

SUMMER WORK CAMPERS BUILD CENTER FOR TURKISH VILLAGE

The following story is based on a report written by the director of one of three AFSC work camps conducted in Turkey this past summer.

"O.K. HOUSE" is a new community center in a Turkish village called Sam, about 15 kilometers from Gaziantep and near the Syrian border. It was built in six weeks last summer by an AFSC work camp and has two meeting rooms, a library, a kitchen, and a lavatory.

The name evolved during the elbow rubbing between 26 work campers and villagers. "O.K." was a frequently heard reply of the work campers, and the villagers picked it up as a byword—the one English phrase many of them learned. The Turkish equivalent of "O.K. House" is "O.K. Evi."

The center will be used by all groups in the village but it was built particularly for use by a 4K Club, a counterpart of 4H clubs in the United States. The club in the village of Sam is now distinguished by having its own meeting place.

Sam is a village of 220 homes and 1,200 people. It has what is considered an abundant water supply—two springs and one well. It has no electricity. There are few trees and from May to October there is no rain to settle the dust.

Work campers observed that life was fundamental and hard in the village, yet were impressed with its human warmth and hospitality. A Turkish camper said, "When I am in the village, I feel I am getting closer to the meaning of life." The camp director said he was impressed with the simplicity, trust, openness, and generosity that is "humbling to foreigners and to more sophisticated Turks."

The work schedule in the camp was from 6 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m. to avoid the hottest part of the day. Before the campers had adjusted themselves to hard physical labor, they often bogged down from fatigue while digging the foundation. They had to admire the villager who could take a pick and dig deeper and harder in half the time it had taken a work camper. Assistance was welcomed from the villagers who helped with hand mixing of the cement for the structure.

Baby Feeding Demonstrated

At times, when the work schedule permitted, the women of the camp would go off in pairs to conduct baby-feeding demonstrations in the village. Most of the mothers never prepare special food for their children because it is easier and cheaper not to do so. After nursing them for two years, they gradually start them on breads and table foods. Some children make the transition but others cannot and become anemic; many succumb to summer diarrhea and other diseases.

Seventeen feeding demonstrations were conducted for about eight families. The mothers were enthusiastic about the project both for its usefulness and for the comradeship with the work campers and the neighbors.

The village schoolhouse accommodated the girls in the camp but it was not large enough to house the boys, who lived in a large tent. In the group were Turks, Frenchmen, Americans, a German girl, an Indonesian boy, and a Swedish girl.

Evening entertainment included discussions on such topics as "Is Westernization Right or Wrong?" They listened to Turkish speakers talking

about Islam, politics, and agriculture. Weekend trips, folk dancing, and singing were other activities of the group.

A high point of the camp was the final party with the villagers. The group gathered around a bonfire under a full moon. The campers did some of their national songs and dances, and the villagers played some of their games and brought out their most typical instruments—the pipe and the drum.

"We ended the evening with a huge circle dance. We campers were in the habit of ending an evening with a friendship circle and a song, so we turned the dance circle into a crossed-hands friendship circle, sang a song, and said good night. Hearts were warmed that night, well enough to stay warm for a good long time."

DIRECTOR NAMED FOR U.N. WORK

GEORGE LOFT, formerly director of the AFSC Africa Program, began this fall his new duties as director of the Quaker United Nations Program in New York. He replaces Elmore Jackson, who resigned to accept a position as special assistant to Harlan Cleveland, Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs.

A new program associate is Robert Cory, who is on leave from Denison University where he is a professor of political science. He replaces Tartt Bell, who resumed his duties as executive secretary of the AFSC Southeastern Regional Office. Cecil Evans continues as a program associate.

Three Friends from overseas have been with the Quaker team during this year's session of the General Assembly. They are: David Hodgkin, clerk of Australia General Meeting and registrar of the Institute of Advanced Studies at Australia National University; Grigor McClelland, a member of the East-West Relations Committee of London Yearly Meeting and a member of the British Quaker Mission which went to China in 1955; and Finn Friis of Denmark, who was for several years Quaker International Affairs Representative in Vienna.

Guatemala has an extensive literacy program in progress. Assistance in the program is being given by volunteers in the AFSC Voluntary International Service Assignments (VISA) program. Four young people from the United States are serving in Guatemala as VISA volunteers. The photo below shows three members of a literacy class. Other VISA volunteers are in India, Pakistan, Haiti, Tanganyika, France, Germany, and the United States.



... a continuity of concern ...

Philadelphia, Pa.
November, 1961

Dear Friends:



EARLE EDWARDS

A special package of colorful "Surprise Balls"* was among the day's shipments which arrived at our clothing warehouse in Philadelphia last September. In the center of each yarn ball was a small gift for a child.

These and other gifts are now on their way to North Africa where Algerian refugee families, uprooted by war, are dependent

upon the help of others. The yarn will enable a mother or sister to knit a cap, mittens, or socks which will help ward off the winter cold. The toys may be the only playthings of the children who receive them.

We know more than usual of the motivation and planning which resulted in these gifts coming to the AFSC.

During World War II a mother and father, regular contributors to the AFSC, undertook to interest their children in giving tangible expression to their concern for others. From this emerged a pattern of regular family giving. When economies in the household budget could be managed, the family planned together the distribution of these savings. When they moved to a farm,

* For information about the "Surprise Balls" project, see the December-January packet, "Friendly Things To Do," published by the AFSC Children's Program. Price: 25 cents.

the direct cash outlay for food was smaller, hence larger gifts to the AFSC were possible.

As the five children established homes of their own, the Service Committee continued to be a recipient of their gifts, which help finance a variety of programs around the world. In addition to other contributions, each Christmas for a number of years the brothers and sisters have made gifts to the AFSC instead of buying presents for their parents, and the Committee has sent the parents its Christmas gift card.

It was in one of these homes that the idea caught on in the third generation as plans were made for a birthday party. The parents, believing in the soundness of the family approach to giving, suggested that their son's guests should bring him only a modest gift along with a present for someone in need. The mother wrote to AFSC for suggestions of what would be most useful, and the Children's Program recommended the "Surprise Balls" project. Shortly afterward, the package was on its way to our warehouse.

This story reflects a continuity of concern which is not unusual among friends of the AFSC. In fact, it is so widespread that it helps to account for the Service Committee's ability over the years to respond to such a variety of human needs. Who can tell the full significance of this contagious spirit of sharing?

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Earle Edwards".

Associate Executive Secretary for Finance

NEW LITERATURE AVAILABLE ON AFSC PROGRAMS

A HANDBOOK for individuals and communities interested in open-occupancy housing opportunities has been published by the AFSC's Community Relations Division. This brochure, *Homes and Community*, is based on the Committee's ten-year experience and on the findings of the Commission on Race and Housing, an independent citizens group.

The Commission, composed of 17 leaders from such fields as education, city planning, banking, and industry, recently published the results of a five-year housing study. Its five volumes of findings provided the AFSC brochure with documentary evidence that helps dispel the myths about housing integration.

Homes and Community analyzes many social and economic fears and tensions that may accompany integra-

tion. It offers tested techniques and practical suggestions for communities which may, by enlightened preparation, avoid crises. There is a bibliography for more intensive reading and research.

The brochure is available from the national or regional offices of the AFSC at ten cents per copy. There are special rates for bulk orders.

The Youth Services Division published four new pieces recently. A four-page illustrated folder describes the Voluntary International Service Assignments (VISA) program, which offers college graduate-age young people two-year service opportunities overseas or in the United States.

Summer work and study projects for high school and college age are outlined in *Summer 1962*, a Youth Services recruiting booklet. The projects

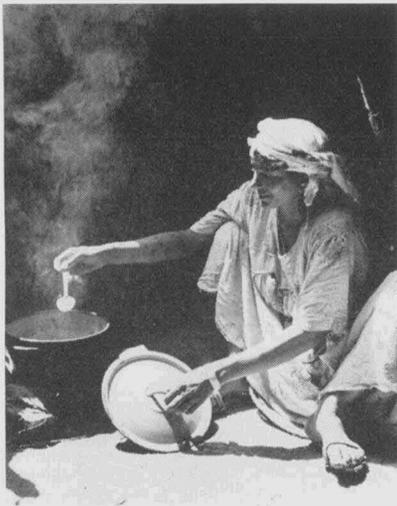
are described by quotations from the searching evaluations which participants have made of their summer experiences.

A pictorial folder on the national High School Seminars Program lists the four week-long seminars to be held in 1962 in Washington and at the United Nations.

About Meditation is the title of a 14-page pamphlet for project participants to use as they plan for and experience this feature of all AFSC youth projects.

A new Material Aids Program report tells the story of a relief shipment which, despite numerous obstacles, reached Morocco for Algerian refugees in record time.

"Who Keeps the Future?" is the theme of *Brief Description*, the annual brochure which summarizes the current work of the AFSC.



Photos by Robert and Edith Worth

Quaker service in Morocco and Tunisia helps meet the needs of thousands of Algerian refugees while they wait for the opportunity to return to their native land.

Quaker Work in North Africa: AFSC FILM DEPICTS PLIGHT OF ALGERIAN REFUGEES

IMAGINATIVELY, you become one of Algeria's 300,000 refugees through the photography of Robert and Edith Worth's new film, *Strangers to Hope*.

The film was commissioned by the AFSC's International Service Division. The script and editing is the work of John Korty, coordinator of audiovisual materials in the Committee's Information Service. *Strangers to Hope* is a 16mm black and white film which runs 25 minutes.

The camera takes the viewer into the huddled refugee areas of Tunisia

and Morocco, where Algerians wait for the time when they can return to their native land. Through the photographic medium, he enters the caves and scrap shelters of the displaced Algerians, follows undernourished children as they scrape garbage piles for food, stands hours in line for rations, and senses the hours of emptiness without work, play, news, or gossip.

But the film is not one of total depression. Quaker relief workers, whether staff or volunteer, have been active in the area since 1959. The film pictures Quaker gifts of blankets, clothing,

textiles, drugs, and milk feeding equipment.

Most significant are the preparations for the future. Quaker teachers are seen turning the boredom of enforced idleness into hours of training in medical care and sanitation, sewing, and carpentry.

Background music was supplied by Folkways Records. The narrators are Tresa Hughes and Louis Zorich.

Strangers to Hope may be purchased through the AFSC Information Office, 160 N. 15th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa., at \$25 a copy. There is no rental fee.

NEW JOB OFFICE OPENS IN ATLANTA

THE AFSC's newest Merit Employment Program office opened last fall in Atlanta.

The Atlanta project brings to four the offices concentrating on merit employment. The other three are located at Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Houston, Texas; and High Point, North Carolina.

Despite severe opposition in Baton Rouge, the staff there has concentrated upon developing a favorable climate of opinion through community meetings. Systematic visits are made to approximately 20 key businesses and industries.

North Carolina employers and personnel directors make continual use of the High Point office's Merit Employment Program, seeking applicants for situations throughout the state and nearby areas.

A strong sponsoring committee in Houston made available \$5000 in locally collected funds for the program there.

SOUTHERN STUDENTS ATTEND PROJECTS

NEARLY 100 students from southeastern states participated in AFSC regional or national seminars during the past school year. These students, both Negro and white, were drawn into the projects through the AFSC regional office in High Point.

AFSC offices in Austin, Texas, and other cities of the nation also recruited or involved southern students as participants in projects.

Many of the students received their first interracial experience at the proj-

ects. For others it was the first opportunity to discuss world problems from more than one viewpoint.

Of the students from the Southeast, 35 attended a weekend world affairs seminar and 13 participated in a one-week work camp held in North Carolina. A total of 38 attended one-week or three-day seminars in New York and Washington. Eleven students attended AFSC summer-long projects in various parts of the country.

Among the students were some who later began pioneering adventures in desegregation. Three of the girls were admitted to previously white colleges in North Carolina last fall. The colleges are Mars Hill, Asheville-Biltmore, and Charlotte.

About ten of the students are attending desegregated public high schools. Some of them have been leaders in the sit-in movement.



Photos by Jean Johnson

A new development in the Conferences for Diplomats program this past summer was the presence of younger diplomats from newly independent states in one of the gatherings held in Clarens, Switzerland. The group of 12 had been in training for one year in the United States and at Geneva under a program of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

STUDENT PLACEMENT PROJECT ENTERS SECOND YEAR

THE AFSC is involved again this year in an Emergency Placement Project for Prince Edward County, Virginia, students. The County padlocked its public schools a third year in defiance of the United States Supreme Court's injunction to desegregate.

Thirty-seven Negro secondary students have been placed by AFSC in ten communities spread over eight states as far distant as Iowa.

Communities which welcomed these students are: Media, Pennsylvania; Moorestown, New Jersey; Baltimore, Maryland; Scattergood School in West Branch, Iowa, as well as Iowa City; Dayton and Yellow Springs, Ohio; Kalamazoo, Michigan; Berea College, Berea, Kentucky; and the Springfield-Holyoke area, Massachusetts. Berea, with six, and Springfield-Holyoke, with nine, are new host areas. Seventeen of the students are involved in this project for the first time.

The Committee, however, continues

its efforts in the County, where about 1800 Negro children have no formal educational opportunities and white children are attending private schools conducted by a local foundation.

The Committee is supporting attempts of the Prince Edward County Christian Association to supply informal educational opportunities for Negro children, who attend classes in private homes, store fronts, and church basements. Experiments were made this past summer in the use of teaching machines, and further plans to expand local educational activity are being made.

Meanwhile, white residents, further solidified in their resistance to desegregation, opened last fall the \$400,000 Prince Edward Academy Upper School, with 528 white students.

The new program sustained a serious setback one month before it opened, however, when Federal Court

Judge Oren R. Lewis of Richmond, Virginia, ruled that public funds could not be used to aid private segregated schools as long as Prince Edward's public schools remained closed.

For the past two years the white private school movement has been subsidized largely through such grants. The elementary school students are being educated in churches and other private meeting places throughout the County.

White segregationists maintain, however, that they will manage to support their private school program through private solicitation.

Prince Edward is the only county in the United States to close its schools rather than comply with the Supreme Court injunction. It was one of the five litigants in the appeal which resulted in the high court's historic decision May 17, 1954, in which segregated public schools were declared unconstitutional.

AFSC BULLETIN Number 75 Form 3547 Requested

THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE, a Quaker organization, attempts to relieve human suffering and find creative solutions to 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.

American Friends Service Committee
160 North 15th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.