

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

BULLETIN

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... there are those who care ...

Philadelphia, Pa.
November, 1956

Dear Friends:

Like most of you, at this time of the year those of us in the AFSC begin to think about the Christmas season and its emphasis on giving.

In this issue of the Bulletin we call your attention to the varied ways in which your contributions as adults and children make possible a widespread program touching youngsters scattered over the world, including our own country.

We do not presume that our efforts can ever meet their needs completely, but we do feel that they provide a channel through which an impressive number of concerned individuals may participate in these adventures in international understanding.

I am sure you can agree with me that directly and indirectly these programs reach to the heart of many of the perplexing problems that keep people apart. Think for a moment of some of the examples: the ill-housed Korean child, the lonely hospitalized paralytic, the ragged child in Southern Italy, the youngster in a segregated classroom, or an undernourished child in India.

Conditions such as these can breed bitterness toward all of humanity. But that need not happen. A child's inborn

ability to love and be loved leaves no room for prejudices or hatred. Yet, adults by forfeit may permit a child's love to suffer corrosion.

One approach to problems growing out of such conditions is through projects which can help some of the world's unfortunate children know that there are those who care. Many of our children are learning to make positive responses to the needs of others as they participate in AFSC-sponsored activities.

Our children's programs, like most others we have, are year-round undertakings that have meaning far beyond the short period we devote to celebration of the Saviour's birth.

Not only are our children growing progressively more aware of the need for friendship and fellowship; adults through their clubs, organizations and businesses are helping. Just a few weeks ago a large manufacturing firm directed its Christmas gift to aid our work among American Indian children.

We hope you will want to have a continuing part in some of these jobs which we earnestly pray may speed us toward universal peace and brotherhood.

Sincerely your friend,

Lewis M. Hookins

Executive Secretary

Quaker Mission Visits Trumbull Park

Continuing a three-year concern for the troubles growing out of the integration of Trumbull Park in Chicago, a delegation of Friends visited the city recently to get a first-hand view of the problem.

The mission, which included three persons from Philadelphia and three from Chicago, was another move in the long-range activity of the Chicago Regional Office and Friends in that city who have watched the situation closely since the first Negro family moved into the project in 1953.

During the three years of violence and tension in the community Chicago Friends and AFSC staff have through visits and other action tried to help local agencies and other groups bring peace to the community.

The mission, headed by Clarence Pickett, offered some suggestions based on their "effort to take a new look at the troubles" of Trumbull Park and South Deering communities.

They concluded that "the greatest need now is to restore the freedom and morale of the Negro residents" of the housing project.

Other Philadelphia Friends in the mission were Helen Baker and Lucy P. Carner. Chi-

cago members were R. Ogden Hannaford, G. Nicholas Poster and George Watson.

Earlier Clarence Pickett had led a delegation of three persons who had carried a message of "love and goodwill" to opposing factions in the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott. That group represented the Peace Committee of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Europe, Middle East Needs Increase

The need for material aids and funds to ship and process them expanded sharply following recent outbreaks of violence in East Europe and the Middle East.

Ed Meyerding, director of the AFSC refugee and loan program in Vienna, quickly organized a Quaker team of staff and volunteers to handle emergency needs among thousands of refugees from Hungary.

Special gifts of baby food and layettes were airlifted to Vienna for immediate distribution.

Ed Meyerding said, "the future need is likely to be tremendous."

The AFSC seeks material aids and funds to replenish the supplies in Austria and enable it to meet prior and increasing requests for relief in Europe and elsewhere.

The Quaker team in Acre, an Arab city in Israel, lent stability by remaining on the scene

during the Sinai Peninsula fighting. The AFSC continues its aid to refugees in several Arab countries.



Allen White

Quaker-distributed material aids helped these Hungarian refugees in Vienna.

COVER PHOTO

Neighbors in a Philadelphia suburb celebrate after trimming a "Mitten Tree." This photo is used through the courtesy of the *Farm Journal*.

U. S. CHILDREN LEARN FRIENDSHIP IN SHARING

Even from a foreign aid view, United States children have an impressive record of response to AFSC projects planned for them. Mittens warm thousands of little hands in foreign lands, and nickels help provide better housing for Korean refugees.

But the heart of the program is even deeper. These gifts are tangible demonstrations of the friendship children have for each other—friendship transcending the man-made barriers which keep them strangers.

This youthful concern for the less fortunate in the last year netted over 43,000 pairs of mittens and more than 12,000 pounds of school supplies, sewing materials and clothing. Children all over America happily trimmed "Mitten Trees," frolicked as "Friendly Beggars" on Halloween, found ingenious ways of earning money to share and gained equal satisfaction in other service activities.

This year the mitten harvest is expected to be even larger. A pre-season collection by the Connecticut State Grange gathered about 2,000 pairs, and now they want to start another project. Many more are expected from the colorful forest which will grow again this year in department stores, banks, churches of all denominations, YM and YWCA's, homes for the aged, schools and private homes.

Korean Houses Built

Through other friendship projects the AFSC received school supplies, clothing and money for needs common to children everywhere. Last year cash contributions from American children totaled more than \$8,552.84. Of that sum over \$6,409 helped build 60 houses in Kunsan, Korea. Previous gifts had helped construct 110 houses.

Not only is there concern for friendship across international boundaries, but new efforts to meet needs at home are capturing youthful imaginations.

A note from a midwestern school for handicapped children spoke clearly and simply the sender's sincere thanks for a

greeting. The laboriously written words and erratic letters suggested a physical handicap. The young boy has cerebral palsy.

He is one of more than 5,000 children in more than a dozen institutions across this country who received a friendship card sent by other children who made them, adding to their greeting a gift of a comb or handkerchief.

One of the several service opportunities for children is the "Friendly Beggar" project. On Halloween this year more than 20,000 children who formerly harassed neighborhoods with "trick or treat" antics, collected useful gifts for others instead of demanding hand-outs for themselves.

The children's program offers projects grouped by seasons and holidays in these packets: "Springtime is Sharing Time," "Summer Service," "It's Halloween," "Christmas Sharing," and "Valentine's Day." Other packets are "Korean Houses" and "As Children Share."

New Book List Ready

The packets suggest various projects for making or collecting articles and earning or saving money. The suggestions are geared to the interests of boys and girls of different ages. Related pictures, stories, games, assembly programs and worship materials enrich each suggested project, helping to give it greater depth and meaning.

And to promote appreciation of different nations and cultures the program has just published a new edition of "Books are Bridges." This bibliography of children's books is a cooperative venture of the American Friends Service Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. It is available from AFSC offices for 25 cents.

About 400 titles have been carefully selected by a jury of editors, teachers, librarians and parents. They were chosen not only for the facts that they present but also for the attitudes of friendliness and goodwill they may establish.

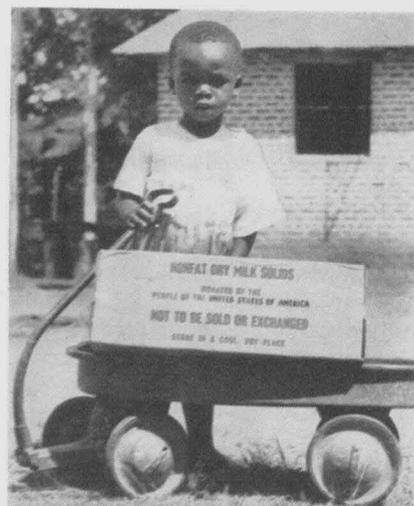
Friendship cards bring cheer to youngsters at a children's hospital.

Jules Schick



Dave Myers

Drawing lessons are fun at an AFSC village project in Mexico.



Onni Rauhan

In Kenya an orphan boy watches over a carton of U.S. government surplus dried milk sent by AFSC.





Bless These Thy Children

Nothing is more heartening to a person close to the American Friends Service Committee than the responsiveness of children—the wonderment over a story book, the joy of creating a new object, the adoration of a live animal, the delight in a new pair of mittens, the uninhibited appreciation of a glass of milk. Nearly every program of the Committee touches the lives of children and we are glad. For our lives in turn are touched with a new vitality that reaches into all a

Don Noel

JAPAN—Children at a Tokyo neighborhood center celebrate Christmas with a nativity play.

ITALY—A woodshop provides needed recreational opportunities for youth at a village center.

Ted Castle





ISRAEL—Better health is possible because this infant's mother brings him to a clinic sponsored by the AFSC.

F. Schlesinger

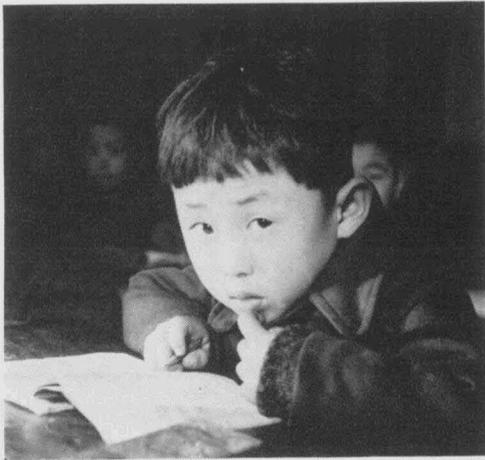


U.S.A.—An American Indian girl, and her hostess for a vacation visit, find they have much in common.

Gil Cooper

KOREA—Books and supplies from America enrich the life of this refugee lad.

Ted Conant



INDIA—An AFSC village development worker encouraged these girls to learn traditional Indian crafts.

Prem Prakesh



FRANCE—This student plans to write about his pet to friends in his AFSC affiliated school in faraway America.



Ted Castle

YOUTH CARAVANS SPARK PEACE INTEREST; MEMBERS DISCOVER NEW PERSONAL CONVICTIONS

One afternoon last summer four college-age young people arrived at Quarryville, Pennsylvania. One was a young German who had been a social worker in Berlin. Another was a young Friend from the University of Delaware. A third, an American Negro girl, Roman Catholic, had been in an over-

The two caravans, sponsored by the Middle Atlantic Regional Office of the AFSC, stayed from three to seven days in a community as guests of local citizens. Before starting the tour, they attended special orientation sessions at the College Institute of International Relations at Ithaca College Camp,

ing with this question in the South?" they asked.

A principal aim of the caravans is to stimulate thinking and possibly community action for peace. But there are also values for the participants. Frequently they discover within themselves new strength and hope for reconciliation among men.

Usually a convinced pacifist is in each group. Last summer one group had a newly naturalized young American, born in France, play that role. He reflected on his experiences during World War II and the pacifist ideal and concluded, "Something should be done to make sure that such things are not going to occur again. It's our duty as Christians."

Early plans are being made by the Middle Atlantic Regional Office which will sponsor Peace Caravans again in 1957. Participants will be sought from all parts of the United States so as to assure wide regional participation. The teams are traditionally inter-racial, international, and inter-faith.



AFSC visual aids were used by the Peace Caravans as they carried their message to civic clubs and other groups.

seas work camp in 1952. A Japanese girl who had studied at Pendle Hill was the fourth.

The four had come for a three-day stay and to discuss, with whoever and wherever they could, peaceful solutions to international problems. These students and their idea comprised a Peace Caravan.

In Quarryville and other communities two caravans filled more than 50 engagements for speeches and discussions in about 25 New York and Pennsylvania towns. They talked before service clubs, church groups, summer camps and on radio and television.

Spencer, N. Y. At the end they gathered to evaluate their experience.

The meaning of the undertaking is indicated in responses made by some of the persons associated with the project.

A Protestant minister said the caravan made a solid contribution to peace education in his community—educationally, socially and spiritually.

Caravaners were impressed with the "brilliant" interest of young people who they thought "have more sound opinions than do adults." A work camp group bombarded the team with questions on the segregation issue. "How can violence be entirely left out in deal-

Latest Publications Describe AFSC Work

BOOKS ARE BRIDGES, a bibliography of about 400 children's books which promote appreciation of different nations and cultures. 25c

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SEMINARS, a folder describing 1956-57 seminars to be held at the United Nations, Washington and Pittsburgh.

WASHINGTON-UNITED NATIONS SEMINARS, descriptive folder of 1956-57 seminars for college students.

WORK AND STUDY PROJECTS, describing summer and year-round projects for young people.

STUDY OUTLINE for "Tradition and Challenge," a book by Harold Chance on the historic peace testimony of the Society of Friends.

A Quaker loan enabled this Austrian refugee to secure chickens and pigs.



Ted Castle

30 MILLION REFUGEES POSE CHALLENGE OF MID-CENTURY

• **AFSC's Role: Working With Individuals to Defeat Despair**

Events in Hungary and the Middle East (erupting after this story was set in type) bring new urgency to the problem of refugees. Thirty million of them are a mid-century legacy.

Concern for new thousands must not make us forget the many others who have known years of insecurity and despair. Each is a person with needs and with ability—like the man reported recently by an AFSC representative in Munich.

He is not a hero, although he defied oppression; not a villain, though perhaps once a prisoner. His wants are normal—a job and a home.

Life had hit him hard for he was a post-TB case when he came to the AFSC placement and resettlement project for refugees in Germany. He was placed as a crane driver for a steel construction firm in Cologne where he could lose his identity as a refugee and become a private German citizen.

Western Germany has about 11 million refugees and the rate increases about 1,000 a day. Elsewhere in the world many more have the same status. Some 670,000 Chinese refugees live in Hong Kong and about two million more on Formosa. Twelve million have been exchanged between Pakistan and India. In Korea and South Viet Nam are many more uprooted millions. The Middle East has about 900,000 Palestinian Arab refugees.

Voluntary agencies—the AFSC is one — supplement international and

governmental service like the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees.

The AFSC dates its refugee activities to the early days of Hitler and problems created by the Spanish Civil War.

To help deal with the mammoth post-war German refugee situation the AFSC established neighborhood centers and sent workers into refugee camps. While large numbers have now been absorbed into national life or helped to emigrate, the AFSC continued to work with the more difficult individual cases, thought by many to be impossible.

Aid Given in Austria

In Austria, where many refugees are farmers, an AFSC program has provided 153 families with loans to purchase livestock, grain and implements to re-establish themselves on rented farms. Recently 46 loans were made to artisans, small businessmen and a few professionals.

Other AFSC programs serve refugees in Korea with a medical program, self-help housing, vocational services and material aids. In France the Paris Friends Center gives counsel and material aids to an average of 250 refugees a month. Clothing and other material aids go to Arab refugees through local agencies in the Middle East.

In the United States Friends have sponsored through the AFSC nearly 900 refugees who have immigrated under the Refugee Relief Act. Leaders in the United States worry because the Refugee Relief Act is due to expire at the end of this year. It is estimated that from 30,000 to 40,000 of the 209,000 visas provided under the act will be unused.

Individuals Can Help

Although the problem is enormous, individuals can give effective help. One way is through contributions to refugee services. Another is by encouraging the government to contribute its full share to the United Nations and other agencies serving refugees.

Perhaps the most important responsibility of the concerned individual is to work for a fair immigration policy and elimination of the quota system.

Sometimes refugee problems continue in a new home. The Pacific Southwest Regional Office helped establish "Our Home" for a group of Russian refugees in Glendora, a Los Angeles County sub-division.

The project started in early 1952 in an abandoned citrus orchard. Now the new citizens have deeds to their lots, are assured roads and utilities and get the same legal protection enjoyed by other owners. They have just added two new streets: St. Vladimir Street and Cossacks Place.

DIPLOMATS CONFERENCE OUTREACH GROWS

Diplomats from five countries expanded the geographical and ideological outreach of the AFSC Conferences for Diplomats held last summer in Clarens, Switzerland.

Foreign office staff members of Egypt, Iraq, Nigeria, Poland and the Soviet Union brought to 35 the total number of nations which have met together during these nine conferences held in Europe and Ceylon.

The presence of the East European participants among the 65 persons in the two Clarens conferences in 1956 added a new dimension. Persons from both East and West were able to discuss their systems with reason, logic and facts.

A majority of those who answered an evaluative questionnaire cited as the most valuable aspects of the informal and unofficial ten-day conferences their opportunity to meet diplomats from other countries, exchange and discuss their views. One of them explained it

this way: "In the ten days in Clarens it was possible to discuss certain crucial issues with a frankness which in normal diplomatic intercourse frequently is only possible after diplomats know each other for a year or more."

Alumni Help Program

An alumnus of the program told a staff member that the conference he attended was "an experience of the passion of goodwill that will help my colleagues and me in our daily work."

The 256 former participants in the program are a resource in recruiting junior diplomats and the smaller group of consultants who are invited to share their wider international experience and understandings. Lloyd Bailey, director of the European conferences, and Paul Johnson, director of Asian conferences, will seek the help of alumni during the next few months as they plan for the 1957 conferences at Clarens and Peradeniya, Ceylon.



Jean Schlemmer

A Conference for Diplomats permits warm and friendly exchanges between a Pakistani, a Yugoslav and a Norwegian.

Paul Johnson was director of the village development program in Jordan until it was terminated earlier this year. He and Jean Johnson expect to arrive in Ceylon next April.

**American Friends Service Committee
20 S. 12th St., Philadelphia 7, Pa.**

THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE, a Quaker organization, attempts to relieve human suffering and to ease tensions between individuals, groups or nations. We believe there is that of God in every man, and that love in action can overcome hatred, prejudice and fear.

Our work is open to anyone regardless of race, religion or nationality. We depend upon your contributions. Checks may be sent to the American Friends Service Committee at any of its offices.