



International Voluntary Service 1932 Rhosllanerchrugog (Wales)

Archives Documentation



Background

Rhosllanerchrugog or Rhosllannerchrugog is a village lying five miles south-west of Wrexham, north-east Wales. It is sometimes referred to as Rhos. It has a population of approximately 10000, making it one of the largest villages in Wales. Approximately 40% of the village is Welsh Speaking. Literally translated the name comes from: rhos "moor"; llannerch "glade"; grugog "heathery" hence "Moor of the Heathery Glade." From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia <http://www.wikipedia.org>)



The Project

Place: Rhosllanerchrugog [Rhos] (Wales, Great Britain)

Period: July 1 - September 9 1932

Number of international volunteers: 21

Project partner: Miners Institute

Work: Converting 18 acres waste land at Ponkey Bansk into landscape gardens, recreation grounds, children's playground and a home for music. Painting houses

Campleader: George Davies, Kitty Lewis

Content of Documentation

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No.	Document	Date
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2	Voluntary Community Service in Wales - Repeating Brynmawr Experiment at Rhos	1932?
3	IVS : Rhos and Brynmawr Service, 1932 - List of volunteers	1932
4	IVS Kitty Lewis: Letter to volunteers	22.Dec.1932
5	H.P. Vatr�: Rapport sur le Service � RHOS, du 1.juillet au 24 sept.1932	Sept.1932
6	Public Service - What International Volunteers are doing. Monthly Review of the League of Nations.	Aug.1932
7	Paul.A.Meylan: Impressions de Service Civil en Angleterre 1932 Rhosllanerchrugog	Oct.1932
8	Various newspaper cuttings	July / August 1932
9	Photo: Rhosllanerchrugog 1932	1932
10	Photo: Rhosllanerchrugog 1932	1932
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13	Photo: Ingebj�rg Sletten from Norway painting the colliers' drab houses, Rhosllanerchrugog 1932	1932
14	Photo: Group picture of international volunteers, Rhosllanerchrugog 1932	1932

Resources in SCI Archives

20321 SCI Services (1932 - 1933)

20321.1 Rhosllanerchrugog, Wales (Great Britain) 1.7.-24.9.1932 (1932)

[...]

60401 Services in Great Britain (1931 - 1938)

[...]

60401.13 Brynmawr 1932, Rhos 1932. [incl. negatives] (1932)

[...]



INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

1932.

BRYNMAWR.

RHOSLLANERCHRUGOG.

IN 1932, for the second summer in succession, groups of unemployed men in Great Britain invited members of the International Voluntary Service to come and help them in the work of improving and beautifying the towns where they lived. This work was undertaken entirely voluntarily on both sides, unemployed and volunteers both giving their labour without payment.

The following is a brief account of the two principal "Services" which were held in 1932, together with an outline of the way in which the British Committee of the International Voluntary Service hopes to be able to co-operate in the present rapid development of Voluntary Work and Community Service all over the country, while furthering at the same time their ideal of international reconciliation.

BRYNMAWR.

Sixty volunteers in all came to Brynmawr during the three months from the end of June to the end of September. Of these, forty-one were British, coming mostly from the various Universities. The remaining nineteen were volunteers from abroad, recruited by the International Student Service and The Service Civil International. Eleven different nationalities were represented. Fourteen of these volunteers had taken part in the Service at Brynmawr in 1931, when members of the International Voluntary Service were invited to help the group of local voluntary workers who were making a swimming bath, paddling pool and gardens under the auspices of the Brynmawr Town Development Committee.

The swimming bath was formally opened in July, 1932, but much additional work remained to be done in transforming the barren land all round. The volunteers helped by building a metalled road, laying turf, and making paths and gardens. A small group also helped some unemployed men of a neighbouring village with the digging and building of the foundations for a Boys' Club.

RHOSLLANERCHRUGOG.

The scheme at Rhos has been organised entirely by the people themselves under the leadership of Mr. J. T. Edwards, the Secretary of the Miners' Institute. It might never have been undertaken with voluntary labour but for the example of Brynmawr. The idea was so new that the suggestion of outside help was welcomed, especially since it was to be of an international character. The International Voluntary Service was invited to the town, and eighty-five volunteers took part in the work for some three months. Eighteen acres of waste land in a congested district were to be made into recreation grounds. The volunteers, working alongside the local people, helped to level terraces and lay out gardens.

The Miners' Institute put two large rooms at the disposal of the volunteers; here meals were cooked and eaten, and general discussions and meetings were held. The catering was extremely well carried out by some of the local ladies, who were also responsible for the billeting and other domestic arrangements. The "Sisters" and two local voluntary helpers did the cooking. On Sundays, various friends asked the volunteers to their homes for the day.

One of the chief objects of the International Voluntary Service in Great Britain is the breaking down of class and international barriers by the formation of friendships between the members of the Service and the members of the Community. In 1931 the volunteers had been billeted all together in large empty rooms, where they slept on straw palliasses on the floor. It was felt that the result of this system was that the volunteers came to be regarded as a self-contained group, and not as separate individuals, each of whom was doing his or her share of work for the community, and for the movement as a whole. Last summer, therefore, it was decided that volunteers should lodge with families in the town in return for a small weekly payment. This resulted in closer contacts between the volunteers and the townspeople, and was not a hindrance to the growth of a real group spirit among the volunteers themselves. Both at Brynmawr and Rhos the very warmest hospitality was shown to them, a hospitality far exceeding anything that is normally understood by the term "lodgings".

FUTURE OF THE MOVEMENT.

The idea of adding to the amenities of a community by the voluntary labour of its members has spread from Brynmawr to Rhos, to take only one instance. The International Voluntary Service was asked to come to both towns to encourage and impart a broader outlook and the new ideas of community service to these undertakings. For the members of the Services the results were many friendships and a wider understanding between men and women of different classes and nationalities. For the communities themselves, a very noticeable breaking down of strong interclass and sectional barriers; the emergence of a new conception of the

relation between work and service; the transformation of an ugly piece of land into a place of beauty; and, perhaps, most important of all, a realisation of the joy of the creative work of a group.

Since last September, the idea of Voluntary Community Service has spread all over the country, and the need of a body such as the International Voluntary Service has become less obvious. Actually, however, the need is all the greater, for leaders from every class, and of every shade of interest and opinion, are more and more necessary. In the summer of 1933, therefore, the I.V.S. is proposing to hold at least two Services. One of these will be at Rhos. The number of volunteers will be small but very carefully selected, and will include, it is hoped, a certain number of unemployed men, who will become members of the Service. If possible, self-contained pieces of work will be undertaken, and work will not be done in conjunction with other groups of workers. The Services will be run more on the lines of those held already on the Continent, with a strict discipline and an insistence on really efficient work. Maintenance as usual, will be free, except for those who are willing and able to contribute towards the cost. International Voluntary Service hopes in this way to be able to provide, year by year, an ever increasing number of members of all classes of the Community who will be able to join and lead groups prepared for creative service. Without the growth of such a conception of work and service, no lasting and vital change in the ordering of the industrial or social or political life of the community will be possible.

Finance will determine how much can be achieved this year. To run three Camps will cost about £600. All who are interested in the development of this movement are invited to support it by becoming Associate Members (minimum subscription 2/6 per annum), and also, if possible, by giving a donation, however small, towards the running of this year's Services and the maintenance of those volunteers who are unable to contribute anything themselves.

Subscriptions and donations should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer,

MISS M. T. CARSLAKE,
Highwood,
The Drive,
Wimbledon, S.W.20.

For further information apply to the Hon. Secretary,

JIM FORRESTER,
14, South Square,
London, N.W.11.

who will gladly answer any enquiries.

BRITISH COMMITTEE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1933.

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
To Cash in Hand, 1st April, 1932..	0	18	5
" Balance in Bank, 1st April, 1932..	28	0	5
" Held for S.C.V.I., 1st April, 1932..	31	0	0
" <i>Sundry Receipts:</i>			
Brynmawr Development Committee for:—			
Men's Meals	60	15	5
Smokes	7	11	6
Coal, etc.	1	17	0
Fares, C. B. Heal	6	7	6
Press Cuttings	1	19	0
Fares advanced to Students	78	10	5
Donations	18	0	0
Sundries	44	15	6
Advance by M. T. Carlslake	0	12	7
	8	0	0

£606 17 4

PAYMENTS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By <i>Brynmawr Camp:</i>						
Food	..	..	..	85	11	4
Household and Coal	..	..	..	4	12	11
Billets	..	..	..	50	17	0
Gas Account	..	..	..	0	15	2
Chemist	..	..	..	2	12	11
Common Room and Piano..	..	..	..	16	15	0
				161	4	4
By <i>Clydach Camp:</i>						
Food	..	..	..	22	0	6
Household and Coal	..	..	..	1	17	0
Billets	..	..	..	1	16	0
Chemist	..	..	..	0	1	9
Sundries	..	..	..	2	12	8
				28	7	11
By <i>Rhos Camp:</i>						
Food	..	..	..	156	5	9½
Household and Coal	..	..	..	4	1	8½
Billets	..	..	..	92	15	7
				253	3	1
By <i>On behalf of Brynmawr Development Committee:</i>						
Food	..	..	..	60	15	5
Smokes	..	..	..	7	11	6
Coal, etc.	..	..	..	1	17	0
Fares, C. B. Heal	..	..	..	6	7	6
				76	11	5
By <i>Postage</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..
By <i>Printing and Stationery</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..
By <i>Travelling Expenses</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..
By <i>Advances to Students</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..
By <i>Advance to Funds (M.T.C.)</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..
By <i>Students' Fares</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..
By <i>Press Cuttings</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..
By <i>Insurance</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..
By <i>BALANCE IN BANK, 31st, March 1933</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..
				5	13	0
				28	7	7
				8	15	3
				18	0	0
				8	0	0
				1	15	6
				3	18	9
				5	0	0
				8	0	6
				£606	17	4

I hereby certify that the above Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March, 1933, shows a true and correct view of that year's transactions and is drawn up in accordance with the vouchers relating thereto.

(Signed) H. J. WAUGH,

Chartered Accountant,

Wimbledon, S.W.19.

26th April, 1933.



VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY SERVICE IN WALES.

REPEATING BRYNMAWR EXPERIMENT AT RHOS.

IN a few week's time we are to witness at Rhos a novel experiment in community building very much on the lines followed at Brynmawr in South Wales. During the coming summer University students of many nationalities are to visit Rhos in relays and to spend their vacation beginning the task of beautifying the Ponkey Banks, the freehold of which has been purchased by the Committee of the Rhos Miners' Institute. It is hoped to secure the co-operation of numbers of unemployed men in the scheme—the development of which will be watched with great interest. Further particulars of the project will be found in another column. We are glad a start is to be made at Rhos. Possibly the voluntary committees which have been interesting themselves in the unemployed at Brymbo and Wrexham by organising social gatherings, will consider during the next month or two whether a more practical side can be given to their

labours. There are features of the Brynmawr experiment, particularly in the matter of crafts, which are worthy of imitation and we feel sure that the co-operation of Mr. George M. Ll. Davies, formerly M.P. for the University of Wales, would be gladly given to those interested both at Wrexham and Brymbo. We all hope that trade and employment will improve, but even the most sanguine folk cannot hope to see all the unemployed absorbed in the near future and every sincere effort to promote their permanent welfare—like the one begun at Brynmawr—must receive the support of us all.

—*Wrexham Leader*, April 20, 1932.

H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

APPEAL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE AND HELP.

SPEECH AT NEWCASTLE.

YOUR difficulties have given you an opportunity of showing the stuff you are made of. You have been as hardily hit as anyone, and you are showing that you are undaunted and unbeaten. Thousands of people in every walk of life have found and undertaken tasks and thousands of others are only waiting to see what they should do. The point is not to wait to be shown some ambitious enterprise but to look round and see whether there is not some simple task within reach which we can undertake at once. Unemployment could be tackled by breaking it up into

little pieces and not by being paralysed by its size. I have been much impressed to hear from one place after another of attempts being made to help many to find occupations which would keep them fit and make their unhired labour a service to others. I hope that such schemes will be started wherever they are needed and that the communities on the spot will themselves contribute to the solution of this vast problem in their own neighbourhood. In some places you need more land for cultivation as allotments and for development as playing fields. In other places premises are wanted for use as workshops. There is often a call too for technical advice and guidance and for help with materials and equipment.

Where that help is forthcoming—as I trust it will be everywhere—I am sure that many more groups of the unemployed who are dead sick of these days, will find a chance of useful service until there is again a demand for their labour.

Here I have seen a workshop which unemployed men have built for themselves in a garden put at their disposal for the purpose. . . I have seen what use is being made of Church and Chapel Halls. These examples should be followed throughout the whole country. I have been greatly impressed by some of the housing schemes that voluntary effort is undertaking in this district. I have seen something of the conditions that they are designed to remedy, and I am delighted to know that there are some families who have been given a real chance to grow up more healthfully and in a happier atmosphere.

Do not let us despise small efforts like this but rather be determined to multiply them. Remem-

ber they mean as much as larger schemes do to those who benefit by them.

People who are too old or too busy to give the time will be ready, I am sure, to back such schemes up to the best of their ability. It is not money that counts; it is individual method.

It would be a fine thing if all who are associated together for games were also associated in some form of service. I wonder too if the staffs of our great business houses, insurance offices and banks might not make themselves corporately responsible for some form of individual service that would enlarge the opportunities of boys and girls.

We are not here to consider how industrial or political action can help us in our present difficulties. We are here to consider how we can help each other, and I am sure there is a lot that can be done. Within limits we are our own masters and much that we deplore in present conditions can be bettered if we have the will to better it. This is a great opportunity.

NEWCASTLE, April 27, 1932.

PONKEY BANKS TO BE TRANSFORMED.

*Friends and Continental Students
as Pioneers.*

A NOVEL PROJECT.

By "X.Y.Z."

(Reprinted from the *Wrexham Leader*.)

THIS summer an attempt is to be made to beautify a portion of Rhosllanerchrugog with the aid of the voluntary labour of friends and university students of several nationalities, all imbued with the spirit of service which produced what is known as the Brynmawr experiment in the South Wales coalfield. Those responsible for directing the affairs of the Rhos Miners' Institute have made a Rhos experiment possible for they have just purchased from Mr. H. Dyke Dennis, for £460, sixteen and a half acres of land adjacent to the institute and known as the Ponkey Banks. At present the land is uneven and unsightly but it commands a wonderful view of the Vale of Maelor and on into Shropshire and Staffordshire, with the Wrekin a prominent mark on the skyline. Standing on this derelict ground it is certainly possible to conjure up a vision of terraced gardens, well kept lawns and greens, and of open spaces for the children of this popular industrial area, but to complete such a scheme

would seem to involve an expenditure of time and money beyond the capacity of a struggling mining community except on new lines. Some indication of these lines can be gleaned from Brynmawr. There, British university students, American, Swiss, German, Norwegians, and many other nationalities, — men and women — have shared the joys and the toils of the Brynmawr workmen. What have they done? This is what one who has seen the place says:

“They have turned a coaltip and its environs into a thing of beauty and usefulness. Out of the very ugliness and refuse of their old mode of living they have fashioned the earnest of the life they wish to live. The tip was created when they worked in the dark for someone else; they have made a garden while working in the light for one another. One was irresistibly reminded of the wilderness that should blossom as a rose; for here, where filth and disorder prevailed, clean water ran and grass was green and the first adumbration appeared of ordered beauty. A picture shows the paths that have been cut into the side of the tip. It shows the paddling-pool that the children are already using and the channel of sweet water flowing into it, loosed from years of sluggish bondage in a stagnant and loathsome morass. The swimming-bath is seen beyond the paddling-pool. Grass plots and garden beds are seen too. The tipside has still to be covered with grass, and trees have to be grown. The men of Brynmawr point to the quaint stone bastions and say, ‘The Swiss did these,’ and to something else and say, ‘This was done by the Germans,’ or by these or those. They will remember for a long time this little League of Nations which met far from Geneva.”

Well, something on these lines is to be attempted at Rhos this summer on voluntary lines. Mr. J. T. Edwards, of the Miners' Institute, tells me that the whole of the ground will first be levelled and prepared for the gradual process of beautifying it. Adequate playing fields are to be provided for the children. There will be tennis courts, a bowling green, a cricket pitch, a football ground, and a bandstand, and it is intended to construct rock gardens and terraced walks. The Institute Committee are giving a lead to the people of Rhos by diverting their profits to a recreation fund in order to get the scheme moving. To provide funds for tools and materials, shrubs and trees, it is intended to ask for the co-operation of all the inhabitants. Explaining the method by which labour will be found, without paying wages, Mr. Edwards said that this part of the scheme is made possible by the joint efforts and help of the International Voluntary Service and the Society of Friends. Mr. Peter Scott, of the Society of Friends, and Mr. George Davies and Miss Kitty Lewis, of the Welsh Student Self-Help Council, have paid a visit of inspection to the Ponkey Banks and have met the Institute Committee. The result is that they have circularised the Universities and colleges of Wales, England, Scotland and countries on the Continent to solicit the assistance of men and women students. Replies have come in, and this part of the scheme is now practically assured. Students of all nationalities will work in relays of forty for three weeks at a stretch. There will be a fresh batch of forty students every three weeks, and their part will be to work with pick and shovel in accordance with the lay-out plan for transforming the whole

place. The students will be billeted at Rhos. Arrangements will be made to provide two free communal meals a day (excepting Sundays) at the Assembly Room of the Institute.

The expense of billeting and the cost of the communal meals, a total of about £500, will be borne by friends of the movement and by voluntary gifts of goodwill. It is hoped to secure expert assistance from the Technical Department of the Miners' Welfare Society in regard to the lay-out of the land.

The students will begin to arrive at Rhos in June. The people of Rhos are a truly remarkable community. Will they rise to the level of this occasion and catch the spirit of the community builders who will be in their midst this summer? There is much in the life of Rhos to-day that suggests a favourable answer to the question, and if it is, we may live to see beautiful public gardens on Ponkey Banks in less than a decade. To achieve so much will require complete co-operation, within and much help from without, but one feels confident it will be forthcoming if the Rhos Miners' Institute Committee and its officials are supported now.

Hon Secretary:

Kitty Lewis, Penucha, Caerwys,
Flints.

Hon Treasurer:

Margaret Carslake, 31, Alma St.,
Brynmawr.

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE.RHOS AND BRYNMAMM SERVICES, 1932.1. Volunteers from Great Britain, including foreigners already in the country.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address.</u>	<u>Service</u> (in G.B.)	<u>Dates.</u>
Adamson, Oliver H.	N adencroft, Norden, Rochdale.	Rhos.	12.9-21.9
Adgie, J.R.	127 Acre Rd., Middleton, Leeds.	R	1.7-30.7
Ambrose, Gwilym P.	Sunny Bank, Mountain Ash, Glam.	R	24.7-31.7
			4.9-11.9
Aylward, Bernard.	13 Canley Gdns., Beechwood Ave. Coventry.	R.	10.7-15.8
Bafico, Irene E.	75. Crwys Rd., Cardiff.	Eimawr, 31.	23.8-15.9
Beach G.L.	St. Martin's Rectory, York.	B. and 31.	16.8-5.9
		B. and 31.	31.7-16.8
Beal, W.K.	Chapel Terr., Tremor, Coombe, Liskeard, Cornwall.	B	3.7-16.7
Bennison, E.G.	129 Spencer Pl., Harehills, Leeds.	R	30.7-24.8
Beard, F.P.B.	Old Smithy, Banderstead Village, Surrey.	B	28.7-20.8
Braby, Peter,	Hermitage, High Hurstwood, Uckfield, Sussex.	R	28.7-21.8
Bros gall, Jack	13 Lovell Terr., Leeds.	R	21.7-14.8
Brunt, L.P.	36 Park Rd., Chiswick, London, W.4.	R	9.8-31.8
Brunt, R.H.	" " " " " "	R & B 31.	" " "
Candler, Vizard	34 Bellbrooke Ave., Leeds.	R & B 31.	1.7-3.8
Capes, Clifford	132 Woodsley Rd., Leeds.	B & B 31.	21.7-25.8
Cleaves, H.F.	Bristol House, Raglan, Mon.	B	29.6-19.7
Clegg, Arthur D.	21 Richmond Rd., Cardiff.	R & B 31.	28.8-19.9
Cottage, J.O.	82 Ridley Rd., Forest Gate, Essex.	R	20.7-17.8
Davies, T.Gwilym	The Manse, Cwmparc, Treorchy, Glam.	R	29.6-21.7
Davis, Robert	Woodbrooke, Selly Oak, Birmingham.	B	15.8-19.8
Davies, George	Craigside, Bidcot, Somerset.	R & B 31.	29.6-1.8
			1.9-21.9
Dean, Michael,	107 Earlham Grove, London, E.7.	B	17.8-1.9
DeBevere, E.A.	6 Lupus St., St. George's Sq., London, E.C.1.	B	31.8-7.8
Drake, William	Dunelm, Beech Grove Terr., West Ryton-on-Tyne, Co. Durham.	R.	20.7-11.8
Finch, Jack	Skerryvore, Selefoft Rd., Purley, Surrey.	R	29.6-18.7
Foerste, W.H.	Moisburg, Kreis Harburg, Germany.	R	8.9-21.9
Forrester, Jim	7 South Sq., London, N.W.11.	B & B 31.	26.6-2.8
Fritzsche, M.G.	Langebrück bei Dresden, Goethestr. 17, Germany.	B	3.7-16.7
Frankenburg, J.	4 Park Lane, Kensal, Manchester.	B	29.6-19.7
Gane, R.G.	10 Hillside Vies, Midsomer Norton Bath.	B	24.7- 6.8
Gay, Irene, M.	29 Greensdale Rd., Redland, Bristol.	B & B 31.	30.6-19.7
Gibbins, N.H.	70 Wilson St., Derby.	B	18.7-30.7
Gledhill, M.E.	282 Cawbottom Rd., Little Horton, Bradford.	B	11.8- 4.9
Hen, John	Hanover House, Littlemoor Rd., Pudsey, Yorks.	B & 31.	20.7-20.8
Gregory, J.G.	7 Daisy Ave., Longsight, Manchester.	B	2.7-23.7
Goddard, George	208 Coventry Rd., Griff Hollows, Nuneaton.	R	24.7-31.7
			4.9-11.9
Hall, M. Penelope	66 Addingham Rd., Mossley Hill, Liverpool.	R	12.7-30.7
Harrison, Dorothy V.	238 Whitechurch Rd., Cardiff.	B	11.7-29.7
Herr, Albrecht	Hamm (Westf.), Brückenstr. 6, Germany.	B	9.7-30.7

Hickmore, Mary	12 Hollicandane Rd., Ramsgate, Kent.	R	13.8-10.2
Higginson, C.B.	Applegarth, Waterloo Rd., Ashton, Preston.	B	16.8-28.8
Hollingdale, Stuart	25 Kingsley Ave., West Ealing, London, W.13.	R	2.7-21.7
Holmes, Muriel I.	38 Bentley Lane, Leeds.	R	20.8-15.9
Holzbaur, Robert	Aalen Wüth, Gartenstr.20, Germany.	R	17.7-31.8
Horsfield, Hugh	135 Bexley Rd., Erith, Kent.	R & B31	16.8-4.9
Hoyland, J.S.	Hollane House, Woodbrooke, Selly Oak, Birmingham.	B. & 31	23.8-10.9
Humphreys, Arthur	13 Monmouth Rd., Wallasey.	R	29.6-18.7
Humphreys, Eirwen	1 Crwys Rd., Roath, Cardiff.	B	30.6-21.7
Hunt, F.B.	180 Woodstock Rd., Oxford.	B	9.7-31.7
Inebnit, J.F.	1 Lyddon Terr., Leeds.	R. & B31	1.7-9.7
James, Victor B.	c/o G.C. Jarvis, 80 Goldsmith Av., London, W.3.	R	15.7-21.9
Jones, Arthur	Bryl, Clyngwyn Terr., Blaenrhondda, Treherbert, Glam.	R	29.6-23.7
Jones, C. Enid	51 Bro Gwilym, Cefn Mawr, Wrexham.	R	29.6-20.7
Jones, Dilys	Woodbrooke, Selly Oak, Birming- ham.	R	26.8-31.8
Jones, Eluned Wyn	Coedfryn, Birch Hill, Llangollen.	R	27.8-21.9
Jones, Jack	Heulwen, Corwen.	R	29.6-20.7
Kaplen, Louis	85 Wilkes St., London, E.1.	R	12.7-22.7
Kottusch, Werner	Brieg Bez, Breslau, Neuhausenerstr. 38, Germany.	B	3.7-16.7
Kunzler, Elly	Flawie, St. Gall, Switzerland.	B	20.7- 2.8
Lauridsen, Egan	Lundevej 38, Svendborg, Denmark.	R	15.7-24.8
Leader, Paul	31 Leopold St., Leeds.	B	18.7-5.9
Lloyd, F.W.	17 Upper Wood St., Bargoed, Glam.	B	2.8-27.8
Lewis, Kitty	Penucha, Caerwys, Flintshire.	R & B31	
Lyle, Dorothy	The Cottage, Bramhope, Nr. Leeds.	R	5.8- 3.9
Macdonald, Norman	42 Ferncroft Ave., Hampstead, London, N.W.3.	R	29.8-7.9
McDougall, A. Hill	20 Rowan Rd., Dumbreck, Glasgow.	R	31.7-19.9
McDougall, John N.	" " " "	R	31.7-10.8
Maltby, John	Penketh School, Nr. Warrington.	R	27.8-19.9
Miles, L.J.	Combe St. Nicholas, Chard, Somerset.	B	2.9-14.9
Milum, L.P.	7 Barton Crescent, Headingley, Leeds.	R.	25.7-13.9
Morgan, C.C.	33 Morgan St., Blaenavon, Mon.	R.	20.7-17.8
Morris, D.W.	39 Commercial St., Aberdare, Glam.	B & 31	16.7-21.9
Morris, J.E.G.	" " " "	B & 31	20.7-20.8
Nathanielz, A.V.G.	2, Mayfield Drive, Loughborough, Leeds.	R	6.8-23.8
North, Tommy	Crowland, Peterborough.	R & B31	8.8-21.9
Pacey, A.L.	22 Red Lion Rd., Spalding, Lincs.	B.	2.8-31.8
Page, Charles	55 King Edward Rd., Loughborough Leics.	B & 31.	10.8-31.8
Parker, Philip	80 St. John St., Budleigh, Yorks.	R & B31	27.7-26.8
Pettet, A.H.	31 Delph St., Wigan	R	8.8-14.9
Pioton, J.G.	9 Clive Pl., Trecynan, Aberdare, Glam.	B	5.8-26.8
Phillips, T.B.	52 Cemetary Rd., Maesteg, Glam.	R & B31	15.8-31.8
Pollard, W.G.	1 Queens Mans., Brook Green, London, W.6.	B.	15.7-3.8
Purcell, W.E.	9 Llanedeyrn Rd., Penylan, Cardiff.	R.	5.7-25.7

Ramsay, R.F.M.	Southfield Bungalow, paignton, S.Devon.	B.	19.7-1.8
Reid, Janet	9 Harewood Rd., S.Croydon.	B	23.8-11.9
Roberts, G.Cyril	26 Elsie St., Goole, Yorks.	R	8.8-31.8
Roberts, John C.	Corona, Bryn Ave., Brynamman, Carm.	B	29.6-21.7
Salik, Samuel	43 Ellers Rd., Hareshill, Leeds.	R	10.8-12.9
Shipstone, Sara	8 Lime Grove, Long Eaton, Nottingham	B	29.8-14.9
Schoch, Karl	Hatestr. 20, Zurich, Switzerland.	R	15.7-15.8
Smith, Betty	32 Swan Kane, Bolton, Lancs.	B	30.6-20.7
Smith, Edna C.	9 Gilston Rd., London, S.W.10	R & B31	31.8-17.9
Smith, Gwen M.	23 Holland Park, London, W.11.	R	27.7-10.8
Stevens, W.L.	7 Fosse Way, West Ealing, London, W.13.	R	2.7-24.7
Stewart, Jack	132 Cromwell Rd., London, S.W.7.	B	5.8-12.8
Stones, T.	36 Wyther Park Rd., Armley, Leeds.	R	1.7-30.7
Sydenham, Clive	16 Union St., Crewe.	B	3.7-10.7
Thackeray, A.D.	Marsham Lane House, Gerrard's Cross Bucks.	B & 31.	29.6-14.7
Thomas, Mary L.	6 Station Terr., Fochriw, Cardiff.	B & 31.	2.8-20.8
Thomas, Myfanwy	7 The Beeches, Fencosed, Nr. Bridgend, Glam.	B & 31	13.8-26.8
Thomas, Percy	Glencra, Ammanford, Carm.	R	29.6-21.8
Wagstaff, Gwen K.	29 The Vale, Golders Green, London, N.11.	B & 31	22.7-20.8
Wheeler, L.M.	Mansfield College, Oxford	B	20.8-4.9
Whittaker, G.E.	15 Hookstone Ave., Catlands, Harrogate.	R	20.8-21.9
Williams, H.D.	7 The Square, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Mer.	R	23.7-10.8
Williams, J.T.	27 Amphyll Sq., London, N.W.1.	R	2.8-23.8
Williams, Corrinne	" " " "	R	" " "
Wynn-Williams, M.	Bron Haul, Church Walks, Llandudno, N.Wales.	R & B31	23.7-19.8
Wood, Anne	26 Alma Sq., London, N.W.8.	R	21.8-2.9
Zeuthen, Lillin	Scløften 3, Gentofte, Denmark.	B	2.8-20.8
Edwards, Major Charles,		R	

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Members of Services at Brynmawr and Rhos, 1932.

Foreign Volunteers.

1. Members of Service Civil.

		<u>Rhos or</u> <u>Brynmawr.</u>	<u>Dates.</u>
DEBUISSY, Alphonse.	45 Rue Mexico, LILLE, France.	B.	16.7 29.6 - 2.8.
DESSEN, Marthe.	1, place Severine, Pre Saint Gervais (Seine) France.	B	29.6 - 2.8
ENDERLEIN, P. Rudolf,	Dobereschau No. 11, bei BAUTZEN 1 SA., Germany.	R	2.8 - 26.8
HAURI, Edward,	Morgartenring 28, BASEL, Switzerland.	B	1.7 - 4.8
IMHOF, Franz.	1 rue des Charmilles, GENEVA, Switzerland.	R	7.7 - 5.9
KNUCHEL, Clara	Morgartenring 85, BASEL, Switzerland.	B and 31. B and 31.	6.9 - 24.9 13.7-10.8
KAZANSKY, Ratcho,	"Osar Boris", 1 Stara, ZAGORA, Bulgaria.	B	18.7-23.8
MEYLAN, Paul A.	L'Orient, VALLE DE JOUX, Switzerland.	R. B and 31	7.7-6.9 6.9-24.9
MAIER NAUER, Josef.	Eulen Wylen, WOLLERAU, Switzerland.	R	2.8-26.8
PROUHET, R.J.	Gare de Saint-Omer, Pas de Calais France.	B	29.6-16.7
SCHNYDER, Adrian	Gymnasium, SCHILERS, (Prattigau), Switzerland.	B	29.7-21.8
SJURSEN, Fritjof	DAVOS-PLATZ, Switzerland.	R & B 31.	2.8-26.8
SLETTEN, Ingebjorg,	Seehusensgt. 31, STAVANGER, Norway.	R B, 31	7.7- 21.9
STENERSSEN, Magna hild	Sundet, RISOR, Norway.	R	17.8-21.9
STROBEL, Kurt,	Dörnigheim, KR. HANAU, Bahnhofstr. 53, Germany.	B	3.7-5.8
VATRE, H.P.	20 Rue des Peupliers, GENEVA, Switzerland.	R	18.8-14.9
WICKY, Heinrich,	Rüttimeyerstr. 3, BASEL, Switzerland.	B	1.7-4.8

2. Members of International Student Service.

ANDRUSEVICIUS, Pulgis.	KAUNAS, Ukmerges pl. 53, Lithuania.	R	4.7.-22.8
FELBER, Charles E.	61 Saumstrasse, ZURICH. 6 III P	R	11.8-21.9
FERTIG, Roman.	Piazza S. Maria Novella, Florence.	R	16.7-21.9
GELDERMANS, M.A.	St. Willibrordusstraat 69 I, AMSTERDAM, Holland.	B	30.7-27.8
HUBER, Hanns.	Altentrach 1 B. (Baden), Germany.	R	11.8-21.9
JANSEN, Josef.	Essen, Simonstr. 48, Germany.	R	22.8-21.9
KUZMANY, Alfred R.	3 Lovengasse 35, VIENNA, Austria.	R	3.8.-26.8
LIMPER, Werner,	Altona, HOCHKAMP, Reideskautzlestr. 22 Germany	R	27.7-7.8 13.8 -21.9
Von PEILERSDORFF, Hans,	Grossenhagen, bei GOLLNOW LAND, Pommern, Germany.	R	16.8-21.9
RAUSTIS, Juozas,	Draginiai, Papile, Siauliu aps.	R	4.7 - 6.8
PANNRAFT, Ferdinand	Lithuania. Hürzzschlag, Scheibenweg 2, STIEBERMARK, Austria.	B	30.7-2.9
ZEMGALIS, Pauls.	Kr. Barona iela-3, dz. 6, RIGA, Latvia.	R.	6.7 -18.7
ZWICKER, Dietrich,	Erkner, Hohentinde, b. Berlin.	R.	1.8 -21.9
OSBORIO FLORIT, Alvaro,	Ay ala, MADRID, Spain.	R	29.6-21.7



International Voluntary Service.
BRITISH COMMITTEE.

SCIA 20321
Rhos 1932
Document No.4

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PENUCHA,
CAERWYS, FLINTSHIRE.

Telephone - CAERWYS 10.

December 22nd., 1932.

Dear Volunteers,

The British Committee of the I.V.S. has asked me to send you their greetings and very best thanks for your service at Brynmawr and Rhos. We should especially like to thank those who had been at previous Services, and to hope that they will volunteer again next summer, together with all those who gave of their best to the work this year.

The unemployed are working steadily through the winter, and you would hardly recognise the old Ponkey banks, with shrubs and plants growing in the gardens and rockeries, and two fine roads. The example of Rhos is being followed in other places in North Wales, and all those who see the message of goodwill expressed in practical work at Rhos and Brynmawr, or hear about it, have been greatly interested and inspired. The Swiss Service at Safien-Platz appears to have been the best ever held, and we hope to learn much from its example.

The New Year that is coming is full of danger, trouble and fear, but at the same time, of wonderful opportunity. We are scattered all over Europe, but there is a link that binds us together to work harder than ever before for the spirit of friendship, in the presence of which the desire for war withers and fear of each other dies.

I am sending you a list of the members of the two Services. Will you let me know if there are any mistakes? We shall always be delighted to have news of you. We shall be sending round a report of this year's work and plans for next summer in a few weeks' time. Meanwhile, our very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

On behalf of the Committee,

Yours sincerely,

Kitty Lewis

RAPPORT sur le SERVICE à RHOS ,du 1.juillet au 24 sept.1932
=====

a) LE TRAVAIL. Le service a été dirigé par Mr.Georges Davids et Melle Kitty Lewes. Le travail consistait surtout à niveler un grand terrain, complètement en creux et en bosses, pour en faire un Parc avec place de tennis, Bowlinggreen, Parc de jeux pour les enfants,etc. Nous avions des pelles, des pioches et des brouettes mais les outils nécessaires à la réparation des brouettes endommagées, manquaient ; il n'y avait de même pas moyen d'obtenir un niveau d'eau nécessaire pour l'exécution rationnelle d'un tel travail.

Le nombre de volontaires se montait généralement à 30 environ et nous étions aidés par des chômeurs du village. Il est difficile d'en donner le nombre, du fait qu'ils n'avaient pas d'horaires déterminés. A part quelques-uns qui se présentaient régulièrement, les chômeurs pouvaient se mettre au travail quand, où et aussi longtemps que bon leur semblait. Malgré leur bonne volonté, il était difficile de travailler de cette façon. P.ex. quand il fallait, pour un certain travail, 4 volontaires, il arrivait fréquemment qu'au bout d'une heure ou deux, leur nombre s'était doublé, ce qui occasionnait à la moitié d'entr'eux, des repos prolongés.

Sur la place de travail étaient en outre admis les enfants des écoles pendant leurs vacances. C'était très touchant de les voir s'intéresser au travail pour la communauté, mais d'un autre côté cela rendait l'organisation du travail plus difficile encore.

b) LE REGLEMENT. D'après le règlement, la durée du travail était fixée à 7 heures par jour, c.à.d. de 7 à 8 heures, de 9 heures à midi 30 et de 1 heure 30 à 6 heures 30. Le samedi après-midi était libre. Il était prévu une interruption d'un quart d'heure à 11 heures tous les matins pour un meeting (réunion). Le déjeuner était à 8 heures 1/4, le dîner à 12.45 et le souper à 17.30. Après le souper les volontaires pouvaient disposer librement de leur temps et ce, jusqu'à 22 h. 30 où tout le monde devait être couché.

Pendant la semaine, nous tenions les repas ensemble dans une grande salle du Minner's- Institute. Le dimanche il n'y avait pas repas au camp et nous étions invités chacun de son côté chez les habitants du village qui, sans exception, s'intéressaient beaucoup au Service et qui se donnaient toutes les peines pour nous.

Fait important : Nos quartiers étaient dispersés dans tout le village. Il y avait des chambres pour un ou deux, un peu partout, ce qui nous mettait en contact avec la population. La nourriture était très bonne ; elle aurait facilement pu être plus simple et tout aussi saine et les chambres étaient louées par le Service, ce qui a, sans doute, dû rendre ce dernier très coûteux.

c) Quelques détails sur la marche du service.

Je suis malheureusement forcé de dire que celle-ci a beaucoup laissé à désirer et ce, dès le début. Il y avait absence totale de discipline et l'esprit de service n'y était pas non plus. Les premiè-

premières semaines déjà, nous nous trouvions quelques fois 3 ou 4 au travail, à 7 heures du matin; un certain nombre venait à 7 h. 15, d'autres à 7 h. 30. Certains d'entre eux venaient à 8 h. moins 10 et trouvaient que cela ne valait plus la peine de commencer à travailler avant le déjeuner. Très souvent et quelques fois deux - trois fois de suite, les mêmes volontaires venaient juste à 8 heures pour le déjeuner. Ce qui m'a particulièrement frappé, c'est que ces retardataires s'amenaient bien tranquillement, je n'en ai jamais vus se dépêchant vraiment. Pendant la journée, certains volontaires se reposaient trop facilement perdant leur temps à discuter durant de trop longs moments, avec la galerie ne manquant jamais.

Certains travaillaient, mais d'autres ne gagnaient vraiment pas leur nourriture.

Voyant, à un certain moment, que les dirigeants ne faisaient rien pour remédier à cet état de chose, j'ai pris la parole un jour à table pour prier les amis de vouloir bien arriver à l'heure.

Ne voyant aucune amélioration, nous avons proposé de faire une discussion sur le service, une fois au moins par semaine, à un jour fixé à l'avance; cela a été accepté. J'ai été désigné pour ouvrir la première discussion. Je profitai alors d'expliquer aux amis quel est le véritable but du service civil: ce qu'il est effectivement et quel est son but. Je leur ai parlé des réfractaires dans notre pays et des grandes difficultés que nous rencontrons de faire élaborer une loi leur permettant de faire un service civil en lieu et place du service militaire, - et combien, pour cela, nous sommes forcés de présenter un service civil sérieux. Je fis ensuite appel à la bonne volonté des volontaires en leur demandant de nous soutenir dans notre effort. Dans la discussion qui suivit, une soeur norvégienne m'a bien soutenue, et, en effet, le lendemain matin à 7 heures, nous fûmes au complet. Mais le surlendemain déjà, certains d'entr'eux reprirent leur nonchalance et peu à peu la vieille histoire recommença. Il fut ensuite établi un cahier dans lequel chaque volontaire devait inscrire l'heure de son arrivée; cela fit de l'effet pour peu de temps, car il y avait des volontaires qui ne se souciaient pas de la portée de leur inscription; certains prirent même la chose au ridicule pour inscrire leur arrivée à des heures impossibles comme p. ex 6 h. 78 !

d) Les meetings d' 11 heures.

La durée de ces meetings était fixée à un quart d'heure; généralement un volontaire nous entretenait de son pays ou une autre personne nous faisait un récit sur un sujet quelconque, - puis des chants suivirent. Ces meetings, auxquels la population assistait en assez grand nombre, durèrent finalement jusqu'à 1/2 h. - 3/4 d'h. même. Tous les jours plusieurs personnes ~~prenaient~~ prirent la parole.

Nous nous sommes opposés à cela également. Il fût décidé que la causerie ne durerait que 15 minutes. Lorsque nous nous aperçûmes que cela en restait à la décision seulement ~~et~~ quelques uns parmi nous quittèrent simplement les rangs à 11 h15 pour reprendre le travail,

Pendant trois semaines, j'étais occupé, avec quelques amis, à démolir un mur d'env. 150 m- de long, de 2 m. de haut, (au Cimetière). Nous devions après cela charger les grandes pierres sur

un camion pour les transporter sur la place de travail. Un jour, aux environs de 10 h. 30, le camion partait alors que nous devions préparer une nouvelle charge au cimetière. Cette dernière, une fois prête, force nous fût d'attendre le camion. Mais ne le voyant pas de retour à 11 h. 15, nous nous rendîmes sur la grande place de travail pour connaître le motif du retard. Que vîmes-nous : le camion était utilisé comme podium par un volontaire faisant un discours et cela pendant 3/4 d'heure. Si les dirigeants d'un soi-disant service civil tolèrent des choses semblables, il ne faut pas s'étonner de la mauvaise marche du travail.

e) Raisons d'une mauvaise marche du travail .

J'ai l'impression que le tort essentiel était celui d'avoir nos chambres chez les gens du village ; aucun contrôle n'était de ce fait possible. Certains amis se couchaient par habitude à minuit ou 1 h. du matin seulement. Conséquences : ils arrivaient en retard le lendemain, et ne se sentaient pas assez reposés pour exécuter un travail auquel ils n'étaient, au surplus, pas habitués. Une autre raison était le mauvais exemple. Au début, nous avions un jeune espagnol parmi nous, bien bâti, mais qui ne travaillait que rarement ; trop souvent, on pouvait le voir coucher dans une brouette pendant les heures de travail et il ne fût hélas pas le seul.

Lorsque de nouveaux volontaires arrivent et voient que de pareilles choses sont tolérées par les dirigeants d'un service et en rient, cela n'est pas étonnant qu'ils ne prennent pas la chose au sérieux. D'autre part, la façon de faire la propagande en Angleterre est, à mon avis, critiquable. J'ai vu, en effet, des photos du service, dans des journaux anglais, au dessous desquelles on pouvait lire ce qui suit : Holidays - camp for students (Camp de vacances pour étudiants). Ceci eût pour conséquence que certains volontaires déclarèrent ouvertement qu'ils n'étaient pas venus pour travailler durement, mais plutôt pour avoir un séjour agréable et bon marché. Je serais à même de citer encore de nombreux cas mais cela me porterait trop loin.

Une chose est certaine : si nous avions en Suisse un service pareil, la Presse s'en occuperait, mais certainement pas à notre avantage.

Genève, le 12 septembre 1932.

Service Civil International



International Archives

Votre

Public Service

What International Volunteers Are Doing

*from
Keith
Wetherland*

FROM time to time discussions on the abolition of war turn into discussions on alternatives to war. Dr. Stresemann, in the last speech he made at Geneva (or anywhere), touched on the opportunities the conquest of Nature provides for the development of those qualities—courage, enterprise, self-sacrifice—to which war so often gives dramatic expression as the easy ways of peace rarely do. In an Assembly which still numbered Fridtjof Nansen among its members the suggestion had a singular fitness.

But not everyone can explore the Arctic or Central Africa, and many in every country for whom these adventures are excluded are anxious still to find some avenue of service enabling them to demonstrate that they fight for the abolition of war and the military service which in most countries forms part of the regular preparation against war. That explains the existence, and the very interesting though as yet very limited, activities of bodies like the Voluntary International Civil Service and International Voluntary Service (British Committee). Now and then paragraphs about the S.C.I.V. (Service Civil International Voluntaire), formed originally by Swiss objectors to military service, creep into the Press; and the part played by the I.V.S., with which the S.C.I.V. works in this country, in the reconstruction work in the South Wales mining township of Brynmawr last year obtained some recognition at the time. But something more may be said with advantage of a movement calculated pretty certainly to appeal to a good many who have so far never heard of it.

Repairing Flood Damage

Civil service first became generally known in connection with a flood disaster in the miniature Principality of Liechtenstein in 1928, and it was also to repair damage due to flood disaster that a volunteer S.C.I.V. brigade betook itself to the French village of Lagarde in the Department of Tarn-et-Garonne (in the south-west, near the Spanish border) in 1930. There for five months, over 250 volunteers of different countries, 30 of them women, worked through the summer heat clearing roads and demolishing houses, taking over completely a task with which the official Roads and Bridges Service was primarily charged. Each individual remained on an average for about a month, though one or two remained the whole five months. They were of 16 nationalities, 122 being Swiss (since the movement originated in Switzerland), 48 German, 38 British, 15 French, while the remainder hailed from Austria, Holland, the United States, Italy, Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, India, Norway, Roumania, Russia, and Czechoslovakia. M. Pierre Cérésolle, of Chaux-les-Fonds, Switzerland, the founder of the movement, was in command. The women were mainly engaged (in relays) in catering for the men. No one took any pay, but board and lodging was provided by the commune.

There seems to have been no doubt as to the soundness of the work carried out. Houses had to be demolished and as much as possible of the material sorted out for future use, a business over which the volunteers showed themselves particularly conscientious. The engineer in local charge of the Roads and Bridges Service gave them experimentally a batch of houses in the middle of the village to demolish, assessing the time required for the staff available as a month. Actually, the job was done satisfactorily in a fortnight, as a result of which the

whole village was turned over to the volunteers. Apart from the practical work done, opportunity was taken of impressing the inhabitants of the village with the motives inspiring the volunteers, namely, the desire to effect some constructive work for peace, and the gratitude evinced by the inhabitants was sufficient proof of the understanding created. A passage may be quoted from an address given by the Mayor of Lagarde, M. Carla, at a social evening at which the volunteers and the inhabitants of the commune gathered. "After the volunteers have left us," he said, "we shall continue to maintain in our little commune the bonds of solidarity and co-operation. Their living example of international solidarity will inspire us to give what help we can ourselves to others. The volunteers have made a substantial contribution to our moral welfare."

From France to South Wales

M. Carla's reference to seeking opportunities of giving help to others had a striking sequel. Under the financial arrangements made with the village the volunteers received from the commune a modest daily allowance out of which they provided for their board and lodging. At the end of the time there remained a balance in hand of some 16,500 French francs. That, in the ordinary way, would have reverted to the village, but by happy linking of need with need and country with country it was, in fact, presented by Lagarde to the volunteers to use as they thought best and formed, in fact, the basis of the next piece of work carried out a year later in Brynmawr, South Wales.

A good deal has been heard of the work outside volunteers have done to reconstitute the life of a village which the misfortunes of the coal industry had left almost derelict. Among them figured in 1931 and is again this summer an international contingent from M. Cérésolle's Service Civil International Voluntaire. What they did at Brynmawr last year is part of what the Friends as principal organisers of the work had planned, primarily the construction of a public garden, a swimming bath and a youth hostel. The S.C.V.I. complement numbered 37. The countries represented were Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Georgia, Switzerland, and the United States, the average stay of each individual being six weeks.

This Year's Work

Enough has appeared in the public press about the work at Brynmawr to make it unnecessary to describe it in detail here. That, moreover, was a last year's story. This year there is another story to be told, for the work at Brynmawr is continuing and another camp under the auspices of the British Committee for International Voluntary Service is being held at Rhos, near Wrexham. The international element will again be represented, for volunteers are expected from France, Germany, Switzerland, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Norway, Denmark, Austria and the United States. At Brynmawr further improvements are to be carried out by the volunteers. At Rhos a recreation ground is to be created on a piece of waste land in the middle of a congested district.

It is due to the volunteers in Wales to mention that since it is part of their aim to lay, if possible, no charge on the locality they are benefiting, subscriptions to make that possible are welcomed. Donations sent care of HEADWAY will be duly forwarded.

five years hence. He will pay his £100 for each bond (though the Bank is entitled to issue them at as low as £90 if it thinks fit) and receive in exchange a certificate which entitles him to 5 per cent. interest every year. The German Government can, if it chooses, redeem the bonds at any time by repaying the full £100, and sooner or later all the bonds will be so redeemed. Meanwhile, the man who buys them can sell them again, just as ordinary British Government stock passes from hand to hand. They will become ordinary counters in international finance, including the very minor finance of stockholders like you and me. For Germany, therefore, it will mean paying 6 per cent. a year on the whole sum, 5 per cent. as interest to the holder of each bond, and 1 per cent. as nucleus of a fund whereby all bonds will eventually be bought back and thus cancelled. The arrangement is a comparatively easy one for Germany, and there is no question that the rest of the world will gain enormously by having the reparations controversy wiped off the slate.

But would it not have been better to have wiped the slate completely clean and not exacted even this £150,000,000? In some ways it would. On the other hand, a small payment by agreement, which disposes of any idea of the repudiation of treaty obligations, makes the whole arrangement far easier for France and is, on the whole, a good thing in itself. There were discussions at Lausanne as to whether the so-called war-guilt article of the Treaty which appears to attribute sole responsibility for the war to Germany and her

Allies should in some way be cancelled. No way could be found of doing that formally, but since the only purpose of the clause was to give a reason for the exaction of reparations, and reparations are now no longer to be exacted, the clause itself has very considerably lost its edge.

One word must be added on an aspect of Lausanne which has caused a good deal of perturbation. France and Italy took the line from the first that they could not simply wipe out reparations while they were still technically under obligation to make heavy debt repayments to Great Britain and the United States. They, therefore, came to a rather informal agreement among themselves that the main Lausanne Treaty on reparations should not be finally ratified till it was known what attitude America would take regarding debts.

In a sense there was not much point in this compact, since there can be no question of getting anything more out of Germany, no matter what line the United States may take, and it will have the rather unfortunate effect of delaying ratification of the main Lausanne agreement. That is a pity, but it is less important than it seems, for the reason stated. Great Britain, meanwhile, has undertaken to demand no debt repayments from France and Italy until the final ratification of the Lausanne convention takes place, and it is extremely unlikely that she will demand any then. That, too, will depend in a certain degree on the attitude of America.

An Impending Crisis

THERE is every indication that a crisis more serious than any that has ever yet arisen will face the League of Nations when the Lytton Report on relations between Japan and China, with special reference to Manchuria, is presented. The work of the Lytton Commission ended last month, when its members worked back from Tokyo to Peiping (as Peking is now called) to gather some final information necessary for the actual preparation of the report to the coming Assembly.

The gravity of the situation lies not in what the report is likely to contain, but in the avowed attitude of Japan. Count Uchida, the new Foreign Minister, appears to have made it clear that Japan insists that the province shall remain independent of China. It is independent at present because what is by common consent an unreal puppet government has been set up under the protection of the Japanese, with all the real administrative work carried out under Japanese guidance. This Manchukuo Government would not stand a day if Japanese protection were withdrawn, and its continued existence is merely an excuse for virtual Japanese control of territory as large as France and Germany.

What the League Refuses

What the Lytton Commission will recommend regarding Manchuria no one knows, but one thing they cannot conceivably recommend, the continuance of existing conditions, for both the League of Nations itself in its resolution of March 11 and the Government of the United States in a declaration made on February 25 have laid it down irrevocably that no recognition can be given to a situation created in violation of treaties like the Kellogg Pact or the Nine Power Treaty signed for the protection of China at Washington in 1922.

What then is to happen in September? Japan, through her newspapers and various unofficial spokesmen, has made it absolutely clear that League or no

League she will not tolerate any régime in Manchuria short of the independence of the Manchukuo Government.

She threatens, in other words, to defy the League if the League, as it must, declines to accept that solution. That will create, inevitably, a most grave situation. Japan may carry out her threat to leave the League, or the League might conceivably feel it necessary (though that is unlikely) to use the power given to the Assembly by the Covenant to declare Japan no longer a member. But merely to do that and disregard China's reasonable demand that the pledges of her territorial integrity embodied in the Covenant shall be carried out would be completely unsatisfactory.

How to Treat Japan

The result of defiance of the League by a member would seem to be, if the intentions of the Covenant were to be carried out, resort to some form of pressure on that Power. League members have been very reluctant to move in that direction hitherto and they will probably be reluctant still. But in any case Japan will suffer. Whether China officially lifts the boycott on Japanese goods or not Chinese subjects will certainly not buy anything Japanese if they can get what they want from any other source. The cost of keeping troops in Manchuria to fight the bandits and irregular armies which are ranging that country will still further accentuate Japan's budget difficulties, and there is always the possibility of getting seriously embroiled with Soviet Russia. For these reasons it may well be that the sound policy in the long run would be to pursue delaying tactics and wait for Japan to discover for herself how gravely she is injuring her own interests. The difficulty about that is that it would be an inglorious attitude for the League to adopt. It can do Geneva no good to acquire a reputation for weakness. The coming Assembly may have to face heavier responsibilities than any before it.

Impressions de Service Civil
En Angleterre 1932.

SCIIA 20321
Rhos 1932
Document No.7

Rhosllanerchrugog.

La première chose qui frappe en arrivant à Rhos c'est l'immensité du travail à accomplir. Un grand terrain de peut être une dizaine d'hectares et formé de scories provenant d'anciennes mines. C'est très irrégulier, boursoufflé un peu comme un lac aux énormes vagues grises. Peu de végétation; seulement quelques touffes de gazons sur les bosses les plus proéminentes.

Cette place, Pontney Bank, est située au centre d'une agglomération industrielle de environ 12.000 habitants.

Ce sont en réalité 3 localités distinctes mais si près les unes des autres qu'elles n'en forment en réalité ~~pas~~ qu'une seule. Ce sont: Rhos. Pontney et Johnstown.

Depuis Pontney Bank la vue est très étendue sur la Vallée de la Dee et la contrée avoisinante.

Il s'agit donc d'aménager Pontney Bank pour en faire une place de jeux promenades, terrains de tennis, de jeux de boules, football etc.

C'est vraiment le meilleur parti que l'on puisse tirer de cette

place. un travail réellement fini là-bas pourrait être quelque chose de très bien.

Nous sommes F. Smihof et moi bien accueilli par la population à Phos. Tout de suite on nous conduit dans notre logement et ensuite au Miner's Institute qui sera le centre de notre S. C.

L'endroit où nous prendrons nos repas, où se tiendront nos discussions et meetings.

Vendredi 8 juillet 1^{er} jour de travail pour F. et moi.

Tout le monde travaille avec enthousiasme. Nous sommes une trentaine de volontaires du S. C. et autres organisations. Les volontaires locaux sont beaucoup plus nombreux. Le travail très simple est facile. Il s'agit de piocher, peller, et charger sur des brouettes du sol léger et peu résistant. Brouetter ensuite à des distances de 30 à 60 mètres approximativement. Tout cela afin d'enlever un énorme tas de sol minier et de le transporter plus bas afin de faire une terrasse régulière de peut être 14% de pente, et qui sera une promenade publique.

Une chose me frappe. Il n'y a aucun contrôle pour les volontaires locaux. Ceux-ci arrivent sur le chantier prennent un outil travaillent: 10 minutes une heure ou plus cela n'a pas d'importance. Quand ils en ont assez ils posent leur outil et s'en vont plus loin. Les producteurs sont autorisés à aller où ils veulent. Souvent, stimulés par l'exemple, ils prennent un outil et se transforment en volontaire-travailleur. L'unique vis c'est le contraire qui se produit et le volontaire se transforme en mineur et passe dans le camp des curieux.

C'est tout un va et vient continuél pas pratique pour faire du bon travail. Nous besognons très près les uns des autres. C'est un petit point qui a son importance. Au tour de 2 mois passés là-bas j'ai observé à plusieurs reprises que des amis trop près les uns des autres s'empêchaient mutuellement de travailler et quelque fois des camarades ont reçu des coups de pioches très ~~ou~~ involontaires mais dû à ce que les travailleurs se courtoient de trop près. Le qui est arrivé à Order James qui a été blessé à la jambe par une pioche maladroite.

Mardi 12 juillet

Nous sommes 200 travail mais beaucoup ne font rien. Ils guillent des cigarettes tranquillement assis sur leurs branettes. Quelque fois des amis se mettent 4 ou 5 pour charger une branette et il y a naturellement un seul branetteur. Si celui-ci met un certain temps pour aller vider son véhicule. Les 4 ou 5 camarades, pendant ce temps ne font rien et se mettent à discuter. Le branetteur revient, personne ne bouge il est obligé de remplir lui-même sa branette. Ou sinon il attendra le bon vouloir des autres, ou s'en ira ailleurs. C'est ainsi que nous changeons continuellement de place. Sommes-nous 3 pour commencer.

un travail. Ensuite il en vient d'autres à un certain moment nous sommes 12 ou 13 et personnel ne sait exactement ce qu'il y a à faire. Notre principal chef de travail est un écossais M^r Simpson. Il se rend compte du manque d'organisation de notre travail, et cherche à nous utiliser au mieux de nos capacités. Aujourd'hui par exemple, il me donne pour travail le ~~re~~ nivellement d'une pièce de terrain. J'ai un cordeau comme instrument de mesurage je le fixe parallèlement au sol attaché à chaque bout par un piquet. Les curieux qui passent, le regardent près de moi. Chaque fois ~~donne~~ donne du pied dans ma corde qui naturellement se brise; d'où perte de temps.

Les 13. 14. 15. 16. juillet. Il y a beaucoup de retard le matin au travail. Nous ne sommes que 5 ou 6 qui arrivent à l'heure. Les autres ont 5, 10. 15 minutes de retard. Il y en a même qui ne sont venus travailler que après le déjeuner. Car notre programme comprend de 7 à 8 h. travail et de 8 à 9 déjeuner. Il est évidemment beaucoup plus aisé de commencer le travail à 9 heures et d'arrêter ainsi l'heure la plus désagréable de la journée. Sur ce point je pense qu'il n'est pas très rationnel de faire travailler les hommes une heure avant déjeuner. Il y a beaucoup d'amis qui ont eu de la peine à s'accoutumer à ce régime. qui les faisaient travailler une heure ^{plus} Lundi 18 toujours à même lieu. Beaucoup de temps perdu par certains amis. Ce sont souvent les plus beaux parleurs qui travaillent le moins. Ils ne se rendent pas compte que pour que notre oeuvre soit utile et effective; ils nous font produire un certain travail.

Mardi 20. Même chose. Certains amis ne se rendent pas compte de l'importance qu'il y a à travailler sérieusement. Ils fument, causent avec le public, amusent leur entourage ou s'assoient dans leur brimettes. Tout cela pourrait à causer du tort à notre œuvre et donner des arguments contre.

Ce n'est pas que je demande l'interdiction absolue de parler au public. Répondre gentiment aux questions posées est très bien. Mais perdre son temps en bavardages inutiles et chercher à se rendre intéressants, surtout aux yeux des jeunes filles, sont des choses qui n'aidèrent jamais à faire respecter un S.C. par une population. Sur le moment ces gens rient mais après diront: les étudiants sont venus ici pour passer des vacances agréables en travaillant le moins possible.

21. Personne ne prend au sérieux le règlement. Je sais théoriquement tout le monde devrait être au lit à 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ h. Rentrez-vous une ou deux heures plus tard nos dirigeants n'y attachent aucune importance. Nos hommes loin de la discipline de Brynmawr 1981.

Pour les raisons les plus futiles on croquera sur es heures de travail. Pour prendre une photo, pour faire une excursion, pour prolonger une discussion inutile.

23. Travail de nivellement. Il me manque toujours des outils essentiels
comme un niveau d'eau par exemple mais impossible d'en avoir un.
25. Lundi. Notre chantier s'est étendu. Un groupe dont je suis, travaille
au terrain de tennis et jeu de boule. un autre groupe creuse une
tranchée, un autre fait un chemin ou un talus. Mais il y a toujours
des volontaires qui voyagent d'un groupe à l'autre sans pouvoir rester
nulle part. Toujours la même inexactitude le matin au travail.
Nous n'avons que des pelles et des pioches. Ne faudrait-il pas aussi avoir
quelques bûches de différentes formes pour couper le gazon par exemple.
Des outils aussi seraient nécessaire pour réparer les brouettes. Scies
maréaux clous haches, vibre-mains. Nous n'avons rien de tout cela,
et les brouettes endommagées restent inutilisables au fond de la hutte.
Mardi 2 août. Discussion sur la paix. Différentes ~~pe~~ opinions défendues
par un camarade Polonais en ~~ex~~ ^{opposition} avec un camarade
allemand. Mercredi 3. Départ de George Davies. Son remplaçant
est M^{rs} Williams. membre de la Peace Army.

Le moi d'août est un moi de vacance scolaire. Nous nous occupons
tout de suite à Ponkey Bank. Les enfants nous entourent, nous
examine de très près, ils veulent nous aider. Beaucoup sont très
gentils et travaillent mieux que certains volontaires. Quelquefois ils
profitent de notre absence pendant les repas pour prendre nos outils
et travailler à leur manière qui n'est naturellement pas la
meilleure.

5. août. Rien ne ressemble plus à un champ de bataille que notre
terrain de travail. En effet pour suivre un niveau régulier
nous creusons des tranchées préliminaires qui sans avoir l'appet
redoutables les tranchées verdunoises n'en ont pas moins leur
utilité.

Samedi 6. Frank Imhof fait remarquer à des uns qu'il y a encore des volontaires qui ne sont pas au travail à l'heure fixée.

Claude Morgan, qui lui répond, exprime l'avis que nous ne devons pas être trop sévères avec ces arrivées tardives.

Lundi 8. Discussion après le travail sur la question des arrivées tardives. Sur la proposition de Ingelborg Sletten la décision est prise d'avoir un registre, sur lequel, chaque jour, en face de notre nom, chacun de nous devra inscrire son heure d'arrivée sur le chantier. Cela sans prendre l'allure d'un règlement disciplinaire nous permettra de contrôler & la bonne volonté de nos camarades. Depuis ce jour une réelle amélioration dans notre horaire matinal s'est manifestée. Frank Imhof ~~est~~ avait la responsabilité de la bonne marche du registre.

Mardi 9. La chaleur commence à se faire sentir. Les boissons que l'on nous présente sont les bienvenues. Les jours suivants la chaleur ayant encore augmenté les volontaires de Rhos viennent de moins en moins nombreux travailler. Les curieux eux-mêmes se lassent de cette chaleur et quelquefois Ponkey Bank ~~est~~ semble presque abandonné de ses travailleurs. Pour hommes 30 ou 40 dispersés sur cette grande place. Il n'a guère que les écoliers et écolières en vacances qui tiennent le coup. Ils sont pourtant dans l'enthousiasme de leur bonne foi ils piochent car il ne faudrait pas établir notre travail

Quelquefois les enfants passent au travers de la fenêtre de la hutte pour aller boire au tonneau de limonade qui est dedans. Personne ne leur dit quoi que ce soit aussi en profitent ils largement pour faire ce que bon leur semble. Cet espèce de communisme qui est aussi de l'anarchie, dans lequel nous vivons est très beau mais ses résultats pratiques en sont minimes. Le 12 août discours de E. Jones school master. Il est fier de sa race galloise qu'il croit la plus pacifique du monde et attribue cela à l'influence des églises qui sont à la base de la vie du pays.

Vendredi 15. Le meeting qui doit durer, d'après le règlement, un quart d'heure, a duré 40 minutes. Ce n'est d'ailleurs pas la première, ni la dernière fois que cela se présente. Pour mon compte une fois les 15 minutes réglementaires écoulées je retourne au travail sans m'inquiéter des commentaires. M^{rs} Simpson est d'ailleurs pleinement d'accord avec moi. Mardi 16 Pendant l'après midi 2 volontaires quittent le travail pour aller assister au passage d'un mariage sur la route à quelque distance. Ceci l'affaire de 20 minutes. Personne ne trouve à redire, à cela, quoi que ce soit. Mais quel mauvais exemple sur les autres volontaires surtout sur les nouveaux venus.

17 août. Discours d'un syndicaliste ses paroles ne se rapportent pas à ce que a dit E. Jones - jours avant. C'est à dire que ce matin j'apprends que cent ans auparavant les premiers syndicalistes furent dénomés au Patronat et aux autorités par les églises.

18 Toujours la chaleur. Le podium a été déplacé de environ 25 mètres cette précaution pour souligner l'inutilité de la chose.

19 Orateur allemand. Le camarade Simper. Catholique Il justifie la poussée du nationalisme allemand.

comme un rempart nécessaire pour repousser la vague d'assaut communiste. Il attribue le marasme ~~à l'Allemagne~~ actuel à la nation Allemande à son trop grand pourcentage de protestantisme. Selon lui avant Luther l'Allemagne était à son apogée de gloire et de puissance.

22 de Discussion George Beach trouve avec raison que nous perdons trop de temps en discussions et principalement aux meetings chaque matin. R. Fertig, Pologne, remarque que les meetings nous amènent de nouveaux travailleurs.

23 excellent discours de M^r Simpson qui fait remarquer justement que les meetings sont trop longs. Il esquisse un plan du travail futur mais ne parle que 10 minutes.

24 Aujourd'hui travail terminé une demi heure plus tôt. Puisque nous sommes invités à souper quelque part. Ce n'est pas une raison suffisante pour perdre 30 minutes.

25 Nous manquons par trop d'outils. Voulant réparer un marteau à casser des pierres je n'ai pu trouver que 2 clous et un vieux ^{marteau}.

26 Nous cassons des pierres sur un chemin une épaisseur de 12 à 15 cm. avec du béton dessus cela fera du bon travail.

27 Il y a maintenant un gros tas de pierres arrachées par Fiantz et son équipe dans un cimetière. Ce sera la principale armature du Rock Garden, qui longera le chemin parallèlement au terrain de jeu de boules.

Des tuyaux de drainages ont été posés le long d'une route que nous avons fait au travers de Pontrey Bank ce n'est que la continuation de Clark Street. Cette route n'est pas finie.

Le terrain de foot-ball junior prévu sur le plan et qui sera un peu plus loin n'a pas encore été commencé.

Mardi 30 Nous travaillons aujourd'hui et le reste de la semaine une demi-heure de plus pour remplacer samedi matin ce nous avons à Gregynog. 31. On prend des résolutions et le lendemain on perd de nouveau 20 minutes en paroles inutiles. Le manque d'outils, de chefs capables, d'organisateurs se fait sentir quand nous entreprenons un nouveau travail un peu difficile. Chose regrettable dans tous les travaux demandant une certaine expérience nous sommes nuls de côté. J'aimerais voir une fois un petit groupe de aviolistes mettre la main à tout et jouer le rôle d'une équipe de génie militaire mais au service de la vie civile et parfaitement volontaire.

Lundi 29 discussion intéressante Thomas Rogers de Pontrey, à qui nous avions parlé le jour avant et qui marchait en plein record avec nous, a jeté le pari dans la mare aux grenouilles. Il a dit ce qu'il y avait à dire. Trop de paroles et pas assez de travail. Les camarades allemands Dietrich nous a parlé de camp de service civil en Allemagne. Les camps ont un caractère national ils durent de 20 à 40 semaines la discipline y est stricte. Le travail commence à 6 heures le matin et le coucher est à 9 heures le soir.

L'ancien Secrétaire

Cher ami Pierre

Je suis rentré vendredi 28 d'Angleterre avec F. Imhof. Nous avons
voyagé en vélo. Souf entre Dieppe et Paris. Nous avons donc passé 2 mois à Rhos
et 3 semaines à Brynmawr. Depuis sur la demande de J. Imhof nous avons été
dans le Kent à Ashurst. C'est un petit village de 163 habitants. Le Recteur
M^{rs} P. M. Aldous veut faire du Rectory où il habite un centre de ralliement
pour l'association des -- Bond of Youth. En même temps ce sera un
piéd-à-terre pour les amis du S.C. allant depuis le continent dans un
camp anglais du S.C. ou vice versa. Nous avons F. Imhof et moi travaillé
un mois là. Pas pour remettre à neuf quelques chambres et améliorer autour
de la maison pour en faire un endroit agréable. Samedi 22 nous avons
eu la visite de J. Imhof qui a passé quelques heures avec nous. Nous avons discuté
les choses du S.C. Il m'a demandé de vous dire de prendre des médailles pour
aller à Londres dans 3 semaines m'a-t-il dit. J'aurai bien aimé pouvoir
aller à La Chaux-de-Fonds mais avec la neige je ne puis le faire en vélo
et le train est trop cher. Avec la présente j'envoie un petit rapport de ce qui est
passé à Rhos pendant que nous y étions. J'aimerais savoir quelque chose de
Sapient Platz, et sur les projets d'avenir du S.C. Tant que je n'ai pas
d'occupation régulière je ~~donnerai~~ reste à la disposition de notre
organisation ~~pacifique~~ pacifique pour aller n'importe où.

mes meilleures amitiés

Paul A. Meylan.

Remarques -

Loger chez l'habitant dans un S.C. est peut être très bien mais soulève de grosses difficultés dans l'organisation du travail. Impossible de contrôler la rentrée le soir. Difficulté d'avoir les amis le matin à l'heure. Je ne pense pas que la liaison temporaire du jeune étudiant avec le mineur et sa famille changera quoi que ce soit dans la lutte de classe ou dans ce qui fait la différence entre les diverses classes de la population. Il est d'ailleurs possible de fraterniser en travaillant ou après le travail ou dans des réunions vraiment publiques et amicales. Réunions qui n'ont jamais été organisées à Rhos. Il y a bien eu des réunions mais d'un caractère un peu puéril. C'est à dire chaque volontaire devait inviter une ou 2 personnes. Ces réunions comprenaient des danses, chants, discours, etc. Est-ce vraiment là ce qu'il aurait fallu. Je ne le pense pas. Je fais pour ^{un} civiliste d'inviter une jeune fille pour une réunion d'autant ^{est} et un genre de fraternité ^{peu} entre les différentes classes de la population qui très bien se faire ailleurs que au Service Airt. J'aimais mieux les réunions de church house d'un passé à Brynmawr où tout le monde était admis.

TRANSFORMING A WELSH VILLAGE

A Social Service Scheme

INTERNATIONAL AND VOLUNTARY EFFORT

(From our Special Correspondent.)

RHOSLLANERCHRUGOG, FRIDAY.

Rhosllanerchrugog, as purely Welsh-speaking a mining township as one could hope to find within a dozen miles of the English border, has become a cosmopolitan centre for the three months of summer. Not only Englishmen, Welshmen, Scots, New Zealanders are there, but Poles, Lithuanians, Germans, Swiss, Norwegians, Latvians, Danes, Sinhalese, and West Indian negroes are also busily employed in turning derelict, disfiguring slack-heaps into a public park and playing fields. And all this is a labour of love. It is true the unemployed or half-employed miners of Rhos, who provide about half the labour, will some day be able to play bowls on good Lancashire crown greens on the spot where their great-grandfathers hewed coal some ninety years ago; but all the foreigners—English included—have nothing to gain from their hard work except a precious knowledge of how other nations and other classes live and work, and an assurance that by their labour the cause of international understanding has been advanced.

New Use for Slack-Heap

These foreign workmen are student volunteers, members for the most part of a body called the "Service Civil International Volontaire," which was Swiss in inception and is an organisation designed to show by hard work for socially constructive purposes that, though "conscientious objectors" refuse military service, they do not do so because they are slackers or parasites on society. Here they are working along with Welsh miners and other less politically advanced students under a British society, the International Voluntary Service. They give seven hours' hard navvying a day and receive in return only their board, paid for by subscriptions from all over the country. Even this allowance is not a universal rule. If they can afford to pay for their keep they do so. But even with all this voluntary help money is still needed if the scheme is to be a success.

The strangers have settled down wonderfully well with the Welsh families with whom they lodge. Miss Kitty Lewis, the secretary of the movement, told me to-day of one Lithuanian student who was taken to a Welsh Sunday school on his first Sunday at Rhos. Next week he was invited to preside over a religious meeting in the chapel, and did so, giving out the notices in Welsh. Others have been less superhuman in their efforts at adaptation. There is one Norwegian girl, for instance, who fell asleep in the choir during a Welsh sermon. She was probably tired out, for she works hard every day painting the colliers' drab houses orange, yellow, green, lilac, and all the other colours which lighten a Norwegian village and are now lending a new gaiety to sombre Rhos.

A start was made with one or two houses in a prominent position overlooking the future park. These were done free as an advertisement. Now they are done at the cost price of the materials, though for the most part the students confine themselves at present to mixing the colours and giving advice. The idea is catching on. One night at ten o'clock a harassed man came round to the students' quarters saying that his wife would give him no peace until their house was painted; though for his part he didn't like the idea at all. Still, she made him do the work, and now he, too, is proud of the result. The cost is well within almost everybody's purse, for a small two-roomed cottage can be colour-washed for less than five shillings.

But after all the students are only helping the miners with what from beginning to end is the miners' own scheme. The 18 acres of the future park have been bought by the Miners' Institute, which has pledged the next six months' profits of the Institute cinema to pay the purchase price of £500. Quite half the work is being done by miners, and even the children of the place are busily engaged in preparing their own particular playground. Two boys of eight and nine work regularly there each day, and this afternoon there was one small infant who could barely have been six years old, industriously pulling a barrow.

Self-Help

The whole township—Rhos has a population of 12,000, although it has not got an urban district council—seems united in favour of the scheme. There is no division of opinion in Rhos as there has been at Bryn Mawr, where a similar scheme is in progress, largely because it is obvious to all sections of opinion that this is the only way in which a park can be obtained. Attempts had previously been made to persuade the Rural District Council, the Unemployment Grants Committee, the National Playing Fields Association, and so on to finance the scheme. They all failed, and it became obvious that the only way to get a park and playing fields was to use voluntary labour. And so this site, the scene of the Battle of Cinder Hill—a sort of North Wales Peterloo,—has become a public park, belonging to the Miners' Institute, under the patronage, among others, of Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn, whose ancestor was in command of the militia a hundred years ago when they came up against the trade unionists of those days in this forgotten struggle.

MINERS MAKING A MODEL GARDEN

Township Joins In

Two hundred miners in the mining centre of Rhosllanerchrugog, near Wrexham, made a start yesterday on the task of converting fifteen acres of derelict land into model gardens, which will be the home of music and sport. Originally it was intended to begin work on June 20, when the local miners would be joined by students from universities in Germany, France, Belgium, England, and Wales, who would work side by side with miners, but shortly after dawn yesterday, with prospects of a sunny day, the miners gathered their tools and set about their task.

Later in the day they were joined by clerks, teachers, musicians, and members of various other trades and professions. The whole of the work is being done by voluntary labour.

Service Civil International



International Archives

"BUILDING A NEW WORLD"

European Students Help in North Wales Effort

Rhos Llanerchrugog, on the outskirts of Wrexham, during the week-end welcomed a contingent of European students, who, under the auspices of the International Students' Association, have joined the local inhabitants in working voluntarily in converting 18 acres of waste land into landscape gardens, recreation grounds, and a home for music. The effort was described by Mr. G. T. Davies, Cardiff, at a civic reception in the Miners' Institute, as "a practical contribution to the building of a new world, which, as yet, is still a poet's dream."

The local men work alongside the students with pick and spade. There is no pay-day, and contractors provide horses, carts, and motor-lorries without payment.

It was announced at the reception that students were coming from Norway, Germany, Spain, Hungary, and Lithuania. Some were cycling across Europe, and others coming in tramp steamers. One of the first students to arrive came from Spain. After reaching Paris he flew to Croydon, and then travelled by train to Rhos. He was unable to speak a word of English.

MS 1876/32

PONKEY BANKS DAY BY DAY.

147 AT WORK.

On Monday, Hafod not working, there were 147 men working on the Ponkey Banks. The portion of the ground tackled was the rough surface below the tennis courts site. Here, it is the intention to form a kind of open-air amphitheatre where a large number of people can be accommodated. Immediately below will be the bandstand.

SNAPPING TIME.

It was only the scarcity of tools that prevented many more men joining in the work. There were crowds around only too eager to jump into the breach when anyone dropped his pick and shovel for a moment. The men worked hard all day in the heat of the sun, their only "snapping" being a drink of herb beer and a cigarette.

BLISTERS AND BLISS.

The students, most of whom are fittingly dressed in shorts, work alongside the expert wielder of the pick. The going was hard, but the students kept doggedly at it. We noticed at the close of the day that the blisters were rising on many hands. Our Swiss friend's hands were particularly bad. When urged to take a lighter tool he replied: "What matter about the blisters. Think of the bliss!"

A LADY VISITOR.

There were several visitors on Monday. One was Miss Rathbone, member of the distinguished Liverpool family. She was delighted at the sight of this communal effort, which, she confessed, made her rejoice one moment at the utter splendour of the thing, and want to shed tears the next moment at the motive underlying it. Before she left, Miss Rathbone had given a handsome donation to the funds.

STAYED THE NIGHT.

Another visitor was a gentleman and his son who were on their way to Brynmawr in their car, and who broke their journey to see the Ponkey banks. So impressed were they at the sight that they decided to stay the night in Rhos. The son flung off his coat and joined the workers. It was with the greatest difficulty that the father could persuade his son to resume the journey next day.

FENCING THE GROUND.

There was a meeting of the management committee on Monday evening. It was explained that it was very desirous to fence the ground properly, and for this purpose the secretary asked the meeting to pass a resolution empowering the spending of a sum of money for this purpose. The necessary resolution was passed.

FUNDS REQUIRED.

In order to proceed with the work of fencing and other necessary things, funds are immediately needed. There are many people in Rhos who intend to subscribe and it would be a great help to the committee if intending subscribers would send their donations as early as possible so that the work will not be unduly delayed. No money is being spent on labour but necessary materials must be purchased, and it is for these the money is required.

GENEROUS DONATION.

We hear of one donor, who wishes remain anonymous, who has promised to give the handsome sum of £50 towards the scheme.

THE OLD BRIGADE.

The work on the Banks continued on Tuesday, when a number of unemployed carried on. Mr George Davies was early on the scene with his band of student. Three local men, all over 80, also did the bit. They were Mr J. Tysilio Jones, Johnstown, Mr Wm O. Hughes, John Street, and Mr Robt Wm Jones, Pentre-dwr. A cameraman, struck with the uniqueness of the occasion obtained a good picture of them, and the next day it was reproduced in a Liverpool newspaper.

PASTOR AND DEACONS DIG.

An interesting scene was witnessed on Tuesday morning, when the pastor of a local chapel was seen with pick and shovel working alongside officers of his church. They were the Rev Powell Griffiths, pastor of Mount Pleasant Baptist Chapel, and Messrs John Evans, (treasurer) E. T. Evans, John Williams, and John Thomas, officers of the church. Their working stall was in close proximity to Baptist Street and much amusement was caused by the remark of an onlooker, who suggested that that particular area should be dedicated to St John the Baptist.

OUR LINK WITH SPAIN.

If the Spanish armada failed to conquer Britain, one young gay and laughing Spaniard has conquered the heart of Rhos. The student from Madrid is fast picking up the English and Welsh languages. A ready he can call for a drink of "diddie" and ask for the "ceffyl a drol" like

native. A few Spanish phrases are also current on the Banks among the local workers.

A BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE.

Prof Inebnit, of Leeds University, who is a native of Lausanne, has had a most interesting career. He came to this country from Switzerland some years after the war intending to stay for a couple of years at the most. He took up a scholastic post at Leeds Grammar School, and in a few years became a professor at Leeds University. The professor is a most interesting

conversationalist, and even in the few occasional moments that we have had with him, it was easy to see that his life is dominated by the great ideal of service. Like Mr George Davies, he is a visionary with his eyes on the New World. With all his attainments, the professor is the most approachable and most simple of men. In his leisure hours in Rhos, he is studying the Welsh language. He has already mastered the alphabet, a few phrases, and can count up to 20!

A DONATION FROM DEVONSHIRE.

Accompanying Miss Rathbone on Tuesday was a lady from Devonshire, who said very little, but whose keen eyes observed everything that was going on. Two days later she sent the following note: "I enclose a cheque for £5 with the greatest pleasure and warmest wishes for the entire success of your most valuable work. I am only too glad to be associated with it and greatly regret the smallness of my cheque."

LITHUANIA JOINS IN.

On Thursday morning, two students from Lithuania joined the workers. One was named Pulgis Andruskevicius, from Kovno University. He is a young man of 24, and speaks eight languages. He crossed the Baltic in a tramp steamer, and after many days travelling found himself on the Ponkey Banks. The other student's name is Juozas Raustis, also of Kovno University. He accompanied his friend Pulgis and also speaks several languages.

THE RADIO VAN.

A diversion was caused by the "Daily Herald" radio van, which, for a time entertained with a musical programme.

BASKETS OF BUNS.

About noon on Thursday, a halt was called for a few minutes to enjoy the buns kindly given by Mr J. Morris, baker. The buns arrived in a large basket and were distributed among the workers by a girl student. Over a hundred buns were given out, and disappeared like magic.

"Da iawn" said the Lithuanian, as he finished his bun. "What you call them?" he asked his Rhos working mate.

"We call them 'wicksen' in Welsh replied the Rhosite.

"Da, wicksen is good for me," was the comment of Pulgis, as he resumed his work with the pick, with pleasant thoughts of the Welsh wicksen.

WELCOMING THE STUDENTS TO RHOS.

SUPPER AND SPEECHES.

A number of students from this country and abroad were officially welcomed at the Institute, Rhos, on Friday evening. Dr J. C. Davies, on behalf of the community, extended to them a hearty welcome.

Mr Ernest Jones, Johnstown, presided over a gathering which perhaps was one of the most unique ever held in Rhos. England, Wales, Switzerland and Spain were represented, so that there was quite an international tang about the affair.

Supper over, the chairman called upon Dr Davies. The doctor, said Mr Ernest Jones, had been in practice for 51 years in Rhos, and during that time had helped to bring 6,000 people into the world.

DR J. C. DAVIES.

Dr Davies said he was proud to welcome the students to Rhos. Years ago, they did not care a button about other nations. France, Belgium, Germany and Italy were always potential foes, but by today things were very different. It was a good sign to see young people of all nations co-operating, and the coming of the students to Rhos augured well for the future. Referring to the great task before them Dr Davies counselled them not to be dismayed at the stubbornness of the good earth. It was part of the Divine Plan that the earth should be stubborn in order that mankind learnt the great lesson of effort and endeavour.

MAYOR OF WREXHAM.

The Mayor of Wrexham (Mr W. Dodman) said the people of Rhos had the knack of doing things much better than they in Wrexham. He could see by what had already been done, that the new Park was going to be a wonderful spot. He wished them every luck in their great project.

MR EMYR WILLIAMS.

The Mayor was followed by Mr Emyr Williams, Wrexham. He said he did not think there was a community in Wales to equal Rhos in getting things done. He admired their courage in tackling the Ponkey Banks. He was amazed at what had already been done there in a few days. The students were to work alongside men who were going to set the pace and they would be tested to the full. The students however, he felt, would be very happy in Rhos.

MR GEORGE DAVIES

Mr George Davies said that during the last few days he had seen the wonderful sight of people falling over each other to bring beauty out of ashes, with no other