

Women's International Council of Socialist and Labour Organisations  
(BRITISH SECTION).

~~Chairman—Miss Margaret Bondfield.~~ *Dr. Marian Phillips*  
~~Vice-Chairmen—Mrs. C. M. Wilson, Miss Mary Macarthur.~~  
~~Treasurer—Dr. Ethel Bentham.~~  
~~International Correspondent—Mrs. Fenton Macpherson, "Glady," Eiskard Gardens, Blackheath, London, S.E.~~ *Mrs. Baker,*  
~~Hon. Secretary—Miss Mary Longman, 3, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.~~ *88, Hertford Rd.*  
*E. Finchley.*  
*23.10.14. London, N*

Dear Comrade,

It has seemed impossible to keep in touch with International Secretaries on the Continent since this terrible war broke out, but none the less do we feel the same sisterly feelings, and would willingly stretch our hands towards you.

Enclosed is the manifesto agreed to by the British Section at our last meeting. We shall be so glad if you can arrange to have it published in your newspapers. If you can manage to send a copy to Germany, Austria, Hungary, Bohemia, or Austrian Poland, we shall be very grateful as it is almost impossible for us to send direct.

Hoping that it will not be so very long before we can work again together for uplifting the downtrodden and resisting the power of capitalism,

I am,

Yours fraternally,

*H. Jennie Baker.*  
*rep. m.*

THE MESSAGE OF THE WORKING WOMEN OF  
GREAT BRITAIN.

To our sisters of other Nations;--

This year the British Section of the Women's International Council of Socialist and Labour Organisations holds its annual meeting in a time of international calamity. Our sisters and fellow workers in other lands mourn as we do the devastation of France and Belgium and Eastern Prussia and Galicia. The loss of homes, the flight of terror-stricken women and children, the news of killed and wounded men, is a grief to us all, no matter to what nation we belong. In the war which has come upon us with such sudden ferocity we see the outbreak of old barbarities, and we feel that in this climax we must make sure that this will be the last time that the militarists of Europe will send the workers to meet death.

Capitalism, class domination, the failure to realise the full power of democracy, have brought upon us a more terrible war than history can record.

Women, shut out as they are from full participation in political action, cannot bear the same responsibility as men, when we come to weigh up the causes for this struggle. But though an equal share of responsibility is not theirs, the burden of the war itself falls upon them with even greater weight. The Labour and Socialist women of this country will work unceasingly to bring about a peace which shall be lasting, a peace that shall bring with it the hope that this shall be the last war, that secret diplomacy shall end, and a United States of Europe based on free and equal citizenship of rich and poor, and of men and women shall emerge from the wreckage of today. They look forward to a time when once again working women of all nations shall send their messages of fraternal greeting freely across the frontiers, and when the unity of the International movement, which for the moment seems broken, shall be bound again in the indissoluble bond wrought by the willing cooperation of free nations.

The women of Great Britain, seeing the distress which war has already brought to the working people of this country, yet realise that their lot is better than that of the invaded countries of Europe, and that the women of conscript countries must suffer far more than they do. In these few words of greeting to women overseas, they send their message of sympathy and friendship, and their hope for a future unstained by the barbarities of war.

(signed) Marion Phillips, Chairman,

Mary Longman, Secretary, on behalf of  
the Women's International Council of  
Socialist and Labour Organisations.  
(British Section).