

## INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE FOR PEACE

### **CONDITIONS OF SERVICE**

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(Extracted from Foreign Service Application form (wartime) for British volunteers)

#### AIMS

The aim of the I.V.S.P. is to create a spirit of friendship and a constructive attitude towards peace among all peoples by giving practical help on the occasion of natural catastrophes or in the carrying out of work of public utility, thus providing people of goodwill - both men and women - with a sound system of training in mutual help, voluntary discipline and comradeship.

The I.V.S.P. supports all efforts to replace military service in time of peace by an international constructive service which will foster greater confidence between nations of the world.

The I.V.S.P. never undertakes any scheme involving competition with ordinary labour or intended for strike-breaking.

#### ORGANISATION

The I.V.S.P. is the British Branch of the Service Civil Volontaire International, whose Headquarters are in Switzerland. The National Committee of I.V.S.P. is responsible to the General Meeting of I.V.S.P. and to the International Committee of the S.C.V.I. for the direction of the affairs of the British Branch of the Society. Each service undertaken by I.V.S.P. is under the direction of a service leader, appointed by the National Committee.

#### THE SERVICE LEADER

The Service Leader is responsible to the National Committee for the general conduct of the Service. He will arrange periodic meetings of the volunteers to discuss all matters affecting the service and for the purpose of enabling suggestions or criticism to be made regarding the conduct of it. He is responsible for maintaining the fullest measure of unity of purpose between the volunteers and the National Committee by working in close collaboration with both.

#### VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age (there are separate schemes arranged for younger people). They must be physically fit and capable of doing the work of the service. No one may take part in a service without first submitting an application on the official form and receiving notification of official acceptance. Whilst on service all volunteers must comply with the discipline and directions of the Service Leader, whose decision in an emergency is final.

#### MATERIAL CONDITIONS

Volunteers do not normally receive wages or financial support from the funds of the service. They receive free board and lodging only.

#### WORK

This is of the "pick and shovel" type. Volunteers must be prepared to turn their hand to anything that is required of them.

Women volunteers are accepted on a basis of equality with men, where the work is suitable. They are normally responsible for the domestic side of a service.

The service relies for its full effectiveness on the goodwill and cooperation of all volunteers. While volunteers are not asked or expected to contribute to the cost of the organisation, we feel they should know the services are partly made possible through the financial support of friends interested in the work.