

# INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE FOR PEACE

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Relief Section 109,  
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BAOR.

8th April 1946

DLS / 8

Dear Derek,

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## International Work Schemes :

The amendments certainly improve the draft, and I'm glad I managed to anticipate at least some of them before it were submitted. The most important alternation is that dealing with participation of Germans in services outside Germany; sub-section 3 of 5 of the original was meant to refer to Germans, but that could certainly have been clearer. Para 4 - Organisation & Scope of Work Schemes - is much better as amended; the reason for my putting one week's service as the minimum however was that for the Friedland scheme quite a number were only prepared to come for a week, and some could not stay longer; at the end most, in fact, did want to stay longer.

The other points you mention are :

Principally Adult Services - this was understood in the interview with Major Andrews, who was going to introduce it to the higher-ups who deal with wider age groups than he himself. He was interested in the scheme, however.

Non-Working-Class volunteers - we have had this in mind; and hope to spread wider than the Universities. This point was raised by Major Andrews, whose first reaction after scanning the draft was

- (a) that it covered the "forgotten ages", which he personally is anxious about, and
- (b) that the more serious problem was the young men without University interests, either because they are prevented from studying by political rules, or because they are "working class". I was able to assure him that we had had these latter in mind and hoped to include them in schemes, and that we had started with the University only because it was easiest and provided a fruitful field for the idea.

I have been trying this morning to get through to Major Andrews to take up with him this points - I mean the changes - which I think I should do right away rather than leave it as it is because I am anxious that this should go through exactly as you want it. I have so far been unsuccessful in getting through to him, but hope to do so later and then phone you. I have had a formal acknowledgement from Andrews saying "The suggestions . . . are being carefully considered but as you will appreciate a number of Branches etc. will have to be consulted before any decision can be taken. As soon as any definite information is available I will communicate with you again." This confirms the arrangements he made at the meeting.

Next time I speak to him I intend to ask about permission for IVSP Groups as continuing bodies to be formed in various centres. I think the proper is for IVSP to start with services and work naturally into local groups therefrom, and not to try to do it the other way round. In Göttingen, however, we are in the position I think of having a solid core of serving volunteers for a local group, and we have contacts in various other localities, so that it might be as well to be able officially to constitute them.

In Berlin the situation is a little more complex, and official permission may have quadripartite repercussions; I agreed therefore to Ernst Hoffman's asking permission from the British authorities to start a group as a first step. Miss Bailey, the Education Officer, however, is another of the controllers of education who have the right idea (it is perhaps worth noting as an answer to questions on the subject that I have now met four people whose job is education - Col. Horwood, Major Andrews, Mr. Bird in Göttingen and Miss Bailey in Berlin - all of whom have an approach to the problem which from our point of view could hardly be bettered, though they work under political conditions which sometimes disturb them because of the hindrance they afford to enlightened ideas; on the other hand there's Colin Flood Page who is eating his heart out in Reparations and can't get in to Education, for which he's specially qualified, but again that's not the fault of the Education Branch). Miss Bailey (to return) saw no harm at all in seven or eight young people getting together and doing a bit of practical work in clearing, etc., provided the German officials concerned with that sort of work agreed, and thought that she should be approached later after experience of that work. In the meantime she was to show the Application to start a Berlin group to her chief. She thought this was the best thing to do so far as Berlin was concerned, and said she would be interested to know the developments in our application to the CCG.

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Yours,

David