

APPENDIX II

"An open letter to the women of the world from the woman 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 peacefully 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, representing 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 in 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 community, 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: first, to recognize the progress women have made during the war, and participate actively in the effort to improve the standards 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; second, to train their children, boys and girls alike, to understand world problems and the need for international co-operation, as well as the problems of their own countries; third, not to permit themselves to be misled by anti-democratic movements now or in the future; fourth, 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 towards which the women of the world should assist one another."

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (570 copies), £75

By Authority: E. V. PAUL, Government Printer, Wellington.—1946.

Price 1s. 3d.]