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RECORD

17.4.46.

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SUBJECT

COUNTRY WELFARE OPERATIONS.
POLAND.
CHILDRENS SERVICES.

NOTE. This file must always be passed on VIA the REGISTRY.

(43102D) Wt P768/276 5M 8/45 H J R & L Gp 51

Sir H Creagh	25/4/46	Mr Roger Carter	4/10
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Registry	31/5.	Miss Pentz	15/11/46
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1 Mr Carter	20/6/46	Miss Pentz	20/11
2 Miss Pentz		Registry	14/12/46
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Miss Valk	4/7/46	Pentz	475. 18/3/47
Miss Cutford (12)	14/7	PA	3/4/47
Mr Pickensby	19/7/46	Pentz	PA 11/4/47
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Mr. Anderson	1/8/46	Pentz	PA 16/4/47
Miss Vall	1/8/46	Pentz	PA 30/4/47
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NOTE.—Do not retain this File unnecessarily.

REGISTRY- FOR A

DBP/NB

10th September, 1946

To: Miss Gifford, Director,
Welfare and Repatriation Division.
(Attention: Miss Radin)

From: Miss D.B. Pents

Subject: REPORT ON FIELD TRIP TO POLAND.

INDEXED

1. PURPOSE OF TRIP TO POLAND.

The purpose of the trip to Poland was twofold :-

- (i) To review the plans for reception of unaccompanied children returning from Germany and Austria, and
- (ii) To review with the Child Welfare Consultant on the UNRRA Staff in Poland, the activities in regard to Child Welfare undertaken by the Mission, and the plans for transfer to the appropriate agencies in Poland the work conducted by the Mission, in line with the letter from the Director General to Mission Chiefs dated 10th July, 1946.

2. The date of the trip covered the period August 7 to 12 inclusive.

Due to the fact that an entry visa was not forthcoming, in Poland did not coincide with Miss Blackey's visit, and it had been necessary for her and Miss Lay in Poland, to visit the reception centre prior to my arrival.

Since Miss Lay, the Child Welfare Consultant for UNRRA Poland had prepared to go to the U.S.A. for home leave and left on August 26th, she was occupied with preparation for the continuing her work during her absence. The Director General arrived in Poland on August 21st and remained until August 24th, and members of the Relief Administration were busy with plans for his visit; the timing of my trip was, therefore, auspicious.

3. Visits to a number of children's centres had been arranged and a list with brief notes on the function of each agency follows :-

(a) A visit was made to the hospital operated by the Central Committee of Social Welfare for the care of children with bone Tuberculosis at Otwock. This hospital cares for 100 children between the ages of 1-15 years. Prior to the war it had been a private hospital but is now operated under the Central Committee for Social Welfare. It is in the country outside Warsaw.

We talked with the Superintendent who informed us that most of the children cared for have no relatives, and when cured they are placed in other institutions for children. There are a sufficient number of beds, but the institution is very short of bedding and other essential supplies. We were struck with the fact that there were no toys, books, pictures nor games to occupy the children.

The Superintendent informed us that during the school term three teachers visit regularly, but since there are no books the teaching programme is necessarily limited. There is one Doctor in residence and another comes from Warsaw on regular days each week.

We reported the lack of any equipment to occupy the children to the Secretary of the Committee of Voluntary Agencies, and he had just received a consignment of "Educational Kits" from the American Red Cross and promised to send 100 of these for use at this institution.



(b) Summer Colony for Jewish Children.

A visit was made to the Summer Colony for Jewish children operated by A.J.D.C. under the sponsorship of the Central Committee of Polish Jews. There were 203 children at the Colony at the time of our visit.

The camp is situated in the woods outside Warsaw and has been open since May and will be open till the 10th October. It is estimated by the Director that 1,000 children will have spent at least one month during the course of the summer. The children come from all over Poland, from families or from Institutions.

The older group live in tents, 6 to 8 per tent, and the young ones in dormitories. There was a well equipped outdoor kitchen with running water, a semi-outdoor dining room, and there were several play rooms although most of the activity is out of doors. The schedule of the days activities is posted each day and includes both organised games and free play. The total staff, including the maintenance staff, consisted of 62 persons.

Some clothing has been distributed and the children who we saw seemed to be appropriately dressed and appeared healthy. The equipment had been supplied by A.J.D.C. and UNRRA and seemed adequate.

(c) Convent Day Care Centre - Warsaw.

A visit was made to a Day Care Centre operated by a group of Nuns in Warsaw. It cared for approximately 60 children, both boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 14 years. We were informed that this was one of many such Institutions which have come into being, since the great destruction in Warsaw makes it necessary for children to be cared for in groups as homes are crowded and there is no place for children to go. The Sister in charge told us that some parents paid a small fee for the privilege of using the Day Care Centre, but most of them did not. They received three meals a day and games and music and occupations suitable to their ages are provided. When we arrived the children rushed to greet us, a group of them got together apparently whispering a proposed plan which they later presented to one of the Sisters, and apparently the agreement was that they should sing and dance for us. This seemed to be entirely on their own initiative and they seemed to enjoy doing it as much as we enjoyed watching.

(d) A visit was made to three Institutions operated by the Ministry of Education for children between the ages of 1 and 14 years. The Director at the Institution seemed to be an able and enthusiastic young woman, who was a graduate of the School of Social Work at Warsaw, and who told us with real enthusiasm that she had just been accepted as a student at the School of Medicine.

The Institutions, three in number, are large estates which have recently been taken over and all of which were in the process of reconstruction. The first one was for children over the age of 14, the second for children between 10 and 14 and the third for children under 10. Children of school age attend school in Gostynin during the time school is in session.

In the centre for the children over 14, the children are responsible for part of the maintenance work of the farm during the summer months. The programme includes instruction in farming, care and storage of farm products and learning to do the household tasks incident to maintenance of the house. There were 20 children in the older group, but when the Barracks now under construction are completed this centre will house 50 children. Relationship between the children and the staff seemed easy and friendly.

The second Institution for children between 10 and 14 accommodated 40 children. Since it had been necessary for a number of the boys to occupy one room, an ingenious device had been built to assure some privacy to each individual child and also as a health measure. Four cots had been placed together with a wooden structure dividing them at the head. The children were permitted to put up pictures or any small treasures on their individual section of the right angle thus formed at the head of their beds. There were no individual lockers for the children to

keep their possessions, but each had his own individual space on a shelf in the cupboard. We reached this Institution during the quiet hour, news of our arrival had apparently preceded us, and when the door opened the children all leapt from their beds and came to greet us. It was quite evident that the Director knew each child individually and that the children felt free to be spontaneous and had no compunction about "Company manners".

The third Institution for children under 10 accommodated 70 children who were playing out of doors and amusing themselves in the large grounds of the estate. They appeared to be free and to be enjoying themselves, but this group as a whole did not appear as well equipped as the children in the other two Institutions in this group. We asked the Director whether any of the children would be considered for placement in foster homes and her answer was "No, that until further plans for finding homes and supervision after placement are concluded it is considered better for the children to be cared for in a group".

Since all of the three estates in which the children are housed had been built for a different purpose, and supplies for reconstruction are non-existent, it had been necessary to improvise equipment and what had been made was interesting. Tables for the little children were of boards laid on stumps, and for decoration longer logs had been used as pedestals for flowers. Stumps were used as bedside tables and each child seemed to have some possession beside his bed.

The Director told us that the staff had been selected because of interest in children, and many of them had had some preparation for teaching, although few had actually completed their courses. The Director informed us that the Ministry of Education was planning to care for 1,000 orphaned children in Institutions similar to those we had seen.

(e) A visit was planned to the Friends' Distribution of Supplementary Supplies for children under the age of 8.

Distribution was taking place at the village of Janowiec which provides supplementary rations for 488 children from five villages within a radius of 8 kilometres of Janowiec. This is part of the Friends' Relief Service project for providing supplementary rations to 6,000 children.

The distribution was taking place in a basement room in the building occupied by the Mayor and appeared to be well organized. Parents or children had come with cards issued by the Friends Relief Service and for each child under 7, 1 lb Margarine, biscuits, chocolate, powdered milk and oats was issued. Each family brings its own containers, and the weekly allotment is parceled out and distributed. We sat for a time on packing boxes in the distributing room near a window, and our attention was drawn to two little girls who, noticing that we were visitors, asked if there was something we could do to help them get some of the good things that the young children had. They informed us that they were 8. The Director of the Friends Relief Service informed us that the children and families walked to the village from other villages for the weekly distribution.

Destruction in this area has been almost complete and living conditions are unsatisfactory. As we drove through the country it was interesting to notice the methods used to get material to rebuild houses. Logs were being drawn from the woods, cut by hand into beams which were used as frames for new houses. Everywhere was evident that people were working and making an effort to provide some shelter before the winter.

(f) Visits to Institutions operated by the Municipality of Warsaw.

(i) We had a brief conversation with the Director of the Mothers and Childrens Section of the Relief Department of the Municipality of Warsaw, and her Deputy took us to visit a Day Nursery and Food Distribution Centre which cares for children from infancy to 4 years. It was very well equipped and cared for 50 children, and distributed supplementary food to mothers of small children also. The nursery is open between the hours of 7 and 5. Children on arrival are bathed and changed into clothing supplied at the centre. Mothers pay a small fee if they can afford it. The Deputy Director informed us that there was a long waiting list, but that

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with the present facilities it is not possible to care for more children than at present.

(ii) Visits to three of the so called "Jordan Gardens" for children were made during the course of the morning. These centers were established prior to the war by Dr. Jordan, and were previously operated as play centers for children of working families. The space for indoor activities in the three sites visited have been demolished by bombing. In two of those seen a small prefabricated wooden house from Finland is used for kitchen space and provides one small room into which all of the children crowd when the weather is unfavourable. Children, both boys and girls, attend the Jordan Gardens during the day and when school is not in session in the summer months, and since the war one meal a day is provided, and at present consists of a thick soup or stew with bread.

There is a pitiful lack of play equipment of all sorts and the children were occupied in playing games. Staff is provided by the Municipality of Warsaw and the Deputy who accompanied us informed that salaries are extremely low and it is difficult to find persons with the necessary qualifications. The staff group whom we met were young women and gave the appearance of being interested in their work and all seemed, in the brief time we saw them, to have the confidence of the children. All were concerned as to how the work would be maintained during the winter, as it seemed unlikely that a sufficient number of schools could be opened to take care of the children, and indoor space at the centers was insufficient to allow for the numbers of children who are attending.

The children attending the centers for the most part appeared thin and were poorly clad. We were informed that there was among them a considerable amount of Tuberculosis. No plans for segregation of tuberculous children or special provision for suspected cases had been possible, although it was recognised that efforts toward this end should be made. The number of such centers was said to be inadequate to care for the number of children needing the services that the centers provided, and it was reported that the Municipality was considering sites for similar projects.

(iii) Home for Mothers, and Children's Hospital. This home is on the outskirts of Warsaw and is operated by the Municipality for pregnant girls and for infants. Admission to the home is usually through referral by one of the Social Agencies, although sometimes the mothers present themselves and are admitted immediately. It was explained that no distinction is made between married and unmarried mothers. The Institution was in the process of reconstruction and the plans for medical care and training for the young women seemed to have been thought out carefully. Most of the mothers keep their children, but if for some reason a mother is unable or unwilling to keep her child, he is kept at the Institution for a period of observation and placed later in a family home. Classes in cooking, household work, weaving, sewing etc., have been planned but none was in operation during the time of our visit. We were informed that hospital equipment and medical supplies were very short and that more would be needed if the Institution were to accommodate the number of mothers for whom it was organised. Some of the mothers have remained on at the Institution and assist the nurses with their work. This is a planned phase of the programme, and after a probationary period persons who have done this work are certified as Nurses Aides.

There is a hospital for the care of children under 3 years in connection with the home for mothers. Mothers of the children under 3 are often employed at the hospital, or take a training course available at the Home for Mothers and Children while their children are receiving necessary medical treatment.

(iv) Home of the Priest de Boudin. This is a maternity and infants home operated by a group of Catholic sisters. The home which we visited accommodates approximately 100 infants and their mothers on a temporary basis, but is responsible for the care and placement of more than 500 children. It is an Institution the history of which goes back to the 18th Century and it has received voluntary contributions in addition to its endowment in order to maintain its programme.

We were informed that the Government was more in favour of providing supplies to Government operated Institutions than those with private endowments, and that it was difficult therefore to have application for necessary supplies acted on favourably. The Director asked us whether UNRRA could assist with supplies and we advised that all supplies were allocated to the Government and that we were not familiar with the procedure for making application. This information was reported to the Director of Relief Services of the UNRRA Mission who stated that he would review the situation, but it was his understanding that all Institutions providing care for children were being considered in the allocation of supplies.

In this Institution there were pictures and play things for the infants and these had been supplied by the Polish American Relief Committee. Another problem in connection with this Institution, which was brought to our attention, was the fact that the mothers have no clothing in which to leave the Institution after they have had their babies and have remained there for a period of 3 to 5 months. It was urged that UNRRA supplies be sent to alleviate this situation. We informed the Director that again it would be necessary to make application to the appropriate authorities as no distribution of UNRRA supplies is made directly by UNRRA.

4. REPORT ON MOVEMENT OF JEWISH CHILDREN FROM POLAND.

It was reported that a Rabbi from Germany had approached the UNRRA Office with a request that UNRRA assistance be given to the location of Jewish children who were taken by non-Jewish families during the war years and are being brought up with those families. It was suggested to the Rabbi that these children should be located and collected with the expectation that they would be placed with Jewish families outside of Poland. It had been explained UNRRA's work in the location and collection of children in Germany and Austria was on the basis of an attempt to reunite them with their families and to repatriate them to their home countries, and that UNRRA could have no responsibility in a plan for the removal of Jewish children from Poland.

It is understood, although no official report was available, that Jewish Agencies are active in the removal of Jewish children from Poland, that some of them are being taken to France and Belgium for temporary care with the ultimate expectation that they will go to Palestine.

Mr. Burger, Chief of Relief Services, and Miss Lay, Child Welfare Consultant, stated that they had been approached by several Jewish Agencies and UNRRA's assistance asked in locating and collecting Jewish children. They had attempted to explain UNRRA's position, and representatives of the several agencies had been referred to the appropriate Government Department in Poland. In connection with the reports of proposed movement of Jewish children, it was stated that the Polish Government had taken a very firm position in regard to any reported incidents of persecution of Jews, and that during the recent incidents the Ministry and a number of Government officials had made a special trip to the town concerned, the local police had been called into action and trial and sentence of those who had participated in the persecution had been completed. The Government's attitude was reported to be officially that Jewish citizens of Poland were to be free to live and carry out their business in the country.

5. FUNCTION OF THE CHILD WELFARE CONSULTANT - POLISH MISSION.

The UNRRA Mission to Poland has not undertaken any operational services for children, but has concentrated its efforts on co-ordinating activities undertaken for children by the responsible governmental agencies and Indigenous and Foreign Voluntary Societies. In March of this year the Child Welfare Consultant urged that efforts of the voluntary agencies both Indigenous and Foreign and the Ministry of Supply meet to discuss their several programmes, and that supplies be allocated on the basis of plans so worked out. This initial meeting has developed into a Council of Agencies concerned with the needs of children of which the Consultant of the Voluntary Agencies Branch of the UNRRA Mission acts as Secretary.

The Child Welfare Consultant has worked closely with the Ministry of Social Welfare, the Ministry of Education and the Voluntary bodies in Poland to provide care and services to children, and has consulted with them in developing their plans. It is anticipated that she will prepare a report on activities of the UNRRA Mission in Poland in regard to children, on her return from leave.

/Attached

is a statement "Care of Children in Poland" prepared by the Child Welfare Consultant for the Director General.

It seemed evident from conversations with the Director of Relief Services, the Child Welfare Consultant and several representatives of private and governmental agencies, that Poland knows what kind of a programme it wishes to develop for children and how it wishes to develop that programme, but that help is needed in providing the necessary supplies, equipment and personnel to make carrying out the programme possible.

Although the Director General's letter to the Chief of Mission requesting that analysis of Welfare Services be undertaken by the Mission, and that the Government be requested to evaluate the services, had not been referred to Relief Services Section of the Mission prior to the time of the field trip, plans had been considered for liquidation of the UNRRA Programme by the Child Welfare Consultant. Since UNRRA is not concerned in operating Child Care Services, liquidating responsibility is not considered as a problem. It is anticipated that the Council of Agencies concerned with care and feeding of children in Poland will continue, and possibly that the Consultant may be requested to remain as Secretary. The questions raised by the Director General in his letter to the Chief of Mission were under consideration, and it was planned to make the request indicated to the responsible Government Agencies within the week.

6. VISIT TO THE POLISH RED CROSS.

In company with Miss Blackey a visit was made to the Polish Red Cross Society, and we were received by the Director, Mr. Kostiewicz, and Dr. Kaczanowski, his Deputy, who has spent a considerable amount of time in Germany in connection with the organization and establishment of the Warsaw Polish Red Cross activities.

Reception of Polish unaccompanied children from Germany was discussed briefly and the division and function between the Polish Red Cross and the Polish Repatriation Mission headed by Dr. Wolski was outlined. Miss Blackey had some specific points to discuss in relation to the location of unaccompanied children, and the suggested use of material uncovered by the War Crimes authority, as it relates to and may give clues to the discovery and whereabouts of children who were taken to Germany. Dr. Kaczanowski stated that he had been attempting to assemble some of the material which had been compiled by a number of individuals in Poland and that he expected to be going to Germany shortly, would bring this with him and would take it up with Miss Blackey on his arrival.

Deborah B. Pentz
Child Welfare Consultant
Welfare and Repatriation Division, ERO.

CARE OF CHILDREN IN POLAND.

1. In the estimated total population of Poland, 23,000,000, there are approximately 8,000,000 children and young people up to 20 years of age. Of these 100,000 are orphans or half-orphans, 660,000 fatherless, 330,000 motherless and 110,000 without parents. About 25% of orphans and half-orphans are already caring for themselves, 50% are wards of relatives or others, leaving 25% or 280,000, to be cared for.

When to this figure is added those with both parents, who must for various reasons be removed from home, the number to be cared for away from their homes, is estimated as 330,000. It is planned that 80,000 will be cared for in institutions and 240,000 in foster homes. In addition, approximately 2,400,000 need supplementary food and clothing in their homes and schools.

2. Public and private agencies, complement one another in giving all types of care to children, but all programmes are known to the Ministries of Education or Labour and Social Welfare which give food, equipment and money and supervise standards. Important programmes are as follows :-

- (a) Supplementary assistance to the family: clothing, medical care, and, to limited numbers, cash allowances. Food to families is usually given through soup kitchens.
- (b) Food and clothing distributed through the schools: Most schools give soup if the supplies are available. There have been very limited supplies of used clothing available.
- (c) After school care in recreation and study centres: These are important to keep children from their overcrowded homes and destroyed neighbourhoods. Centres are often at railroad stations as many children travel long distances to school and train schedules have been disrupted. Supervision is essential as many mothers work.
- (d) Summer camps: These are the chief means of continuing some supplementary feeding for school age children and of giving supervised play away from the environment of destroyed homes.
- (e) Creches and homes for mothers and small children: Creches are vitally important to working mothers. They may be neighbourhood nurseries or run in connection with factories. In homes for mothers and children, mothers are prepared for independent work.
- (f) Institutional or foster home care: As stated above it is planned that 80,000 will receive care in institutions and 240,000 in foster homes.

3. Children with their parents, in the bombed areas are living in bad physical conditions. It is estimated, for instance, that, in the ruins of Warsaw, are 80,000 children, exclusive of babies. There is serious overcrowding, sometimes in buildings that may collapse, many still dwell in cellars that are dark, damp and unhealthy.

Thousands of homes are without means of lighting or heating, and water must be carried. In one destroyed province, Kielce, 6,600 children are said to live in dugouts and shacks. In Bialystock 159 villages were totally destroyed. Near Grojec in the province of Warsaw the scale of damage is 70 to 95%. In both city and country many dwellings are rat infested.

/..... Food

Food of many children of poor families is little more than soup carried from a nearby soup kitchen. In some sections of the country where supplementary food cannot be given, families are living on potatoes and potato soup. Many family groups have no cows. In Kielce for instance, are small towns, where the women walk miles each day begging and foraging for food. Children were too poorly clothed to go out last winter, and thousands were without shoes and could not attend school.

Institutions average 50 children, many are smaller. They may be run by clerical or secular staffs. Since the war, many large estates are being used for institutions, houses and grounds are very suitable. Equipment in all, however, is very meagre as it was either destroyed or stolen. The management is remarkably fine, in view of the lack of equipment. Bedding, clothing, kitchen supplies and toilet and bath facilities are inadequate in most places. Food is low. Last winter it ranged from 11.00 to 18.00 calories a day without sufficient of fats and sugar. Now 1800 to 2200 calories is the average. Meats is a rarity. Educational equipment and toys are almost non-existent. Food and equipment from UNRRA and Foreign Voluntary Agencies, is to be seen in these homes but it has been quite insufficient.

One is impressed by the easy relationship between children and adults. Children seem unusually secure in spite of the difficult years they have had. Their physical circumstances are generally better than those of children with their families.

4. Repatriated children are returning to Poland, mostly from Russia, Germany and Austria, some are with their families, some alone. From Russia it has been possible to move the children from a given home together with the personnel. Those children who have lived in institutions come fairly well equipped and in good physical condition. Those who return with their parents, through Repatriation Centres, are mal-nourished and dirty in the extreme. From Germany families come in better physical condition but with fewer possessions with which to begin life anew.

Unidentified Polish children are being discovered in Germany. They have been removed from their parents by the Germans and taken to Silesia and then to Germany, as part of the Germanisation programme. Parentage of many will never be known but an effort is being made to identify them and to find relatives in Poland. As yet the numbers of these children are not known. They present a most complex problem as many of them speak only German and have been imbued with Nazi ideology.

5. As is to be expected, the health of children has suffered. Height, weight, age ratio in Poland is said to be worse than any other country in Europe. Number of tubercular and crippled and conditions arising from vitamin deficiency is said to be the highest. Mortality rate, in some places, is reported as high as 30%. Emotional difficulties are thought to be severe as 75% of the children have lost their relatives or had been forced to leave their homes. However many children and adults seem to have made surprisingly good adjustments from the horrors of the last six years.

Delinquency among children is impossible to estimate. Many are thought to have asocial habits. Fortunately, the attitude in Poland, toward this problem, is at present non-judgemental.

6. This material is compiled from my own observation and that of other members of the UNRRA Staff, from documents received from the Ministries of Education, Health, and Labour and Social Welfare, and from private social agencies. Figures and percentages are estimated because of the lack of accurate vital statistics and census material.

7. The Ministries are planning well for their children but the handicaps are great. I cannot stress too strongly that the children of Poland are, in my opinion, hungry, mal-nourished and poorly equipped with clothing, books and toys. Immediate and long-range implications for the future are most serious.

PREPARED for Director General
By Madeleine Lay, Child Welfare Consultant,
UNRRA, Poland.
21st August, 1946.

Hon. F. H. LaGuardia
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. LaGuardia:

In my letter to you of 28 January I informed you that the Bureau of Services had requested the Warsaw Mission to send us as soon as possible original or photostatic copies of five complete sets of records from those discovered in Poland in a former N.S.V. Headquarters concerning children taken from Polish homes for transfer to Germany. This request to the Mission was made in response to your letter of 10 January requesting one entire record from the N.S.V. Headquarters. I am sending you herewith photostatic copies with English translations made here of five orders of German authorities transferring the custody of children from their parents. Except for the orders relating to Julian Hammer and Josef Schwakopf, the orders appear on their face to be based upon welfare considerations. There are also documents classifying two boys, evidently following a period in a youth camp. The German agency making this classification is not shown.

Much more revealing of the German process of removing Polish children is the order of the Reichskommissar for the Strengthening of the German Race, entitled "The Germanization of Children from Polish Families and from Former Polish Orphanages" dated 19 February 1942. The order was given to us by the Polish Embassy, as was the explanation of the organization "Lebensborn" through which the order was to be carried out with respect to children from 2 to 6 years of age. Copies of the order and the explanation are enclosed.

You will be interested to know that the Child Search and Repatriation Consultant of CHQ, Germany, Eileen Blackey, whose visit to Poland resulted in the discovery of the documents in the N.S.V. Headquarters, visited Czechoslovakia in January with the result that records and documents were discovered which should prove useful in the location of Czech children still in Germany and non-Czech United Nations children who may still be in Czechoslovakia.

You will also be interested to know that issuance of the



A-2117
MAR 1947
Miss Gifford
DST

Hon. F. H. LaGuardia

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proposed ACA directive on the eligibility for United Nations care of children of undetermined nationality which you took before the Central Committee has been indefinitely delayed as a result of the Central Committee's discussion.

Sincerely yours,

Charlotte T. Lloyd
Assistant General Counsel

CTLloyd:hh
31 March 1947

Clearance:
Molly Flynn
H. Burinski

cc: F. Chait
Bu. Services
Paris

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

1344 CONNECTICUT AVENUE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

12 MAR 1947

Mr. Myer Cohen
Acting Chief of Operations
Displaced Persons Headquarters
Hotel Majestic
Avenue Kleber
Paris 8, France

Dear Mr. Cohen:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which has been forwarded to
the UNRRA Mission in Poland.

Sincerely yours,

Molly Flynn

Molly Flynn
Special Assistant to the
Deputy Director General
Bureau of Services

Enclosure



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Mr. Donald Sabin
Chief of Mission
UNRRA
Hosa 35
Warsaw, Poland

Attention: Mr. John S. Widdicombe
Acting Repatriation Officer

My dear Mr. Sabin:

We are extremely appreciative of your sending the photostatic copies of the records of kidnapped children. They were received today and are being translated. The records have caused quite a bit of interest among the staff members and will be circulated as soon as the translations are completed. I will report to you later what use Headquarters makes. Unfortunately, the photostatic copies do not seem to be sufficiently clear to be used with newspaper articles but they are of great value in our conferences regarding the entire child search program.

We are informed that the Polish Government has asked the Embassy in Washington to approach the State Department and report the lack of cooperation and interest evidenced by the U.S. Army in the search for Polish children in the American Zone. We would be very much interested to know what is the basis of this protest.

Sincerely yours,

Molly Flynn
Special Assistant to the
Deputy Director General
Bureau of Services

MFlynn/answ
11 March 1947

✓cc: Paris Office

Mr. C.N. Kirsey
Miss Pontz

POLISH FACTS & FIGURES

ISSUED BY THE
PRESS OFFICE OF THE POLISH EMBASSY IN LONDON

47, PORTLAND PLACE, W.1

Phone: LAN 4324 Ext. 8

No. 28

January 4, 1947

WEEK BY WEEK

POLISH PROPERTY ABROAD

*Statement by the Office of the Financial Counsellor
of the Polish Embassy in London*

Commenting on the Polish Note of November 22, 1946, some of the British newspapers asserted "that practically all Polish assets have now been handed to the Polish authorities." A detailed analysis of the real state of affairs will prove that the situation is entirely different.

The legal obligation of the United Kingdom Government to hand over "all Polish assets" rests in fact on two factors:

a. Since the termination of hostilities the entire property of the Polish state, Polish citizens, private and public institutions should have been returned in accordance with the general provisions of law following the general cessation of all measures concerning territories formerly under enemy occupation. There is not the slightest legal basis for further retention of all those assets since the basis for their being kept in this country ceased to exist.

b. Furthermore, the United Kingdom government entered a specific undertaking in the Potsdam Agreement which reads as follows: "all proper facilities will be given to the Polish Provisional Government for the exercise of the ordinary legal remedies for the recovery of any property belonging to the Polish State which may have been wrongfully alienated." Moreover in the very same Potsdam Agreement the United Kingdom Government have expressly stated that they "have taken measures to protect the interests of the Polish Provisional Government as the recognised Government of the Polish State in the property belonging to the Polish State located in their territories and under their control, whatever the form of this property may be. They have further taken measures to prevent alienation to third party of such property."

It is therefore that the United Kingdom Government bears a dual responsibility arising out of general obligations resting upon it and specific obligations resulting from the Potsdam Agreement. The facts quoted below, which do not cover the entirety of the problem but only some of its vital factors, justify the Polish Note of December 20.

1. There is not the slightest legal nor factual basis for the retention of assets, properties and accounts belonging to

Polish citizens, institutions, organisations, and corporations which have resumed their activities in Poland. And yet:—

a. Gold to the value of £10,000,000 belonging to the Bank of Poland (a Polish company with its headquarters in Warsaw) which had been deposited with the Bank of England for the duration of hostilities, is now being refused to be returned to its only and rightful owner.

b. Pre-war assets constituting the property of Polish citizens, institutions, corporations and the State, situated in the United Kingdom are still blocked under the Trading with the Enemy Act, although similar assets of other allied countries have already been freed by the United Kingdom authorities. Thus the rightful owners of those assets are deprived of the possibility to dispose of them.

c. Consular deposits, constituting the property of Polish citizens, together with files, are refused to be returned so that their beneficiaries could make use of them. Their number exceeds the figure of 5,000.

d. Similar treatment is accorded to the assets of the Insurance Committee of the Polish Merchant Navy where the amount of over £200,000 is involved.

e. Assets of the Fund of National Defence consisting of contributions made by Polish citizens for defence purposes are also retained. Similarly Polish soldiers returning home have no access to the benefits of a special military welfare fund established by their contributions.

f. The Interim Treasury Committee for Polish Questions set up by the British Treasury refuses to pay the claims of Polish institutions such as the Gdynia-America Line and the Bank of National Economy which, during the war, made considerable financial advances and loans to the former Polish Government in London. The amounts in question exceed the figure of £600,000.

g. Dependents in Poland of Polish soldiers, sailors and airmen killed on active service, while serving under British Command, are refused their rightful claims, although special funds deposited in this country for this purpose are available.

h. Libraries, book collections, objects of art and historical value, films, radio and hospital equipment deposited on behalf of or purchased for Polish universities, museums and other institutions, are being retained in this country, some of them even passed to private individuals, though it is obvious that they should be returned to all those institutions which have resumed their activities in Poland and require them in the performance of their functions.

The above facts refer to properties and assets which belong to Polish institutions and citizens whose rights and titles cannot be questioned under any legal system. They are barred, without justification, from what is clearly their undeniable claim.

2. Apart from those assets and contrary to the specific provisions of the Potsdam Agreement the following facts concerning the former Polish Government in London have to be recorded.

a. Members of the former Polish Government in exile have disposed of public assets with the purpose of directing them into private channels.

b. Funds have been transferred by way of grants by the former Polish Government in exile to specially set up in London for this purpose institutions such as the Polish Research Centre, the Polish Writers' Association, Polish Citizens' Committee, etc.

c. Important archives such as those of the Polish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Office of the State Comptroller and other Government institutions are now in unauthorised possession of individuals and bodies in this country.

d. The Interim Treasury Committee for Polish Questions which administers the remaining Polish State property in this country retains many other assets and goods which should have long ago been returned to Poland.

These facts constitute only a very general indication of the many assets to which the Polish people are entitled and the return of which they claim.

It is clear that the responsibility for this state of affairs lies with the United Kingdom Government. The claims made by the Polish Government are fully justified on the basis of both general principles of international law and explicit provisions of the Potsdam Agreement.

These facts prove that the assertions made in the British Press to the effect that "practically all Polish assets have now been handed to the Polish authorities" are based on erroneous information and do not correspond with the true state of affairs. Only a very small fraction of those assets have been handed over to their rightful owners.

CHRISTMAS BROADCAST BY PRESIDENT BIERUT

President Bierut, broadcasting from Warsaw on Christmas Eve, said: "For the second time we are celebrating Christmas Eve in conditions of peace. The traces of the tragedy through which the Polish nation passed are still ingrained in our hearts. Despite the sadness which these memories evoke, let us to-night direct our thoughts to the Mother Country and in the triumph of her resurrection let us find comfort and the joy of victory. Although our lot was cruel during the enslavement, justice has prevailed and our sacrifice has not been in vain. The Republic is rising rapidly to new life and prosperity."

"The spectre of famine seemed to be threatening a year and a half ago. To-day there are no fields lying fallow in Central Poland and in the Regained Territories over 4,000,000 Poles are now hard at work. Thanks to the neighbourly help of the U.S.S.R. and other friendly States, we have escaped the disaster of starvation and in the next two years our own harvest will ensure to all citizens as much food as before the war."

"Over 3,000,000 repatriates and re-settlers have received land in the Regained Territories, where there is still room for over 1,000,000 rural settlers and

the same number for towns and industries."

"Two days ago the miners, textile operators and railway workers reported to me the fulfilment of the year's programme ahead of time. By the end of the year Polish miners will have given the nation over 1,000,000 tons of coal above the year's programme. This is the finest Christmas present Poland could have."

"We shall soon become one of the main maritime States on the Baltic. Next year our Merchant Fleet and our Navy will exceed their pre-war levels. The great mineral and industrial wealth of the Regained Territories will enable us to raise production so much that Poland will soon rank as an industrial and not a rural country. The National Levy will greatly speed up this process."

"Never has Poland had such magnificent possibilities of progress. May Poland, through our common toil and enthusiasm, become strong, prosperous and happy. Lifting our thoughts above transient grievances, let us be inspired by a feeling of community of the whole nation. May this feeling awake the most fervent hopes in the future of Poland, bringing with it the dearest message: Long live Poland!"

CHURCH AND STATE: PRINCIPLES OF CO-OPERATION

In a commentary from Warsaw on 21st December it was stated: Bierut's interview on relations between Church and State has been welcomed by Catholics; the declaration by Catholic writers and social workers on their visit has contributed greatly towards rapprochement. The Catholic movement, despite all ideological differences, is ready to play an active part in reconstruction.

The nation's moral recovery formed the main topic of the discussion. This problem is as important as the repair of material destruction. Writers representing the entire Catholic movement consider that underground activities sponsored from abroad are responsible for social demoralisation. Honest Catholics agree with the democratic movement on the important role which the Church can play in this sphere.

Many questions of the relations between Church and State have not yet been solved. It would be most dangerous if Church and State were to exist side by side without definite principles of co-operation. It would be wrong for the Catholics' attitude towards Poland to be based on superstitions and prejudices and not on facts. Reborn Poland accepted the principle of full religious freedom, and no one can deny that the State is carrying out this principle, thus enabling understanding between Church and State.

All other problems, such as the development of the Catholic Press, schools and organisations are of secondary importance and can be settled given complete loyalty of Church organisation members and the Catholic movement to the State.

We observe with indignation priests in the dock whose guilt is such that prosecu-

tors have sometimes to ask for a death sentence. A complete break with the underground is essential if the democratic movement is to regain confidence in the Catholic movement and the clergy.

During their conversations with the President the Catholic writers dissociated themselves from underground partisans. Deeds should follow this declaration. This break should be widened into a gulf; a movement proclaiming the highest Christian ideals, and fratricidal murderers can have nothing in common. The democratic movement gives the Church and Catholicism full freedom of action and asks for the fulfilment of no organisation or moral conditions in return. It does not want to exploit this freedom for political purposes. Catholics should not identify themselves with reactionaries and oppose progress and social reforms. These reforms aim at improving general prosperity and introducing social justice, which does not clash with the ideals proclaimed by the Church. Social progress conforms with the development of the Catholic movement in Poland, just as in other countries having a Catholic majority. It is to be hoped that these conversations with the President will contribute to the elimination of misunderstandings and enable the Catholic movement to take a new path.

BIERUT RECEIVES CATHOLICS' DECLARATION

On 20th December, President Bierut received a group of Catholic writers and social workers, who handed him the declaration recently published in the Press, discussed the political situation and

presented proposals for the full development of Catholic life in Poland.

The visitors assured the President that they regarded the interview which he gave a few months ago as an important event from the Catholic point of view. The carrying out of President Bierut's words, particularly in Catholic education, the organisation of Catholic societies, and the development of the Catholic Press was the first important step towards the active participation of the Catholic conscience principles in post-war reconstruction.

The visitors expressed their deep concern at current attempts to create chaos, which were undoubtedly inspired from abroad and would aggravate the country's difficulties. They considered a return to normal moral and political conditions the best means of ending underground activities.

In reply the President said he fully appreciated the importance of Catholic affairs in Poland. He considered full participation by Catholics in public life most desirable. He regretted that despite many Government endeavours relations with Church authorities in Poland were not what they should be. Just as this interview was not an isolated move of Government policy, so he hoped it would inaugurate a series of regular meetings between Catholic representatives and State officials. Catholic proposals in the field of education and organisation would then find favourable conditions for fulfilment. The President particularly appreciated their condemnation of underground activities. In their efforts to raise the nation's moral level the Government would undoubtedly receive Catholic support.

ELLIOTT ROOSEVELT VISITS WARSAW

On his return from Warsaw, after a flying visit there, Colonel Roosevelt made the following statement to a Polish Press Agency representative in Moscow:

"My wife and I are very happy to have visited the new Poland, to have met most interesting people, and to have had talks with the Polish leaders, President Bierut, Premier Morawski, and Vice-Premier Gomulka. These talks deeply impressed us and we are convinced of the truly democratic character of the new Poland."

"I am sorry that I could only visit Warsaw. We were impressed by the reconstruction of the heroic capital and we intend to return for three weeks in the spring and visit the whole country, the western lands and the coast. Please say that I am grateful for the warm and kind reception."

ELECTIONS: PEASANT PARTY STATE LIST

In its issue of December 17, "Gazeta Ludowa" published a list of 110 PSL (Polish Peasant Party) candidates competing on the State List.

The list is headed by M. Mikolajczyk, M. Kiernik and M. Banczyk. Forty-seven farmers are included in this list. These forty-seven include three farmers from Warsaw and one each from Poznan, Lodz, Wejherow and Gdynia. Altogether, peasants constitute only 42.7 per cent. in the PSL list.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN: UNDERGROUND ATTEMPTS TO CAUSE STRIFE

Peace and dignity during the elections, without high feelings or anything that could weaken the nation's unity or retard the country's development, are clearly against the wishes of the reactionary underground.

The underground is trying at all costs to start fratricidal struggles and cause chaos. From all parts of the country news is coming in of armed bands terrorising democratic leaders.

On the 18th December, on the road to Sokolow, a band murdered ten persons.

A group of democratic workers was held up a few days ago on the road between Mink Mazowiecki and Sokolow by an armed N.S.Z. (National Armed Forces) band. The same band also stopped a bus from which two soldiers were kidnapped. The N.S.Z. bandits were pursued towards the Bug but escaped with their victims. The security authorities subsequently intercepted the band, but the victims were murdered at Kamieniczek and the bodies thrown into the river.

On 19th December a large demonstration in the Sokolow market place condemned this violent crime and passed the following unanimous resolution: "The vile Kamieniczek murder of eight workers and two soldiers has shocked all honest

Poles. The victims were workers labouring hard to rebuild Poland and soldiers defending the country from its enemies. The bands devastating the country and preventing reconstruction are in the pay of the enemies of the peasant workers and working intelligentsia. We demand stern punishment for these criminals whose crimes are more cruel than those of the Hitlerite gangsters."

"Glos Ludu," reporting on this terrible crime, calls on all honest Poles to draw the political conclusions from it. "We must root out the weeds of the reactionary underground and scorch with fire the place where its seed has fallen. We must destroy all the hiding places of the fascist plague. We must give the Polish nation a chance of peaceful work for reconstruction and raising the standard of living. We must make the elections a battle against the sowers of crime and anarchy."

The crimes of the reactionary underground are condemned by the whole nation. Meetings held in the last few days all over Poland have passed resolutions calling for an uncompromising fight against the bands. Everywhere the demonstrators decided to vote for list of the Democratic Parties and Trade Unions.

TRIAL OF FISCHER, NAZI GOVERNOR OF WARSAW

The trial of Fischer, Leist, Meisinger and Daume began in Warsaw on December 17th. M. Widy-Wirski, Minister of Propaganda and Information; M. Rek, Vice-Minister of Justice, and Mr. Tyler, the U.S. Nuremberg Prosecutor, were present. Fischer is defended by M. Chmurski, Leist by M. Sliwowski, Meisinger by M. Wagner, and Daume by M. Weglinski.

The accused are tried according to the decree of 31st August, 1944, and are charged with belonging to a Hitlerite organisation, launching an aggressive war in order to annex Polish territories to the Reich, introducing the national socialist system and committing crimes against humanity.

It was announced that the Court had agreed to the request of Prosecutor Sawicki and Dr. Chmurski, Fischer's counsel, to examine Gen. von dem Bach, whom Fischer charged with the crime of destroying Warsaw. It may be recalled that at Nuremberg, von dem Bach charged Fischer with this crime. The Court will apply to the Ministry of Justice for von dem Bach to be brought from Nuremberg.

On the third day of Fischer's trial the defendant asked for the admission of a German expert on relations between the German administration in Poland and the police and Gestapo.

All the defendants disclaimed responsibility for the police rule. The Prosecutor protested against the calling of a German expert. There was a clash between the defence and the prosecution on the question of German expert advice. Prosecutor Sawicki then stated that he was proud of the "independent words from the defence." Fischer de-

clared that he was aware of the fate that awaited him, but did not want to leave this world as a criminal.

Fischer said he thought racial discrimination against the Jews was quite admissible in time of war. "I would remind you," he said, "that other states applied similar methods in the last decade."

This cynical statement revealed Fischer's true character. He compared bestial murders in the occupied countries to the present situation of the German people in Hamburg and Munich. He spoke of the Nazis who were being removed from their homes by the authorities. Prosecutor Sawicki made Fischer admit that as Governor he did not care about laws; he also admitted his part in the setting up of the Warsaw Ghetto.

A number of documents signed by Frank were then read.

NEW POLISH-NORWEGIAN TRADE AGREEMENT

The Polish-Norwegian trade agreement of 1945, which was provisional, provided for a limited exchange of goods. This has now been completed. Recent negotiations with the Norwegian delegation in Warsaw have led to a new agreement greatly extending trade between the two countries.

The new agreement, which will come into force on 1st January, 1947, provides for an exchange of goods amounting to 22,000,000 dollars. Poland will export coal and coke, pipes, machines and tools, chemicals, etc. Norway will export horses, herrings, medicines, pyrites, iron ore, artificial fertilisers, chemicals and edible fats, aluminium, etc. The agreement provides for large credits to Poland to be repaid by coal exports in the following years.

AMERICAN SLAVS' MEMORANDUM TO TRUMAN ON POLAND

A group of 147 prominent US citizens, headed by L. Krzycki, Chairman of the Congress of Americans of Slav origin, has sent a memorandum to President Truman, appealing for support for democratic Poland. In reply to this memorandum, the State Department sent Krzycki the following letter: "The opinions expressed in your memorandum have been forwarded to State Department officials responsible for Polish-U.S. relations. I can assure you that the U.S. Government is interested in Poland's welfare and that it always has and always will be willing to assist the Polish nation in its heroic efforts to repair the ravages of war. The help given by the U.S. Government to Poland under U.N.R.R.A. as well as the 40,000,000 dollars credit from the Export-Import Bank and the additional 50,000,000 dollars credit for the purchase by Poland of U.S. surplus stock is an example of our real interest in the Polish nation."

U.S.A.-POLISH FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

The State Department in Washington has announced the signing of an agreement between the Polish and U.S. Governments, whereby the U.S. Government will return to Poland gold and other financial assets, to the value of 37,000,000 dollars, hitherto frozen in U.S. banks. The agreement also provides for a mixed Polish-U.S. Commission to deal with the claims of U.S. citizens whose property, according to Polish law, comes under the nationalisation decree. Questions not solved by the Commission will be solved by arbitration. The final arbitrator will be the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

NO IRON CURTAIN IN POLAND

The Belgian Minister of Reconstruction, M. Terfve, declared in Katowice that there was no iron curtain or even a lace curtain in Poland. Poland was more of a Western country than many countries lying further to the West, not excepting Belgium.

ELECTIONS: VOTERS INSPECT REGISTERS

More and more voters have been calling at District Electoral Committees to make sure that they are inscribed on the register or that the register does not contain traitors and collaborators from the occupation days, or supporters of the Fascist underground and bands seeking to destroy the democratic system. Some complaints have already been lodged with Committee Chairmen.

BYDGOSZCZ: MASS GRAVE DISCOVERED

A mass grave, with bodies of about 1,000 murdered Poles has been found and exhumation has taken place. The Exhumation Commission stated, that in November hundreds of victims were brought in cars from Bydgoszcz and murdered by the Gestapo in the Budzyn area. To destroy all clues, the Germans dug up all the bodies in 1944 and burned them in military trenches.

MARITIME QUESTION AND THREE-YEAR PLAN

The Polish ports will, in 1949, handle a traffic of 24,500,000 tons yearly, including 16,000 tons of coal. This figure is equal to 270 per cent. of the anticipated turnover of 1946. Dwelling on the importance of overseas trade, it was stated that the present capacity of the Polish merchant navy was only 2,000,000 tons yearly, which was insufficient for Polish needs, and therefore the Three-Year Plan anticipated the building of more ships. Sixteen ships are being built by Polish yards, including six coal tenders; they are also building fishing trawlers and engines for ships. Fishing is also playing a great part in the Three-Year Plan. In 1949 catches should amount to 83,000 tons of fish yearly, i.e., 3 kgs. per head of the population. Great improvements are also being carried out in the ports to improve loading and unloading facilities. New buildings, storehouses, frigidaires, breakwaters, lighthouses, etc., etc., are being built. The Polish Merchant Fleet will be increased to 28,000 tons in 1949. Some new ships will be built in Poland, and some abroad. Over 200 milliard zlotys is to be spent on the maritime industry during the Three-Year Plan. Out of this over five and a-half milliard zlotys will be spent in 1947. This expense must be borne by the Polish nation, due to lack of help from abroad. This help could have quickened the development of maritime trade considerably.

TRIAL OF MEMBERS OF TERRORIST GANG

The Warsaw Military Court has begun the trial of fourteen N.S.Z. (National Armed Forces) members, headed by the priest, B. Stefanski.

The accused are young men under 20 years of age. After the liberation, Stefanski established contact with the illegal S.N. (National Democratic Party), joined the Resistant Movement of the Home Army and began forming a storm detachment. At the end of October, 1945, the detachment began committing attacks with robbery. In May this year, Stefanski recommended members of his gang to join the P.S.L. (Polish Peasant Party) and obtain influential positions therein.

STEFANSKI TRIAL: DEATH SENTENCE DEMANDED

Speeches for the prosecution have been made in the trial of Father Stefanski, the prosecutor emphasising that he attacked the defendant as a criminal and not as a clergyman. The defendant was in touch with Henerik, whose name was connected with every great crime committed by the N.S.Z. The prosecution demanded the death sentence for Stefanski and two other defendants.

GANG RAIDS LOCAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

A terrorist gang, "Blyskawica," numbering 25 members, raided the local Electoral Commission in Wierchla district of Wiclun, on December 21. During the raid, Kasprzycki, the Commission's Vice-Chairman, was murdered.

POLISH COAL PRODUCTION AN ECONOMIC VICTORY

By December 21 the Polish mining industry had completed its production plan for the year, having produced 46,000,000 tons of coal. Further coal production increases were expected. Consumption per head of population amounted to about 1,480 kg. a year—an advance over pre-war figures. Nearly 14,000,000 tons of coal of the total produced were exported to the U.S.S.R., Sweden, Switzerland, France, Norway, Denmark, Italy, Yugoslavia, Austria, Hungary, Finland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Holland. The U.S.S.R.'s share represented 16 per cent. of the whole and was paid for at the rate of 10 dollars a ton, a price paid also by other countries.

Poland's part in European economies grows in importance and contributes largely to the consolidation of her international position. These and the textile production figures previously announced show how Poland's economic life has been stabilised within the framework of reforms already carried out.

RAILWAY UNION SUPPORTS DEMOCRATIC BLOC

The conference of the Railway Workers' Trade Union, held on December 17, called upon the railway workers and their families to vote for the Democratic Bloc and appealed to its 350,000 members for a still greater effort in the rebuilding of the rail system during the Three-Year Plan.

METAL INDUSTRY'S ACHIEVEMENTS

In a commentary from Warsaw on the 19th December, Mr. Z. J. Wyrozowski said: "In November the Polish metal industry reached the pre-war level. This has immense importance for Polish economy. Other branches have also exceeded the pre-war level—coal, coke, electric power, cement, glass, zinc and lead ores and fertilisers. But the metal industry is basic and takes third place in Poland in number of employees. It employs 102,000 workers. The value of its equipment is Zl. 700,000,000 at pre-war value. Production, too, reaches Zl. 700,000,000 at pre-war value."

The public, however, is mostly interested in progress in output of consumer goods. This the metal industry also includes, producing fittings, metal furniture, kitchen utensils, bicycles, etc. Our consumer goods industries are working to the limit of capacity, but the goods we need most are machines and technical equipment. The stress put by the Government on the replacement of machinery for the consumer goods industries shows the realism of Polish economic policy.

At present, the metal industry is producing 20 locomotives and 600 goods trucks a month; the pre-war figures were only 14 locomotives and 160 trucks. The increase in railway rolling stock will considerably assist the development of all branches of industry. In machinery and agricultural implements, production is 30 per cent. higher than in 1938. Production of textile machinery has also increased. Chemical apparatus, paper industry machinery and timber industry equipment are on the increase. The output of tool-making machines has risen by 200 per cent. compared with pre-war figures. In the Regained Territories the industry has been rebuilt and is now on the level of the metal industry in Warsaw."

"The metal industry can be proud of its achievements but it still faces a hard task. The Three-Year Plan envisages a monthly production of 25 locomotives, 1,100 goods trucks and 80 passenger cars, double the pre-war output of agricultural machinery, 10 times bigger production of tool making machines, the opening of the Starachowice motor car factory, development of the trailer factories, etc. The value of the metal production in 1949 is to be three times greater than that of 1946. On this largely depends the whole Three-Year Plan. This development will also reduce imports of foreign machinery."

NEWS IN BRIEF

EVACUATION OF UKRAINIANS, BELORUSSIANS AND LITHUANIANS.—The evacuation of Ukrainians, Belorussians and Lithuanians to their respective Soviet Republics is progressing according to the agreement and up to 1st September, 517,933 of the 529,609 who had registered for evacuation had left.

NEW POLISH COASTAL RAILWAY.—A new Polish coastal railway has recently been put into operation along the newly-built Leborg (Lauenburg)-Maszewo (Massow) line, a part of the Leborg-Bytow (Lauenburg-Buetow) route. In connection with this, six passenger trains have been made ready.

CEMENT EXPORTS.—Consignments of Polish cement totalling 15,000 tons have left Gdynia and Gdansk (Danzig) for Dakar, Brazil and Sweden.

RECONSTRUCTED RAILWAY BRIDGE OPENED.—The inauguration of the reconstructed railway bridge over the Vistula and of a new switch line of the Cracow railway junction took place at Poznan on December 10th.

CABLE FACTORIES' OUTPUT.—Between January and October, Polish factories produced 7,900 tons of cable, worth Zl. 600,000,000—75 per cent. of the pre-war figure. Output per hour rose twice.

POLISH MINERS RETURNING FROM GERMANY.—A large group of Polish miners will shortly return from Germany. They will be settled in Lubusz (Lebus) district.

KATOWICE: SEARCH FOR GERMANISED POLISH CHILDREN.—The Silesian Dabrowa Section of the Polish Red Cross has a card index of the names of 100,000 children abducted by the Germans. The Ministry of Social Welfare has appointed a special plenipotentiary commissioned to recover the Polish children. The repatriation of the children is carried out with the participation of the Repatriation Office and the School Board. The Silesian Section of the Polish Red Cross is also housing the children, and looking for the children's parents.

FURNITURE EXPORTS TO EIRE.—The Central Board of the timber industry is sending furniture to Ireland. The first supply sent to Dublin consists of 2,700 different pieces of furniture.

400 HORSES EXPECTED FROM POLES IN U.S.A.—Four hundred horses sent by Poles in the U.S.A. will arrive in Poland for specified recipients in the near future.

SECOND POLAND - SWEDEN FERRY.—The second ferry operating between Poland and Sweden entered Gdynia for the first time on December 2nd. This ferry is of 2,500 g.r.t. and is intended mainly for cargo.

POLISH SMELTING INDUSTRY

As a result of workers' inventions, the Polish smelting industry has saved over Zl. 50,000,000.

WR 80/17/2

EXCERPT FROM:- MISSION TO POLAND, WARSAW. CHIEF OF MISSION'S MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, 1946

Two child welfare officers, one from UNRRA Central Headquarters, Germany, and one from UNRRA in the British Zone in Germany, visited Poland during the month to discuss the repatriation of unaccompanied children with the Minister in charge of Repatriation, and the Polish Red Cross. As a result of these discussions, a special effort will be made to provide a sufficient number of Red Cross trains to repatriate the majority of the 1,500 unaccompanied children at present in children's centres in Germany before Christmas. The welfare officers also visited Katowice and discussed with Social Welfare and Polish Red Cross authorities the utilisation of records there which should provide much material helpful in locating additional Polish children in German institutions and families.

Information has been received that 22 unaccompanied Polish children, of whom 18 were part of some 164 children removed from Austria by the Polish Red Cross 2nd Corps, have now been returned to Austria. Apparently some of these 164 children were taken to Spain and some to Italy. It is understood that 85 children remained in Barcelona, and the remainder of the group are either in Italy or have already been sent to England. It has been discovered that 8 of the 164 children have parents in Poland who have been searching for them for some months. The situation with regard to the return of children abducted from Austria remains unsatisfactory.

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U N R R A
CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS FOR GERMANY.
DEPARTMENT OF FIELD OPERATIONS.

REPORT ON TRIP TO POLAND.
19TH-27TH NOVEMBER, 1946.



Contacts were made with the following people in Poland -

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Mr. Wladislaw Wolski | - P.U.R. |
| 2. Mrs. Palmowska | - Polish Red Cross. |
| 3. Mrs. Bortnowska | - National Tracing Bureau, PRC. |
| 4. Mr. Roland Berger | - URRRA Mission. |
| 5. Miss Madeline Lay | - URRRA Mission. |
| 6. Dr. Shebesta | - Polish Red Cross, Katowice. |
| 7. Col. Fuglewicz | - Polish Red Cross, Katowice. |
| 8. Mrs. Germanowa | - Polish Red Cross, Katowice. |
| 9. Mr. Hrabar | - Ministry of Social Welfare,
Katowice. |
| 10. Mrs. Makowiecka | - " " " " " |
| 11. Mrs. Kowsalska | - Ministry of Education. |
| 12. Mr. Bein | - A.J.D.C., Warsaw. |

Visits were made to the following places -

1. Katowice Children's Home, Polish Red Cross.
2. Trade School for Girls, Katowice.
3. Catholic Orphanage, Katowice.

I. PURPOSE OF THE TRIP.

This trip was planned for the purpose of reviewing the plans made with the Polish organisations in August concerning Polish unaccompanied children and to discuss with them additional information and problems which have come to light in Germany since that time.

II. GENERAL IMPRESSIONS OF POLAND.

Since this second trip to Poland was limited to working on policies and plans affecting the repatriation of children, there was little time to observe conditions in Poland or to visit as many of the social services as was possible in my August visit. However, one cannot be in Poland even for a crowded week without being conscious of the attitudes of people and the condition of the country.

During this visit, Warsaw and most of the surrounding countryside was under a thick blanket of snow. Warsaw streets are filled with busy people getting their work done in spite of the cold and limited transport facilities. The country roads had their usual stream of wagons going to and coming from the markets. One has the feeling that the Poles are going doggedly ahead with a realisation that the future must inevitably bring problems in all spheres of their lives. What strikes one as forcibly as ever is their determination to cope with these problems and their capacity to carry what seems to the outsider as an almost insurmountable load. Two of the greatest difficulties in the realisation of their goals are the shortage of professional personnel and the insufficiency of basic supplies. Poland is worried about the cessation of UNRRA's help in Poland and also about the termination of UNRRA in Germany. One is constantly impressed in Poland with their achievements in the face of inadequate equipment and limited supplies. If the people now holding positions of responsibility in government social services can hold out under the load they are carrying and the way can be kept open to make supplies increasingly available to Poland, the problems of rehabilitation in Poland can be quite adequately handled by the Poles themselves.

III. REPATRIATION OF POLISH CHILDREN.

1. Policies affecting repatriation.

A conference was held with Mr. Wolski of P.U.R. to review the status of the repatriation of children from Germany and to discuss problems which need further clarification and study by the Polish Government. The problems submitted to P.U.R. for decision are summarised below.

- a. Polish unaccompanied children who are under the care of Polish foster parents who are planning to go to other countries for resettlement.
- b. Disposition of children whose parents have been apprehended in Poland as Volksdeutsch.
- c. Cases in which Polish mothers have released their children to German families for permanent care.

- d. Older Polish children who in spite of all efforts to interest them in returning to Poland are resisting repatriation.
- e. Determination of nationality of children now in Germany who may be either German or Polish and the checking of this list against the list of Germans expelled from Poland as one source of verification of nationality.
- f. Clarification of instructions to Liaison Officers in order to avoid reversal of decisions by them with regard to repatriation of Polish children.
- g. Requests by non-Jewish Polish parents in Germany that their children now in Poland be reunited with them in Germany. At the present time, children whose parents went to other countries prior to 1939 may now be reunited with parents or relatives in the country of their present residence. Some 200 children have already been sent to France on this basis. No decision has been given officially as yet with regard to cases of parents now in Germany.

It was agreed that these questions would be considered immediately by P.U.R. and that a reply in writing would be forwarded to Central Headquarters, Germany.

2. Plans for Repatriation of Children now in Germany.

Conferences were held with the Polish Red Cross Headquarters in Warsaw and with the Regional Office in Katowice. The present count of Polish unaccompanied children in Germany is approximately 1,500 and the Polish Government is anxious to have them returned to Poland as soon as possible. In order to know how to plan their transport and reception facilities, the Polish organisations must know the names, numbers and ages of children ready for repatriation. This information is in the process of completion in the Zones of Germany and is to be submitted to Poland by cable within the coming week.

In addition to this complete roster, however, the Polish Red Cross has asked us to send as far in advance as possible (preferably a minimum of two weeks) in duplicate, a list of the children who are to be sent on each train, giving full names, birth-dates, names and addresses of parents or relatives, if known. This plan will enable the Polish Red Cross to communicate with families of the children in advance and plan for their reception. It is recognised that such lists may change somewhat between the time they are made out and the time the children leave, but even with this possibility, it is still desirable to send the advance notification on repatriation movements.

P.R.C. has asked also that we indicate on the advance lists any children who may need special care upon arrival. For instance, if they know in advance that children with epilepsy, or children who are noticeably mentally retarded or disturbed are to be included in the transport, they can plan with the institutions involved for immediate transfer of these children upon their arrival in Poland.

Under the present reception plans, children under three years of age are received at the Polish Red Cross Children's Home in Katowice. Children over three years of age are received at Kozle. As described in the August report, the children who have parents or relatives are reunited with them within a period of several days or a week. The children under three who have no relatives or whose relatives have not yet been located are sent to nursery homes. Those over three are sent to other homes designed especially for their care.

One of the most encouraging aspects of the repatriation programme is the number of children who are able to return to their parents or close relatives. Those concerned with the repatriation of Polish children will be interested in the following report prepared by Mrs. Germanowa of the Polish Red Cross in Katowice.

From July 5, 1946 to November 25, 1,099 children were brought back to Poland from Germany. Out of this number -

- 614 children were reunited with their families.
- 36 children were placed with foster families.
- 4 died.
- 2 ran away.
- 86 are in reception centres awaiting transfer.
- 357 have been sent to Children's Homes.

Of those children repatriated during this period, over half have been returned to their families. If one adds to this the children repatriated since March, 1946, the percentage of reunions is close to 70 per cent.

Detailed plans for future repatriation were worked out with the Polish Red Cross. They are equipped to receive at the present time up to 200 children under three years of age. For children over three, the reception facilities are adequate but the placement facilities in Upper Silesia, the area in which most of the children have thus far been placed, are now over-taxed. The Polish Red Cross Headquarters, however, reports that Homes in other parts of Poland are prepared to receive these children.

The three Polish Red Cross trains will be put at the disposal of the Zones on a continuing schedule for the coming months. It was felt that because of the adequate facilities provided in the Red Cross trains, repatriation of children could continue throughout the winter months. The length of time required for the routing of the trains back and forth will give time for planning both in Germany and in Poland. The following points were agreed upon with regard to future movements:

- a. A Polish Red Cross train was already scheduled to go to the British Zone on November 28th to take back the group of very young children and also some of the older children.
- b. It was thought inadvisable to plan a move of children during the Christmas holidays. If children could reach Poland sufficiently early before Christmas, it would be possible to plan Christmas for them there. Otherwise, it would be best to have them stay in the UNRRA Centres for Christmas.
- c. A Polish Red Cross train will be available for the French Zone and the U.S. Zone early in January. If a military repatriation train with special coaches for children can be organized in the U.S. Zone early enough to get the children home by Christmas, such a plan will be agreeable to the Polish staff.

With regard to unaccompanied children who are active TB cases, the P.R.C. has asked that these children be kept under care in Germany until the latest possible date. Facilities in Poland are not adequate for this group because of the shortages of medical supplies and equipment. It was agreed that everything possible would be done in Germany to postpone the repatriation plans for these children until later.

Food rations for unaccompanied children under the 60-day ration plan have been issued regularly and without any difficulty at the reception points of Stettin and Djiejeice. The children are issued coupons upon their departure from Germany and collect their rations from the warehouses in Poland in the same way as the adults. If children rejoin their families, the rations go into the household. If children are sent to children's homes, the rations are assigned to the institution.

Under the 60-day ration scheme, distribution of rations is scheduled to stop in December. With the availability of P.R.C. trains, repatriation of children will be possible throughout the winter months. The question has been raised by Poland as to the possibility of continuing these rations for children. The warehouses and staff in Poland will undoubtedly be withdrawn in December, but it may be possible to allocate rations to each trainload of children at the time of departure from Germany for distribution by the P.R.C. at point of arrival in Poland. Such a plan would have to have the approval and participation of the military authorities in each Zone of Germany. It was agreed that this suggestion would be presented to them for early consideration.

Staff members of the P.R.C. commented on the difference between the children now being received in Poland and those who were repatriated earlier. The more recent groups, they report, are in less good physical condition and seem mentally apathetic or retarded. To those of us working in Germany, there is a very understandable reason for this. Most of the children who returned to Poland in the early repatriation moves had been in UMRRA Children's Centres for many months so that they were built up physically and much had been done to encourage their social and emotional growth. Many of the children now going to Poland have only a short time prior to repatriation been removed from German institutions where in most instances their care and develop-

ment had been neglected. The short time now available in Germany for assisting these children in catching up with their normal growth and development means that the social welfare organisations in Poland will need to take this factor into account in the planning of their services for children. They were assured that we would continue to do everything possible in Germany during the time the children are awaiting repatriation, to counteract their past deprivation.

IV. SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN POLAND.

Poland has begun to develop its programme for foster home care or adoption of children. The Ministry of Social Welfare and the Ministry of Education are responsible for investigating prospective foster homes and for supervision of the children after placement. These organisations report that there are many more applications for children than they can fill. On the other hand, they prefer to give children good care in children's homes than to place them in mediocre foster homes.

The older children returning to Poland present the greatest problems. They have spent too many years under a regime which placed a premium on stealing and destructive behaviour for them to be able to shed these acquired patterns very easily. Polish social welfare organisations report that these children have lost their sense of values and that activities such as looting and black marketing are rather frequent occurrences among this group. For this group, as for the younger children who exhibit social and emotional retardation, special services will need to be developed.

In this connection, the work which is being carried on in the Trade Schools in Poland should suggest a partial solution. One of the most encouraging evidences of this as a possibility is the curricula of the Girls' and Boys' Trade Schools in Katowice. In the Girl's School, some 840 students are in attendance: in the Boys' approximately 2,000. The Girls' School has a three-year dress design and dress-making course: a photography course: a one-year cooking school: and a beauty culture course, together, of course, with the regular academic subjects. One had the impression that this school is doing an excellent job of equipping these girls for trades which will insure future employment and a steady income. The students of these trade schools come not only from Katowice but from

surrounding towns and also from other parts of Poland. Provision is made for out-of-town students to live in Katowice and for any student who is unable to pay the school fees, such expenses are met by the government.

Thus far, there are no repatriated children registered at the Girls' School. Members of the staff were extremely interested in a description of the problems presented by older Polish children in Germany, particularly their lack of educational opportunity and their fears with regard to what will be available to them in Poland by way of vocational training and employment. It was recognised by some of the staff that special training courses would be necessary for these returning adolescents, in order to give them some security and to prepare them for entering the regular classes. If we can give the Polish Ministry of Education an idea of the number of children who might need this type of training in Poland with a descriptive account of the number of boys and girls, their past education and experience and their wishes with regard to future training, it is entirely possible that they will be able to plan a special programme for these children.

V. IDENTIFICATION OF POLISH CHILDREN IN GERMANY.

At the time of the August visit to Poland, UNRRA presented all the accumulated evidence from Germany on the abduction of Polish children during the Nazi regime and lists of children and institutions which might serve as clues to the Polish authorities in searching for documentary evidence in Poland. The most thrilling result of this second trip was that of receiving the report on the progress made in this area. Within the past month, the Ministry of Social Welfare has undertaken the task of searching for records on children and Mr. Hrabar of the Katowice Regional Office has been appointed to direct the search for and compilation of such records for all of Poland.

The first efforts at search resulted in turning up 5,000 records on individual children who had been kidnapped from their families in Poland and sent to Germany. Lodz apparently was the N.S.V. headquarters for this programme in Poland and the records were left in the buildings occupied by that organisation. Nothing could be more dramatic or more valuable than the unearthing of this information. Each card has attached to it a photograph of the child, his Polish name and the German name given

to him as the first step in his Nazification. Identifying information on the child's family is included and also evaluative comments with regard to whether or not the child would make a good German citizen. In making such a selection, emphasis was placed on such traits as obedience and the physical and mental stamina of the child. Out of the group of 5,000 approximately 443 have already been accounted for through tracing efforts.

In Katowice, an additional several thousand records on children have been found. A roomful of records has recently been uncovered there but at the time of my visit they had not been counted. These records are set up as individual case folders which include all correspondence concerning the children and complete information as to their identity. A testimonial to the assurance with which the Nazis undertook their task is the "Heil Hitler" which precedes the signature of the Nazi official on each letter in the children's folders.

The task now confronting the organisations in Poland is that of analysing and compiling this information and any additional evidence which may be uncovered as the search proceeds. The Ministry of Social Welfare is planning to issue instructions to all areas in Poland, asking them to examine all records in existence in their sections and report the location of any records relating to the deportation of children from Poland. These will then be brought to one place and analysed for use in Poland and Germany. It would, of course, be ideal if the Ministry of Social Welfare could continue to locate and centralise these records and after screening them, turn over to the National Tracing Bureau all information which would be helpful in tracing relatives or identifying children. It is important that as soon as possible all evidence be gathered together in one place and integrated with what already exists in the Tracing Bureau. The details of such planning are now under way in Poland, but in the meantime every effort is being made to make the records thus far uncovered available in Germany.

The quickest possible solution would be that of having the records photostated. This would safeguard the records for other uses in Poland and at the same time would expedite the identification of Polish children in Germany. It was agreed that the possibility of photostatic service being supplied by Central Tracing Bureau, Germany, would be taken up upon my return. In the

meantime, a summarised list of the first 5,000 children is being prepared for forwarding to CTB. Continuous contact will be maintained with Poland to insure the quickest possible transfer of all evidence on children.

VI. JEWISH CHILDREN IN POLAND.

A conference with Mr. Bein, AJDC, threw considerable light on the future moves of Jewish children out of Poland. He pointed out that the situation has changed during the past few months and that the number of Jews leaving Poland, particularly children, will be very small in the future months. He attributes this to several things. The winter months discourage travelling and added to this are the reports getting back to Poland concerning the crowded conditions in the camps in Germany and the uncertainty of getting to Palestine from here at any time in the near future. With regard to children, another factor enters into the decrease in infiltration. The AJDC and the Central Jewish Committee are working on plans for Jewish children to go from Poland directly to other countries for resettlement rather than coming to Germany for an interim stay. Projects are now under way for transfer of children to South Africa and Mexico. As reported in August, the plans for children to go to France and Belgium for temporary haven while permanent plans are being made for them are also in progress. This means that, barring any incidents in Poland, very few Jewish children will be coming into the U.S. Zone from now on.

Jewish children who were placed with non-Jewish families in Poland during the persecutions are now being recovered and included in the plans described above if they do not have parents or close relatives in Poland who are looking for them.

VII. SUMMARY.

In summarisation, the following pertinent points may be noted:

1. Government decisions affecting special groups of Polish children will be submitted by Poland in the near future.

2. Plans for the repatriation of Polish children now in Germany will be worked out as outlined in this report.
3. UNRRA's knowledge of the special needs of the children under care in Germany should be relayed to Poland so as to permit preliminary planning by the welfare organisations there.
4. The Nazi records on the deportation of Polish children are to be made available to Germany at the earliest possible moment.
5. Infiltration of Jewish children into Germany will be very few in numbers in the coming months, due to more direct planning for these children in Poland on the part of Jewish organisations.

Eileen Blackey.
Child Search & Repatriation
Consultant.
CHQ. Germany.

5th December, 1946.

A circular red ink stamp. The outer ring contains numbers 1 through 24. In the center, there is a five-pointed star. Below the star, the date "14 NOV 1946" is stamped. At the bottom of the circle, the words "RELIEF SERVICES" and "REGISTRY" are stamped in two lines.

INCOMING CABLE.

WR 86/18/2
80/10/2

WARSAW TO AROSEN

DATED: 9th November, 1946.
RECD: 1¹/₂, 30 hours.
9th November, 1946.

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- 1) Welcome Blackey Heise Pearse visit 15th November.
- 2) Send full name,nationality,Heise Pearse to expedite
nce Warsaw.

- 3) Will inform P.U.R. also Red Cross.
- 4) Inform U.S. any specific items to be discussed.

+ Repeated to ERO No. 2304

INDEXED :



INCOMING CABLE

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

WR 80/18/2
80/10/2

ATTENTION: RS DEPT
MISS GIFFORD

ARCLSEN.....TO.....WARSAW

No. 69 (for Drury)

Dated: 6th November 1946

Rec'd: 6th November 1946

20.09 hrs.

en clair)

Repeated London 2304

-
1. May Blackey, Heise, Pearse, visit Poland about 15th November?
 2. Negotiations under WAR EITH Polish Repatriation Mission Berlin.
 3. Please inform Wolski P.U.R. and Polish Red Cross.

DISTRIBUTION: MR. CARTER
COL. CHARLEY
C.R.S.

MW/ID

B

1946 NOV 6 PM 8 09

Important

55

WK. 80/14/2.

W-14

GB L LAN 1486V WAOF 063897 PP

FROM UNRRA CHQ AROlsen 061500NOV

TO UNRRA WARSAW FOR DRURY

INFO WAROF FOR UNRRA LONDON

Col. Chubb
Mr. Carter ✓

BT

UNCLASSIFIED . . FROM UNRRA CHQ AROlsen NR 69
WARSAW REPT NR 2304 TO WAROF

1 . MAY BLACKKEY HEISE PEARSE VISIT POLAND ABOUT 15TH NOVEMBER STOP

2 . NEGOTIATIONS UNDER WAR EITH POLISH REPATRIATION MISSION
BERLIN STOP

3 . PLEASE INFORM WOLSKI P.U.R.
AND POLISH RED CROSS STOP

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URGENT & IMPORTANT
ADVANCE ACTION
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121

COPY of WR 80/8/2

Original WR 80/8/2

INDEXED

31st October, 1946.

TO: Mr. C. H. Martini
FROM: Eileen Blackey
SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF CHILD WELFARE STAFFS
TO POLAND

1. This is to formalise our several verbal discussions on the importance of planning a second visit to Poland.
2. We have for some time thought it advisable for the Child Search Officer of the British Zone and of the U.S. Zone to spend some time in Poland, since they are both directly concerned with the problem of locating and repatriating Polish children. It does not seem to me necessary that the Child Search Officer of the French Zone be included in this group, since under the French agreement we are quite restricted in Child Search activities, and the numbers of Polish unaccompanied children under UNRRA care in the French Zone are quite few.
3. In view of the plans already under way between Central Headquarters here and Poland, it is desirable that the CHQ Child Search Consultant accompany Miss Heise and Miss Pearse. This would also be important from the standpoint of coordinating the visit.
4. My initial visit to Poland was primarily for the purpose of establishing key contacts and for presenting to Poland the problems on which we need their continued and active participation. It is extremely important that these negotiations be kept alive and that new developments in Germany be integrated with these continuing plans. Miss Madeline Lay, the UNRRA Child Welfare Consultant for the Polish Mission, can be of assistance to a certain extent but it seems to me that having the Polish officials concerned receive our information and suggestions through a second person who is not on the ground, so to speak, has less effective results.
5. As a basis for securing administrative approval of this proposal, I am discussing below the most urgent matters which I feel should have continuing follow up with Poland. During my first visit to Poland, the following subjects were opened up and plans laid for specific activity in relation to each of them. They are as follows :-
 - a. Plans for the reorientation and re-education in Germany of Polish children who are either resisting repatriation or who are thoroughly Germanised. This involves plans for teaching personnel, books and publications and planning with Polish organisations for continued re-education of these children after their return home.
 - b. Follow up on the suggestions made to Polish organisations on the compilation of all documentary evidence in Poland concerning the kidnapping or extermination of children. This very important area had not been touched at the time of my first visit and it was a problem on which Polish officials seemed to be somewhat at a loss.

- c. The Polish National Tracing Bureau is working on the gigantic task of compiling lists of some 200,000 children reported missing in Poland. These have been coming through to the Central Tracing Bureau in small lots as a result of the plans laid down in Poland during my first visit. Although very little more needs to be done on this particular phase of the problem, it is one link which needs to be maintained
 - d. One very specific problem presented to Poland was that of identifying a fairly large group of children now in Germany whose nationality may prove to be either Polish or German. A list of some 400 children and a list of 75 institutions were referred to the appropriate organisation in Poland with the understanding that they would visit these institutions and gather whatever identifying information might be available on these children. Two months have elapsed since this request was made but to date we have received no word from Silesia, where this particular project was to be carried on. This project needs further follow-up and additional information secured in Germany on this problem needs to be discussed with the Polish organisations.
 - e. While plans for the repatriation of Polish children have improved considerably with experience, there are still some sharp corners which need to be rounded off in our planning, both in Germany and in Poland.
 - f. The problem of Jewish children leaving Poland to come to Germany was touched on during my first visit to Poland but there was not sufficient time to explore it thoroughly. Developments in Germany since that time indicate the urgency of discussing this problem further in Poland.
 - g. Two major points of policy were discussed with the Polish Government officials at the time of my visit, namely, the importance of a representation by them to the occupying powers of Germany concerning the recovery of their children, and the necessity for co-ordinating more effectively the activities of all organisations in Poland concerned with children. While these points are certainly the internal business of Poland, still they affect markedly what goes on in Germany. I do feel the Polish Government needs further impetus in getting this done. My impression during the first visit was that they would welcome any tangible help in this respect.
6. Prior to Dr. Mittlestaedt's departure, he on several occasions expressed a desire to have Child Welfare people in Germany keep in direct contact with Poland. Dr. Mittlestaedt's departure and the fact that Dr. Drobniaak is so new to his duties here in Arolsen, add to the advisability of another visit to Poland as soon as possible.
7. I should like to recommend that Miss Heise, Miss Pearse and I plan to go to Poland on or about the 15th November. This date will, of course be subject to change depending on ERO's plans for an inter-mission conference on Child Welfare.

Copy to: Miss Pearse
Miss Heise
Miss Pentz

Copied on file.

W 235

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DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY TO
29/10/46

ROME	DGS NO	4393
ATHENS	"	4205
WARSAW	"	4317
BELGRADE	"	3238
VIENNA	"	4348

TO: DR. N. M. GOODMAN, Director of Health

FROM: DR. R.R. STRUTHERS, Consultant in Maternal and Child Health

SUBJECT: Tour of UNRRA European Missions, July-September, 1946.

G R E E C E

Athens

Visits were paid to the following children's institutions -

1) Voula Hospital at Piraeus, with Dr. Thomson, of the UNRRA Tuberculosis Section, and Mme. Coutsis, of Relief Services. This hospital is intended for the treatment of children suffering from tuberculosis of bones, with 300 beds. It is very crowded, and half the beds are occupied by adults suffering from tuberculosis of bone. The equipment is very antiquated and needs almost complete replacement, and the methods of treatment are far from modern. At the time of my visit, no doctors were available to take us round the hospital. There is no dietist in control of the feeding of these children, and the supplies of milk provided for the patients I judged to be inadequate.

2) St. Sophia's Children's Hospital, which is claimed to be the only children's hospital in all Greece. Actually there are two children's hospitals with separate clinical heads standing within the same compound. Prof. Choremus showed me the hospital under his direction and discussed his teaching methods. He was trained in Berlin under Czerny and, like all physicians in occupied countries, has been out of touch with current literature. His hospital was then being rebuilt and repainted following its occupation and partial destruction by enemy troops. His wards contained several cases of typhoid, kala-azar, dysentery and tuberculosis. He stated that 30% of all admissions to his hospital up to the age of 1 year are already tuberculin positive, and at the age of 15 67% of all admissions are tuberculin positive. He expressed the belief that tubercle infection has become universal by the age of 20. Penicillin was available and being adequately used.

3) Athens Foundling Home, a municipal institution containing 245 babies and children up to the age of 5, with a staff of 15 visiting medical officers and 100 lay personnel. The wards are small and terribly overcrowded. Only 15-20% of the babies are breast-fed by mothers resident in the institution and by wet nurses. Those artificially fed are bottle-fed on sweetened condensed milk of American origin, with some rice-water, and a few on "Babera", which is a skimmed lactic acid milk made from powdered milk. Many of the infants were athreptic and the death rate is high - the usual paradoxical reaction following starvation - and all of the babies are fed inadequate calories. Few were actually dehydrated, but all undernourished. The older infants are smaller than normal, but those who survive introduction into the institution and the effects of ward infections appear to do well thereafter, but do not catch up to normal: the old story of the survival of the fittest. Toddlers seemed well, though many are apparently mentally and emotionally backward, as one might expect from such an institutional life. The home is completely devoid of toys, and the children do not know how to play, but seem anxious, like puppies, to be fondled. As an institution, I would judge it to be about thirty years behind our standards, crowded and old. The milk

room technique is poor, and the staff kitchen old and dark and in a dull basement. The staff diet consists of pasta and bread. Meat is served once a week: fish is never seen because of its cost. The home awaited the arrival of an English matron who is being sent forward by the Save the Children Fund, and whose advent was expected daily.

The older children's section of this Home, located in two buildings $\frac{1}{2}$ mile apart but using one main kitchen, was also visited. Several children crippled from poliomyelitis were crawling around on their hands and buttocks, paralysed from the waist down, and have had no treatment for their crippled condition. Several children were obviously mental deficient and morons; some were tied hand to hand, or to the furniture, to prevent their running about and becoming a nuisance. There were no toys visible, and little if any schooling is provided. The inmates gave the usual impression of being mentally backward, due to the institution environment and the lack of teachers. The kitchen was minute and the dormitories crowded. There were many flies, and many children had had trachoma with consequent blindness. There were the usual congenital deformities and idiots seen in such a population.

4) University Paediatric Clinic, St. Sophia's Hospital, with Prof. Choremus, where there was a great deal of active clinical tuberculosis mixed up in open wards with typhoid, malaria, intoxications and kala-azar. There are no efforts at isolation or isolation technique, and a good many mixed infections. Dr. Choremus believes that typhoid fever has no adverse effects on tuberculin reactors, but has observed that the administration of vaccine as a prophylactic is frequently followed by exacerbation of the tuberculous disease. We saw cases of diphtheria, scarlet fever, tuberculosis and severe typhoid in the wards for infectious disease. The food seemed adequate for the patients, but the technique I thought terrible. Diphtheria anti-toxin (Pasteur) is given in large doses of 40-80,000 units intravenously and/or intramuscularly.

5) "Sikhiairithon", a privately founded preventorium supervised by the founder, Mr. Sikhiairides. UNRRA has provided, kitchen equipment and some X-ray equipment, and more is on the way. The home contains 205 children where 150 would be crowded. The children are repressed and overdisciplined by the nursing nuns. There is some occupational therapy. Screening before admission is done by the founder's own physician. As compared with the Pendelli preventorium described below, I would give it second place because of the former's happier atmosphere.

The following visits were made in company with Dr. Saroglu, physician-in-chief to PIKPA (Patriotic Foundation) -

6) Well-baby clinic, which was being adequately supervised and where the records were good.

7) Day-nursery, which is still in need of physical repair following occupation by German and Italian troops. The staff, which is local and voluntary, is good. This clinic is situated in an area in Athens populated by refugees of the Greek flight from Smyrna in 1921.

8) Dental clinic for school and pre-school children, where there is an extreme shortage of dental instruments, expendable supplies and record forms. No money is available to have further forms printed.

9) Children's polyclinic, the construction of which was not completed before the war, and which needs physical reconstruction and repair at present. Clinics are conducted in otolaryngology, ophthalmology, skin and genito-urinary disease, paediatrics and orthopaedics. In this building is also located a school for nurses and school visitors. Classes of

20 are given a one-year course in social hygiene and paediatric visiting.

Another PIKPA project seen was -

10) Pendelli preventorium. There was no screening for tuberculosis, either by skin test or fluoroscopy, simply a history of exposure. The children appeared happy and not overdisciplined; there were no toys. The physical aspects of the buildings were excellent. The bedding and equipment were provided by UNRRA. There were 250 children, and the food and kitchen arrangements seemed adequate. The staff is partly paid and partly voluntary.

11) Children's Rehabilitation Centre, Kafizzia, for 40 children requiring orthopaedic care. These are post-polio myelitis and amputees coming in from the villages, and are housed in the rehabilitation Centre for both pre- and post-operative care, though the actual surgery is done in Athens itself. The home is under the charge of Miss K. Saliades, a graduate of the Presbyterian Hospital in New York, who is a cheerful, competent person doing quite a job. There are many severe post-paralytics, some with various degrees of alienation and balloon bellies, and many with flail knees.

12) With Dr. Mendeloff, Col. Boyd, the district nursing supervisor and a photographer visited the mountain village of Afkios Thomasi. This village consisted of 320 houses and a church, with a population of 1400, of whom 400 were children. All the buildings, with the exception of the church and two houses, were burned by the Germans in July, 1944, in reprisal for the killing of a German sentry. The village is now largely rebuilt. It consists of stone houses containing one or two rooms. All the dwellings have been treated with DDT and oil, and as a result there were no flies or mosquitoes, though there is said to be both malaria and trachoma in the village.

About 60 children were seen and examined. All seemed about two years under height, and all were thin. Scabies and impetigo were rife; there was a current epidemic of conjunctivitis with pericorneal injection; the children showed phlyctenules; two had questionable trachoma; seven cases of angular stomatitis were seen; no xerosis or cloudy cornea; very little caries, in fact practically all the children had flawless teeth; there were no signs of old or active rickets; only one child showed evidence of gingivitis; there was very little cervical adenitis. Some ill children were seen with otitis media, one child with a severe deformity of the hand following a burn, and one child of nine months said to have had fever for the past three months. This it certainly had on examination, with splenomegaly and hepatomegaly, but no diagnosis was possible, though perhaps kala-azar. Its admission to hospital for investigation was arranged. Aside from the evidence of extreme poverty, shown by lack of clothing and shoes, there was some shortness of stature and general thinness, but no definite nutritional signs, excepting that there were no fat children. The babies, however, seem adequately nourished.

All the village was said to have an illness of some kind, part of which was undoubtedly malaria. The local village physician refuses to see any patients excepting for a 15,000 drachma fee, but at this cost he is still busy, but is said to see no free patients. The drug supply is under the control of a local committee, but supplies are short, particularly for the treatment of scabies.

13) State Maternity Hospital, where the UNRRA matron in charge is Miss Papathanassiou. This is a hospital which has been housed since the occupation in an already functioning private maternity hospital, as their own quarters had been occupied by the German Army and now by the British Army. As a result there was such overcrowding as I have never before seen in a hospital. There are 170 patients in accommodation intended for 90. Up to 30 deliveries are performed each day, and well patients are discharged in four days. Breast feeding is done 100%, and the infant mortality is

/about

about 4%, which is high. Many cases of infected criminal abortion and of metrorrhagia are treated with good results. The penicillin supply seems adequate.

There is also a training school for nurse-midwives, who are very badly housed, unpaid and financially poor. The attending physicians are overdriven, and the whole set-up very overcrowded. The one woman in charge is a sister tutor, who is apparently carrying the whole load of the hospital. She needs a lot of help and, as usual, defence against governmental interference in regard to appointments to her staff. She herself was trained at St. Thomas's in London, and is a truly remarkable person, deserving in my opinion of all possible support.

Salonika

Visited with Dr. Caprini of PIKPA -

1) Child welfare clinic for sick infants, conducted by Dr. Paresis, a well-trained paediatrist.

2) Clinic for older well children, aged 4-18 years. In this clinic also infants from other centres are given a mid-day meal of soup, bread and milk, totalling about 1200 calories - a true super-alimentation for the smaller members of the group, who were also fed at home.

3) Children's hospital, where we were met by Dr. Zonas, a German-trained paediatrist, well-trained and intelligent, who, with a staff of four physicians, conducts a hospital of 25 beds and a dispensary of 60-70 patients a day. We were shown cases of kala-azar, malaria, tuberculosis and acute radiculitis with cyto-albumino dissociation; also cases of infective arthritis and carditis. Dr. Zonas is interested in the clinical interpretation of disease, but not apparently in the social situation associated with its production. He works hard and well in his hospital, picking up and putting together the pieces of ill children, without much attempt at altering the social situation associated with their illness.

4) The Foundling Hospital, where 200 babies and pre-school children were housed in six wards in a crowded and ancient building. Two babies were frequently in one cot, athrepsia and marasmus were prevalent, and the hygiene of the building bad. No physician was seen in this institution, though there is one in constant attendance. The babies are fed on evaporated milk with added carbohydrate. There is no apparent deficiency disease, excepting the same lack of calories as was seen in the Foundling Home in Athens.

5) Three excellent PIKPA centres -

- (a) Well baby
- (b) Well baby and pre-natal
- (c) Well baby clinic

PIKPA is staffed largely by volunteers. In theory the medical officers are paid and also the nurses, but the only graduate nurse employed in Salonika, who accompanied us on our tour, lives with her parents in her own home, and has received no pay for months.

6) Children's Department of the Red Cross Hospital. This is a university clinic of 60 beds: very crowded, no X-rays and no laboratories. Typhoid is nursed in open wards among cases of tuberculosis, osteomyelitis and splenomegaly. A separate division of this hospital is under the care of Dr. Dimitriades. This is also a university clinic but separate from the Red Cross, and does not receive the same amount of hospital supplies. The clinical work up of cases in the wards seemed very inadequate.

7) The Maternity Hospital, where we were taken about by the obstetrician in chief. This hospital is also fearfully overcrowded, with babies and mothers together, even in the same bed. Breast feeding is practised 100%, and well patients are dismissed in four days. There has been no striking change in the character of the labours, in morbidity or mortality, though the babies are slightly smaller than before the war. There were no obvious infections, though the patients' beds were crowding the corridors as well as the wards. The chief cause of infant mortality is that 50% of babies born prematurely die; there were no incubators in the hospital. It was admitted that 10% of babies delivered by operative means die.

8) Central or Refugee Hospital, children's wards, where babies are cared for in adult beds due to lack of adequate equipment. The wards were dark and not crowded, and there were a great many empty beds. This I thought a poor show.

In Athens, Dr. Vine's staff meetings were attended, where discussions took place on governmental interference with UNRRA policy and planning, in particular the dismissal and changing of specially trained personnel in the malaria programme, and the failure to implement UNRRA recommendations for the control of tuberculosis. It was felt that both the malaria and the child feeding programmes might have to be seriously curtailed as a result of such interference. Mr. La Guardia's visit was also discussed, and note taken of his interest in the Health Division and the proposal of a supplementary budget for Health Division activities in Greece for 1947, to consist of thirty or more personnel and half a million dollars budget.

The establishment of welfare centres in various districts, under UNRRA advice, was discussed with Mr. Leet, Director of Welfare, and Mr. Hunt, Child Welfare Officer. One of such is functioning in Thrace at Kavalla. The Greek personnel are being trained to carry on welfare work according to UNRRA standards when the Administration discontinues its function.

With Mr. Leet and Mr. Hunt I attended a conference on education with representatives of UNESCO - Mr. Snyder and Mr. Kenworthy. The following points arose -

- (i) The basic need is for the drachma to be made available for the payment of salaries.
- (ii) ~~Some~~ seven institutions were available before the war for the training of teachers. There is a need for a larger vision in such training.
- (iii) Schools should be used as a means of public health education.
- (iv) The cost of distribution of supplies is at present greater than the Government can meet, i.e. the Government needs drachma as much as supplies.
- (v) Any educational supplies brought in should not pass through the hands of the National Government.

The present functions and resources and the future plans of PIKPA (the Patriotic Foundation) were outlined by Dr. Saroglu, the physician-in-chief during discussions which I had with him. PIKPA is a maternity and child welfare organisation receiving a state subsidy

as well as private endowment. Its work is carried on through children's clinics, child welfare clinics, and day nurseries, of which there are many in Athens and 100 or more in the provinces, home visiting for pregnant women by partially trained welfare nurses, summer camps, prevention, and foster homes for orphaned children. Some part is taken in the distribution of supplies under the Ministry of Health.

Statistics of the infant mortality rates in Greece are difficult to ascertain and are not considered reliable. The last available figures for 1938 show that the infant death rate up to the age of 1 year was 103 per 1000 and 142 in the urban communities, averaging 114 per 1000 over the whole country. During the war years this rate is known to have gone up in some areas as high as 231 in Athens and Piraeus in the year 1942, where it dropped in 1943 to 63, since when figures are not available. Similarly the maternal mortality rate was 5.14% in 1935, but more recent figures are not available. The infant mortality rate is at present computed to be 160-170 per 1000 during the first year. Prior to 1939, it had been dropping steadily, due to the efforts of PIKPA.

According to Dr. Saroglu, the primary factors in morbidity and infant mortality before the war were, in order of priority -

- (i) Diseases of the respiratory tract
- (ii) Disturbances of the digestive tract
- (iii) Malaria
- (iv) Influenza
- (v) Whooping-cough
- (vi) Dysentery
- (vii) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis
- (viii) Scarlet fever
- (ix) Typhoid fever
- (x) Pulmonary tuberculosis
- (xi) Diphtheria

From this it would appear that the majority of the causes of infant mortality in Greece are due to preventable disease.

PIKPA's programme has not gone forward as it should, due to the war, successive occupations, and, now, poverty. Its future programme of expansion is for five large scale health centres, including general hospitals, children's hospitals, convalescent homes and tuberculosis sanatoria. In the outlying centres would be established health centres controlling maternal and child welfare, school inspections, kindergartens and maternal delivery services, with medical specialists and nursing supervisors, and X-ray consultation available. In the smaller towns are to be located a doctor and a midwife who would be prepared to undertake the health supervision of small villages in the backward areas. The basic unit in the scheme is a village of 1000 people, 5000 people in five villages being under the care of a doctor and midwife. The scheme also envisages a three-year course for visiting nurses and a one-year course for auxiliary personnel, summer colonies, and establishment of children's hospitals in Athens and Salonika, homes for incurable children, establishment of a polyclinic in Salonika, and a modern foundling hospital, with the possibility of foreign education facilities for both doctors and nurses, and more practical university training for university students in paediatrics.

Another proposal for the care of children emanating from Greek sources is a child welfare institute. This institute is proposed as a government-sponsored, purely advisory body, with no powers of compulsion,

whose function would be to guide the efforts of the already established child welfare agencies and to assist them in their budgetary difficulties, and to assist in public education as to the need of child protection. An executive of this body is proposed which would have a full-time salaried director and a group of salaried specialists, who would be responsible for research and planning in child welfare activities. The object of the proposed child welfare institute would be to co-ordinate the activities of the organisations that are already working in this field, such as the Red Cross, PIKPA, Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, YMCA, Greek War Relief, Near East Foundation, and the Save the Children Fund, all of whom are doing a certain amount of child welfare work in Greece.

CONCLUSIONS

The more one sees of Greek problems of child health, the greater is the apparent need of a crusade in child welfare education and in the dissemination of the known facts of infant nutrition. This could best be accomplished by the use of ordinary schools as a means of dissemination of public health education. Infant human life seems to have a low value, both in Salonika and in Athens, and one wonders how much can be accomplished with a maternity and child welfare programme in Greece until the public is educated up to the value of babies.

The health conditions in the large cities and communities seem fairly satisfactory, as judged by infants and children seen in clinics and day schools. In the country village visited, there is evidence of chronic under-nutrition in children, as shown by shortness of stature, pallor, and lack of activity, but there is little evidence of specific vitamin deficiencies. The standard of living is apparently extremely low: poverty was shown by lack of clothing and shoes. Lack of cleanliness was extreme, and scabies, impetigo and cervical adenitis common.

The quality of the administrative medical services leaves much to be desired, as judged by the high infant mortality rate. The evidence of under-nutrition among children in country districts, the frequency of infectious diseases, and the complete absence of any programme of preventive paediatrics and preventive medicine indicates that the quality of the medical care is poor. (For example, there is at present no campaign for active immunisation against diphtheria in Greece, and no pasteurisation of milk. All tuberculosis is regarded as being human in origin, rather than partially bovine.) This is due not to the lack of an adequate number of physicians in Greece, but to the inadequacy of their training. At present there are 7000 medical students in the University of Athens who achieve university admission without having passed any entrance qualification. They receive little laboratory or bedside instruction, and are graduated after having fulfilled certain attendance rules and presented a thesis, but with comparatively little clinical training.

The Department of Maternal and Child Welfare of the Government is in the Ministry of Welfare rather than that of Hygiene, and while a budget allocation for hygiene has already been agreed to by the Government, the programmes of expenditures for health are held up for scrutiny by the Minister of Finance.

One of the principal difficulties is the lack of relationship between the drachma and the cost of living. Physicians are available, but cannot afford to work in the government health centres on full time on a salary equivalent to £8 per month. Consequently they spend their

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time, energy and drugs on remunerative practice, and the poor and indigent go untreated. Unless salaries can be brought into relationship to the cost of living, no national health or maternity and child welfare programme can operate. The Government is poor - tax is inequitable and insufficient - the people are poor and uneducated, and the economy of the country not yet re-established. One of the disturbing things in the medical set-up is the antagonism of the local general practitioners, who are numerous and poorly trained. They apparently resent UNRRA's health activities, and go counter to its suggestions regarding the use of supplies.

The most successful UNRRA operation in the child care field seems to have been in the supplementary feeding programme. This appears to have been a very effective piece of work, for which great credit must be given to Dr. Mendeloff and his staff of nutritionists. It is in this sphere that the effects of UNRRA withdrawal are likely to be most severe if the Administration's aid is discontinued at the end of the current year. While there has been evidence of misuse of UNRRA food supplies, in that considerable amounts of imported food have appeared on the ordinary commercial markets in a perfectly legal manner, it is likely that the large part of the food imported for children has reached the consumers for whom it was intended. I would offer the opinion that if the Greek Government had had proper control of the distribution of foods imported for vulnerable groups, and such food had been used only for these groups, there would still be enough remaining on hand to carry on the feeding programme for a further period of six months without more imported supplies.

On the whole, it could be concluded that nutrition of children is much as it was before the war, although the situation was aggravated by the dislocations of war and occupation and destruction of means of distribution of food stocks. The people of Greece seem to have been well sold on the value of the school feeding programme, which should be continued permanently if it could be kept from government interference, and if supplies could be provided to the local authorities rather than to the authorities in Athens. For a school feeding programme as suggested by Dr. Mendeloff, I would think that PIKPA is probably the best means of distribution. Although not yet a perfect organisation and with inadequate staff, it probably could be entrusted with most of the supplies, to keep them from being misused.

Until a more stable government with good financial control is achieved, it is difficult to see how a good maternity and child welfare programme can be effectively established, and then only as a part of a complete programme of a state medical service. At present, hospitals, whether children's or maternity or foundling in character, are always fearfully overcrowded, with patients in the middle of the wards and in the corridors. Post-partum mothers are discharged from hospital with their babies on the fourth day; fortunately about 100% of babies are breast-fed.

The proposal for the establishment of a Child Welfare Institute as a purely advisory, non-operating and non-governmental organisation should be encouraged in an attempt to co-ordinate the efforts of all voluntary bodies doing child welfare work. While the objects proposed by the institute are in themselves laudable, I would doubt that any organisation having the outspoken approval and support of the government would not become either a means of political pressure, or else certain groups who are at present offering considerable service in this field would feel very hesitant to put their experience and means at the disposal of the institute. I would feel rather that there must be a voluntary non-governmental organisation built up through the co-operative efforts of the war to work together,

having sufficient appreciation of the child welfare situation in their own country, and willing to seek support, financial and moral, outside government circles. There is a great need for both education of the public and co-ordination of the work which is being done.

Finally, there is need for a blood transfusion service and the setting up of blood banks in Greece. For this purpose a suggestion has been made that scholarships for Greek physicians to be trained in the U.K. or U.S. in the techniques of blood bank work should be made available.

I T A L Y

The following visits were made in Rome -

1) Brefatrophia, a refuge for unmarried mothers and their children up to the age of 2 years. Care is also given in other homes and in foster homes for children up to the age of 5 or 6, when these "orphans" attend colleges or schools. The home is under the management of Roman Catholic nuns, and is orderly and neat. The children are overdisciplined and repressed; there are no toys. All day is spent indoors in barren dormitories. The babies are for the most part breast-fed, though some were ill and doing badly. Few flies were seen, and the institution was less overcrowded than is usual in such places. The milk kitchen was using powdered milk for infants, and raw milk which is both pasteurised and boiled for older children. Chicken-pox, scabies and whooping-cough are isolated in seven different pavilions, but no individual isolation technique was in evidence. There is a separate building - an old villa - for luetic mothers and their offspring. Even though a mother had therapy during pregnancy, if the infant's blood is Wasserman positive at birth, treatment is compulsory by law for a minimum period of six years. If, however, the infant's Wasserman is negative at birth, it is repeated later to see if it becomes positive. However, it appears that one positive Wasserman at birth, without any clinical signs or X-ray examination of the bone, condemns the child to six years of treatment and the stigma of the diagnosis of syphilis. A "course" consists of ten arsenicals and three mercury rubs. Surprise was expressed by the attending physician that after five such courses the serology was still positive in one case which was pointed out to us. The food supplies seemed adequate, and the children are well nourished. Store-room was adequate, supplies of canned milk and drugs being procured from UNRRA.

2) Institute Forlanini, a tuberculosis sanatorium of 207 patients, which was erected in 1935 for the tuberculous members of an insurance society (prepaid insurance for hospital care). In my opinion the nursing was poor, though the professional medical care seemed good. Housing and bedding were adequate, and food superabundant and good, and all from local sources. The noon meal on the day of my visit consisted of macaroni, fresh meat, green salad, grapes and wine. $\frac{1}{2}$ litre of milk is provided daily, and shell eggs twice a week. The personal care of the patients seemed awful: no welfare investigation, no physiotherapy, no restriction of activity in wards of eight crowded beds. Only one X-ray tube is functioning, so screening is used almost entirely, because of the scarcity of films. There were many ambulatory patients

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carrying pneumothoraces. I judged that the Italians apparently have small regard for the infectivity of tuberculosis, or for the necessity of proper emotional and social surroundings for adequate cure. No efforts are made toward rehabilitation, and no assurance is made that the patient is either cured or stabilised before discharge.

There is also a children's ward for children of the insured families, all of whom have positive Pirquet reactions and some X-ray evidence of disease. These children are sitting up and walking about, and look like any other group of positive tuberculin reactors. They are receiving, and require, no care or segregation other than adequate rest and food, but unfortunately in an institutional environment.

We saw a wonderful pathological museum, with complete longitudinal sections of chest, abdomen, etc., stained and injected specimens of fetuses, and of general pathology. The whole was beautifully mounted and displayed, but rarely used, though it was stated that some undergraduate and graduate teaching went on in the institution. There is also a beautiful lecture theatre which is used once or twice a week, and it would seem that on this display and on a useless bit of unreliable statistical work a lot of the funds paid in by the insured had been expended.

3) Casa del Madra et Bambino, a combination day nursery, child welfare clinic, pre-natal clinic and lunch counter for lactating mothers, all very well done. A clinic for skin and venereal diseases is also carried on here. The infants and pre-school children all seemed well and adequately clothed, happy and well.

4) Ostia Preventorium, which has a capacity for 800 children. There are now 450 inmates being handled by nursing nuns. The children are well-disciplined but happy. The building is spotless and the kitchen good, but the dormitories are too tidy. There are good baths and adequate food, but no toys. The children residing here are Pirquet negative, recovered from homes known to have a case of open tuberculosis, and they may reside in this institution up to 5 years. The children are aged 5-12, the sexes being strictly segregated. The play yards are on the beach across the street from the preventorium - a real Italian lido on the blue Mediterranean. This is not a preventorium in the usual sense, but rather a good institution for undernourished children coming from homes where there is known tuberculosis. The children are not undernourished, receiving $\frac{1}{2}$ litre of milk a day, meat and fish each once a week, eggs twice a week, and occasional cheese. My comment was that instead of removing the tuberculous adult from the home, he is left and the children removed to an institution where they receive institutional care and suffer the loss of family life.

5) Bambino Jesu, in the company of Dr. Picolo, the deputy Medico Provinciale, where we were conducted by Dr. Mazzini, and saw dehydration in infants in profusion. There was poor technique regarding contagion, though the infants' beds were cubicled throughout. Few intravenous injections are used. Small transfusions are occasionally given. No bacteriology of stools or oropharynx was attempted. Our presence was definitely resented, possibly because of some unfortunate remarks previously made by a member of our party, though the criticisms offered were in my opinion well justified. Prof. Mazzini insisted on our seeing a case of kala-azar, though the sternal marrow smears on which the diagnosis was made could not be found for our examination. The nursing care was under the direction of the nursing sisterhood, and far from up to date. This I would not consider a modern clinic in any way.

6) Dispensary for ambulatory polio paralytics and hospital of 150 beds at Riccia, with Dr. Luzzatti and Prof. Spolvorini. Here about 90 patients are being given physical re-education in groups rather than individually, with massage, physio- and balneotherapy, and some school teaching. Six graduate nurses do the physiotherapy, having been trained in the hospital under Spolvorini's direction. There is a beautiful pool, not now in use because of lack of heating. The building had suffered much damage during the bombardment, and is only now completing reconstruction - the usual story of equipment having been stolen by the Germans. The children seemed well nourished. All come for treatment late in the disease, from six months to two years after crippling, and with varying degrees of palsy and deformity. Acute cases of poliomyelitis are not admitted to the hospital, which is supported by private contributions, a small government subsidy and some paying patients. The surgical department seemed adequate, and there was adequate bedding and food throughout. The help is unskilled, and the physiotherapy inadequate.

Prior to the war, Prof. Spolvorini was a professor at the University of Rome, but, being now replaced by Prof. Frontali of Padua, has retired unwillingly to his poliomyelitis clinic and hospital and to private practice.

7) Second University Paediatric Clinic, with Dr. Luzzatti. Unfortunately, the Professor, Dr. Caronea, was away, so we were taken about the infectious disease division by his associate, Prof. Ritassa. We saw many cases of typhoid being treated by vaccine intravenously, without isolation precautions or technique, and many cases of diphtheria treated by anti-toxin and anatoxin together with, it is claimed, good results, but no isolation technique. There is said to be a good deal of diphtheria in adults. We also saw three cases of typhus (Brill's disease) due to dog ticks rather than to lice. There were some cases of measles, but no scarlet fever. There were several cases of anthrax treated with good results by specific serum and sulphonamide, but without penicillin. Typhoid patients are discharged without negative cultures, and diphtheria cases after one negative throat culture.

In Naples, visits were made as follows -

1) Santa Rita Orphanotrophia, where 120 completely orphaned girls aged 5-14 were examined. Some were pale, many showed gingivitis and some caries. Several were seen with angular stomatitis, but their tongues were not remarkably smooth, and there were no eye signs. Nutrition on the whole is good, and as each child gets a tin of evaporated milk daily it should be. The children were rather dirtily clad, showing some scabies and German measles, and sudaminal rashes, but were emotionally quite unrepresed. I was very favourably impressed with the institution, and with their stock of UNRRA supplements. The diet as described is somewhat short in meat, eggs and cheese.

2) Orphanage pro Infanta Derelicto, a private orphanage run by a nun on her own initiative for children who have actually been abandoned in the streets and are foundlings. 42 female children, aged 2-8, were examined. The home itself is dirty, crowded, dark and unkempt, and the sleeping quarters terrible and crowded. There was much scabies and impetigo, and many of the older group, aged 6-8, showed caries and pallor. There was no angular stomatitis. A few showed gingivitis, and many had German measles and were reported to be infected with gonococcus. The kitchen was a Black Hole of Calcutta and filthy. This was really a terrible institution.

3) Foundling

3) Foundling Home Annunciata Brefatrophia, where we were taken about by Prof. Vaglio. This is a poorly equipped, old institution, housing illegitimate babies and their mothers, both ante- and post-partum. Conjunctivitis, syphilis and gonorrhoea were common among the inmates. Many cases of dehydration were seen being treated inadequately by poorly trained intern staff, and ward infections were common. Most of the babies are on mixed feeding, evaporated or powdered milk from UNRRA being used. The milk room technique was poor, and complaints were made that the whole powdered milk supplied by UNRRA contained too much fat. Some cases were being fed on Eledon which had been privately purchased, but which was too expensive for general use. Practically all the babies had scabies, which seems inexcusable in view of the supplies of antiscabietics available, but seemed to cause no great worry to the staff.

4) University Paediatric Clinic, where Prof. Auricchio met us and handed us over to his assistant, Prof. Buoncori. His hospital contained many cubicles for infants, but followed an indifferent technique. Intravenous solutions are given through the longitudinal sinus, and small subcutaneous hypodermoclysis of 20 c.c. each are given three times a day in cases of dehydration. Some intravenous blood is given into the veins of the arms, and even of the scalp. They were aware of the Rh factor, and had received some specific anti-Rh serum from private sources in New York. The X-ray plant seemed adequate, but no films were seen. Laboratories for bacteriological and chemical studies were available, but no work is being done in them at present. The clinic itself was in good physical shape, and suffered no damage during the bombing.

5) School feeding centre, where milk, soup, bread and marmalade were given at a single meal to a total of 480 children, who attended daily during the holidays and even on Saturday for a distribution of extra chocolate. The caloric value of the meal is said to be approximately 750 calories. During the school term about 2,400 children are fed daily in two sittings. We watched one meal being given. All the children hustle into their food, and none looked starved. Some apparently depend on this food entirely, as the parents are said to sell their rations which they were due to receive at home. Some of the children did take bread home in their pockets. On the whole, however, it seemed a very well run centre.

Some 73,000 nursing mothers and children are fed in Naples on UNRRA supplements. The Unitarian Medical Nutritional Committee found a lot of specific nutritional disorders among Italian children in Naples which have not been confirmed by others; positive Wasserman reactions were found by the Committee in 20% of the pregnant women examined in the Naples clinic. I saw no severe malnutrition in Naples - possibly some ariboflavinosis, but no other vitamin deficiencies.

Walking about the streets of Rome, one gets the impression that -

- (i) goitre is very common;
- (ii) children are numerous, active, dirty and happy, though small and rather thin, with no evident vitamin deficiency;
- (iii) child labour and child begging is common on the streets at night;
- (iv) children's shoes are in short supply, and clothing is scanty.

During a discussion with Prof. Frontali, of the Paediatric Clinic, University of Rome, he advanced the following opinions on vitamin deficiency -

- (i) Vitamin A: keratomelacia and starch atrophy with oedema were more common in 1942, 1943 and early 1944, but are now rarely seen.
- (ii) Vitamin B: in older children there is some ariboflavinosis and acrodynia, which he is persuaded is cured by the administration of B₆, contrary to the experience of others.
- (iii) Vitamin C: he is convinced that increased capillary fragility, haemorrhage and perforation in typhoid are due to scurvy, and has noted their occurrence in districts in Italy where oranges are scarce.
- (iv) Vitamin D: there is more clinical rickets, even in sun-burned children, which he treats and cures by massive doses of vitamin D intramuscularly.

Prof. Frontali stated that hereditary lues is more common since the war, and admissions for tuberculous disease in his clinic have gone up from 4-12% of all admissions since 1939. Typhoid fever is treated by intravenous formalised vaccine, which is repeated if the fever does not fall promptly after the initial chill. As cases are usually admitted on the tenth or twelfth day of the disease, and as the temperature is down by the twenty-first day (as one might expect in children), the clinical results of this therapy are thought to be good. Prof. Frontali showed us one case of severe anaemia, probably Lederer in type. The clinical work up of cases was excellent.

We discussed nephritis and nephrosis, and the use of high protein diets, which were discontinued because of rise in blood pressure and NPN and a disagreement over the value of the low protein diet in general.

Professor Frontali stated that the birth weights of infants fell in Italy on the average from 3500 gm. to 3000 gm. between 1936 and 1944, and that there were more small babies and fewer large babies. Likewise, the infant mortality rate under one year had increased from 80-120/1000 between 1938 and 1944.

Infant mortality figures are as follow -

Year	Mortality per 1000	Tuberculosis mortality.	Birth rate
1940	75	12	23
1941	61	12	22
1942	84	17	21
1943	88	20	19
1944	121	26	18
1945	109	18	15

Maternal mortality figures vary from 1.18 to 3.37, and are quite unreliable.

A brief outline of the organisation of ONMI (Opera Nazionale Maternale Infanta) was given me at the national headquarters in Rome by

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Prof. Veronesi. Apparently direction is imposed from above downwards, from Rome to the provinces, who have each a small appointive council of the chief provincial physician, the chief sanitary inspector, the head of the provincial school system and a high church dignitary. From the provincial council direction is given to the communes, who have each a similar council and employ visiting head nurses, who inspect the various centres in each commune, and similarly physicians, both general practitioner and specialist, all of whom are on part-time employment. All this, though very neat and tidy on paper, is in practice much less good, due to the shortage of physicians and lack of materials. In some areas ONMI also treats lues and skin diseases, because their clients do not like attending the ordinary public clinics.

CONCLUSIONS

Children's services in Italy are probably no more chaotic than before the war. There is no public conscience, nor organised public opinion regarding the care of children. The main idea appears to be that orphan and homeless children should be placed in large aggregates in institutions rather than placed in foster homes. There is no adequate supervision of these institutions: any individual who wishes may open a "foundling home" without any more than cursory inspection and supervision for licence, and may have his name appended to the list of the orphanages in the commune and so acquire UNRRA supplies.

There is a multiplicity of organisations for child care, with no overall planning, no co-ordination and no basic standards for social or medical care. Apparently the greatest need is an overhaul of governmental machinery to remove the duplication and overlapping, and to try to apply a good many of the excellent statutes on the books, particularly with regard to child care, which at present are not being enforced; also to set up standards of both medical and social care if the institutionalisation of children is to be persisted in.

While the medical care of children seems adequate on paper as regards the number of institutions available, the standards of professional competence vary greatly, and there are such hordes of babies, both sick and well, needing care. Some of the paediatrics I have seen is definitely of poor quality, and many peculiar things are done, as for example in the second University Clinic in Rome described under 7) above. I am surprised that Italian medicine in regard to public health is so backward. The medical profession is simply not preventive minded, and there is a lack of uniformity in the various provincial regions. There is a need for reformed medical education and laws regarding medical qualification. No doubt the present child welfare programme in Italy could produce results if more money and better trained personnel were available. The Italians do not appear at all anxious, however, to have any form of medical experts come into their country to tell them how to improve the quality of medical teaching or the care to be given to infants.

There is also need for health education of the public, and I think that a health education campaign for the public would be most valuable.

Miss Lelli, the Foundress of the League of Italian Women, who, as a voluntary effort, supervised the distribution of food in schools, was of the opinion that the bulk of the food imported by UNRRA actually gets to the consumer for whom it is intended - possibly 60%. I would suggest that in any further project a policy of closer supervision of distribution would have to be undertaken. Certainly the supplementary feeding programme should be continued if possible, and if food can be

made available.

Our supply personnel will be greatly missed. Between ourselves and excess Army stores, hospitals are bulging with drugs, and commercial firms are empty, and even aspirin and sulphonamides are hard to obtain.

A U S T R I A

In Vienna the following visits were made -

1) Jewish refugee centre "Rothschild" and a transit centre under the direction of Mr. Sillett and Dr. Cohen of UNRRA. Here are handled Polish Jewish refugees who are being accepted by the U.S. Army, and fed, clothed and moved by them. The various Jewish agencies provide extra rations, and UNRRA some personnel. All the refugees are well fed and well clothed and on their way to Palestine. All are given a medical examination - the first since they started trekking - and DDT'd by UNRRA personnel. Dr. Cohen reported that 60% were lousy, some have scabies and impetigo, but few infectious disease. In my opinion they are a health menace. The children look well, though some are thin. Many are short in stature, but happy, active and bright-eyed.

2) Centre for unaccompanied children, containing 104 children. These come through in groups; one such seen had been accompanied by a doctor, nurse and teachers.

3) Wien Stadt Kinder Krankenhaus, with Major Vogel. We were met by Prof. Ritter von Reuss, whose book on diseases of the newborn is well known. He has an excellent clinic for the care of prematures, who are fed by breast milk by gavage and without the practice of isolation technique. He states that there are few infections and no accidents as a result of the gavage. Death rate figures were not available, but said to be low. He demonstrated one case of Ritter's disease which had been cured with the use of penicillin. This is a clinic for babies only.

4) Kinder Klinik Allgemeines Krankenhaus, where Docent Apsberger conducted us. Of the three pavilions in the clinic, two have been destroyed by bombing. We were taken about the wards for babies and older children, where we saw a second case of Ritter's disease cured by penicillin. The Nem system of Pirquet is used in infant feeding, and cubicled cots a la Schick - both former chiefs of the clinic. We discussed the treatment of chronic nephritis and the use of penicillin. Apsberger states that coeliac disease has not increased in Vienna as has been noted in England. Birth weights of babies and maternal labours are now no different from pre-war, though the birth weights in 1945 were down about $\frac{1}{2}$ kg. Hereditary lues is treated by stovarsol by mouth, three courses of three months each, with two months' interval, giving satisfactory results. He states that the tuberculosis rate is still up among Viennese children. He has no knowledge of the more recent literature, including that on pancreatic fibrosis and Rh factor. I was struck by the amazing lack of all barrier technique in use in America, with apparently no gross infection rates among hospitalised infants.

4) A feeding centre, one of sixteen such in Vienna, providing mid-day lunch, the menu of which is changed daily. Food is provided by the central Government, including UNRRA supplies.

5) A feeding centre under the control of the Swedish Red Cross, who provide one meal a day for a period of three to four weeks and then move into another district for a month. Their food was abundant, consisting of soup with meat, white rolls, cheese and chocolate, providing 7-800 calories.

6) Vienna Receiving Home, run by the Municipality of Vienna. This is a model building erected specifically for this use, where groups of 18 unaccompanied children are kept in isolation for periods of three weeks and then admitted to foster homes or other institutions for ordinary care. The children come from broken homes and as a result of pregnancies in unmarried mothers. While they are in the Receiving Home, medical, social and psychiatric investigations are done. The Vienna Home is, of course, the model on which a great many such institutions have been patterned and carried on.

At Leoben, near Bruck in the British Zone, two children's homes run by UNRRA were seen -

1) 50 children were examined. Many showed signs of old rickets, and prominent bellies resulting from overfeeding with starch, much caries of the teeth and some impetigo. I judged that there were no children there who could not be moved out immediately for purposes of repatriation. There were three Yugoslav children badly crippled, who will, I know, get inadequate treatment in Belgrade, but I doubt the justice of holding out crippled children from their own country because the standards of medical care there are not what could be desired. The children are happy, responsive, well fed, and at present adequately clothed. The physical surroundings are good, with adequate room, bedding, food and staff.

2) Only 25 children remained in this home, 90 inmates having returned home to Poland the previous week. All the children seemed small for age, but are adequately nourished, bright and cheerful. The staff of 5 UNRRA and 25 Class II employees seemed a bit on the expensive side for so few. The nurse is running a good M.I. room

The University Kinder Klinik at Graz was visited, where Prof. Koch conducted us on rounds in an old building in need of equipment and bedding for the wards. The cases seen were good. There is much nephritis on a low protein salt-free diet, though no laboratory checks are carried out, due to the lack of reagents for chemical examination. The hospital had not heard of cystic fibrosis, due to absence of recent literature. They have several cases of coeliac disease in the ward. Poliomyelitis is treated by intradermal injections of spinal fluid, giving 1/10 c.c. in five areas every second day for seven doses, with, it is claimed, good results. Acute intoxication is treated by starvation and fluids such as carrot soup, protein, milk and transfusions of blood. On the whole I thought it good paediatrics, but lacking in familiarity with the recent literature.

At Ebensee children's centre 50-odd children were examined. All showed evidence of previous rickets, excepting seven or eight older children. 50 were 3 years old or under. All seemed overnourished, with prominent bellies and pronated feet. There was practically no dental caries whatever in this age group, though those of 5 and 6 years

had some. I found no signs of active deficiency disease. Dietary investigation was done by Dr. Smith, who found it satisfactory, including $\frac{3}{4}$ litre of milk per child per day. In my opinion there was no reason why these children should not be repatriated as soon as possible. The home is adequately staffed with three UNRRA personnel who are keen. The children are confident and extrovert in manner. The equipment is adequate, though there is a shortage of toys, and the building well adapted for a summer colony. It is expected to move to a centrally heated hotel for the winter. Some of the children show evidence of emotional disturbance, and are apprehensive and screaming; one child had severe night terrors. On the whole they were not more emotionally disturbed than any protected civilian group, if anything less so. A new group of younger children had been brought in the previous day from Braunau. They showed some scabies and had apparently suffered from lack of adequate vitamin D during the previous winter while in the care of a Russian "trained" nurse. Most of these children were said to be Russian, but of uncertain parentage. Practically all showed old rickets and some impetigo, but no active deficiency diseases were discernible.

In Vienna I visited a school where Dr. Harvey Collins is carrying out a dietary and nutritional survey. The sampling is taken from the ration card register, and is apparently not weighted. Those seen showed no striking nutritional abnormalities, though some were underweight. As usual, the older age groups have suffered. The children are in good shape, though older children and adolescents show a good deal of dental caries. I saw no frank nutritional deficiencies: ariboflavinosis, as usual, is questionable. No nutritional oedema was seen.

Dr. Cottrell took me to meet Dr. Mansell, P.H.I. of A.C.A. at the British H.Q., Shenbrun. He is apparently a first-class hygienist. His office walls are filled with graphs showing the disease and mortality rates in Austria, based on information supplied by the Austrian Government. All graphs show a markedly improved state of health in Austria, with an infant mortality rate now down to the 1939 level of 40/1000. Only the tuberculosis and V.D. graphs show higher rates, and these not up to the levels pertaining in Germany. This I thought very satisfactory. School children are up to and over normal height and weight in some classes, overweight giving a relative figure of underweight for height, but not for age. Based on Dr. Mansell's information, it would appear that the health and nutrition of Austrian children is excellent.

Prof. Reuss (of the Wien Stadt Kinder Krankenhaus described above) did not accept the A.C.A. figures showing that infant death rates were almost back to 1939 figures. He believes that the infant death rate in Vienna is still high, and that Austrian health generally leaves much room for improvement.

At a Relief Services staff conference, where a report was given on the results of the General Council meeting in Geneva, the following points arose -

(i) The loss of supplies to Austria through Trieste is less than 1%.

(ii) There is a need for distribution officers to check from port to consumer and find the prices which are being charged, as controlled by the Government.

/(iii)

(iii) 25 jeeps and 30 or 40 15-cwt. trucks are being procured from the Italian Mission.

(iv) The Austrian UNRRA allocation is 117 million dollars, the Yugoslav allocation is 432 million, and the Polish 410 million. It was assumed that there would be continuation of procurement and delivery of supplies until all the allocations had been exhausted.

(v) A special D.P. meeting had been called by the Director General with Army and Mission chiefs to discuss camp control, guards, arrests, mail delivery, and rations for repatriates. The main stress of the D.P. problem was to be put on repatriation. "Out of camps" in Austria are not a D.P. problem.

(vi) Repatriation of adolescents and the age determination for forcible repatriation were discussed.

(vii) The problem of co-ordination of U.S. Army and UNRRA control of static camps in the U.S. Zone, and the search programme for unaccompanied children.

(viii) "No work, no eat" policy in the U.S. Zone, and the application of the Austrian compulsory labour laws. Relation of certificate to illness. It was stated that nurse trainees are leaving their camp jobs to work as nurses in civil communities.

(ix) Re-registration of all D.P.'s in Austria at the same time as in Germany, to be completed by 15th September.

(x) Army supplies of supplementary rations.

(xi) School children's parcels from the American Red Cross were to be provided only for children in camps and those being repatriated.

CONCLUSIONS

There has been a marked improvement in the nutritional situation, and acute nutritional deficiencies were not apparent in the areas visited. The ration scale is still about 1200 calories, of which 80% is from the UNRRA import programme, and is being distributed to all zones in Austria.

The infant mortality rate in Austria as a whole has come down almost to pre-war levels, though in the city of Vienna it is still said to be excessive, but no figures are available. Austrian physicians report that the average birth weights of infants were lessened by $\frac{1}{2}$ kg. in 1945, but at the present time the condition of infants and mothers was not strikingly different from pre-war.

Paediatrics in Vienna and Austria as a whole are still of a high standard. They had gone on so far and so fast before the war that the standards still employed are good judged by any measure. UNRRA has had no part in this, as our efforts are confined to the D.P. health programme.

Austrian needs are for food and for soap, and new equipment for hospitals. The most serious effect of our withdrawal will be in the loss of supplies.

The medical profession complains of the absence of modern medical literature and contact with the West, but they are definitely not in need of any medical personnel.

YUGOSLAVIA

From Belgrade the following visits were made -

- 1) Home for blind children, Zeneni, where there is accommodation for 130 children and preparations are being made for the accommodation of 550 in October. This is to be the centre for the collection of blind children and their education from Bosnia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia and Croatia. The home is under the direction of Mme. Dedjer, who, with a government representative, accompanied us on our tour of the institution. Some of the cases result from war explosions, but mostly from disease such as hereditary lues, gonorrhoea and trachoma. Many bomb and mine casualties are in need of plastic surgery, which was to be undertaken by the Plastic Surgical Unit already at work in Belgrade. Some of the children were alleged to have suffered sadistic mutilation by the Germans during the period of occupation. The classes in music were quite exceptional performances, I thought, and demonstrations were given us of methods of printing, teaching geography and the making of books in Braille for distribution to the classes. Their needs were particularly for literature from other countries, knowledge of the newer methods of training and education in the teaching of the blind, relief maps and globes, and books on geometry, etc. Some of the children were obviously mentally deficient and small in stature, but showed no gross nutritional defects, and seemed healthy, active and happy.
- 2) British Plastic Surgery Unit, at present under the leadership of Mr. Jayes, and doing extremely good work, though needing occupational and physiotherapy workers.
- 3) Children's Clinic, where I was conducted by Prof. Ambrositch and his lady associate professor, Dr. Kostic. They are both enthusiastic about the use of BCG, but have had no knowledge of recent literature, and still use the longitudinal sinus as a portal for transfusions of blood. They had no knowledge of the Rh factor, scant knowledge of the chemistry of dehydration and acid-base balance in diarrhoeas in infants, use the apple diet for cases of diarrhoea, and administer sulphaguanidine for all cases of enteritis, whether bacterial or otherwise. The clinic building is extremely well planned; the out-patient department connects with the wards and teaching theatre. Comparatively little bedside instruction, and that in large groups, is given to students in the final year, and no ward clerking is done by students. The wards have recently been evacuated by the Departments of Obstetrics, Medicine and Surgery, who had been crowded into this one building, permitting the use of only fifteen paediatric beds during the German occupation. Dr. Ambrositch is now prepared to complete his unfinished building, which had been almost brought to completion before the war, and is attempting to re-establish the clinic. There is great need of new equipment, and equipment for the chemical and bacteriological work. Prof. Ambrositch did not know that UNRRA help for the re-equipping of hospitals was already available in Yugoslavia. There are excellent possibilities for both student and graduate instruction in this clinic to improve the quality of the paediatric practice in the country districts.
- 4) Dr. Macphail's hospital at Kimiska for children suffering from tuberculosis of the bone. Here I saw 65 children all looking nutritionally well but suffering from all the common forms of bone

/tuberculosis

tuberculosis. Few were in plaster casts, many in extensions and said to be doing well, and certainly looking happy and bright. There is a striking lack of X-rays and an adequately trained nursing staff. All the infections are considered to be of human type, and I judge that the percentage of missed active pulmonary tuberculosis must be very high. Some cases of tuberculous meningitis had occurred.

5) State Laboratory for Biological Research, conducted by Dr. Martinovitch at Novi Sad. He has converted a villa into a very fine experimental laboratory. He lacks instruments and materials, and is particularly in need of a biochemist to complete his studies, and of access to recent literature.

6) Day nursery attended by Dr. Stanbok, for children of working women. It begins to receive its clients at 5 o'clock in the morning, undertaking their care until 5 in the evening. The institution was clean and tidy, though short-staffed. The babies were pale and showed some scabies, but no deficiencies nutritionally or in diet, excepting in the use of milk for those who are artificially fed. Some babies are breast-fed by their mothers, who come in from work during the day. This is one of four such institutions in Belgrade, where there are in addition twelve well-baby dispensaries.

7) Large orphanage for children who are "socially endangered", i.e. from broken homes or who are the result of unmarried pregnancies. This institution has 160 inmates, ranging in age from infancy to 7 years. It is housed in a large, fairly modern, clean building. The children are physically clean and under excellent, though not excessive discipline. Food is adequate and there are no deficiencies, excepting that of milk, though the kitchen is sorely in need of new equipment. As in all other institutions, no toys were visible. A lot of physical damage to the building, suffered during the war, has been repaired. The staff are enthusiastic and doing a good job. No formal schooling is undertaken, though pre-school education is carried on. The wards are broken into six-bedded units, as this institution acts as a receiving home for children who are proceeding to other institutions or being adopted.

I met the National Health Committee, which has replaced the Ministry of Health, and has no executive power. Dr. Nikolic is the secretary, and Dr. Nestorov the chairman of this Committee. The former emphasised the difficulties in public health administration due to war damage and lack of trained public health personnel. The infant mortality rate has increased from 170 before the war to 370 at present. In older children the death rate has increased by only 7%. He stated that the five great causes of increased mortality over pre-war figures are tuberculosis, malaria, venereal disease, enteric disease and acute infectious disease. He showed us the proposed plan for maternity and child welfare, which is quite an elaborate set-up on paper. All the necessary laws have been formulated, but not yet implemented. Dr. Nikolic set the annual total death rate at 450,000 post-war, compared with 300,000 pre-war, and considered that the 150,000 extra deaths per year were entirely the result of the war.

In discussion with Dr. Sinclair Loutit, the following points erupted -

(i) Mass radiography examinations have not been performed, due to the age of the machines supplied by UNRRA and the lack of Yugoslav interest in the problem. In addition, few beds are available for the treatment of those found to be suffering from active tuberculosis.

P O L A N D

In company with a woman interpreter, Dr. Zajackowska, the following institutions were visited in Warsaw -

1) Tuberculosis sanatorium, Olin, at Otwaiks, where we were met by Dr. Ulf Nordwal, who is in charge of the Swedish operation of rebuilding and enlarging the pre-war children's sanatorium. It is now to accommodate 400 children in pavilion planned buildings. The buildings are new and modern, and the equipment likewise completely modern, the whole being donated by the Swedish Government, and the planning and construction under the direction of Dr. Nordwal. The individual pavilions are of wooden prefabricated construction with central corridors, and wards of six children on one side and service rooms on the other. At present the medical and nursing staffs are Swedish for the first year, during which it is expected to train local Polish personnel in the care of tuberculous children. No expense is being spared, and the results are good. As with most Swedish paediatrists, Dr. Nordwal is a firm believer in the value of BCG.

2) Palladium, a hospital for tuberculous children under the Committee of Social Welfare of the City of Warsaw, consisting of 100 crowded beds in an old building badly in need of repair and new equipment. Here the children have no milk to drink, and receive only 18 litres of fresh milk per week, using 11 lb. of dried milk. While this is a children's institution, 25% of the patients are adults, all suffering from bone tuberculosis. The institution was poorly run, dirty and untidy. Many of the up-patients had no shoes, and no toys were visible. The children were pale, and many were undernourished and showing signs of chronic sepsis. The equipment was old and needs complete renewal as regards bedding, beds and kitchen. On examination, their stock-room showed dried and evaporated milk in excess of a ton being hoarded, while the patients went without.

3) Imperiale, where 100 children suffering from non-infectious pulmonary tuberculosis were under treatment. The wards were crowded, the equipment old, and new supplies of bedding, beds and mattresses were needed. For the patients 25 litres of fresh milk and 10 kg. of dried powdered milk were used daily, and again a ton of milk was in store. Each child received $\frac{1}{2}$ litre of milk to drink per day.

4) Ostrovek, where 50 children suffering from open pulmonary tuberculosis, up to the age of 20 years, were housed. Of these patients, 60% are carrying pneumothoraces with refills done every 10-14 days, in charge of two women physicians. Here 5-6 kg. of powdered milk was used per day in cooking, but no fresh milk was available, and the patients received no milk to drink. Medically I thought this a satisfactory institution, aside from the lack of adequate supplies of milk. The children looked well.

5) Sanatorium Lizi Szkalina, where 66 children with closed pulmonary lesions are housed. For these patients 8-10 kg. of powdered milk and 10 litres of fresh milk are used daily, but none is provided for the patients to drink.

6) Zlaber S.W. Theresa, an institution for babies aged 0-3 years. The institution is very crowded, 30 babies and a nurse sleeping in one room, and the equipment and quarters outworn. There was considerable

(ii) The malaria control programme has not been carried out, due to lack of a public campaign, the absence of materials for spraying, and lack of aeroplanes to carry out the spraying.

(iii) The campaign for the control of typhus has been successful. The spraying with DDT powder and inoculations have been carried out by specially trained teams of young girls.

(iv) No progress has been made in the control of syphilis. It is said that the oropharyngeal portal of entry is common, with the production of local lesions, and the spread of syphilis by the communal feeding habits in some of the poorer villages. In some areas the frequency of syphilis is comparable to that of tuberculosis, varying from 20-100% infection in certain communities, caused, as suggested, by the communal feeding habits and the shortage of the common eating utensils, such as spoons.

(v) Vaccination against smallpox is compulsory in children. Our supplies of diphtheria toxoid have been refused because it was said that an adequate local product was available. The local product is now found to be unsatisfactory, and at the moment none is available.

(vi) The use of BCG is to be made compulsory for all infants. A local product made by the Pasteur Institute at Novi Sad is available.

CONCLUSIONS

It is to be noted that the Ministry of Health has been degraded to a purely advisory committee of health in Yugoslavia, with consequent loss of prestige and authority. The principal medical problems appear to be tuberculosis, malaria, syphilis, enteric disease and maternal and child welfare. Expert care and teaching facilities are needed for the care of the blind. There is great lack of trained public health personnel and sanitary engineers, and of trained paediatric personnel. I was particularly impressed with the possibilities of Dr. Ambrositch's clinic, described in 3) above.

The infant mortality rate has increased from 170 pre-war to a present rate of 370, and the mortality rate among older children has also increased by some 7%. In 1936 the infant death rate in the professional class was 76.9, among householders 175.7, and in the peasant class 435.9, an average of 230 per annum. By 1938 this figure had been reduced to 170.

Throughout Yugoslavia there is apparently a striking need of supplies of milk and of the institution of supplementary feeding programmes. In Belgrade, pasteurised milk is obtainable for children only on a physician's certificate, and costs more than ordinary raw milk. One reason for the lack of use of milk as a food for children is its high cost on the open market and the fact that it is in short supply.

Among the medical needs are education in preventive paediatrics and infectious disease, including tuberculosis, and education in the use of milk.

UNRRA's function has been as a source of supply rather than as an advisory body in health matters, and our removal will be regretted, though our personnel are not apparently enthusiastically welcomed.

Paediatric standards, which probably were never high, are as far behind as one would expect after seven years of isolation.

/POLAND

impetigo among the infants, and one child with definite evidence of ariboflavinosis. For the 50 babies, 8 litres of fresh milk per day with 15 tins of evaporated milk were in use. The use of dried milk was discounted because it was said to cause diarrhoea.

7) Karl and Maria Hospital, where I met Prof. Michaelovich. Students of the university attend here in their fifth year of a 5½ year course for paediatric instruction. The course consists of (i) a study of the Professor's textbook, (ii) lectures by the Professor, and (iii) clerking on the wards for a period of two weeks. The students attend in groups of ten each for two weeks in the hospital, where there are 150 beds, soon to be enlarged by the acquisition of the building next door to allow of 300 beds. The wards are very crowded and extremely ill-equipped after their use by the Germans. The hospital needs re-equipping both medically and surgically, and is now struggling with a small staff to do some work. We visited the milk room, where they were using powdered milk with considerable success for the artificial feeding of sick babies. The Professor informed me that there is much malaria in children who are returning from Russia; that there is much acute colitis and enteritis; and that rickets is now a common finding. He believes that tuberculosis will be a great problem for the next 25 years. During our ward walk, I found unrecognised cases of ariboflavinosis, with angular stomatitis and smooth tongues, the significance of which was quite unknown to his staff. I would think that if this hospital represents the standard of paediatric teaching and practice in Poland, a great deal could be accomplished by the International Children's Fund here in offering equipment and supplies, and possibly foreign post-graduate training to some chosen men.

8) Swedish day nursery in the ambulatory of Prof. Szenojach's hospital. All the other buildings of the hospital have been bombed and destroyed, and contain no patients. In the hospital we saw accommodation for 80 babies, with Swedish equipment and a very capable Swedish nurse in charge. The babies showed much old rickets, but none had active rickets that I could see.

9) Dom Boduna, which is a mother and child boarding home, containing 150 beds, where the mothers remain four weeks to four months, and then are sent to country homes for maternal nursing of their children and some education. The institution is about 200 years old, and runs a day nursery in conjunction. There was a striking lack of isolation facilities for mothers and children in the wards, and a serious lack of staff. The previously offered courses in child care had been stopped during the occupation. At the present time this institution is able to function only because of UNRRA supplies and assistance in clothing and bedding. There is still a lack of supplies for the care of newborn infants. On a visit to the store-room it was noted that this institution has an excellent supply of powdered tinned milk - at least a couple of tons in quantity - which it also supplies to its country branches.

10) Day nursery under the management of the City Department of Health, on Belgijaka Street. This health centre building had previously been a model in Warsaw, but was badly bombed, and is now a crowded but bright, clean nursery for 56 babies of working mothers. They are in need of more beds and bedding and furniture, more children's clothing, and toilet supplies.

11) Home for mothers and children on the outskirts of Warsaw. Here pre-natal and post-natal care are given, and training to both married and unmarried mothers, with observation and care of their

/children

children for a period of 3-12 months, either in this institution or in similar boarding homes and institutions. It is planned to accommodate 90 patients in this home, which during the time of our visit was being repainted and awaiting the unpacking of some UNRRA-provided equipment. This, however, is said to be inadequate. The home was extremely overcrowded, having four beds where ordinarily one would expect to find two, but having good clinical results. Instruction is given to the mothers in local handicrafts, sewing, cooking and home-making.

12) Batarego high school, previously the best-equipped in Warsaw. Girls and boys of the better social grade attend this school, and many were examined without finding any nutritional deficiencies. As usual, the boys showed more dental caries than the girls, but the adolescent girls showed remarkably high frequency of thyroid enlargement, whereas there were few apparent in the boys. The personal cleanliness, clothing and nutrition were excellent. There was no evidence of starvation, though there were several cases of severe conjunctival congestion.

13) Elementary School No.139, where attend a poorer class economically and socially. The smaller children aged 6-7 seemed nutritionally well, though there were some caries and questionable ariboflavinosis, but few with loose sclerae. The children seemed active and happy. Included in this set-up was a day nursery and a nursery school. While the teachers were excellent, they were completely lacking in furniture and toys suitable for this age group.

14) Lola District School, which is being conducted in the cellar of a badly bombed schoolhouse. Economically, these children were from the poorest class, and those examined showed comparatively little caries but many with smooth tongues and loose sclerae. The children aged 7, 8 and 9 seemed short in stature, many were underweight, were very poorly clad and shod, and many showed questionable vitamin B deficiency, with smooth tongues and loose sclerae. None of the children questioned was in the habit of having milk to drink.

15) A Receiving Home for orphans, run by the Municipality of Warsaw in the Dom Buduna building described in 9) above. In this home are accommodated 150 poorly clad and unshod children. Many of these children have been repatriated from Russia, and were pale, with soft gums and smooth tongues, injected sclerae which may be evidence of vitamin deficiency. The kitchen was lacking in adequate facilities, equipment and utensils, and milk was not given to the children to drink, though there were adequate supplies of milk being hoarded. These children repatriated from the east looked less well on the whole than those returning from Germany or who have remained in Warsaw. The diet seemed adequate in calories, and is said to contain 2500 calories. Advice was given on the use of milk and canned tomato juice which was in stock for the group returning from the east.

16) Warsaw Boys' Association Home, which is situated across the river in Praga, and housed in an old dwelling which has been remodelled by the boys themselves to accommodate 20 boarding school boys and provide a headquarters for 200 boy visitors each day. Under very difficult circumstances, with a poor and inadequate kitchen and poor feeding habits, a valiant attempt is being made to re-establish the work of the Boys' Association. In the diet, meat is offered twice a week, and $\frac{1}{2}$ litre of milk to drink per day. The inmates are all orphan boys for whom an attempt is being made to provide a recreation centre to keep them off the streets and offer education. On the whole they look

physically well, and are benefiting from the life of an enthusiastic teacher, who is giving all his time, energy and life to this project, which is partially supported by private funds and partly by municipal contributions from the Ministry of Education.

17) Mental Hygiene Institute, which is temporarily in charge of the husband of my interpreter, Dr. Zająkowska. We were shown several mentally backward and some idiot children, and some early dementia praecox (hebephrenia), which was being treated by electric shock, in the case of one boy of nine with good results, though all these children have a history of poor psychiatric inheritance. The institution contains 20 beds for children and adolescents, is apparently well organised with adequate professional personnel taking histories and performing intelligence tests, etc. The building has been rebuilt and re-equipped since the war, but is still seriously lacking in materials for X-rays, BMR, electro-encephalography, etc., some of which they had before the war.

In Kielce I saw -

1) Local well-baby clinic, well appointed and clean, and adequately housed with few patients in attendance. There were two such clinics in this town of 50,000.

2) Children's Hospital, which contains beds for 100 patients, rather crowded, but, with the proposed addition of another building, is expected to accommodate 150 patients. Walked through the wards, and was shown numerous cases of osteomyelitis adequately treated with penicillin with good results. Isolation precautions were poor for a children's hospital, the milk supplies were inadequate, and dehydration in children rather poorly handled. The hospital was acutely in need of new beds and bedding, laboratory equipment, X-rays and library.

3) Orphan Home, one of two such institutions in the Province of Kielce. The quarters were old, poorly equipped and staffed, and terribly overcrowded. The infants here up to the age of 3 receive $\frac{1}{2}$ litre of milk per day. Many showed skin infections. There was a complete lack of isolation precautions, cases of pertussis being housed in the open ward for infants. The work of the institution is carried on by an untrained staff of nuns.

In Cracow the following visits were made in company with Dr. Anselm, who is the chief physician of the Cracow provincial health organisation, and his assistant, Dr. Lassner -

1) University Clinic of 40 beds, in charge of Prof. Lefkovitur, who was unfortunately away. The equipment was old, and isolation technique lacking. However, the clinical work-up of cases was good, and the recent visit of Dr. McEwen has stimulated an interest in the problems of acid-base balance. Due to the thefts of retiring Germans, no laboratory facilities are available. Students are taught in this clinic.

2) Children's Hospital, consisting of 100 beds, in the same building as the Clinic, but under different supervision and auspices. There is some idea of isolation and barrier technique, but Dr. Goliab, the doctor in charge, still considers that complicated feeding methods are necessary for infant nutrition. The clinic is used for the teaching of students.

3) General Hospital, where we were asked to inspect the proposed children's ward of 50 beds. This large social insurance hospital of

550 beds has no X-ray equipment, and is extremely overcrowded in a building completed in 1938 and used entirely by the Germans during the war.

4) Dom Dziejka (house for mother and child), where a day nursery, well-baby clinic and nursery school are all housed in the one building. As in all Polish institutions, the equipment and bedding needed renewal. Fresh milk is too expensive for ordinary use, and on occasions, due to lack of funds, bread is not available for the inmates. The children actually get $\frac{1}{4}$ litre of evaporated milk a day, and there were on hand some 5-600 tins of evaporated milk which they were fearful of using.

5) A "private" home, where there were two adults and four children living in one room, furnished with three single beds and a few cooking and eating utensils. The whole family life was lived in this one room, where one man also plies his trade as a cobbler, with his work bench in front of the only window. Both adults are known to have open tuberculosis.

6) Home for mother and child, where some 80 infants and 50 nursing mothers were living. This is the only such institution in Cracow, and most of the mothers were nursing their children. There were severe shortages of milk, bedding and soap, and the institution was terribly overcrowded; even two in a bed. In spite of this, the children looked nutritionally well.

7) Boys' Receiving Home, providing accommodation for 60 boys in a dark, ill-furnished, uncleaned and untidy house. Sleeping quarters resembled some of the D.P. quarters and assembly centres in Germany, and are overcrowded. The boys were between 7 and 17 years, some of whom were sleeping two in a bed. As expected, there was some scabies and impetigo, and there had recently been scarlet fever. Most of the boys were examined. None was fat, but they showed remarkably little caries of the teeth, and no active deficiency disease. Their diet included $\frac{1}{4}$ litre of milk a day, egg once a week, and meat twice a week. They were acutely in need of soap, extra food, equipment, bedding and clothes. They are in receipt of some American Polish War Relief Supplies, which come to them from a local committee, not through government distribution.

At Katowice, in company with the Director of the Red Cross, Col. Jan Fuglewicz, and the Chief Welfare Officer of the Province, Mme. Sophie Germanone, I visited -

1) Reception centre where 115 repatriated children were housed. The children looked extremely well, though there were some cases of impetigo. Those returning from the American Zone are better clad and fed than those from the British Zone. The atmosphere of the home was excellent. There were plenty of toys, a good non-professional staff of seven nuns, and adequate lay help. The diet included $\frac{1}{2}$ litre of milk per day per child, one egg weekly and meat twice a week. There were, however, shortages of soap and shoes. The children were aged 3-17 years.

2) Home at Ribenka, some 40 km. away, where a badly blitzed house is being repaired and is at present occupied by 50 younger children under the age of 3, of whom the youngest was five months. These children had all been repatriated from Germany a week previously. Some seemed in rather poor shape, and seven were said to have trachoma. This was a local diagnosis. The home receives 35 litres of milk a day, and is staffed by five nuns and lay help. They need particularly supplies of milk, of which there were none apparent, sugar and cheese, chocolate and jam. Medical attendance is supplied by the local practitioners in the town.

In Lodz, the City Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Dzius, accompanied us to -

1) University Clinic, where, in the absence of Prof. Popowski, we were conducted through the clinic by his assistant. We discussed acid-base balance, on which they were quite knowledgeable, the use of penicillin, and poliomyelitis, for the treatment of which they use much convalescent serum or whole parental blood - 10 c.c. intramuscularly each day. Infant feeding is still an important branch of paediatrics, and the relationship of otitis media and antrotoxy to intoxication.

2) Children's Hospital, in the same building, which is to be given over to the care of acute infectious disease, diphtheria, typhoid and poliomyelitis, of which several cases were shown. Diphtheria anti-toxin is given in divided doses, though they are said to be short of potent serum. We were shown an excellent American product which was being used, being provided by UNRRA imports. Great interest was shown in the use of intravenous drip therapy, though the actual technical knowledge of its use was lacking.

Medical students are instructed in both institutions in small groups during three months of the final year, and do the ward clerking duties in the hospital. Both institutions are unable to do adequate bacteriology and chemistry, and are without X-ray facilities. Both are in need of new bedding and equipment. The Germans during the occupation removed anything of scientific value, including the library and operating room equipment. However, the staff are enthusiastic and hungry for newer knowledge and for modern textbooks. All stressed that the principal need is for food, particularly milk, though adequate milk supplies are at present available for the hospital wards from local sources.

3) Factory day nursery for mothers employed in the factory during their period of lactation. 40 children were seen in a well-equipped nursery which was formerly the private home of the factory owner, spacious and roomy and adequately equipped. Classes in mothercraft are given, and a school for nursery and social service workers and nurses is held in the same building. The whole building is put to social and health education of the factory employees, and the pupils appear attentive.

4) City Welfare Centre, where there were conducted (a) a child welfare clinic, (b) pre-natal clinic, (c) breast milk centre, and (d) infant milk station. The latter station gives milk preparations on a doctor's prescription, and at the breast milk centre $6\frac{1}{2}$ litres of breast milk had been received during the course of the morning when my visit was made.

In Warsaw I attended a meeting of the Department of Maternal and Child Welfare under the Ministry of Health. It appears that 8-10,000 children in Warsaw alone are in need of extra-familial care. The Department conducts fourteen health centres, of which twelve have attached well-baby clinics, and nine day nurseries which are lacking in milk preparation rooms, and six boarding homes for mothers and children, where they may remain for a year or longer. The Department also controls dispensaries in health centres, children's sanatoria, children's hospitals and preventoria. In association with the Ministry of Social Welfare, the Ministry of Health also provides homes for mothers and children (particularly unmarried mothers), creches and day nurseries. The Department of Maternal and Child Welfare is responsible for bi-annual school health examinations of children, but not for the examination of teachers, this being the responsibility of the Department of

Education.

Some children's institutions are under the Ministry of Health, some under the Ministry of Social Welfare, and some under the Ministry of Education, with no uniformity of standards of care or supply. The amount of amenity supplies which are made available depends on the local situation in the community, the activities of the person in charge of the institution, and the ability of the ministry under which they are placed to provide funds or supplies.

In Warsaw smallpox vaccination is compulsory in the first and seventh years. Diphtheria inoculation is not compulsory. Typhoid inoculations are compulsory annually. Typhus having apparently disappeared, preventive inoculation is no longer compulsory. At present there is an epidemic of whooping-cough, and no vaccine for purposes of prevention is available. In Lodz it is proposed to start immediately a programme for smallpox vaccination and diphtheria inoculation in all well-baby and child welfare centres and schools. Also the administration of BCG is to be made obligatory for all infants, to be given as part of her duties by the attending midwife. In Cracow BCG is to be administered to all newborn children and tuberculin negative adults, with the idea of producing immunity. This procedure is to be made compulsory by law.

It appears that preventoria are used for children who have been exposed to tuberculosis and are tuberculin positive. If the children are tuberculin negative, after observation they are referred to boarding homes. If, after exposure, children develop open or clinical lesions, they are referred to sanatoria. In the Province of Cracow some preventoria now are functioning in some areas where 80% of children under the age of 14 are said to be tuberculin positive. In Katowice, of 70,000 children aged 7-14 who had been examined radiographically, 17% are reported to have tuberculosis needing hospital care, and 67% to have positive tuberculin reactions. More than half the children of school age in Warsaw are already Pirquet positive.

The infant mortality rate is at present 200-240, compared with a rate of 100 before the war. However, there has been a great improvement in the past year, as in 1945 in some areas the infant death rate was 350. Prof. Szenojach gave me the following figures: 1938 91/1000, 1946, first quarter, 182/1000, second quarter, 218/1000. He stated that one-third of the deaths in children aged 1-4 were due to tuberculosis and infectious disease, and that an even larger percentage of those dying between 5 and 14 were due to these two causes.

It is said that Poland has 600 well-baby clinics, but only 200 of these have adequate equipment for the preparation of infant feedings. The official attitude of the Ministry of Health favours the use of $\frac{1}{2}$ litre of milk to drink for each child each day. This is not now available, and what is available is poor in quality. Contrary to my experience, I was told that people did use dry powdered milk, have no antipathy to it, and it is being used with satisfaction in the welfare feeding centres. Breast-feeding of infants is universal in the country, and almost so in the city.

I had an illuminating sidelight on the rationing methods in use in Poland. A mother of 21, widowed in the Warsaw uprising, of an infant of six months, whom she wished to place in the Swedish day nursery but was refused admission because of dirt, lice and a lack of

co-operation. The mother is unable to work because of the necessity of caring for her child, and because she is not working receives no ration card. With lack of work she has no money to buy food in the free market. In the same home is dwelling a cousin with a child of 12, who also have no ration cards. The mother's mother is a widow and working as a carpenter's assistant, and not being a Government employee receives only a ration card of the lowest grade. There is therefore one low grade ration card among five people. The mother, whom I interrogated, lives on two scant meals a day, one of which consists entirely of bread, and as a result of the failure of her milk supply is unable to nurse her baby. I am informed that such situations are not uncommon. I would entirely agree with Miss Ritchie that the rationing system needs overhauling. There may be no mass starvation, but there is individual hunger and starvation.

It is proposed to carry out a supplementary feeding programme for children in schools in the Province of Cracow, as has already been outlined for the Director General, beginning now with $\frac{1}{4}$ litre of milk per day for all children.

I was told that the Polish children are under height and under weight for age, and are also under weight for height, on the average being about 30% under weight for height and age. To my observation all Polish children are pale, and few look to be well nourished, though I found no actual deficiencies excepting in calories, clothing, housing and rest.

CONCLUSIONS

Polish standards of care have apparently never been of high grade, and while an impetus in the care of tuberculous children and the care of infants is being given by the efforts of the Swedish Red Cross, this can actually reach only a comparatively small proportion of the population. Without having any knowledge of pre-war Poland, I consider that the rehabilitation of children's services to come up to North American standards will be a huge undertaking, needing supplies, equipment, food, trained personnel, and new and adequate buildings.

The most striking thing seen was the low standard of living and of education among the poor, both in large communities and in the countryside. There is little knowledge of the nutritional value of milk, with a general failure to use milk as a food for children after one year, and abundant evidence of the difficulty of attempting to alter national habits of nutrition, even in the face of severe shortage.

Children's institutions are overcrowded, poorly equipped, without toys, and using inadequate milk, which is being hoarded against a rainy day. UNRRA's greatest help has apparently been in the importation of food and clothing, beds and bedding, and it seems possible that when our imports cease the Polish children's homes may also have to stop functioning. The few remaining children's institutions, and particularly those which have to do with the training of medical students, are in need of new and more equipment, beds, bedding, X-rays, laboratory facilities and libraries, as well as food (particularly milk), soap and trained personnel. All hospitals lack teaching and clinical equipment, including X-rays, and surgical instruments. What they possess is worn out, and many items are completely absent.

From the public health point of view, the Poles have good plans for special clinics and pavilions for the treatment of acute

/rheumatic

rheumatic fever, tuberculosis and so on, but the financing of these projects will be a difficulty.

Examination of children in institutions and in Warsaw schools revealed few nutritional deficiencies other than lack of calories, occasional evidence of deficiency of vitamin B, and an ever-present need for more milk.

The need for education in Poland extends through all branches, from the ordinary day school through to better education and education facilities for medical students. As far as the latter is concerned, I would suggest that more could be accomplished by sending intelligent young doctors abroad for training in the newer methods and techniques than by introducing teams of teachers into Poland for a short visit. On the educational side of maternal and child welfare, good plans are apparent on paper, few of which have had any opportunity as yet of being implemented, due to the poverty and governmental insecurity in the country. Some work is, however, being done on the education of mothers through child and maternity welfare clinics.

The Poles' greatest need is for food, clothing, soap and drugs (including anti-scabietics).

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

Of all the Missions visited, I would judge Poland to be the most needy country, both physically from the point of view of supplies of clothing, shoes, food and housing, and also educationally, both scholastically and hygienically. Child care is carried on by untrained personnel and in old buildings, at a level of standards that have been discarded years ago in Western countries. On the other hand, one is struck in Greece by the lack of any public interest in the problem of the child in need of protection. In this regard the Polish attitude is infinitely better. However, I doubt the wisdom of trying to impose standards on any "receiving" country by sending in personnel from outside. Much more effective would be the bringing of personnel from these countries out to the West for education and experience in child care, if possible. Italians and Yugoslavs are particularly resentful of any suggestion that they are not completely self-sufficient in such matters as social services for children.

The suggestion of offering Western training to special groups is particularly applicable to medical personnel. I would strongly advise that suitable medical men be offered such training on the stipulation that on their return they put their new skills at the service of their people. It is impossible - omitting the social and economic factors for the moment - to save children or to improve their health with inadequately trained medical personnel - both as undergraduates and post-graduates - and in paediatrics one cannot acquire the technique by the study of books alone, or from visiting teams of lecturers.

All the medical schools and hospitals visited have been robbed of their libraries, and have had no access to foreign medical literature. UNRRA should be in a position without use of personnel to do something

to assist this deficit, which, from the native practitioner's point of view, is his greatest need. He cannot learn how far behind he is, after seven years of isolation, until he learns what has been going on in the Western medical world.

In general, it may be concluded that -

1. There is now no apparent widespread starvation, deficiency disease, or epidemic disease among children in the countries visited.
2. Infant death rates in all those countries are still in excess of pre-war figures, especially in Poland. Austria has achieved almost its pre-war level in infant mortality. It has been generally accepted as the truth that the level of infant mortality rate is a fair gauge of the level of "civilisation" of a community and its standards of welfare in general.
3. There is little conception in Greece, Yugoslavia and Poland of the value and results of preventive paediatrics. This requires education in health, both lay and medical, and can be best accomplished by training of special personnel by the scholarship method in Western countries. This applies particularly to the possibilities of technical training, paediatrics, public health, nursing and blood banks.
4. UNRRA's efforts have been most beneficial in the importation of food, especially for children, and if possible supplementary feeding projects for children and pregnant and nursing mothers should be continued in Greece, Yugoslavia and Poland. From observation in Italy and Austria, the need is less acute. In Italy in particular the discrepancies of distribution and control of both indigenous and imported supplies cause doubt as to the need and effectiveness of UNRRA efforts in this respect.
5. The effect of UNRRA withdrawal is likely to be most keenly felt in the children's field in the lack of supplies. Most countries seem to resent the presence of UNRRA personnel - understandably - and the local medical profession is in some areas far from co-operative. In some instances this is, of course, the fault of our personnel, but the Italian attitude, as seen so often, of professional self-satisfaction and even superiority, even after being cut off from other medical resources, is hardly justifiable.
6. From the point of view of hospital supplies, there is apparent in many areas a lack of distribution after the supplies have been placed by UNRRA in the hands of local governmental authorities. Many hospitals are without adequate beds and bedding, many without X-ray and laboratory facilities for routine clinical investigation, and many without knowledge that UNRRA had imported such equipment into the country. Particularly in Yugoslavia and Poland is more equipment needed, and in these countries and in Greece some stimulus to the receiving authorities to get that equipment already provided into use through distribution.

As our withdrawal grows imminent, the various countries - at least those interested in the care of children - are rather panic-stricken and vocal as to their inability to carry on without UNRRA's help, and very fearful of the future of child care. This attitude applies particularly to food, clothing and bedding for children's institutions, and one must agree that in Poland and Yugoslavia there is reason to expect that indigenous supplies are not yet sufficient to replace the ravages of the war years.

It is in the field of supply that we shall be most seriously missed.

/RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The supplementary school feeding programme in Greece should be continued, and, if possible, in Poland.
2. The programme of medical scholarships should be expanded and applied particularly to Poland, where there are only 7000 physicians.
3. Training in the establishment and management of blood banks should be arranged for physicians of the countries visited, particularly Greece.
4. Health educational campaigns should be encouraged under government auspices, and if necessary subsidised and initiated by UNRRA, particularly in the health of children, their care and the use of milk in nutrition, and in what is generally described as preventive paediatrics. Such a use for the Lira Fund in Italy (and other similar funds in other countries), as well as its use in drawing up some plan for co-ordinating the plans for social and medical welfare, would be of benefit in Italy, though such an effort would possibly be considered unwarranted interference with domestic Italian matters.
5. Greater stress should be put on our efforts to re-equip medical libraries destroyed during the war years, and to provide current and recent medical literature.

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WEEK BY WEEK

FRONTIERS IN THE WEST ARE FINAL

The Second Congress of the Industry of the Regained Territories commenced in Wroclaw on October 13th. In a speech during the opening Session the Polish Vice-Premier Gomulka said:

"To-day, other problems facing the Regained Territories are at stake. I have in mind the campaign against our Western frontiers conducted by certain official and unofficial reactionary circles in the West. The Polish Government has nothing to add. We consider our frontiers in the West as final and unalterable, irrespective of the formal attitude adopted by any country at the peace conference for the final treaty with Germany.

"In summing up at this Congress achievements in the industrial domain, one should underline those spiritual achievements which are of a decisive importance for all our plans for the Regained Territories. Only eighteen months after these Territories became part of Poland, such towns as Wroclaw (Breslau), Szczecin (Stettin), Walbrzyck (Waldenburg), Kladzko (Glatz) and thousands of others are as dear to the Polish nation as Warsaw, Lodz, Poznan or Lublin. Therefore, it would be right to ask statesmen in the West whether they have taken this factor into account when querying Poland's frontiers on the Odra (Oder) and Nysa (Neisse).

"We are told that it will be impossible to establish lasting peace so long as the Germans, a nation of 65,000,000, occupying a central position in Europe, remain dissatisfied with a peace founded on their grievances. The Germans are, as we know, dissatisfied with their Eastern frontiers and they consider them the greatest wrong inflicted by a lost war. Those who attempt in this way to support their alleged endeavours to build lasting peace, find a simple solution. They say that Germany should be satisfied at the expense of Poland, that the German frontier injustice

should be eliminated, that these lands in the East and North should be restored to the Germans, because they claim them.

"History proves that the Germans always began wars not to repair wrongs but to inflict injuries upon others. Germany's attack on Poland in 1939 and the incorporation of a large part of our country in the Third Reich, transforming the remainder of the so-called "General" Government, was only the first stage in the fulfilment of their plans for Poland. The second stage during the occupation consisted in the complete elimination of the very name of the Polish nation. This is the second truth which cannot be forgotten when the peace treaty with Germany is drawn up.

"It is easy to speak about obliterating hatred and of being "just" to Germany, because Oswiecim, Maidanek, Treblinka and thousands of other concentration camps were not situated in Britain or the USA, and because neither British nor Americans died in those camps from tortures, bullets, gas and exhaustion. The present generation of Poles will continue to remember the wrong inflicted on them by the Germans, because it is difficult to forget one's sons, daughters, fathers, sisters or brothers who died in the Hitlerite death camps."

M. Gomulka quoted Stalin's declaration in reply to Churchill's Fulton speech and said:

"Democratic Poland will not be an object of bargaining because someone does not like friendly Polish-Soviet relations. We neither want to be an item of merchandise or a dog to be unleashed against the USSR, as in the past. We want to be a free sovereign nation. We desire friendship with all who wish Poland well. We will make no concessions for the recognition of the return of the Regained Territories. Such concessions once before led Poland to catastrophe. Nobody has given us these lands as a present. The

USSR has assisted us in this, and all Powers, the USSR, the USA and Britain have confirmed by their signatures the well-founded Polish right. The Polish nation is entitled to demand that these signatures should be respected by all countries when the peace treaty with Germany comes to be established. This will constitute a true expression by these countries of the will to deprive Germany in the future of the possibility to wage new aggression, and thereby build up a lasting world peace."

INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION

In an interview with a correspondent from *Polskie Radio*, Mr. Szyr, Deputy Minister of Industry, said:

"The Second Congress would sum up the results achieved during a year's activity of the Industrial Unions subordinated to the Ministry of Industry. Due to the devastation and disorganisation of industry in the Regained Territories, the Industrial Administration was faced with tremendous difficulties. The settlement of the Regained Territories was only beginning. In these conditions, the aims outlined by the First Congress of Industry of attaining the employment of 150,000 industrial workers, of setting up of an investment fund for the industrial reconstruction of the Regained Territories amounting to Zl.1,000,000,000, and of putting into operation the majority of industrial enterprises in the West, appeared rather ambitious.

Have the aims outlined by the First Congress been fulfilled?

The number of workers employed in the Lower Silesian industry reached, at the end of August this year, 130,000, of whom 98,000 are Poles, in larger factories subordinated to the Ministry of Industry, with the exception of the food processing, printing, building and timber industries. The number of Poles employed in the Lower Silesian industry amounted to 1,690 a year ago. The number of Polish industrial workers employed in the whole of the Regained Territories exceeds 200,000. The Investment Fund for the Regained Territories exceeded Zl.2,000,000,000.

Out of the 1,032 industrial enterprises taken over a year ago by the State Administration in Lower Silesia, 485 have been put into operation, 203 are being reconstructed, and 344 are entirely destroyed. Of 139 metallurgical enterprises, only 25 per cent. could be restored. The coalmines of Lower Silesia produced in normal conditions in 1942, 385,000 tons per month. The average monthly extraction during the first six months of 1946 was 233,000 tons, or 66 per cent. of the 1942 level. The textile industry of Lower Silesia employed at the end of August 46,000 workers, of whom 6,700 were Germans.

These facts and figures dispel the legend that Poles cannot quickly and efficiently rebuild their industry. Foreigners now visiting the industrial enterprises of the Regained Territories will become convinced of the great task achieved in one year in most difficult conditions. The plan outlined by the Second Congress will not be limited to figures. Each industrial union and each independent larger factory will receive tasks with regard to employment, output, supplies and distribution. The part played by the industry of the Regained Territories in Poland will continuously increase."

1,284,000 GERMANS REPATRIATED

The Western Press Agency reports that up to 4th October, 1,284,000 Germans had been repatriated from Poland. The transports of Germans have recently been going mainly to the Soviet zone, with two transports leaving daily. Arrangements for a third daily transport are now in hand and it is hoped to increase the number to six soon. Repatriation of Germans from the Lubusz (Lebus) started on 13th October. There are still some 40,000 Germans in this area and their repatriation will take some two to three weeks.

Previous difficulties in the repatriation of Germans arose from congestion in the British and Soviet zones. The British and Soviet authorities have now distributed the repatriates through the two zones, and it is possible that repatriation will soon proceed even more rapidly.

The Nazi total mobilisation has denuded these areas of men fit for work, with the result that women and children predominate in the German population of the Regained Territories. The composition of the German transports from Silesia to the Soviet zone, from 7th July to 24th September illustrates this point. Out of 127,009 Germans, only 29,245 were men, while 63,284 were women and 34,480 were children. The German population, so largely deprived of their menfolk, will therefore find themselves at the approach of winter in a situation which—though much better than that of the Polish people in 1939—will still be very acute. The Germans in Poland definitely must be repatriated to Germany before the frosts come. Poland has done everything to fulfil this object.

19th JANUARY—ELECTION DAY?

In the 9th October issue of *Robotnik*, the paper states: "In a very few days the Official Gazette will publish the text of the Election Ordinance. A session of the Praesidium of the KRN (National Council of the Homeland) took place yesterday. No official statement has yet been issued on the date of the elections. Political circles speak of the 19th January, 1947, as the date of the election."

TRADE UNIONS AND DEMOCRATIC BLOC

In view of the approach of the elections, the praesidium of the Central Trade Union Committee has decided to delegate Deputies Witaszewski and Rusinek for talks with the Democratic Parties, and above all with the Working Class Parties, concerning the possibility of including the trade unions in the bloc of Democratic Parties, suitable provision being made for the influence and numerical strength of the trade unions.

AGREEMENT ON RIVER OLZA

The Polish and Czech delegations meeting at Wisla, in Cieszyn, Silesia, have signed an agreement for the control of the river Olza in its most dangerous sector. It has been agreed that work should start immediately.

AUSTRIAN TRADE WITH POLAND

In an interview with a special correspondent of the Socialist Press Agency the Austrian Chancellor, M. Figl, said:—

"It is hardly necessary to recall how important to Austria were her trade relations with Poland in pre-Hitler days. Poland then ranked sixth in Austria's foreign trade. Now that there is not the previous trade with Germany the two States are still more interested in their trade relations with each other.

Austria could supply Poland with many commodities previously imported from Germany, and she needed various goods from Poland. Poland used to import from Austria textiles, iron goods and machinery, and exported to that country foodstuffs, grain and coal. The greater part of Austrian industry was now ready to restart, provided there was enough coal and raw materials. Poland could cover a considerable part of Austrian coal requirements. Austrian trade had so far developed best with Switzerland, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, and there were good prospects of trade with Yugoslavia and Italy. Austria was also trying to restore her former trade relations with the Balkan countries."

TRADE WITH U.S.S.R.

Dr. Stefan Jedrychowski, Minister of Shipping and Foreign Trade, returned to Poland on the 14th October after a week's visit to Moscow, where he had conversations with authoritative Soviet circles on questions concerning trade exchanges between the two countries.

ELECTORAL LAW PUBLISHED

Issue No. 48 of the official Journal of Laws (*Dziennik Ustaw*), dated September 22, contains the text of the Electoral Law.

13,000 POLES LEAVE GERMANY

An UNRRA communiqué states that 13,000 Poles left Germany during the first week in October.

INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION IN REGAINED TERRITORIES

The *Dziennik Zachodni* gives figures showing development in the Regained Territories. The railway truck factory at Wrocław (Breslau) employs 4,154 men; 75 per cent. of the factory has been rebuilt and 460 machines installed. At the Odra (Oder) locomotive works 60 per cent. of the factory has been rebuilt and 200 machines installed. So far the factory has produced about 300 railway trucks. The 1947 plan provides for the production of 300 trucks a month. The textile industry in Lower Silesia employs 46,000 men. In Opole (Oppeln) Silesia the cement works at Groszowice have been restored and have reached full pre-war output.

SEED GRAIN AND LIVESTOCK IN REGAINED TERRITORIES

In the last days of September 22,800 tons of seed grain were supplied to the Regained Territories. The grain will be allocated to State-held farms and to settlers, according to the autumn sowing plan.

Only a small percentage of the grain supplied is of Polish origin. Part came from Czechoslovakia as UNRRA supplies and some came from the USSR. The remainder was purchased in the general market. Under the autumn sowing campaign estimates 118,000 tons of seed grain was allocated to the Regained Territories.

The livestock level in the Regained Territories is estimated to be 16 per cent. of the pre-war level and includes 200,000 horses and 470,000 cows. Part of this livestock was brought by the repatriates and part comes from UNRRA. Up to the present 20,000 horses and 6,000 cows from UNRRA have been sent to the Regained Territories. The position, although still far from satisfactory, is improving constantly.

RELATIONS WITH UKRAINE

On 13th October the Polish Government delegation arrived back in Warsaw after their visit to the Ukraine. Premier Osobka-Morawski told a P.A.P. representative:

"The visit of the Polish Government delegation to the Ukrainian S.S.R. enabled us once more to ascertain that the relations between the two nations are founded on friendly principles. We also visited Kiev, Zaporozhe, Dneprostroy and Odessa. We have observed the immense effort in the reconstruction of war devastation. The similarity of the problems of reconstruction and peaceful development which are faced by both nations form a basis for our continued co-operation."

M. Kruczkowski, Vice-Minister of Culture and Art, declared: "Our mutual cultural relations are well on the way towards full development."

POLISH-ITALIAN TRADE AGREEMENT

A Polish-Italian trade agreement was signed in Rome on October 11 by Premier de Gasperi and M. Kot, the Polish Ambassador.

The agreement provides for exchange of goods to the joint value of £10,000,000 over a period of four years. Italy will import mainly Polish coal, in exchange for agricultural machinery, lubricants and electrical equipment. Italy has offered to carry the goods in her own trucks.

SWISS DELEGATION FOR ECONOMIC TALKS

The Swiss Delegation for economic negotiations with Poland arrived in Warsaw on October 9. It consists of Dr. Max Trendle, the Swiss Government's Permanent Delegate for Economic Treaties, and Dr. Hoefler, departmental head in the Federal Political Department. The delegation is starting negotiations on October 18 with a Polish Committee headed by Dr. Grossfeld, Deputy-Minister of Shipping and Foreign Trade.

REPARATIONS GOODS FROM GERMANY

The first consignment of reparations goods has arrived from Germany. There are 32 railway truck-loads of women's underwear, stockings and gloves. A further 16 railway trucks are on their way to Lodz.

These goods will be distributed by the Polish Trade Centre and the "Spolem" Co-operative. The Ministry of Shipping and Foreign Trade will fix the prices.

POLAND TO BUY LEATHER ABROAD

The Polish Government is trying to buy leather from abroad. Recently a Polish delegation, which is conducting negotiations with several European countries arrived in London.

The difficulties in obtaining this valuable raw material are great, but it is hoped to purchase leather from U.S. surplus war stocks.

LENINO ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On October 12 a meeting of the officers, N.C.O.s and men of the First Warsaw Infantry Division took place at the Roma Hall to celebrate the anniversary of the Battle of Lenino, in which the Polish forces in the USSR took part for the first time.

After the opening speech of General Zawadzki, President Bierut spoke to the assembly, saying:

"The third anniversary of the Battle of Lenino was being celebrated by the entire Polish nation, on whose behalf he expressed his gratitude to the Division. Polish soldiers fought side by side with soldiers of the Red Army to win the victory to which the nation owes her independence. The Kosciuszko Division gave one of the most magnificent examples of patriotic loyalty and solidarity with the nation, which struggled desperately through the years of occupation under the yoke of the Hitlerite oppressor. These deeds became the foundation of our liberation."

Vice-Premier Gomulka, after underlining the great rôle played by the Division in the struggle for the liberation, declared:

"All fighters and heroes who combated the Germans are admired and loved. We admire all Poles who shed their blood in the struggle for liberation, but the Kosciuszko soldiers are specially distinguished amongst this great army of heroes and fighters." M. Gomulka recalled the hostility of London emigré circles to the Kosciuszko Division, and concluded:

"The same people who hampered the struggle of the Polish Army and of the Kosciuszko Division are still active; some in the underground, where they organise reactionary activities and murders, and some who, camouflaged under the cloak of democracy, disrupt the unity of the nation and seek reactionary assistance abroad. Their previous attempts have failed. The same fate will befall the present activities of the false defenders of democracy. The Kosciuszko soldiers will help in this. Poland will follow the road of the Kosciuszko soldiers."

A resolution was adopted at the celebration meeting which read as follows:

"Our fallen brothers-in-arms left a great testament written in soldiers' blood. We vow to fulfil this testament to the last, and never to lose our independence. We vow to stand guard over Poland's sovereignty and her democratic régime and to fulfil the slogan of National Unity, to which the Kosciuszko soldiers always remained true. We will not give up an inch of Polish soil on the Odra (Oder), Nysa (Neisse) and the Baltic.

"We will spare no effort to combat the enemy which is attempting to weaken us from the inside. We will devote all our strength to the reconstruction of the war-devastated country."

Greetings were sent by Premier Osobka-Morawski, Minister Minc, M. Zambrowski, Wanda Wasilewska, General Berling and others. The honorary medal of the Division was awarded to M. Bierut, M. Osobka-Morawski, Marshal Zymierski and Vice-Premier Gomulka.

THE POLISH MERCHANT FLEET

The Director-General of "Zegluga Polska" (Polish Shipping Company) has given some facts about the Polish Merchant Fleet.

The M.S. Batory, the biggest Polish ship, is at Antwerp for repairs after the recent fire and will start its regular Gdynia-New York run in February. The Sobieski is expected at Gdansk (Danzig) by the end of October, and will be overhauled after seven years' war service. A number of Polish freighters have for some time been carrying coal and ores to and from Sweden. Three large merchantmen left recently with cargoes of cement for South America. The Narvik is taking cement to Brazil and fetching 6,000 tons of raw materials for our industries. Other Polish freighters are serving foreign ports until they can be put into regular service from one of our ports. At present regular cargo services are maintained with Eastern and Western Sweden, London, Antwerp, and ports in the Near East, South America and North America.

The total capacity of the Polish merchant fleet is at present 135,000 tons. It will be given a considerable lift when former German shipping is allotted to Poland as reparations; a large number of passenger vessels totalling 9,750 tons and freighters, tug boats, etc., totalling 65,000 tons, is expected.

EXTRADITION OF WAR CRIMINALS

Forty-four war criminals extradited by the Polish authorities have arrived in Szczecin (Stettin) from the British zone. They include former officials of the Oswiecim camp.

The Polish Military Mission for the Investigation of German War Crimes has been collecting evidence on the executions of Polish officer prisoners-of-war at Murnau. The whereabouts of three officers and three N.C.O.s guilty of these crimes has been located. Extradition proceedings will be taken against them.

The Polish authorities have collected much evidence on the criminal activity of S.S. Gen. von dem Bach, especially in connection with the brutal deportation of Polish population of the Zywiec District; 270 photographs illustrating this process, with von dem Bach as the central figure of it, have been collected.

100,000 POLES IN SZCZECIN

Rzeczpospolita, in an article of October 9, notes that, according to official figures, the Polish population in Szczecin (Stettin) has passed the 100,000 mark.

In July, 1945, there were only 1,000 Poles there. A comparison of these two figures is the best answer to all questions at home and abroad regarding the Regained Territories.

The paper emphasises Szczecin's tremendous importance to Poland. "One might well say that without Szczecin Poland would not be complete master of Lower Silesia, and her Baltic coast would lose its political and economic sense and character."

KOSTRZYN RIVER PORT OPENED

The river port at Kostrzyn has been opened by the Water Communications Board. This is an important step in the organisation of the traffic on the Odra (Oder). The Kostrzyn port was completely destroyed. The docks of the Water Communications Board there are operating, despite damage and shortage of equipment.

CZECH EXHIBITION IN WARSAW

An Exhibition entitled "Czechoslovakia 1938-1945" will be opened at the Warsaw National Museum on 17th October. It has been organised by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Information, under the patronage of Premier Osobka-Morawski.

HEALTH IMPROVING SCHEME

The Commission for combating the biological effects of war-time extermination policies, which was set up by the Cabinet Economic Committee, has held a series of conferences on measures to improve the nation's health, which was very seriously undermined by the war. The situation is such that the ordinary measures provided for in the Budget are insufficient. Special funds must be allocated to the Ministries of Health, Education and Labour and Social Welfare.

It was stated at the Commission's meetings that the death-rate had gone up from 13 to 18 per cent. and infant mortality from 10.9 to 26.5 per cent. The weight of children of school age and under had fallen 30 per cent. below the pre-war level. There are in Poland today 1,300,000 sufferers from tuberculosis; 120,000 people are dying of this disease every year. There are 40,000 children suffering from trachoma. The general resistance to epidemic diseases is very low.

M. Litwin, Minister of Health, told the Commission that it would be necessary to work out a priority list of tasks demanding attention and the help of the public would have to be enlisted. The Ministry of Health is granting Zl.20,000,000 for the treatment of tubercular mothers and children and for sanatoria. This is in addition to ordinary expenditure by the Ministry for combating tuberculosis.

AID FOR CHILDREN

The Polish delegation which attended a conference in Geneva of the International Organisation for Aid to Children from 17th to 27th September, has returned to Warsaw. The conference dealt with the situation of children and youths in the countries most afflicted by the war.

The task of the Polish delegation was greatly eased thanks to Miss Anderson, representing Britain, who has been in Poland for some time on behalf of the British section of this Organisation. She described the situation of children in Poland and her remarks presented Poland's case in so favourable a light that it immediately gained the confer-

ence's sympathy and interest. Swedish, Danish and South American delegates were also very helpful in their attitude towards Poland. Delegates of Argentine, Uruguay, Chile and Peru, who wish to study the needs of Polish children, are expected in Warsaw next week.

AMERICAN RED CROSS AID TO POLAND

The U.S. Red Cross has given more assistance to the Polish Red Cross than any other Red Cross organisation. Its aid to Poland which has been continuous since 1945, consists mainly of medical supplies and clothing. The actual distribution of gifts for the needy without regard for religion, race or party, has been in the hands of the Polish Red Cross by arrangement with the U.S. Red Cross. Y.M.C.A. and "Caritas" have also helped in this respect.

The value of the goods already sent to Poland amounts to some 5,000,000 dollars. All the clothing sent by the U.S. Red Cross has been new. Hospitals have been provided with large quantities of nightshirts, pyjamas and bed jackets for the patients, and overalls for the doctors. Vaccines and surgical instruments alone exceed 2,000,000 dollars. U.S. youth organisations affiliated to the U.S. Red Cross have sent complete outfits of school utensils for Polish youth. To speed of the distribution, the U.S. Red Cross has sent 25 lorries and 220,000 litres of petrol. Mr. Florh, the special representative of the U.S. Red Cross for Gdansk, Olsztyn and Pomerania Provinces, has stated that the U.S. Red Cross is sending 1,000,000 lbs. of powdered milk for schools during the coming winter.

GIFTS FROM U.S.A.

The presentation of ten cases of gifts from President Truman for those most in need took place at the Belvedere Palace recently. At the same time, 100 cases from the Co-operative for American Remittances to Europe were presented. President Bierut personally acknowledged receipt of these gifts and expressed the wish that they go to Warsaw children under the care of the R.T.P.O. (Workers' Association of Children's Friends). He said:

"I ask you to thank President Truman and, on behalf of the Polish people, to thank the U.S. citizens for their kindness to Poland. This is not the first time that the Polish people have welcomed friendly gestures from the people of the U.S.A. This will strengthen the sentiments which have linked us with the Americans ever since men like Pulaski and Kosciuszko and, later, Paderewski worked together with the American people in struggles and history. The Polish people wholeheartedly accepted the help of the Americans, as an expression of the traditional friendship which has long united us."

DR. MORGAN IN WARSAW

Dr. Morgan, Director of the Educational Department of the British Council, has arrived in Warsaw. He will stay in Poland for a fortnight, and will visit leading educational centres.

CONFERENCE OF POLISH JOURNALISTS

A three-day conference of the Central Executive of the Polish Journalists T.U. commenced in Wroclaw on the 14th October.

Prof. Wasowski, inaugurating the proceedings, submitted a motion in which representatives of the Polish Press unanimously expressed their pleasure at the permanent integration of the ancient Polish lands with the rest of Poland, offered their services in furtherance of this case, and declared their readiness to defend the Polish frontiers on the Oder, Nysa and the Baltic.

Discussing the tasks of the Press in free democratic Poland, Prof. Wasowski emphasised that Press freedom was one of the foremost slogans of the age. Naturally, however, there were limits to that freedom, dictated by morals and customs as laid down by the Polish Press code. The Press fought against lies, slanders and inaccurate news, which deceived the people. Prof. Wasowski contended that Press control was justified so long as there was a danger in Poland of Press freedom being abused in a manner pernicious to the country.

CROIX DE GUERRE FOR POLES

General de Lattre de Tassigny, in the presence of General Legentilhomme, Governor of Paris, and Colonel Naszkowski, Polish Military Attaché in Paris, awarded the Croix de Guerre to seven Poles for their services during the French struggle for liberation. Among those decorated were Alexander Bekier, first Secretary at the Polish Embassy in Paris, and Rudolf Larysz, Polish Consul in Lille.

BROADCASTS OF MESSAGES TO POLES ABROAD CEASE

Up to October 9 Polskie Radio has been broadcasting greetings to Poles abroad from their families at home. As normal postal communications have now been restored, the transmission of these messages will be discontinued. They can now be sent by mail without any difficulty.

70,000 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The number of high school students (universities, technical colleges, etc.) in Poland amounted in the past school year to 70,000, or 20,000 more than in 1939. In 1945-46 the Ministry of Education devoted Zl.10,000,000 to scholarships. In addition the students received free meals in canteens, and clothes. State assistance to the students amounted to about Zl.3,000 per head per month. In addition, numerous scholarships were given by other Ministries, social institutions, and political parties; and 72 students' hostels were opened. The scholarship fund will be increased this year to Zl.15,000,000.

Ext.353

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY 16/10/46

WR80/10/2

DES NO 10264

15th October, 1946.

To : The Director General, UNRRA
Dupont Circle Building, Dupont Circle,
Washington 25 D.C., U.S.A.

Att : Acting Director - Repatriation & Welfare Division

From : Miss Selene Gifford, Director,
Welfare and Repatriation Division, ERO.

We are enclosing for your information, copy of
our Child Welfare Consultant's report covering her field
trip to Poland from August 20th to August 29th inclusive.

Selene Gifford
Director
Welfare and Repatriation Division

DBP/NB

Encl.



MR
891812

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
AUSTRIAN MISSION
CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS
VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Ref: RE 3

25 September 1946

16 SCHWARZENBERGPLATZ
TELEPHONE: U 46560

To: Miss Gifford, Director,
Welfare & Repatriation Division, ERO.

Subject: Report on Official visit to Poland 11 - 25 August.

INDEXED

17/9/46

This will acknowledge receipt of a copy of a report prepared by Miss Blackey, Child Welfare Consultant, on her official visit to Poland. We are extremely grateful to you for forwarding this to us; it contains interesting and helpful information.

Here we are.
for BETTY BARTON
Deputy Director,
Relief Services

NW/NC



See D.B.P.

Ext. 353

21 xx

12/9

80/18/2

3773

18th September, 1946.

To : Chief of UNRRA Mission,
Vienna, Austria.
Att : Relief Services Department.
From : Miss Selene Gifford, Director
Welfare and Repatriation Division, ERO.
Subject : Report on Official Visit to Poland
11th - 25th August.

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY

We are attaching, for your information, a report prepared by Miss Blackey, Child Welfare Consultant, in Germany covering her official visit to Poland.

We believe that you and the Welfare Staff will be interested in having this information.

Selene Gifford
Director
Welfare and Repatriation Division

DBP/NB.

Encl.

Ext.353

21 xx

18/9.

WR 80/18/2
Des. no. 3426

18th September, 1946.

To : Acting Chief of D.P. Operations,
UNRRA CHQ, Arolsen.
Att : Relief Services (Miss Blackey)
From : Miss Selene Gifford, Director
Welfare and Repatriation Division, ERO.
Subject : Report on Official visit to Poland
11th - 25th August.

DEPATCHED BY
REGISTER

Thank you for the copies of the Official
Report of Miss Blackey's visit to Poland.

The material is most interesting and will
doubtless be useful to other Welfare Workers concerned
with repatriation to Poland. We have taken the liberty
of sending copies of the report to the UNRRA Missions to
Austria and Italy.

Selene Gifford
Director
Welfare and Repatriation Division

DBP/NB

Ext.353

21xx

DISPATCHED BY
REGISTRY

wk 80/18/2

18th September, 1946.

18/9

Doc. No. 3793

To : Chief of UNRRA Mission,
Rome, Italy.
Att : Relief Services Department
From : Miss Selene Gifford, Director,
Welfare and Repatriation Division, ERO.
Subject : Report on Official visit to Poland
11th - 25th August.

We are attaching, for your information, a report prepared by Miss Blackey, Child Welfare Consultant in Germany covering her official visit to Poland.

We believe that you and the Welfare Staff will be interested in having this information.

Selene Gifford
Director
Welfare and Repatriation Division

DBP/NB

Encl.

Ext.353

21xx

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY

Ref: WR 80/8/2

17th Sept:

Des. No: 3716

12th September, 1946.

Mrs. Wierzbicka,
Director, Mothers & Childrens Section,
Social Welfare Department,
Municipality of Warsaw,
Warsaw, POLAND.

Dear Mrs. Wierzbicka,

I have meant, since my return from Poland, to write and express to you my grateful appreciation for the interesting morning which you planned and which included visits to the Day Nursery, three of the "Jordan Gardens", the Home for Mothers and the Children's Hospital. All of these were most interesting and Madam Divorakowska, who accompanied us, was most helpful and interesting in answering the many questions which we asked.

We were very much impressed with the services which are provided for children, although we recognise the great difficulties you have in providing enough services for those who need them.

Kind regards to you and Madam Divorakowska.

Yours sincerely,



Deborah B. Pentz
Welfare and Repatriation Division.

cc. UNRRA - Polish Mission (attention: Relief Services)
For information.

Des. No: 3717

Londres, le 12 Septembre 1946

Madame Wierzbicka,
Directrice de la Section des Mères et des Enfants,
Département d'Assistance Sociale,
Municipalité de Varsovie,
VARSOVIE, Pologne.

Chère Madame,

Depuis mon retour de Pologne j'ai l'intention de vous écrire pour vous remercier de l'intéressante matinée que vous avez eu l'amabilité de préparer à notre intention et vous dire combien j'ai apprécié notre visite à la Garderie d'Enfants, aux trois "Jordan Gardens", au Home pour les Mères et à l'Hôpital pour Enfants. J'ai trouvé toutes ces institutions du plus grand intérêt et Madame Divorakowska qui nous accompagnait nous a énormément aidées et intéressées par ses réponses à nos questions.

Nous avons été très impressionnées par les services fournis aux enfants tout en reconnaissant combien il doit être difficile pour vous d'en fournir assez pour tous ceux qui en ont besoin.

Mon meilleur souvenir à vous-Même et à Madame Divorakowska.

Deborah B. FENTZ
Welfare and Repatriation Division
(Section Assistance Sociale et Rapatriement)

DBF/NB

c/o: Mission UNRRA en Pologne (Attention: Relief Services)

Pour information

U N R R A
CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS FOR GERMANY.

INDEXED



REPORT ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO POLAND.
AUGUST 11TH - 25TH, 1946.

WR
80/18/2
10/10/2

I. PURPOSE OF THE VISIT.

This trip to Poland was planned specifically to discuss problems and plans relating to the location and repatriation of Polish unaccompanied children. A list of the people contacted and the places visited is attached to this report.

II. GENERAL IMPRESSIONS OF POLAND.

It is not possible after a stay as brief as two weeks to answer adequately or even accurately all the questions which people interested in Poland are asking. The time was sufficient, however, to give one a fairly reliable impression of the problems confronting Poland and the ways in which the Polish people are meeting them.



My first introduction to Poland was flying over a considerable portion of its agricultural lands on the way to Warsaw. For mile after mile the land was neatly cultivated and the crops were being harvested, although there was a conspicuous absence of farm machinery and cattle. Warsaw itself is still in shambles and one wonders where the 200,000 people in its environs are living. The ruins of Warsaw would in themselves be sufficient to defeat a less purposeful people but one's attention is diverted from the ruins to the spirit and determination of the people who live in them. Warsaw reminds one of the activity which goes on in the building of a huge ant-hill. People seem intent on their tasks whether they are carrying brief cases or heavy packs. People are shabbily dressed and one rarely sees good clothes or new clothes. There is some begging on the streets, but not as much as one would expect. Children, women and old people constitute most of the population. There is a noticeable absence of men.

In spite of the long years of deprivation and suffering, the Polish people have not lost their natural gaiety and humour. Singing and dancing, two of their favourite national pastimes, are still very much in evidence. It is reported that one out of every five people in Poland is a DP who has returned to Poland, either from the East or from the West. Many of them are still searching for members of their families. Those who lived in Warsaw before the war are coming back to Warsaw and despite the ravishes to which the city has been submitted, these people prefer to live in Warsaw rather than go elsewhere.

In cities such as Katowice and Krakow, where there has been no bomb damage or no fighting, life seems to be going on very much as it did before, with the exception, of course, of the scarcity of food. During this season, however, one can see vendors' carts all up and down the streets, filled with ripe tomatoes, pears, plums and apples. These are sufficiently plentiful at the present time to be within reach of most purchasers, but earlier in the season they were quite expensive. Flower vendors also line the streets and their stands of roses, asters, gladioli and chrysanthemums are quite in contrast to the shells of the buildings which constitute their background.

Someone has described Poland as a land of contradictions. There is plenty and there is scarcity. There is tragedy and hope. There is devastation and beautiful countryside. Even in a brief stay one can sense Poland's struggle to reconcile these contradictions. One certainly cannot deny the existence of hardship in Poland, nor the fact that it is much greater in some areas than in others, but it is also apparent that Poland's only hope of recovery is the sheer determination and capacity for hard work which one sees demonstrated everywhere. I, for one, have returned from Poland with a strong conviction that the Polish people now in Germany are not only badly needed in Poland, but that if they could know and see more of what is going on in their homeland they would elect to return, despite the struggles ahead.

It is the general opinion that before the war the life of the ordinary Polish person was a very simple one and that as a peasant or factory worker he had little of comforts or luxuries. The gap between the wealthy group in Poland and the ordinary folk must have been very great indeed. In judging what the Poles are going back to now, it seems important to keep in mind what their lives were before the war. Under the new regime, life is difficult for those people who previously owned the land and the businesses. Their lands have now been confiscated and their business concerns limited. Life will also be difficult for the Polish people who are going back to the devastated areas, but probably the greatest hardship is being placed on the Polish families who are being uprooted in the East and moved to the West for resettlement. There should be no attempt to belittle the confusion which exists in Poland as a result of the shifting of populations and the repatriation of displaced people, but the settling down process is under way and conditions are gradually getting better.

III. ECONOMIC SITUATION IN POLAND.

No attempt is being made here to describe with any completeness the economic problems or methods in Poland but there are a few observations which may be of interest. Under the land reform, the big country estates and their surrounding agricultural lands were confiscated and the families were evicted. It is said that this decision affected approximately 6,000 families in Poland.

These people are now expected to fend for themselves and not infrequently a waitress in one of the best restaurants will be pointed out as the daughter of a formerly prominent family. The lands belonging to each estate have been divided up among the peasants who formerly worked on the land. This means, of course, that the peasant is now an independent farmer and as such must carry on his own marketing. The point was made by some of the Polish people that under the old regime the peasants were dependent upon their landlord and that this sudden responsibility is somewhat confusing to many of them. The Government will need to develop ways of assisting farmers with cultivating and marketing and this is apparently already under way.

The manors on these estates have been taken over by the Government to be used as State homes for children or for mothers and children. As one rides through the countryside, the sharp contrast between the estates and the small thatched roof cottages of the peasants makes one realize how great must have been the economic and social gap before the war.

There are approximately 23 million people in Poland and the problem of feeding them is a major one. To the casual observer who takes his meals in big restaurants during a short stay in Poland, food would seem extravagantly plentiful. One can find delicious omelettes, steaks, fish, salads, pastries and ice-cream, but it must be remembered that only foreigners are really in a position to buy such food. In any of the big restaurants one sees very few Poles. UNRRA, for instance, gives its employees 1600 Zlotys a day for meals. The average Pole earns from 2,000 to 3,000 Zlotys a month. This indicates the very limited purchasing power of the general population. There are, of course, some Poles employed in Government or professional capacities whose income is much higher than that but they must support families and maintain households, in addition to buying food.

There is no rationing of food in Poland in the usual sense of the word. The supply of food is actually too little to ration. This accounts for the apparent abundance of food in the restaurants and some of the shops. There are two indirect ways in which food is rationed, however. Certain days during the week it is forbidden to sell or buy meat; on certain other days there are similar regulations with regard to pastries. In addition to this, the Government buys and places on the market at fixed prices certain commodities which the majority of the population need in order to sustain themselves. In addition to this fixed market there is, of course, an extensive free market. There are some shops which are well supplied with electrical equipment, cameras, athletic goods, radios etc., but one sees very little clothing for sale. Poland is well known for its shoe handicraft and it is possible to have shoes made but at a tremendous price. The Zloty has an official exchange rate of 250 to the dollar, but the Black Market rate is as high as 450 or 500 to the dollar.

Those who are familiar with the planned economy of Poland explain

that while at the present time a large number of people are living at the bare minimum, wages have been kept low in order to prevent inflation, since the supply of goods in Poland has been very small. Supplies are now coming into Poland at a much better rate, however, and it is the plan of the Government to initiate an increasing standard of wages as the goods become more available. There is a definite prediction that conditions in Poland are improving and will continue to do so.

Under the arrangement which UNRRA has with the Polish Government, supplies are sent to Poland and are turned over immediately to the Government for distribution. These supplies are then placed on the market at fixed prices and are available to the purchasing public. Until one realises the actual situation, it is somewhat startling to see individual vendors sitting along the streets selling such familiar items as cans of Army ration fruit juice, American cigarettes and other P-W supplies. It is quite legal for these items to be bartered or sold in order to provide other items which individuals or families feel they need. The money which the Government receives from the sale of these supplies to the general public goes into a fund for the purchasing of other much needed supplies.

In various discussions on the economic and political situations in Poland, I enquired as to the feeling of Polish people in Poland toward the Poles in Germany who were refusing to return. The general reaction was not one of condemnation, but there was a definite expression of hope that these people would also recognise Poland's internal struggle and would be interested enough to return home and help in the rebuilding of a new Poland.

Some questions have been raised in Germany with regard to the freedom of the church in Poland. From what I saw, there was positive evidence of complete freedom of worship. We were travelling by car through Poland during a Holy Day weekend and discovered village after village driving their covered wagons on a pilgrimage to a shrine some miles away. For many miles we drove past this procession of wagons preceded by people walking, carrying holy pictures and flowers and singing hymns. From the reports of people in Poland there has been no interference with the church and its activities.

IV. EDUCATION IN POLAND.

The Polish educational system has been disrupted considerably by the war and Nazi occupation. All of the books in Poland were burnt by the Germans and the book stalls are just now beginning to display new books. The Polish people are avid for reading materials and are delighted with the reappearance of Polish literature. However, books are extremely expensive and it will probably be some time before there will be enough books for all educational needs.

The Polish educational system includes Kindergarten, elementary schools, high schools, universities and trade schools. The Ministry of Education reports that there is a considerable number of children in Poland who are not yet able to return to school, because of the lack of buildings, the shortage of teaching personnel, or lack of clothing and shoes for the children.

Folk evening classes are being organized for older children or adults who are working and cannot attend school during the day.

V. REPATRIATION AND WELFARE SERVICES IN POLAND.

The National Government has a Division on Repatriation, which is headed by Mr. Wolski. This Division is concerned, of course, with repatriation of Poles, both from the West and from the East. The Polish Red Cross serves as the National Tracing Bureau for Poland and also assists very actively in the arrangements for repatriation. Mrs. Palmowska, who is the chief Repatriation Officer for the Polish Red Cross, is coming to Germany to spend some time here to become acquainted with our mutual problems on repatriation and also to assist in interpreting the new Poland to Polish people in Germany.

I discussed at length with Mr. Wolski the major problems which have been concerning us in Germany, namely, the reluctance of many older Polish children to return to Poland, the problem of identifying Polish children and the tracing of parents and relatives. Mr. Wolski has himself been to Germany once and plans to come again shortly but he is also arranging, together with the Polish Red Cross, for three or four well-qualified people to spend some time in Germany assisting us with these problems. These people are scheduled to arrive within the next two weeks.

Until January, 1946, the Ministry of Social Welfare had responsibility for all social services for children, and the Ministry of Education had responsibility for all school programmes. In January, however, a division of responsibility was made and the Ministry of Education has now been given responsibility not only for school programmes but for all social services concerning children over the age of three. Child Welfare services for children under three are still the responsibility of the Ministry of Social Welfare. One of the reasons advanced for this reorganization is the fact that there is such a dearth of professional personnel in Poland that it would not be possible to have enough qualified personnel to staff both ministries adequately. It is the feeling that if the teachers in the communities can be trained to take on all functions relating to the welfare of the child, it will have the dual advantage of saving personnel and will also give more opportunity for a well-rounded approach to each child and his family.

The whole matter of the need of additional Polish personnel in Germany and the importance of additional literature, movies and other materials was discussed with all groups concerned. The Repatriation Division is working on developing these materials and will keep sending them to us as they are released.

1. Repatriation Reception Centre at Kozle.

While in Poland, I visited Kozle, the reception centre for children repatriated from Germany. This centre is under the administration of the Polish Repatriation Division but the Polish Red Cross staff takes responsibility for registration and disposition of children. The Ministry of Education has responsibility for whatever recreational and educational programmes are carried on at the Centre. These are not very extensive since the turnover of children is very rapid.

Mrs. Gormanova and her assistant are the Polish Red Cross representatives at Kozle. They are both conversant with English and are therefore able to read the UNRRA records which accompany the children. They repeated many times their appreciation of these records and their recognition of their value. We talked about the possibility of having them translated into Polish in Germany and, of course, this would be extremely valuable if it could be done, particularly if there should be any change of personnel and the people assigned to Kozle are not familiar with English. As it is now, Mrs. Gormanova studies each UNRRA record carefully and then interviews each child individually. From her interview and her knowledge of the record, she makes a summary in Polish and this summarised record goes with the child when he is assigned to another Children's home. If the child is going to his parents, and there is anything in the record which it would be helpful for them to know, this is passed on verbally by the Red Cross staff. The original UNRRA records are kept on file in the office of the Polish Red Cross and it is the plan to make these available to the Ministry of Education, so that the information may be used by their staff in helping individual children.

Mrs. Gormanova pointed out that the group of children who have the greatest difficulty in making an adjustment in Poland is the adolescent group. The Polish Red Cross has on its staff many excellently qualified people in the fields of psychiatry and social work. They are now planning to give group and individual tests to children in order to group them according to their needs, both social and educational.

The Polish Red Cross at Kozle is constantly confronted with problems of children who arrive in the care of foster mothers or unmarried mothers who have brought their babies back to Poland and then wish to dispose of them. On the particular day that I was there, a train had arrived from Munich and another from Hannover. Among the group was an unmarried Polish girl who had nine months old twins. She had cared for the children and had brought them to the reception centre but had then asked

the Polish Red Cross to relieve her of the responsibility. They agreed to do this, but will keep in touch with the mother in the event that she changes her mind later. Another case which came to our attention the same day was that of a rather disreputable looking Polish woman who had been acting as foster mother to a year old baby, who had been abandoned by his own mother. The people accompanying the foster mother on the train reported her abusiveness of the child and said she had announced that she wanted the child in order to use him for begging. It was the feeling of the Polish Red Cross worker at Kozle that the baby should be taken away from the foster mother. The case will be given special attention in order to evaluate more accurately what kind of a home the child is going to and what kind of supervision he will have.

In the trainload of children from Munich, Mrs. Germanova found a 12-year old child whose name as given was obviously German and after her interview with the child, Mrs. Germanova was of the definite opinion that the child actually is German. They are planning to return the child to Germany on a German refugee train. They will pass along to the authorities whatever information they have with regard to the child, so that efforts may be made to trace her family in Germany, if she has one.

These are samples of the problems which pour into the reception centre with every repatriation train.

The reception centre at Kozle is very adaptable for the purpose which it serves. It was formerly an SS training centre and has many wooden buildings substantially built and quite adequate as barracks. The camp is situated in the country, has a great deal of play space for smaller children and a large athletic field for the older children. The rooms are simply but adequately and neatly furnished. There is one drawback in that the centre is approximately 40-miles away from the original destination of the repatriation train, which is at Djiefice. There is a small track on which several cars can be taken on to Kozle, or the children can be transported in trucks. If the place were more accessible, the remainder of the barracks, which could accommodate 6,000 people in all, could be used as a reception centre for adults who are repatriated. This would not be possible, however, in view of the many different directions in which families would have to travel from the centre and the lack of transport facilities at that point. There has been some discussion of moving the unused barracks to a more central point.

The Polish Red Cross is planning to close the reception centre at Kozle within a month or six weeks, and use one of their children's homes in Katowice as the main reception point. This, of course, will be much more convenient since the trains from Germany can go directly to the Katowice station.

In our discussions at Kozlo, several questions were raised in regard to repatriation in general. The previous day 700 Polish adults, chiefly old people and mothers with babies, were sent to Kozlo without anyone knowing of their arrival in advance. The train left the British Zone on the 14th August but a cable notifying Poland of the departure of the train was not sent until the 16th. The train was supposed to deliver the repatriates to the reception centre in Djicjico, but instead it went on direct to Kozlo where no-one was prepared for its coming. The repatriation officials asked whether they might have more advance notice of any repatriation trains which are due to arrive.

The second request which they made was with regard to Polish people who are ill. It would be of tremendous help to the clinic staffs at the reception centres if they could have some individual information on each patient, particularly with regard to the type of illness, the seriousness of his case, and the type of treatment he has had thus far. I explained that I would pass along this request to our Health staff in Germany.

2. Reception Centre for Adults.

A visit was made to the town of Djicjico, the point at which the repatriation trains from Germany arrive. A string of box cars bringing some 475 people had just arrived and the repatriates had been moved to a nearby barracks. The repatriation train presented a rather sorry picture. Cars were bare of any necessities, such as stoves or lights, and only one car had any cots. The sergeant in charge of the train was complaining that out of the 475 comforters which had been assigned temporarily to the passengers, 50 of them had been stolen. The sergeant's concern was understandable, in view of the fact that he had signed for this equipment and, as he explained, he would have to pay for the missing bedding. However, it seems most unfortunate that the people were not permitted to keep the one piece of bedding which was given to them for the journey.

The facilities for the reception of these adults at Djicjico were not such as to make the people feel enthusiastic about their return to Poland. The town is a rather dismal place and the barracks, which had been arranged for the temporary care of these people, have very little to make them attractive or comfortable. The people are housed in large unpartitioned rooms with their baggage and are left pretty much to fend for themselves until transport can be arranged for them to their own homes or to other places of care. Fortunately, the vast majority of these people move on rather quickly.

In connection with the reception centre, there is a two story brick building which is used as a first-aid station and hospital. This is fairly adequate and apparently is in rather constant use when repatriation trains are coming in. Thirty babies have been born in this emergency hospital.

It should be noted that the people responsible for repatriation are themselves not satisfied with the conditions in this reception centre and are working constantly to improve them.

VI. CHILD WELFARE SERVICES IN POLAND.

Poland is now confronted with the problem of caring for a large group of orphan children. There have always been numerous Catholic institutions for children in Poland, but with the present reorganisation of the Government, impetus has been given to the development of State homes for children. While there are many orphan children in Poland, there are also many families in Poland who have lost their own children and who are interested in taking children for care or adoption. However, the Poles are approaching this programme cautiously and it will probably not be promulgated until family life in Poland is somewhat more stabilised than it is at the moment. In the meantime, these children are being cared for in both private and State homes.

1. Visit to Polish Red Cross Home for Children.

I visited the Katowice Children's Home, which is under the administration of the Polish Red Cross but is run by nuns. This home will in the near future become the reception centre for children repatriated from Germany. There are a hundred children there now but the home can accommodate 300 when the barracks now under construction are completed. Young babies and children up to 3-years will be transported to nurseries immediately after their reception at the centre. These children's nurseries are under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Welfare.

The home seems to be very well run and everything possible has been done to make it attractive and homelike. Every institution I visited in Poland struck me with its warmth of relationships among the children themselves and between the children and the adults in charge. There is little formality. In fact there is a great deal of spontaneity and companionship. It is the plan in the Polish institutions to place children of all ages in each home so that life may approximate that of a normal family. The children in the homes go to the schools in the community.

In the Katowice home many of the children I saw had only recently come from Germany and they were in the throes of learning Polish. They are not taught Polish in any formal way but as I observed the young children at meal times and at play, those who know Polish were obviously teaching those who did not. The nuns reported that after three or four weeks of being in the home, the children know Polish quite well and no longer rely on their German.

My visit to the Katowice home was made when they were celebrating the 25th anniversary of its founder. A high mass was held after which

nine of the children who had just been repatriated from Austria were reunited with their parents. During the Mass which we were invited to attend, I suddenly became conscious of the fact that one of the little altar boys serving the Mass was wearing an MTO jacket with a Tech.Sergeant's rating, an American Constabulary insignia and 2½-years' overseas stripes. After the Mass, I managed to find the boy and discovered that in addition to the MTO jacket, he had on Army trousers, parachute boots and campaign ribbons. He spoke English very well and announced with pride that he had been with the American Army in France for 2½-years and that his decorations and his rating had been bestowed on him by his Army unit. He looked like a child of eight, but announced that he was thirteen.

The ceremony during which the nine children were reunited with their parents was quite an emotional ordeal, both for the children who had found their families and for those who had not. These children were further disturbed when they said goodbye to their friends who were going to various parts of the country. This dramatization is not a regular thing and was done on this occasion only as part of the commemoration of the home's service to children. Everyone realized that it was not wise to have such a public reunion of families. On the other hand, it is not possible to prevent parents from coming to the home for their children when they know they are there, and other children will always be exposed to a certain degree to watching these reunions.

2. Visit to State Homes for Children.

The State homes for children which I visited were at Gostynin. In this area the Government has taken over three large estates, which have been turned over for the care of orphan children. The woman in charge of these institutions is a graduate of the Warsaw School of Social Work and an extremely capable and sensitive person. In all three of the homes the children demonstrated great fondness and respect for her. The children in these homes are divided into three groups. The children from 3 to 7 are in one home, from 7 to 14 in another home, and from 14 - 18 in the third home, but the three estates are quite close together and there is opportunity for interchange of visits and for joint activities. In the home for older children there are some children who are finishing high school and are preparing for university work. All of the homes were unusually attractive. They are large manor houses with beautiful adjacent grounds. Here, as in other homes, there was a noticeable lack of restraint and the children were bubbling with energy and interest and looked physically in good condition. It is possible to maintain a caloric average in these homes of about 3,000 calories. Of course, the food situation is more favourable now during the summer months than it will be during the winter. Voluntary agencies, such as the Swedish Red Cross and the Don-Suisse are doing a great deal by way

of furnishing supplies for these children's homes. Some of the UNRRA supplies are also made available for children's institutions. There is recognition on the part of Polish welfare workers that many of these children should have opportunity for family life but they also recognise that it is better to keep them in good children's homes until the agencies are able to carry out adequate investigations and supervision of foster homes or adoptions. From the homes which I saw and from the reports made by the Child Welfare Specialist of the UNRRA Mission in Poland, I would have no hesitancy in saying that Poland is doing an excellent job of receiving and caring for its children and that Polish children located in Germany would be in a happier atmosphere in Poland than in Germany.

3. Visit to Catholic Home.

I visited a Catholic Children's institution in Warsaw but discovered that during the Warsaw Uprising most of the buildings had been taken over as a hospital and that the home is now confined to one building which is used as a day care centre for children in Warsaw. Children who come here are of all ages and most of them live in cellars or bombed out buildings. The day we were there some 40 or 50 children were in attendance. The nuns in charge of the home were obviously very popular with the children and entered into the spirit of their spontaneous demands to put on a performance for us. They sang and danced for almost an hour and enjoyed themselves thoroughly. Each home I visited struck me anew with its friendly atmosphere and genuine interest in the children and their welfare.

4. Homes for Mothers and Children.

Poland is also developing a network of homes for mothers and their children. This type of care is in lieu of a mothers' pension programme. Poland has so little money at the moment that it could not possibly provide financial assistance for all the mothers and children who would need it. Consequently, they are establishing homes where widows and their children, or unmarried mothers and their babies, can go to live. There is no distinction made in these homes between the women who are married and those who are not. In Silesia for instance there are some 17,000 families from which the fathers were taken to Siberia during the war as labourers. Most of these families are now without a wage earner and many of the mothers cannot support themselves and their children. In Wroclaw there is a home for 400 mothers and their children. These centres are developed very much as community centres but they are surrounded by large areas of agricultural land. The women will be taught to farm but they will also be given instruction in sewing and other handicrafts. They may stay in the home for one, two or three years, depending upon their circumstances and upon what develops for them in the future. These homes are being set up all

over Poland and will present a haven for unmarried Polish mothers who wish to keep their children. Throughout Poland crèches are being established so that working mothers may leave their children for care during the day. The income of the average Polish wage earner is so inadequate in relation to the cost of living that, particularly in the cities, the woman in the family must work also. Before the war, these crèches were connected with big factories but now they are made available to all working women.

5. TB Hospital for Children.

The only hospital for children which I visited was the TB Sanatorium at Otrock. This is a public institution administered by the Division of Health for children with TB of the bone. There are approximately one hundred children in the institution, most of them orphans. The hospital does not have enough facilities for proper treatment and they are short of medicines, bedding, casts and so forth. There was a pathetic lack of occupational therapy for the children and there was little they could do but lie in bed in awkward positions. This hospital was not thought to be typical of the hospital care of children in Poland. In the Katowice area, the Polish Red Cross reports they have ample space for cases of TB and are prepared to receive any children back from Germany who are in need of that type of care. It is recognised, of course, that in addition to hospital facilities, these children will need special diets and plenty of good food for recuperation. This standard of care is not yet possible in Poland but much is being done to provide supplementary feeds in children's hospitals and homes. This is one of the areas in which the voluntary agencies have been particularly helpful.

In the Silesian area there are three TB Hospitals for children. The Polish Government is undertaking a campaign against tuberculosis and is securing the support and assistance of the Swedish Red Cross and UNRRA in this project.

6. Summer Camps.

Under the Ministry of Education, the Polish Voluntary Agencies have been running full-time summer camps for approximately 300,000 children, and day camps for 500,000.

It is interesting to note Poland's concern for her children who are living in the section of land now belonging to Czechoslovakia. This strip of land along the Polish border originally belonged to Poland and has a high percentage of Polish population. The Polish children in this area are being brought over into Poland to attend summer camps organised for them there.

VII. POLISH NATIONAL TRACING BUREAU. (POLISH RED CROSS).

The Polish National Tracing Bureau is operated entirely by the Polish Red Cross and has its headquarters in Warsaw with branch offices throughout Poland. At the present time, the Bureau has 1,500,000 cards on file as representing the missing people in Poland. The Bureau is a beehive of activity and on an average of 600 people a day queue up to enquire personally about their relatives. In addition to this, the Bureau receives between two to three thousand letters a day.

Poland is able at this point to give only an estimate of its missing children and the figure which they give is in the neighborhood of 200,000. This number includes Polish children who may be missing anywhere outside of Poland. They are not able to tell us how many Polish children might have been sent to Germany, although it can be assumed that by far the majority of this number were transported to Germany or exterminated on the way to Germany.

Of the enquiries made for missing people, between 25% and 30% of the cases receive definite answers. Where relatives are known to have died, the Polish Red Cross makes out a certificate of death and this may be used by the family for purposes of securing assistance or establishing any legal claims to property or income.

The Tracing Bureau has two rooms on the top floor which are filled with the personal possessions of Poles whose bodies have been found or exhumed. There is a staff working here constantly under the most depressing conditions, going through personal papers and belongings in an effort to establish the identity of these people.

The Tracing Bureau has a considerable collection of documents, records and lists which they have compiled in Poland or have received from other countries. These are all carefully catalogued and filed and an individual record card has been made for each person listed in any of the documents. Up until about two months ago, the London Polish Red Cross Tracing Bureau in the British Zone shared information with the Warsaw Bureau, but since their liquidation, the London Tracing Bureau has sent no further communications to Warsaw.

The work of the Polish Tracing Bureau is fantastic in its proportions and one is markedly impressed with its efficiency and its accomplishments. I discussed with Mrs. Bartnowska, the Director of the Bureau, the importance of quick exchange of information between Germany and Poland and the need for us to have whatever lists or clues their Bureau has been able to accumulate. Mrs. Bartnowska has agreed to compile lists of the children on whom they have had enquiries from parents. Before I left Poland, 600 of these names were already

completed and the first instalment will be reaching Germany within the next week. The Polish Tracing Bureau would like very much to have information about our children's centres, so as to be able to tell parents whose children have been located in Germany a little about the conditions under which they are living. I agreed to send this material immediately upon my return to Germany. Mrs. Bartnowska reports that they have not received the camp lists and the camp directories which the Tracing Bureau has prepared. Copies of these should be forwarded as soon as possible.

1. Identification of Polish Children.

I also talked with Mrs. Bartnowska about the problem of determining Polish nationality and mentioned to her the 300 children's records which I had brought with me from the U.S. Zone. She asked that I discuss these with the Tracing Bureau representatives in Silesia since the institutions in question are located there.

While in Kadowice, I had a group conference with the District representatives of the Polish Red Cross, Ministry of Repatriation, Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Social Welfare. The Kadowice District Office of these organizations has responsibility for the area known as Upper Silesia. It was necessary to give the group considerable background on what is going on in Germany by way of location and identification of children and it was somewhat difficult for them to comprehend the limitations placed on UNRRA by virtue of working within a military framework. They feel, quite naturally, that nothing should interfere with their recovery of Polish children. We discussed the group of children who had come originally from institutions in Silesia and I explained the difficulties encountered by our staff and the Polish Liaison Officers in determining whether the children are actually Polish or German. It was interesting to note that the reaction of the group was that the Germans should be made to prove that the children are German if they feel they have any claim to them. The situation with regard to Silesia before the war is one which affects the present problems concerning children. The Poles differentiate between what they call Volksdeutsch and Volksliste. Silesia was, of course, German territory before the war, but many Polish people lived in Silesia and although of Polish origin and Polish nationality, they had become German citizens prior to the war by virtue of living in a German area. During the Nazi regime these people were forced to continue their German citizenship in order to secure food, housing or employment. This is the group which the Poles now call Volksliste and any of these people who wish to reclaim their Polish citizenship may do so and are recognized as Poles. However, the Poles who voluntarily took out German citizenship, or declared themselves to be German during the period of the Nazi regime, are definitely looked upon as Volksdeutsch by the Polish Government and these people are not considered desirable as Polish citizens. The entire problem of the status of Volksdeutsch will be

discussed again on Mr. Wolski's next visit to Germany on September 10th.

The list of children submitted by Germany for clarification of nationality may include the children of families from either of these groups. The Polish Red Cross and the Ministries of Education and Social Welfare are undertaking to explore this problem carefully. They will publicise the project in each Kreis and ask all parents whose children are missing to report this fact immediately. They will also send their representatives to the institutions listed by the U.S. Zone to discover any residual records which may throw light on the identity of these children. It is possible, of course, that they are definitely German children and do not belong to either of the groups mentioned above, since these institutions before the war took care of all groups of children in this particular area. The Polish Tracing Bureau will send us reports on all of these children at the earliest possible moment.

While in Poland, I had a conference with Mrs. Kacperska, who has recently been seconded to the Polish Red Cross for a temporary stay in Germany. Formerly Mrs. Kacperska was on the staff of the Ministry of Social Welfare and for many months worked on the problem of locating the whereabouts of Polish children. She has been able to accumulate some Nazi documents and records at Lodz revealing some of the plans for transport and disposition of Polish children. She has not, thus far, been able to discover any lists of names. Mrs. Kacperska is coming to Germany almost immediately to assist in any way which we feel would be helpful. She will be available for talks to children in Children's Centres and will bring with her all of the information which she has compiled so that it may be discussed with our staff in Germany. She has some 1,400 names of children whose parents have given information leading to their identity.

We also discussed the need for exploring further within Poland all clues and information leading to the whereabouts of Polish children. I explained in what ways we had solicited the help of the War Crimes Commission in Germany and suggested that the War Crimes Commission in Poland be approached in the same way. As part of its tracing function the Polish Red Cross will follow up on this point and will probably ask Mrs. Kacperska to take responsibility for exploring and centralising all of this information.

VIII. JEWISH CHILDREN IN POLAND.

Because of the very great problem of Polish-Jewish children coming into Germany, I discussed with various Jewish representatives in Poland the ways in which we could best prepare for this problem. I talked with Rabbi Wohlgeleertner, who is the representative in Germany for Vardachapzala, and Rabbi Hertzog, Chief Rabbi for Palestine, who was in

Poland negotiating with regard to the movement of Jewish groups.

Out of some 3,500,000 Jews who were in Poland before the war, it is estimated that there are approximately 200,000 left. The Jewish organisations are determined that all Jewish people who wish to do so may leave Poland as soon as possible. The estimate on children is that there may still be between seven and eight thousand who will be moved out of Poland to other places. The Chief Rabbi has been able to work out a plan with the French and Belgian Governments whereby they have agreed to take 750 Jewish children (France 500, Belgium 250), for a maximum period of two years or until such time as plans can be made for them to go to Palestine. These children were leaving for Czechoslovakia immediately but the Czechoslovakian Government has arranged to keep them for six weeks until plans can be completed for their transport to the West. The Chief Rabbi hopes to be able to negotiate with these Governments or other Governments to give temporary haven to additional children until they can get to Palestine or to other countries.

The separation of these children from their parents or close relatives in order to get the children into Germany is well-known to the Jewish organisations but they feel that this is a desirable decision, since it will mean a better life for the children and there may be opportunities in the future for their families to join them.

The Jewish organisations in Poland are interested in recovering several thousand Jewish children who they say are still in non-Jewish institutions or non-Jewish families in Poland. These children were placed there for safe-keeping during the persecutions and have been, in many instances, living with the Polish families for three or four or five years. The Jewish organisations are recommending that the Polish Government ask all families and institutions having Jewish children to report them so that they may be moved out of Poland. Under no circumstances do the Jewish organisations think that these children should be permitted to stay where they are.

The care of Jewish orphan children in Poland seems to be of the best. The Jewish children in Jewish institutions are well cared for and the institutions receive considerable help from Jewish voluntary agency supplies and contributions. I visited a Jewish Children's summer camp at Swider where children are brought for a 4 to 6 week vacation period from the crowded cities or devastated villages. These were children from six years of age on up, both boys and girls. The children were healthy looking, active and happy. They have an extensively organised play programme and the camp gave the impression of being well administered.

It is very difficult to make any comment on the persecution of Jews in Poland. It is not possible for the temporary observer to know to what extent it goes on or in what form. The Government does

seen to punish severely people who are convicted of such activities. I was interested to discover that the present Government has some Jewish people in very prominent positions. The two delegates who represented Poland at the UNRRA Council Meeting in Geneva were also Jews.

A Jewish resettlement area has been set up along the Czech border in Poland where there are approximately 35,000 Jews established in their own communities. I was not able to visit this area but the reports of people who have been there indicate satisfaction and contentment on the part of the Jewish people in the group.

IX. SUMMARY.

The following conclusions appear to me to be valid even after a comparatively short stay in Poland.

1. Conditions in Poland are improving steadily and the possibilities of rebuilding Poland are dependent on the return of her people and the increase in basic supplies. I am convinced from observation and information that the Polish people now in Germany should return to their homeland, despite the acknowledged hardships. They will find there familiar patterns and a way of life more in keeping with their national culture than if they were to seek resettlement in strange lands.
2. Poland is doing a magnificent job of re-establishing its health and welfare services and is demonstrating its ability to take care of its own children.
3. More needs to be done in Poland by way of co-ordinating at top levels all of the groups interested in repatriation. This has been difficult to achieve because of the tremendous volume of work placed on every organization and the limited time available for joint planning.
4. It was recommended to the officials concerned that the success of location of Polish children in Germany will depend on the responsibility which the Polish Government itself assumes for impressing the occupying powers with their losses and their interest in recovering their children. Official presentation of this by the Polish Government should do a great deal to expedite the location plan in Germany.

5. An official co-operative working relationship has now been established between Germany and Poland and there can be little doubt but that these continuing contacts will result in improved conditions of repatriation and increased repatriation.

Report made by - Eileen Blackey.
Child Welfare Consultant.
2.9.1946.

LIST OF PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS CONTACTED IN POLAND.

Miss Madeline Ley	- Child Welfare Specialist, Polish Mission.
Mr. Roland Berger	- Chief, Welfare & Repatriation, Polish Mission.
Dr. Kazanowsky	- Deputy Director, Polish Red Cross, Warsaw.
Mrs. Palmowska	- Repatriation Division, Polish Red Cross, Warsaw.
Mrs. Bartnowska	- Tracing Bureau, Polish Red Cross, Warsaw.
Mrs. Pragerowska	- Ministry of Social Welfare, Warsaw.
Mrs. Michalowska	- Ministry of Education, Warsaw.
Dr. Adam Schebesta	- Director, P.R.C. for Dabrowa and Silesia.
Col. John Fuglewicz	- Inspector, P.R.C. " " " "
Mrs. Kusmiderska	- Board of Education, " " "
Mr. Hrabar	- Chief, Div. of Social Welfare, Dabrowa and Silesia.
Mr. Abramowicz	- Chief, Repatriation Division, " " "
Mrs. Makowiecka	- Children's institutions, Div. of Social Welfare.
Mrs. Germanova	- In charge of Children's Repatriation Reception Centre, Kozlo.
Mrs. Janina Kacperska	- Liaison Officer between Ministry of Education and Min. of Social Welfare, Warsaw, seconded to PRC, Germany.
Rabbi Hertzog	- Chief Rabbi for Palestine.
Rabbi Wohlgeleertner	- Vardachapzala, CHQ, Germany.

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VISITS.

Polish Red Cross Tracing Bureau, Warsaw.
 Catholic Orphanage, Warsaw.
 Polish Red Cross Children's Home, Kotonice.
 Three State Homes for Children, Gostynin.
 Children's TB Hospital, Otwock.
 Jewish Children's Summer Camp, Szteter.
 Repatriation Centre for Adults, Djicjico.
 Repatriation Centre for Children, Kozlo.

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copy.

WR 24/18.
WR 80/18/2 ✓

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794.

DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUB COMMISSION.

24th June, 1946.

DFR/9/G-II (DP)

Tel. 489081. Ext. 201.

SUBJECT: Polish children in Austria and Italy.

TO: Assistant Chief of Bureau,
Relief Services,
H.Q. UNRRA, Rome.

1. Reference is made to your No.7. of the 17th June, 1946, whereby you request this H.Q. to obtain certain particulars for the information of UNRRA Austria with regard to the names of children who are alleged to have arrived from Austria.
2. In view of the large number of children being accommodated at Barletta-Trani Camp, it would be much appreciated if you could obtain the names and other particulars pertaining to these minors who are alleged to have been brought illegally into Italy.
3. For your information, we have requested the appropriate authorities to submit the names of all the Polish children who have been admitted into Barletta-Trani camp since the 1st May, 1946, but you will undoubtedly appreciate that this is a tedious task which may not bring about the required results. Therefore, your co-operation in this matter would greatly assist all concerned.

For the Director:

(SGD) V.E. SIMCOCK, Major. G-II.

INCOMING CABLE.

WR. 35

WR 4

WR 80/18/2 ✓

Action:- R.S. Dept.
W.R. Div.
Consultants Branch.
Miss. Gifford
Copy Miss. Pentz
Capt. Campbell.

AROLSEN.....TO.....LONDON.

No. 1537

Dated:- 4th August 1946

(EN CLAIR)

Rec'd:- 4th August 1946
1415 Hours.

REPEATED TO:
WARSAW No. 18

FROM BERGER.

1. Your 1328. Blackey visit discussed Berger here.
Will leave Berlin 10th August for Warsaw.
2. Arrange Pentz catch Tuesday plane from London.
Warsaw please arrange call forward Pentz.

z To Warsaw.

B/CG.

INCOMING CABLE

WR 35

4

8/18/2 ✓

ACTION: DEPT.R.S.
DIV. W.R.
BRANCH:CONSULTANTS.
Dr.A.P.Meiklejohn.

WARSAW.....TO.....LONDON

No.1481
(EN CLAIR)

Dated:1st AUG. 1946
Rec'd:2nd AUG. 1946
09.51 Hrs.

Your 1328.

Hoping Blackey visit Poland soon, no firm date known this Mission. Berger visiting Arolsen 1st August, will discuss and inform London actual arrangements. Agree useful Pentz visit Poland simultaneously, accept this as fall forward date to be fixed.

ES/SH.

OUTGOING CABLE.

WR 35.

Originated by: Welfare & Repat.
Division.

Consultants Br.

Miss Deborah B.

Pentz.

WR 4

WR 80/18/2 ✓

LONDON.....TO....WARSAW.

No. 1328.
En clair.

Dated: 31 July, 1946.
D. 17.10 hrs.

- - - - -

Understand Blachy Child care Consultant Germany paying official
visit Poland about August 10th. Consider it advisable Deborah
Pentz Consultant Child care ERO go to Poland same time to discuss
related matters. If you concur please call forward. Urgent.

ES/IW

58 Woodlands Farm Road,
Erdington,
Birmingham.24.
30th July 1946

WR

INDEXED

Ref MAV/AMA/WR/80/18/2

Dear Madam,

I am very grateful for the additional information you have sent me with regard to the work of U.N.R.R.A. in Poland.

I realise now what a vast and complicated problem the question of relief has become in the countries of Europe, it is truly amazing the way that U.N.R.R.A. has tackled the task in the past few months.

It is to be hoped that the organisation will be able to continue its work for a long time yet, for it is plain that without such help being given, it would be difficult for the people in the stricken countries to continue their arduous task without the comforting knowledge that someone does care.

I wish that I could help in some way, I have had a great deal of experience in social work, if I could do something I should be only too happy, for I should know that I would be doing a really worth while job.

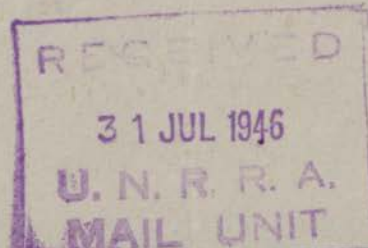
Yours sincerely,

R. Roberson

used 31/7/46

*no action necessary
NAV.*

Selene.Gifford,
Director,
Welfare and Repatriation Division,
U.N.R.R.A.



170A Great Portland Street,

Muam 6898

En: 210

MAV/AMA/R/80/18/2

17/7/46.
RECEIVED BY
17/7/46

15th July, 1946.



R. W. Cresswell, Esq.,
5, Woodlands Farm Road,
Erdington,
Birmingham 24.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your letter of 27th June we are forwarding you a copy of "UNRRA In Poland" which will, we believe, be of interest to you and give you a better idea of the way in which UNRRA is operating in Poland than is possible in the narrow confines of a letter. On pages 4 and 5, reference is made to the plight of the orphaned children. It is unfortunately true that Poland, like many other countries that were occupied during the war, for example Greece, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia, is faced with a tremendous task in making plans for its war orphans. In some of these countries there is involved the almost complete rehabilitation of former social welfare services which will naturally also depend upon the resuscitation of the economic life of the country as a whole.

The help that is specifically afforded for children's services comes from several sources. In Poland, the Polish Ministries of Education and Social Welfare are organizing the child care programmes. Whether a special supplementary child feeding programme is established from direct UNRRA supplies is a matter for the Government to decide in consultation with UNRRA Mission staff and will depend on many factors—in Poland, the organization of such supplementary feeding has begun. Foreign Voluntary Agencies from countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Sweden and others, often designate help and funds for specific child care projects, and in so doing are making a most useful contribution. It should, however, be made clear that the orphaned children in the recipient countries are not solely dependent upon such voluntary contributions although it may well be that if a Voluntary Society project for them is established, some of the supplies and services from other sources can be diverted to other urgent needs.

It is sometimes easier for individuals and small groups who wish to earmark their contributions, whether in money, kind or services, for children in the devastated areas, to do so through Voluntary Agencies rather than through large organisations such as UNRRA which, for Administrative and other reasons, usually cannot guarantee that individual contributions will be earmarked for a particular group as against another group. It was for this reason that we mentioned the 'Save the Children Fund' which is actively engaged in child feeding in Poland, in co-operation with the Polish Government at the present time.

It may be of interest to you to know that a small number of tuberculous Polish children are to receive care in Switzerland where there are appropriate facilities, as guests of the Swiss Red Cross Society. Except for comparatively small groups of this kind, the removal of large numbers of children outside Poland would probably present very serious difficulties from the technical aspects of child care, and the sound plan is to bring supplies to Poland for the rehabilitation of welfare services and institutions for the children in the country itself. Considering available resources and minimum requirements, even, this is a gigantic task.

Hoping that this additional information will be helpful to you,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

SELENE GIFFORD,
Director,

UNRRA AT WORK

No. 5

UNRRA IN POLAND

EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE,
11, PORTLAND PLACE,
LONDON

(Second Edition)
June, 1946

HISTORY OF THE UNRRA MISSION

Although UNRRA had been seeking, for many months, for the means to bring relief to Poland, it was not until April, 1945, that members of a temporary UNRRA delegation then assembled in Washington were charged with making the preparations necessary for concluding an agreement with the Provisional Government of the Polish Republic.

In May, 1945, the first UNRRA supplies arrived in Warsaw after railway transshipment across Rumania from Constanza on the Black Sea. By June, 1945, 80,000 tons of supplies had been shipped. Two months later the temporary UNRRA delegation of nine members left for Warsaw. UNRRA finally signed the Agreement with the Polish Government in September, 1945.

CONDITIONS IN POLAND

Poland, after being twice a battlefield and having suffered for six years every attempt to obliterate it as a nation, is one of the most devastated countries in history. With its transportation system shattered, its agriculture and industry paralysed through lack of livestock and agricultural machinery, raw materials and industrial equipment and its population depleted from 34,000,000 to some 23,000,000, Poland's national economy has suffered almost complete breakdown.

The Poles are ill-clothed, ill-housed and ill-fed. Amid the ruins of Warsaw only a few hundred houses are habitable. Throughout the country villages have been damaged or totally destroyed. No country in Europe is more ravaged by disease than Poland, whose people are said to be dying from tuberculosis alone at the rate of 10,000 a month. The war has also left a long-term legacy in the shape of 1,700,000 orphans or half-orphans.

SUPPLIES

One of the difficulties encountered in the delivery of supplies was that at first they had to be unloaded at the Black Sea port of Constanza and carried overland over a long and complicated rail journey with consequent loss of time, before they could be delivered to Poland.

The first ship to arrive at the Polish port of Gdynia after the war was the s.s. *Nishmaha*, carrying an UNRRA cargo of food-stuffs, soap, clothes, agricultural implements and rubber shoes, on September 4th, 1945. Now both the ports of Gdynia and Gdansk (Danzig) are open to shipping and are capable of receiving

the full programme of UNRRA supplies. Up to the end of the first quarter of 1946, UNRRA had shipped over 738,000 tons of supplies to Poland, or about 14 per cent. of UNRRA's total of 7,107,000 tons of goods shipped to that date.

Nearly half of the tonnage shipped to Poland represents food-stuffs, including fish and meat products, dairy produce, cereals, peas and beans, army surplus food supplies, and fats, oils and soap.

Industrial rehabilitation supplies constitute one-fifth—147,000 tons—of the total, largely trucks, railway waggons, locomotives and transport equipment.

Agricultural rehabilitation supplies—135,000 tons—account for nearly another 20 per cent. of the total and include tractors, fertilizers and livestock.

UNRRA has shipped to Poland 81,000 tons of clothing, textiles and footwear, and more than 10,000 tons of medical supplies.

UNRRA supplies, if sent by sea, are handed over to the Polish Government at the Polish ports, primarily Gdynia or Gdansk, or if sent by land, at the Polish frontier. The Polish Government is then responsible for the distribution of the goods.

RESTORATION OF TRANSPORT

The greatest single difficulty in Poland was the lack of transport until early this year. The shortage of all forms of transport in 1945 caused supplies to pile up in the ports, crops harvested by hand with superhuman exertions to rot in the fields, and coal (in Silesia 3,000,000 tons) to lie at the pitheads for want of transportation to the ports or to consumers in the cities.

To help restore Poland's shattered transportation system UNRRA has landed more than 13,000 trucks and trailers, and at least 10,000 additional vehicles of all types will be delivered by the end of 1946; tyres, petrol, oil and other lubricants are arriving daily to keep these vehicles on the roads.

In order to deliver trucks from Britain to Poland, UNRRA acquired ten "M.V.s" which were used for carrying British Army transport. Each M.V. carries between 160 and 200 trucks and makes the trip to Poland in about four days.

To keep these trucks on the roads, UNRRA has also bought and shipped to Poland the giant U.S. Army truck and repair plant which serviced all U.S. Army transport in the United Kingdom. This repair shop, operated on the conveyor belt

system as used in Detroit plants, is capable of overhauling 3,000 trucks a month.

UNRRA is also sending 75 locomotives obtained from U.S. military surpluses on the Continent, and 4,500 wagons. Many of these are already in service in Poland. Equipment in the way of machine tools and other materials of this nature are now being shipped into the country in large quantities.

To enable the speedy unloading of ships in the ports of Gdynia and Gdansk, material for harbour maintenance has also been shipped.

FOOD

Food is acutely short in Poland. The primary needs are bread grains, meats, fats, pulses and special diets for infants and hospital cases. The food shipped to Poland by UNRRA is combined with indigenous production and supplements in a vital way the domestic production. Rationing of food cannot be wholly effective because of limited supplies. There is a rationing system in effect, but in many instances less than 50 per cent. of the food required to meet the cards issued is at times available. Cards are issued on a minimum basis, and, if the entire amount was met, the average ration would be approximately 2,000 calories.

In order to rehabilitate the vital industries and public services of Poland, such as coal mining, railways, docks, and the rebuilding of its devastated cities, heavy workers must have more than the average ration, which means, obviously, that many millions of non-productive citizens—including women, the aged, and children—are forced to subsist on a level far below normal daily requirements.

The deliveries of food from UNRRA to supplement indigenous production from the beginning of the programme to March 31 were as follows (gross long tons):—

Bread grains	...	...	...	...	86,600
Dried peas and beans	...	...	...	...	22,100
Dairy produce	...	...	...	...	45,100
Meat and fish products	...	...	...	...	57,400
Fats, oils and soap	...	...	...	...	43,600
Army food surpluses	...	...	...	...	88,800

WELFARE

One of the most tragic welfare problems in Poland, is that of the 8,000,000 or more children, 1,700,000 of whom are orphans or

half-orphans, who are in urgent need of food, clothing and medical supplies. UNRRA shipments have included substantial quantities of fruit juices, cod liver oil, concentrated milk and other concentrated foods suitable for children. Blankets, quilts and clothing for children have also reached Poland as part of UNRRA supplies. In addition, UNRRA has acquired some 558,000 American Red Cross parcels from Sweden which are being distributed to children in all regions. Millions of pounds of used clothing, obtained from "drives" in the United States, have been distributed throughout Poland to all classes, but particularly to children.

As a result of the war, there are now in Poland about 700,000 disabled persons, both veterans and civilians. At present, resources within the country make it possible to provide only the most rudimentary of artificial limbs for a limited number of these cases. UNRRA is shipping to Poland, machinery and equipment to enable the Government to establish a factory for the manufacture of artificial limbs of modern design. At the same time, UNRRA will be bringing to Poland a small group of experts to help the Government build up this organisation for the manufacture of artificial limbs and for the training of the disabled. It is expected that, as a result of this UNRRA-assisted programme, a large proportion of the totally disabled group will be able to find their places in normal industrial occupations.

To protect Polish dock workers and drivers against the winter, UNRRA has bought and sent to Poland 100 tons of U.S. Air Force flying suits, nearly half of which have seen service in the air war over Germany. Included in this consignment were 7,500 field jackets, some 5,000 flying jackets and sweaters, and 16,000 trousers of various sorts, including 10,000 lined with sheepskin.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE

In no other European country is the health situation more desperate than in Poland. Tuberculosis, typhoid, venereal diseases and dysentery and to a lesser degree typhus, are rife everywhere. Seventy per cent. of Poland's hospital facilities were destroyed in the war, and those that remained were stripped of equipment and were forced to operate under a shortage of medicines and narcotics, X-ray equipment, surgical apparatus and even linen. Of Poland's 12,500 doctors in 1939, only 6,000 are left—for a population of 23,000,000, of whom some 1,200,000 are suffering from tuberculosis.

Perhaps one of the most valuable contributions which UNRRA has made towards the rehabilitation of Polish industry are the efforts to restore the capacity of machine tool production and repair, by means of which the machine tool industry is enabled to increase the output of industrial users of such plant through repairs to existing Polish equipment damaged by warfare and occupation.

DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION

No other country has suffered such movements of its population, as a result of the war, as has Poland. Nearly 1½ million persons were carried away to Nazi forced labour battalions or concentration camps. Another two million or more were beyond the borders of the new Poland and therefore in need of assistance to return home and re-establish themselves, with their families, in the new territories. The appalling devastation of some of the battle areas has also resulted in the movement of large numbers within the country.

About two million Germans have to be evacuated from the new territories acquired by Poland in the West. Thus, over a sixth of Poland's population is, or has been, in movement towards new homes and new communities. What this entails in transport, food, medical supplies and equipment, can well be imagined.

UNRRA has come to the assistance of the Polish Government with supplies for reception centres, sick bays and camps for repatriates. These supplies, which include 11,000 pounds of soap, 130,000 knives, forks, spoons and cups, 234,000 blankets, 104,000 folding beds, 15,000 tents, tools, bicycles, sanitary equipment, showers and a mass of other essential camp equipment, are now arriving in the country and being rushed to the areas receiving the bulk of the returning Poles.

TRIBUTE

President Boleslaw Bierut, of the National State Council, in a message to the Director General of UNRRA :—

" My country, united in the great work of rehabilitation, fully and with gratitude appreciates the importance of the tremendous help it receives from UNRRA, and is confident of a future which will efface all traces of the war and create satisfactory conditions of work for the welfare of mankind."

170A Great Portland Street,

Museum 6898

MAV/AMA/WR/80/18/2

12th July, 1946.

R. W. Crosswell, Esq.,
58, Woodlands Farm Road,
Erdington,
Birmingham 24.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your letter of 27th June we are forwarding you a copy of "UNRRA in Poland" which will, we believe, be of interest to you and give you a better idea of the way in which UNRRA is operating in Poland than is possible in the narrow confines of a letter. On pages 4 and 5, reference is made to the plight of the orphaned children. It is unfortunately true that Poland like many others of the countries that were occupied during the war, such as Greece, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia, is faced with a tremendous task in making plans for its war orphans. In some of these countries there is involved the almost complete rehabilitation of former social welfare services which naturally also depend on the resuscitation of the economic life of the country as a whole.

The help that is specifically afforded for children's services comes from many sources. In Poland the Polish Ministries of Education and Social Welfare are organising the child care programmes. Whether a special supplementary child feeding programme for instance is established from direct UNRRA supplies is a matter for the Government to decide in consultation with UNRRA Mission staff and will depend on many factors. The organisation of such supplementary feeding has begun in Poland. Foreign Voluntary Agencies from countries such as America, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Sweden and others, often designate help and funds for specific child care projects, and in so doing are making a most useful contribution. It should however, be made clear, that the orphaned children in these countries are not solely dependent upon such Voluntary contributions although it may well be that if a Voluntary Society project for them is established some of the supplies and services from other sources can be diverted to other urgent needs.

It is often easier for individuals and small groups who wish to earmark their contributions, whether in money kind or services for children in the devastated areas, to do so through Voluntary Agencies rather than through large organizations such as UNRRA which for administrative and other reasons usually can not guarantee that individual contributions will be earmarked for a particular group as against another group. It was for this reason that we mentioned the 'Save the Children Fund' which is actively engaged in child feeding in Poland, in co-operation with the Polish Government at the present time.

It may be of interest to you to know that a comparatively small number of tuberculous Polish children are to receive care in Switzerland where there are appropriate facilities, as guests of the Swiss Red Cross Society. Except for comparatively small groups of these kind, the removal of large numbers of children outside Poland would probably present very serious difficulties from the technical aspects of child care, and the sound plan is to bring supplies to Poland and to rehabilitate welfare services and Institutions for the children in the country itself.

Hoping that this information will answer some of your questions,

Yours faithfully,

ROBERT CLIFFORD,

Director,

Refugee Division

UR 70/18/2 8th July, 1946.

Memorandum of Telephone Conversation between Miss Eileen Mackey, C.H.O. Germany, and Miss Deborah Pentz, E.R.O.



1. Switzerland. 59/24

Miss Mackey stated that Madame Flügge, who is scheduled to arrive in Germany on July 2nd or 3rd to discuss problems of children from Germany who have been received temporary specialized care in Switzerland, has not arrived.

Germany has not received Miss Chesters' report on her trip to Germany which was sent from E.R.O. on June 28th. I advised Miss Mackey we would send a copy of this report to her immediately.

Miss Mackey would like to have information as to which agency in Switzerland Central Tracing Bureau should write in order to make a further request for the records of children who have received temporary care there. This information will be obtained from Miss Chesters and forwarded.

2. Sweden. 59/23

Miss Mackey asked for information concerning material which was requested from UNRRA Representative in Sweden in March 1946, on unaccompanied children sent from Germany to Sweden for care. She had not received the copy of our letter to Miss Kasius dated 29th June, despatch No.

3. Poland. 70/18/2

The Polish Red Cross, the Polish Repatriation Mission in Berlin, and the UNRRA Polish Mission in Warsaw have all suggested the desirability of Miss Mackey making a trip to Poland to discuss with the authority concerned plans for uncovering additional Polish children thought to be in Germany, and coordination of plans for children who are repatriated from Germany. Letters from the Polish Mission to the Chief of the German Operation have gone over the signature of Mr. Berger, and it appears that the Chief of Operations in Germany is not disposed to consider them seriously as they do not carry the signature of Brigadier Drury, Chief of the Polish Mission.

It has now been suggested by the Polish Mission that Miss Lay, Chief Welfare Consultant come to Germany. This would not seem as satisfactory a plan as having the Child Welfare Consultant from Germany go to Poland. Miss Mackey hopes to be able to present concrete plans early in August. As discussed at the Relief Services Conference and during the time of my visit to Germany, it was planned that Miss Mackey would make a trip to Poland to discuss specific plans for repatriation of unaccompanied Polish children and work out methods with the Polish government and agencies concerned to uncover additional Polish children thought to be in Germany at the same time that the Consultant from UNRRA would visit Poland to discuss general aspects of the Child Care Programme.

- unaccompanied children Germany WR 70/18/2
4. Statistics on unaccompanied children reported from Operational Analysis Branch, the figures for unaccompanied children reported from Germany for May 1946 indicate a drop of 609 children. I asked Miss Mackey for an explanation of this and she stated that the method of keeping figures on unaccompanied children in Germany is being revised and that the Division of Operational Analysis at Aulson has sent a representative to the U.S. Zone to review the reporting procedure and set up a more satisfactory one. I suggested that it would be desirable to have an interpretive statement on the figures submitted with the Monthly report. Miss Mackey states that the report on unaccompanied children is a source of considerable embarrassment and that Welfare Division and Reports and Analysis Divisions in Germany is attempting to work out a satisfactory system and a statement indicating the source of discrepancy will be forthcoming.

Report - Unaccompanied Children - Germany.
April - May, 1946.

Total.	British Zone.	U.S. Zone.
April - May.	April - May.	April - May
7005. 6396	1851 244	5154 3952.

170a Great Portland Street,

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY 9/7/46

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

MUSEUM 6898.

5th July, 1946.

DES 402487

WR 24/18.
WR 30/18/2.
WR 30/18
WR 4/18/1.

TO: Chief of UNRRA Mission to Poland,
Warsaw.
Attention: Welfare and Repatriation Division,
Mr. Berger.

FROM: Helene Gifford, Director, Welfare and Repatriation Division, ERO.

We wish to acknowledge and thank you for the report of the meeting held on June 11th in Warsaw. We were particularly interested in the material presented in regard to child welfare activities, and we will be most interested to receive additional reports of your discussions on welfare and repatriation. We have some question as to the statement made at the meeting that it is the policy to allow children over 12 to choose whether or not they will return to Poland in view of the decision of the Polish Repatriation Mission covering the repatriation of unaccompanied children to Poland, copy of which we attach for your information. We are asking the German Operation to clarify this statement made at your meeting.

Helene Gifford,
Director,
Welfare and Repatriation Division.

ME/18.

Copy to Polish Children's File.
Mr. Roger Carter.



OUT FILE

9/7
DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY

LR 50/15/2

170a Great Portland Street,

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

MEMPH 6898.

5th July, 1946.

DES. No: 1829
WR 2/18.
WR 30/28/2. ✓
WR 36/28.

To: Chief of Operations, Germany,
UNRRA Central H.Q. Amulsen.
Attention: Relief Services, Miss Mackay.

From: Miss Selene Clifford, Director, Welfare and Repatriation
Division, UNR.

We are sending for your confidential information reports of meetings held in the Polish Mission on Tuesday June 11th, which have just come to our attention, and have particular interest for those of us concerned with the problems of children. You will note that two Welfare Officers from Germany attended the meetings and we would like to raise the question on Miss Davis' statement "that it was the policy to allow children over 12 to choose whether or not they would return to Poland, but those under 12 had no choice and were all to be repatriated". This statement would seem to indicate that Miss Davis may not be informed of the policy outlined by the Polish Repatriation Mission as to age at which a Polish child is permitted to make his own decisions. We also have some question about the child mentioned who was returned to Poland and found that his parents had been classed as Volksdeutsche and had been returned to Germany. It was our understanding that some preliminary checking was to be done and that insofar as possible arrangements were being made for families to be reunited.

Selene Clifford,
Director,
Welfare and Repatriation Division.

HP/LB.
Encls. 2.

Copy to Polish Children's File.

Mr. Roger Carter.



DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY

170a Great Portland Street, XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

WR 80/18/2.

DUS NO 2395

2nd July, 1946.

To: Chief of UNRRA Mission to Poland,
Warsaw.
Attention: Welfare & Repatriation Division.

From: Welfare and Repatriation Division, ERO.

Will you kindly thank Miss Wellington for the material on the activities with regard to children of the Polish Red Cross and Polish Catholic Voluntary Agency "Caritas", which she was so good as to forward to Miss Aves under date of 24th May, 1946.

Selene Gifford,
Director,
Welfare and Repatriation Division.

NAV/LS.



MUSEum 6898 Ext. 103

170A Gt. Portland Street,
W.I.

DMP/MCL/L.23/26

June 1946

R.W. Cresswell, Esq.,
58 Woodlands Farm Road,
Erdington,
Birmingham 24.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of 11th June informing us of your interest in the plight of orphaned children in Poland, and your statement of the difficulties you have encountered in attempting to lend some assistance to alleviate their condition. We recognise from your statements that to date your efforts have met with no results.

As you perhaps know there is an UNRRA Mission in Poland and UNRRA Welfare Officers are in close touch with the Polish Government in developing plans for the care and feeding, and general well being of the children. There are a number of voluntary agencies which are carrying on active projects to alleviate the condition of children in Poland and we thought perhaps you might wish to get in touch with the "Save the Children Fund" which is one of the agencies most actively engaged in child welfare work there at the present time. The work of the "Save the Children Fund" includes supplementary feeding projects for children in a group of Polish villages. Perhaps you would like to consider helping the children in Poland through this agency and if so you may communicate with:-

Save the Children Fund,
20 Gordon Square,
London,
W.C.1.

/ P.T.O.

We trust that this information will be useful to you and will result in your being able to bring help to the children in Poland.

Yours faithfully,

Selene Gifford
Director
Welfare & Repatriation Division

80/18/2
WR
Ref DMP/L23/26

RECEIVED
- 1 JUL 1946
U. N. R. R. A.
MAIL UNIT

58 Woodlands Farm Road,
Erdington,
Birmingham.24.
27th June 1946

Dear Madam,

I have to thank you for your reply to my letter of the 11th June last, concerning the plight of the orphaned children in Poland. I am afraid that my letter was not quite as explicit as it might have been, what I really wanted to find out was whether the information given by the Polish Press Agency was correct. It seems a terrible thing if the fate of these children is dependant on how much money can be raised voluntarily for their succour.

I certainly did offer my services in relief work if they would be acceptable, but I am a poor man and I have no funds to offer apart from a small donation I am willing to give to the Fund you have mentioned.

I knew that there was an U.N.R.R.A. mission in Poland, and the reason that I wrote to you was because I was anxious to find out whether the officials of the mission had any knowledge of these children.

Yours faithfully,

R. W. Gifford

Selena. Gifford,
Director,
Welfare & Repatriation Division
U.N.R.R.A.,
11, Portland Place,
London.W.1.

P.S. I have heard from the Russian authorities and I understand that they are helping to save some of the children.

Copy for WR 80/18/2.

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY 14/6/46

170a Great Portland Street,

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Ref. WR 50/2. DES NO 1272
WR 80/18/2. 1273

12th June, 1946.

Chief of German Operations,
UNRRA Central Headquarters,
Arolsen,
B. A. O. R.

Attention: Relief Services.

Cooperation with UNRRA Mission to Poland.

1. After the Relief Services Conference here Mr. Berger, the Welfare Officer from our Polish Mission, had a talk with Miss Aves, Child Care Consultant, about a number of matters relating to the children's programme.
2. Mr. Berger thought it would be very helpful to his Mission and might also be of assistance to the Child Care Staff in Germany if it could be arranged for Miss Eileen Blackey and/or another Child Welfare Specialist from Germany to visit Poland for a short period to discuss matters of common interest. The opportunity could be taken to consider further means of cooperation in the search for missing Polish children.
3. It was agreed that the proposed visit was a matter which could best be handled direct by UNRRA in Germany and Poland, and if the Polish Mission decided to follow it up you will no doubt hear from the Chief of Mission in due course.
4. The purpose of this minute is merely to inform you that we have knowledge here of this project and as far as HRO is concerned we welcome the idea of a closer coordination of work relating to displaced and missing children between the two countries, and hope that the plan may be carried out.

Selene Gifford,

Director,

Welfare and Repatriation Division.

GHA/ls.

cc. Miss Eileen Blackey, DES NO 1273.
Colonel Charley.
Mr. Carter.

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY 14/6/46
73



UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
MISSION TO POLAND
WARSAW

WR 80/18/2.
Comp. R. L. R. 80.
Despatch No 1315

PM/L/819

12th June, 1946.

INDEXED

WR

To:- European Regional Office,
Welfare Division,
11, Portland Place,
London, W.1.

From:- Welfare and Repatriation Division.

For your information we enclose
Cable No. 65125 to Washington, dated 24th
May, 1946.

Roland Berger

Roland Berger, *per letter*

WELFARE AND REPATRIATION DIVISION.

ENCL.



UNRRA WASHINGTON.

65125 YOUR 1272 A ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED NINETY
THREE THOUSAND NOW FED URBAN AND RURAL SCHOOLS AND CENTRES
B APPROXIMATELY THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY THOUSAND URBAN
SCHOOL CHILDREN NOW RECEIVING TOTAL DAILY AVERAGE CALORIC
COUNT THIRTEEN HUNDRED ANIMAL PROTEIN LEVEL 6.5 GRAMS
C WITH COORDINATION OF MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND LABOUR
SOCIAL WELFARE SCHOOLS AND POLISH VOLUNTARY SOCIETIES CAPABLE
OF NECESSARY EXPANSION SCHOOLS WILL REMAIN OPEN AS FEEDING
CENTRES ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY KITCHENS WILL BE ORGANISED AS
NEEDED EXISTING NETWORK OF KITCHENS CRECHES ETC WILL FEED
MORE PEOPLE BETTER RATIONS UNRRA REGIONAL DELEGATES WILL
EXTEND ACTIVITIES IN INTEREST OF CHILD FEEDING NUTRITIONIST
SUPPLY DEPARTMENT AND CHILD WELFARE SPECIALIST AND OTHER
WELFARE DEPARTMENT WILL CONSULT CONTINUOUSLY WITH NATIONAL
MINISTRIES AND VOLUNTARY SOCIETIES AND VISIT DISTRICTS TO
CHECK EFFICIENCY AND ADVISE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION D ESTIMATE
URGENT NEED THROUGHOUT POLAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY MEAL FOR THREE
MILLION THREE HUNDRED FIFTEEN THOUSAND CHILDREN AND SEVEN
HUNDRED THOUSAND EXPECTANT MOTHERS STOP EXTREME DEVASTATION
PARTS COUNTRY MAKES CONDITION SOME RURAL CHILDREN WORSE THAN
URBAN STOP REQUIREMENTS PER MONTH IN LONG TONS ROLLED OATS
SIXTY FOUR HUNDRED COD LIVER OIL TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND FAT NINE
HUNDRED FIFTY STOP SUGAR NOT NEEDED GOVERNMENT CONCERNED
CONDITION OF CHILDREN AGREES TO DIVERT UNRRA AND INDIGENOUS
SUPPLIES TO FEED FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND IN SUMMER CAMPS AND
THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND IN DAY CAMPS BUT SUPPLEMENTATION
ESSENTIAL

UNRRA WARSAW

mlay/arm
24th May46
cc drury

Meeting with Mr. Wolski, General Plenipotentiary for Repatriation
on the 11th June, 1946.

Present: Mr. Berger, Chief, Welfare and Repatriation Division.
Miss Lay, Child Welfare Consultant.
Miss E.M. Davis, Welfare Officer, Team 182, Indersdorf.
Miss M.A. Morehead, Medical Officer, U.S. Zone Hospital Consultant.
Miss H. Weisender, Child Welfare Officer, Team 547, Munich.
Major P. Sullivan, District Medical Officer, Wiesbaden.

Child Miss Weisender, UNRRA/Welfare Officer from U.S. Zone gave her report. A repatriation train from Munich, Germany U.S. Zone brought back to Poland on the 5th June 117 children. They were taken to Katowice and then to Kosle - Receiving Centre just established in which the conditions are quite good. About three quarters of the children had parents in Silesia and left Kosle within 2 days. There was some confusion with regard to the registration cards of the children, but otherwise the repatriation arrangements were satisfactory. In future these cards will be delivered by the personnel of the train to the responsible representative of the Polish Red Cross.

According to the data brought from the U.S. Zone there are to be repatriated from that Zone:

2000 T.B.
300 Mental Cases.
400 - 500 Aged.
200 - 300 Unidentified Children (i.e. children whose nationality has been established but whose personal identity is at present unknown).
500 Unaccompanied children.

Mr. Wolski expressed his wish that as a precautionary measure the children should not be brought back with sick people especially with T.B. though the housing conditions in Kosle are good. It was decided that segregation throughout the journey and on reception was possible and that there was no danger of contact. Mr. Wolski said that he was now ready to receive all the Polish children from Germany. The Gostynin Receiving Centre for the children repatriated from the East is full up but the Kosle Centre has just been organized by his Office. He collaborates with the Ministry of Education, whose responsibility is to take care of the children after reception.

Those that have no homes and parents are sent to orphanages where they are brought up and educated. Mr. Wolski suggested that transport was the most difficult problem in the repatriation of the children and sick. It was explained by Mr. Morehead, the UNRRA representative from the U.S. Zone, that Army Hospital Trains could be used for this purpose. One is already being organized to bring repatriated to Poland. It will leave Germany on about 25th June.

The difficulty of staffing the trains was also discussed. Polish personnel in Germany could be utilised if they had a guarantee that they would be able to return should they wish to do so. In the hospital there are often German doctors and nurses looking after the Polish displaced persons. Mr. Wolski stated that it would be difficult to send an adequate number of personnel from Poland. The Government would be willing to agree to Polish displaced persons who accompanied these trains returning to Germany if they so desired. In fact, provided that the displaced persons were carefully selected and approved by the Polish Liaison Officers, this might have the advantage that these displaced persons could return to their centres in Germany with some knowledge of actual conditions in Poland. Mr. Wolski also accepted a suggestion that UNRRA technical staff should accompany these trains as far as the Reception Centre. A representative of the Polish Government will meet the trains at the frontier and bring them to the Receiving Centre. The Polish Repatriation Missions in Germany will ~~for~~ inform Mr. Wolski about the departure of the trains from Germany and UNRRA in Germany will keep the Polish Mission informed.

The 2000 T.B. patients are receiving over 3000 calories a day in the U.S. Zone where they are in UNRRA hospitals for D.Ps. At the present time it would not be possible to provide a caloric standard of this order in Poland. Mr. Wolski stated that the Polish Government's plans for the reception of tubercular displaced persons were not yet completed. It was decided therefore that these displaced persons should remain in Germany for the present and that the Polish Government will inform UNRRA Mission when they are ready to receive these repatriates. In the meantime the Government was anxious that these Polish nationals should receive adequate information of conditions in Poland and Mr. Wolski asked that some of the Polish newspapers being despatched to the American Zone might be forwarded to these sanatoria. In

the case of the chronic sick and aged as well as the children, the Polish Government was now already to receive them and was anxious that they should be repatriated without delay. All these cases from the U.S. Zone can be received at Kosle.

Copy.

58, Woodlands Farm Road,
Erdington,
Birmingham, 24.

11th June, 1946.

Dear Sir,

About six weeks ago a letter appeared in the Spectator from Z. Nagorski, of the Polish Press Agency, 43, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, concerning the plight of over a million orphan children in Poland who are faced with starvation. In his letter Mr. Nagorski asked whether steps could be taken to rescue these children before it was too late.

I wrote to the Lord Mayor of Birmingham on the 23rd April last to ask him whether he knew of any Society or group of people who are trying to rescue these children. I was eventually referred to the Secretary of the Birmingham Council for Refugees, and I interviewed Miss Freidlaender the Secretary. I was informed, however that it was a difficult problem to get even a small number of refugees into this country.

The matter was brought up at a recent meeting of the Council for Refugees, when it was decided that the problem was too vast to be dealt with by any but an interdepartmental body. The Lord Mayor has since written to Sir Herbert Emerson, of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, and he has very kindly sent on an extract of his reply, which is as follows:-

"This Committee deals only with refugees, and a very limited category of refugees at that, and I am afraid therefore that it would not be able to take any action with regard to children who are within the borders of their own country and who cannot be considered as refugees. In view of the large numbers involved, the suggestion seems to me to present very serious difficulties even if the Polish Government would agree to the removal of these children outside Poland. As UNRRA now maintains a mission in Poland, I can only suggest that Mr. Cresswell should write to UNRRA at 11, Portland Place, London, W.1. asking them to enquire through their Polish Mission into the condition of these children and asking whether any special steps can be taken for their welfare".

On the suggestion of Miss Freidlaender of the Birmingham Council for Refugees, I wrote to Miss M. McEwen of the Reception Committee for Young People from Occupied Countries, 29, Portman Square, London, W.1. and the following is the reply I have received:-

"My Committee is in complete sympathy with your pleas on behalf of these most unfortunate children, and has in fact repeatedly offered its assistance to the Polish Government on the same lines as for the Dutch, French, and Czechoslovakian children, who have come or will come to this country for a recuperative holiday. Owing to the difficult political situation obtaining in Poland at present, however, its Government does not see its way clear to allow the children to leave the country, and my Committee is consequently powerless to help".

I have also written to Dr. Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury, knowing his great friendship with many Russian people and in particular M. Stalin, the following is the reply I received:-

Dear Sir,

Russia has been helping, I was in Poland early and heard of Russian assistance in several directions. It is of course the U.S.A. with their vast resources that should bear this burden. She has not suffered as has Russia.

(signed) Hewlett Johnson.

P.T.O.

On the 2nd May last I wrote to Mr. Martin Lindsay, my local M.P. pointing out the tragic position of these children and on the 6th May I received the following reply:-

Thank you for your letter of May 2nd. Since the Polish Government is at the present time dominated by the influence of Soviet Russia, it would seem as if this country should accept the responsibility of easing the food situation from their great resources in the Ukraine. I think that if and when we have any surplus food we should send it to the countries nearer at hand.

(Signed) Martin Lindsay.

In view of the conflicting nature of these two replies, I decided to write to the Russian Ambassador, Mr. Gusev, and the following is the letter I sent:-

Dear Sir,

According to the Polish Press Agency it is estimated that over a million orphan children in Poland are faced with starvation and death unless help is speedily forthcoming.

The only people in Europe today who are in the position to save these children are your countrymen.

I believe that your warm hearted countrymen would not if they knew the facts, let these children suffer, I ask you therefore, Mr. Ambassador, if you will use your influence to obtain help and succour before it is too late.

Your people read and admire the books of that great English Novelist, Charles Dickens. Dickens was a man who loved children and I feel that this would be work after his own heart.

I beg of you therefore to do something in this matter, the parents of these children died in the fight against Nazism, just as surely as those of your gallant countrymen.

(Signed) R.W. Cresswell.

I have not received a reply to that letter, I did not anticipate that I should do so, nevertheless I felt that it might do good, and I hope that it has done so even if it is rather unorthodox in its content.

I should be very glad to know whether UNRRA is in fact taking steps to help to save these children. Of all the European countries Poland seems to have come off worst of all, yet it was the pluck and endurance of the Polish people in the early days of the war which helped this country to stand out against the Nazis.

Yours truly,

R.W. CRESSWELL.

The Chief Officer,
UNRRA,
11, Portland Place,
London, W.1.

Saw Mr. Berger in London.

1. Discussed briefly report of Welfare meeting dated May 6th. He explained that this was a regular committee for which he is responsible. The note forwarded by Miss Wellington was taken by her deputy who is invited as an observer. Mr. Berger produces minutes in the usual way.

2. Emergency training course in child care.

Mr. Berger said that there is a three year social science course at Lodz University. In order to meet the acute need for Child Care workers for Creche, Nursery schools, childrens' homes, etc., a short emergency course is required and is being sponsored by the Ministry of Social Welfare. It will cover a period of two months and UNRRA have suggested that an UNRRA Child Care Worker might be invited, to give a months demonstration course in July, rather on the lines of the British Child Care Reserve course which was started for war-time emergency purposes. Mr. Berger hoped that Miss Gwen Chesters might be able to come in July for this purpose. He made it clear that the Polish authorities had not yet made the request, but he thought it probable they would do so within the next two or three weeks.

Mr. Berger assures me that the physical strain on Miss Chesters need not be great. She would travel to Poland by air, and would be in Lodz all the time. I explained that I could not give any definite reply, especially in view of her recent accident, but the matter will be considered.

3. School Feeding.

Mr. Berger has observed that the Ministry of Education, U.K. is holding a three day conference on this subject. He thought there might be some more relevant material which would be of use to Poland, and asked if this could be obtained if possible by the end of the week. He leaves for Poland on June 4th.

4. The Mission has put in for three Consultants on a temporary basis, who will advise on disablement and rehabilitation services.

5. Co-operation with German operations on search for Polish children.

Mr. Berger thinks it will be helpful both to Poland and Germany if Miss Blackey or Miss Heise could go to Poland for a week to discuss matters of common interest. He thinks that there are ways in which the search for Polish children could thus be better co-ordinated. In this case the Polish Mission will make a direct approach to Germany on the matter.

I said that I thought such an invitation would be very acceptable to the Child Care workers, and that I hoped the plan would be carried through.

C. G. A.

30/5/46

Informed Mr. Berger that Miss Longley, D of E Inspector may have suitable material
Later Miss Ritchie will pursue

Ms. Valk.

Could you pursue urgently?

Sl. 64521²

Unless you know a better way. Mr. Public Relations
head better deals with (information)
for to D/Education + should be able
to help. Ref - my name if you
like. We are old colleagues!
28/5/46. C. G. A.

INCOMING CABLE

VS

ACTION:- R.S. Dept.
Sir. Michael Creagh,

WARSAW.....TO.....LONDON

No. 959

Dated:- 27th May, 1946.

(EN CLAIR)

Rec'd:- 08.45 hours.
29th May, 1946.

For Save the Children Fund.

Position of 3 million Polish Children serious. About 200,000 children lost both parents, many more fatherless. Tuberculosis ten times as prevalent as in Britain. Summer camps, temporary hostels and foster parents homes organised to meet this general emergency, but additional help desperately needed whether beds, blankets, food clothing. Savinfana undertaking work on group villages north of Warsaw. Many children still live in underground shelters and lack essential foods. Going London Saturday to discuss plans and hope return here with collaborators and equipment.

KS/JT

File on
WR 80/18/2

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

1344 CONNECTICUT AVENUE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

UNRRA Polish Mission

Warsaw, 24th May 1946

Miss G.M. Aves
U N R R A
11-A Portland Place
LONDON W.I

INDEXED

Dear Miss Aves,

I enclose for your information a copy of an outline prepared by the Polish Red Cross on their activities in respect of Child Care. This material was prepared for the Subcommittee on Child Care of the Polish Voluntary Agencies.

Yours sincerely
M. Slivinsky
for Beatrice M. Wellington
Office of Liaison with
Voluntary Agencies

1 Enclosure
=====

Miss G. M. Aron

Polish Red Cross
Head Office
===

R e p o r t

on the activities of the Polish Red Cross on Child Care, for
the Subcommittee on care of children and young people.

=====

The Polish Red Cross extends its activities also to child care.

The mothers-repatriates and wives of those soldiers who were killed or lost prior to the birth of the child, and later with their babies, are given by the Red Cross medical, hygienic and material assistance through doctors' advice, medicines infants' outfits, clothes, supplementary feeding and children's foods. This aid is supplied by Centres for Maternity and Child Care, Health and Feeding centres, Medical centres and Branch offices.

For older children the Polish Red Cross carries on social kitchens in nearly all its branches (in 12 out of 14). There are now 66 of them, supplying food for about 2.000 children daily, where they receive 3 meals (breakfast, dinner, supper). Besides kitchens are organised recreation centres (children's clubs) where children sometimes receive food parcels, medicines, nutritious foods, chocolate etc. Excursions and festivals are also organised, and on these occasions children are given practical presents.

In institutions for total care (Welfare boarding schools and orphanages) the Polish Red Cross has under its care 613 children.

The programme for the near future covers a large scale assistance in medicines, clothes, nutritious foods and supplementary feeding of children repatriated from east and west. Further projects are to organise on a large scale summer holiday camps, and to establish preventoria for delicate children and those threatened by tuberculosis.

Special attention in this connection will be paid to the so called "desert areas".

At this moment the P.R.C. is faced with the great task of giving assistance to large transports of children evacuated from USSR, notified to the P.R.C. by P.U.R. It is anticipated that these children will number about 15.000.-

We therefore request the following assistance from foreign supplies:

15.000	pairs of shoes	7.000 kg	sugar
30.000	" " stockings	7.500 "	fats
15.000	sets of underwear xxxxxx	15.000 "	white flour
8.000	girls' coats	15.000 "	dark flour
8.000	boys' coats	4.500 "	Quakers' oats
5.000	infants' outfits	15.000 "	barley grits
15.000	blankets	15.000	tins of condensed or powdered milk
15.000	sheets	2.000 kg	dry vegetables
15.000	pillow cases	2.000 "	salt
15.000	towels	10.000 "	preserves
30.000	handkerchiefs		
8.000	Girls' dresses		
8.000	Boys' suits		

The Vice-Director
Dr. H. Lenk (-)

WR 80/18/2

please file

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

1344 CONNECTICUT AVENUE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

UNRRA Polish Mission

Warsaw, 23rd May 1946

Miss G.M. Aves
UNRRA
11-A Portland Place
London W.1

INDEXED

Dear Miss Aves,

I enclose for your information a copy
of an outline of the activities in Poland of
the Polish Catholic Voluntary Agency " Caritas"

Yours sincerely

for Beatrice Wellington
Office of Liaison with
Voluntary Agencies

1 Enclosure
=====

INDEXED

REPORTS, PLANS, REQUIREMENTS

of the Organisation "C A R I T A S" for Care of
Children and Young People.

"CARITAS" is an ecclesiastical organisation whose activities cover the whole of Poland, and which by means of its Branches reaches even the most remote villages "Caritas" divides Poland into 24 Districts called the "Diocese "Caritas" Associations. These Associations have their branches in every Parish, and every branch has in its field the so called "Regional Guardians" whose activities extend over several or at most some score of families. All ecclesiastical welfare institutions and social organisations are controlled by the Organisation "Caritas".

The Head Office is in Cracow (No.1, Basztowa Str.) and has two Agencies: in Gdynia (No. 24 Polska Str.) and in Warsaw (No.49 Nowogrodzka Str.)

The child and youth care of "Caritas" covers the following activities:

1. Institutions for total care. There are a great many of these. In the whole territory of Poland there are 894 Institutions for total care, sheltering at present about 26,827 children. From certain districts we still have no exact data. Many of these institutions inform us of their difficult situation as regards food supplies and especially clothes and equipment.
2. Institutions for partial care. Day-nurseries, Kindergartens. The work of changing day-nurseries into Kindergartens and providing them with adequate professional personnel is under way. In the whole territory of Poland there are to be 1073 day-nurseries and kindergartens with a permanent or seasonal attendance of 47.279 children.
3. Placing children in foster families. This work has already been started and plans are made for its extension during this year. Propaganda material is being prepared and assistance will be supplied to foster families. Control is easy, being made by "Regional Guardians".
4. Supplementary feeding in schools. "Caritas" is carrying on these activities, especially on war-torn territories and in the poorest villages. Plans are made to spread this work in the near future to all territories destroyed by hostilities in the territory of the following provinces: Warsaw, Rzeszow Cracow and Silesia (several districts), Kielce, Gdansk, Olsztyn, Bialystok and also Lublin. Close collaboration with other welfare organisations is anticipated.
5. "Caritas" intends to develop on a large scale activities in connection with summer vacation camps, which would be to a certain degree a continuation of supplementary feeding in schools and sending children to the country to families which would readily accept them. This chiefly concerns children living in towns, and children from areas devastated by hostilities, who are sent to localities not touched directly by war.
6. Maternity and child care is also given by "Caritas" by organising Railway Station Missions (9 centres) also in....
7. Health Centres - both those in existence and those projected in collaboration with the Ministry of Health in nearly all Communities, on the territory of Poland.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Shortage of bed and personal linen, clothes and boots
(No figures are given, as the devastated area will absorb any quantity. The number of children under care will reach this year about 250,000 children.
2. Basic foodstuffs: bread, condensed milk, fats, flour, sugar etc.
3. Medicines: first aid appliances, ointments against scabies, abscesses etc. dressing materials.
4. Cash contributions for these activities and for training personnel.

For the Director
Ks. Jozef Majka.

Chief Officer of the Branch
Ks. Jozef Majka.

19 Desp. No. 945
UR 50/18/2.

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
MISSION TO POLAND
WARSAW

INDEXED

PM/L/693

17th May, 1948.

Sir Michael Creagh,
Office of Liaison with Voluntary Societies,
UNRRA, European Regional Office,
11 Portland Place,
London, W. 1.



Dear Sir Michael,

Thank you for your letter inclosing a note on what transpired at a meeting between Mme. Auderska and representatives of the Welfare Division, ERO, recently in London. Before leaving for London Mme. Auderska was fully briefed by my office on the number and names of the foreign voluntary agencies then operating in Poland, the proportion concentrating on child welfare, the size of their programmes, the existence, purpose and functions of COFVAP and its relation to UNRRA and your office. She was advised to get in touch with you; it seems incredible that she was not put in touch with you by the Welfare Division, ERO, unless, of course, the fact that you missed her means that you were away when she arrived in London.

It seems to me that her aim "to make the difficult plight of children in Poland better understood by statutory and voluntary bodies" (unless these are exclusively Polish in England) could have been best achieved by contact with your office, since after all this is understood to be one of the functions of your office in relation to our work in Poland, and it is for this purpose that we send regular reports to your office and to the Welfare Division.

As to paragraph (2) of your note, Mr. Berger will, no doubt, wish to discuss this with the Welfare and Repatriation Sections of ERO when he goes to London on 18th May for the Relief Services Conference.

/I am sending



UNITED NATIONS
REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ADMINISTRATION
MISSION IN POLAND
WARSAW

I am sending you by this bag copies of various documents which have been prepared for the use of the Council of Foreign Voluntary Agencies in Poland.

With good wishes,
Yours sincerely,

B. M. Wellington

B. M. Wellington,
Office of Liaison
with Voluntary
Societies.

WR 80/18/2

DES HO 1591

OUT FILE

7th May, 1946.

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY 9/5/46 TS

Miss B.M. Wellington,
UNRRA Mission to Poland,
Hotel Bristol,
WARSAW.

Dear Miss Wellington,

I missed Madame Auderska. You will ^{see} that she has been in touch with certain Branches of Relief Services and what transpired at the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

SIR MICHAEL CREAGH
Vol. Socy Liaison Unit.

OUT FILE

WR 80/18/2

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY 26/4/46 9.5

26th April, 1946.

Madame Auderska,
Polish Embassy,
47 Portland Place,
LONDON W.1.

Dear Madame Auderska,

I have heard from Miss Wellington in our office in Warsaw that you are in London and anxious to get in touch with certain British Voluntary Societies. If I can help you in this connection will you make an appointment with my secretary - Museum 6898, Ext. 305 - at some time convenient to yourself and I will be very glad to see you.

Yours sincerely,

SIR MICHAEL CREAGH
Vol. Socy Liaison Unit.

L 41

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

INCOMING CABLE

L 80/18/2

Attention: Information Div.
Mr. Cummings

WARSAW.....TO.....WASHINGTON

No. 445
Repeated to:
London 639

Dated : 19th April, 1946

Reb'd : 23rd April, 1946
08.40 hours

For Cummings.

100 undernourished Polish children from war devastated famine threatened areas left today for Switzerland. UNRRA nurses accompanying both groups, children will remain abroad about 5 months as guests respectively Danish Swiss Red Cross Societies. Expect Denmark Switzerland and possibly other countries be willing receive additional groups as appalling conditions under which scores or thousand Polish children now exist become more widely known.

BG/EMK.

INDEXED

WR 80/18/2
Copy WR 35.
WR.
" " Mrs. G. L. L.
Des. No. 650.
April, 1946. 651 Miss G. C. O. N.
652 Miss Aves

17th April, 1946. 652

I wonder whether you have had any contact with Mme. Auderska, of the publishing firm of Trzeska, Ewart and Michalski in Warsaw, who was sent to London recently by the Polish Ministry of Education, to -

- It is possible that you have seen the cable which the Public Relations Branch have sent to ERO on this matter. In case you have not seen it, I think you might like to know that Mme. Auderska is still in London, and can be contacted through the Polish Embassy (Warsaw Government), 47 Portland Place London W.1.

RECEIVED
24 APR 1946
U. N. R. R. A.
MAIL UNIT



File no. WRFO/13A

662/8

NOTE FOR FILE.

Interview with Mme. Auderska representing Polish Ministry of Education,
April 13th. 1946.

Saw Mme. Auderska with Mr. Roger Carter, Miss ~~Singler~~ *J. Aves* and an interpreter. It appeared that the main purpose of Mme. Auderska's visit to this country was to make the difficult plight of children in Poland better understood by statutory and voluntary bodies in order that the maximum sympathy and support for Polish needs might be achieved. She produced photographs to illustrate deplorable living conditions, shortage of clothing, of school buildings and equipment, and so on.

We discussed the provision for children repatriated from Germany, and Mme. Auderska seemed to find it difficult to explain why the Polish authorities wished to give an early priority to the repatriation of unaccompanied children. She asked Miss Aves if any way had occurred to her in which Polish authorities could help in connection with this group. Miss Aves said that she felt there was room for some more orientation work with children now in Germany, from people who can speak with knowledge and sympathy about their home country, and wondered whether there would be any possibility of additional people, like, for instance, Teachers, being sent for a short period to help children in this way. Mme. Auderska seemed interested in the suggestion and said she would follow it up.

S. J. Aves

.....

WE80/18/2

Statement
Poland

10th of April, 1946.

TO : Chief of UNRRA Mission to AUSTRIA
Attention : Child Welfare Specialist
VIENNA.

Subject : Children's Services in Poland.

When I saw Miss Brownlee recently she said, she would be glad to see the two enclosed reports which had been received recently in E. R. O. -

I give below a copy of the note from the Director of the Welfare and Repatriation Division E. R. O. with which he sent copies to the German Field of Operation, as no doubt, it applies equally to Austria:

"We are sending the attached material to you for your personal information. If you think it would be of interest to the Zone Child Welfare Specialists, you are at liberty to send it to them on the basis that it is for their confidential information".

Geraldine M. Aves
Child Care Consultant ERO

Encl.

INDEXED

Lb2/18

ACTION COPY

DESPATCHED FROM CABLE SECTION

TIME 0900 HRS.

DATE 9/4 1946

INCOMING CABLE.

L.

ACTION: Division Information.
Mr. Cummings.

WARSAW.....TO.....LONDON

No. 529
En Clair

DATED: 2nd April, 1946.
RECD: 09.07 hours.
4th April, 1946.

::::::::::::::::::::::::::::

For Cummings.

Please contact Miss Halina Auderska delegated by Ministry
Education discuss Polish Child care problems with British women M.Ps.
and prominent members organizations concerned with child care.

Auderska sailed from Gdynia April 1st. Be reachable through
London Embassy.

FS/AB

1 Aug 1946

Registry-
I have noted
Source of this
report. Please
Secure in this
folder - Thank
you
DBP

29 March 1946
80/18/2

CARE OF CHILDREN IN POLAND

1.- In the estimated total population of Poland, 23,000,000 are approximately 8,000,000 children and young people up to 20 years of age. Of this 1,100,000 are orphans or half-orphans, 880,000 being fatherless, 330,000 motherless and 110,000 without parents. About 25% are already caring for themselves, 50% are wards of relatives or others, leaving 25%, or 280,000, to be cared for.

When to this figure, is added those with both parents, who must, for various reasons, be cared for away from their homes, the number ~~needing care in institutions~~, is estimated as 330,000. It is planned that 80,000 will be cared for in institutions and 240,000 in foster homes. In addition, approximately 2,400,000 need supplementary food and clothing in their homes and schools.

2.- Public and private agencies, complement one another in giving all types of care to children, but all programmes are known to the Ministries which give food, equipment and money and supervise standards. Important programmes are as follows:-

- a. Supplementary assistance to the family clothing, medical care, and, to limited numbers a cash allowance. Food to families is usually given through soup kitchens.
- b. Food and clothing distributed through the schools. Most schools give soup if the supplies are available.
- c. After school care in recreation and study centres. These are important to keep children from their overcrowded homes and destroyed neighbourhoods. Centres are often at railroad stations as many children travel long distances to school and train schedules have been disrupted. Supervision is essential as many mothers work.
- d. Creches and nursing homes for mothers and small children. Creches are vitally important to working mothers. They may be neighbourhood nurseries or run in connection with factories.
- e. Institutional or foster home care. It is planned that 80,000 will be cared for in institutions and 240,000 in foster homes.

3.- Children with their parents, in the bombed areas are living in bad physical conditions. It is estimated, for instance, that, in the ruins of Warsaw, are 80,000 children, exclusive of babies. There is serious overcrowding, sometimes in buildings that may collapse; many dwelling in cellars that are dark, damp and unhealthy. Thousands of homes are without light or heat, and water must be carried. In one destroyed province, Kielce, 6,800 children, said to live in dugouts and shacks. In both city and country many dwellings are rat infested.

Food of many children of poor families is little more than soup carried from a nearby soup kitchen. In some sections of the country where supplementary food cannot be given, families are living on potatoes and potato soup. In Kielce, for instance, are small towns, where the women walk miles each day begging and foraging for food. Children are too poorly clothed to go out in winter and thousands are without shoes and cannot attend school.

Institutions average 50 children; many are smaller. They may be run by clerical or secular staffs. Since the war, many large estates are being used for institutions; houses and grounds are very suitable. Equipment in all, however, is very meagre as it was either destroyed or stolen. The management is remarkably fine, in view of the lack of equipment. Bedding, clothing, kitchen supplies and toilet and bath facilities are inadequate in most places. Food is shockingly low. It ranges from 11,000 to 18,000 calories a day but there is a lack of fats and sugar. Meat is a rarity. Educational equipment and toys are almost non-existent. Food and equipment from UNRRA and Foreign Voluntary Agencies, is to be seen in these homes but is quite insufficient.

One is impressed by the easy relationships between children and adults. Children seem unusually secure in spite of the d

the difficult years they have had. Their physical circumstances are generally better than those of children with their families.

4.- Repatriated children are returning to Poland some are with their families and some alone. Unaccompanied children have come from Russia and will come in groups from Germany shortly. From Russia, it has been possible to move the children from a given home together with the personnel. These children who have lived in institutions come fairly well equipped and in good physical condition. Those who return with their parents, through Repatriation Centres, are mal-nourished and dirty in the extreme.

Recently, Polish children are being discovered near Munich. They had been removed from their parents by the Germans and taken to Silicia and then Germany, as part of the Germanisation programme. Parentage of many are unknown. Names are changed. Effort must be made to find relatives in Poland. As yet the numbers of these children are not known. They present a most complex problem. There are also German children in 35 homes in Silicia who will be repatriated to Germany

5.- As is to be expected, the health of children has suffered. Height, weight, age, in Poland is said to be worse than any other country in Europe. Number of tubercular and crippled conditions arising from Vitamin deficiency is said to be the highest. Mortality rate, in some places, is reported as high as 40%. Emotional difficulties are thought to be severe, as 75% of the children have lost their relatives or had been forced to leave their homes. However, many children and adults seem to have made surprisingly good adjustments from the horrors of the last six years.

Delinquency among children is impossible to estimate. Many are thought to have asocial habits. Fortunately, the attitude in Poland, toward this problem, is at present non-judgemental.

6.- This material is compiled from my own observation and that of other members of the UNRRA staff and from documents received from the Ministries of Labour and Social Welfare, Education and Health. The recent news of the children in Germany is given through a member of a Voluntary Agency who has been working with UNRRA staff in Munich. Figures and percentages are estimated because of the lack of accurate vital statistics and census material.

The Ministries are planning well for their children but the handicaps are great. I cannot stress too strongly that the children of Poland are, in my opinion, hungry, mal-nourished and poorly equipped with clothing, books and toys. Immediate and long-range implications for the future are most serious.

If requested, I should be glad to give amplification of the points covered in this report.

PREPARED for President Hoover's visit to Poland
BY Miss Madeleine Lay, Child Welfare Consultant,

UNRRA, POLAND.

29th March, 1946.

1 Aug 1946 -
Miss Gibbons brought this report with her
on her return from Poland July 1946
BBP

TO:- Mr. C. M. Drury Chief of Mission
FROM:- Madeleine Lay - Consultant in Child Care.
SUBJECT:- Report for Month of February 1946.

Important contacts during the month were with:

1. Ministry of Education.
2. Welfare Department of the City of Warsaw.
3. Committees.

1. Ministry of Education.

The Ministry of Education, which on the first day of January 1946, became responsible for the care of children and youth 3 years of age and over, has submitted a report to UNRRA of its estimated requirements. This accords with the requirements submitted by the Department of Labour and Social Welfare, which had had responsibility for these children. The Ministry analyses the problems confronting it by giving the following estimates. The volume of children to be cared for in institutions is 60,000 - approximately half of these are now in existing homes and the Ministry intends to spread its activities to take care of the other half during 1946. Children in foster families will number approximately 125,000 - these must be certified for care by the Department of Welfare, but the selection and supervision of homes is to be carried on by the Ministry. These children will require outfitting at the time of placement and the families may need supplementary allowances or allotments to take care of the children. Children's clubs and kindergarten clubs should care for approximately 900,000. These will care for children after school hours, particularly those whose parents may be working or whose homes are unsuitable because of extremely bad living conditions due to bombing. Summer holiday camps and excursions the Ministry estimates should be provided for 700,000 children. This has been a function of the Department of Social Welfare, but may be developed under the supervision of the Ministry of Education.

The estimate of needs seems to have been made quite realistically. It includes furniture and equipment for homes for children. The existing homes are very limited in their equipment and the homes to be opened are in some instances completely unfurnished buildings. For these homes they quote the monthly rations, which the Ministry of Supply and Commerce agrees should be allotted, but indicate that the food requirements are not met at this time and that it is impossible to buy food supplies in the open market because of the prohibitive cost. They further indicate that since the children's homes take children mostly from the territories most destroyed by hostilities, their clothing needs are great. They submit a list of clothing and bedding needs. The Ministry recognises that a children's home should be equipped with a doctor's consulting room and dentist's surgery and that it is important that they have school supplies, games and handicraft supplies. The Ministry lists according to the 14 vojevodships of Poland, the children and young people living at home and requiring supplementary feeding in school. Including children from Kindergartens through professional schools and an estimate of those not attending schools, the total is 3,190,174. For these children in addition to supplementary feeding at school there are estimated requirements of clothing.

For holiday schools and after-school clubs their estimates are for furniture and games and recreation supplies as well as material for handicrafts. These estimates seem to be made on the basis of good thinking about the pedagogical and psychological needs of children who must be cared for by the state, since about 1 million of them are estimated to be orphans and half-orphans and the rest are truly poverty stricken.

Following a conference with the Vice-Minister of Education in which the foregoing summarised needs were discussed, trips were taken with 3 representatives of this Ministry.

About 50 miles north of Warsaw is an area - Makow - which was a battleground of the Russians and Germans for about 3 years. They moved across it first in one direction then in another. It is fairly typical of war-torn parts of Poland, although some sections are larger and reported to be in worse condition.

In this area the town has been badly bombed, however, there is a Welfare Office and some supplementation is given to those in the town. There is also a soup-kitchen for supplementary feeding in the home (the programme of the Department of Welfare in this town was not explored).

Homes of people living in the rural section near the town were visited. One of these was the small hut in which lived a shoemaker and his wife. The wife had been crippled since birth and the man had lost both legs in the war. The hut was small but homelike. Their chief difficulty lay in the fact that the shoemaker's tools had been lost during the fighting and he had been able to replace only a small number of them. Further in the country homes of people living in dugouts were visited. In one of these lived a young couple with two small children of 2 and 4 years. The mother was still nursing the younger one because their food supply was so low. The children had no shoes and stockings. This family had been in a D.P. camp in Germany and had gone back to Makow hoping to live in the small house that the man had had there. They found that it had been torn down by the Germans and the wood used to reinforce dugouts. Their present home was underground with the exception of one long, low window, high in the side of one wall. Three bunks and a table were built into the room. Cooking was done on a small square stove which would accommodate only one pot. Water had to be carried from a distance. The family tended to stay in bed to keep warm. The man at the time of the visit was ill with a severe cold but medical care was not available for him. The children had no clothes to let them go out during the winter. In spite of the circumstances under which they lived, they looked personally clean, although the hut was in disorder. The diet consists of potatoes and potato soup. As they are so far out in the country, they do not get supplementary aid because the welfare department do not have the facilities for distribution nor does the man have means of transport into town.

Another dugout which was similar, housed an elderly couple and their daughter a woman of about 35. The man is crippled and unable to leave his bed in the winter, although he sometimes gets about in the summer. The daughter seemed an inadequate, neurotic type of person, the woman seemed to keep the group going. She described with tears in her eyes the house which they had had, which was pulled down and used to make dugouts. She too, described the steady diet of potatoes and potato soup and said that their condition would become even worse; since the fields were still mined it was impossible to plant potatoes. She became optimistic about making the best of the place where they are and described in an amusing fashion the battles with the rats. While we were there, rats could be heard squeaking in the bunks built along the wall. Rats in these dugouts are a great menace. Those families that can, keep cats but it is often necessary for parents to take turns watching the babies at night to keep the rats from them.

Schools were then visited. In the town of Makow is a school for about 400 children which goes through 6 forms. The children come in 2 shifts; they are given supplementary feeding of very thin soup each day; they are learning from printed paper covered readers which were badly worn. Both the teaching equipment and the recreational equipment were almost non-existent. Here, as in other schools teachers reported a great eagerness to learn, and they told us that most of the children were covering 2 forms in the period previously allotted to one.

In one room the school principal asked how many children had received clothing from UNRRA and about half raised their hands. In another he asked how many had relatives in America and more than three-quarters raised their hands.

The school-house had been badly bombed and most of the repairs had been done by the school teachers. New desks were being made by a carpenter in one room of the building. The building is inadequately heated and very damp, with mildewed walls and stone floors. In spite of this and the overcrowding the children seem happy. The principal said that there are approximately 100 children in the neighbourhood unable to come to school because of lack of shoes.

A small rural school was next seen. This building is in extremely bad condition, but is gradually being repaired by the teacher. There is one man teacher who has 200 pupils in 2 shifts coming to him each day. He attempts to give them supplementary feeding, but at the time of our visit he had no supplies. He too, reported large numbers of children in the community who did not come because of lack of shoes. He pointed out several small children who walked 3 and 4 kilometres each day to school.

The teacher seems to be on excellent terms with the children. He had been ingenious about decorations and working without supplies. He told us that he and his wife and children live in a dugout similar to the ones described above.

A small one room school was also visited. This was in very bad repair with almost no equipment. By the time we reached there the children had gone home. On the same grounds was the best house in this ruined section near Makow. It was occupied by a young couple with two small children. To this home 40 pre-school children in the neighbourhood come each day. The local Department of Education sends trained teacher to work with the children in this warm place which is more suitable for them to remain in than in their own homes.

Another day, with these same representatives of the Ministry of Education, 2 institutions for the feeble-minded were visited. These were institutions run by nuns of the same orders (Benedictine or Samaritan nuns). The school for boys has 90 children from 8 to 15 years. Most of them are orphans and intelligence quotients range from 30 to 70. These orders of nuns have specialised in the care of the feeble-minded and run several other institutions. One is for boys 3 to 8 and another for feeble-minded with intelligence quotient below 50. They also have a trade school for boys over 15 and in this school the pupils remain for life unless they are able to be trained for life in a community.

All children are tested before being sent to the institutions and every 3 years thereafter. The nuns are alert, however, to the fact that some children may seem feeble-minded but may show marked development and should be tested more frequently. They recognise that the shock of war may have handicapped some children who are not actually feeble-minded. They attempt to make close observation therefore, and to shift the children according to their needs. In the institution for girls, for instance, is a child who appears about 1½ years old thin and anemic - actually she is four. She had been with the nuns for three months and they reported remarkable development as she had appeared lifeless when brought to them.

Much of what was said above was true of the girls school for the feeble-minded. This takes children from 3 to 18. Some of them remain there for life as there are very few considered suitable to go into the community. They have a pre-school department and 5 forms. The hand training and dressmaking for the older ones is especially stressed.

There are 90 girls, 30 nuns and 2 men to care for the grounds. There are 2 hectares of kitchen garden. The day before our visit the meals were:-

Breakfast	- Coffee and bread
Dinner	- Soup of grits and potatoes with meat occasionally on Sundays. This is supplemented for the little children by bread and marmalade.
Supper	- Bread and soup.

The boys' school had a similar menu, except that they indicated that they very rarely have meat. In January a small amount of margarine was obtained but the diet is especially short of fats. The average diet is 1300 calories a day in the boys' school although this occasionally rises to 1500 or 1800, and in the girls' school averages 1500 or 1800. Both of these institutions had received some UNRRA goods, such as 60 blankets, 20 beds and one UNRRA parcel for each 2 children at Christmas time. In the boys' school all but about 4 children slept in single beds. The beds, however, were extremely short. Both schools had some UNRRA clothing which was in extremely bad condition. The nuns were attempting to mend it.

In both schools there were some lay teachers. A good deal of stress was laid on learning through drawing, cutting and pasting, and building illustrations of the subjects which were under discussion. Each child seemed to have his own project rather than group projects, however. The children all seemed very happy and to have a nice relationship with the adults.

A school for normal boys was also visited. These children were from 3 to 17. These from 7 to 17 go out to school. Most of the 110 children in the school are orphans and half-orphans. 3 were boarding pupils at the rate of 800 zl a month. This school is run by 14 nuns with 2 maids and 2 men for outside work. The diet was much like that listed above, but there is usually meat on Sundays. The food comes from the Ministry of Supply, and 20 zl a day from the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. Here too, the beds were very short. The need for shoes,

overcoats and bedlinen which is always stressed in institutions, was again mentioned. Some of the children exchange their shoes with those who go to school on later shifts and some are unable to go at all because of lack of shoes.

Another institution that was visited is a particularly well-run one in a town about 20 miles from Warsaw. This is housed on a large confiscated estate. The grounds which are attractively landscaped run down to the Vistula River. The house is spacious but the furnishings very meagre. The home had been open about 4 months and the woman in charge had built up the equipment gradually. She had recently been given toys by a Swedish voluntary agency.

The children attend school on the premises. There was an extremely happy and informal relationship between the children and those in charge. Everyone, including the visitors ate together. Here meat is usually given twice a week. For dinner there was sour potato soup, brown bread and meat boiled with barley.

There are both boys and girls in the home. Rooms were not divided strictly according to ages. That is true of most of the Polish institutions which group small children with the larger ones.

Just outside the wall around the manor house are a number of small houses which had been for the workers on the estate. As the estate is not far from the neighbouring town it is planned to develop this into a social centre which will include outpatient medical care and hospital facilities for those in the community as well as the children of the institution.

The woman in charge had been for seventeen years on the staff of an institution for boys that had been considered one of Poland's best before the war. She is gradually introducing ideas of self-government to this new group. The children, for instance, made decisions about the new toys that were given, voting to keep some of them for future use and deciding how they should be distributed.

Most of the children had returned to their classrooms at the time our visit ended, but some asked to sing, and they all quite spontaneously left their classrooms and grouped themselves in the front hall and made a very nice chorus.

2. Welfare Department of the City of Warsaw.

The assistant director came to this office in the place of the Director of Social Welfare Section. She described the public Relief Department of the City of Warsaw.

Before the war it was customary to have grants of money to relieve applicants. This is now possible to only a limited extent as money is not available. Basic however is the theory that all should work who can as manpower is important. It is also thought that the average person is better emotionally when employed. For that reason workshops are being developed for those of limited capacity. For example even very old women are employed making paper bags for use in hospitals. All persons for whom no workshops have yet been organised get 100 zl. monthly, but this is determined on basis of individual need after social investigation.

As there are not as many jobs available as there are applicants for them, people are urged to leave Warsaw for unsettled areas particularly if they are not residents of Warsaw. Warsaw citizens may be given clothes and cash allowances averaging 500 zl. This also is done on individual basis following social investigation.

Within the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare there has been a department of Health and Social Welfare. This will ultimately be divided in 2 sections as there are now two Ministries namely the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. The Ministry of Health will control the Health Service.

Within the Department of Health and Social Welfare there are now the following sections:

- 1/ Health
- 2/ Social Welfare
- 3/ Holiday Homes
- 4/ Care of Mother and Child.

1/ Health Division operates hospitals, sanatoria and health resorts.

2/ Under the Social Welfare Division there is a supervisor of institutions for adults, a supervisor of institutions for children, a supervisor of Social Welfare Centres.

The Institutions for adults care for chronically ill, invalids and aged. The Institutions for Children consists of an emergency centre for children, a boarding home for boys who attend schools, an institute for difficult boys, "the child of Warsaw" home for Warsaw orphans, and the Home for bad tempered girls (the operation of these institutions has recently been taken over by the Department of Education, the buildings are owned by the municipality). The 10 Social Welfare Centres are located 6 in Warsaw, 4 in Prague, each has a manager. Services are offered to a/ Adults
b/ Children and Youth.

Services to adults are employment, clothing, workshops, money allotments for temporary needs such as during illness and for buying small tools to follow a trade, medical referrals and dental care, payment of hospital bills, distribution of cards for communal feeding by Voluntary Agencies, information and referral to Voluntary Agencies, legal aid (there are now 2 attorneys for 10 Centres, but in future there will be 5), referral to institutions for adults if necessary.

Services to children and youth may refer children to institutions, to creches and kindergartens. It gives money for school supplies for the children to schools (for preparatory schools children 50 zl. a month, older children 150 zl. a month). It also allots 600.000 zl. monthly for supplementary feeding through the schools. It gives clothes through the schools to the school children (since most school children need clothing it is thought that there is no stigma attached to this method of distribution), clothing for pre-school children is given directly to the mothers. It sends children to after-school centres specially those whose homes are in poor condition, or whose parents are working. It cooperates in referral to holiday camps.

3/ Holiday Homes. These are Summer camps operating for the purpose of vacation and health. This is a project for next summer but is not now operating. It may be taken over by the Ministry of Education.

4/ Care of Mother and Child. This is a division which operates creches for children up to 3 years of age. It is under the administration of a woman doctor. It was impossible for her to keep the appointment which was made with her, but her assistant, who is a doctor in the Polish Army and supervises the creches described the programme.

The City now supports 4 creches, which it completely staffs and cooperates with Caritas in running another one. 2 more creches are to be opened soon. They take children after the age of 3, and are particularly for children of working mothers. They now have 291 children in the 5 creches, with an average daily attendance of 175. They have had difficulty in finding locations in convenient neighbourhoods in buildings which are not too destroyed. Their supplies are very low; they never know ahead what they will be able to feed children. The caloric content which should average 2000 to 2300 averages 1700 daily. They have been able to average 10 g. of meat and 10 g. of sugar daily per older child. Medical supplies are also low. In some of the nurseries the equipment is very bad and in most of them they have only one diaper per child.

One creche was visited. Aside from lack of food supplies and toys which the administration itself is constantly worrying about, one would feel that this creche was run in the best possible manner. It is in charge of a young trained nurse who has three assistants working with the infants and for the older children one trained nursery school worker with two maids to assist her. There are 20 babies and 25 toddlers registered. The nurse has shown an unusual interest in the creche. She has made coverings and pinafores etc for each infant, painted the furniture and embroidered the clothing, so that the appearance is very attractive. The children's clothing is changed each day when they come. The infants have good cribs, beds for the older children are not so satisfactory, as they consist mainly of one piece of furniture partitioned into 5 sections. They are attractive looking as they had been painted and decorated, but actually the children are too close together. The nurse is well aware of this, however. A physician, in attendance for about 2 hours daily, is a very highly, elderly man, well liked by the children. The kitchen is well supervised both by him and the nurse. The menu is attractively framed each day for the mothers to see. It provides about 1700 calories for older children and 800 - 900 for the nursing babies or those who are so small that they must be fed at night. The toilet and bathing facilities were very limited for the care of so many small children, but every precaution is taken to use these as adequately as possible, although the extra work for the staff must be great. These creches do not by any means serve the whole of the city of Warsaw. Each factory employing more than 100 women must provide creches. These factory creches are

supervised from 3 angles : - first, the factory management, second, a representative of a trade union, and third a representative of the Department of Social Welfare.

Visits were made with the 3 representatives of the Department of Social Welfare of the City of Warsaw, to homes of people on their relief rolls.

In one a woman and her 7 years old son were living in a sub-cellar. It was necessary to go through a doorway filled with bricks and to climb down a brick staircase in bad condition, in absolute darkness, so that one had to go almost on hands and knees. They live in a room about 10 ft. square with a low ceiling. There is a bunk for the mother and table with a few personal things and the remains of foods. The boy sleeps in a straw-filled bunk which is suspended from the ceiling. Most of the room was occupied by a very dilapidated grand piano which was said to have fallen down several flights. A large cat protects them from rats. There is a small outlet for air and light, but the room is so dark that one could see almost nothing without a flashlight. The father had been a steadily employed man until the time of his death in 1939. The mother has told the boy to play the piano and he is now attending the Conservatory of Music and has participated in recitals. He was a small, pale, malnourished looking child with sores on his face, which probably come from malnutrition. The food is brought in from a nearby sub-kitchen. An allotment of approximately 100 zl. a month is given them. The Welfare Department is attempting to find better quarters for them and the mother says that she is thankful that they can live together.

Two homes on the banks of the Vistula were visited. These were families in dugouts similar to the ones described in Makow. They are somewhat better, however, because they are able to get a small allowance of supplementary food occasionally. Here, 7 people are living in one dugout. One man is at present unemployed because of war injuries.

Another home was that of a woman with a 6 years old feeble-minded child. The mother is also feeble-minded and an attempt is being made to separate her from the child. This home was reached by jumping through a cellar window and going down a flight of stairs in a dark corridor. It was impossible to do more than feel one's way. These people are living in the utmost poverty and misery. There were only a straw bed and a table on which was the soup pot from the neighbouring kitchen.

A soup-kitchen run by Caritas was visited. It was not the hour for distribution of food but the soup itself was cooking. It was not of the grade of the soup cooking in the next kitchen which was to feed permanent charges of Caritas - some elderly women who occupy one wing of the building. There are also quarters for housing 150 transient men, mostly repatriates. These beds fill up every night. Everything is in immaculate condition, although very simple.

The approaches to the homes described herein were very bad. All were in devastated sections of the City which are without lights and where water must be carried. In the "Old Town" which appears as a complete ruin, the Welfare Department estimates 6000 people to be living. It has also been estimated that 20000 people in Warsaw live in perilous conditions where they might easily be hurt by collapsing buildings.

It is interesting to note that of the 3 workers who accompanied us on these visits one is the supervisor from the Department in Warsaw. She is a graduate of the School of Social Welfare, formerly in Warsaw but now in Lodz. Another is head of a district office such as is described above. She also was a graduate of this School. The third had had no training. All have had many years experience. The salaries of these women run from 1200 to 1500 zl. a month.

Visits were made with a representative of the Department of Social Welfare and the Welfare Supply Officer of UNRRA to warehouses and to distribution centres. He has described these fully in a report. The clothing in the warehouses was sent to the Ministry of Supply as used clothing. Bales are opened before representatives of the Workers' Unions in order to make certain that nothing is stolen. Articles are counted before witnesses.

Several bales were opened in our presence, which contained women's clothing, men's clothing, 2/3 of which might be usable, and unmated shoes were in another box. Much of the material needed mending, and cleaning.

From this warehouse the things were transferred to distribution centres. One that was visited was for repatriates. One man who was being outfitted was given a very worn overcoat, but there were no shoes to offer him. The repatriates congregated in the hall complained as we passed about the condition of the clothing and the fact that now clothing is not distributed to them but sold on the market.

The other centre is one to which the clients of the Department of Welfare are sent with certified credentials. Here the things are extremely well sorted. There is a fitting room with a long mirror. The turnover of supplies at this point is rapid and seems to be efficiently handled. Attempts are made at distribution centres through the use of cards and letters which are signed, to prevent people from obtaining clothing from more than one place.

3. Committees

During the month the Sub-Committee of the Polish Voluntary Agencies was formed. This Sub-Committee is to concern itself with child care. The Chairman is a representative of the Ministry of Education and the secretary a representative of the Ministry of Social Welfare. UNRRA is represented as a member. One meeting was held at which constitution was submitted and adopted subject to approval of the larger committee of voluntary agencies. The representative from the Department of Health told of the congress on children which was held at Geneva last fall, at which the problems of child care in Poland had been of great interest. The height and weight of Polish children is worse than in any other country of Europe. The TB rate and the number of crippled and the vitamin deficiency is the highest. The mortality rate among children was reported to be as high as 40%. The psychological difficulties of the Polish children were also discussed and it was thought that they would be severe, as 75% of the children of Poland had lost near relatives or had been forced to leave their homes.

The Committee was interested in the principles of child care laid down at the Geneva conference, which were reported to them by the representative of the Ministry of Education. They asked that these should be made public.

It was stressed also that the general needs of children, which it was hoped will be more adequately met through the Ministry of Supplies and the foreign voluntary agencies, should be re-emphasised in this committee and that plans for child care from the long-range point of view be considered. Priority for special projects such as those dealing with psychological problems and delinquency might be discussed by this committee.

The sessions of the Committees of Polish Voluntary Agencies and Foreign Voluntary Agencies were also attended, but will not be commented on here, as it is only the Sub-Committee on Child Care which is the concern of this report.

Children Cannot Wait.

A few days ago, after his return from the Continent, Mr. Herbert Hoover stated that 5 million children in Poland are threatened by starvation. The figures below will illustrate best in detail the living conditions and the needs of Polish children.

Children and young people in Poland before 1939 (from 0 to 20 years of age) numbered 15 million, i.e. 43% of the whole population. At present, after the Germans had murdered 6 million Poles and after Poland had undergone territorial changes there remain only 8 million children i.e. 35% of total of 23 million Poles.

According to approximate estimates, losses among children up to 16 are as follows:

1,200 000 Polish children were lost by German persecutions and owing to war operations, 1939-1945 600 000 Jewish children were murdered, altogether 1,800 000 children up to the age of 16 were lost, i.e. as many as there are children between the ages of 0-13 years in Sweden.

The losses in children from 16-20 years of age are difficult to assess but they are very high.

Before the war, out of 15 million children only 42 617 were orphans and half-orphans who benefited from social welfare in orphanages and with foster-parents. Moreover 830 000 children benefited from meals provided from public funds; thus before the war, social welfare extended to some 880 000 children and young people. At present, despite the fact that the number of children is 50 % smaller than before the war, about 2,700,000 children have to be helped by social welfare. The number of orphans and half-orphans has increased, owing to war operations, to 1,146,900 children, and to this number 487,200 children must be added whose parents are still missing. The number of full orphans exceeded in 1945 the rate for 7 years olds almost six times, and the rate for 12-year-olds 4 times.

Of the enormous number of over 1 1/2 million of war orphans and half-orphans at least 300 000 children and young people will require complete care in living-in institutions and with foster-parents. In view of the fact that the number of existing Children's Homes has fallen almost by one half because of war operations and now numbers only 490 institutions as compared with 859 in 1939, Poland in the winter of 1945/46 had to face the problem how to house under existing conditions the great number of children deprived of shelter and care.

Poland needs a great number of well equipped Children's Homes, anti-tubercular hospitals, portable medicine chests, medical supplies, X-ray and diathermic apparatus, injections, vitamin and phosphorus preparations. The general health of Polish children after the war is, according to Mr. Hoover, appalling. 5 000 000 children are underfed and arrested in development because their daily ration of food just reaches 1 500 calories; infant mortality is about 50% and the average weight of newly born babies has fallen to 30% of the normal weight. 70% of Polish children suffer from vitamin deficiency and caries and the number of children between the ages of 0-14 years threatened with TB has increased to 60 %. Before the war, the rate of TB mortality in great cities was 15 persons for every 10 000 people, now it is 90. Over 100 000 children have active TB and glandular trouble affects 70 % school children. Children who have returned from German camps suffer as a rule from Pyodermitis, and many of them have to this symptoms of hunger oedema. There is in Poland a very considerable number of children, who lost both their arms or legs; All these children must be medically treated and well fed, while Poland has only 2 000 beds for children in hospitals. Owing to war devastation, the number of infant infirmaries fell from 700 before the war to 180. Out of the total number of 13 000 doctors in Poland before the war only 6 000 remain.

The children are underfed and sick, and in many cases completely exhausted by prolonged wanderings, confinement in concentration camps and forced labour. One must remember that throughout the six years of war, the caloric value of the rations allotted by the Germans was at first 660 later 385 calories a day, now it is about 1 500 while the daily ration of a British child amounts to 3 000 calories.

Despite exhaustion and underfeeding the moral attitude of Polish children is really excellent. The children are eager to learn; Young people wish to study and make good the time lost after the Germans had closed all secondary and academic schools in Poland. Yet children and young people alike lack the most essential things to help them to study: there are no homes, no school-buildings, no libraries, no school laboratories, no books, atlases or maps. Children and young people must travel long distances to school and in the winter months many have to get up at 4 or 5 o'clock in the morning to catch a suburban train. A large percentage of children have to study at night, by the light of a single flickering candle in half burned, damp lodgings in the ruins of Warsaw or Poznan.

This tragic situation of Polish children and young people demands a speedy and effective help from abroad. Poland, ruined and impoverished by the war, cannot save her children from hunger and physical exhaustion. At the same time she cannot assure them conditions for a normal development, she cannot remove them from the depressing sight of ruins and skeletons of houses. Yet children cannot wait. They grow and develop, not waiting for better times. Their infancy and childhood cannot be postponed, and consequently help for homeless and starving children cannot be given in instalments or spread over many years.

Help for the children must be forthcoming quickly, otherwise not only 5 million but all Polish children will face starvation and illness.

To sum up :

Polish children need in the first place:

1. fats and albuminous foods, cod liver-oil, milk, sugar.
2. medicines, tonic injections.
3. anti-scabies ointments, soap.
4. portable medicine chests, X-ray and diathermic apparatus, installations for anti-tubercular sanatoria and dental surgeries.
5. linen, towels, clothing, footwear, blankets.
6. school forms, physical and science laboratories, textbooks.

Polish children should also be able to rest during their holidays, to get away from the ruined cities, to lie in the sun on the beach or in the mountains, to learn to laugh again-learn the carefree laughter of childhood. After six years of forced labour, of fighting and wandering, they must be allowed at last to forget about the war and to become once more children.

While the war lasted, the world could not help Polish children. Today the position is changed. We must believe that the appeal made by Mr. H. Hoover will not pass into oblivion without raising an echo. Have Polish children survived this horrible, long war only to die of hunger in the first years of peace? !.

Help must come-speedy and effective help. We must remember:

Polish Children want to Live! Children cannot wait!

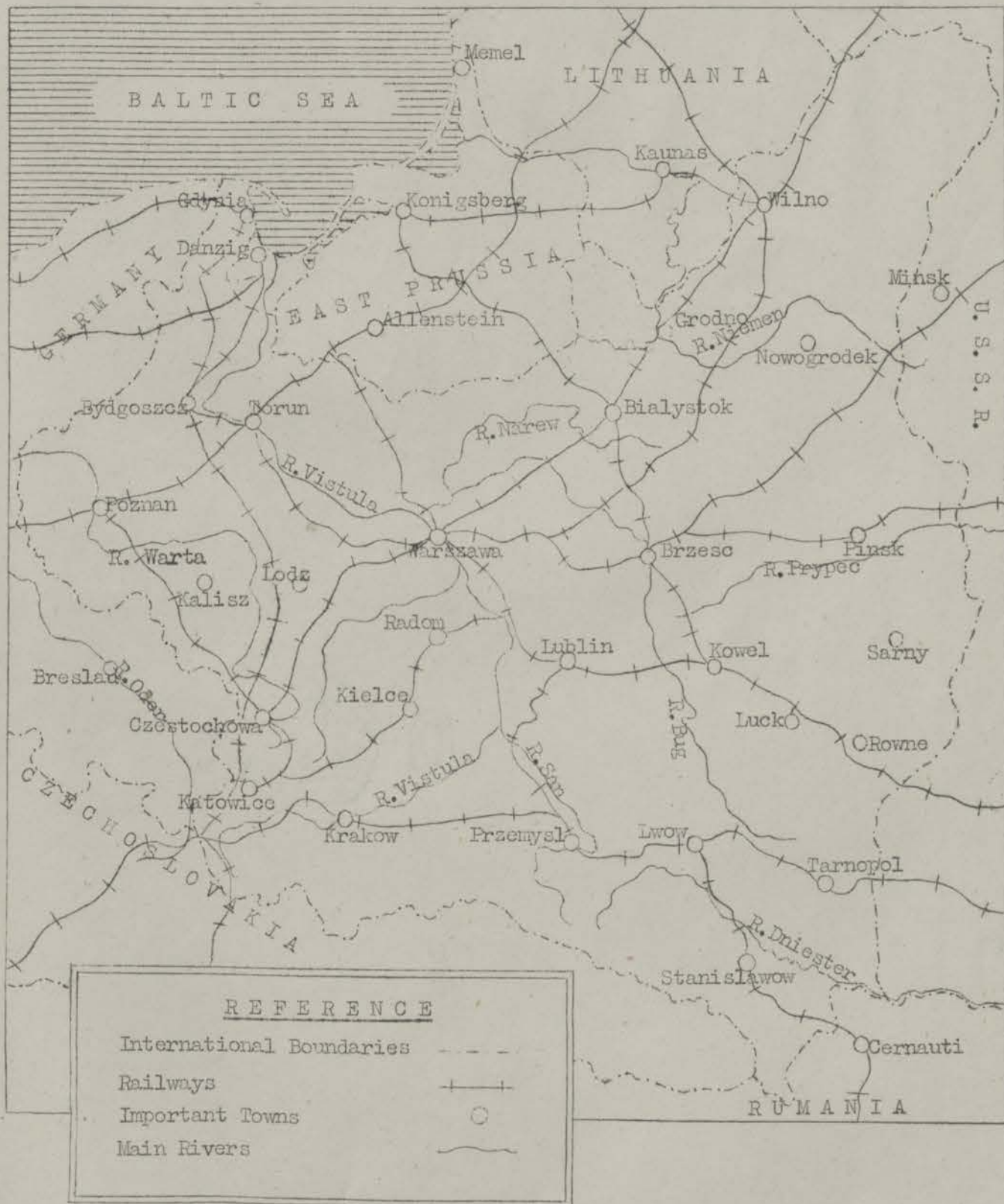
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POLAND

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

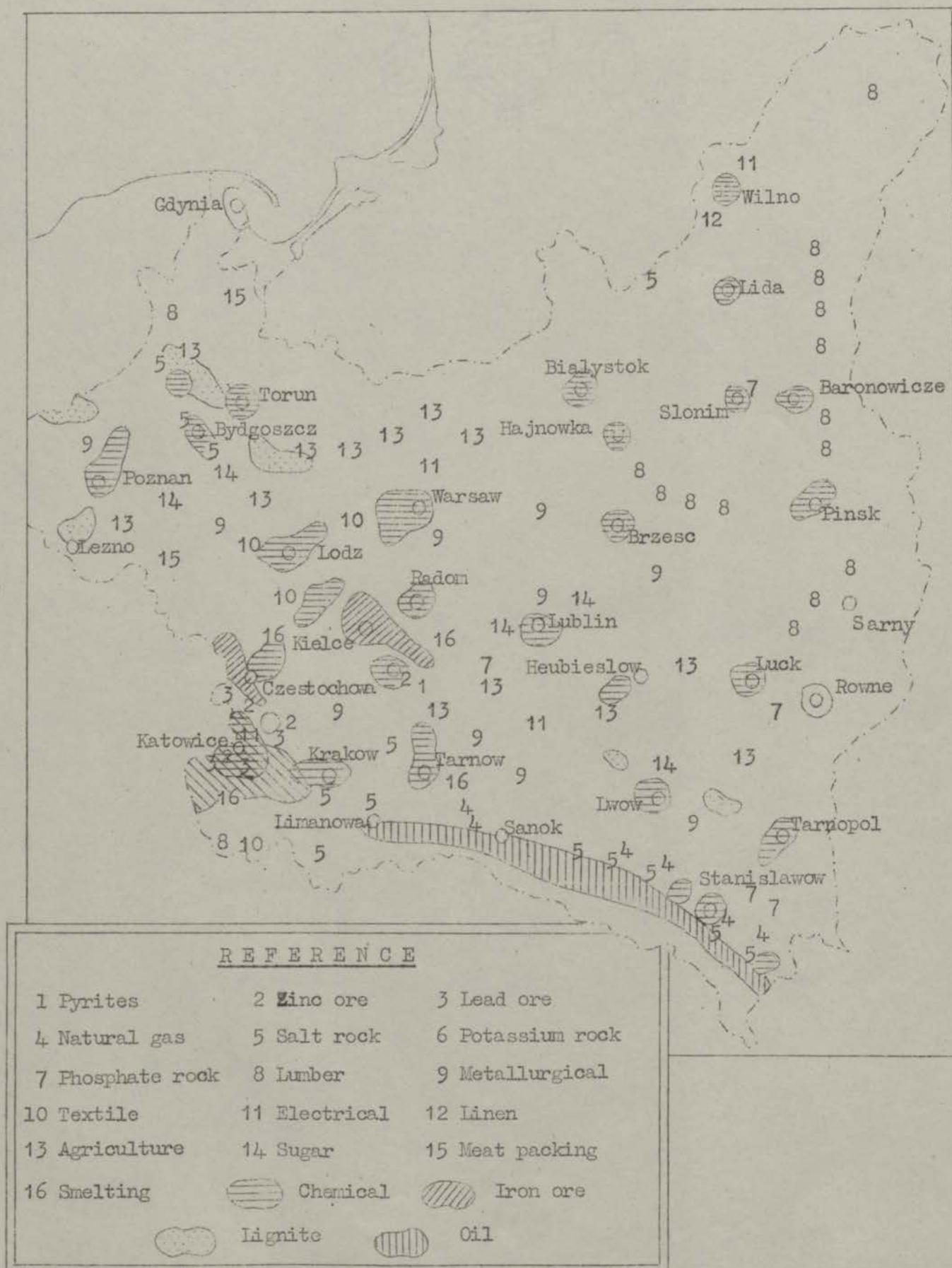
Important Towns
Main Railways

Main Rivers
International Boundaries



POLAND

MAIN SOURCES OF MINERAL WEALTH



WE 80/14/2

border on Polish
Mr Ambros
Mum

WE 38

Children's file

2A (1) POLAND - HO E (1)

WARSAW 18.30 9.2.46

Mrs Hall to see

Ambros

Interview with Mrs. John Eden

12 FEB 1946

Polish Children's Needs

Mrs. Eden is a very energetic person, and during her short stay here has seen and done more than a good many correspondents who never set foot outside their hotel. To start with, Mrs. Eden pointed out that she is not Mrs. Anthony Eden, but Mrs. John Eden, a relative of the former. She said: "I came to inquire into the well-being of Polish children, who need special care after the hard years of occupation. To form as full a picture as possible, I have visited almost the whole country. I am most deeply impressed by what used to be frontline areas. Despite the great and devoted endeavours of the authorities and the community, the children there are pale, anaemic and underfed - quite apart from the fact that they work like adults to retrieve all that can be saved from the ruins. During the difficult period through which this area passed they developed a considerable sense of social responsibility. Despite their own personal worries they help one another, and are particularly helpful towards orphans. Cracow was a pleasant contrast. Life on the surface seems normal; but look more closely, and you see the dogged everyday work the town is putting into the repair of its terrible wounds. Cracow is one of the major repatriation points. I saw the care given to people who return, often without anything. I was particularly moved by the sight of children returning from German concentration camps. Our most urgent task will be to help the Polish authorities and institutions to care for these youthful victims of Nazi bestiality.

I came back to Warsaw by another route and visited another part of Poland, which seems much less devastated. Warsaw itself is a separate chapter altogether. I have seen the destruction in Germany, and I have seen Berlin. The difference is of a different order. The destruction of Warsaw is incomparably greater, but on the other hand the resilience with which Warsaw has sprung back to life cannot be compared with the dull depression of German cities. I do not say this out of compassion for the Germans - quite on the contrary, I want to see these barbarians, who wanted to raze your capital to the ground, clear away its debris with their own hands.

My general impression is one of great heroism in reconstruction, and it is precisely because of this that I want to help you. I shall return to Poland in May at the latest, and I shall not come empty-handed. People in Britain do not realise the difficulties with which Poland is wrestling. It will be my task to give an unbiased picture of the situation, and to stress the need for aiding Poland's children in particular. The International Association for Child Welfare is an institution that plans on a broad scale, and offers other things beside charity. We want children of various nationalities to get closer together, and to open an entirely new world to their interests. Personal contact always yields excellent results. The eager imagination of the child absorbs certain new impressions much more easily than that of an adult. Lifelong friendships are made in kindergartens, all the stronger since certain national divergencies are attractive to the child. These children, who learn to love their foreign fellows, will one day become the best spokesmen of peace."

(Interviewer: Danusia Witczak.)

WARSAW 18.40 9.2.46

14. POLISH RADIO DELEGATION LEAVES FOR MOSCOW Warsaw: The Polish radio delegation, headed by W. Billig, director of the Polish radio, left Warsaw for Moscow today. Other delegates are Janickowski, head of the Information Department, and Prof. R. Jasinski, head of the music department.

16. TU COUNCIL ROMA HALL MEETING SUNDAY Warsaw: The Trades Union Council will hold a meeting in the Roma Hall tomorrow. Report will be given on the debates of the Executive of the Trades Union Central Committee. Wages, supplies, and methods of carrying out the Council's decisions will be discussed. Witaszewski, the chairman, and Rusinek, the Secretary General, will speak.

20. USA METHODIST BISHOP IN WARSAW Warsaw: Paul (?Graber), Bishop of the Methodist Church, has arrived in Warsaw from the USA. He will preach two sermons in Warsaw.

WARSAW 21.45 9.2.46

2. KOSCIUSZKO BICENTENARY: BIERUT, ZYMIERSKI TELEGRAPH TRUMAN, EISENHOWER
Warsaw: On the bicentenary of the birthday of Tadeusz Kosciuszko, President Bierut sent the following telegram to President Truman: "On the bicentenary of the birthday of Tadeusz Kosciuszko, hero of both our countries, I should like to assure you that the Polish nation is with the US nation in a joint effort to realise the ideals of democracy for which Tadeusz Kosciuszko fought throughout his life on two continents."

Marshal Zymierski sent the following telegram to Gen. Eisenhower: "On the bicentenary of the birthday of Tadeusz Kosciuszko, the great hero of both our countries I have the honour to convey to you on behalf of the reborn democratic Polish Army its sincere soldierly greetings to the valiant armies of the USA, together with its assurances of that fellowship in arms which is for ever incarnate in the name of Tadeusz Kosciuszko."

WARSAW 23.00 9.2.46

Polish Press Agency (PAP) Dictation Speed Bulletin

20. TU CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S MESSAGE TO CITRINE Warsaw: The Praesidium of the Polish TU Central Committee sent this message to Sir Walter Citrine, Chairman of the British TUC: "In the second half of January the MP Savory asked the British Government about the political murders in Poland. Bevin's reply showed that he too, had been misled by false information. We possess indisputable proof that the Anders Army, at present in Italy and Egypt is responsible for the political murders in Poland. The victims include hundreds of Polish politicians, officers and men of the Polish Army, officials of the Civic Militia and the Security Corps, trade unionists and many Jews saved from the Hitlerite slaughter. The Anders army is a part of the British Army and despite repeated demands by the Government of National Unity the command of this unit has not yet been transferred to the sole legal Polish authority recognised by all states, the Government of National Unity. Instead of condemning these criminals, who, as the Nuremberg trial has revealed, remained in close contact with the German occupiers in Poland, Bevin suggested that these crimes had been committed by the organs of the Ministry of Public Security. This declaration, directed against the Polish security organs, coincided with the activities of certain reactionary cliques in Poland intended to discredit and abolish the Ministry of Public Security, which has suffered grievous losses in the struggle against the reactionary elements, 1,500 of its officials being murdered by the MSZ gangs. We note with satisfaction that a number of newspapers, including the 'Tribune' have condemned the Anders army. In the name of the mutual interests of the working masses of our two countries and in accordance with the statute of the World Federation of Trade Unions, we appeal to you for help in combating the clique of Polish Fascists in the Anders army."

23. KRN COMMITTEE MEETINGS: DATES Warsaw: Communique of the Press Bureau of the KRN (National Council of the Homeland): The Executive Office of the KRN announces that the Deputies' Committees will meet as follows: 12th February, Culture and Art Committee; 13th February, Administration and Security Committee; 14th February, Industry Committee; 15th February, Communications Committee and Legal and Statutory Committee.

25. POLES INVITED TO OXFORD ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONGRESS Warsaw: The Committee of the International Congress of Anthropological Science, to be held in Oxford in April, has invited Polish scholars who took part in the last pre-war Congress in Copenhagen to attend.

Press Review

"Glos Ludu" stresses that the National Councils, which form the basis of Poland's democratic system and the link between the KRN and the people, "should play a decisive role in the fight for our regeneration, for the purging of our State apparatus of all harmful and hostile elements."

The Minister of Industry, Minc, explained the principles of the decree presented to the National Council on the nationalisation of basic branches of national economy. This measure he described as equally important as the Land Reform Bill, and in defence of the decree he maintained that one year of industry in Poland without the participation of foreign capital afforded "ample proof that speedy reconstruction can be achieved only on the basis of a plan set up by the State." The capitalist element brought "crisis, chaos and unemployment," and the new Bill would "free the working masses from capitalist exploitation." He went on to point out, however, that industrial expropriation would be accompanied by adequate compensation, for "our economic changes have not the character of a socialist revolution." Another reason for the payment of compensation, said Minc, "is our wish for a speedy re-establishment of relations with the Western countries."

A fuller version of the Minister's speech was contained in a later broadcast (23.00), together with his remarks on a collateral Bill for "the protection of private enterprise." This, he said, provided for the protection of the smaller factories, handicrafts and agriculture, only the larger concerns

WE 80/8/2

File

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3/1/46 children - Poland

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The Health of Polish Children:

A talk from Warsaw (18.30) referred to "the very unsatisfactory state of health among Polish children," and it was said that "because of the present difficult living conditions, we are afraid that the general state of children's health will be greatly affected in the future." Part of the infantile diseases had been "due to the deliberate action of the Germans," and life in cellars and shelters, together with the shortage of doctors and nurses, had also been responsible. "Foreign countries are giving some help, especially Sweden. The UNRRA supplies also play an important role, and U.S. and British representatives are showing a great interest."

FRANCE: ITALY: SPAIN

Extensive Press and radio comment on the "crisis" in the French Assembly over the Army estimates was broadcast from Radio Paris. Pierre Jarry, in his "editorial," said that anyone who "looked at the letter only" of the debate would

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OUTGOING CABLE

L.

ORIGINATOR: MR. BRYAN

LONDON.....TO.....WASHINGTON

No. 5540
(EN CLIR).

D: 1900 hours 29th October 1945.

IMMEDIATE.

Salisbury from Bryan.

Following is first story from Warsaw, author Patricia Shaw Jones.
Pix following.

".. hostel for destitute Polish children, who are otherwise homeless and roam the streets of Warsaw day and night, is run by the Social Welfare Department of the City.

The first distribution to the children of bundles of clothing from UNRRA, took place there on October 25th. The consignment had arrived a few days previous to this but the children, in spite of their privation, waited a little longer in their tattered, filthy rags for the special UNRRA Mission plane to arrive from England so that representatives of UNRRA would be there to take photographs. They did this voluntarily, and because the mere sight of UNRRA personnel is an event of almost as great importance in Poland as the actual relief received.

Our reception by these children underfed, lice ridden, lacking homes, families, personal friends, and many until that day with nowhere but the streets of Warsaw in which to spend their days and nights, was royal. They knew that UNRRA was coming, and UNRRA is just the epitome of Father Christmas to the children of Poland. Quite spontaneously - even the superintendent of the Hostel was not in on the secret - they had managed to find two tiny paper flags, the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes, and garlands of autumn leaves with which to decorate the doorway through which we entered the building.

Mostly barefooted and often shirtless and wearing only thin trousers or skirts, boys and girls from about five to fourteen years old, stood around us beaming with delight and staring entranced at our uniform and UNRRA flashes.

Upstairs we watched a transformation scene take place in two rooms piled high with UNRRA clothes. To step out of their clothes took them only a moment. Perhaps a skirt and the remnants of a blouse was all that had to be removed. Dressing took longer. A warm vest and knickers, shoes and socks for perhaps the first time in their lives, a pretty frock and a coat that was both large enough and warm took the place of the two cast off garments. From time to time, when they were finally dressed, a little boy or girl would approach us, delightedly point at themselves in their new clothes and say, "UNRRA." - the one word that everyone could understand.

The present Hostel buildings, which once comprised the most beautifully equipped and organised Children's Home in Poland, housing between three and four hundred boys and girls, still stand and are in a fairly efficient state of repair. They can now only house, however, and that in a spartan

/fashion

fashion about a hundred of these children, apart from one wing which is used for a babies' crèche. All the fittings and furniture were removed by the Germans, the heating system no longer exists, and medical treatment and cooking are carried out under conditions of great difficulty by a small but tremendously enthusiastic staff.

A 12 year old girl, Anna Maslanka and her brother Waldemar had been brought into the shelter of the Hostel the day before we arrived. Their mother and father were both killed and they themselves, taken to Germany during the early days of the Warsaw Rising. Waldemar was put to work in a factory, and Anna sent to a camp. They found their own way back to Warsaw, walking the first 120 miles, and getting lifts in farm wagons, trucks and cars for the rest of the way. When first we saw him, Waldemar was wearing the remnants of a German paratrooper's jacket, no shirt, shoes or socks and a pair of trousers split open from knee to ankle. He and Anna appeared to be quite cheerful and philosophical about their plight, but chiefly ashamed at the appearance of their rags rather than perturbed at the fact that they were still footsore and cold. They smiled at us, along with all the other children, and before we left both were warmly clad and shod in UNRRA's clothes, and laughing and talking together over their wonderful good fortune.

They will stay, as is the rule, for three weeks at the Hostel, and if by then they do not show signs of any infectious disease, will start on the last part of their long journey, to a permanent orphanage in Silesia or Pomerania. All the children travel eventually to the Western Provinces, a matter of over two hundred miles, in the back of open lorries, as the winter draws on their journey will become a very cold one.

All these children are suffering from varying degrees of malnutrition, and many have lived the life of tramps for longer than they can remember. None of those we saw receiving UNRRA clothes had known care and kindness and a roof over their heads for more than three weeks - many for only a few hours or days. In spite of this the Hostel was a very cheerful and noisy place, and the high spirits and gaiety of the children memorable.

There are seven million other orphans in Poland, waiting for UNRRA's help. Their most urgent needs are for food and clothing and medical supplies."

LLR/LA

Miss Branscombe

WE 80/18/2

DOCUMENTS APPERTAINING TO THE OCCUPATION OF POLAND.

MEMORANDUM FROM POLAND CONCERNING THE SITUATION OF
CHILDREN UNDER GERMAN OCCUPATION.

LONDON
POLISH MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
JANUARY 1944.

Wygod

POLISH MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

LONDON, 2nd. January 1944.

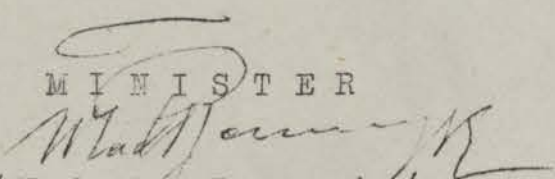
The Polish Government received from Poland in the middle of December a Memorandum concerning the situation of children in the occupied Poland.

Thus presenting the text of the Memorandum to all of these of the Allies who might be interested in it I venture to express the following remarks:

- a/ The Memorandum has been prepared by the Social Welfare Office of the Polish Underground Organisation inside Poland with the collaboration of the experts.
- b/ The text of the Memorandum was translated in English textually.

The Polish Government wishes to point out that the German Authorities having directed several forms of persecution especially against the youth of Poland, the position of the youngest generation becomes one of most important problems out of all other created by the German occupation.

MINISTER


/Władysław Banaczyk./

C O N T E N T S .

F O R E W O R D

T A B L E S I-VI

M E M O R A N D U M

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3. Clothing	13.
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6. Deportations	14.
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2. Clothing relief	23.

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Statistics concerning the requirements of the human body - for 1/calories, 2/albumen, 3/ fats, 4/carbohydrates - according to various age-groups, during a period of 24 hours/based on Kestner and Knipping data/.

Age	Weight	Amount of calories required	Amount of carbo- hydra- tes reqd.	Amount of fats requi- red	Albumen required per 1 kg of total weight	Albumen for the whole orga- nism	Calorific value of albumen in % of the total calorific requirements in %
	in kg.	in cal.	in g.	in g.	in g.	in g.	
at 8 months	8.5	715	59	41	2.8	24	13.6
" 3 years	14	1.040	142	36.5	2	28	"11.1
" 10 "	28	1.680	260	39	1.5	42	"10.2
" 15 "	45	2.025	315	49	1.5	65	"13.6
" 20 "	70	3.400	525	98	1.2	84	"10.1
"40 /man/	70	3.000			0.8	56	8.-
Standards adopted by the Warsaw Statistics Dept for each inhabitant							
		2.602	475.2	45.4		61.4	
Standards stipulated by the British Academy as the average for 1 person							
		3.300	500	100		100	
Standards stipulated by Voit as the average per person							
		2.976	500	56		118	
Calorific value calculated, taking the calorific value of carbohydrates at the calorific value of fats at " " " albumen at							
							= 4.0
							= 9.0
							= 4.0

kg.-kilogrammes
g -grammes
cal -calories

TABLE II. CALORIFIC VALUE OF THE FOOD RATIONS.

Food articles	for children up to 3 years of age				For children	
	German children ration for 28 days		Polish children ration for 30 or 31 days		German children ration for 28 days	
	kg.	cal.	kg.	cal.	kg.	cal.
Rye bread/220/	-	-	2.800	= 6.100	5.000	= 11.000
wheat " /270/	5.400	= 14.580	-	-	2.500	= 6.750
flour /360/	1.500	= 5.400	0.400	= 1.440	1.00	= 3.600
Macaroni and cereals/360/	1.500	= 5.400	0.400	= 1.440	1.500	= 3.400
meat & ham /150/	1.200	= 1.800	0.400	= 600	2.400	= 3.600
fats, butter & olive oil /800/	1.000	= 8.000	-	-	1.200	= 9.600
eggs/74/	8 eggs=	592	4 eggs=	296	12 eggs=	888
full cream milk/67/	32 pints=	1:072	instead of meat	-	8 pints=	268
skimmed milk /37/	-	-	16 pints=	296	8 pints=	148
cheese/200/	-	-	-	-	0.400	= 800
jam/220/	1.000	= 2.200	0.240	= 528	1.000	= 2.200
sugar and sweets/400/	1.250	= 5.00	0.100	= 400	1.600	= 6.400
potatoes/86/	20.000	= 17.200	10.000	= 8.500	30.000	= 25.800

Total:
calorific
value of
the food-
rations

61.244 ration
including
meat ..19.464
ration
incl.
eggs. 19.160

76.454

TABLE II.

between 3-10 years of age

For children over 10 years of age

POLISH children ration for 30 or 31 days		German children ration for 28 days		Polish children ration for 30 or 31 days	
kg.	cal.	kg.	cal.	kg.	cal.
2.800	= 6.160	7.200	= 15.840	4.200	= 9.240
-	-	1.800	= 4.860	-	-
0.400	= 1.440	1.275	= 4.590	0.400	= 1.440
0.400	= 600	1.000	= 3.600	-	-
0.400	= 600	2.400	= 3.600	0.400	= 600
-	-	1.200	= 9.600	-	-
4 eggs	= 296	12 eggs	= 888	4 eggs	= 296
-	-	16 pints	= 296	-	-
-	-	0.400	= 800	-	-
0.240	= 528	0.800	= 1.760	0.240	= 528
0.100	= 400	1.600	= 6.400	0.200	= 800
10.000	= 8.600	30.000	= 25.800	10.000	= 8.600
ration incl. meat 19.168		78.034		Ration incl. meat 2.208	
ration incl. eggs. 18.864				ration incl. eggs. 2.904	

FOOD ISSUED UNDER THE RATIONING SCHEME

Food issued	Children under 3 years of age								Children between 3-10			
	German- for 28 days				Polish 30-31days				German-for 28 days			
	total	albu-	fats	Car-	To-	alb.	fat.	carb.	To-	albu-	fats.	
		men		boh	tal				tal	men		
	kg.	g.	g.	g.	kg.	g:	g.	g.	kg.	g.	g.	
Rye bread	-	-	-	-	2.800	154	14	1.315	5.000	275	25	
wheat "	5.400	367	27	3.121	-	-	-	-	2.500	170	12	
flour	1.500	165	23	1.095	0.400	44	6	292	1.00	110	15	
macaroni												
& cereals	1.500	165	23	1.095	0.400	44	6	292	1.000	165	23	
meat & ham	1.200	240	96	5	0.400	80	32	2	2.400	480	192	
fats, butter												
olive oil	1.000	5	900	5	-	-	-	-	1.200	6.1	80	
eggs	8 eggs	45	42	2	4 eggs	22	21	1	12 eggs	67	64	
					instead							
					of meat							
full cream										14	14	
milk	32 pints	54	58	77	-	-	-	-	8 pints			
skimmed						30						
milk	-	-	-	-	16 pints	2		38	8 "	15	1	
cheese	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.400	80	60	
jam	1.000	5	-	600	0.240	1	-	144	1.000	5	-	
Sugar &												
sweets	1.250	-	-	1.247	100	-	-	99	1.600	-	-	
potatoes	20.000	360	40	3.720	10.000	180	20	1.860	30.000	540	60	
<hr/>												
Total:												
calorific												
value of												
the ration												
issued to												
German												
children		1.208										
in grammes	1.406			10.968						1927	154	
<hr/>												
Total												
calorific												
value of												
the ration												
issued to												
Polish												
children												
in grammes												
including meat						533	80	4.044				
" eggs						475	69	4.043				

TABLE III.

ACCORDING TO THE VARIOUS INGREDIENTS

years of age					Children over 10 years of age								
Polish-for 30-31 days					German-for 28 days				Polish for 30/31				
carbo- hydrat:	Total	albu- men	fats	carboh.	Total	alb.	fat.	carb.	Tot.	alb.	fat.	carb.	
g	kg	g	g	g	kg.	g	g	g.	kg.	g.	g.	g.	
2.350	2.800	154	14	1.316	7.200	396	36	3.384	4.200	231	-	-	
1.445	-	-	-	-	1.800	122	9	1.040	-	-	-	-	
730	0.400	44	6	292	1.275	140	19	9.931	0.400	44	6	292	
1.095	0.400	44	6	292	1.000	110	15	230	-	44	6	292	
10	0.400	80	32	2	2.400	480	192	10	0.400	80	32	2	
6	-	-	-	-	1.200	6	1.080	6	-	-	-	-	
4	4 eggs inst. of meat	22	21	1	12 egg.	67	63	4	4 eggs instead of meat	22	21	1	
19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
19	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
12	-	-	-	-	16 pints	2	38	-	-	-	-	-	
600	0.240	1	-	144	0.400	80	60	12	-	-	-	-	
1.596	0.100	-	-	99	1.600	-	-	1.597	0.200	-	-	199	
580	10.000	180	20	1.860	30.000	540	60	5.580	10.000	180	20	1.860	

13.466

1556
1975 13.812

503 78 4.005
446 67 4.005

580 85 4.763
523 74 4.763

TABLE IV.

4-weekly or monthly ration	Albumen expressed in grammes	Fats dtto.	Carbohydrates dtto.	Calorific value expressed in calories.
<u>Children up to 3 years of age:</u>				
German - ration for 28 days including meat and eggs	1,006,4	1,208	10,967,7	61,244
Polish - ration for 30 or 31 days including meat eggs	532,8 475,2	79,6 68,8	4,043,8 4,043,4	19,464 19,160
<u>Children between 3-10 years of age:</u>				
German - ration for 28 days including meat & eggs	1,926,6	1,545,8	13,466	76,454
Polish - ration for 30 or 31 days including meat eggs	503,2 445,6	78 67,2	4,00r,4 4,005	19,168 18,864
<u>Children over 10 years of age:</u>				
German- ration for 28 days including meat & eggs	1,975,5	1,536,3	13,811,6	78,034
Polish- ration for 30 or 31 days including meat eggs	580,2 522,6	85 74,2	4,763,2 4,762,8	21,208 20,904.

Daily ration	Albumen		Fats		Carbohydrates		Calorific value	
	g	in % of rations issued to German children	g	in % of rat. issued to German child.	g	in % of rations issued to German children	cal	in % of rations issued to German children.

Children up to 3 years of age:								
German children....	50,2	100	43,1	100	391,7	100	2,187	100
Polish children /ration including milk and meat/.....	17,8	35	2,7	6	134,5	34	647	30

Children between 3 -10 years of age:								
German children	68,8	100	55,2	100	480,9	100	2,480	100
Polish children /ration including meat	16,8	24	2,6	5	133,5	28	639	26

Children over 10 years of age:								
German children	70,6	100	54,9	100	493,3	100	2,787	100
Polish children /ration including meat/	19,3	27	2,8	5	158,8	32	707	26

TABLE VI.

Daily ration	Albumen		Fats		Carbohydra- tes		Calorific value	
	grammes		g		g		cal.	
	in % of theore- tical standards		in % of theore- tical stand- ards		in % of there- tical standards		in % of theoretical standards	
Children up to 3 years of age:								
according to theoretical standards	28	100	36,5	100	142	100	1.040	100
German children	50,2	179	43,1	118	391,7	276	2,187	210
Polish children /meat ration/	17,8	64	2,7	7	134,5	95	647	62
Children between 3 - 10 years of age:								
according to theoretical standards	35,5	100	27,5	100	237	100	1,480	100
German children	68,8	183	55,2	147	480,9	203	2,731	185
Polish children /meat ration/	16,8	45	2,6	7	133,5	56	639	43
Children over 10 years of age:								
according to theoretical standards	65	100	49	100	315	100	2,025	100
German children	70,6	109	54,9	112	493,3	157	2,787	138
Polish children /meat ration/	19,3	30	2,8	6	158,8	50	707	35

NOTE: Theoretical standards were given according to Kestner and Knipping:

- 1/ for children up to 3 years of age - an average for children of 2,8 - 2,11 years,
- 2/ for children between 3 and 10 years of age - the average for children of 6,8 - 7,6 years,
- 3/ for children over 10 years of age - average for children of 15.

THE FOOD SITUATION.

We begin with the problem of the starving of Polish children, the administration of Polish property which the enemy has confiscated and is using for his own purposes, persuading the German citizen as well as the whole world that the crops are divided fairly, justly, in a word-perfectly.

The food situation of the Polish children and youth is closely connected with the introduction of the rationing system in the General Government by the German authorities. The so-called justice of this rationing system lies in the fact that for the German population, which is rationed as well - there must be everything - even more than is required for normal and healthy existence, while for the Poles there is only a small part of essential food, reduced to a minimum or even completely withdrawn in periods of economic depression, such as in the last weeks before the new harvest.

Then it must also be stressed that the rationing system applies only to a certain part of the population of the General Government, namely to the population of the towns and - theoretically - to peasants who have no land of their own and small farmholders. The remaining part of the Polish population, especially the vast majority of the peasant class is not only omitted from the rationing scheme of food products but, on the contrary, is forced to deliver excessive quotas of farm products. These quotas, in the vast majority of instances, are much more than their farms can actually produce, so that, in consequence, every year the peasants of Poland starve during the last weeks before the new harvest is gathered in. This period which in some, less fertile, parts of Poland - in the highlands and the hilly districts - begins as early as March, has often led to death from starvation, which doctors were obliged to notify as the cause of death. The first victims of starvation are usually those with the weakest constitution and the least resistance - namely old people and small children. Though doubtless nearly always insufficient - the food Polish peasant children receive cannot be now described in detail nor can it be supported by any statistics, which would give an unbiased picture of the food situation of peasant children living in less fertile or very densely populated districts. Only the results of constant or at least periodical - spring and summer-time starvation, results shown by the above mentioned cases of death caused by underfeeding - the death rate among children which is growing alarmingly and the numerous cases of tuberculosis among the young generation can be given in detail later in this memorandum.

The position is different concerning the description of the food situation of children living in towns and those whose parents do not own any land, since such children are included into the rationing scheme. Having a knowledge of the rations allocated to Polish children, the quantity and food value of these rations and comparing them with data of physiology, which determine the minimum requirements of a

MEMORANDUM.

PART I. The plight of children in Poland.

As an inevitable result of war children always suffer and war is responsible for the breaking up of families and a serious decrease of population too. Post-war conditions among healthy nations soon make good these losses thus giving a guarantee of an adequate growth of the population of the given community. But-never before has history known such well organised and well-planned methods for the destruction of a nation from its very foundations, as those introduced against the Polish nation during the present war by the Nazis, by means of a systematic annihilation of the very backbone of the nation- the Polish children.

Even while preparing for war the Nazi authorities did everything within their power to eliminate all humane feelings that might have existed for the Polish nation among the citizens of the Reich. They did everything to incite hate and a thirst for revenge against their eastern neighbour, whose territories were to serve to augment the "Lebensraum" of the Reich and whose people were to be annihilated or converted into a race of slaves, with no will of their own.

All this was done by every possible means of propaganda, in the press and on the wireless, by the systematic hammering of a new conception of the world into the hearts of all members of youth- and party-organisations -where it was expedient to destroy the Polish nation. The most important part was played by films of a lying and crude character in which the Germans accused the Poles of mass crimes committed on the German minorities on Polish territory, of crimes, which had to be avenged on the entire nation, i.e.including Polish women and children.

While the new regime did everything within its power to foster eugenic regulations among its own people to assure an increase of its population, and to create suitable conditions for the normal physical development for the young generation - as far as Polish children were concerned it has applied since the very outbreak of the war all conceivable methods of destruction possible, always inventing new and more effective means to frustrate the desperate efforts of the Polish people fighting to keep their children and youths alive. Conscious of their purpose and consistent in their action the German authorities carry out their work of destruction: those who did not perish from bombs and bullets, of cold and starvation, and prison tortures, those who have not renounced their nationality - are to waste away both morally and physically and to have their spirit broken once and for all.

This is the background of the plight of children and youth on Polish territories. The enemy is waging war against Polish children ruthlessly with no concern for moral laws or human feelings. What methods he has chosen and what means he employs in order to achieve his purpose - can be seen from a number of facts which are proved beyond doubt.

child's organism at various ages, we are able to form an unbiased opinion as to whether the food the Polish children receive on their rations is sufficient and if not - to what an extent and in what respect.

While looking into this matter it is not sufficient to ascertain whether the food allocated to the children on their ration is sufficient in quantity; it must also be established whether it is sufficient in quality, i.e. whether it introduces into the organism all the chemical combinations which form the essential body-building materials for a child's organism so that it may develop and grow properly.

While in a full-grown man the requirements of his energy-forming elements can be satisfied mainly by means of carbohydrates and fats, and the supply of albumen can be reduced - for a growing child albumen and vitamins are of primary importance. A child requires a much greater proportion of albumen in its food than an adult.

On Table I, attached to the text, we give a comparative statement in figures according to Kestner and Knipping /H.Schall-Nahrungsmitteltabelle - 1941/ of the requirements of the human organism at various ages, calculated for 24 hours and concerning energy-forming food, expressed in calories, as well as the quantities of various staple foods required by our organism such as: carbohydrates, fats and albumen/expressed in grammes/. Besides this we give data concerning the problem of the body's requirements according to other sources; by comparing these data we note that opinions regarding the requirements of the human body, especially as far as albumen is concerned, vary considerably. We also note that the standards stipulated by Kestner and Knipping are very low when compared with other sources - especially with the well-known ones of the English Academy.

Thus if we take these data given by Kestner and Knipping as a basis for judging the sufficiency or insufficiency of the food-stuffs allocated to the Polish population, especially to our children, we cannot possibly be accused of too great demands, as far as the amount of allocations is concerned. On the contrary, we fear that we are asking too little, regarding the food requirements, for our children, especially as far as albumen is concerned, which is prescribed in such small quantities by Kestner and Knipping.

On the following tables we have given comparative data relating to:

The amount of calories allocated - in calories	-Table II
The amount of various components allocated	
/carbohydrates, fats, albumen/ in grammes	-Table III
issued for periods of <u>one month</u> , i.e. 30 or 31	
days for Polish children of various age groups,	
and <u>4 weeks</u> i.e. 28 days for German children	
of the same age-groups.	

The age-groups were given according to respective food-cards issued to German children of different ages, i.e.,
a/to children up to 3 years of age,
b/to children between 3 and 10 years of age and
c/to children over 10 years of age and adults.
Data concerning Polish children up to 3 years of age and between 3 and 10 years are identical as ration cards for Poles discriminate only between
a/children under 10 years of age and
b/children over 10 years of age and adults.

We should like to draw attention to the fact that in the statistics concerning Polish children meat and eggs are treated as two separate items. The Polish population does not receive both of these simultaneously and the receiving of one excludes the possibility of purchasing the other; for instance- one month the Poles are given an allocation of meat and in the other instead of meat they get eggs, while the German population receives an allocation of both meat and eggs in each rationing period.

On the basis of results arrived at on Tables II and III - we have made out Table IV, where the total of various food substances are stipulated in grammes as well as the general energy-forming value of these allocations-represented in calories. They cover a period of one month-/for Polish children/ and a four-weekly period/in the case of German children/.

These data were given, as in the former tables, according to various age-groups and the relative values of the allocations to Polish children are given in two groups, namely - a/for allocations containing meat and, b/for allocations containing eggs.

There is a striking difference between the allocations to the German children and the Polish. Thus, for instance:

as far as the value of calories contained in the rations is concerned, it amounts to only 1/3rd of the calorific value /for children up to 3 years of age/ and to 1/4th of this value for children over that age, compared with the amount of calories allocated in the food rations for the German children. The same applies to data concerning the percentage of albumen in rations issued to Polish and German children respectively. As regards the allocation of carbohydrates the position of the Polish child is somewhat better, though even here the German child receives a much larger ration than the Polish one. On the other hand - figures concerning fat-allocations are simply incredible : the amount allowed to the Polish child is barely 1/6th of that the German one receives in the under-three age group, while those between 3-10 and over receive only 1/20 of the amount issued to the German child.

In addition to the fact that the Polish child's ration is so much smaller than the German one's it has to last a period of 30-31 days against the 28 days for the German child's. - Table V.

Table VI gives figures relating to rations issued to Polish and German children as compared with the standards laid down by Kestner and Knipping: On the basis of this table it can be seen that the German child enjoys exceptional privileges, as his food allocations - with the exception of fats - are double the normal requirements of his organism. This is the result of the policy of the German government which, through excessive food allocations issued to German children, especially to infants, increases the well being of the family and so doing hopes to foster a greater increase of the German population.

Considering these figures it might seem that the food situation on the Polish child is not so tragic as represented in Tables IV and V, were it not for the fact that the food allocations to Polish children exist only in theory, while in reality both the quality and quantity of these allocations is at times reduced to nil, or, at the very best, depends on factors, which are not in accord with the theoretical conceptions.

Below we quote several such factors:

a/ there are a number of villages in the General Government /the Radom district for instance/, where small farmholders and peasants who have no land of their own as well as their children are given no food cards at all, notwithstanding the fact that in view of their position those people are entitled to rationed food,

b/ the issue of milk to children under 3 years of age, which has been theoretically foreseen under the rationing scheme, has been stopped in the majority of districts, so that only a very few Polish children are able to benefit by it.

c/ the issue of such food-stuffs as sugar and marmalade, or flour and cereals, even in the very small quantities which have been foreseen for the Polish population, is often stopped for a period of several months.

d/ the same applies to meat, which, for months on end, is issued either in greatly reduced quantities / 100 grammes per month/ or else not issued at all, and replaced by eggs, very much lower in calorific value.

e/ a whole number of products, which have been treated as of equal feeding-value in allocations for Polish and German children respectively, are, in reality not equal in value at all. Of much smaller value as

far as quality and calories are concerned is, in the first place, the most important of all the rationed foods - b r e a d - pure, unadulterated rye bread is being issued to the German population - while that issued to the Poles and to their children has various additions which render it very far inferior in calorific value.

f/ as far as the quality of meat issued to Poles is concerned it is greatly inferior to that issued to the Germans, coming from the worst and leanest cattle. The same applies to potatoes ; only the worst and those half-rotted in transport are distributed to the Polish population.

As a result of all these factors, in numerous localities the actual value of the food-ration may be counted at half and even less of the theoretical issue. For instance, in May and June 1942, the value of food-products issued under the rationing scheme in Warsaw, amounted to about 375 calories per day, instead of the 637 or 707 specified in our tables.

In certain localities the curtailing of rations issued to peasants with no land of their own and to small farmholders - is a very common occurrence. These often receive only one or, at most, two of the articles specified in tables II and III, besides the usual issue of bread, so that, in fact, the amount of calories they consume amounts to a mere 200 per day.

In the final estimate it can therefore be taken that the food-rations issued to the Poles do not cover more than 15% of their actual needs. This of course applies to the children too. As far as the quality of the rations is concerned it is seen that there is an insufficiency of about

90% of fats
80% of abbumens
50 - 60% of carbohydrates.

The complete lack of vitamins in the rations is especially harmful and injurious to the Polish children. The German ones get a generous share of vitamins, as they are assured of an ample supply of fruit, such as oranges, lemons and fruit juices, even during the winter. The German population is also able to supplement the official rations by purchasing cheese, fresh, smoked and tinned fish, fruit, vegetables, fruit juices, etc. at very low prices. Besides this every six months the Germans are issued a certain amount of tinned milk and honey.

For the Polish population such a supplementing of their food rations is completely out of the question.

And if even there are a few - a very few - parents who are able to get such food-stuffs on the black market and to give their children a chance of surviving the war without great detriment to their health - it must be remembered that the orphans who are now passing their childhood in public orphanages are in a very different position. If such an orphanage does not own a farm it is forced to depend entirely on the official food-rations and, in certain cases, also on fees paid on behalf of their charges, which are on a pre-war basis. But what is 4 zlotys a day/that is the average sum paid by the municipal authorities for each child/ in view of the exorbitant prices now being demanded on the black market. The very difficult situation which these institutions face is being constantly confirmed during inspections. The assistance they receive is, in most cases, insufficient, it is therefore essential to organise some large-scale campaign in order to save the thousands of Polish orphans which are faced with starvation.

Realising the grave danger which menaces the Polish children the efforts of voluntary social welfare movements in Poland, concentrated in the activities of the General Welfare Committee and its outposts, has done its utmost to give the children extra food. Children are being fed in communal feeding-centres, in special canteens, in schools, in childrens' welfare centres, in orphanages, creches and in mother and child welfare institutions. Facing the increasing poverty of the population, the shrinking of the pre-war reserves and further adversities created by the war, which all lead to worse conditions for the Polish child, the Committee has underlined both verbally and in print, in its appeals directed to the sub-committees and, through their intermediary, to the community, the necessity of saving the nation's mainstay and of making it the primary and vital duty to feed and keep up the strength of the starving Polish children.

The food allocated to the Committee for supplementing the rations, which they managed to get after a long struggle was designed primarily for institutions catering for children. The number of feeding-centres for children, under the control of the Welfare Committees, grew steadily. Great attention has been paid to the supplying of children with a maximum possible amount of food, essential to natural and healthy development.

In June 1942 the assistance given to children reached its climax. Besides the usual feeding centres nearly all the Welfare Committees began, at the time, activities connected with the organisation of summer camps, so as to give the children a chance of recovering from the effects of a long, hard winter and semi-starvation. By giving proof of extreme poverty among the children, in thousands of cases, the Committees were even able to convince certain sections of the German civil authorities of the necessity of issuing food-allocations for this purpose.

When, during the end of June these activities were in full swing - German party authorities intervened, imposing a number of orders and prohibitions. At a party meeting held in Cracow in June 1942 members were indignant at hearing that Polish children were to be given assistance during the weeks preceeding the new harvest and that they were to be given a chance of regaining their strength through exercise in the open air and regular meals, at camps arranged for the purpose.

The food allocations, already promised, were hastily revoked.

Following a categorical order issued by the German authorities, all camps, already existing or in preparation in the General Government, were liquidated by July 15th, 1942, and any subsidiary form of extra nourishment for the children was positively forbidden by the German authorities.

At the same time the authorities in occupation proceeded to liquidate a number of schools for delicate children, threatened with disease. Protests and interventions were of no avail. The same fate met institutions for tubercular children in Rabka and Zakopane. Polish children were thus deprived of any chance of recovery.

All sheriffs received official instructions to liquidate - in districts under their supervision - any activities in connection with giving Polish children extra nourishment, wherever there was any evidence of such on behalf of the Polish community.

The Welfare Committees were flooded with countless orders, issued by the local authorities, to close down and completely liquidate the child-feeding centres, nurseries and orphanages, threatening the members of the Council with imprisonment in case of refusal to comply with these orders by a given date. The food supplies, secured by the Committees through purchase or through the generosity of the community for the relief of children - according to the orders of the authorities were to be distributed among adults, working for the German war industry, since it was said ~~as~~ it lay in the interests of the German government to keep up their working capacity. What the Germans really meant, though even they were not cynical enough to express the thought in words, is that it was in the interest of the German government to exterminate the Polish children.

The execution of these orders depended to a large extent on the party zeal of the respective sheriffs, while, on the other hand, the saving of the child welfare organisation depended on the ingenuity and ardour of the members or workers in the respective Committees.

All the child-welfare institutions managed by the General Welfare Council/ R.G.O./ had to close down as well as any others. All their medical apparatus and other installations were greedily snatched up by the German authorities. Sick children were left to their own fate,

especially as the Germans had managed to liquidate all private children's nursing homes beforehand.

The only remaining possibility of giving the grossly-underfed children some extra nourishment was to supply them with meals at school. As the Committee had received certain allocations of food in December, 1942, for welfare purposes during the four winter months, it was possible to plan for the intensification and enlargement of this scheme.

In the meantime, nevertheless, on January 6th, 1943, orders were issued forbidding the distribution of food at schools. The reason given was that meals issued to children during school hours interfered with their lessons. This was the final blow. The tendency of the government authorities manifested itself quite clearly. All officially organised food relief for Polish children was finally done away with.

It must be said that not all school authorities strictly adhered to the government orders inspired by the Party. In a number of schools the practice of issuing free meals to the children was continued, without much interference, until the end of the school year. In other schools meals were distributed outside the school-building: in communal feeding centres, canteens and even in private homes, under the pretext of neighbourly assistance.

In Warsaw itself it was possible to maintain a certain number of nurseries, which, while taking care of the children during pre-school hours, were able to supply them with meals containing a certain amount of calories. But the number of these nurseries was much smaller heretofore, which can be seen by the following data:

in 1941	there were	205	nurseries with	18.800	children-	100%
" 1942	"	176	"	13.650	"	72%
" 1943	"	88	"	8.500	"	44%

In districts where the sheriffs strictly insisted on the liquidation of all child-feeding centres, these centres were converted into communal welfare canteens for adults also, though children were given priority. But even here, the authorities spitefully intervened in many localities demanding that the children be excluded from meals in communal centres. Elsewhere the Germans demanded that the number of children receiving food in these canteens be restricted to 20% of the total number of those given meals.

One of the main difficulties in building up the system of communal feeding centres and especially in keeping up the amount of calories in the meals dealt out, was the increasing shortage of food stuffs. Up to 1941 the work carried out by these communal feeding centres was largely dependent on American gifts, coming either straight from the USA or else - after the blockade - bought up by the Commission for Polish Relief in Hungary, Bulgaria and the USSR. Transports, consisting of fats, sugar, flour, tinned milk and dried vegetables were the main basis of this relief campaign. Cod liver oil was considered as one of the most valued means of saving the children.

After supplies from abroad had ceased following the outbreak of the Russo-German war the activities of the Committee became entirely dependent on official rations, strictly controlled by food regulations, allocated for this purpose by the authorities in occupation. During the budget year 1941/2 the authorities restricted the food-allocations to the four winter months, between December 1941 and March 1942. Notwithstanding urgent pleas the allocations were once again restricted to four months in the 1942/3 budget year. During the first part of 1941/2 the Committees still had at their disposal a certain quantity of food-stuffs saved from gifts from abroad. When these came to an end - the distribution of food had of course to be cut down. This reduction is drastically illustrated by the figures given below, pertaining to the number of portions of soup served in the communal feeding centres of Warsaw:

In 1941/2	in the first 3 months	- 118.800	portions
" "	" second "	- 100.900	per day
" "	" third "	- 68.200	"
" "	" fourth "	- 69.300	"
In 1942/3	" first "	- 46.100	"
" "	" second "	- 33.600	"
" "	" third "	- 26.300	"
" "	" fourth "	- 24.200	"

The amount of calories contained in these meals steadily decreased, too. It is becoming more and more difficult to purchase fats, which would increase the feeding value of the meals, even on the black market.

The marking of pigs and cattle, the ruthless requisitioning of every head of cattle for German use and a penalty of death imposed mercilessly and instantly for illegal slaughter - have completely eliminated all animal fats from the market. Butter and full cream milk, which are being allocated exclusively to the Germans, have reached such prices on the free market that no Committee could dream of buying them. These articles are in very short supply owing to the high quotas imposed on the villages and the increasingly frequent requisitioning of cows for slaughter.

As regards the food situation, it is thus clear that the position of the Polish children is disastrous

DISEASES AND DEATH-RATE.

Starvation among Polish children naturally brings about the weakening of their physical resistance, a susceptibility to infectious diseases and a terrifying death-rate.

Medical examinations carried out in 1942, when children were being taken into the summer camps - brought to light the fact that an enormous percentage of them showed signs of trouble in the lungs and had weak hearts. In 1943 their state of health was even worse. Results of medical examinations in one of the welfare centres showed that:

in a group consisting of 964 school children:					
287	children	had	raised	temperatures	of between
456	"	"	"	"	"
					100.3 - 101.2°
					98.8 - 100.4°

221 had no high temperature but showed marked signs of physical exhaustion.

In a group of small children, under school-age, out of the total of 475 examined:

179	had	raised	temperatures	of between	100.3 - 100.2°
222	"	"	"	"	"
					98.8 - 100.1°

Only 74 children had normal temperatures, but even they were physically unfit.

In Warsaw, medical examinations/by the Pirquet test/ carried out during the school year 1942/3 on children attending public primary schools and nurseries, showed a positive reaction in 42.5% of the cases.

These will evolve into tuberculosis, if climatic and especially dietary conditions for preventing it are not given in time to stay its development. It is impossible to do anything under the conditions described above. Where are the children to get the fats and vitamins, if they are not included in their food rations and are impossible to obtain on the free market?

At the moment we have no detailed data concerning the state of health of the children in the General Government. It is even more difficult to give figures concerning child mortality, as it is brought about by a number of factors such as military defeats and enemy practices unheard of in the civil world, such as those described below.

Fragmentary data from various parts of the country are both alarming and incredible and they lead to very sad conclusions.

Here is one of the cases, noted in the Krosno area:

"Some 80% of the children are suffering from anaemia, caused by underfeeding, in the opinion of local doctors. Cases of dropsy caused by starvation are quite frequent and there were a number of deaths from starvation. It is true that the

epidemic of typhus has been confined to a few sporadic cases, but tuberculosis, on the other hand, is spreading in an alarming way.

The following statistics have reached us from the town of Siedlce:

The number of deaths amounted there

in 1938	to	418	cases
" 1939	"	464	"
" 1940	"	647	"
" 1941	"	771	"

Owing to the simultaneous though not verified changes in the status of the population following deportations and migrations, it is not possible to draw definite conclusions with regard to the percentage. In any case a large and progressive increase in the death-rate is beyond doubt.

The Polish communities at Drohobycz and Boryslaw have shown an alarming increase in the death rate during the years 1941 and 1942.

According to information received from those areas "the state of health of the population is deplorable; statistics show that compared with 1938 the death-rate has increased by 439%. Tuberculosis is taking a heavy toll among adolescent youth. In Boryslaw the death-rate among the Polish population in 1942 had increased by 700% compared with 1938. Each month a number of people die of starvation.

An interesting light on the situation is thrown by the following data concerning the Polish population of Lwow between the years 1939-42.

Year	Births	Deaths
1939	.....2659.....	3386
1940	..... 2759.....	2784
1941	.....3092.....	3016
1942	.....2377.....	4229

The year 1942, showing an enormous increase of deaths and a much lower birth rate, as compared with the preceding years - is simply calamitous.

Besides these misfortunes caused by war, a German order, forbidding marriages between Poles taken to forced labour in the Reich contributed further to the stemming of the birth-rate of the Polish nation. This order applies to hundreds of thousands of young men and women, torn away from their home country and normal conditions of life. An unmarried woman is released from work and permitted to return home only during the last weeks of pregnancy. All efforts of the father of the child to get leave at the same time in order to marry the woman and give the child a legal status, meet with stubborn refusal. It is easy to deduce the deliberate perfidiousness of the enemy in this attitude whose sole aim is a complete destruction of the Polish family and the natural increase of the population.

3. CLOTHING.

The disastrous results of the food shortage on the children are further augmented by a clothing shortage which is almost unbelievable. The four years of war have completely exhausted the pre-war stocks of clothes. The only people receiving clothing coupons are the farmers who get them as a premium for supplying quotas and any surplus food-stocks. Neither the peasant, the worker nor the office employee is entitled to purchase foot-wear, underwear or any other clothing at normal prices. The negligible wages go for the purchase of food-stuffs on the black market. In consequence, there are thousands of children both in town and country, who are unable to leave their homes in wintertime and, in such homes where there is no fuel - they do not even leave their beds, as more often than not they have no vests to put on their cold little bodies, nor a blanket to cover themselves with.

American supplies of clothes, so invaluable during the first years of the war would have been even more welcome in 1943. Clothes of all kinds are needed, from layettes, shoes and stockings, underclothing and top clothes, blankets and bed linen to hats and handkerchiefs, which latter cannot even be made today from other garments, so worn out are they completely and beyond repair.

4. HOUSING CONDITIONS.

In addition to the deplorable food and clothing conditions the people of Poland are suffering yet another calamity - namely the enormous shortage of living quarters brought about by the deportation of more than half a million people and by transferring them to poorer districts, where three and four families with a number of children are often forced to live in one small, cold room.

Here are a few pictures serving to depict the living conditions of the Polish population, conditions in which the major part of the Polish children and youths have to develop and to draw strength and vitality for the future. These pictures are based on facts, proved beyond a doubt and coming from different parts of Poland.

" There are families among the Polish population of Sochaczew, where the children are unable to leave their beds, as they have no clothes to put on their backs. There are flats, where water pours in through the ceiling in rainy weather. Often there are no beds and the people have to sleep on litters or simply on the floor. There is a terrible shortage of linen, blankets, clothing, shoes - in a word the people are living in appalling conditions.

From the Krosno district it is noted that: 5 - 9 children up to the age of 12 were found living in old, derelict cottages, completely unsuitable for habitation; these children were practically naked, as only the elder girls had thin, threadbare dresses and the boys wore some undefined garments, resembling trousers, while the younger ones clung to each other, shivering with cold, sitting either on litters or kitchen stoves, which were still slightly warm after being heated for the morning meal".

From the Warsaw district..." W...Maria: her husband and son in Germany, doing forced labour - no news coming in from them. She has advanced tuberculosis, two small children to look after, is unable to do any work, even as a domestic servant; she is in such poverty that she has no blanket on her bed and the children are unable to attend school - as they have no suitable clothes. During the winter they never went out at all."

This was but one case of the many, many thousands - which call for help to save the Polish children before they contract tuberculosis, to get them out of the reach of the disease which threatens them through daily contact with infected persons.

Where are these children to be transferred to - how are they to be saved - if all suitable institutions have been closed down, and the orphanages, overcrowded and starving, restricted in number, are themselves struggling for their very existence?

The number of children, affected by tuberculosis, is growing daily.

5. KIDNAPPING OF CHILDREN FOR BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS.

Among all these tragic war calamities, perhaps one of the most tragic ones is the fact that even the healthy Polish children, who, owing to exceptional conditions at home, were given normal chances of development - are not certain of tomorrow either. And here we enter upon monstrous war practices, unheard of hitherto in the history of mankind.

Now, it happens quite frequently, especially in larger towns, that exceptionally healthy children between the ages of 10 and 12 disappear suddenly on their way to school, in crossing the street, or on the trains and nothing is heard more of them. Inquiries lead to no results - but it is a proved fact that healthy Polish children were being used in German field hospitals for blood transfusions. It is obvious that they were not sent there of the free will of their parents - so how did they get there? No specific therapeutics are applied which would give their organisms a chance to regain the blood they have given to save other lives - but they are cast aside as worn, useless rags.

6. DEPORTATIONS.

It is clear that the deportations, carried out by the German authorities, take a heavy toll of the children. This action was started upon during the autumn of 1939, in the districts of Poznan and Pomerania and was continued on a large scale up to March 1941. The "clearing" of a given area was usually preceded by the arresting of all the men and their deportation to an unknown destination. Women and children were made to clear out of their homes at an hour's notice or even less, regardless of bitterly cold weather, and were taken to

a collective camp where they awaited further deportation for weeks on end. The consternation and terror as well as the haste increased further by the shouting, threats and blows dealt with rifle-butts, made it impossible for them to take away even essential clothing. In fact, the deportees were not permitted to take any bed linen or any other of their possessions with them. The conditions in these temporary camps, described by those who had actually been in them as deportees, and those who had seen the indescribable misery and suffering in them while carrying out relief work - are so terrible that it is difficult to give an adequate illustration of the facts. In the ill-famed transitory camp near Lodz, for instance, where hundreds of thousands of Polish families were detained, epidemics decimated the children, who were forced to exist in such appalling conditions that many of them actually drowned in the lavatories there. Coughing and the heart-rending sobs of the dying children were the usual music of those camps. How many child-victims these camps accounted for it is impossible to say and we shall never learn the whole truth.

After spending several weeks in these camps, completely exhausted by the terrible conditions, the deportee-families were packed into railway trucks for despatch to the General Government. Notwithstanding the early and bitter frosts they were often forced to march several miles to the loading point at night and to wait until dawn, out in the snow and biting frost, before being loaded up. These unfortunate people considered it as a great stroke of luck if the carriages happened to be heated, but more often than not large groups were made to travel in unheated cattle-trucks, notwithstanding a frost at 30° below zero. In consequence the Germans frequently had to cautiously remove on small railway stations and sidings, large numbers of frozen corpses. Here again it is impossible to find out the exact figures of the victims - of which a large proportion were children.

During further stages of the journey, when the trains stopped at larger stations, German NSV sisters served the deportees with warm soup. This soup was often stale and spoilt and frequently caused gastric trouble and diseases, which, especially with children, proved fatal. All efforts made by Polish Red Cross Nurses, to hand a pot of tea or hot water to mothers of young children - were repaid by blows, dealt with butt-ends or bayonettes, by police officers, guarding the "German order" on the instructions of the German sisters.

All this took place during the bitterly cold winter of 1940/41. Some 600.000 people were made to undergo these tortures. Similar treatment was applied to Polish families deported from the Żywiec area during the autumn of 1941. The year 1943 has a no less terrible history of its own - deportations from the Zamosc, Hrubieszow and many other districts.

The methods of deportation, applied to the population of these districts, resemble those described above, but they are directed even more acutely against the Polish children. In their crazy race to send more and more labour to the Reich, during these deportations the German police arrest all those capable of work - both men and women - directing them either to the Reich itself or else to defence work in the Eastern districts.

Mothers are torn away from their infants and made to leave the helpless little beings in the care of the infirm and sick, whose weakness disqualifies them for deportation.

Here, too, the camp conditions are appalling, an insult to the most primitive demands of human existence: unheated, floorless barracks, often without window panes - with frosts reaching 25 degrees below zero, lairs made up of dirty, damp straw, alive with lice, with no blanket or cover: for food - bitter black coffee and black bread, as well as watery soup once a day. That food is the same for all - i.e. for infants of 12 months, torn away from their mothers, who are unable to digest such coarse substance.

The death rate in these camps, especially among the children - is alarming.

The epidemic of dyptheria is a 100 per cent deadly; At one time 67 cases of death were noted among the children. The sojourn at this camp had tragic consequences for the thinned out remainder of these deportees, transferred later, in winter -time, to the Warsaw district. When one of the transports, consisting of less than a thousand people reached its destination - 22 corpses were unloaded; 103 persons had to be taken direct to hospital and 42 died during the next few days. Children constituted about 60% of the victims.

Similar conditions prevailed among members of other transports arriving in the districts of Garwolin, Siedlce and Minsk. Everywhere there were large numbers of sick people and numerous cases of death and everywhere children constituted the majority of victims.

Part of the children from the Zamosc camp were put in separate transports of about 250 each and taken to an unknown destination under the care of German NSV sisters. There were rumours that truckloads of these children were delivered at Belzec and Sobibor, in the Wlodawa area, where the Germans are carrying out their mass extermination of Jews.

The above described horrors are but part of the sad plight of the Polish child.

In the forests of the Lublin area large bands of guerillas of different origin have set up camp: there is a Soviet guerilla, there are deserters of various nationalities, Jewish-Ukrainian bands and also a number of Polish peasants, who had fled to the forests in order to avoid being taken away as slaves to an unknown destination under the deportation scheme.

For many months the German authorities seemed to be completely unable to cope with the problem of those "forest people". Applying, however, the method of mass responsibility, the authorities in occupation take a bloody revenge on the helpless Polish population /including Polish children/ for every murder committed on a German citizen and every act of sabotage carried out by the "forest people". The method is applied as follows: the village nearest to the spot where the offence has been committed, is surrounded by SS police units at dawn and the men are either shot on the spot or else burned alive in their houses. Some of the women and children share

their fate, others, violated and humiliated beyond words, are driven together with their children to concentration camps, to await further tortures. It has happened more than once that infants were torn out of their mothers' arms and thrown into burning houses - since even infants are victims of the German "mass responsibility" system.

Stray children are taken in by inhabitants of the neighbouring villages, aware that they are risking a death penalty, and are themselves uncertain of their future, or else they are rounded up by the police. Often sick and wounded, half naked and shivering from the cold, they are then transported to hospital or concentration camp.

The only concentration camp at Zamosc, large enough to accomodate several thousand people, turned out to be too small what with the deportation campaign and the "pacification" methods which were intensified in the Lublin area during June 1943. Another camp was therefore set up in Lublin at Krochmalna street, and soon this one, too, was packed with thousands of prisoners. During the first days of July there were some 4,000 children in that camp and about 3,500 at the Zamosc one. All efforts of voluntary welfare organisations to have these children released and handed over to Polish Welfare Committees met with the flat refusal of the German authorities. These children were subsequently transferred in large batches, together with other deportees, to Starogard, where transports were to be segregated into groups of those capable of work - to be sent to the Reich - and those incapable of work; children were probably included the latter group. The further fate of these children is unknown. And it is said that at Starogard the Germans have one of the best gas-cell installations for the killing of people wholesale.

It is difficult to say exactly how many thousands of Polish children were the victims of this monstrous campaign waged against defenceless women and children in the Lublin district itself. It should be added that "mass responsibility" is now being applied ruthlessly and consequently as a means of "pacification" throughout the territory of the General Government. Thousands of children are victims of this campaign and even if they are not actually murdered they are left to their own fate - orphaned and homeless.

7. MASS DEPORTATIONS TO FORCED LABOUR.

Mass deportations of the Polish population to forced labour depriving hundreds of thousands of children of their natural guardians - sum up the plight of the Polish child. Besides the compulsory supplying of manpower by town and country authorities - the Germans use violence, terror and mass round-ups as a means of recruiting. Round-ups are carried out in trains, railway stations, local markets and in the streets, frequently in entire districts of a town. Thus a mother running to a shop to get some food for her infant or for her many little ones, or who has been searching the shops for a few potatoes or cereals - is arrested on the spot. Regardless of her explanations and protests she is taken to a collective camp, then to a de-licing centre and after that sent away to an

unknown destination. What is to happen to the children, of whom she is often the sole guardian - does not concern the Germans at all. As far as they are concerned they can waste away and die, if some neighbour or friend by some lucky chance does not take them under her care. There have been thousands of such cases and recently they have become a daily occurrence.

A more enterprising and independent child, awaiting in vain the return of its mother, hungry and lonesome, finally starts looking for help - and becomes a tramp, then a thief and finally develops into a physical and moral wreck. Often, if a child is adopted by strangers, it gets into unsuitable company, gets exploited and overburdened by hard work, which it is forced to do in exchange for its food and, not infrequently, it is made to beg or peddle. The sight of these small ragamuffins, barefooted and half naked, shivering with the cold, miserable, singing hymns in the streets, in bitter cold and frost, kneeling for hours on the wet ground, or else crying out cautiously "cigarettes-matches- sacharine" etc. is heart-rending and profoundly shocking. They often handle considerable sums of money and give themselves added importance by smoking inferior quality tobacco and drinking vodka, which they acquire illegally from peddlers and on the black market.

The number of these vagabond children is growing daily. Their fathers have been either deported to the Reich or else into the depths of Soviet Russia, imprisoned or missing, their mothers have met with a similar fate or are absorbed with full-time work, forced to leave home for the whole day in order to get means for supporting their families - and the children are left to tender for themselves.

During the present year Ukrainian bands have started carrying out mass murders of the Polish population in the Volhinia district. Thousands of Poles have become victims of these murders. The Polish population is compelled to seek refuge in the towns, leaving all its possessions behind. As soon as they reach the cities however - they are taken care of by the authorities in occupation which deport entire families for forced labour in the Reich. The population, fleeing from Volhinia into Eastern Poland meets with a similar fate: after eliminating children and the aged, the remainder are deported to the Reich by the Germans.

These are the conditions in which all child welfare centres, orphanages and poor-houses are being liquidated, and, at the same time, as has been happening frequently of late - these homeless children, taken from the streets, between the ages of 7 and 12, are being arrested and kept in prison, allegedly for illegal trading and vagrancy. The notorious German pedagogy celebrates yet another triumph.

8. SCHOOL CHILDREN RECRUITED FOR FORCED LABOUR.

The fact that school children are recruited for forced labour in the Reich and the methods of conscription, applied in practice - deserve a special mention. Here is an instance: a trade school at Gorlice, where the pupils were between the ages of 12 and 16, was surrounded by police cordons during school-hours, all contact with tutors and parents was severed, in fact, any contact with the children was strictly forbidden. They were left in the school-building, cold and hungry, until the evening and then they were taken in lorries to the railway station and transported to the temporary Camp at Cracow, regardless of the fact that none of them had any warm clothing or food and the weather was bitterly cold. After being de-iced the children were transported to forced labour in Germany. This is not just a story, but a fact and not an isolated one, which is proved beyond doubt, and of which the German authorities stand accused,

All these methods have but one single aim - the destruction and annihilation of the mainstay of the Polish Nation.

9. THE DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOLS.

The destructive policy carried out against Polish schools in the General Government is in strict accordance with the cunning programme of extermination.

During the first weeks following the outbreak of war, when the occupied territories of Poland were still under military administration, Polish schools began the new school year without any great difficulties and followed the normal course.

On October 26th, 1939, however, administration was taken over by civilian authorities. On November 6th all professors and lecturers of the Cracow university were invited to attend a lecture in the building of the Jagiellon University. As soon as they had assembled, the building was surrounded by police and all those present, numbering some 200 persons, were loaded into police trucks and taken to a local prison, from where they were later transferred to the concentration camp at Oranienburg, in which camp seventeen well-known Polish scientists later perished.

All secondary, trade and university schools were carrying on, following clear instructions from the Cracow sheriff, announced to the public by means of posters, when, suddenly, on November 9th, on the very day when these instructions were issued, police entered the buildings of all secondary and high schools for no apparent reason, and arrested all the professors and teachers. Without attempting to prove their guilt, often without trial they were put into prison, and kept there for nearly a year. The same method was employed in several provincial towns. Thus all Polish universities and secondary schools were virtually liquidated, even before all state and private schools, as well as institutes educating future teachers, were formally dissolved by the authorities in occupation, by an order issued in the middle of December.

It should be added that during the searches and requisitions carried out in school buildings, priceless natural history collections and laboratory installations, school acts

collections and libraries, school appliances of high value, which could be of use in any school, were either ruthlessly destroyed or else taken away by the Germans.

The Polish secondary schools and universities have now been closed down for nearly four years and, to our knowledge, this occurrence is unique in the cultural history of the world. This fact cannot possibly be explained by war emergency or anything of the sort. It is part of a cultural and political programme, prepared and planned beforehand. It is being applied exclusively to the Poles. In other occupied countries secondary schools and universities continue their work. Even in the General Govt. in the so-called Distrikt Galizien, a number of Ukrainian schools were opened and new candidates were admitted for theological studies in the Greek-Catholic seminaries. As regards Polish secondary schools and universities, which continued work during Russian occupation - as soon as the Germans took possession of those districts they applied the same measures as those taken in the General Government. All universities and secondary schools were liquidated, a number of professors and their families were arrested and nothing more was heard of them. The same fate met a number of secondary and elementary school teachers.

In the trade schools, which were permitted to continue work by the Germans, and even received some support from them - there was a marked lowering of the standards of the school-programme and the time given for education was considerably shortened. The preparatory courses which had existed for two years and whose purpose it was to replace the IIIrd and IVth classes of secondary school and prepare pupils for preliminary examinations in the trade schools - were liquidated at the end of the 1941/2 school year. During the next year there will be very few pupils who have the necessary qualifications.

In the future a pupil, applying to enter a trade school must be over 18 years of age, must have gone through the elementary school, have had two years' practice and passed a preliminary examination.

But where are these candidates to undergo practical training after finishing elementary school, if all Polish workshops and industrial enterprises are being liquidated wholesale. Where are they to acquire the knowledge, essential for passing the preliminary examination? The instruction they receive according to the official programme in the existing elementary schools does not even equal that of the pre-war one-class village school. Lessons of geography and history have been completely eliminated from the school programme.

All school-books have been withdrawn, even those on arithmetic and natural history - so that instruction is carried out without any books whatsoever, there are little or no school appliances. School libraries have been liquidated in all the schools.

The schools are situated in private blocks of flats : frequently there are three or four in the same building. On that account teaching is carried out in four shifts, and the duration of each lesson reduced to 30 minutes. During winter months the schools are forced to close down owing to the fuel shortage; even those which had managed to get some fuel through sacrifices made by the parents of the pupils.

At present - all the private elementary schools in Warsaw are being liquidated by the Germans. These schools have a fine tradition behind them, and, owing to the fact that conditions were better and they were not overcrowded they gave, if even to a limited number of children - a better chance of physical and mental development - which could not be said of the state schools, existing under terrible hygienic conditions and being propagators of contagious diseases.

Under these conditions how is a pupil to be prepared for preliminary examinations, where he should display a knowledge of such subjects as chemistry, physics, mathematics, the German language and drawing/according to the standards of four classes of secondary school/ if the only preparation he has received was the above mentioned elementary school and then a break of two, or rather four years, since one of the conditions is that he should be over 18 years of age.

What are the boys and girls of 14 to do with themselves, after finishing elementary school, if, owing to war conditions and underfeeding they are too weak to take up physical work and professional training? In theory - they might apply to join the lower-grade trade schools, commercial, industrial and agricultural trade schools, on the other hand, however, this depends on the permission of the Labour Exchange and, anyway, there are and always have been too few schools of this type. If the parents, owing to financial difficulties, are unable to send them to private, clandestine schools - these young people will be wasting their best years, and, being unemployed and not registered in any school or workshop, they are liable to deportation to Germany at any time. It should be remembered that the Polish people are deported to forced labour regardless of age or weak physique.

It can be clearly seen from the above that the physical starvation of the Polish child is accompanied by its spiritual starvation and, in consequence, by a moral one, too.

The attack waged against the Polish child is directed from all quarters.

What are the chances of a defensive action? How could it be effectively supported?

An undaunted spirit to save the Polish child must employ every possible means to achieve this aim.

PART II.

WAYS AND MEANS OF RESCUING THE POLISH CHILD.

1. FOOD RELIEF.

One of the first things is to supply these children with food - since food is essential to life. Food is unobtainable in the country itself, within the limits of the means at our disposal. Assistance from outside appears to be inevitable.

This assistance is needed by all the welfare centres which cater for the children, by all the institutions, which have not yet been liquidated and which, at present, are receiving no help from outside.

In the place of the institutions for delicate children, which had been liquidated by the Germans - following repeated appeals to the authorities the Poles managed to obtain permission for the opening of one single children's Home at Rymanow. During the summer months of 1943 the German authorities relaxed their stubborn attitude and permitted the Welfare Committees to organise summer camps. The only condition they put was that only children of parents deported to forced labour in the Reich or those working in the German war industry in Poland were to be accepted for these camps. Nevertheless - they refused to make any food allocations either for the children's Home or for the summer camps. Notwithstanding this the Committees enthusiastically set to work at once. The acquiring of food-stuffs on the free market increases considerably the cost of the enterprise and there are grounds for fear that the Committee budgets will be unable to cope with the task and that it will be impossible to give any help even to those children, who need it most, the very delicate and starved ones, physically threatened by disease as a result of starvation.

The number of children included in this camp scheme can be estimated at about 75,000. It is barely an infinitesimal part of those who need help and feeding up. The costs of the scheme was estimated at 5,130,000 zlotys - for a duration of 6 weeks, taking it that a food allocation would be made by the authorities. As a result of the refusal on behalf of the Germans - the cost will amount to about 35 million zlotys. The covering of such immense costs is bound to cause the Committees to run into debt. It must also be taken into consideration that the children, strengthened and nourished, cannot be left to their fate after they return from their summer holidays and that some form of assistance must be found for those who, for various reasons, it was impossible to include into the camp scheme. Ways and means for providing them with extra food will have to be devised and the work must be conducted in such a way that it does not irritate the authorities in occupation.

Some form of food relief would be of the greatest value - if it were possible to receive a permit to import the food-stuffs.

It is difficult to specify precisely the quantities required, owing to the enormity of the needs. Food transports, imported by the Commission for Polish Relief, in the years 1940/1 included:

wheaten flour	85.500	kilogrammes
rye "	669.319	"
buckwheat groats.....	20.000	"
pearl barley.....	121.330	"
husked barley.....	1.900	"
barley groats.....	8.270	"
millet "	14.820	"
rice	220.845	"
peas.....	14.614	"
sugar.....	40.720	"
tinned milk.....	593.420	"
dried milk	72.158	"
lard	156.753	"
vegetable fats.....	90.875	"
ham and bacon.....	294.794	"
cod liver oil.....	73.142	"

With the aid of the above mentioned products it was possible to provide additional nourishment for about 590.000 persons. This food was distributed either in canteens or given in its dry state; 350.000 adults and 240.000 children were embraced by this relief.

As far as cereals are concerned, it might be possible to acquire considerable quantities of these on the free market with the assistance of considerable financial support, but even a minimum relief as regards fats, milk, cod liver oil and sugar can be accomplished only if these goods are received from abroad.

2. CLOTHING RELIEF.

Clothing relief is at present equally important. As regards this problem, as we have already mentioned, the position is terrible in all spheres of the Polish community. There is an acute shortage of all clothing articles and this cannot be overcome by home production, even should financial assistance be received, as it is manufacturing goods exclusively for the Germans.

As regards clothing relief received from abroad during the years 1940/1 it may be described by the following figures:

<u>Clothing and underwear</u>	men's	100.086
	women's.....	92.775
	girls'.....	36.958
	boys'.....	43.493
	small children's	90.654
	infants'.....	8.394
	including layettes	
<u>Bed linen</u>	linen 510 bales of about 670 metres each	
	blankets.....	12.122
	small blankets.....	226
	sheets.....	92
	pillow cases.....	26

About 247.000 people benefited by these goods, of which 134.000 were adults and 113.000 children. The figure is enormous, considering the amount of supplies received -but it results from the fact that even people receiving only such small items as a pair of stockings, a scarf, a hat or a handkerchief, were counted in this list. During the period when the above mentioned articles were being distributed mainly among the deportees, the mutual assistance of that part of the community which had not itself suffered in consequence of deportations, bombing etc.- was on a considerable scale. Today - there is nothing left to share or give away. Even the thrifty mother is unable to remake old clothes and underwear and clothe her children, who are growing out of their garments, as everything is completely worn out, practically in rags, in fact. There is no exaggeration in this statement. Assistance from outside is essential and it is impossible to define on what scale. Blankets, raw materials, flannel, layettes, warm clothing, shoes and stockings before winter sets in - this is our S.O.S., this is our cry for help.

We estimate the number of Polish children in need of immediate food and clothing relief, at 525.000. We must find ways and means for saving them, so as to counter-act the devilish and systematically organised plan aiming at the extermination of the young generation.

It is difficult to describe the position of Jewish children on German-occupied territories, since there are practically none left. In this sphere the plan of extermination and annihilation has been already accomplished. There are still small groups of survivors, the number of which does not exceed several hundred, in all. Those are the children of the few members of the Jewish denominational community and of the Jewish police, who have, so far, been spared. Hundreds of thousands of their compatriots have been murdered in a most horrible and merciless manner - by means which only German mentality could devise.

Today, the same fate menaces the Polish child, if help does not reach it in time.

PART III.

CONCLUSIONS.

Summing up the above, we arrive at the following conclusions:

1. The allocation of food, received by the Polish children under the rationing scheme, covers about 15% of their actual requirements. Frequently the calorific value of the food rations amounts in practice to a mere 200 calories per day.

As far as the basic food elements are concerned - the demand for carbohydrates is covered theoretically up to 40-50%, while the rations contain only 20% of the required albumen and 6-7% of fats.

The rations contain no vitamins whatsoever.

The full issue of these food rations to Poles is only theoretical, while in practice it is greatly reduced.

Rations for German children, on the other hand, are twice as much as their actual requirements and they are always received in full. Moreover, they are supplemented by additional allocations of food-products containing vitamins and have facilities for purchasing fats at low prices.

2. The physical condition of the children, both in town and country, gives cause for alarm: the death-rate is growing steadily, while the birth-rate is constantly decreasing.
3. Bad living conditions, caused by deportations and the requisitioning of flats, cause the spread of contagious diseases, especially of tuberculosis.
4. There is a shocking shortage of clothing. The four years of war have completely exhausted the supplies that existed. Essential requirements: layettes, woollen and cotton socks and stockings, footwear. Clothing: coats, jerseys, underwear, blankets, bed linen, caps, handkerchiefs, sewing cotton, unbleached linen and cloth.
5. Even healthy children are among the war victims. Tens of thousands of Polish children have died as a result of:
 - a/ the deportation campaign together with the terrible conditions prevailing at the transitory camps.
 - b/ the "pacification" measures, as well as the method of mass responsibility, applied even to children and infants.
 - c/ mass conscription for forced labour in the Reich, which practices create thousands of homeless and derelicted children.
6. Children's institutions are being vacated and closed down; the children, thrown into the streets, are later arrested and kept in prison.
7. Polish children and young people are deprived of schools and the chance of learning, they have no text books or school appliances; all private teaching has been severely prohibited and is considered as a grave offence, punishable with the most severe penalties. Professors and teachers are being detained for years in concentration camps.

8. All Jewish children have been ruthlessly exterminated; there are none left. The Polish child is also threatened with extermination, if speedy aid is not forthcoming.
9. Ways and means for devising a possibility to import articles of first necessity must be devised and the obstacles which the authorities of the General Government might put forward in respect to a relief action must be overcome.
10. As regards the quantities of articles of food, we could take as a basis the relief received from America during the first years of the war and the amount of children which benefited thereby. It must also be taken into consideration, nevertheless, that the general economic situation in Poland has greatly deteriorated, that the number of children requiring immediate assistance has grown considerably and that the Polish community itself is able to offer very little help owing to the growing poverty.

During the years 1940/1 some 240.000 Polish children benefited by the food relief organised by the Commission for Polish Relief, and 113.000 by the clothing relief scheme. At present, the number of Polish children in urgent need of both food and clothing has risen to 525.000. The shortage of clothing is immense in every sphere of life. Among articles urgently required by the Polish population - soap is one of the foremost, the lack of which destroys the very foundations of a sanitary campaign.