

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

442  
**MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

AMERICAN MENNONITE AGENCY FOR FOREIGN RELIEF

ORGANIZED 1920



INCORPORATED 1937

AKRON, PENNSYLVANIA

PHONE: EPHRATA 646

September 19, 1946

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*SEP 20 1946*

Miss Florence Black  
UNRRA  
1344 Connecticut Avenue  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Black:

In line with our telephone conversation yesterday, I am glad to inform you that the Mennonite Central Committee has forwarded the following shipments for the Apostolic Christian Church:

To France..... 8,755# valued at \$1,305.25, June 29  
To Switzerland...30,991# valued at 8,432.24, June 12

In addition, a shipment of 24,560#, valued at \$11,480.30 is in process to Switzerland.

On April 3, we received official communication from the Apostolic Christian representative asking to become an auxiliary of the Mennonite Central Committee. On April 11, we forwarded a copy of this letter to the President's War Relief Control Board. I am enclosing copies of these letters.

According to this year's World Almanac, there are less than 6,000 of these Apostolic Christian people in the United States. You will notice from the enclosed letter that they claim membership in the various European countries.

We trust that this information will clarify any problem that you may have had as referred to in our earlier telephone conversation.

Sincerely yours,

*J. N. Byler*  
J. N. Byler  
Director of Relief

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

JNB:gm  
Enc.

F. C. HIEBERT, Chairman, Winona, Minn.  
H. E. BERTSCHE, Gridley, Minn.  
DAVID V. WIENE, R.2, Box 242, Bendley, Calif.  
HENRY F. KARNER, Mt. Joy, Penna.

HENRY A. FAST, Vice-Chairman, North Newton, Kans.  
J. A. HUFFMAN, Winona Lake, Indiana  
DAVID A. REGIER, Mountain Lake, Minn.  
S. C. YODER, Goshen, Indiana  
JESSE W. HOOVER, 301 H. Elm St., Kappeler, Ind.

ORIE O. MILLER, Secretary-Treasurer, Akron, Pa.  
F. H. WENGER, Moundridge, Kansas  
ELMER G. SWARTZENDRUBER, Wellman, Iowa  
ALLEN YODER, Goshen, Ind.

H. S. BENDER, Asst. Secretary, Goshen, Ind.  
I. W. BAUMAN, Bluffton, Ohio  
ELI J. BONTREGER, Shipshewana, Indiana  
J. G. TOEWS, Altona, Manitoba  
JESSE B. MARTIN, 187 E. St. W., Winkler, Ontario

C. F. KLASSEN, 165 Cathedral Ave., Winnipeg, Man.  
P. G. Lehman, 26 Chapel St., Kitchener, Ont.  
ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
J. A. RINGENBERG, 3220 S. Wayne Ave., Ft. Wayne, Ind.



April 11, 1946

Mr. Arthur Ringland  
THE PRESIDENT'S WAR RELIEF CONTROL BOARD  
Washington Building  
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ringland:

We are enclosing herewith a copy of a letter that we have recently received from the Apostolic Christian Church, 1325 West Colvin Street, Syracuse, New York. You will notice from the letter that the Apostolic Church group would like to become an Auxiliary of the Mennonite Central Committee for Relief work in Germany. We have talked this matter over with the leaders of the Apostolic Church and have agreed to serve them in the same way that we are serving the North American Baptist Church group.

We would, therefore, appreciate your comments in this matter. If there is no objection to the President's Board, we would like to consider this church group as an Auxiliary of the Mennonite Central Committee.

Sincerely yours,

J. N. Byler  
Director of Relief  
MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(Nazarean)  
1325 West Colvin Street  
Syracuse, New York

April 3, 1946

Mennonite Central Committee  
Akron, Pennsylvania

Gentlemen:

Application for becoming auxiliary to your organization is herewith made by "Hilfe", an organization for charity, incorporated under the laws of Switzerland, with activities in various countries of Europe, as well as Canada, the United States, and South America.

The financial resources of "Hilfe", according to letter recently received, consists of approximately thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) cash on hand, "Hilfe Headquarters, Zurich, Switzerland, and twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) cash on hand, "Hilfe" Headquarters, Syracuse, New York. We have in United States of America approximately twenty-two thousand dollars (\$22,000.00) worth of food, boxed and ready for export. We have theretofore shipped good quantities of used clothing and shoes to Europe and have on hand now about fifteen thousand pounds (15,000#), gross weight, used clothing and shoes, boxed and ready for shipment to Europe. We are awaiting permission to ship.

In every country where "Hilfe" is active, it has representatives who are prominent men and who are directly responsible to "Hilfe". The names and addresses of two (2) men in the United States are as follows:

William C. Erkert, High Point Road, Peoria, Illinois.

Fritz Meier, 102 Roycroft Road, Syracuse, New York.

"Hilfe", is an activity within Apostolic Christian Church; in the Balkan countries, we are known as "Nazarenes", and in Switzerland, as "Evangelische Taufgesinnte". "Hilfe" has been in operation from the time of the first World War. In the United States, up to the present war, our yearly collections for European relief were sent to "Hilfe" Headquarters at Zurich, and with this money, as well as the collected in other countries, "Hilfe" Zurich purchases food, clothing, medical aid, or gave money for this purpose, whichever was best. "Hilfe" Zurich is now sending small packages to the destitute and needy in other countries and making shipment of large consignments of used clothing wherever this is possible.



April 3, 1946

Switzerland, however, will not allow the export of food or new clothing, and therefore, "Hilfe Zurich has asked "Hilfe" Syracuse to ship used clothing, purchase food and new clothing, and ship directly to Yugoslavia, Hungary, Austria, Germany, France, and Rumania.

On January 26th, we forwarded on Steamer P. Scott Fitzgerald, from New York to Split, Yugoslavia, one hundred five (105) cases of used clothing, using the facilities of American Committee for Yugoslav Relief. On the same steamer, we also shipped twenty-four (24) cases of used clothing using the shipping aid of UNRRA. Each case weighs about three hundred pounds (300#) gross.

In November of last year, we shipped twenty-four (24) cases of clothing and shoes to the "Hilfe" representative for France, whose name and address is as follows:

Mr. Jules Grollmand, Mulhouse, France

For this purpose, we used the facilities of American Relief for France, Incorporated.

It is our purpose to enlarge the "Hilfe" activities of sending bulk shipments to the various countries mentioned above and especially Germany.

We attach herewith statutes of "Hilfe" Zurich. Membership in both branches of our Church in U.S.A. including such who are regular attendants, not including children, is approximately thirty thousand (30,000).

Yours truly,

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Fritz Meier  
Treasurer  
and  
"Hilfe" Representative  
Eastern United States

FM:CAB:BC

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CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Agostatic Christian Churches

Subject	Date	Description	Filed In
Comments of General Counsel, Controller and Volag. Liaison Office on proposed agreement for work in Austria.	Drafted 16 Sept. 1946 <i>Sent - 20 Sept. 46</i>	Letter to Betty Barton, UNRRA Austria, from Florence Black, Volag. Liaison Chief	<u>A U S T R I A</u>