

RS / 143 / I.V.S.P.  
H.Q. B.T.B.  
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I.V.S.P. scheme  
Berlin - Nikolassee  
18th Aug 1946

REPORT No. 1  
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The scheme in Nikolassee opened again on Sat 10th Aug. It had by then become definite that the premises where the work was to be done would definitely become a home for homeless Berlin "Heimkehrer".

It has unintentionally become a youth scheme, because all the applications which we have so far had have been from young people. We started with four boys and two girls, five of whom are either 16 or 17, and one 19. Four of them are recent or future candidates for "Abitur" (Matric. approx.), but this again is coincidence.

The job consists in the first place of pulling down one of six large wooden huts in order to obtain wood with which inside repairs, Alterations and fitments can be carried out in the remainder. Here was also a fair amount of wood lying about outside which had to be brought into a safer place under cover. The constructional work is carried out by three joiners, who can of course work much quicker when we are here to do the unskilled dismantling work for them. There is also a large amount of painting to do, as well as the necessary preparation for this work.

An important part of the dismantling work is the salvaging of screws and nails. The latter have to be straightened. This is one of the jobs which the girls do in addition to helping with the domestic arrangements.

As an experiment, a German doctor who is a friend of ours was invited to visit us one evening and talk to us about something interesting. His talk about the human brain was so successful that requests were made by the volunteers that further talks should be arranged. As a result of this we had further talks followed by discussions about modern music and the development of human personality. The service will be continued next week with talks about English schools and about the development of human personality.

So far both the practical work and the social side of the camp have gone very well and seem to demonstrate that one can best make contact with these young people by doing a practical job of work along with them.