

Public Information

20618 Mr. 3
La Salle Mrs. 3



Miss Partha Scheuermann
Chairman, New Orleans Chapter
American Association of Social Workers
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Miss Scheuermann:

It was kind of you to write us about Major
Edmison's talk before the New Orleans Chapter of
the AASW. He has reported that the arrangements
in New Orleans were excellent and he enjoyed
meeting this particular group.

Sincerely yours,

Olive L. Sawyer
Assistant Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

DPI:OLSawyer:jel
7 January 1946

Mr. Joseph P. Anderson
Executive Secretary
American Association of Social Workers
~~130 East Twenty-Second Street~~
New York, N. Y.

Dear Joe:

I got your letter of December 6 saying that you were not doing anything about the proposed study of relief and rehabilitation needs in Europe. How about the Resolution your Board was to pass? I have carefully gone over the proceedings of the Hearings and was quite startled to find that AASW was not on record with the other national organizations of the country.

Hope to see you while I am in New York next week. What is the story behind the scenes?

Yours sincerely,

A. H. Casgrain
Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

DPI:ABCasgrain:eg
17 December 1945

Letter

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS

130 EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET • NEW YORK, N. Y.

December 8, 1945

Mr. A. E. Casgrain

United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation
Administration

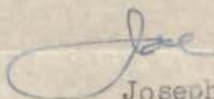
1344 Connecticut Avenue
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Cas:

In going over my notes of the last two meetings of our Committee on International Organization for Social Work I discovered that I had not written to you to tell you that the proposal for a study of relief and rehabilitation needs in European countries about which you and I talked was presented and discussed at a meeting of our committee. It was the decision of our committee that it would not be appropriate at this time for the AASW to participate in a project of this kind.

I hope that I will be seeing you again soon to report on other developments which are of mutual interest.

Sincerely yours,



Joseph P. Anderson
Executive Secretary

JPA:C

Mrs. Coburn L. Broun
Program Chairman
~~American Association of Social Workers~~
~~State Department of Social Welfare~~
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Broun:

I should have thanked you before this for writing us about Major Edmison's visit to Topeka. We were very glad to know that you felt he had been so well received.

I am grateful for the newspaper clippings and particularly grateful to you for all you did to make their trip through Kansas so worthwhile.

Sincerely yours,

Olive L. Sawyer
Assistant Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

DPI:OLSawyer:jel
14 December 1945

Miss Helen E. Hayden
Chapter Chairman
American Association of Social Workers
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Miss Hayden:

It was very thoughtful of you to write us about
Major Edmison's talk before the Kansas City Chapter
of the American Association of Social Workers. We
were glad to know that you thought the members were
interested in what he had to say.

Sincerely yours,

Olive L. Sawyer
Assistant Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

BPI:OLSawyer:jel
14 December 1945

Miss Elizabeth Bartol
American Association of Social Workers
20 Hanover Avenue
Richmond, Virginia

Dear Miss Bartol:

Through Miss Louise Royall of the U. S. Department of State I have had a request for a speaker on UNRRA to meet with the members of the AASW in Richmond. I do not, however, have any details as to when your meetings are held, the size of the group and so forth. Won't you be good enough to write me directly with one or more possible dates and the details about the time of the meeting and the probable size of the audience?

Sincerely yours,

Olive L. Sawyer
Assistant Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

DWI:OLSawyer:jel
11 December 1945

Miss Catherine McFarlane
Chairman, Mississippi Chapter
American Association Social Workers
1830 St. Mary Street
Jackson 41, Mississippi

Dear Miss McFarlane:

Major John Alexander Edmison, a Canadian member of our staff who for six months was the Chief UNRRA Liaison Officer attached to SHAEF, has been making some speeches in the West and South about UNRRA's work with displaced persons. He is to be in New Orleans the first part of next week, through Wednesday evening, and in Louisville for an engagement on Sunday evening the sixteenth. It would therefore be possible for him to stop off in Jackson on his way from New Orleans to Louisville if some groups there would be interested to hear what he has to say.

As you will see from the enclosed biographical sheet, Major Edmison has a number of slides with him, depicting UNRRA's operations in the assembly centers in Germany, which can be used to illustrate his talk. He carries a projector with him, which Mrs. Edmison operates, so that the only local equipment required is a screen or a plain, light wall. There is of course no expense involved in his appearances.

He is interested to meet groups such as those at universities, Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, social workers, groups interested in international relations, church groups, and so forth. He would also be available for local radio talks.

As it is not often that an UNRRA staff member can be in your vicinity, we shall be grateful if you can arrange one or two meetings for him. I realize that the time is short but a tentative engagement in Alabama has just been cancelled making his visit through Jackson possible. I hope you can let me know by telegram collect what the possibilities are.

Sincerely yours,

DPI:OLSawyer:jel
6 December 1945

Olive L. Sawyer
Assistant Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

P. S. I am sending a similar letter to Mr. Byron L. Burford of the Mississippi War Fund in the Century Building. I have also the name of Mr. F. C. Willcoxon, YMCA, at the Junius Ward Johnson Memorial in Vicksburg who is chairman of the state organization of Americans United which might have a chapter in Jackson. I am unable to tell from the information here whether it would be feasible for Major Edmison to go over to Vicksburg during the time he might be in Jackson. The trains in and out of Jackson would seem to be: Thursday, 13, 8:50 A.M. Leave New Orleans; 1:55 P. M. Arrive Jackson. 12:15 A.M. Saturday, 15, leave Jackson; 5:20 P. M. arrive Louisville.

Enclosure

Memorandum on proposed project to study relief and rehabilitation needs in Europe with full consideration of the programs now in operation by UNRRA, the individual programs of member countries and others who may not be included in the United Nations, and the full consideration of private agencies outside and in Europe operating to assist destitute peoples in programs in operation within the devastated countries themselves.

Background

UNRRA has been in operation for 2-- number of years. The Army has been charged with the immediate problems of relief in areas of occupation. Now that victory has come, the situation has rapidly changed. UNRRA's operations have been greatly expanded. Reports indicate that the problems of relief for the coming winter will be even greater than they were last winter. The problem of getting food from member countries for relief in devastated areas has not opened up with the increase of shipping facilities, as was expected. Certain foods, including fats, milk products, meat, etc. have not been released in quantities sufficient to meet the minimum nutrition demands of liberated countries. Problems of internal transportation, securing release orders from the joint allocation boards, the recruiting of qualified personnel and the administrative problems generally, have made it impossible to get the maximum results in the form of prompt relief to those nations who have suffered years of warfare and devastation. This background makes it imperative that a careful, objective and prompt appraisal of the situation be made, including the operations not only of UNRRA but of all other agencies involved in bringing succour to the peoples of Europe.

Proposal

In general it is suggested that a group of influential organizations join together in a united effort to secure an objective appraisal of the situation and that they call upon some foundation to properly finance such an undertaking. The steps proposed are as follows:

1. That the American Association of Social Workers bring together leaders of some ten to fifteen of the most important groups in America to form the sponsoring committee for such an undertaking. The groups proposed are the Federal Council of Churches, the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the American Jewish Conference, the National Federation of Women's Clubs, or the Women's Action Committee, the National War Fund, the United States Chamber of Commerce, and possibly the American Council of Voluntary Agencies and representatives of Rotary, Kiwanis and Lions. This group would meet, draft a plan providing for temporary financing, and then make a drive to secure the backing of some foundation.
2. After the plan has been drafted, suitable financing should be secured from one of several foundations.

3. The study would be organized by countries, including small nations, of from three to five people that would visit each country. Provision should be made to study the administrative problem as a whole, as well as the operations and results on the welfare of the individual country.

4. Studies of overall problems, such as public health, child care, nutrition, industrial rehabilitation and agriculture should be undertaken by individual countries, and on the economy of Europe, or regions of Europe, as a whole.

Mr. Joseph P. Anderson
~~Executive Secretary~~
~~American Association of Social Workers~~
130 East Twenty-Second Street
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Joe:

Is it possible for you to give me another more up-to-date list of local chapters of the American Association of Social Workers? We are sending speakers out throughout the country and we find many of your chapters interested in knowing about the availability of these speakers when they are routed to their communities. This has been particularly true regarding Major John A. Edmison and Colonel L. B. Von Speck. I plan to be in New York November 21-22 and will look forward to seeing you then.

Cordially,

A. E. Casgrain
Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

BPI:AECasgrain:eg
10 November 1945

Mr. Joseph P. Anderson
Executive Secretary
American Association of Social Workers
130 East Twenty-Second Street
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Joe:

Sorry I did not have a chance to see you yesterday, but I hope you will have a pleasant visit with Samuel Rosenberg when he gets in touch with you this week.

I am enclosing a copy of the resolution passed by the Federal Council of Churches, as contained in their 22 September release. Also a copy of a letter they sent to local council church secretaries, which shows still further action that they have taken.

I would appreciate knowing any action your Executive Board might take in urging Congress to pass on our appropriations.

Sincerely yours,

A. E. Casgrain
Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

Enclosures (2)
Release, 22 Sept. 1945
Letter, 9 Oct. 1945

DPI:ARCasgrain:rs1
23 Oct. 1945

Mr. Joseph P. Anderson
Executive Secretary
American Association of Social Workers
~~130 East Twenty-Second Street~~
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Joe:

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Sincerely yours,

A. E. Casgrain
Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

Enclosures (2)
Release, 22 Sept. 1945
Letter, 9 Oct. 1945

DPI: AECasgrain:ral
23 Oct. 1945

Miss Annie C. Porter
Secretary to the Western Massachusetts Chapter
~~The American Association of Social Workers~~
23 Buckingham Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Porter:

Since I wrote you the other day Mr. Rosenberg has decided to accept a fellowship which has been offered him at the University of North Carolina and has, therefore, cancelled his proposed trip to New England. I hope this change in his plans will not have inconvenienced you in any way.

We will try to keep you informed if other members of the UNRRA staff can be in your vicinity.

Sincerely yours,

Olive L. Sawyer
Assistant Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

DPI:OLSawyer:jel
23 October 1945

Miss Annie C. Porter
Secretary to the Western Massachusetts Chapter
The American Association of Social Workers
23 Buckingham Street
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear Miss Porter:

Some time ago you expressed an interest in having a speaker from UNRRA to address your group in Springfield. Mr. Samuel I. Rosenberg who has been for some months in the Office of the Chief of the UNRRA Mission in Yugoslavia is to be at Mount Holyoke College Saturday morning, the 13th November. He could be in Springfield on Monday the 11th if it would be possible for you to arrange a luncheon or afternoon meeting for him that day. He would have to leave on a late afternoon train for Boston where he has engagements on Tuesday. There would of course be no expense involved.

Enclosed is a sheet which gives some details of Mr. Rosenberg's experience. He is not a professional social worker but would, I think, have a story to tell which would interest the members of your group.

Sincerely yours,

Olive L. Sawyer
Assistant Chief of Groups Liaison
Office of Public Information

Enclosure:

DPI:OLSawyer:gc
17 October 1945