FOREWORD

The 8th International Conference of Social Work held in Munich in August 1956 was the fifth in the series of biennial meetings which have been held in different countries since the end of the Second World War. It was preceded by similar gatherings in New York, Paris, Madras and Toronto, each of which marked an important stage in the development of the Conference as an international forum for the discussion of basic policy and methods in social work.

This record of the proceedings in Munich assembles the addresses given at Plenary Sessions, together with brief résumés of Commissions and Study Groups which formed an important part of the Conference organization. It should prove to be of lasting value, not only to the nearly 3,000 individuals who were present, but also to other social workers in many parts of the world who are anxious to keep in touch with new thought and practice.

The Munich Conference was the largest of its kind which had ever been held and brought together representatives of over fifty countries in large or small delegations, including experienced social workers and administrators as well as many younger people who were attending an international meeting for the first time. The success of the meetings was the result of much hard and prolonged preparation by many people in different countries and especially of the zeal and devotion of the German Committee under the leadership of Professor Muthesius. We shall long remember the stirring scenes in Munich, the cordial hospitality of our hosts and the untiring efforts of organization set in splendid surroundings.

This report does not offer any final conclusion on the great theme which is its subject, but it is unique in the range of the topics discussed and provides an invaluable guide to the thought and practice of social work today. It will reveal how much each country can draw from the experience of others and how closely linked even the most backward
territory is with those countries which have achieved the highest levels of industrial development. Each can learn from the other, at least the advanced countries from the new approaches in those areas where industrialization is beginning to make its first great impact.

In a world which is still tragically divided by political and national rivalries the cause which the International Conference seeks to serve grows in significance. Those who have been closely concerned with its development are deeply impressed with the basic identity of purpose which animates social work and which unfailingly secures, at all meetings, a spirit of concord and friendship. During the eight years which I have had the honour to be President of the Conference I have seen this spirit increasing year by year and the links between countries strengthened. There is a general acceptance of the basic principles of social work and of the need for continued and disciplined effort. Much has been achieved, but the untilled field remains vast and requires a still greater diffusion of skill and understanding.

This report is in itself justification for the faith that the International Conference can make an outstanding contribution to a growing world unity of effort in social affairs. The report represents a considerable achievement in bringing together some of the best experience and thinking which is available on industrial and social problems; but its greatest value lies in the extent to which it can provoke new thought and action and stimulate in all countries a renewed determination to see that economic and industrial planning is accompanied by an adequate appraisal of social needs.

It remains for me to express the cordial thanks of the Conference to all who have contributed to the production of this volume. Special thanks are due to the Editorial Committee — and especially to Mr. Richard Clements, Professor Violet Sieder, and Dr. Gabriele Winterkorn who have been responsible for the final assembly and editing of the material. The German Committee has placed the Conference still further in its debt by accepting responsibility for its publication.

George E. Haynes

PLenary SESSION NO. I

INAUGURAL MEETING

ADDRESSES OF WELCOME

HANS MUTHESIUS

President of the German National Committee of the International Conference of Social Work.

I have the honour to welcome you here cordially in the name of the German National Committee of the International Conference of Social Work. I look upon this both as an honour and a pleasure, especially because you have accepted in such great number the invitation of our esteemed President, Mr. Haynes, to come here from all parts of the world. I am sure that the subject dominating the Conference, intitled “Industrialization and its effect on Social Work for Family and Community”, has brought forth this response.

The organizers of the Conference have decided upon the subject with rare skill and foresight and they have thereby indeed seized upon one of the main problems of mankind. Is it not a fact that the tremendous pace of technical progress keeps confronting us with a multitude of new social problems? Do not all of us find that the technical power of humanity has outstripped its capacity for social adaptation? It has indeed become a main problem for humanity whether it will succeed in combining social progress with technical development. This simple formula sets the main theme for the Conference. It is my earnest wish and sincere hope that this Conference may produce a decisive contribution to this end.
On behalf of the City of Munich and of Chief Mayor Wimmer who regrets being prevented from attending this meeting, I have the honour of welcoming you mostly heartily to our town and of assuring you of our gratification at your choice of Munich as the scene of this Conference.

The subject of your Conference, “Industrialization and its effect on Social Work for Family and Community”, which has induced three thousand sociologists and social workers, from more than fifty countries, to come to Munich, is one of great practical importance for our city.

Up to 1940 approximately, Munich’s trade and industry was, in general, characterized by the predominance of small concerns and by prosperous handicrafts. In the course of World War II, and especially since the end of the war, Munich’s importance as a centre of industrial production has increased steadily due to the development of concerns existing in Munich and the establishment here of additional large plants by firms from outside.

One of the results of this development is a considerable growth of Munich’s population which may be attributed exclusively to influx. In 1939 the population totalled 824,000 persons. During the war this figure diminished to about 480,000. Soon after Germany’s defeat Munich’s population began again to increase rapidly due to the influx of refugees or exiles and to the return of German ex-servicemen and evacuated Munchener; and amounted in 1948 to 800,000 persons. Since that time the population of Munich has increased by from 20 to 30,000 persons a year and will total one million in the course of this year. Owing to this rapid growth the municipality of Munich is confronted by many serious problems. One of the most urgent tasks to be solved after Germany’s defeat was the removal of enormous amounts of debris from the city area. It was coupled with the reconstruction of the city which has made rapid progress since the currency reform. Not only have the more than 81,000 apartments destroyed by bombs been replaced; the total of apartments now available exceeds by far the comparable prewar figure. Despite this fact the shortage of housing in Munich has been relieved but not remedied definitely.

Apart from the construction of housing the City of Munich has considered it to be a foremost social duty to build up-to-date homes for the aged and day-nurseries for children, to repair or rebuild its elementary and part-time vocational schools, and to modernize its hospitals. On the whole, about 100 million marks have been spent on these projects since 1948; 17 per cent of the city’s budget is being spent on social or welfare services. About 17 million DM a year are spent on non-institutional welfare, and about 6 million DM on institutional welfare.

Not all our social problems have yet been solved. The fact that our population is above the average age leads us to seek new methods for the social care of elderly people. The increasing number of gainfully employed mothers calls for the establishment of additional day-nurseries for children. More attention has to be paid to social work among the young; workers have to be compensated in their leisure hours for the increasing usurpation of working processes by machinery. I am sure that our town, too, will benefit by many a suggestion made or conclusion drawn in the course of this Conference.

Munich is famous throughout the world as a centre of the arts and for its specific atmosphere, its way of life which, informed by the interplay of art and international understanding, may be considered an art in itself. I hope that you will all feel this spirit. I hope also that the Conference, despite the exacting demands its programme may make on your time and concentration, will permit you to enjoy the beauty of Munich and its environs, with which fortune was kind enough to present us.

May I finally express my hope that your Conference every detail of which is of great interest and worthy of close attention, will be an outstanding success.
In the name of the Bavarian Government I have the honour to welcome you most cordially to our Bavarian capital. The Government and people of Bavaria deem it a great honour that the Presidency of the International Conference of Social Work has resolved to hold this assembly in our country.

When the German National Committee of the Conference approached the Bavarian Government with a request to make part in the preparation and organization of the Conference, we endeavoured as a matter of course to comply with this to the best of our ability.

Our action was founded on two distinct considerations. The subject of your Conference, Industrialization and Social Work, is intimately connected with the economic and social situation characterizing Bavarian territory. In the past Bavaria was chiefly an agrarian country. During the past twenty or thirty years, and particularly after World War II, conditions changed fundamentally owing to the influx of refugees and a general regrouping of the population. During this period Bavaria’s industrial potential has developed in a measure which could not be foretold.

The social problems arising in connection with this form the subject, to a large extent, of your deliberations which will investigate the position of the family and the community in industrial society both in those territories where a highly developed industry is already in existence and in areas where industrialization is only in its early stages. For this particular reason we greatly welcome your choice of Bavaria as the place for your Conference, and I trust that you will allow me now to add the second reason why I believe that your decision was a most fortunate one. Such a world-wide assembly calls for an appropriate setting and we are certain that our country meets these requirements.

You may have read, or indeed you may know from earlier visits, that Bavaria is a country with a fine tradition of culture. Our theatres, museums, palaces and other places of artistic interest undoubtedly—I think I may say so without presumption—enjoy international recognition. As an additional factor I may say that Bavaria offers great beauty of landscape and many other gracious aspects. In order to
3. Countries Represented at the 8th Assembly of the International Conference of Social Work

Argentina
Australia
Austria
Belgium
Brazil
Burma
Canada
Ceylon
Chile
Costa Rica
Cuba
Czechoslovakia
Denmark
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Finland
Formosa
France
Germany
Greece
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Jordan
Korea (South)
Lebanon
Luxembourg
Malaya
Mexico
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Panama
Peru
Philippines
Portugal
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Syria
Thailand
Turkey
Union of South Africa
United Kingdom
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela

4. International Organizations Represented at the 8th Assembly of the International Conference of Social Work

International Labour Office
United Nations
United Nations Children’s Fund
UNESCO
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
United Nations Relief Works Agency
World Health Organization
Pan American Union (Section of Social Work)
Committee for Technical Cooperation in Africa South of the Sahara
Catholic International Union for Social Service
International Association of Schools of Social Work
International Conference of Catholic Charities
International Council of Nurses
International Council of Women
International Social Service
International Society for the Welfare of Cripples
International Union for Child Welfare
International Union of Family Organizations
League of Red Cross Societies
Salvation Army
World Confederation for Physical Therapy
World Council of Churches
World Federation of United Nations Associations
World Alliance of Young Men’s Christian Associations
World Alliance of Young Women’s Christian Associations
5. International Conference of Social Work
Permanent Committee
Minutes
August 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 9th, 1956, Exhibition Grounds,
Munich, Germany

Attendance
Miss B. Battle
Mrs. E. Sailer
*Mlle. S. de Nave
M. J. Nihon
*U Ba Kin
U Khin
Dr. L. C. Mancini
(Vice-President)
Dr. M. A. Arozio
Miss C. Hayward
Miss M. Smith
*M. J. Guérin-Desjardins
Professor J. Parisot
Dr. Scheffler
*Professor H. Mutthesius
Mrs. K. Stasinopolou
Mrs. E. Leoludas
Dr. G. Colucci
*Mrs. J. Lupinacci
Prof. Y. Nakamura
Mr. Y. Otsuki
Mrs. A. Makinen-Ollinen
Mr. Halluoto
Mrs. Hansa Mehta
Mrs. G. Billimoria
(Asst. Treas. General)

Australia
Austria
Belgium
Belgium
Burma
Burma
Brazil
Canada
Canada
France
France
Germany
Germany
Greece
Greece
Italy
Italy
Japan
Japan
Finland
Finland
India
India

Officers and Executive Committee Members
Mr. George E. Haynes (United Kingdom)
Dr. George F. Davidson (Canada)
Mr. M. P. Goutos (Greece)
Mr. Harry Carey (United States)
M. R. Monnin (France)
Dr. D. S. Hovard (United States)
Mr. Joe R. Holder
*Mlle. I. de Hurtado
Mr. B. Chatterjee
Miss Ruth Williams
Miss M. Stilliard

Netherlands
Pakistan
Pakistan
Switzerland
United States
United States
Yugoslavia
Yugoslavia
United Kingdom
United Kingdom

President
Vice-President
Vice-President
Assistant Treasurer-General
Assistant Treasurer-General
Executive Committee Member
Secretary-General
Asst. Secretary-General for Europe
Asst. Secretary-General for Southeast Asia and the Middle East
Executive Officer
Assistant to the President

Observers
Dr. R. Pense

Secretary, German National Committee
United Nations
World Health Organization
Pan-American Union
Catholic International Union for Social Service
Catholic International Union for Social Service

*M. Members of Executive Committee
The minutes of the last meeting held in Toronto on June 26, 27, and 28, 1954, were confirmed and signed.

5. Arising on the Minutes

Mlle. de Nave referred to relationships with international N. G. O.’s (item IX of the agenda). The President confirmed that, as agreed at Toronto, there would be only one form of associate membership of the Conference; a proposal to amend the reference to affiliation in the Constitution would arise later on the agenda.

The Secretary-General reported that, as set out in Attachment 8 to the agenda, 23 international organizations in the social welfare field had been invited to become associate members. In addition to those indicated as interested in doing so, the International Union for Child Welfare and the International Conference of Catholic Charities had agreed to accept.

6. Plans for Munich meeting

The President reported that about 2,600 people would be present from 54 countries. He felt it was very gratifying that, with its small part-time staff, the secretariat was able to carry out such an operation and nothing he could say would adequately express his appreciation of what the host countries achieved in receiving the world meetings of the Conference. For the present Conference great care had been taken by the staff and the German Committee in planning this large scale combined operation.

Dr. Pense outlined for the benefit of the meeting the arrangements made to deal with registration, housing, information, meeting rooms, transportation, visits, films, exhibits, etc.

The President made a report on speakers, chairmen and other program participants and on arrangements for the 20 Study Groups. The Secretary-General reported on the allocation of administrative responsibilities among the staff and officers. Dr. Sark, as chairman of the Program Committee, described the efforts which had been made to relate the discussions at Commissions and Study Groups as closely as possible to the theme of the Conference. It had been agreed that three rapporteurs, each covering a section of the Study Groups, should present their impressions to the plenary session on Friday; in addition, the German Committee had undertaken to have prepared, in English, French and German, a brief report on the discussion of each of the 20 Study Groups which would be distributed at this session.
The Committee considered the amendments proposed by the Executive Committee which had been circulated.

1. **Section IV, 2. (c).** That the word “Governor” be replaced by the word “Convenor”.
   Moved by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Astbury, and carried.

2. **Section IV, 2. (b).** That the word “affiliated” be replaced by the word “associated”.
   Moved by Mlle. de Nave, seconded by U Ba Kin, and carried.

3. **Section IV, 2. (f).** That the words “The responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall be” be replaced by the following:
   "The functions of the Executive Committee are subordinate to those of the Permanent Committee. It is the function of the Executive Committee to carry out the policies laid down by the Permanent Committee; to supervise the management of the affairs of the organization between meetings of the Permanent Committee; and to bring to the Permanent Committee, as the governing body of the organization, all matters of administration and finance which require its decision and/or approval. All responsibilities delegated to the Executive Committee are subject to the Permanent Committee's periodic sanction, limitation and amendment. Within the terms and spirit of this mandate, the responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall be . . . ."

Mr. Howard moved as an amendment the omission of the words "which require its decision and/or approval" in Section IV, 3(f). The amendment was seconded by Dr. van Dam, put to the meeting and carried.

The resolution as amended was moved by Dr. Pulic, seconded by M. Guérin-Desjardins and carried. The text of the amended Constitution appears in Attachment 1.

### 8. Appointment of Subcommittees

Dr. Colucci moved and Miss Hoey seconded the resolution that three subcommittees be appointed to deal with certain items of the agenda and report back. The resolution was put to the meeting and carried.

It was further agreed that the subcommittees be appointed by the President who should also appoint their Chairmen. The President appointed the Subcommittees as follows:

#### A. Finances — Item VIII

- Miss B. Battle (Australia)
- Mrs. K. Stasinopolou (Greece)
- Miss C. Hayward (Canada)
- Mrs. G. Billimoria (India)

Mr. Howard proposed, it was agreed that item III of the agenda, Report on Administrative Developments, should be considered by all three subcommittees as well as by the full Committee.
9. Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members

The report of the Nominating Committee was circulated and appreciation was expressed to M. Guevin-Desjardins for his work as Chairman, and to the ten members in different parts of the world who had helped to prepare the report.

On Item 5 of the Report, it was agreed that the newly elected Executive Committee should meet on Saturday and that old members be present to take part in the discussion but not to vote.

On Item 9, it was understood that the representative of international interests on the Executive Committee did not count against the limitation on people from different countries to serve on the Committee. It was pointed out that Miss Palmer, although proposed by the Canadian Committee, was from the United States.

It was agreed that a discussion should take place on the Nominating Committee’s report but that a vote be postponed until the following day.

In reply to a question from Mlle. de Nave, the President stated that each National Committee had two votes and that members of the Executive Committee did not have separate votes in cases where they were also serving as National Committee representatives. It was agreed to consider later whether clause IV, 2, (h) of the Constitution should be amended to make this point clear.

Dr. Howard suggested that the rules for the Nominating Committee in the future might make provision for consultation on the representation of international interests with international organizations beyond those which were associate members. It was agreed to consider this point at the meeting on the following day.

10. Report on Administrative Developments

The Secretary-General spoke to his administrative report which had been circulated. The most important development since Toronto had been the increased activities undertaken with no increase in staff. It was essential to preserve the balance between the small secretariat and the considerable amount of voluntary work done by the officers and certain National Committees and individuals. One of the unique attributes of the International Conference was the delegation of responsibility, but it was now a question whether this balance could be preserved with a growing organization. One of the weaknesses throughout the life of the Conference had been the weakness of its lines of communication; it was often impossible to make personal contacts and it was therefore essential to depend upon letters and the yearly meetings of the Executive Committee. It had fortunately been possible during the past years through the organization of study tours, for the staff to make several visits to National Committees. Mr. Hoffer suggested it would be helpful if the Permanent Committee could face the basic problem of whether the Conference could continue as a part-time volunteer organization.

Mlle. de Huttard gave a brief résumé of the position in Europe where several National Committees had strengthened their work and new Committees had been formed in Germany, Austria, Egypt, the Lebanon, Syria and Turkey. There were hopes that Committees would be formed shortly in Spain and Sweden.

Mr. B. Chatterjee reported on the work of the Southeast Asia Regional Office which, during the period under review, had published the Proceedings of the Madras and Toronto Conferences and the biennial journal “Social Welfare in Southeast Asia”. New National Committees had been formed in Australia and Pakistan; Ceylon, the Philippines and Indonesia were working towards the formation of a National Conference of Social Work in their countries; Singapore, New Zealand and Hong Kong hoped to set up National Committees as soon as possible. The regional office had taken part in various seminars and international meetings. Some countries were unfortunately only able to make a token financial contribution and it would be difficult to continue the Southeast Asia Office beyond 1957/58 unless further funds were forthcoming. Mr. Chatterjee felt it was important that there should be understanding between the various kinds of international organizations which were trying to set up National Committees.

Miss J. Albano reported on the cooperation of the Pan-American Union in stimulating the programs of the I.C.S.W. in Latin America where there was no regional office. For the first time at Toronto there had been a good attendance from Latin America and since then the P.A.U. had worked closely with the New York office. Out of 20 countries, 5 were active and in addition 7 countries had some kind of provisional committee. Ten countries would be represented in Munich and a meeting would be convened during the week to discuss methods of stimulating their participation.

Mr. Goutos proposed that the possibility be considered of holding regional conferences in the intervals of world meetings of the I.C.S.W.

Miss Hoey asked whether it was possible to use more fully the existing organizations, such as the regional offices of the U.N. and the bodies with which the I.C.S.W. had a common interest, in the same way as the P.A.U.

The Secretary-General reported that it was proposed to hold, on August 8, a meeting on the role and contributions of National Committees, to be reconvened on Thursday if desired after separate meetings.

Dr. Sark suggested that two aspects of the work of the I.C.S.W. should be borne in mind — what countries could contribute to the Conference