

LT / JE

18th April, 1951

Meta Walter,
I.Z.D.
Hagenring 1 iv
(20b) Brunswick.

Dear Meta,

Many thanks for your letter. I enjoyed my visit to Donaueschingen very much and found an opportunity to report on the I.D.M. as well as to give a short outline of recent events in India. I thought the spirit of the camp was good and went up one day to work on the site, where I was very impressed with the work that has been done and the fine houses they are building.

I am writing particularly about Gerda Jensen. As you know, she has been a long-term volunteer in England and we feel a certain responsibility towards her. She is not in a very happy frame of mind and is particularly worried about her future. She needs to get some sort of training, but is quite without money and can neither get money nor live at home. I asked the English Committee whether they would consider helping her if, as she would like, she could settle in England. They thought it would be better for her to stay in Denmark, but she has no money there and will find it difficult to establish herself. She herself was thinking of going to Norway for a short period in a domestic job. Now I see that she is offering a further period of service at Donaueschingen. I think that she does need to think about finding a permanent occupation, especially as she herself is worried about it, and I do not think that you ought to accept her. I am writing to the Danish Secretary to ask him whether he can help her, financially or otherwise.

I asked Roger de Neuville, who has a certain amount of money as a reserve for us, to provide her with 50 marks to enable her to hitch-hike home, if she was not able to get money from you in time, as she was leaving only a few days later. Will you please refund the 30 marks that you were going to send Gerda to Roger? Perhaps you sent the money to her before she left, but if not, it would be best to pay it back to Roger.

We have just received the new "Conditions of Service for Long-Term Volunteers" from the International Secretariat embodying the decisions reached at Ludweiler. You will see that long-term volunteers are to have pocket money at the end of a month, or as soon as they are definitely accepted for long term service. There are now two English volunteers at Donaueschingen, Roger de Neuville and Elizabeth Scott who have definitely been accepted. Bill Shaw should have pocket money as he has not yet been accepted, though no fault of his own, and has been two months on service. I am not certain about James Michie's plans or whether he needs pocket money. Can you pay these volunteers at the new rate of 7/- a week from the Donaueschingen funds? Otherwise we make arrangements to transfer funds, but we are very hopeful that you will pay them. As you know, Roger has a reserve from which he can advance pocket money temporarily, but this must be nearly exhausted.

Heinrich handed me an offer of service for India at the I.D.M., from a new German volunteer, Gert Henfelder. He has no doubt told you all about it. We had several applications to deal with and we could not consider him as he must get much more experience of S.C.I.. I enclose a copy of my letter to Heinrich about him.

We should also be grateful if you could let us have a yellow form for Volker Hertling as soon as possible. He served on an Easter camp with us and has now volunteered for the summer.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

LANDON TEMPLE
General Secretary.