

# CPS BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of Mennonite Civilian Public Service

January 11, 1946



Volume IV, No. 17

## NEWS

### NEW RELIEF UNITS TO BE ESTABLISHED

The MCC Relief Section plans to establish construction and transport units in war-torn Europe during the coming year. A budget item of \$30,000 was approved at the recent Annual Meeting of the MCC for operation of such units in 1946. Preliminary investigation of the possibilities for such units will be made by Henry Detweiler, who has been serving as a relief worker in Egypt, and Irvin B. Horst. Henry Detweiler will go to Italy in the near future where the Friends are operating a transport and village reconstruction unit. Needs and opportunities in other European countries will also be investigated, after which more definite plans can be laid. It is expected that such units might be used for construction work in villages or on individual farms, or in transporting relief goods. It is likely that men under 24 years of age will be accepted for the units.

In addition to the work in Italy, the Friends are planning to establish a European Transport Unit, which will begin operations in France in the near future. The unit will be headed by Winslow Ames and George Loveland, both ex-CPS. Winslow Ames writes: "The transportation system of Europe is wrecked. Not only must American relief food and clothing be moved from ports to destination points, but also building materials and food must be carried from places where they are produced to places where there is lack of them." Former American army trucks are being purchased for this work. Members of the new unit may be assigned to work with existing groups in France until the number in the unit justifies a completely AFSC operation.

### SET UP SCHOLARSHIP FOR JAPANESE

From Downingtown, Pa., comes an interesting newspaper story. The parents of an American soldier who was killed while attempting to take a Japanese stronghold on Luzon eight months ago, have set up a scholarship with his \$1000 Government insurance, with priority for Japanese students. The scholarship is at Lafayette College in Pennsylvania. In case no Japanese is a candidate for it, the scholarship is to go to a Chinese, Korean, Filipino, or other Asiatic, or to a member of the white race who will go to the Orient as a missionary. The parents explained that their son believed that a better understanding among the peoples of the world could remove most of the causes of war. "Our son felt that way about the Japanese, and we need to understand the Christian spirit of good-will," the father stated.

### MEN WITH THREE CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR RELEASE

There are 57 assignees in Mennonite units who become eligible for release in January as a result of the Selective Service announcement that men with three or more children may take final physicals on or after Jan. 10. The ruling affects 89 men in the entire CPS program, who will be released regardless of age or length of service.

Release authorization for one three-year service man was received at Akron on Jan. 9, the first in this category. There are only six authorizations to report this week as the release process was caught in the lull between processing the last four year men and beginning on the three year group. Authorizations received Jan. 3 to 9:

<u>Dependency Hardship:</u>	<u>Camp</u>	<u>Four yrs. service as of Nov. 15, 1945:</u>	
1 Sherven, Ralph Lawrence	35	1 Beachy, Homer Edward	77
<u>Married, 4 yrs. service as of Nov. 1:</u>		2 Myers, Willard Moyer	125
1 Stutzman, Glen Victor	100-Pa.	3 Weaver, Dale Albert	120
<u>Three yrs. service as of April 30, 1945:</u>		1 Bontrager, Ezra	-- 126

LINCOLN "AG" TO CLOSE MCC Unit No. 106 at the Agricultural Experiment Station, Lincoln, Neb. is scheduled for closing by Jan. 20, and most of the thirty men there will transfer to other camps in the West or Midwest. A returning labor supply, and the fact that impending releases would seriously reduce the unit strength resulted in the decision to close the unit. Lincoln "Ag" men were employed in the various departments of the experiment station, and participated in a Farm and Community School in off hours. A number of the men will transfer to a similar school at the Malcolm unit, which means that there will be fewer openings at Malcolm for those who have applied for transfers from other units. The sub-unit of No. 106 at North Platte, Neb., will continue.

ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN CHICAGO The Annual Meeting of the MCC was held at the Mennonite Home Mission in Chicago on December 28 and 29, with 70 members, staff workers, and guests present. Highlight of the meeting was the report of C. F. Classen, MCC Commissioner to Europe, who had just returned from a four month's trip in which he contacted Mennonite refugees in Germany and Denmark. Following his report, a prayer service was held on behalf of these needy brethren. It was decided to open a relief ministry in the refugee camps in Denmark. Reports of the various sections of MCC were also heard. Following are items of particular interest to CPS men:

Alternate Service. The matter of whether or not the MCC would serve the constituent groups in administering an alternate service program in event of peacetime conscription was referred back to the individual constituent groups for further consideration and action when and as they see fit. The present CPS Section is authorized to serve only for the duration of the Selective Service and Training Act of 1940.

Voluntary Service Program. The proposal that MCC further explore and develop opportunities for voluntary services in under-privileged areas was referred to the Executive Committee for further study and to determine: (1) The amount of desire for this service by the constituent groups; (2) the relation of a possible MCC program to the service programs of the various groups; (3) the costs and source of support. In general, the reaction was favorable toward the voluntary service idea.

Mental Hospital Study Committee. The report of the committee appointed to make a preliminary study of church-operated mental institutions was presented by Robert Kreider. A survey completed by the committee indicates that there are about 1500 mentally ill and mentally deficient persons in Mennonite and Brethren in Christ church groups, of whom a little over half are mentally ill. In turn, over half of the mentally ill are cared for at home, and a much larger proportion of the mentally deficient are cared for at home. The ministers who returned questionnaires were overwhelmingly in favor of church-administered mental institutions. However, the committee recommended that general hospitals operated by the churches give consideration to the establishment of psychiatric wards, but that separate mental institutions not be established at this time. Difficulties facing such institutions are: (1) Extremely high cost; (2) difficulty of securing a location within a reasonable distance of the communities served; (3) lack of psychiatrists among Mennonite professional people. The committee urged that young Mennonite doctors and pre-medical students consider specializing in the field of psychiatry.

NEWS SHORTS Selective Service has approved a 25-man increase in the Food for Relief unit....New arrivals at MCC headquarters include: John Hostetler from the Clearspring, Md., unit, who will divide his time between the Research Section and the Relief Section; Paul Albrecht, who comes from Three Rivers for research on a history of CPS; and Roy Mast from Medaryville, stationed at Akron temporarily as a carpenter....A large newspaper advertisement addressed "To Men and Women of Goodwill" and urging the American people to express their concern for Europe's need has been prepared by the AFSC and appeared in several large eastern papers. It has elicited much favorable response....Between Dec. 23 and Jan. 11, the 100 CO's and COG's of the Ypsilanti unit contributed to a special relief collection to the tune of over \$1,100. The money will go to purchase food for relief.

A BUSINESS OF MY OWN. This is the title of a very interesting booklet by Arthur Morgan, one copy of which is being sent to each camp and unit. The booklet is divided into four parts. Chapter headings in Part One are: I. The Small Business Outlook; II. Starting in Business; III. Sources of Information; IV. How To Find A Market; V. Community-Wide Economic Development. The other three parts discuss opportunities in the service occupations, in small industry and agriculture, and in cooperatives. Campers interested in business or farming may wish to order a copy of their own, and should do so through their educational director, at 40¢ each.

Also of special interest to CPS men is the pamphlet, "America Questions Peacetime Conscription," published by the AFSC, one copy of which is being sent to all camps and units. It is a digest of congressional hearings held last June before the House Select Committee on Military Affairs and describes the groups which favor such legislation and the arguments for and against it. Additional copies in limited number may be obtained free of charge from the Education Secretary, MCC Office, Akron, Pa.

HOSPITAL UNITS HELP An interesting feature of MCC hospital units is the method which has come into general use for selection of the unit leadership--  
SELECT LEADERS assistant director or educational director--from among the members of the unit. The general procedure, subject to modifications of various kinds, is as follows: At a preliminary unit meeting, the duties and qualifications of the office to be filled are thoroughly discussed, and a method of nomination decided upon. A few days later, a second meeting is called at which each unit member casts a vote for the one he thinks best qualified for the particular job. The three names receiving the highest number of votes are then submitted to the hospital section, which makes the final selection. The one who received the highest number of votes is, in most instances, the person appointed. This method of selection has usually proved to be very satisfactory for all concerned.

#### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Farmer: Mennonite farmer desires to employ a day laborer who can operate general farm machinery. Will pay prevailing wages. Location, Lancaster County. WRITE Levi G. High, RFD #1, Reinhold, Pa.

Nurseryman: Nut Tree Nurseries can use a nurseryman who has acquired a thirst for permanent work in conservation while in CPS. Nut Tree Nurseries plan to open a large nursery for a coal company in Eastern Ohio to grow stock for reclaiming their thousands of acres of land. Requirements: Farm raised, love for trees and conservation. Nursery experience not necessary if sincerely interested in learning to grasp the work. WRITE John W. Hershey, Nut Tree Nurseries, Downingtown, Pa.

Farmer: Opportunity for CPS couple to start farming on a large scale at Ritzville, Washington. Farm is near the Mennonite church at Lind, Washington. The owner is moving to town and wants to know as early as possible if a young CPS couple would be interested in investigating this opening. Applicants should write directly to the owner giving their experience, interests, and references. WRITE Ralph Goering, Ritzville, Washington.

Printer-Linotype Operator: Illinois. CPS man purchasing weekly in Midwest wants CPS printer and linotype operator or person interested in learning linotype trade to help publish weekly newspaper. Business to be set up on profit-sharing basis or partnership. Should be ready around Jan. 15. Opportunity for person interested in community development. Community is Tiskilwa, Ill. Has two Mennonite churches, Central Conference and Old Mennonite. Community investigated. Friendly to CO's. WRITE to Carl S. Miller, Box 1636, Washington 13, D.C.

Farmers: Opportunity for one or more CPS men for dairy farm work in Bradford County, Pa. Modern machinery. Men with farm experience preferred. Married men or single men satisfactory. Wages depend on experience and ability. WRITE Raymond B. Arnold, Rivermead Farm, Milan, Pa.

**Farmers:** Opportunity for CPS couple interested in dairy farm work. Wages or percentage basis. Little or no investment needed but willingness to work important. Herd numbers from 60 to 80 purebred Guernseys. Eight room house, WRITE owner, John Shantz, West Liberty, Ohio.

**NOTE:** The Council for Cooperative Development has announced that during 1946 scholarship funds will be available for use in training qualified candidates for cooperative employment. Most of the training will be on-the-job, with scholarships to supplement income received as a trainee. At present, the openings are largely in the field of retail operations and training will be provided for prospective store managers, produce specialists, meat managers and field men. Interested CPS men should get in touch with: Dan A. Williams, Director of Training, Council for Cooperative Development, 44 West 143 Street, New York 30, N.Y. (Eastern Division); Arthur Pursell, Director of Training, Council for Cooperative Development, 343 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago 4, Illinois (Western Division); or C. J. McLanahan, Personnel Coordinator, Co-op League of the USA, 343 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

### EDITORIAL

#### MAKING THE VISION LIVE

Since 1942 the CPS Bulletin has carried a number of articles under the general heading of "Keeping The Vision Clear." The last printed issue contained a summary of the answers of ten CPS men to the question, "What is the CPS Vision?" All of these discussions were an effort to help us clarify in our own minds the reasons we were in CPS and what we were learning through the experience. They were based on the premise that those who accepted CPS and remained in it did so because of a belief in the "way of love," however imperfectly comprehended or realized. While some have questioned the reality of the vision, others have testified to its growing reality in their lives and have attempted to make it practical in and through the CPS experience. Certainly the subject has not been exhausted nor the final answers given, but the time has come to turn our attention in these columns to a little different aspect of the vision.

Granted that the CPS vision is real, the approaching end of the program presents us with the challenge of how we can best maintain the vision and make it live after we are out of CPS. Much of the constructive good that might come out of CPS depends for its fulfillment on what we do and think in these last months. If enough of us are determined that the gains and lessons of CPS shall not be lost, but that they shall grow and develop in the months and years ahead, then the vision will continue. If, however, we are passive and unconcerned; much of what we have learned may be lost.

Most of us, as we entered CPS, were sure of only one thing--that we could not participate in war and killing. Going through the experience, many have been impressed with the necessity of giving expression to the positive side of our conviction. Now, as the end of the program approaches, it becomes more urgent than ever that we seek ways to make the vision practical in the new situations in which we will find ourselves after release. We would therefore like to open the columns of the CPS Bulletin for your suggestions on "Making the Vision Live." Some of our beginnings in CPS may point the way. Have we learned in CPS a "way of love" which will enable us to meet opposition or criticism in a truly constructive manner? Can we make the vision live in our continued interest in relief work and the problems of mental illness? Can we make it live in the areas of our work, our homes, and our service to the church and community? Can we make it live in the area of voluntary, creative service to country? What do we need in the way of post-CPS organization to implement these goals? These and similar questions deserve our consideration in the months ahead. We hope to publish a number of suggestions along these lines in future issues of the Bulletin under the general heading of "Making the Vision Live."--JRB.