

SCI  
International Secretariat

Minutes of the 19 International Committee Meeting, held at Le Delay 20. - 22.4.1957

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5. "East-West" prospects

A report was given on the steps taken so far by the French and Belgian branches to implement the earliest decision of the IC (on the recommendation of the East-West sub-committee) to engage in one summer service in the USSR and one in Poland. The French branch and the IS have started negotiations with the Soviet Youth and WFDY regarding a camp either in Moscow or in the Caucasus for the two weeks preceding the Youth Festival. With regard to Poland, the IC approved the steps taken by the IS and the Belgian branch, and encouraged the latter to proceed with the service proposed by the Rural Youth of Poland. It was emphasised that the conditions as established by the East-West sub-committee should be observed. Owing to the time factor it was felt we should not accept the project tentatively suggested by the students' organisation but that we should keep in touch with them for next year. The following specific points were considered desirable for the service this year, based on proposals made :

- a) same number of Polish volunteers as of foreign volunteers,
- b) pocket money not to be paid direct to volunteers but a means found of using this money to help Poles to come to Western European camps,
- c) the importance was stressed of some Polish volunteers (and particularly the Polish co-leader) knowing a Western European language.

André Lemaire should be asked to encourage as far as possible the participation of Polish volunteers from other walks of life (besides the rural youth). The IC delegates agreed to request SCI secretaries to send André Lemaire as rapidly as possible the names of their volunteers for Poland as visas take a long time to obtain. As the possible service in the USSR would take place in July, it was noted, some volunteers from West might go first to the USSR and then to the Polish service

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IS, 26.4.1957  
Noël Platteuw / Dorothy Abbott