

MINUTES OF EMERGENCY MEETING OF COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR  
CHILD EMIGRATION HELD AT OVER-SEAS LEAGUE ON MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1951, 2.15 p.m.

PRESENT: Major Cyril Bavin, Miss M. Canning, Major Arthur Carr, Miss M.L. Coleman, Miss Vera Grenfell, Mr. J.C. Greenwood, General Hawthorn, Mr. R. Plenderleith, Mr. W.R. Vaughan, Mr. A. Whitelaw and the Hon. Secretary, Miss D.R. Hall.

APOLOGIES: Colonel Clegg, the Reverend L. Cameron, Mr. T.F. Tucker.

REPORT OF WOMEN'S GROUP ON PUBLIC WELFARE:

The Meeting had been called for the express purpose of deciding whether the Council should take steps to deny the erroneous allegations made in certain sections of the Press regarding exploitation of child emigrants. After discussion, it was the general feeling of the members that to enter into correspondence with the Press at this stage would serve no useful purpose. Major Bavin mentioned that he had been in telephone communication with Miss Homer, the present Hon. Secretary of the Child Emigration Committee of the Women's Group on Public Welfare. Miss Homer had undertaken to write to Reynolds Newspaper contradicting the statements which had been made but nothing had appeared in the subsequent issue. Miss Homer had said that if Reynolds did not take action the Group might consider consulting their Solicitor.

Members of the Council agreed that the matter be taken up with the Women's Group on Public Welfare and that the following letter be sent, as from the Council:

"The attention of this Council has been drawn to reviews in some sections of the Press in regard to your publication 'Child Emigration'. We gather you are refuting these misleading and distorted statements and we would like to know the result of your action."

It was also agreed that a list of the Organisations represented on the Council be sent with the letter.

The Report of the Women's Group on Public Welfare was then tabled and the Recommendations, pages 59/62, were discussed, point by point. It was agreed that the Recommendations, with the comments made at the meeting, be circulated to Members before the next meeting.

DELEGATION TO HOME OFFICE:

A suggestion was made that a representative delegation from the Council should go to the Home Office before their regulations governing emigration of children were finalised. It was agreed that this matter be placed on the Agenda for the meeting due to be held on April 3rd, with the recommendation that two members be nominated from the Council.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman