

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM UNDERWAY IN NEW AFRICAN NATION

Broken Hill, Northern Rhodesia—On October 24, 1964, Northern Rhodesia becomes fully independent, assuming the name of Zambia. To help the African nation make this independence a living reality, the American Friends Service Committee has established a project in urban community development in Broken Hill, a mining community with a population of 50,000 located 86 miles north of the capital city, Lusaka.

All the houses in Broken Hill for Europeans and Africans are owned by one of three groups; the mines, the railroad, or the municipality. About 5,000 Africans live in one township owned by the railroad; about 10,000 in the township owned by the mines; and the remaining 25,000 in the municipal township, called Bwacha. It is here that the AFSC was invited to work by Brian Nkonde, mayor of Broken Hill, and by other African leaders.

The need for urban community development—teaching the newly urbanized Africans to help themselves—is acute throughout the developing nations of Africa. Previously, welfare in the African townships was in the hands of either the government or the mines and was largely paternalistic. The goal of the new leaders is to reverse this process and teach the Africans to meet their own needs through community action and democratic participation.

In Lusaka, the government department of urban community develop-

ment is taking a keen interest in the new AFSC project. A public community development worker is shortly to be appointed to Broken Hill. His salary will be paid in part by the national and in part by the provincial government. Alan Connor, the director of the AFSC project, will work closely with this person, and thus have an influence on the direction of urban community development as undertaken by the Zambian government throughout the new nation.

In addition, Alan will train and supervise students in community development from the Oppenheimer School of Social Service in Lusaka. The first two were scheduled to start the first of September.

Personal Contacts Are Made

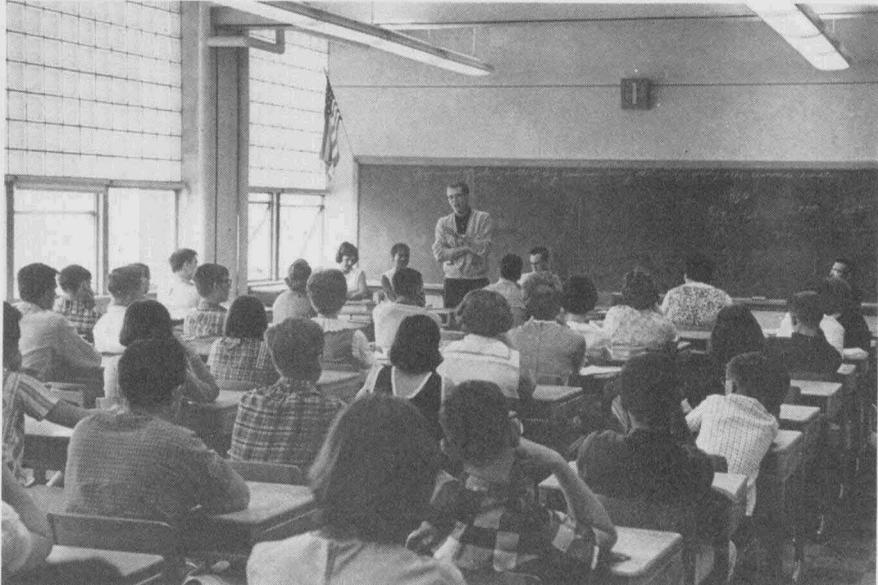
In his early months on the job, Alan Connor has devoted himself to getting to know the people with whom he will be working. This includes government officials in Lusaka and Broken Hill, as well as the people of Bwacha itself. With the Bemba greeting, "Mwapolleni Mukwai," on his lips he visits from door to door, chatting with residents about their problems.

Already, several small projects are underway as a result of this process. When the ladies of the Messenger Lines units asked if he could start a sewing class for them, Alan suggested that they start one for themselves.

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Donald Brown explains his personal views on ways of achieving world peace to a group of students at Watertown High School, Watertown, New York. He was a member of an AFSC Peace Caravan which spent five weeks this summer visiting various New York communities, speaking to groups about peace issues. Other members of the caravan were Nellie Harris, Sheldon Henshaw, and Jaleh Yekta, from Iran.

Paul Buck



EAST-WEST PROJECT HELD NEAR CHICAGO

TRIPARTITE Work and Study Project members from Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States returned to their homes with a greater personal understanding of each other and of Americans—our problems and our accomplishments. "The project was very important to me personally, particularly in meeting people, just real American people whom I talked to and tried to understand," said Lina Ivanovna Shkarban, a linguistics student from Moscow. "This is important if Russian, British, and American people are to understand each other."

A project evaluation in New York following weekend visits to the United Nations and the World's Fair marked the end of four weeks of work, study, and travel in the United States, the third and last part of the three-year project. Previous projects were held in Bristol, England, in 1962, and at Nalchik in the Soviet Union in 1963.

This summer's project, including ten young people from Great Britain, eight from the Soviet Union, and ten from the United States, began at Camp Reinburg near Chicago, on July 18. For three weeks they divided their time between construction of camp dining room facilities, discussions, recreation, and local tours. High points included a tour of the Inland Steel Corporation Plant in Chicago where they talked with executives, attendance at a trade union meeting, and visits to the workers' homes.

Participants saw close-up views of American life during the fourth week of travel. Half the group toured North Carolina, and the other toured California. In North Carolina, they met with Governor Terry Sanford, visited college campuses, an insurance company, and a cigarette factory. The California schedule included visits to college campuses, the International Longshoremen's Union, factories, a newspaper, and a television station.

"...the business of our lives."

Philadelphia, Pa.
August, 1964

Dear Friends,

In a world of increasing impersonalization, we bandy about half-understood words like cybernetics and automation and thereby feel we are abreast of progress. Daily we read of grotesque claims that this or that robot machine will do what a hundred men have done in the past. In a thousand great corporations more and more is being produced with fewer and fewer people.

For the American Friends Service Committee, it is people who count. Why? Because love does not exist without people, and if the Service Committee is not a community of lives lived in love it is but "as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal."

William Penn says it about as simply and directly as it can be said: "Let us then try what love will do." John Woolman reminds us that "to turn all the treasures we possess into the channel of universal love becomes the business of our lives."

There are many men and women who tried what love could do to a war-ravaged Europe almost half a century ago and who are still active in the life of the AFSC. From that time to this, people have been giving of themselves and their resources in one way or another, thousands of them, to the work of the Committee. As this letter is being written, young people are assembling at Pendle Hill to ready themselves for new adventures of faith in this country and afar off.

Constantly we are told that the patch of life lived on an Indian reservation, or in an urban slum, the weeks in a Mexican workcamp or the years in a project of community development in India have proved to be one of the richest and most character-forming periods in a person's life. Yet, because of events, we of the AFSC have not in many cases been able to maintain the sorts of contact and communication we should like with those who have participated in our programs and shared the aspirations and the frustrations, the delights and the hardships of such service.

The purpose of this letter is to tell you that we are really planning to keep in closer touch in the years to come with all those who have served with the Committee. Meanwhile, we hope that love is still the business of your lives.

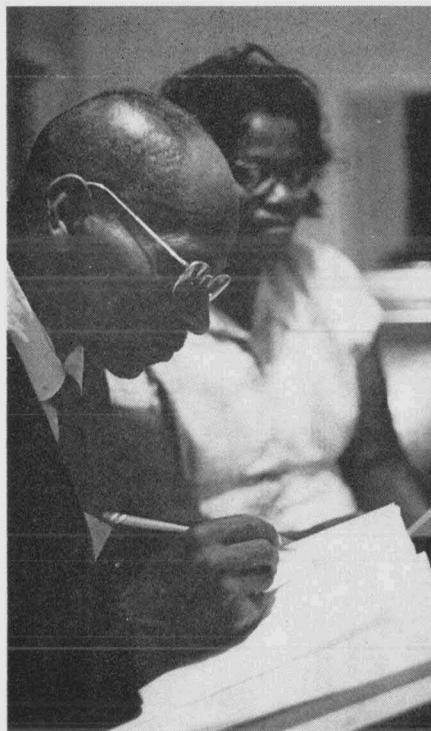
Yours sincerely,

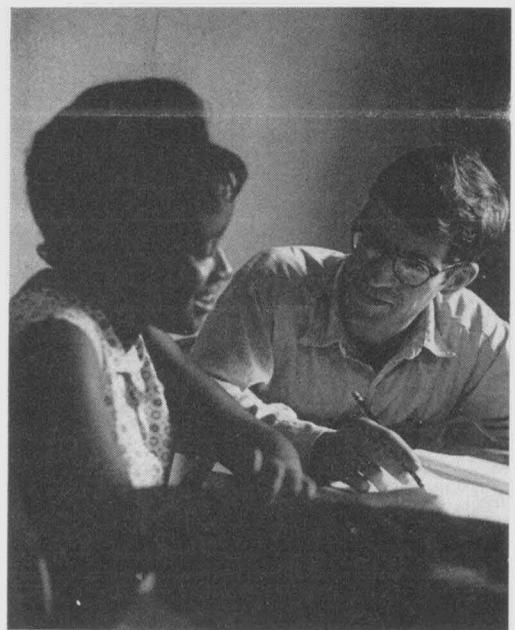
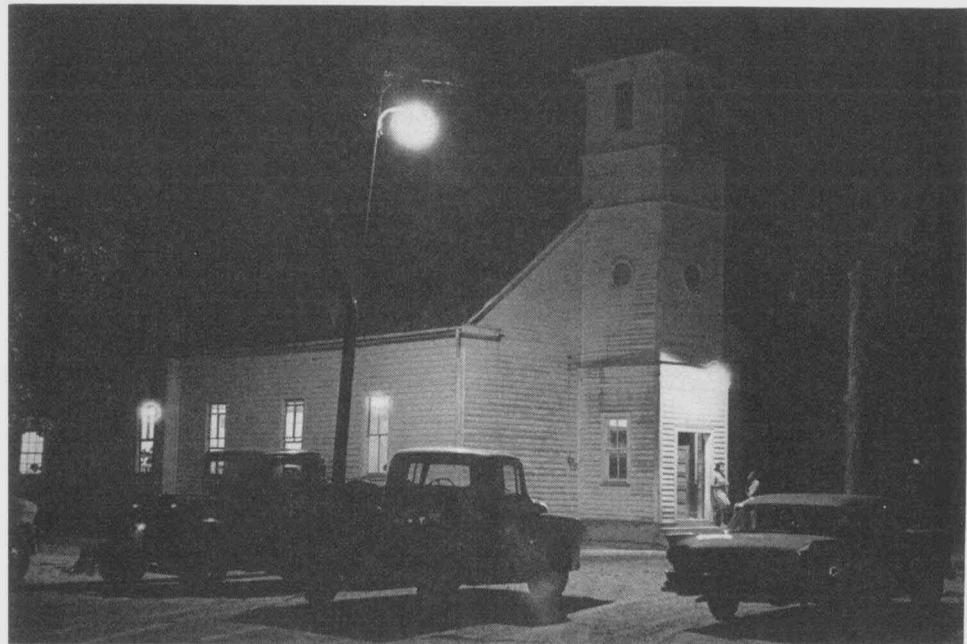
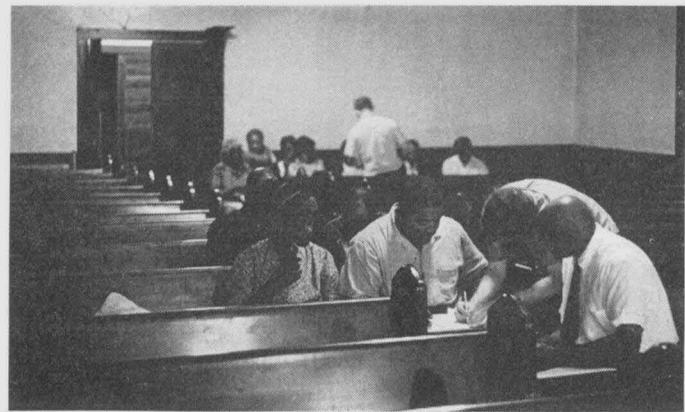
Colin S. Bell

Executive Secretary

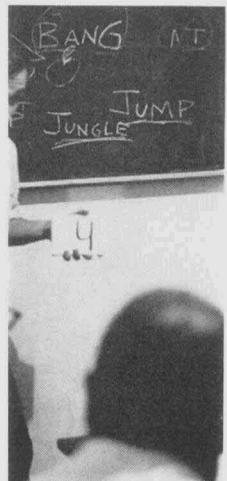


The quiet rural community of Warrenton, North Carolina, was the setting for a Service Committee citizenship education project this summer. Only a small percentage of eligible Negroes in Warren County are registered voters. Many lack the education needed to read the registration forms. Others simply have not known the registration procedure or have never been encouraged to exercise their voting rights. College-age project members conducted classes each evening in Negro churches on registration and voting, citizenship responsibility, and reading improvement. During the day, they worked in the fields, recruited persons for the evening classes, and tutored young people in arithmetic and reading, encouraging them to complete their education.





Photographs by Paul Buck



FORMER STAFF SERVE IN GOVERNMENT

African Program Begun

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Who has a sewing machine? Who has space in her home for a sewing class? Who can teach sewing? By asking key questions, he helped them take independent action. Now the sewing classes are in full swing and, aside from dropping in occasionally to visit, Alan has no responsibility for their conduct.

In the same fashion, when the Messenger Line ladies asked about a literacy class, Alan encouraged two of them to go as delegates to a conference on literacy held by the Department of Urban Community Development in Lusaka. Here the Broken Hill delegates learned they could get equipment at cost, and advice on forming a literacy class, but they would have to do the rest for themselves. The project is now in beginning stages, aided by Alan's gentle encouragement.

The Bwacha Adult Education Association, a group formed by the Africans themselves, has asked the AFSC for aid in strengthening its night school. A second AFSC staff member will be sent to Broken Hill eventually to work with Alan in this phase of the development program. Other plans for expansion include the possibility of finding new uses for the hobby shop built by the municipality for the Africans and largely unused at present, and perhaps forming adult education associations in other parts of Bwacha.

Recently, a top government official introduced Alan Connor to a public meeting as "one European who has come here to help us, not exploit us." In Broken Hill, as elsewhere in the world, the Quaker star means help without strings attached.

MANY PERSONS who have served with the American Friends Service Committee have gone on to positions of service with other organizations both private and governmental.

It is significant to note the names of several of our former staff who are now or have in recent years served in important positions with agencies of the federal government.

William E. Simkin, who directed AFSC rehabilitation work with West Virginia coal miners in the 1930's, has for a number of years been director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Howard Wiggins, who served with AFSC programs of relief to Spanish Civil War refugees in the early 1940's, later represented the Service Committee at the United Nations and took part in the Arab refugee relief program in Palestine. He is now a member of the Policy Planning Council of the Department of State.

John Yoshino, who directed our Chicago job opportunity program, 1954 through 1956, is now deputy field director of Field Services for the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity, according to our latest information.

Jacques Wilmore, deputy director of the Peace Corps in Nigeria in 1963, formerly held positions with the

Service Committee in the early 1950's. His responsibilities included director of the Job Opportunities Program and assistant secretary for Community Relations.

William Delano, who served with the AFSC in Germany, 1948 through 1950, was general counsel for the Peace Corps before leaving to become secretary general of the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service.

Co-director of our village development program in T'uran, Israel, from 1953 through 1955, William E. Miner is, according to our latest information, community development advisor for the Agency for International Development (AID) in Kenya.

Elmore Jackson left the Service Committee in 1961 to accept the position of Special Assistant for United Nations Planning to the Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizational Affairs.

He had served with the Committee at various intervals over a period of 25 years. His responsibilities included work camp secretary, personnel secretary, assistant executive secretary, director of Quaker House and AFSC representative to the United Nations, AFSC representative to the Arab Middle East, and associate executive secretary and director of the Quaker Program at the United Nations.

The American Friends Service Committee annual public meetings

will be held October 23 at 7 P.M. and October 24 in two sessions at 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. in the Race Street Meeting House, Philadelphia. Discussions of key issues of the day will replace the usual program reports. The topics, "Affluence, Poverty, and Democracy" and "Ideologies and Human Encounter," will be examined in light of AFSC program experience. One session will provide opportunity for audience participation in the questioning and discussion. Young people are particularly encouraged to attend.

American Friends Service Committee, 160 N. 15th St., Phila., Pa. 19102

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