve effectively during the period of initiation.

7. That after this period a sound system of rotation be adopted.

8. That members should attend regularly.

9. That in the case of an emergency, alternates may be designated according to the rules of the Economic and Social Council.

10. That the next session of the Subcommission should take

place before the end of the year, the date to be determined by the chairman of the Economic and Social Council in consultation with the chairman and vice chairman of the Subcommittee.

Members of the Subcommittee wish to emphasize that action by the Economic and Social Council in establishing this Subcommittee has awakened hope and expectancy among women in all parts of the world. It is the firm belief of the Subcommittee that all the recommendations for social progress which it has made are equally important; yet it wishes to stress that immediate action can and should be taken under the headings proposed:

1. Executive office (paragraph II, 12).
2. Survey (paragraph II, 1).
3. Education (paragraph I, D).
4. Women's conference (paragraph II, 4).
5. Political rights (paragraph I, A).

The Subcommittee on the Status of Women earnestly requests the Economic and Social Council to direct an appeal to the governments of the United Nations that have not accorded suffrage to women, to take such action at the earliest date possible within their frame of government, in order that all the terms of the Charter of the United Nations shall be put into effect.

In conclusion, the Subcommittee expresses the hope that the full Subcommittee will explore the vast field of complex problems concerning the status of women all over the world so that it can play its part in building a better world in which men and women in full equality work together towards universal peace.

Appendix I. [of Subcommittee Report]

Memorandum to the Commission on Human Rights from the Subcommittee on the Status of Women, dated 6 May 1946.

As the meeting of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations is being held on 20 May, the Subcommittee wishes to make the following recommendation:

For the efficient handling of the work of the United Nations it is important that the Subcommittee on the Status of Women should stimulate the interest of women of the international and national organizations, to collaborate with these organizations and coordinate their efforts.

Therefore, the Subcommittee requests the Economic and Social Council to refer to it all communications and information received concerning all matters of interest to women.

The Subcommittee would appreciate if it should be consulted in all matters pertaining to women before any decision

is reached by the Council. The Subcommittee would appreciate if the Commission on Human Rights would transmit this to the Economic and Social Council.

5. Second Session, Economic and Social Council, New York, May-June 1946

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, 28 MAY 1946¹

Report of the Subcommittee on the Status of Women

The Commission transmits to the Council for its information the report of the Subcommittee on the Status of Women appended hereto (E/HR/18). It commends the conscientious care and thoroughness with which the report has been prepared.

Section B of the resolution of the Council of 16 February 1946 on the establishment of the Subcommittee (E/27) provided in paragraphs 2, 3, and 4:

"2. The subcommittee shall submit proposals, recommendations, and reports to the Commission on Human Rights regarding the status of women.

"3. The subcommittee may submit proposals to the Council, through the Commission on Human Rights, regarding its terms of reference.

"4. The subcommittee * * * shall make recommendations on the definitive composition of the subcommittee to the Second Session of the Council through the Commission on Human Rights."

Taking these provisions into account, the Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council:

1—That the Council might follow the suggestions concerning the composition of the full Subcommittee made in paragraphs 1, 2, and 4 of Section III of the Report of the Subcommittee (E/HR/18) and that for all other questions, a similar procedure to the one recommended for the Commission on Human Rights be applied.²

2—That, having due regard for the importance of Section I on Policy (E/HR/18), it be referred for study to the full Commission on Human Rights, and that the attention of

¹ Source: United Nations, E/38, 17 May 1946; Journal of the Economic and Social Council, First Year, No. 14, 24 May 1946, p. 168 f.

² Mr. Borisov (Soviet Union) disagreed with the recommendation that all members should serve as non-governmental representatives. He expressed the view that all members of the commissions and subcommittees should be appointed as government representatives in the same way as the members of the Economic and Social Council.

the governments of all member states should be drawn especially to the suggestions concerning development of education of women and their political rights wherever they are not yet in a position to assume their full responsibility. (E/HR/18, p. 9.)

3—That a complete and detailed study of legislation concerning the status of women and its practical application be initiated, taking into account all important alterations that have arisen since the first general inquiries made by the League of Nations. (E/HR/18, Section II, 1.)

4—That the Secretariat (Department of Social Affairs, Division of Human Rights) be furnished with all necessary means of qualified personnel and material, to enable it to organize the studies referred to in paragraph 3, to collect and distribute in agreement with the Department of Public Information and other services and branches of the United Nations, the documentation concerning the question of women, and to fulfill all the duties incumbent on the United Nations in this field. (E/HR/18, Section II, 1, 6.)

5—That consultations should take place with the governments of member states on problems concerning women which may appear to them to be the first items for discussion, either by a general women's conference or by different conferences, each with a definite purpose, inside the field of one of the specialized agencies, such as the ILO, UNESCO, etc. (E/HR/18, Section II, 4.)

**ADDRESS OF CHAIRMAN OF SUBCOMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN
IN PRESENTING ITS REPORT TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,
28 MAY 1946¹**

**Summary Record of the Fourth Meeting of the Second Session of
the Economic and Social Council**

Held at Hunter College, New York, on Tuesday, 28 May 1946,
at 10:30 a. m.

President: Sir Ramaswami MUDALIAR (India).

(1) REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The PRESIDENT announced that the Economic and Social Council had at its last meeting received the report of the Temporary Transportation and Communications Commission and of the Statistical Commission [and] would next receive the report of the Commission on Human Rights.

¹ Source: United Nations, Journal of the Economic and Social Council, First Year, No. 20, 5 June 1946, p. 303 ff.

Mrs. ROOSEVELT (United States of America), Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights: * * *

Concerning the report of the Subcommittee on the Status of Women, presented to the Economic and Social Council through the Commission on Human Rights, Mrs. Roosevelt pointed out that the Commission had chosen the most important recommendations of the Subcommittee's report and incorporated them in its own report.

(2) SUBCOMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The PRESIDENT invited Mrs. Bodil Begtrup, Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Status of Women, to address the Council. He said that normally the chairman of the subcommittee reports to the commission and Mrs. Begtrup had already made her report to the Commission on Human Rights. She had, however, asked to be allowed to make some supplementary remarks on the report to the Council and the Council was prepared to grant her that privilege.

Mrs. Bodil BEGRUP (Denmark), thanked the Economic and Social Council for its wisdom and foresight in taking up the question of the status of women so early in its work. This action had shown a deep understanding of the fundamental social and economic inequalities between men and women.

At the outset, the members of the Subcommittee had agreed that the purpose of their work must cover all fields of human enterprise in which progress was needed and they had, therefore, proposed that their aims should be classified under the following headings: political, civil, social, economic and educational.

To help in achieving its aims, the Subcommittee had recommended that world-wide public opinion should be stimulated in favor of raising the status of women. It hoped that the United Nations information service could help it in this project.

The recommendations which it considered of immediate importance were the setting up of an office to deal with women's affairs in the United Nations Secretariat. It considered this very important since women all over the world would feel great satisfaction that there was a women's office at the headquarters of the United Nations. The Subcommittee had also proposed that a universal up-to-date survey of laws pertaining to the status of women, and their application, should be made. It had taken into consideration the study already prepared by the League of Nations but had come to the conclusion that this was already out of date; that it covered a very limited regional field and that it

dealt with laws only and not their application. When the survey was completed they recommended the calling of a United Nations women's conference to discuss the aims of the Subcommission. It had also included a recommendation in its report that all governments should be called upon to accord suffrage to women, since it felt that little progress could be made in raising the status of women without the grant of political rights.

With regard to the composition of the full Subcommission, it had recommended that the members should be drawn from different regions which had different stages of social development. The Subcommission considered that members should be chosen in their individual capacity and they felt very strongly that those who had already served on the nuclear Subcommission should be allowed to continue to serve at the end of their year of office. So that there should be some continuity in the work which they were planning. Mrs. Begtrup said that she wished to point out that they hoped that men would be included in the membership and that both men and women would serve in the office which they had recommended should be set up.

She wished to stress that some of the work which they had planned would need to be carried out in collaboration with specialized agencies such as the ILO and UNESCO, and with other commissions.

The members of the Subcommission were aware why the Economic and Social Council, in establishing the Subcommission, had placed it under the wing of the Commission on Human Rights. Nevertheless, the Subcommission felt that it should work under the best possible conditions and not be dependent on the pace of another commission. It, therefore, wished to recommend to the Council that the Subcommission should be established as a full commission.

In conclusion, she wished to say that the time had come for changes in the status of women. Women had worked during the war in resistance movements, and in other activities had taken their place with men. The time had now come to put into effect the principles outlined in the preamble to the Charter. The action of the Economic and Social Council had aroused great feeling and interest among women all over the world and gratitude that in the midst of such urgent and pressing problems the Council should have time to devote to the question of the raising of the status of women.

The PRESIDENT thanked Mrs. Begtrup for her report and said that the Council would consider the proposals which the

members of the Subcommittee had made, including the proposal that the Subcommittee should be made into a full commission.

**RESOLUTION CREATING COMMISSION ON STATUS OF WOMEN,
21 JUNE 1946¹**

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, having considered the report of the nuclear Commission on Human Rights and of the nuclear Subcommittee on the Status of Women of 21 May 1946 (document E/38/Rev. 1), DECIDES to confer upon the Subcommittee the status of a full commission to be known as the COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN.

1. Functions

The functions of the Commission shall be to prepare recommendations and reports to the Economic and Social Council on promoting women's rights in political, economic, social, and educational fields. The Commission shall also make recommendations to the Council on urgent problems requiring immediate attention in the field of women's rights.

The Commission may submit proposals to the Council regarding its terms of reference.

2. Composition

(a) The Commission on the Status of Women shall consist of one representative from each of fifteen members of the United Nations selected by the Council.

(b) With a view to securing a balanced representation in the various fields covered by the Commission, the Secretary-General shall consult with the governments so selected before the representatives are finally nominated by these governments and confirmed by the Council.

(c) Except for the initial period, the term of office shall be for three years. For the initial period, one-third of the members shall serve for two years, one-third for three years, and one-third for four years, the term of each member to be determined by lot.

(d) Retiring members shall be eligible for reelection.

(e) In the event that a member of the Commission is unable to serve for the full three-year term, the vacancy thus arising shall be filled by a representative designated by the member government, subject to the provisions of paragraph (b) above.

¹ Source: United Nations, E/90 and E/84, paragraph 6; Journal of the Economic and Social Council, First Year, No. 29, 13 July 1946, p. 525 ff.

3. *Policy and Program*

Sections I and II of the report of the Subcommission, concerning policy and program, shall be referred for study to the Commission on the Status of Women.

4. *Documentation*

In order to assist the Commission on the Status of Women, the Secretary-General is requested to make arrangements for a complete and detailed study of the legislation concerning the status of women and the practical application of such legislation.

**EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS,
21 JUNE 1946¹**

I. Principles To Be Applied in Placing Organizations on the List of Non-Governmental Organizations Eligible for Consultation Under Article 71

The Committee, taking note of the organizations which have expressed their interest in consultation, and considering that many other organizations are likely to indicate such an interest, recommends that the following principles be applied in establishing a list of non-governmental organizations² which would be eligible for consultation:

1. The organization shall be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Economic and Social Council with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters.
2. The aims and purposes of the organization should be in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.
3. Organizations proved to be discredited by past collaboration in fascist activities shall not for the present, be admitted.
4. The organization shall be of recognized standing and shall represent a substantial proportion of the organized persons within the particular interest field in which it operates.

¹ Source: United Nations, Official No. E/43/Rev. 2; Journal of the Economic and Social Council, First Year, No. 29, 13 July 1946, p. 481 ff.

This committee known as the Council NGO Committee was composed of the President of the Council and representatives from the following countries: China, Cuba, France, Greece, Lebanon, Peru, Ukraine, United Kingdom, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia. Source: Journal of the Economic and Social Council, First Year, No. 12, 10 April 1946, p. 123.

² Any international organization which is not established by inter-governmental agreement shall be considered as a non-governmental international organization.

To meet this requirement, a group of organizations may form a joint committee or other body authorized to carry on consultation for the group as a whole.

5. The organization shall have an established headquarters, with an executive officer. It shall have a conference, convention, or other policy-making body.

6. The organization shall have authority to speak for its members through its authorized representatives. Evidence of this authority shall be presented, if requested.

7. The organization should be international in its structure, with members who exercise voting rights in relation to the policies or action of the international organization.

8. National organizations should normally present their views through their respective governments or through international non-governmental organizations to which they belong. It would not, save in exceptional cases, be appropriate to include national organizations which are affiliated to an international non-governmental organization covering the same subjects on an international basis. National organizations, however, may be included in the list after consultation with the member state concerned if they cover a field which is not covered by any international organization or have special experience upon which the Council wishes to draw.

9. The Committee recommends that the Council, in determining the scope and methods of consultation with each non-governmental organization, take as a basis the nature and scope of activities of each organization considering the assistance that may be expected by the Council from this Organization in carrying out the tasks set out in chapter IX of the Charter of the United Nations.

10. The Committee considers that most close consultative connection should be established with the World Federation of Trade Unions which has already applied to the Economic and Social Council with a request to establish connection.

II. Machinery for Applying the Principles for Placing Organizations on the Eligible List

1. The Economic and Social Council shall establish a standing Committee composed of the President of the Council and five members of the Council who will be assisted by the Assistant Secretaries-General for Economic and Social Affairs respectively. This Committee will review applications for consultative status submitted by non-governmental organiza-

tions, and make recommendations to the Council. It shall be known as the "Committee on Arrangements for Consultation with Non-Governmental Organizations" (short title: Council NGO Committee).³

2. The Council NGO Committee may direct the Secretariat to screen applications on the basis of the criteria adopted by the Council for this purpose.

3. The list of applications so screened shall be circulated to the members of the United Nations by the Secretariat before it is considered by the Council Committee.

III. Principles Governing the Nature of the Consultative Arrangements

1. It is important to note that a clear distinction is drawn in the Charter between participation without vote in the deliberations of the Council, and the arrangements for consultation. Under Articles 69 and 70 participation is provided for only in the case of states not members of the Council, and of specialized inter-governmental agencies. Article 71 applying to non-governmental organizations provided for suitable arrangements for consultation. It is considered that this distinction, deliberately made in the Charter, is fundamental and that the arrangements for consultation should not be such as to accord to non-governmental organizations the same rights of participation accorded to states not members of the Council and to the specialized agencies brought into relationship with the United Nations.

2. It should also be recognized as a basic principle that the arrangements should not be such as to overburden the Council or transform it into a general forum for discussion instead of a body for coordination of policy and action, as is contemplated in the Charter.

3. Decisions on arrangements for consultation should be guided by the principle that consultative arrangements are to be made, on the one hand for the purpose of enabling the Council or one of its bodies to secure expert information or advice from organizations having special competence on the subjects for which consultative arrangements are made, and,

³ The Report of the Committee on Arrangements for Consultation with Non-Governmental Organizations (E/43/Rev. 1) approved by the Council at its fourteenth meeting, 21 June 1946, provided that the Committee consist of the President and four members of the Council. At its fifteenth meeting, 21 June 1946, the Council decided that the Committee should be composed of the President and five members of the Council. The five members elected were: China, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

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on the other hand, to enable organizations which represent important elements of public opinion, to express their views. Therefore, the arrangements for consultation made with each organization should involve only the subjects for which that organization has a special competence or in which it has a special interest. In general these arrangements should be made for a definite period, reviewable at the end thereof.

4. Consultative arrangements should not be made with an international organization which is a member of a committee or group composed of international organizations with which consultative arrangements have been made except for different subjects than those for which consultation arrangements have been made with the committee or group.

5. In several of the fields covered by the Council there will exist specialized inter-governmental agencies brought into relationship with the Council, and participating in its deliberations as provided in Article 70. There may be close connection and cooperation between these agencies and the non-governmental organizations whose specific field of interest is the same as or similar to that of the specialized agency.

The Council should take this consideration into account.

APPENDIX B. Woman Personnel in League of Nations and United Nations and Participants in Activities Related to Status of Women

I. WOMEN OFFICIALS IN LEAGUE OF NATIONS

I. Women Sent by Their Countries to League of Nations Assembly as Delegates, Substitute Delegates, Experts, 1920-39, 1946

In most instances women were *substitute delegates*, of whom each country could have as many as two in addition to its full voting delegate. In only a few instances were women full delegates, notably for four years from Sweden and three years each from Canada and Hungary. Substitute delegates could address the Assembly, and they played an important part in the League's operation, since they could serve on any of the Assembly's six committees, on each of which every country could have representation. The following list includes names of all women who were full delegates and all others who were sent in more than one year, including those appointed as experts or technical advisers. Unless otherwise stated, service listed below is as substitute delegate. Countries are listed in order of length of representation of women.

	Years of service
Denmark —Women in delegation 19 years, as follows:	
Froken Henni Forchammer ¹ (1920-37, as expert 1920-22, 1924) ----	18
Fru Bodil Begtrup ² (1938)	1
Norway —Women in delegation 19 years, as follows:	
Dr. Kristine Elisabeth Bonnevie (1920-24)	5
Fru Martha Larsen Jahn (1925-27)	3
Fru Ingebord Aas (1928-34)	7
Froken Johanne Reutz (1935-38)	4
Sweden —Women in delegation 18 years, as follows:	
Fru Anna Bugge-Wicksell ³ (1920-27)	8

¹ Miss Forchammer was one of nine women who came to America in 1902 to attend the first international conference of women, which was called by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association. This conference made plans for the organization in 1904 of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance. Miss Forchammer served 9 years (1928-34, 1936, 1937) on the Assembly's Sixth Committee (Political Questions, which included dealing with minorities). She was the first woman ever to address the League Assembly, speaking on the subject of traffic in women and children.

² Mrs. Begtrup was sent as an adviser with her country's delegation to the First Assembly of the United Nations, which met in London January 1946, and later was appointed from her country as a member of the Subcommittee on Status of Women, which elected her its chairman, (see pp. 109, 27); still later she was made a member of the full Commission on Status of Women.

³ Mrs. Wicksell, a fully qualified lawyer, was a member of the League's Permanent Mandates Commission, organized in 1920. A proposal of hers was adopted, influencing international outlook: that each member be responsible for a given area of information throughout all mandated territories. She served for 7 early years (1921-27) on the Assembly's First Committee (Legal and Constitutional Questions), in one year as a full member.

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

	Years of service
Froken Kirsten Hesselgren ⁴ (1928, 1930-38; as full delegate 1933-36, as expert 1928, 1930)	10
(Also an additional woman member in 1938.)	
Rumania —Women in delegation 18 years, as follows:	
Mlle. Helene Vacaresco ⁵ (1921-38)	18
Mme. Alexandrine Cantacuzine (as expert, 1929, 1931)	2
Great Britain —Women in delegation 17 years (1922-38); one as full delegate, Susan Lawrence (1930); only women serving more than one session:	
Dame Edith Lyttelton (1923, 1926-28, 1931)	5
Mrs. Helen M. Swanwick (1924, 1929)	2
Mrs. Mary Hamilton (1929-30)	2
Miss F. G. Horsbrugh ⁶ (1933-35)	3
Mrs. Irene M. B. Ward (1937-38)	2
Australia —Women in delegation 16 years (1922-30, 1932-38). Only woman serving more than one session:	
Miss A. F. Bage (1926, 1938)	2
Hungary —Women in delegation 12 years (1927-38). Only woman serving more than one session:	
Countess Albert Apponyi (1928-38; as full delegate 1936-38)	11
Netherlands —Women in delegation 12 years (1928-38, 1946). Only woman serving more than one session:	
Mervw. C. A. Kluyver ⁷ (1928-30, 1932-38; 1946, full delegate)	11
Germany —Women in delegation 8 years (1926-33), always as experts. Only woman serving more than one session:	
Frau Lang-Brumann (as expert, 1927-30)	4
Poland —Women in delegation 8 years (1931-38). Only women serving more than one session:	
Mme. Hanna Hubicka (1932-35)	4
Mme. Wanda Woytowicz-Grabinska (1934 as expert; 1937-38)	3
France —Woman in delegation 7 years, as follows:	
Mme. Malaterre-Sellier (as expert or technical adviser, 1932-38)	7
Canada —Women in delegation 6 years (1929-32, 1935, 1938). No woman served more than one session. Three were full delegates, Mrs. Irene Parlby (1930), Mrs. Henry P. Plumptre (1931), Mrs. Charles Fremont (1932).	

⁴ Miss Hesselgren was ex officio vice-president of the Assembly in 1933; as Rapporteur on the subject of status of women in 1937 for the First Committee of the Assembly (that on Legal and Constitutional Questions), she summarized and reported on information on this subject sent in by governments of some 38 countries, see p. 10. She was a member of the League Committee of Experts on Status of Women established in 1937, see p. 11.

⁵ Miss Vacaresco served for 8 years (1925-32) on the Assembly's Second Committee (on Technical Organizations)—in 5 of these years as her country's full member. She was a member of the Permanent Committee on Arts and Letters (Letters Section) of the League's Committee on Intellectual Cooperation. She served for 8 years (1928, 1931-37) on the League's Sixth Committee (Political Questions).

⁶ Miss Horsbrugh was sent as an assistant delegate from her country to the United Nations Conference on International Organization, San Francisco, 1945. (See p. 105.)

⁷ Mrs. Kluyver was a member of the committee of jurists to draft statutes of the Permanent Court of International Justice in 1920; she served during 10 sessions on the Fourth Committee of the League Assembly (that on Budget and Financial Questions), on which it was unusual for women to be placed, and in 1936 she was its vice chairman. She was a full delegate to the League Assembly at its last session in 1946.

APPENDIX B—WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

	Years of service
Lithuania —Woman in delegation 6 years, as follows:	
Mme. Sofija Ciurlionis (as full delegate 1929, 1931; 1935–38).....	6
Spain —Women in delegation 6 years (1931–34, 1936, 1938). Only women serving more than one session:	
Senorita Clara Camposnor (1931, 1934)	2
Senora Isabel O. de Palencia (1932–33, 1936)	3
Finland —Women in delegation 5 years (1927–30, 1937). Only woman serving more than one session:	
Mme. Tilma Hainari (1927–30)	4
Czechoslovakia —Women in delegation 4 years, as follows:	
Mme. Frantiska Plaminkova (1931–32)	2
Mlle. Helena Barnadova (as expert, 1935, 1937)	2
Russia —Woman in delegation 4 years, as follows:	
Mme. Alexandra Kollontay (1935–38)	4
Austria —Woman in delegation 3 years, as follows:	
Mme. Fanny Starhemberg (1934–36)	3
China —Women in delegation 3 years (1934–35, 1937). Only woman serving more than one session:	
Mme. Hilda Yen Chen (as expert, 1935, 1937)	2
Mexico —Woman in delegation 3 years, as follows:	
Senorita Palma Guillen (1937 as full delegate; 1938–39).....	3
Chile —Woman in delegation 2 years, as follows:	
Senora Marta Vergara (1931 as expert; 1932)	2
Iran —Women in delegation 2 years (1933, 1936).	
Switzerland —Woman in delegation 2 years, as follows:	
Mlle. Suzanne Ferriere (as expert, 1937–38)	2
Countries having a woman member of their delegation in one year only:	
Siam—1922	Turkey (Full delegate, Mme. Nayan)—1938
Bulgaria—1930	New Zealand—1939
Colombia—1932	
Portugal—1936	
Total countries having women members of their delegations at some time—29. Total countries with any woman full delegate—8.	

2. Women Members of League of Nations Commissions, 1920–37¹

Permanent Mandates Commission (1920)

Members:

- Fru Anna Bugge-Wicksell (Swedish)
Froken Valentine Dannevig (Norwegian)

¹ Source: As listed in Year-Books and other publications through 1937 (in a few instances, later).

For positions where the delegate represented the Government, the country has been designated; otherwise the nationality of the individual. Wherever an individual's full name was available in any of the sources used, the full name has been used throughout.

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Committee of Jurists to Draft Statutes of Permanent Court of International Justice (1920)

Secretary—Mervw. C. A. Kluyver (Dutch)

Commission on Traffic in Opium (1921)

Assessor—Mrs. Hamilton Wright (American)

Commission on Deported Women and Children in Asia Minor (1921)

Members:

Miss Emma Cushman (American; of Constantinople)

Miss Karen Jeppe (Danish; of Aleppo)

Standing Health Committee (1921)

[Composed of President General Advisory Health Council (in Paris); 9 members appointed by it, and 16 by Council of League.]

Members:

Dr. Alice Hamilton (American)

Dame Janet Campbell (British)

Committee on Intellectual Cooperation (1922)

Vice President, Member, Executive Committee—Mme. Curie-Sklodowska (Polish)

Members:

Dr. Kristine Elisabeth Bonnevie (Norwegian)

Mme. Cecile de Tormay (Hungarian)

Permanent Committee for Arts and Letters

Members:

Mlle. Helene Vacaresco (Rumanian) (in Section of Letters)

Fru Nini Roll-Anker (Norwegian)

Senorita Gabriela Mistral (Chilean)

International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation (Paris—1925)

Section on Scientific Relations

Mathematics, Physics, Natural Science

Attaché—Froken Thorkildssen (Norwegian)

Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young People

This was organized in 1924 and was composed of 15 government delegates to the Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children (1921) and the Child Welfare Committee (1924), and assessors of each, representing some 17 voluntary organizations. In 1936 it was succeeded by the Advisory Committee on Social Questions, which was composed of representatives of not more than 25 governments and experts nominated as assessors.

Members (Government Delegates)

Earlier Commission

Later Committee

Miss Grace Abbott (United States)

Dr. Estrid Hein, Chairman
(Denmark)

Dr. Paulina Luisi (Uruguay)

Miss Charlotte Whitton, Rapporteur
(Canada)

Dr. Gertrud Baumer (Germany)

Senora Matilde Huici (Spain)

Dr. Matz (Germany)

Lady Abdul Cadir (India)

Fru Estrid Hein (Denmark)

Miss Elsa Castendyck (United States)

Mme. Romniciano (Rumania)

Mrs. Keron Hoss (India)

Senora de Martinez Sierra (Spain)

Senorita Palma Guillen (Mexico)

Mrs. Surrabayan (India)

Mlle. Milena Atonatakovitch

Princess Alexandrine Cantacuzene

(Yugoslavia)

(Rumania)

APPENDIX B—WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

Advisory Commission for Refugees (1928)

Member (Government Delegate)—Mrs. Mary Hamilton (Great Britain)

Economic Organization

1. Preparatory Commission of 35 for Preliminary Studies for World Conference on Economic Problems (1925)

Member—Frau Emmy Freundlich (Austrian)

2. World Conference on Economic Problems (1927)

National Delegate and a Vice President—Frau Emmy Freundlich (Austria)

Appointed by Council as experts representing International Women's Organizations—

Froken C. E. Van Dorp (Dutch)

Dr. Marie-Elisabeth Luders (German)

Mrs. Barbara Wootten (British)

3. Consultative Committee of Economic Organizations (1928)

Member—Frau Emmy Freundlich (Austrian) (President, International Guild of Cooperative Societies)

World Conference on Disarmament (1932)

Delegate—Dr. Mary E. Wooley (United States)

Saar Plebiscite Commission (1935)

Technical Counselor—Dr. Sarah Wambaugh (American)

Advisory Commission of Experts on Slavery (1935)

Senora Isabel Oyarzabal de Palencia (Spanish)

Senora L. de Castro e Avemeida (Portuguese)

(For Expert Committee on Legal Status of Women (1937), see p. 11 of text.)

3. Women Officials in League of Nations Secretariat, 1920-29

Social Questions and (After 1922) Opium Traffic Section

Head—Dame Rachel Eleanor Crowdy (British)

Section Member, Opium Traffic—Mlle. E. S. T. A. de Romer

Section Members, Social Questions:

Princess G. Radziwill (Lithuanian)

Mlle. A. M. Colin (Belgian)

Communications and Transit Section

Section Member—Mlle. H. Key-Rasmussen (Swedish)

Information Section

Editor Official Journal—Dr. Gertrude C. Dickson (American)

Section Member—Miss G. Radziwill (Lithuanian)

International Bureau and Intellectual Cooperation Section

Section Member—Mlle. A. I. Hallsten-Kallia (Finnish)

Library

Chief Librarian—Miss Florence Wilson (American) (1920-1926)

Deputy Librarian—Miss Alice C. Bartlett (American)

Assistant Librarian—Mlle. M. Ginsberg

Personnel

Section Member—Miss Nancy Williams (British)

Establishment Office

Member—Miss A. J. Cathrall (British)

**4. Members of First Committee of the League of Nations Assembly
Who Participated in Discussion of Status of Women Resolution,
18th Assembly, September 1937**

Australia —Mr. Bailey	Egypt —El Sayed Bey
Canada —M. Dandurand	Belgium —M. Borquin
China —Mme. Yen Chen	Bulgaria —M. Balabanoff
Colombia —M. Yepes	Netherlands —M. Limburg
Czechoslovakia —Mlle. Bernardova	Norway —Mlle. Reutz
Denmark —Mlle. Westergaard	Rumania —Mlle. Vacaresco
Finland —Mme. Makinen-Ollinen	South Africa —Mr. Andrews
France —M. Cassin	Sweden —Mlle. Hesselgren
Hungary —M. Sebestyen	Switzerland —M. Gorge
Irish Free State —Mr. Hearne	U. S. S. R. —Mme. Kollontay
Mexico —Mlle. Guillen	Yugoslavia —M. Soubbotitch
	United Kingdom —Mr. Beckett

II. WOMEN OFFICIALS IN UNITED NATIONS

I. United Nations Conference on International Organization, San Francisco, April-June 1945¹

WOMEN SENT BY THEIR COUNTRIES AS DELEGATES, ASSISTANT DELEGATES, ADVISERS, TECHNICAL EXPERTS

Australia

Assistant—Mrs. Jessie Street

Brazil

Delegate—Dr. Bertha Lutz²

Canada

Delegate

Mrs. Cora T. Casselman

Adviser

Miss Elizabeth McCallum

China

Delegate—Dr. Wu Yi-Fang²

Dominican Republic

Delegate

Mlle. Minerva Bernardino²

France

Adviser

Mlle. Elisabeth de Miribel

Direct Collaborators

Mme. Odette Cornu

Mme. H. de Arrieta

Mme. Anne-Marie Girard

Mexico

Advisers

Sra. Castillo Ledon

Sra. Obregon Santacilia

Women also served as *Secretaries-General, Technical Assistants, and Interpreters*, as follows:

Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic

Technical Secretary

Miss Maria I. Petrova

Lebanon

Secretary-General

Miss Angela M. Jurdak

Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic

Assistant Interpreter

Miss Maria L. Shapareva

Netherlands

Assistant Public Relations Adviser

Mrs. Julie Lynch

Norway

Adviser—Mrs. Aase G. Skaard

United Kingdom

Assistant Delegates

Miss Ellen Wilkinson

Miss Florence Horsbrugh

Adviser—Mrs. E. S. Gibbs

United States of America

Delegate

Dean Virginia Gildersleeve²

Special Assistants

Mrs. Nancy Davis

Miss Dorothy Fosdick

Technical Experts

Miss Marjorie M. Whiteman

Mrs. Esther C. Brunauer

Miss Dorothy Fosdick

Miss Marcia Maylott

Mrs. Alice M. McDiarmid

Uruguay

Delegate

Sra. Isabel Pinto de Vidal

Venezuela

Counselors

Sra. Sanchez de Urdaneta

Sra. Perez Diaz

¹ Source: As listed in United Nations Conference on International Organization, Documents, Vol. I, as of May 28, 1945. p. 13 ff.

² Signer of United Nations Charter.

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

In addition to the 18 nations listed above, the following 8 had included women in their delegations only as *secretaries*—Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Iraq, New Zealand, Peru, and Syria.

WOMEN IN UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, SAN FRANCISCO, APRIL–JUNE 1945

Delegate

Dean Virginia C. Gildersleeve

Special Assistants

Mrs. Nancy Davis

Miss Dorothy Fosdick (also Technical Expert)

Technical Experts

Miss Marjorie M. Whiteman

Mrs. Esther Brunauer

Miss Dorothy Fosdick

Miss Marcia Maylott

Mrs. Alice M. McDiarmid

Aides and Assistants

Miss Vera Bloom

Miss Martha Dalrymple

Lt. Mary E. McDonald,
USNR (W)

Lt. Comdr. Elizabeth Reynard,
USNR (W)

Assistant to Press Officer

Miss Mary J. Leutzinger

Special Assistants to Public Liaison Officer

Miss Doris Cochrane

Miss Emily Hickman

Special Assistants to Public Liaison

Officer—cont'd

Mrs. Delia Kuhn

Mrs. Ruth Bryan Rohde

Mrs. Shirley Savage

Executive Secretary

Mrs. Virginia F. Hartley

Miss M. Kathleen Bell, Asst.

Miss Rosalind Wright, Asst.

Special Information Officer

Miss Suzanne Green

Miss Jean Turnbull, Asst.

Assistants to Documents and

Security Officer

Miss Elizabeth Driscoll

Miss Betty Gough

Miss Jane Wheeler

Reference Librarian

Miss Alice C. Bartlett

Miss Jeanette E. Muther,
Asst.

Assistant to Language Officer

Mrs. Marcella Woerheide

Administrative Officer

Miss Louise White

WOMEN REPRESENTING NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AS CONSULTANTS TO THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION AT THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, SAN FRANCISCO, APRIL–JUNE 1945

REPRESENTING NATIONAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of University Women

Dr. Helen Dwight Reid, *Consultant*

Mrs. Malbone W. Graham, *Associate*

Dr. Aurelia Henry Reinhardt, *Associate*

Mrs. Edward C. Lamphier, *Associate*

General Federation of Women's Clubs

Mrs. LaFell Dickinson, *Consultant*

Mrs. William Dick Sporberg, *Associate*

Mrs. Earl Shoosmith, *Associate*

APPENDIX B—WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs

Miss Margaret A. Hickey, *Consultant*

Miss Josephine Schain, *Associate*

National League of Women Voters

Mrs. Anne Hartwell Johnstone, *Consultant*

Mrs. George H. Engels, *Associate*

Mrs. Harold Nachtrieb, *Associate*

Mrs. Harold Hacke, *Associate*

Women's Action Committee for Victory and Lasting Peace

Miss Lillian M. Phillips, *Consultant*

Mrs. Arthur Brin, *Associate*

Mrs. George Fielding Eliot, *Associate*

REPRESENTING OTHER NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association for the United Nations

Miss Margaret Olson, *Associate*

American Council on Education

Miss Helen C. Hurley, *Associate*

American Farm Bureau Federation

Mrs. Charles W. Sewell, *Associate*

Americans United for World Organization

Mrs. Doris Warner Leroy, *Associate*

Catholic Association for International Peace

Miss Catherine Schaeffer, *Associate*

Church Peace Union

Miss Margaret Forsyth, *Associate*

Miss Dorothy McConnell, *Associate*

Congress of Industrial Organizations

Miss Molly Lynch, *Associate*

Foreign Policy Association

Mrs. Vera M. Dean, *Associate*

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, *Associate*

National Congress of Parents and Teachers

Mrs. William A. Hastings, *Consultant*

National Peace Conference

Miss Jane Evans, *Consultant*

WOMEN OFFICERS OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, SAN FRANCISCO,
APRIL—JUNE 1945

Secretary General

Special Assistants

Miss Ruth Ray

Mrs. Virginia Alexander

Administrative Assistants

Miss Inez Johnston

Miss Frances Pringle

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Information Officer

Librarian—Miss Jose Meyer

Reference Assistant—Mrs. Hana Mandelik

Principal Correspondence Assistant—Miss Helen Daniel

Asst. Information Officer for Correspondence Information

Mrs. Anne McGowan

Assistant Comptroller—Mrs. Elizabeth Friend

Press Relations Officer—Mrs. Margaret Raymond

Assistants to Presentation Officer

Mrs. Marie Barton

Miss Ruth Mandelbaum

Assistant Photographic Officer—Miss Mary Losey

Executive Secretary

Assistant Adviser—Margaret Ball

Special Assistant—Edna R. Fluegel

Administrative Assistant—Elizabeth H. Benson

Technical Secretariat

(Serving the Committees of the Commissions on General Provisions,
General Assembly, and Security Council)

Assistant Executive Officer—Rowena Rommel

Secretary—Miss Elizabeth Armstrong

Associate Secretary—Miss Heather Harvey

Assistant Secretaries

Miss Ruth Bacon

Mrs. Marion D. Battles

Mrs. Jane Clark Carey

Miss Ursula Duffus

Mrs. Sherleigh Fowler

Mrs. Ruth Hughes

Mrs. Virginia Little

Mrs. Pauline Reinsch Preuss

Miss Victoria Schuck

Conference Library

Miss Nona L. Doherty

Mrs. Mary L. Hurt

Reference Specialist—Miss Ruth Savord

Deputy Documents Officer—Miss Maurine Mulliner

Conference Editor—Mrs. Virginia Angel

Assistant Conference Editor—Miss Frances Armbruster

Archivist—Miss Ruth Wailes

Index and Reference Officer—Miss M. Carmel Sullivan

Administrative Secretary

Assistant Personnel Officer—Miss Virginia Brittingham

Health Services—Mrs. Emma Joyce

2. First General Assembly, London, January 1946

WOMEN DELEGATES AND ADVISERS IN FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF UNITED NATIONS, LONDON, JANUARY 1946

United States of America	Netherlands
<i>Delegate</i> —Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt	<i>Alternate Delegate</i>
<i>Advisers</i>	Mrs. Dr. H. H. Verwey-Jonker
Miss Dorothy Fosdick	
Miss Frieda S. Miller	New Zealand
	<i>Delegate</i> —Miss Jean R. McKenzie
Czechoslovakia	<i>Alternate</i> —Miss Lorna McPhee
<i>Advisers</i>	
Mme. Olga Hillova	Norway
Mme. Gertrude Sekaninova	<i>Alternate Delegate</i>
	Mme. Frieda Dalen
Denmark	
<i>Adviser</i> —Mme. Bodil Begtrup	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic
	<i>Delegate</i>
Dominican Republic	Mrs. Evdokia I. Uralova
<i>Delegate</i>	
Mlle. Minerva Bernardino	United Kingdom of Great Britain and
	Ireland
France	<i>Delegate</i> —Miss Ellen Wilkinson
<i>Assistant Delegate</i>	<i>Advisers</i>
Mme. Marie H�el�ene Lefauchaux	Miss C. I. Rolfe
<i>Adviser</i> —Mme. Pierre Vi�not	Miss M. Fletcher
	Miss K. M. Midwinter
Greece	
<i>Adviser</i> —Mlle. Rena Zafiriov	

3. United Nations Commissions, New York, 1946

WOMEN OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF UNITED NATIONS COMMISSIONS, 1946

Human Rights Commission

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt (United States of America). Elected by the Commission as its chairman.

Economic and Employment Commission

Miss Rena Zafiriov (Greece)

Temporary Social Commission

Mrs. Kristi Djordjevic (Yugoslavia)

Secretary—Miss Katharine Lenroot (United States of America)

Administrative Officials in Secretariat

Health and Welfare Services—Mrs. Helen Brooks (From United States of America)

Chief of Personnel—Miss Mary Smieton (From United Kingdom)

Special Committee on Refugees and Displaced Persons

Mme. H. Verwey-Jonker (Netherlands)

(For Subcommittee on Status of Women (1946), see p. 27 of text.)

4. Women in the United Nations Secretariat, New York, 1946¹

The United Nations Secretariat is organized into eight major departments aside from the Office of the Secretary-General. The

¹ For lists of names, see United Nations Handbook No. 6, October 1946.

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

various departments have to do with the subject matter to be dealt with by the United Nations, or with the services to be rendered to the entire organization, and each is headed by an Assistant Secretary-General. These departments have divisions, or in a few instances bureaus, each with a director. Most divisions or bureaus are further separated into sections, or in a few instances services, headed by chiefs, and some of the sections or services again into units. A few women are carrying on the work of head of a section or unit. The organization of the Secretariat is not fully completed; distribution of posts among various member nations is a part of the planning, though quotas have not been formally established. In the forefront, so far as women in the Secretariat are concerned, is the director of the Bureau of Personnel. The more important Secretariat posts held by women are listed below.²

Department of Administrative and Financial Services

Bureau of Personnel

Director of Personnel—Miss Mary G. Smieton (United Kingdom)

Chief, Policies and Procedures Staff

Mrs. Ruth Tumbleson (U. S. A.)

Staff Relations and Services Division

Head, Staff Services Section—Mrs. Helen G. Brooks (U. S. A.)

Recruitment, Examination, and Placement Division

Chief, Social and Economic Affairs Section

Miss Elizabeth Cosgrove (U. S. A.)

Chief, Interviewing and Local Recruiting Section

Mrs. Louise Bartlett (U. S. A.)

Department of Public Information

Reference and Publications Division

Chief, Reference Section—Miss Jose Meyer (U. S. A.)

Films and Visual Information Division

Chief, Film Liaison Office of Film Section—Miss Marion Dix (U. S. A.)

Department of Economic Affairs

Transportation and Communication Division

Chief, Inland Transportation and Coordination Section

Miss Helen M. Moats (U. S. A.)

Department of Conferences and General Services

Conference Coordination Division

Chief, Central Registry Section—Mrs. E. Turner-Coles (United Kingdom)

In addition to the foregoing, many women are serving in the Secretariat in a variety of lesser posts. A few are assistant chiefs of sections or heads of units within sections, and others serve as administrative assistants or executives in certain parts

² It was reported in early 1947 that the total Secretariat staff consisted of some 2,800 persons, 45 percent of them women. However, only 137 staff members had permanent appointments; slightly less than a third of these were women.

APPENDIX B—WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

of the Secretariat. In many parts of the organization from top to bottom are women with varied types of experience who serve as assistants, executive officers, administrative assistants, special advisers, or consultants; others have reference or research duties, are archivists, or assist in editorial work. A few branches have women as liaison officers for contacts with differing kinds of public agencies.

Considerable groups are in the Department of Social Affairs, where three in five of those at work in the divisions are women; and in the Department of Public Information where a number of women are junior press officers and some are in posts of higher rating. In a number of cases women are doing responsible work as translators, interpreters, verbatim reporters. More unusual jobs are those of cryptograph operator, art editor, or film librarian.

Practically all the offices have women serving in secretarial and other clerical capacities. The largest numbers are in the Department of Conferences and General Services; here and elsewhere many women are in charge of the production, handling, and distribution of documents and mail, and there are women as bilingual stenographers, transcribers, mimeograph operators.

APPENDIX C. Suffrage for Women in Countries of the World, 1946

Many countries are in a state of political flux; however, according to various sources available in the fall of 1946, the following countries grant women the right of suffrage. (*Signifies suffrage was obtained during or after World War II.)

*Albania	India (British)
Australia	Irish Free State
Austria	*Italy
Brazil	*Japan
*Bulgaria (before war, limited to married women)	Luxemburg
Burma	Netherlands
Canada	New Zealand
China	Norway
Cuba	*Panama
Czechoslovakia	Philippines
Denmark	Poland
*Dominican Republic	*Rumania
Ecuador	Siam
*El Salvador	Sweden
Finland	Turkey
*France	Union of South Africa
*French Indochina (before war, limited to propertied women)	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
*Guatemala	United Kingdom
*Hungary (before war, limited to women over 30)	United States of America (and territories and possessions)
Iceland	Uruguay
	*Yugoslavia

The following countries grant women limited suffrage:

Argentina (full suffrage in one province, and municipal in one)	Mexico (provincial and municipal suffrage)
Belgium (local suffrage only)	Peru (municipal suffrage)
Bolivia	Portugal (local suffrage and for election to one chamber)
Chile (municipal suffrage)	*Venezuela

The following countries do not grant women suffrage:

Afghanistan	Iran
Colombia	Iraq
Costa Rica	Nicaragua
Egypt	Paraguay
Greece	Saudi-Arabia
Haiti	Switzerland
Honduras	Syria-Lebanon

APPENDIX C—SUFFRAGE FOR WOMEN

It should also be noted that:

Germany: Had had equal suffrage under the Weimar Republic. In recent municipal elections under occupying governments, women were granted equal suffrage.

Indonesia: The Republican Nationalists promised suffrage to women. There is as yet no definite provision for voting, but women hold seats on the Central Executive Committee.

Korea: Also occupied. In the north, equal suffrage has been instituted; in the south, passage of a law providing for universal suffrage is pending.

Spain: Women had equal suffrage under the 1931 Republic.

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

PUBLICATIONS OF THE WOMEN'S BUREAU

For complete list of publications, write the Women's Bureau.

Single copies of these publications—or a small supply for special educational purposes—may be secured through the Women's Bureau without charge, as long as the free supply lasts. These bulletins *may be purchased* direct from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C., at prices listed. A discount of 25 percent on orders of 100 or more copies is allowed. Leaflets may be secured from the Women's Bureau.

Bulletins Available for Distribution, Published Since 1940

No.

157. The Legal Status of Women in the United States of America, January 1938, *United States Summary*. 1941. 89 pp. 15¢. No. 157-A. *Cumulative Supplement*, 1938-1945. 31 pp. 1946. 10¢. Leaflet—Women's Eligibility for Jury Duty. June 1, 1947.
175. Earnings in the Women's and Children's Apparel Industry in the Spring of 1939. 91 pp. 1940. 15¢.
176. Application of Labor Legislation to the Fruit and Vegetable Canning and Preserving Industries. 162 pp. 1940. 20¢.
177. Earnings and Hours in Hawaii, Woman-Employing Industries, 53 pp. 1940. 10¢.
178. Women's Wages and Hours in Nebraska. 51 pp. 1940. 10¢.
180. Employment in Service and Trade Industries in Maine. 30 pp. 1940. 10¢.
182. Employment of Women in the Federal Government, 1923 to 1939. 60 pp. 1941. 10¢.
183. Women Workers in Their Family Environment. (City of Cleveland, State of Utah.) 82 pp. 1941. 15¢.
185. The Migratory Labor Problem in Delaware. 24 pp. 1941. 10¢.
186. Earnings and Hours in Pacific Coast Fish Canneries. 30 pp. 1941. 10¢.
187. Labor Standards and Competitive Market Conditions in the Canned-Goods Industry. 34 pp. 1941. 10¢.
188. Office Work in 5 Cities in 1940:
 - 1, Houston (10¢); 2, Los Angeles (10¢); 3, Kansas City (15¢);
 - 4, Richmond (15¢); 5, Philadelphia (15¢); Chart, Salary Rates in 5 Cities.
189. Part 1. Women's Factory Employment in an Expanding Aircraft Production Program. 12 pp. 1942. 5¢. (See Bull. 192-1.)
Part 4. Employment of and Demand for Women Workers in the Manufacture of Instruments—Aircraft, Optical and Fire-Control, and Surgical and Dental. 20 pp. 1942. 5¢.
190. Recreation and Housing for Women War Workers: A Handbook on Standards. 40 pp. 1942. 10¢.
191. State Minimum-Wage Laws and Orders, 1942: An Analysis. 52 pp. and 6 folders. 1942. 20¢. Supplements through 1946. Mimeo. Progress of Minimum-Wage Legislation, 1943-1945.
192. Reports on employment of women in wartime industries:
 - 1, Aircraft Assembly Plants (10¢); 2, Artillery Ammunition Plants (5¢); 3, Manufacture of Cannon and Small Arms (10¢);
 - 4, Machine Tool Industry (10¢); 5, Steel (10¢); 6, Shipyards (20¢); 7, Foundries (10¢); 8, Army Supply Depots (10¢); 9, Cane-Sugar Refineries (10¢).

APPENDIX C—SUFFRAGE FOR WOMEN

195. Women Workers in Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay. 15 pp. 1942. 5¢.
196. "Equal Pay" for Women in War Industries. 26 pp. 1942. 10¢.
197. Women Workers in Some Expanding Wartime Industries—New Jersey, 1942. 44 pp. 1943. 10¢.
198. Employment and Housing Problems of Migratory Workers in New York and New Jersey Canning Industries, 1943. 35 pp. 1944. 10¢.
199. Successful Practices in the Employment of Nonfarm Women on Farms in the Northeastern States. 44 pp. 1944. 10¢.
200. British Policies and Methods in Employing Women in Wartime. 44 pp. 1944. 10¢.
201. Employment Opportunities in Characteristic Industrial Occupations of Women. 50 pp. 1944. 10¢.
202. State Labor Laws for Women, with Wartime Modifications, Dec. 15, 1944.
- Part I. Analysis of Hour Laws. 110 pp. 1945. 15¢.
- Part II. Analysis of Plant Facilities Laws. 43 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- Part III. Analysis of Regulatory Laws, Prohibitory Laws, Maternity Laws. 12 pp. 1945. 5¢.
- Part IV. Analysis of Industrial Home-Work Laws. 26 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- Part V. Explanation and Appraisal. 66 pp. 1946. 15¢.
203. The Outlook for Women in Occupations in the Medical and Other Health Services.
- No. 1—Physical Therapists. 14 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- No. 2—Occupational Therapists. 15 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- No. 3.—Professional Nurses. 66 pp. 1946. 15¢.
- No. 4—Medical Laboratory Technicians. 10 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- No. 5—Practical Nurses and Hospital Attendants. 20 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- No. 6—Medical Record Librarians. 9 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- No. 7—Women Physicians. 28 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- No. 8—X-Ray Technicians. 14 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- No. 9—Women Dentists. 21 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- No. 10—Dental Hygienists. 17 pp. 1945. 10¢.
- No. 11—Physicians' and Dentists' Assistants. 15 pp. 1946. 10¢.
- No. 12—Trends and Their Effect Upon the Demand for Women Workers. 55 pp. 1946. 15¢.
204. Women's Emergency Farm Service on the Pacific Coast in 1943. 36 pp. 1945. 10¢.
205. Negro Women War Workers. 23 pp. 1945. 10¢.
206. Women Workers in Brazil. 42 pp. 1946. 10¢.
207. The Woman Telephone Worker. 38 pp. 1946. 10¢.
- 207-A. Typical Women's Jobs in the Telephone Industry. 52 pp. 1947. 15¢.
208. Women's Wartime Hours of Work—The Effect on their Factory Performance and Home Life. 187 pp. 1947. 35¢.
209. Women Workers in Ten War Production Areas and Their Postwar Employment Plans. (Springfield-Holyoke, Baltimore, Dayton-Springfield, Detroit-Willow Run, Kenosha, Wichita, Mobile, Seattle-Tacoma, San Francisco-Oakland, and Erie County, N. Y.) 56 pp. 1946. 15¢.

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

210. Women Workers in Paraguay. 16 pp. 1946. 10¢.
211. Employment of Women in the Early Postwar Period, with Background of Prewar and War Data. 14 pp. 1946. 10¢.
212. Industrial Injuries to Women. 20 pp. 1947. 10¢.
213. Women Workers in Peru. (In press.)
214. Maternity-Benefits Under Union-Contract Health Insurance Plans. 19 pp. 1947. 10¢.
215. Women Workers in Power Laundries. 71 pp. 1947. 20¢.
216. Women Workers After VJ-Day in One Community—Bridgeport, Conn. 37 pp. 1947. 15¢.
217. International Documents on the Status of Women. (Instant publication.)
218. Women's Occupations Through Seven Decades. (In press.)
219. Earnings of Women Factory Workers, 1946. (In press.)

Special Bulletins

No.

2. Lifting and Carrying Weights by Women in Industry. Rev. 1946. 12 pp. 5¢.
3. Safety Clothing for Women in Industry. 11 pp. 1941. 10¢. Supplements: Safety Caps for Women Machine Operators. 4 pp. 1944. 5¢. Safety Shoes for Women War Workers. 4 pp. 1944. 5¢.
4. Washing and Toilet Facilities for Women in Industry. 11 pp. 1942. 5¢.
10. Women's Effective War Work Requires Good Posture. 6 pp. 1943. 5¢.
13. Part-Time Employment of Women in Wartime. 17 pp. 1943. 10¢.
14. When You Hire Women. 16 pp. 1944. 10¢.
15. Community Services for Women War Workers. 11 pp. 1944. 5¢.
19. The Industrial Nurse and the Woman Worker. 47 pp. 1944. 10¢.
20. Changes in Women's Employment During the War. 29 pp. 1944. 10¢.
(Chart based on statistical data also available.)

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Protect Future Wage Levels Now (on minimum-wage legislation). 1946.

Unemployment Compensation—How It Works for Working Women. 1945.

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