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EUROPEAN STUDENT RELIEF FUND
JULY 1944 - DEC. 1945

ITALIAN STUDENTS FACE THE FUTURE

by Laura Colonetti, Italian representative of European Students Relief.

During the sad years of war, when loss of life was looked upon as a daily commonplace, the finest among the Italians went so far as to wish for the defeat of their country for the sake of the triumph of justice and liberty. Life was very difficult. Everything had lost its value - money and land, life and death. The only resource, hope; the only wealth, friendship. It was hope that enabled us to carry on; it was friendship, that helped us to live, the friendship of those who were suffering with us and all around us the hard realities of war, and the friendship of those far away from us who had kept alive and cherished in their hearts and souls the same ideal which we, above all and in spite of everything, had always striven to serve during those long hard years of fascism and war. In the midst of the destruction by fire and steel of the reflections of eternal beauty created by men on this earth for the delight of all mankind, we felt the heavy burden of expiation, but we felt also its worth. And we dreamed - we dreamed of countries which had known how to govern wisely and live an orderly, industrious, free life. We dreamed of them as of strong upright sons of a race physically and morally strong.

Now the war is over, and we face recovery after so many years, a vast and many-sided problem. All we can do is to limit ourselves conscientiously to our tasks. And since my work is with students I thought I would try to give a glimpse into Italian university life as it is today.

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To understand the needs of Italian students one must remember that for twenty years fascism had shut out the spirit of international cooperation and all new ideas coming from other lands. During those years not even University professors were allowed to take part in Congresses abroad unless they were delegated by the State.

Think of them, then, these Italian students, as of children who have grown up in a house whose doors and windows have been walled up. Think of them having grown up there without seeing or hearing anything coming from the outside except what the Germans sent in, books and magazines on Nazi doctrine. Now these children are young men, and suddenly the wall so cleverly erected about them tumbles down, at the very time when life has become disorganized, when food and lodging are difficult problems, when their only heritage, Italy's treasury of beauty, has been to so large an extent damaged or destroyed. A world appears before their curious and astonished eyes, a world of whose existence beyond artificial barriers many knew almost nothing, and the rest wondered in vain what life there would be like. I wish that this rough comparison might help to an understanding of why Italian students are without any experience of what real University life can be.

In a country which has never known any wealth but that of its sun, and which must learn today the misery of war's destructions students are forced to come face to face with the problem of university reform, a reform more necessary than elsewhere in a university world which besides being archaic in organization and out of step with the reality of modern times, has also known the rottenness and sterility brought by fascism. In this world the old were much more susceptible to fascism than the young, whether because ambition blinded their eyes and obscured their intelligence, ¹⁵⁹⁷ or because a desire for calm and order and *laissez-vivre* led them to follow the general trend.

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It was this lack of understanding and social conscience in the universities which explained the defection of teachers and the adaptation of students to a life which was the exact negation of the real university spirit.

But it is only fair to add here that in every Italian university there we professors and students who resisted threats and flattery, and succeeded in keeping faith with their ideal of justice and liberty. It is with the help of this small but valiant group that we shall reconstruct.

That our efforts be not in vain, that all aid be not rendered useless, I ask you, we ask you, to help us create the new spirit of Italian universities.

Today Italian students are eager to know this University world which has been for so long closed to them. They would like to learn how their comrades in other countries have solved the problem of collaboration between teacher and student in the various university communities, how student organizations function, what courses are given by different faculties in other countries; and they would like very much to become acquainted with the social ideas of their comrades, especially from the point of view of university reform.

All this interest in university questions, already latent in Italian students, was stimulated and nourished with the arrival in Italy of the delegates of the European Student Relief Fund, who brought them a breath of air from the outside world. More especially in Rome, where, as in all capitals, international relations naturally play an important role, the students were glad to profit from the presence of many representatives of the Allied nations and gave a good account of them selves as they began their activities. They even decided recently to open new headquarters for relations with foreign students under the auspices of ESRR. I may say here that in a certain sense these students form the most intellectual group of the University of Rome.

But we are interested in the corporative, as well as in the intellectual life of the university, and here it is well to note the great difference of spirit between northern and southern universities; for Italy, split into two parts which underwent different experiences, was divided for almost a year, and has had some difficult-

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Group of University Fasciste) existed under the fascist regime, and it was the only one to represent the whole student body, for it was the only one allowed to exist. That is why a national association today is looked upon with suspicion by those who, remembering fascist shackles, are afraid of new bonds. But with time such a national organization, which is at once the fear of some and the desire of others, will become reality.

In the meantime, in almost every university other societies have been formed, now General students organizations, now sections, consisting of students elected by their comrades in each department of the University. Athletic, cultural and social groups are forming either as branches of a larger organization or as separate ones. Likewise, university committees for student aid have grown up where the war has seen most victims. In short, in every university students are trying to solve their problems in accordance with local tendencies and possibilities.

But how much these young people, who have never had any experience in democratic university life, would like to be able to take advantage of the experience of their comrades in order to avoid too many false steps, in these first attempts at university organization.

Quite recently some students at the University of Rome had planned a cooperative enterprise for the publication of a course of lectures.

They had full support of the Rector for the printing of the texts, but alas - the price of paper was so very high that they did not succeed at all in their undertaking. You cannot have books, you cannot have course texts, unless you have paper, and here we begin to touch one of the greatest hardships our students have to face.

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Scientific books cost five times as much today as they did during the war. Several public innumerable private libraries were destroyed by fire, often an irreparable loss. Suffice it to mention here one example. All of the Historic Archives of Naples, that is to say, of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, were completely destroyed with the burning of the University.

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To these Italian universities, glorious with their ancient traditions, all these young people now return, to resume their studies after long years of war or imprisonment. It is impossible to estimate the exact number, but it has been put at 180,000. At the University of Rome alone 30,000 enrollments are reckoned. Among them it is easy to recognise those who have lost their homes and families and have returned to the University where they began their studies, in a past which seems now far away and part of another world, with the hope of beginning life anew as soon as possible. Ill fed, ill clad, without any sort of linen, they lodge where they can, often in public dormitories. These young people must manage by some means or other to earn that minimum which is absolutely necessary if they are to live and pay their tuition fees.

Whereas before the war these fees amounted to 1,000 lire annually, today they have doubled. But these figures are not significant, for to the must be added the cost of books! Now, one copy of a text anatomy today sells in Rome for 13,000 lire, which during the war sold for 300.

The abnormally large number of enrollments does not permit students to become intimately acquainted with their professors, who are, if one may say so, submerged by this perpetual flood of youth. It is only during the last years of study when the number is greatly diminished that there is gradually formed a group of the best among our students, who discover in their professors, with a joy and a gratitude they never lose, masters of thought and life. Students and professors in Italy have not shared a common life, for Italians have no natural tendencies toward collective and as long as the easy life of the pre-war world lasted there was no reason to change. Today, however, destruction of houses and university buildings quite naturally leads them to

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ship and war.

We have as leaders of university reconstruction and heads of student organizations those elements that but yesterday refused to work with the enemy and took part in the Resistance. These young people ask today to collaborate with students in other countries to bring new life to the universities in Italy. They are fully aware that the rôle of a student must be accepted not only as a privilege but as a social duty, to be performed faithfully and intelligently by the best sons their country can offer regardless of the class in society to which they may belong.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION ON
Education Subcommittee
APO 394

ED/CRW/cc

ED/5B/5.1/AC

31 December, 1945

SUBJECT : European Student
Relief Fund: Rome.

TO : Mrs. Laura Colonnetti,
7 piazzale delle Scienze, Roma.

Dear Mrs. Colonnetti:

I have read with great interest and
appreciation the reports you sent me on 2 December.

May I congratulate you most heartily on the fine
work you are doing, and assure you of my desire to assist
you in any possible way.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours

CARLETON W. WASHBURN
Lt. Col., A.U.S.
Director of Education

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5B.51

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
APO 394

ED/TK/L.O/AC

30 July 1945

SUBJECT: FESE (European Student Relief Fund).

TO : Regional Education Officer,
Lombardia Region.

Reference ED/4-91 of 26 July and enclosure.

1. The representatives of FESE should be informed that as regards publications needed by universities we have already obtained their lists and are in process of attempting to get the publications. If FESE asks for lists, as it appears to be doing, it will duplicate and complicate the work. If we find that there are publications desired which we are unable to obtain, we shall be glad to have FESE's help in procuring them. For the time being it would be better if they ceased activity in this field.
2. The other laudable activities of FESE do not overlap our work. Their suggestions as to ways in which the Education Subcommittee might be of assistance to them are well taken. When they have specific recommendations needing our help we shall be glad to do all we can.

CARLETON W. WASHBURN
Lt. Col., A.U.S.
Director of Education

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ENTR'AIDE UNIVERSITAIRE INTERNATIONALE

SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL

13, RUE CALVIN, GENÈVE
TÉLÉPHONE 4 73 54ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE
INTERSTUD, GENÈVE
CHÈQUES POSTAUX 1 5872

Genève, Juillet 1944.

UN PLAN D'APRÈS-GUERRE

pour

L'ENTR'AIDE UNIVERSITAIRE INTERNATIONALE

Ce mémoire a été discuté et adopté par le Comité exécutif provisoire de l'Entr'Aide Universitaire Internationale, lors de sa douzième réunion qui a eu lieu à Genève, le 31 juillet 1944. Nous espérons qu'il constituera une base utile pour l'échange de vues qui, dès maintenant, doit être engagé entre Genève et les comités nationaux quant à l'avenir de l'Entr'Aide et au rôle qu'elle aura à assumer dans la grande œuvre de reconstruction universitaire d'après-guerre.

INTRODUCTION

L'heure est venue de préparer la reprise des relations internationales entre étudiants, au lendemain des hostilités. Mais avant d'élaborer des plans à cette fin il faut se rappeler qu'avant la date fatidique de septembre 1939, le travail des organisations qui, telle l'Entr'Aide Universitaire Internationale, avait pour objet d'aider les étudiants dans le besoin et de promouvoir la collaboration internationale parmi les membres de la communauté universitaire, se heurtait déjà à de grandes difficultés. Ces difficultés s'étaient manifestées tout particulièrement après 1933, lorsque des idéologies nouvelles, fondamentalement hostiles à l'esprit qui inspirait les efforts de l'Entr'Aide vinrent rendre de plus en plus aléatoires l'entente et la compréhension entre étudiants de différents pays. Et c'est seulement l'indébranlable foi du petit groupe d'universitaires de différents pays associés, avant 1939, à l'œuvre de l'Entr'Aide qui a permis à celle-ci de survivre à la désintégration internationale qui a précédé la guerre et d'assumer durant ces années de crise d'importantes tâches tant en matière de secours aux étudiants que dans le domaine des recherches universitaires et de l'organisation de conférences internationales d'étudiants.

Le problème qui se pose aujourd'hui n'est donc pas seulement de reconstruire ce qui a été détruit par la guerre, mais aussi, riche des expériences précédentes qui restent valables, de mettre au point des méthodes de travail et une organisation permettant au plus grand nombre possible de professeurs et d'étudiants de participer, au lendemain de la guerre, à la reconstruction universitaire. On trouvera, ci-dessous, esquissé dans ses grandes lignes, un plan de réorganisation de l'Entr'Aide Universitaire Internationale, réorganisation qui vise à offrir à des universitaires de nationalité et d'opinions différentes

- 2 -

un terrain de rencontre sur lequel ils puissent dans une même volonté de compréhension réciproque, collaborer à la solution des problèmes qui se poseront à l'Université future ainsi qu'au développement de la vie estudiantine internationale.

A. PRINCIPES

Depuis sa réorganisation en 1930, l'œuvre de l'Entr'Aide s'est inspirée des principes suivants, formulés dans ses statuts :

Art. 2. - L'Entr'Aide Universitaire Internationale a pour but de travailler au développement des universités et hautes écoles afin qu'elles deviennent de véritables centres de culture nationale intimement liées avec les réalités internationales, économiques et sociales du monde moderne.

Art. 4. - Fidèle à l'esprit qui anima l'European Student Relief Fund fondé par la Fédération Universelle des Associations Chrétiennes d'Etudiants, l'Entr'Aide Universitaire Internationale est neutre et travaille sans faire de distinction de race, de nationalité, de convictions religieuses ou politiques.

Dès avant la guerre, cependant, certains comités de l'Entr'Aide réclamaient une révision de ces principes en vue de leur donner un sens plus précis et un contenu plus riche. Ils reprochaient à l'Entr'Aide sa position de neutralité positive, estimant qu'elle se devait d'affirmer de façon plus claire les valeurs auxquelles elle était attachée.

Cette critique de la neutralité de l'Entr'Aide fut renforcée sous l'effet de la guerre et l'on vit plusieurs comités nationaux, notamment celui de la Grande-Bretagne, entreprendre dans les limites de l'autonomie temporaire qui leur avait été accordée pour la durée du conflit, un effort en vue de repenser leur mission et de formuler de façon plus nette les buts et l'idéal qu'ils voulaient poursuivre.

C'est une préoccupation semblable qui a inspiré la conférence d'été, tenue à Genève, sous les auspices de l'Entr'Aide Universitaire Internationale et du Fonds Européen de Secours aux Etudiants, du 17 au 20 juillet 1944. Cette conférence, à laquelle assistèrent plus de cent étudiants de 22 nationalités, exprima l'opinion qu'un but concret devrait être donné au travail de l'Entr'Aide après la guerre. A son avis, la position de neutralité positive définie ci-dessus n'avait pas un dynamisme suffisant pour attirer à l'Entr'Aide les générations d'étudiants qui demain, marqués par les batailles et les épreuves, accéderont aux études supérieures. On peut craindre que si le besoin éprouvé par ces étudiants d'une direction positive de pensée et d'action ne trouve pas satisfaction dans le cadre d'une organisation comme l'Entr'Aide, leurs intérêts et leur enthousiasme ne convergent vers des mouvements à caractère purement politique et négligent certaines valeurs fondamentales de l'Université que l'Entr'Aide a toujours eu à cœur de défendre.

La conférence a donc décidé de soumettre au comité de l'Entr'Aide pour discussion une déclaration dans laquelle elle a exprimé quelles devaient être à son avis la nature et la mission de l'Université de demain, que l'Entr'Aide entend servir. Voici le texte de cette déclaration qui spontanément fut baptisée du nom de "Charte de l'Université".

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L'Entr'Aide reconnaît comme fondements véritables de l'Université les valeurs suivantes :

- (1) La recherche sincère et désintéressée de la vérité -
ce qui implique
 - (a) une curiosité intellectuelle délibérément critique à l'égard de tous les résultats acquis et de toutes les synthèses intellectuelles déjà achevées;
 - (b) le devoir de résister à toutes les pressions extérieures de nature à entraver cette recherche.
- (2) La formation d'hommes ayant une conception large et cohérente de la culture humaine et du sens de la responsabilité des intellectuels vis à vis de la société -
ce qui implique
 - (a) la lutte contre un empiètement excessif de la préparation technique sur la formation intellectuelle;
 - (b) une participation au développement de la culture sur le plan national et international.
- (3) La fraternité universitaire -
ce qui implique
 - (a) qu'aucune différence de classe, de fortune, de race, de nationalité, de religion ou de conviction politique et sociale, ne doit constituer une infériorité ou une disqualification universitaire pour personne;
 - (b) qu'il importe de favoriser à l'intérieur de l'Université la vie communautaire dans toute la mesure du possible;
 - (c) qu'il faut réaliser une vraie solidarité entre les universitaires de tous pays.

Dans ses grandes lignes cette déclaration concorde avec les points ci-dessous que, dans une précédente discussion, le comité exécutif de l'Entr'Aide avait reconnus comme le fondement nécessaire du travail d'après-guerre:

La tradition de l'Entr'Aide telle qu'elle s'est affirmée à travers 20 ans d'existence repose sur les convictions suivantes :

1. Que l'Université doit être un facteur d'unité internationale et que ses membres sont liés entre eux à travers les frontières dans une recherche commune de la vérité.
2. Que l'Université ne peut remplir sa mission qu'à condition :
 - (a) de représenter toutes les forces créatrices de la nation et d'être accessible à tous les jeunes gens qui le méritent, ceci sans considération d'origine ou de situation de fortune, ni de discrimination d'ordre social ou politique.

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- (b) de garantir aux étudiants et aux professeurs une pleine liberté de pensée et d'enseignement dans les limites de leur responsabilité sociale.

3. Que l'existence d'une communauté universitaire crée pour ses membres le devoir de s'aider concrètement et notamment de secourir ceux des étudiants ou des professeurs qui sont en proie à des difficultés d'ordre matériel ou spirituel.

4. Que les problèmes de la jeunesse universitaire peuvent et doivent trouver leur solution par la voie de libres discussions et d'une collaboration active d'étudiants de nationalités et de croyances différentes.

On le voit, ces deux déclarations ne présentent pas grande différence et, sans que la forme en soit achevée, elles semblent bien refléter les principales valeurs que l'Entr'Aide devra s'efforcer de promouvoir demain, au moyen des différentes activités proposées ci-dessous.

B. PROGRAMME

Au cours de son existence l'Entr'Aide a toujours fait preuve d'une grande souplesse dans le développement de ses activités et a prouvé sa vitalité en adaptant constamment son programme aux nécessités de circonstances changeantes. Elle est restée en contact avec la vie et a été en mesure de rendre de grands services à la communauté universitaire.

Au commencement de la guerre actuelle, l'Entr'Aide a donné une nouvelle preuve de cette souplesse. Elle s'est adaptée très rapidement à la situation nouvelle, abandonnant temporairement les éléments de son programme qui n'avaient plus d'objet en raison des conditions créées par les hostilités, et concentrant toutes ses ressources sur l'organisation d'une action de secours de grande envergure en faveur des étudiants victimes du conflit. Ainsi, l'Entr'Aide a réussi à éviter une interruption de son activité et a pu jouer un rôle prépondérant dans la constitution du Fonds Européen de Secours aux Etudiants dont son secrétariat a assuré l'administration.

Cette souplesse devra, bien entendu, être conservée dans la période d'après-guerre. Il faudra que le programme de la nouvelle Entr'Aide s'inspire des circonstances et s'adapte constamment aux besoins sociaux des étudiants aussi bien qu'à l'évolution du monde. Cependant, on peut prévoir d'ores et déjà que les tâches suivantes se présenteront à l'Entr'Aide, tâches très urgentes qui devront être abordées immédiatement.

1. Secours aux Etudiants -

Pendant les premières années qui suivront la guerre, le secours aux étudiants restera certainement l'élément principal du programme de l'Entr'Aide comme cela a été le cas durant les hostilités. Dans ce domaine l'Entr'Aide travaillera en étroite collaboration avec la Fédération des Associations Chrétiennes d'Etudiants, Pax Romana et, éventuellement, d'autres organisations dans le cadre du Fonds Européen de Secours aux Etudiants et du Fonds Mondial de Secours aux Etudiants.

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Les plans du FESE concernant le secours d'après-guerre ont été esquissés dans un document spécial. En vertu de l'accord réglant la collaboration entre les trois organisations actuellement associées à l'œuvre du FESE chacune de celles-ci reste libre, si les circonstances l'exigent, d'entreprendre en dehors du programme commun et sous son propre nom, des actions de secours particulières. Encore que l'on ne puisse prévoir comment et dans quelle circonstance l'Entr'Aide pourrait être appelée à user de cette faculté, on ne doit pas perdre de vue qu'une telle possibilité lui est offerte. On se rappellera à ce propos que même durant la guerre l'Entr'Aide a continué, de façon autonome, son œuvre de secours pour les réfugiés de l'Europe centrale.

L'expérience de la présente guerre, comme celle faite après la première guerre mondiale, montre cependant que le travail de secours aux étudiants ne peut et ne doit à longue échéance être dissocié d'un travail à buts plus généraux. Par sa nature même le secours conduit nécessairement à différentes formes d'activité, en particulier à l'étude des problèmes se posant aux étudiants et à l'organisation de rencontres universitaires internationales destinées à établir un contact entre étudiants de différentes nationalités.

Aussi est-il essentiel de fixer sans délai les grandes lignes du programme de travail auquel l'Entr'Aide vouera son attention à côté de l'œuvre de secours, suscitant ainsi l'intérêt des milieux internationaux d'étudiants et les convaincant du rôle qu'une organisation étudiante peut être appelée à jouer dans la paix comme dans la guerre.

2. Recherches Universitaires -

Pendant les trois années précédant la guerre, l'Entr'Aide a créé avec l'appui de la Fondation Rockefeller à New York, un Département de Recherches et d'Informations universitaires. Le but de ce département était d'étudier les problèmes qui préoccupaient alors les milieux universitaires, problèmes tels que "La liberté de l'enseignement", "Le service médical aux étudiants", "Sélection des mieux doués". L'Entr'Aide s'est montrée qualifiée pour stimuler dans ce domaine la réflexion et l'action dans plusieurs universités de divers pays.

Quelque peu réduit durant les premières années de la guerre, en raison d'abord de difficultés financières, ce travail de recherches a été repris depuis 1942. Le département intéressé a été réorganisé, sa principale mission étant pour commencer de suivre le développement de la situation dans les universités européennes pendant la guerre et de préparer une documentation destinée à servir de base au programme de secours et de reconstruction d'après-guerre projeté par le FESE.

Au lendemain des hostilités, il faudra donner de nouveau un plein développement au travail de ce département. L'Entr'Aide a la tradition, l'expérience et la documentation nécessaires pour faire une étude approfondie, sous l'angle international, des principaux problèmes qui se poseront aux étudiants. Il ne fait donc pas de doute qu'elle puisse rendre ici de grands services.

Parmi les premières questions à étudier, nous citerons toutes celles concernant l'amélioration des conditions de vie des étudiants aussi bien que l'étude de leurs problèmes sociaux et économiques.

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Une autre question brillante est celle de la réforme de l'Université. Partout le vieux monde universitaire traverse une crise. La guerre provoquera dans tous les pays de profondes transformations spirituelles, économiques et sociales. L'Université devra donc s'adapter pour devenir de plus en plus une communauté véritable intégrée dans la vie de la nation. Cette évolution n'aura pas lieu en un jour. Ce sera une des tâches de l'Entr'Aide d'y participer en favorisant sur le plan international une discussion objective des problèmes posés par cette évolution.

A côté de cette tâche, le département de recherches universitaires devra devenir toujours davantage un centre d'informations auquel pourront s'adresser tous ceux qui auront besoin d'une documentation concernant les problèmes qui se posent aux étudiants et aux universités. Les archives qui existent déjà au secrétariat de Genève seront complétées. Des enquêtes seront organisées sur des sujets d'une actualité particulière, et les renseignements ainsi recueillis seront diffusés dans un Bulletin d'informations universitaires internationales. Pour réaliser cette tâche le Département de recherches universitaires devra maintenir le contact avec les journaux d'étudiants des cinq continents.

Signalons ici que lors de sa dernière réunion, le Comité exécutif provisoire de l'Entr'Aide a décidé de reprendre, à la fin de 1944, la publication d'une revue trimestrielle consacrée à l'étude des problèmes universitaires de l'heure et, principalement, de ceux que posera la reconstruction d'après-guerre.

3. Conférences Internationales -

L'étude des problèmes qui se posent aux étudiants ne sera pas seulement l'objet d'un travail de bureau et d'archives. Aussitôt après la guerre, il sera nécessaire de réunir les étudiants des différentes nations afin de discuter les problèmes d'intérêt commun et de leur donner l'occasion d'un échange d'informations concernant la situation de leurs universités respectives. Ce sera la mission de l'Entr'Aide de réunir de telles conférences car elles offrent les meilleures occasions de rétablir les contacts entre les groupes que la guerre a séparés. Après 1918, d'heureuses expériences ont été faites dans ce sens. La désintégration du monde universitaire international est cette fois-ci plus profonde; la tâche de rétablir l'entente entre étudiants par dessus les frontières sera plus complexe. Pour remplir ce rôle l'Entr'Aide, qui a 20 ans d'expérience derrière elle, sera bien armée.

4. Echanges et Voyages d'Etudiants -

Il est certain que des centaines d'étudiants qui auront été isolés dans leur pays durant la guerre désireront en franchir les frontières et aller étudier à l'étranger aussi vite que possible. C'est pourquoi il importera de mettre sur pied rapidement un plan de grande envergure pour faciliter l'échange et les voyages d'étudiants. Les contacts ainsi établis faciliteront, plus que tout autre chose, la reprise de relations confiantes d'un pays à l'autre.

Des plans sont faits en ce moment pour recevoir, au lendemain des hostilités, dans les pays comme la Suède et la Suisse, des étudiants tuberculeux ou atteints d'autres maladies. On espère que dans le cadre de ces efforts il sera possible de réaliser le projet d'un sanatorium universitaire international dont l'organisation a été projetée depuis plusieurs années.

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En plus de l'hospitalisation d'étudiants malades - la Suisse à elle seule espère pouvoir en recevoir quelques centaines - il sera nécessaire de faciliter la poursuite d'études à l'étranger aux jeunes gens qui ne trouveront pas dans leur propre pays la possibilité de les continuer. Déjà, le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis a invité 1,500 étudiants des pays occupés en Europe à traverser l'Océan pour aller compléter leur formation dans des universités américaines. De tels plans devront être généralisés. L'Entr'Aide, grâce aux contacts dont elle dispose dans tous les continents, devra participer largement à leur réalisation.

C. ORGANISATION

Si l'Entr'Aide a pu maintenir son existence pendant la guerre, alors que d'autres organisations similaires ont disparu, c'est en partie grâce à la forme équilibrée de son organisation qu'elle le doit. Cette organisation, qui associe dans une collaboration régulière des étudiants et des professeurs, a l'avantage d'assurer une continuité appréciable dans la direction du travail. En raison des expériences heureuses faites dans ce domaine, il semble désirable que l'on s'abstienne d'apporter des modifications profondes à la structure de la nouvelle Entr'Aide. Celle-ci pourra donc être organisée selon les mêmes principes qu'avant la guerre, compte tenu toutefois de la nécessité de remédier aux insuffisances qui se seront révélées et d'adapter la structure nouvelle aux nécessités du moment.

1. Assemblée Internationale -

La direction de l'Entr'Aide devra être assumée, comme par le passé, par l'"Assemblée", corps international se composant de 24 membres au plus, recrutés par cooptation. On attachera une grande importance à la composition de cette Assemblée qui devra être représentative des forces réelles existant au sein des universités et rester en contact avec les générations successives d'étudiants et de professeurs. Dans le passé les membres de l'Assemblée de l'Entr'Aide ont été unis par des liens personnels amicaux très forts, ceci en dépit des différences de nationalité, de religion et d'opinion politique. Quel que fût leur croyance ou leur pays, les membres de l'Assemblée formaient une équipe homogène servant en commun et sans préjugés la cause de l'Université. Il faut espérer qu'après la guerre un certain nombre des membres de l'Assemblée accepteront d'en faire partie à nouveau et d'y renouer avec les membres qui, depuis 1939, ont siégé au Comité exécutif provisoire de l'Entr'Aide, une tradition vieille de 20 ans. En outre, il sera nécessaire d'élargir la base de recrutement des membres de l'Assemblée pour assurer à celle-ci la collaboration d'universitaires venant de pays qui ne participaient pas à l'œuvre de l'Entr'Aide avant la guerre. Il sera également important d'assurer au sein de l'Assemblée la représentation équitable des organisations qui ont toujours soutenu le travail de l'Entr'Aide et spécialement celle de la Fédération Universelle des Associations Chrétiennes d'Etudiants, à laquelle l'Entr'Aide doit tant, et de Pax Romana. En plus, un contact devra être établi avec les nouvelles organisations et les nouveaux mouvements d'étudiants qui seront créés après la guerre. Comme par le passé les membres de l'Assemblée seront désignés à titre personnel, et non en qualité de représentants mandatés d'autres groupements.

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Conformément à la tradition, un Comité exécutif sera désigné au sein de l'Assemblée. Ce comité sera responsable avec le secrétariat de l'exécution du programme d'action décidé par l'Assemblée.

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2. Comités Nationaux -

L'une des premières tâches d'après-guerre sera de constituer ou de recréer, dans le plus grand nombre possible de pays, des comités nationaux vigoureux et actifs, disposés à collaborer aussi bien aux tâches immédiates de secours qu'à l'effort de plus longue haleine mené par l'Entr'Aide pour la reconstruction universitaire.

Le noyau de la nouvelle organisation sera constitué par les comités de l'Entr'Aide qui existent encore, notamment :

au Canada :	Le Comité canadien de l'Entr'Aide, Hart House, Toronto, Ontario
En Grande Bretagne :	Le Comité de l'Entr'Aide pour la Grande Bretagne, 11d Regent Street, London, S.W.1.
En Suède :	L'"Internationella Studenthjälps Rikskommitté", Drottninggatan 116, Stockholm.
En Suisse :	Le Comité suisse de l'Entr'Aide Universi- taire Internationale, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale, Zürich.
Aux Etats-Unis :	"The Student Service of America", 3 West 40th Street, New York.

et par les comités de l'Entr'Aide dans les pays occupés et belligérants qui ne peuvent agir en ce moment, mais qui reprendront leur activité après la guerre.

C'est seulement si ces comités sont véritablement enracinés dans la vie universitaire qu'ils seront en mesure de transformer en une réalité concrète dans les différents pays les principes et les idéaux de l'Entr'Aide. Après la guerre, comme déjà avant le conflit, le travail de l'Entr'Aide ne devra pas reposer sur une participation massive mais sur des personnes-clés, en veillant à ce que l'organisation ait non seulement les appuis nationaux, mais également locaux, au sein de chaque université. Dans ce but, il faudra maintenir le contact avec les représentants de toutes les tendances universitaires et particulièrement avec les représentants nationaux des organisations internationales qui prêtent leur appui à l'Entr'Aide.

Enfin, une grande part de liberté devra être accordée aux groupes nationaux quant à la forme et à la procédure de leur administration. Dans chaque cas le cadre devra être adapté aux conditions réelles dans les différents pays. La considération principale sera l'efficacité, dans la mesure où les principes fondamentaux qui inspirent l'organisation seront respectés.

Il convient de rappeler que l'Entr'Aide n'est pas une organisation qui recrute des "membres" individuels dans la masse des étudiants. A côté de ses comités nationaux elle compte, pour rester en contact avec les étudiants et les professeurs, sur la coopération directe de "membres correspondants" qui agissent comme ses représentants dans les régions où l'existence d'un comité national ne paraît pas justifiée ou nécessaire.

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Enfin, l'Entr'Aide a toujours été secondée par un groupe dévoué d'"Amis" versant une petite contribution annuelle de Fr. s. 10.- (10 shillings ou \$2.50) pour manifester leur intérêt et soutenir le développement de l'Entr'Aide.

3. Secrétariat -

A la suite de l'extension prise pendant la guerre par le travail de secours que l'Entr'Aide administre pour le compte du FESZ, le secrétariat de Genève a été fortement élargi. Il s'est assuré la collaboration d'un personnel nombreux qui sera bien préparé pour assumer de nouvelles responsabilités lorsque le travail de secours diminuera d'envergure. Parmi ce personnel, un certain nombre de secrétaires envisagent de se mettre au service de l'Entr'Aide après la guerre. La composition largement internationale du secrétariat de Genève, et un judicieux équilibre dans la direction entre les secrétaires jeunes et les plus expérimentés, assurera aussi bien un travail efficace qu'un contact étroit avec les milieux universitaires qui lui prêteront leur appui.

Les propositions et les idées contenues dans ce document n'ont pas un caractère définitif. Elles devront être adaptées d'une part aux vœux et aux intentions des groupes de l'Entr'Aide à l'étranger et, d'autre part, aux exigences d'une situation dont personne ne peut prévoir les développements.

Plus tôt qu'on ne le pensait il y a quelques mois, une grande occasion peut s'offrir d'un travail étudiantin constructif dans le domaine international. Il est essentiel que des plans soient élaborés d'avance et qu'un accord international soit réalisé si possible sur les principes d'action fondamentaux, afin que lors de la première rencontre internationale d'après-guerre, il ne soit pas nécessaire de discuter longuement des questions d'ordre général. Les tâches qui se présenteront alors seront immenses et urgentes. Seul un groupe d'universitaires unis par une conception commune des buts essentiels à atteindre, pourra se mettre à la tâche avec toute la rapidité et l'énergie désirables.

FONDS EUROPEEN DE SECOURS AUX ETUDIANTS

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SU DI UNA POSSIBILE PARTECIPAZIONE DEL P.E.S.E.

ALLA RICOSTRUZIONE UNIVERSITARIA ITALIANA.

- - - -

Sarebbe di un piano di azione immediata.

Durante gli scorsi mesi stretti contatti si sono stabiliti fra un certo numero di studenti italiani rifugiati in Svizzera - con alla testa i Professori Colonnetti, Donati ed Einaudi - ed i dirigenti del FESE.

Nel quadro generale dell'opera che il FESE si propone di svolgere per la ricostruzione universitaria in Europa, sono state d'accordo studiate le diverse iniziative che potrebbero essere prese in Italia al fine di facilitare, con soccorsi immediati ed in uno spirito di solidarietà e di collaborazione, la ripresa della vita universitaria e la soluzione dei gravi problemi di ordine economico, sociale ed intellettuale che vi sono connessi.

Sulla base delle informazioni disponibili è stata fatta un'analisi accurata della situazione universitaria e dei bisogni della classe studentesca; a questo compito hanno collaborato gruppi di studio appositamente creati nei campi universitari italiani, con la partecipazione dei migliori elementi che le circostanze hanno riuniti in Svizzera.

Alla luce delle esperienze che il FESE ha già fatte nei paesi liberati - ed in particolare in Francia e in Belgio - i dirigenti del Fondo Europeo di Soccorso agli Studenti ed i suoi collaboratori italiani sono stati condotti a formulare il seguente piano di azione immediata come punto di partenza di una proficua collaborazione fra gli studenti della nuova Italia ed i loro compagni degli altri paesi.

1. Creazione di una "Maison d'accueil" per studenti.

E' da prevedersi che, quando gli studenti che la guerra ha strappati dalla loro università e deportati, o fatti prigionieri

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Risicilmente ed intellettualmente menomati essi avranno

bisogno di un certo periodo di riadattamento in un ambiente proprio. Essi si troveranno in una condizione di evidente inferiorità rispetto ai loro compagni più giovani. Bisognerà ridar loro la fiducia nelle loro forze e nel loro avvenire e reintegrarli nelle comunità studentesca.

A questo fine il FESE è disposto a finanziare l'organizzazione di una o di alcune "Kaisers d'accueil" del tipo di quelle che già funzionano in Francia, con le modalità indicate nell'apposito allegato.

2. Casa di cura per studenti tubercolotici in Svizzera.

E' fuori di dubbio che tra gli studenti reduci dalla deportazione o dalla prigionia, ve ne saranno molti colpiti da forme di tubercolosi la cui ospitalizzazione in Italia potrà presentare qualche difficoltà. Perciò il FESE, d'accordo col "Comité d'action pour le Sanatorium Universitaire International" ha studiato un piano di soccorso in Svizzera agli studenti stranieri; nell'ambito del quale un certo numero di posti potrà immediatamente venir messo a disposizione di studenti italiani.

3. Aiuti diretti a studenti universitari sinistrati.

Nelle città che sono state già duramente colpite dai bombardamenti, un certo numero di studenti si verrà indubbiamente a trovare alle prese con difficoltà materiali e morali.

Ora, nell'attesa che i poteri pubblici provvedano alla risoluzione di tutti i problemi di questo genere, il FESE è disposto ad intervenire con aiuti individuali sotto forma di sussidi in denaro, di istituzioni di mensa e di locali di soggiorno, di invio di libri ecc.

Questa azione dovrà naturalmente venir condotta d'accordo con le grandi organizzazioni di soccorso e tutti i sinistrati, ed adattarsi alle condizioni particolari di ciascuna città.

4. Creazione di un centro di studio e d'informazione universitario internazionale.

In Italia, come del resto in tutti i paesi liberati, gli studenti sentiranno certamente il desiderio di sortire dal loro isolamento e di essere messi prontamente al corrente dei problemi universitari e delle tendenze che si manifestano nei diversi paesi.

Il Fonds Européen de Secours aux Etudiants et l'Ente Aide Universitaire Internationale si propongono di mettere a disposizione una documentazione completa atta a facilitare agli studenti italiani

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Per la realizzazione di questo programma d'azione immediata dovrebbero essere soddisfatte alcune condizioni:

- 3 -

- a) una visita a Roma e nelle regioni liberate di un rappresentante del FISE, e cio' al piu presto possibile.
 - b) la costituzione di un primo nucleo di collaboratori italiani che conoscano l'opera del FISE e si interessino alla sua diffusione in Italia.
 - c) la designazione di corrispondenti locali nei principali centri universitari, alcuni dei quali potrebbero a suo tempo esser trovati fra gli universitari italiani attualmente rifugiati in Svizzera e che hanno partecipato ai corsi di preparazione del FISE.
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- b) la costituzione di un primo nucleo di collaboratori italiani che conoscano l'opera del FESE e si interessino alla sua diffusione in Italia.
- c) la designazione di corrispondenti locali nei principali centri universitari, alcuni dei quali potrebbero a suo tempo esser trovati fra gli universitari italiani attualmente rifugiati in Svizzera e che hanno partecipato ai corsi di preparazione del FESE.

1814

Novembre 1944

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RICOSTRUIRE L'UNIVERSITA'

I piani per il dopo guerra

del

Fondo Europeo di Soccorso agli Studenti.

LA SITUAZIONE.

Quattro anni sono trascorsi da che il Fondo Europeo di Soccorso agli Studenti è stato costituito per iniziativa dell'Ente Aide Universitaire Internationale, della Fédération Universelle des Associations Chrétiennes d'Étudiants e di Pax Romana: quattro anni durante i quali il FESE ha coordinato e condotto le diverse azioni di soccorso agli studenti vittime della guerra; ha successivamente esteso il campo delle sue attività fornendo aiuto sia morale che intellettuale a tutti coloro che, fiduciosi nella solidarietà universitaria, si sono rivolti a lui. E' così, oggi riconosciuto in tutta Europa come ente competente per i problemi concernenti studenti e le università che, in un modo o in un altro, sono stati colpiti dalla guerra.

Migliaia di studenti la cui esistenza era minacciata sono stati salvati materialmente e spiritualmente. Ventimila prigionieri in Germania, in Italia ed oltremare hanno ricevuto materiale di studio. Gli studenti affamati in Francia, Belgio, Norvegia e Grecia hanno ricevuto dei viveri. Più di tremila studenti di ogni nazionalità, rifugiati ed internati in Svizzera hanno avuto la possibilità materiale e finanziaria di continuare i loro studi interrotti.

Questa azione condotta con uno spirito di comprensione internazionale ha fatto rinascere la volontà di lavoro di innumerevoli giovani che avevano perso il coraggio e la fiducia nell'avvenire. L'azione di soccorso iniziata in tempo di guerra sarà continuata in tempo di pace. Non è sufficiente salvare gli studenti dai pericoli presenti, ma bisogna pure preparare il loro avvenire. A questo scopo, bisogna considerare l'in d'ora con quali mezzi si dovrà s'integrare la disperata situazione che regnerà in Europa quando le

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LA SITUAZIONE.

Quattro anni sono trascorsi da che il Fondo Europeo di Soccorso agli Studenti è stato costituito per iniziativa dell'Ente Aide Universitaire Internationale, della Fédération Universelle des Associations Chrétiennes d'Etudiants e di Pax Romana; quattro anni durante i quali il FESE ha coordinato e condotto le diverse azioni di soccorso agli studenti vittime della guerra; ha successivamente esteso il campo delle sue attività fornendo aiuto sia morale che intellettuale a tutti coloro che, fiduciosi nella solidarietà universitaria, si sono rivolti a lui. E' così, oggi riconosciuto in tutta Europa come ente competente per i problemi concernenti studenti e le università che, in un modo o in un altro, sono stati colpiti dalla guerra.

Migliaia di studenti la cui esistenza era minacciata sono stati salvati materialmente e spiritualmente. Ventimila prigionieri in Germania, in Italia od oltremare hanno ricevuto materiale di studio. Gli studenti affamati in Francia, Belgio, Norvegia e Grecia hanno ricevuto dei viveri. Più di tremila studenti di ogni nazionalità, rifugiati od internati in Svizzera hanno avuto la possibilità materiale e finanziaria di continuare i loro studi interrotti.

Questa azione condotta con uno spirito di comprensione internazionale ha fatto rinascere la volontà di lavoro di innumerevoli giovani che avevano perso il coraggio e la fiducia nell'avvenire. L'azione di soccorso iniziata in tempo di guerra sarà continuata in tempo di pace. Non è sufficiente salvare gli studenti dai pericoli presenti, ma bisogna pure preparare il loro avvenire. A questo scopo, bisogna considerare l'in d'ora con quali mezzi si dovrà fronteggiare la disperata situazione che regnerà in Europa quando le ostilità saranno finite.

Le condizioni degli studenti saranno tragiche. Decine di migliaia di giovani, smobilitati, liberati dai campi di prigionia,

d'interamento, di concentramento o di lavoro ritroveranno una libertà di cui non sapranno fare uso, ritroveranno una patria che forse non potrà loro offrire nulla. Dovranno riadattarsi psicologicamente, porre le basi economiche della loro vita. Gli studenti avranno fame, gli studenti saranno mal vestiti, gli studenti saranno malati, avranno bisogno di un aiuto per rifarsi una nuova esistenza.

Ed oltre ai problemi materiali, si presentano i problemi spirituali. L'Europa sarà divina, agitata da gravi conflitti, sommersa da ondate di odio e di violenza. Dovrà ciononostante rinascere dalle sue rovine e trovare una nuova unità malgrado gli antagonismi ideologici. Questa rinascita esigerà la collaborazione dell'Università.

Prima della guerra l'università non ha raggiunto i suoi scopi in molti campi. Ha fornito ai giovani l'arma della scienza senza dar loro quelle basi morali che avrebbero dovuto permettere di servirne con un giusto criterio. In alcuni paesi hanno perso il contatto con la realtà e con la vita. Sul piano nazionale ed internazionale ha opposto ben scarsa resistenza alle forze disintegratrici che hanno condotto a questa guerra: troppo spesso l'università ha accettato di essere uno strumento in mani nichiliste.

Domani la nuova università dovrà comprendere l'importanza della sua missione che è non solo di diffondere la scienza, ma di formare degli uomini; di nuovo come nei secoli scorsi dovrà rappresentare un elemento di unità nel mondo. In ogni paese dovrà adattarsi all'evoluzione sociale che è stata così rapidamente accelerata da questa guerra e dovrà essere la guida delle nuove comunità.

L'università non potrà raggiungere questo scopo che nella misura nella quale potrà esistere, cioè a seconda della misura in cui le distruzioni della guerra saranno riparate, le biblioteche ed i laboratori ricostruiti, la libertà di pensiero assicurata, agli intellettuali; un minimo di sicurezza indispensabile ai lavori dello spirito dovrà essere accordato agli studenti e ai professori. Per raggiungere questo scopo che si presenta immenso e al quale si deve tendere con un vero spirito di comprensione nazionale ed internazionale, le organizzazioni affiliate al PSE sembrano particolarmente qualificate per la loro esperienza e per le loro tradizioni.

QUALI PRINCIPI GENERALI ISPIRERANNO L'AZIONE DEL PSE.

1. I servizi del PSE saranno offerti a tutti gli universitari, studenti e professori, che ne avranno bisogno e questo senza distinzione di religione, di razza, di paese o di nazionalità.
2. L'azione del PSE avrà, nella misura del possibile, un carattere individuale; cercherà di sviluppare le forze intellettuali spirituali e morali che ispirano le tre organizzazioni affiliate.
3. Il lavoro di soccorso non sarà riservato

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1. I servizi del FESE saranno offerti a tutti gli universitari, studenti e professori, che ne avranno bisogno e questo senza distinzione di religione, di razza, di paese o di nazionalità.
2. L'azione del FESE avrà, nella misura del possibile, un carattere individuale; cercherà di sviluppare le forze intellettuali spirituali e morali che ispirano le tre organizzazioni affiliate.
3. Il lavoro di soccorso non sarà considerato come un fine a se stante, ma come un mezzo per favorire il rinascere della vita universitaria.
4. Il FESE cercherà di unire studenti e professori in una stretta comunità di pensiero e di azione ispirata dall'ideale di una solidarietà universitaria internazionale.

- 3 -

METODI DI LAVORO.

1. Il lavoro del dopo guerra del FESF consisterà nella continuazione, secondo un piano organico, dell'opera di soccorso realizzata durante le ostilità. Sarà condotto nell'ambito del Fondo Mondiale di Soccorso agli Studenti recentemente creato allo scopo di assicurare la coordinazione della attività di soccorso attuate e progettate nelle diverse parti del mondo (Cina, India, Stati Uniti, Canada).

2. Posto sotto la responsabilità di un comitato esecutivo internazionale, nell'ambito del quale le organizzazioni affiliate godono di un'equa rappresentanza, l'azione del FESF si esercita per mezzo di una segreteria permanente la cui sede è a Ginevra. Quali rappresentanti dei diversi paesi associati all'opera del FESF i collaboratori di questa segreteria la tengono in contatto, coi loro viaggi, con la realtà materiale e spirituale della vita universitaria europea.

3. Nella misura del possibile, il FESF lavorerà in ogni paese per mezzo dei collaboratori nazionali e locali delle organizzazioni internazionali di cui è l'espressione.

Ed è solo su richiesta di questi - o in loro mancanza - che si ricorrerà a personale straniero per la selezione del quale si terrà conto della particolare psicologia e dei problemi specifici di ogni paese.

In alcuni casi il FESF potrà affidare ad una delle organizzazioni affiliate il compito di organizzare, per suo conto ma a nome di questa, una particolare azione di soccorso.

4. Convinto che, per ragioni morali e materiali, il soccorso non può e non deve avere un carattere temporaneo, il FESF cercherà di sviluppare il metodo del "self-help" e l'organizzazione, nell'ambito dell'università, di cooperative suscettibili di dare rapidamente allo studente soccorso la sua indipendenza economica, condizione essenziale per la sua completa dignità morale.

5. L'azione internazionale del FESF sarà coordinata con quella delle organizzazioni di soccorso tendenti a scopi paralleli ai suoi. Sul piano universitario, contatti saranno stabiliti il più strettamente possibile con le nuove organizzazioni la cui attività si manifesterà dopo la guerra.

6. Nel campo dell'organizzazione privata, il FESF accetterà, quando le circostanze lo permetteranno, di distribuire soccorsi per conto di enti governativi, questo nella misura in cui la sua indipendenza materiale e morale non ne sarà diminuita.

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I COMPITI DEL FESE.

Benché sia difficile considerare complessivamente sin d'ora la situazione universitaria dell'Europa dopo la guerra possiamo tuttavia esaminare i compiti più urgenti ai quali sarà necessario far fronte.

- 4 -

L'AZIONE IMMEDIATAA) Il "ritorno" degli studenti

Il FESE farà ogni sforzo possibile per facilitare il rimpatrio delle migliaia di studenti prigionieri o emigrati. Interverrà per rendere possibile il viaggio di ritorno e per facilitarlo. Il FESE farà poi ogni sforzo per reintegrare nella società e nell'ambiente universitario i numerosi studenti sfasati dalla vita dei campi e dall'atmosfera esaltante dei combattenti o dei rivoluzionari, che avranno perso il piacere dello studio o forse anche il piacere dello sforzo intellettuale.

A questo scopo il FESE sosterrà la creazione di "Case dello studente" dove i migliori che ne sentiranno la necessità potranno trascorrere qualche mese riconfortante.

Fin d'ora il FESE ha preso le disposizioni necessarie per accogliere, in condizioni soddisfacenti, degli studenti francesi.

Si tratta di evitare che si formi una classe di falsi intellettuali, senza diploma e senza finalità, relitti della guerra e fermenti di disintegrazione sociale.

D'altronde solo dove i mezzi finanziari impedivano il proseguire degli studi il FESE distribuirà borse per mezzo dei suoi comitati locali.

B) L'aiuto materiale

Per assicurare agli studenti il vitto, l'abbigliamento, l'alloggio e le cure sanitarie indispensabili, gli enti governativi dovranno fornire uno sforzo notevole. Ciononostante il FESE avrà i suoi compiti particolari. Dovrà attirare l'attenzione degli enti di soccorso sui bisogni specifici degli studenti, dovrà curare che delle facilitazioni siano loro accordate, dovrà intervenire quando i soccorsi gli sembreranno insufficienti. Disporrà in paesi neutrali di depositi di viveri che farà giungere, come durante la guerra, alle università che hanno maggiormente sofferto. Il FESE ha oltre alla necessaria esperienza una preziosa conoscenza della situazione nei diversi paesi ed ha collaboratori qualificati i cui servizi saranno indispensabili.

C) L'aiuto intellettuale

La maggior parte dei paesi europei ha in questo momento una grande penuria di materiale di studio, in seguito alla distruzione di numerose biblioteche e di case editrici e a causa della mancanza di carta e di mano d'opera.

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Il FESZ farà ogni sforzo per assicurare forniture alle case editrici dei paesi risparmiati dalla guerra per metterli a disposizione delle università e degli studenti la cui attività sarà ostacolata dalla carenza di libri. Assumerà a suo carico per una determinata materia o per un dato argomento l'edizione di opere rispondenti ad urgenti necessità. Ha, a questo scopo, preso contatto con diverse

associazioni di librai e di editori. Questa azione si estenderà ugualmente alle riviste scientifiche, ai quaderni e a tutto il materiale di studio. D'altra parte al momento dell'armistizio il FESE disporrà di importanti depositi di opere scientifiche, riserva della sua azione intellettuale nei campi.

Infine, il FESE farà ogni sforzo per accogliere in Svizzera ed in altri paesi neutri, accordando loro borse di studio, studenti che non saranno in condizione di continuare proficuamente i loro lavori nel proprio paese a causa delle distruzioni della guerra. Contribuirà così a considerarevolmente a favorire la formazione di ingegneri, di architetti, di medici e di economisti, cioè di "operai qualificati per la ricostruzione".

D) L'aiuto sanitario

Il FESE si prepara sin d'ora ad accogliere in Svizzera ed in altri paesi centinaia di studenti tubercolosi o diversamente colpiti nella loro salute fisica e psichica dagli avvenimenti della guerra.

Si è già assicurata la disponibilità di piccoli sanatori in Svizzera e tutto è pronto per ricevere subito i primi gruppi di studenti belgi e francesi.

Gli studenti malati non tubercolosi potranno pure venire in Svizzera per un soggiorno di due o tre mesi. L'ospitalità sarà fatta sia presso famiglie sia in determinati edifici organizzati a questo scopo.

L'AZIONE A LUNGA SCADENZA

A) Organizzazione dei servizi sociali

Nella maggior parte dei paesi dell'Europa occidentale, i servizi sociali per studenti erano assai bene organizzati ed hanno continuato a funzionare fino ad oggi.

Verosimilmente però in numerosi casi sarà necessario fornire un'assistenza a questi servizi che saranno sovraccarichi di considerevoli richieste d'aiuto. In paesi come la Grecia, la Norvegia, la Jugoslavia e la Polonia i servizi sociali ancora rudimentali sono stati assai rapidamente sorpassati. La guerra ha creato bisogni immensi. Un aiuto generoso e rapido sarà necessario se dall'esterno si vuol evitare la totale proletarianizzazione degli studenti.

A questo scopo il FESE invierà nei paesi che hanno maggiormente sofferto dei rappresentanti che avranno il compito di studiare le varie necessità, di distribuire gli aiuti materiali o finanziari che il FESE potrà mettere a disposizione e di organizzare i soccorsi secondo i principi del "self-help", affinché gli studenti che ne

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B) Allestimento delle università

In molti paesi europei, un gran numero di edifici universitari

di biblioteche, di laboratori sono stati distrutti. Il FESE interverrà quando altre organizzazioni non saranno più in grado di farlo e collaborerà con gli enti governativi incaricati di riallestire la università più danneggiata. Cercherà di estendere il principio dell'adozione che, durante la guerra, ha allacciato università litane ad università prigioniere.

C) Ripresa della vita studentesca internazionale

Non appena i mezzi di comunicazione lo permetteranno, il FESE farà ogni sforzo per mezzo dell'Ente Aide Universitaire Internationale per dare sviluppo allo scambio di studenti dei diversi paesi per riunire conferenze internazionali di studenti per trattare problemi che stiano loro a cuore e per favorire con ogni mezzo che sembrerà opportuno non solo lo spirito di un reciproco aiuto ma pure lo spirito di una collaborazione intellettuale e spirituale fra i membri della comunità universitaria.

Questo rapido cenno vuole solo dare un'idea della diversità dei compiti che si presentano fin d'ora al FESE.

IL FONDO EUROPEO PREPARA IL SUO INTERVENTO

1. Formazione di quadri

Il FESE ha organizzato in Svizzera ed in Inghilterra dei corsi per formare dei quadri raggruppati studenti dei vari paesi per associare alla sua opera del dopo guerra un gruppo di giovani particolarmente qualificati.

Questi corsi che hanno avuto finora un gran successo saranno continuati ed ampliati.

Per completare la formazione tecnica e facilitare il compito dei suoi futuri collaboratori, il FESE pubblica un manuale del lavoro sociale che ha per scopo di dare un'idea completa delle azioni di soccorso da organizzare e dei metodi da adoperare. Affinché l'aiuto meglio si adatti alle differenti necessità nazionali, il FESE ha redatto monografie illustranti la situazione delle università sotto l'occupazione nella maggior parte dei paesi europei, sia per quanto concerne la situazione delle università sia i bisogni degli universitari sia le risorse dei vari organi nazionali studenteschi.

2. Informazione

Il FESE cerca, con ogni mezzo che gli sembra utile, di far conoscere agli studenti dei vari paesi devastati dalla guerra la sua esistenza, le sue possibilità, i suoi fini. A questo scopo prende contatto appena possibile coi rappresentanti della gioventù universitaria, gli elementi che sono animati

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3. Quando la situazione di un paese si delinea nettamente, il FESE traccia un programma d'azione in collaborazione con i rappresentanti degli studenti interessati e sottomette un bilancio provvisorio

ai suoi comitati nazionali. D'altronde per far fronte agli imprevisti il FESE ha costituito un fondo speciale per la ricostruzione.

Non sono questi che alcuni accenni del programma di ricostruzione e di soccorso agli studenti nel dopo guerra, ma queste indicazioni sono sufficienti per mostrare la vastità del compito che attende gli studenti del mondo intero, gli sforzi e la buona volontà dei quali dovranno essere indirizzati dal FESE.

Posti di fronte a questa immensa miseria, a questi brucianti bisogni ed a questa necessità sociale gli studenti privilegiati non rifiuteranno di associarsi alle attività del FESE e non vorranno negargli le risorse di cui ha bisogno. Come la pace, così pure il mondo universitario è indivisibile. Gli studenti non si rinchiuderanno in un isolazionismo ingannatore, ma si arrenderanno all'evidenza; comprenderanno al tempo stesso la fragilità e la necessità di stretti contatti universitari internazionali e si adopereranno con tutto il loro cuore per RICOSTRUIRE L'UNIVERSITA'.

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FONDS EUROPÉEN DE SECOURS AUX ÉTUDIANTS

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 FÉDÉRATION UNIVERSIELLE DES
 ASSOCIATIONS CHRÉTIENNES D'ÉTUDIANTS
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Reconstruction d'après-guerre Etude No 9

AIDE AUX UNIVERSITÉS DE HOLLANDE.

INTRODUCTION

Le 6 mars dernier, le FESE publiait, à l'intention de ses comités nationaux un premier document intitulé "Plan d'une aide immédiate à la Hollande". Depuis lors des informations complémentaires sont parvenues à Genève de Hollande libérée sur la situation des étudiants, leurs besoins et les projets universitaires des autorités néerlandaises. Ces informations lui ont été communiquées d'une part par M. le Dr. H. C. Hamaker, Secrétaire de la Fondation de l'Académie temporaire d'Eindhoven, d'autre part par M. H. G. Haenen, Coordonnateur du "Comité de liaison étudiante" (Studenten-contactgroep) constitué à Eindhoven, l'automne dernier.

L'essentiel de ces informations a été incorporé dans le présent document qui, croyons-nous, reflète fidèlement l'état actuel des choses.

Naturellement la situation universitaire hollandaise est encore très mouvante. D'où la nécessité d'une grande souplesse dans l'élaboration des plans de secours.

A l'heure où nous écrivons ces lignes un délégué du FESE est en route pour Eindhoven d'où il rapportera à la fin du mois d'avril les nouvelles les plus récentes.

1. LA SITUATION

Deux établissements d'enseignement supérieur se trouvent dans la zone libérée jusqu'ici : l'Ecole catholique des sciences économiques à Tilburg et l'Université Catholique de Nimègue. L'un et l'autre de ces établissements sont fermés. Seules des sessions d'examens ont pu y être organisées depuis la libération. En annexe à ce rapport on trouvera une première estimation des dommages subis par l'Université de Nimègue.

Afin d'assurer néanmoins la continuité de la vie universitaire et la formation des cadres indispensables à la reconstruction du pays, les autorités néerlandaises ont créé l'organisation à Eindhoven d'un centre universitaire provisoire. Dans ce but il a été créé, le 26 février 1945 la Fondation de l'Académie temporaire d'Eindhoven.

Etant donné l'état de désorganisation qui existera au lendemain de la libération du territoire dans les régions où se trouvent les grandes universités traditionnelles de Hollande, on estime que la reprise de la vie uni-

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Etant donné l'état de désorganisation qui existera au lendemain de la libération du territoire dans les régions où se trouvent les grandes universités traditionnelles de Hollande, on estime que la reprise de la vie universitaire normale ne pourra se faire avant plusieurs mois. C'est dans cette perspective qu'il faut envisager l'avenir du centre temporaire d'Eindhoven. Les autorités envisagent d'y organiser deux cycles d'études d'une durée de huit mois chacun, dont le premier commencera, si les circonstances le permettent, au mois de mai 1945. Il faut donc prévoir que le Centre d'Eindhoven fonctionnera jusqu'au mois de septembre 1946, date à laquelle on compte sur une reprise de l'enseignement dans les autres universités hollandaises. Il importe donc que le Centre universitaire d'Eindhoven soit doté rapidement des moyens nécessaires à son fonctionnement.

Selon les plans actuellement en voie de réalisation, l'enseignement universitaire dans la Hollande libérée sera réparti de la façon suivante entre les différents établissements mentionnés ci-dessus:

Eindhoven : Sciences techniques - sciences naturelles,
médecine - agronomie - théologie protestante.

Nimègue : Droit - lettres - théologie catholique.

Tilburg : Sciences économiques.

3) La reprise de l'enseignement à Nimègue et à Tilburg ne semble pas se heurter à de grandes difficultés, malgré les destructions subies par la première de ces villes, - et par son université - l'organisation de l'université temporaire d'Eindhoven pose de graves problèmes, ceci en particulier dans les domaines suivants.

1. Locaux.

Les autorités du Centre universitaire temporaire ont de la peine à trouver les salles de cours et les laboratoires nécessaires pour le travail pratique. La faculté des sciences fonctionnera en grande partie dans les bâtiments des usines Phillips. La direction de celles-ci mettra également à disposition certains de ses laboratoires.

2. Corps enseignant.

Il n'a pas été possible de reconstituer jusqu'ici un corps enseignant suffisant en Hollande libérée; le plus grand nombre des professeurs se trouvent soit en territoire encore occupé, soit dans des camps de concentration, en Allemagne, où ils ont été déportés.

Pour la médecine on aura recours à des praticiens de la région, mais comme ils sont très occupés et que tous moyens de transport font défaut, l'organisation du programme d'études sera très délicate.

Pour la physiologie on a demandé l'aide de l'Université de Louvain. Deux de ses professeurs, M. Bruckaert et Ceille, se rendront à Eindhoven pour une ou deux journées par semaine.

Les étudiants en agronomie pourront suivre des cours pratiques à la station d'essais pour l'agriculture de Mestrict.

La situation est favorable en ce qui concerne les étudiants en théologie dont s'occupe l'Eglise réformée de Hollande. Les professeurs ont déjà été trouvés pour assurer la formation complète d'une quinzaine d'étudiants.

3. Etudiants.

Jusqu'ici 1.340 étudiants ont été répartis en territoire libéré grâce à une enquête entreprise, dès l'automne, par le "Comité de liaison étudiantin".

Ce comité a été constitué à Eindhoven, le 18 novembre 1944, il est composé de 2 étudiants et de 10 étudiants, chacun de ces derniers représentant une université ou une haute école. Son secrétariat est situé à l'adresse 49 Eindhoven.

Nimègue : Droit - lettres - théologie catholique.

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Si la reprise de l'enseignement à Nimègue et à Tilburg se semble pas se heurter à de grandes difficultés, malgré les destructions subies par la première de ces villes, - et par son université - l'organisation de l'université temporaire d'Eindhoven pose de graves problèmes, ceci en particulier dans les domaines suivants.

1. Lieux.

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Le premier but de ce groupe a été de réunir à nouveau tous les étudiants au moyen d'une enquête menée dans toutes les régions de la zone libérée. Cette enquête a permis de reconstituer le noyau du corps estudiantin hollandais dispersé depuis l'occupation. Le "Comité de liaison estudiantin" est reconnu déjà par les autorités néerlandaises comme le porte-parole

de la jeunesse universitaire et a donné tout son appui aux initiatives prises en vue de reprendre, malgré toutes les difficultés, un enseignement en Hollande même.

En plus des besoins matériels plus haut (logement, corps enseignant), il faut mentionner les problèmes qui se posent aux étudiants eux-mêmes. La plupart d'entre eux sont à l'heure actuelle dispersés dans tout le territoire libéré et habitent chez leurs parents où les conditions sont très peu favorables à l'étude. Voici quelques précisions à cet égard.

a) Logement

Les conditions de logement sont précaires en territoire libéré. Souvent de grandes familles habitent dans de petites chambres et doivent accepter encore des évacués. Le manque de combustible et de lumière a été cruellement fait sentir pendant l'hiver. Le combustible était si rare qu'en de nombreux endroits on brûlait les meubles, les portes, etc... Une famille de 8 personnes a trois par jour à 150 centimètres d'élévation. L'encombrement que dans ces conditions l'étudiant ne peut trouver la tranquillité et l'isolement nécessaires à son travail.

b) Habillement

La situation vestimentaire des étudiants hollandais est aussi insuffisante que celle de tous leurs compatriotes. Pendant quatre ans, la population n'a reçu que des quantités minimes de vêtements de mauvaise qualité. Par suite de la guerre beaucoup de gens ont perdu le peu de ce qu'ils avaient, ce qui a augmenté la pénurie générale.

c) Alimentation

La situation alimentaire en Hollande du sud, c'est-à-dire dans les territoires libérés, s'est améliorée au cours de ces derniers mois. Par contre, comme on le sait, elle est catastrophique dans le territoire occupé. Dans la zone libérée, la ration quotidienne correspondait, au début de mars, à 2.000 calories environ, après avoir baissé jusqu'à 1.100 calories précédemment. Dans le territoire occupé la valeur nutritive des aliments distribués est descendue jusqu'à 600 calories, même pour les malades. Aussi les conditions sont-elles dramatiques.

Selon les premières enquêtes effectuées par les autorités néerlandaises, la tuberculose a pris des proportions inquiétantes dans tout le pays; elle atteint plus particulièrement la jeunesse.

Sous l'occupation et devant l'interruption de la vie universitaire beaucoup d'étudiants hollandais vivaient dans la clandestinité, ou, pour échapper à la répression en Allemagne, avaient cherché une occupation dans l'économie du pays. Si une aide extérieure n'est pas rapidement accordée à la Hollande lui permettant la reprise de sa vie universitaire, il est à craindre que beaucoup de ses étudiants renonceraient à reprendre des études et gardent la position qu'ils ont occupée précédemment. Il y a là un grave danger pour la Hollande car du fait de la guerre et de l'occupation, cinq générations d'étudiants n'ont pu être formées normalement. De ce fait, le pays risque de manquer des cadres qui lui sont indispensables pour sa re-

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II. LES BESOINS DE L'ACADEMIE TEMPORAIRE D'ENCHOVEN.

En attendant des demandes plus détaillées voici quels semblent être les besoins les plus urgents à satisfaire en vue de permettre à l'Académie temporaire d'Enchoven de se mettre au travail.

A. Matériel d'études.

- 1) Matériel de laboratoire (verrerie, etc..) et produits chimiques pour un cours pratique de première année de chimie (20 à 30 étudiants).
- 2) 50 microscopes pour les étudiants en médecine et en biologie.
- 3) 50 boîtes de dissection pour les étudiants en médecine.
- 4) 30 règles à calculer (système Riets).
- 5) 125 stylos.
- 6) 75 spatules en acier V 2 A, pour travaux chimiques.

B. Livres et publications.

- 1) Ouvrages utilisés en classe pour les premières années de science.
- 2) Tous ouvrages médicaux de base (20 à 30 exemplaires de chaque).
- 3) Revues médicales et informations bibliographiques.
- 4) Programmes d'études des universités suisses et en particulier de l'Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale.
- 5) Ouvrages spéciaux figurant sur la liste annexée à ce rapport.

C. Autres fournitures.

- 1) 50 jeux de crayon et de couvertures (pour foyer d'étudiants).
- 2) 30 blouses de laboratoire.
- 3) une machine à rétrographier pour publier des cours sur place.

En outre, le Secrétaire de l'Académie temporaire de Eindhoven insiste sur le fait que les difficultés de transport constituent à l'heure actuelle un obstacle très grave à toute activité. S'il était possible de mettre à disposition des pneus de bicyclettes et surtout une voiture auto-moblie, on rendrait un très grand service.

III. L'ACTION IMMEDIATE ENVISAGEE PAR LE FESE.

Pour faire face à cette situation, le FESE prévoit les mesures suivantes :

- a) Hospitalisation en Suisse d'étudiants hollandais tuberculeux
Des démarches sont entreprises pour assurer, à bref délai, l'hospitalisation d'un premier groupe de 30 étudiants tuberculeux au Centre d'accueil du Sanatorium Universitaire International, à Leyden. Une cure de 6 mois au moins doit être envisagée.

Le prix de la journée de malade au Centre d'accueil du S.U.I. est de 12 francs environ, tout compris. Sur cette somme, le Don suisse pour les victimes de la guerre prendra à sa charge 7 francs. Le FESE s'engage à réunir le complément nécessaire, soit sur la base de 5 francs par jour et par étudiant, 4.500 francs par mois, et pour 6 mois 27.000 francs.

Grâce aux parrainages souscrits par les universitaires suisses,

- 2) 50 microscopes pour les étudiants en médecine et en biologie.
- 3) 50 boîtes de dissection pour les étudiants en médecine.
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D. Livres et publications

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E. Autres fournitures

- 1) 50 jeux de draps et de couvertures (pour foyer d'étudiants).
- 2) 30 blouses de laboratoire.
- 3) une machine à ronéographier pour publier des cours sur place.

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Grâce aux patronages souscrits par les universitaires suisses, l'ACTION SUISSE POUR LES ETUDIANTS VICTIMES DE LA GUERRE pourra mettre une partie de cette somme à disposition, mais non la totalité. Un appel spécial sera donc adressé à tous les milieux s'intéressant à la Hollande.

Le choix des malades se fera à Eindhoven par l'entremise d'une Commission de sélection créée sous l'égide du Dr. C. van den Berg, Directeur de la Santé Publique.

b) Envoi de vivres

Avec l'appui de l'Action Suisse pour les étudiants victimes de la guerre, le F.E.S.E. a fait un premier envoi de vivres, aux étudiants hollandais, par l'entremise de la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale. Cet envoi comprenait :

- 15 caisses de lait condensé non sucré
- 1.600 boîtes de fromage
- 500 kilos de sucre
- 500 boîtes de thon

Son prix est de 5.000 francs. Il devra être renouvelé de mois en mois aussi longtemps que la situation ne se sera pas améliorée en Hollande. Etant donné l'amélioration de la situation alimentaire en Hollande libérée, les vivres mis à disposition par le F.E.S.E. seront stockés à Eindhoven pour le moment, en vue d'une distribution dans les autres régions de la Hollande, aussitôt que le contact aura été repris avec des groupes d'étudiants. Il est probable, d'autre part, que l'on verra se créer à Eindhoven des restaurants d'étudiants où ceux-ci pourront bénéficier d'une alimentation suffisante à des prix raisonnables. Les vivres du F.E.S.E. pourront être utilisés pour faciliter le départ de ces restaurants dont l'existence constituera une condition essentielle du bon fonctionnement de l'université provisoire.

c) Envoi de matériel scientifique

Sur la base des précisions données ci-dessus, le F.E.S.E. est en train de rassembler du matériel scientifique et des livres qui seront acheminés sous peu vers Eindhoven par l'entremise de la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale. Le Comité exécutif du F.E.S.E. a décidé, avec l'appui de l'Action Suisse pour les étudiants victimes de la guerre, de consacrer un premier montant de 5.000 francs à cet envoi. Cette somme est naturellement très insuffisante pour satisfaire toutes les demandes. Le F.E.S.E. espère que des concours seront trouvés en Suisse, soit auprès des universités, soit auprès de groupements s'intéressant à la Hollande en vue de donner à cette action d'aide intellectuelle de première urgence, toute l'impulsion nécessaire.

d) Accueil d'étudiants hollandais fatigués

Afin de permettre à un certain nombre d'étudiants hollandais fatigués et affaiblis par les épreuves de l'occupation, de récupérer leurs forces, l'Action Suisse pour les étudiants victimes de la guerre et le F.E.S.E. envisagent d'inviter un groupe de 25 jeunes gens à venir dans une station de montagne passer trois mois de vacances, du 1er juillet au 30 septembre prochain.

En comptant un prix de pension de 8 francs par jour (frais occasionnels compris) cet accueil entraînera une dépense de 2.000 francs par mois, soit un total de 18.000 francs, somme dont on espère qu'elle pourra être trouvée en Suisse dans les milieux universitaires. Si ce n'était pas le cas, le F.E.S.E. fera appel à la générosité de comités de secours étrangers.

e) Accueil d'étudiants hollandais dans les universités suisses

15 caisses de lait condensé non sucré

1.500 boîtes de fromage

500 kilos de sucre

500 boîtes de thé

Son prix est de 5.000 francs. Il devra être renouvelé de mois en mois aussi longtemps que la situation ne se sera pas améliorée en Hollande. Étant donné l'amélioration de la situation alimentaire en Hollande libérée, les vivres mis à disposition par le F.E.S.E. seront stockés à Eindhoven pour le moment, en vue d'une distribution dans les autres régions de la Hollande, aussitôt que le contact aura été repris avec des groupes d'étudiants. Il est probable, d'autre part, que l'on verra se créer à Eindhoven des restaurants d'étudiants où ceux-ci pourront bénéficier d'une alimentation suffisante à des prix raisonnables. Les vivres du F.E.S.E. pourront être utilisés pour faciliter le départ de ces restaurants dont l'existence constituera une condition essentielle du bon fonctionnement de l'université provisoire.

c) Envoi de matériel scientifique

Sur la base des précisions données ci-dessus, le F.E.S.E. est en train de rassembler du matériel scientifique et des livres qui seront acheminés sous peu vers Eindhoven par l'entremise de la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge internationale. Le Comité exécutif du F.E.S.E. a décidé, avec l'appui de l'Action Suisse pour les étudiants victimes de la guerre, de consacrer un premier montant de 5.000 francs à cet envoi. Cette somme est naturellement très insuffisante pour satisfaire toutes les demandes. Le F.E.S.E. espère que des concours seront trouvés en Suisse, soit auprès des universités, soit auprès de groupements s'intéressant à la Hollande en vue de donner à cette action d'aide intellectuelle de première urgence, toute l'impulsion nécessaire.

d) Accueil d'étudiants hollandais fatigués

Afin de permettre à un certain nombre d'étudiants hollandais fatigués et affaiblis par les épreuves de l'occupation, de récupérer leurs forces, l'Action Suisse pour les étudiants victimes de la guerre et le F.E.S.E. envisagent d'inviter un groupe de 25 jeunes gens à venir dans une station de montagne passer trois mois de vacances, du 1er juillet au 30 septembre prochain.

En comptant un prix de pension de 8 francs par jour (frais occasionnels compris) cet accueil entraînera une dépense de 2.000 francs par mois, soit un total de 16.000 francs, somme dont on espère qu'elle pourra être trouvée en Suisse dans les milieux universitaires. Si ce n'était pas le cas, le F.E.S.E. fera appel à la générosité de comités de secours étrangers.

e) Accueil d'étudiants hollandais dans les universités suisses

En plus des étudiants tuberculeux et fatigués dont l'hospitalisation est envisagée en Suisse pour des raisons médicales, les autorités néerlandaises seraient très heureuses de voir les Universités suisses ouvrir leurs portes l'automne prochain à un certain nombre d'étudiants hollandais qui ne pourront

trouver dans leur pays l'enseignement dont ils ont besoin. Il faut bien se rendre compte, en effet, que le Centre universitaire temporaire d'Eindhoven ne pourra pas, faute de l'équipement et des locaux nécessaires, donner un enseignement dans toutes les disciplines. Les lacunes les plus graves existeront dans le domaine des sciences techniques et naturelles ainsi qu'en matière d'études médicales. Or c'est précisément des étudiants de ces disciplines qui seront les plus nécessaires à la Hollande pour la reconstruction nationale. Dans ces conditions, la Suisse pourrait rendre un très grand service à la Hollande en invitant un certain nombre de ces étudiants à venir travailler dans l'un ou l'autre de ses établissements d'enseignement supérieur.

Dans ce domaine, la proposition de l'Université de Zurich qui a offert à une vingtaine d'étudiants de deuxième année de médecine de venir étudier pendant deux ans à Zurich a été accueillie avec la plus vive reconnaissance. Il faut espérer que des invitations semblables pourront être faites par d'autres universités, et qu'un plan d'accueil universitaire de grande envergure pourra être mis sur pied à brève échéance.

* * * * *

Le plan d'action ci-dessus, dont la réalisation ne pourra être assurée qu'avec le concours des universités suisses, sera soumis prochainement à la Commission créée par la Conférence des recteurs pour la coordination de l'aide aux universités victimes de la guerre.

Le secrétariat du P.E.S.E. se tient à la disposition des personnes intéressées pour leur donner les informations complémentaires sur l'action de secours envisagée. Il accueillera volontiers toutes suggestions tendant à en élargir les bases.

Un fonds d'"Aide suisse aux étudiants de Hollande" sera créé par l'Action Suisse pour les étudiants victimes de la guerre, en vue d'assurer le financement de ces différents projets. Nous comptons sur les nombreux amis suisses de la Hollande universitaire pour alimenter ce fonds et nous les remercions à l'avance de leur contribution. Prière d'effectuer les versements à

L'ACTION SUISSE POUR LES ETUDIANTS VICTIMES DE LA GUERRE

Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale

Chambre 44 a

Zurich

Compte de chèques postaux : VIII 22896
rubrique : aide aux étudiants de Hollande.

ANNEXE 2

DÉGÂTS SUBIS PAR L'UNIVERSITÉ CATHOLIQUE
DE NIMÈS

L'Université de Nîmes, de a subi les dommages matériels suivants :

A. Le bâtiment principal à la place Charlemagne a été détruit.

1) Valeur du bâtiment	Fl. nêarl.	151.800.-
2) Valeur de l'inventaire	"	47.350.-

B. L'Institut de philosophie et de pédagogie a été détruit.

1) Valeur du bâtiment	Fl. nêarl.	118.200.-
2) Valeur de l'inventaire	"	69.200.-

C. La bibliothèque a été détruite.

1) Valeur du bâtiment	Fl. nêarl.	215.725.-
2) Valeur de l'inventaire y compris les livres de la bibliothèque qui ont été brûlés	"	303.000.-
	Fl. nêarl.	500.375.-

Les bibliothèques des instituts de théologie, d'histoire médiévale et contemporaine, de psychologie et de pédagogie ont été détruites. Ces bibliothèques présentaient un très grand intérêt tant pour l'Université que pour la science en général. Ces pertes sont d'autant plus graves que l'Université Catholique de Nîmes ne avait joué avant la guerre un rôle important comme centre d'échange pour la littérature scientifique catholique, étant à peu près la seule institution en mesure de répondre à toutes les demandes dans ce domaine.

D'autre part un certain nombre de personnalités universitaires ont perdu toute leur propriété. Signalons parmi eux :

Un professeur en psychologie, marié avec 6 enfants. 15.000
Deux professeurs en histoire, mariés avec trois enfants.
Un jeune diplômé de droit.
Un jeune couple ayant terminé ses études de psychologie.
Trois étudiants en droit.
Trois professeurs en théologie et un professeur en littérature néerlandaise ont perdu toute leur bibliothèque.

L'Université de Nimègue a subi les dommages matériels suivants :

A. Le bâtiment principal à la place Charlesse a été détruit.

1) Valeur du bâtiment fl. néerl. 151.900.-
2) Valeur de l'inventaire " 47.350.-

B. L'Institut de philosophie et de pédagogie a été détruit.

1) Valeur du bâtiment fl. néerl. 116.800.-
2) Valeur de l'inventaire " 89.200.-

C. La bibliothèque a été détruite.

1) Valeur du bâtiment fl. néerl. 216.725.-
2) Valeur de l'inventaire y compris les livres de la bibliothèque qui ont été brûlés " 300.000.-

fl. néerl. 900.375.-

Les bibliothèques des instituts de théologie, d'histoire médiévale et contemporaine, de psychologie/et de pédagogie ont été anéanties. Ces bibliothèques présentaient un très grand intérêt tant pour l'Université que pour la science en général. Ces pertes sont d'autant plus graves que l'Université Catholique de Nimègue avait joué avant la guerre un rôle important comme centre d'échange pour la littérature scientifique catholique, étant à peu près la seule institution en mesure de répondre à toutes les demandes dans ce domaine.

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Un jeune diplômé de droit.
Un jeune couple ayant terminé ses études de psychologie.
Trois étudiants en droit.
Trois professeurs en théologie et un professeur en littérature néerlandaise ont perdu toute leur bibliothèque.

✓ de philosophie

EXTRAITS DE LETTRES ADRESSEES AU FOND EUROPEEN
DE SECOURS AUX ETUDIANTS

A) de M. le Dr. H. C. HAMAKER, Secrétaire de l'Académie temporaire d'Eindhoven

En ma qualité de Secrétaire de l'Académie temporaire d'Eindhoven, fondation constituée en vue d'organiser l'enseignement universitaire dans la Hollande libérée, je saisis l'occasion de vous exprimer notre vive gratitude pour l'aide que votre organisation a bien voulu nous offrir par l'entremise du Dr. C. van den Berg qui vous a récemment rendu visite en Suisse.

En ce moment nous ne sommes pas encore en mesure d'établir une liste complète du matériel scientifique dont nous avons besoin; cependant, nous avons élaboré une première liste de livres qui seraient utiles aux étudiants de sciences techniques et nous serions heureux de savoir lesquels de ces livres vous pourriez nous procurer et en quel nombre.

A l'heure actuelle nous rencontrons les plus grandes difficultés de transport pour mettre au point notre organisation. Si vous pouvez trouver un moyen de mettre une voiture à notre disposition, nous vous en serions très reconnaissants. De même, nous apprécierions beaucoup l'envoi de pneus de bicyclettes pour notre personnel administratif.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur,

B) de M. A.G. HAMAKER, Secrétaire du "Comité de liaison étudiante".

C'est avec le plus grand plaisir que j'entre en contact avec le PSSZ par l'intermédiaire de M. van Harselt et que j'apprends l'intention du PSSZ de venir en aide aux étudiants néerlandais qui ont souffert de la guerre. Je vous fais parvenir ci-joint quelques bulletins de notre groupement, un tableau des étudiants que nous avons repérés par notre enquête ainsi qu'une estimation provisoire des dommages subis du fait de la guerre par l'Université Catholique de Nimègue, ses professeurs et ses étudiants. Nous vous ferons parvenir par la suite des rapports plus complets à ce sujet. Je joins à cet envoi un aperçu sur la situation des étudiants dans la partie du pays encore occupée par l'ennemi.

J'espère que votre collaborateur hollandais aura l'obligeance d'étudier le contenu de ce document et de s'en servir de la façon dont il jugera conforme à notre intérêt.

Les étudiants néerlandais attendent beaucoup de l'action envisagée par le PSSZ. Notre Commission de contacts qui assure la représentation des

A) de M. le Dr. H. C. HAMMERS, Secrétaire de l'Académie temporaire d'Eindhoven

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Les étudiants néerlandais attendent beaucoup de l'action envisagée par le PESZ. Notre Commission de contacts qui assure la représentation des étudiants hollandais du territoire libéré espère que des relations régulières pourront être établies avec votre organisation. Nous serions enchantés de recevoir le délégué que vous voudrez bien charger de venir en Hollande pour qu'il puisse se rendre compte de notre situation.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur

PREMIERE LISTE DE LIVRES DEMANDES PAR L'ACADEMIE
TEMPORAIRE D'ENDEMENT

- A.S. van Arkel, J.H. de Boer - La valence et l'électrostatique
Hallstein
Pyroet, Kolkmeyer, Mo Gillevy - Röntgenanalyse
Biltz, Biltz - Ausführung quantitativer Analysen
Bloch - Théorie cinétique des gaz
J.H. de Boer - Electronic emission and absorption phenomena
L. Boltzmann - Vorlesungen über Gastheorie I, II
Born - Atomtheorie des festen Zustandes
M. Born - Moderne Physik
L. Brillouin - Quantenstatistik
Coddon, Shortley - Atomic spectra
Courant, Hilbert, - Mathematische methoden der physik I, II
Critical tables
P. Debye - Polare Molekeln
Dirac - Quantum mechanics
A. Eucken - Grundriss der physikalischen Chemie
A. Eucken - Chemische Physik
Falkenhagen - Elektrolyte (ev. Francke ed.)
A. Farkas - Orthohydrogen, parahydrogen and heavy hydrogen
A. Findlay - The fast rule and its applications
Fowler - Statistical mechanics
H. Freundlich - Kapillarchemie
Gattermann - Die Praxis des organischen Chemikers
G. Gellin - Kraut
H. Haack - Lehrbuch der angewandten Geophysik
A. Hellmann - Quantenchemie
C.N. Hinshelwood - The kinetics of chemical change in gaseous systems
Hollman - Organische Chemie
Hollman - Einfache Versuche auf dem Gebiete der organischen Chemie
Hollman - Theoretische Grundlagen der organischen Chemie, I, II
P. Hurd - Ionen, Sektoren und periodisches System der Elemente
Jahnke Ende - Funktionentafeln
Jeans - Dynamical theory of gases
Jeans - Electricity
Jocs - Lehrbuch der theoretischen Physik
H. Kallmann - Einführung in die Kernphysik
Karrer - Lehrbuch der organischen Chemie (eventuel : organic Chemistry)
W. Klemm - Magnetochemie
Kohlrausch - Lehrbuch der praktischen Physik
Kohlrausch - Der Strahl - Röntgen - Effekt
Kollhoff, Sandell - Textbook of quantitative inorganic analysis

- A.E. van Arkel, J.H. de Boer - La valence et l'électrostatique
Beilstein
Kroost, Kolmeyer, Mc Gillavry - Röntgenanalyse
Siltz, Eilts - Ausführung quantitativer Analysen
Bloch - Théorie cinétique des gaz
J.H. de Boer - Electronie emission and absorption phenomena
L. Boltzmann - Vorlesungen über Gastheorie I, II
Born - Atomtheorie des festen Zustandes
M. Born - Moderne Physik
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A. Eucken - Chemische Physik
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A. Faras - Orthohydrogen, parahydrogen and heavy hydrogen
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Hollman - Organische Chemie
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Karrer - Lehrbuch der organischen Chemie (eventuel : organic Chemistry)
W. Klemm - Makrochemie
Kohlrausch - Lehrbuch der praktischen Physik
Kohlrausch - Der Strahl - Röntgen - Effekt
Koltzoff, Sandell - Textbook of quantitative inorganic analysis
H.A. Kramers - Hand und Jahrbuch der chemischen Physik I, Die Grundlagen der Quantentheorie
Abraham Becker - Elektrizitätslehre
Slater - Physical chemistry
Mott, Gurney - Electronics in crystals

- Barrow - Wave mechanics
 " - Wellenmechanik
 " - Quantenmechanik
 " - Quantenstatistik
 Grimsahl - Lehrbuch der Physik
 Pohl - Lehrbuch der Physik
 Wochter - Crystalphysics
 Wyckoff - The structure of crystals I, II
 Sammler, Guseman : 55 - 87 - 88 - 89 - 147 - 402 - 256 - 309 - 508 - 354 - 668 - 210 - 619
 A. Kramers - Hand und Jahrbuch des Chem. Physik I, II, Quantentheorie des Electrons und der Strahlung
 A. de L. Krug - The optical basis of Chemical Valence
 E.A. Kravf - Kolloids
 Landolt - Ernstein
 C.N. Lewis, M. Randall - Thermodynamics and free energie of Chemical Substances
 Mc Innes - Principles of Electro Chemistry
 Mellor
 B.A. McElwynn Hines - Kinetics of reactions in Solution
 W. Nernst - Theoretische Chemie
 Nienwenburg and Miss Dulfar - A short Manual of Systematic qual-analysis
 Ostwald-Muther - Physikalische Chemische Messungen
 Pascal
 W. Pauli E Valco - Elektrochemie der Kolloide
 L. Pauling - The Nature of the Chemical bond
 L. Pauling, E.E. Wilson - Introduction to Quantum mechanics
 J. Perrin - Les Atomes
 M. Pla CK - Thermodynamik
 Quark, Urex - atoms, molecules and quanta
 Schaffer, Matossj - Das Infrarote Spektrum
 Schottky, M. Ulrich, C. Wagner - Thermodynamik
 A. Sommerfeld - Atomen und Spektrallinien
 A. Sommerfeld - Wellenmechanischer Erkenntnisstand
 Sporer
 H.B. Taylor - A Treatise on Physical Chemistry
 Treadwell - kurzes Lehrbuch der analytischen Chemie I, II
 M. Ulion - Chemische Thermodynamik
 Wais, Kornstam - Lehrbuch der Thermodynamik
 Wittaker, Watson - Modern Analysis

FONDS EUROPÉEN DE SECOURS AUX ÉTUDIANTS

COMITE

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 FÉDÉRATION UNIVERSITELLE DES
 ASSOCIATIONS CHRÉTIENNES D'ÉTUDIANTS
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13, RUE CALVIN
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 TÉLÉPHONE 1 873 34
 CHÈQUE POSTAL : 1 3872
 ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE :
 INTERSTUD GENEVE

Genève, le 19 avril 1945.

Reconstruction d'après-guerre

No. 10

La Première Maison d'Accueil du F.E.S.E. :

LE CHALET DES ÉTUDIANTS DE COMBLoux (Hte Savoie)

I. ORIGINE : Dès le printemps 1944, le Fonds Européen de Secours aux Étudiants parvint à établir le contact avec différents groupes d'étudiants et d'universitaires français alors en maquis dans le Jura. Avec eux il s'efforça de mettre au point les éléments de son programme d'action à réaliser, dès le lendemain de la libération, au service de la reconstruction universitaire française. L'élément principal de ce programme universitaire consistait dans la création de maisons d'accueil et de repos pour l'élite des étudiants et des universitaires français épuisés par leur activité dans la résistance, leur captivité en Allemagne, leur détention dans les prisons.

Au mois de septembre 1944, le comité du F.E.S.E. décidait de créer, à titre d'expérience une première maison de ce type, à proximité de la frontière suisse, dans le département de la Haute Savoie. A cette fin, il louait l'hôtel des Glaciers à Combloux pour trois ans, avec l'appui de l'Action Suisse pour les étudiants victimes de la guerre.

Quelques semaines plus tard, l'administration de cette maison était confiée à l'Entr'Aide Universitaire Française, comité qui assure la représentation du F.E.S.E. en France; l'Entr'Aide char-geait de sa direction Maurice Diéter, élève de l'Ecole Normale Supérieure, dont la qualité s'était affirmée dans la Résistance, par son activité dans les écoles de cadres du Maquis.

Le 15 janvier 1945 la maison recevait ses 10 premiers pensionnaires, le 4 mars elle en hébergeait 50.

Enfin, le 8 avril la maison a été inaugurée, en présence du Recteur de l'Académie de Grenoble, de représentants des autorités locales, de délégués, étudiants, représentants

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A cette occasion, l'âme collective de la maison trouva une première occasion de s'exprimer dans une fête à laquelle s'associa tout le village de Combloux. Les moments principaux en furent une soirée que les étudiants offrirent à leurs hôtes et une veillée unique de magie sur le thème : "Invasion Oppression Libération," conçue et jouée par les organisateurs.

II BUT

Le fonction du Châlet des Etudiants est triple :

- 1) - Médicale - Soigner et guérir des étudiants fatigués, ébranlés nerveusement, sous-alimentés, offrant un terrain propice à la maladie.
- 2) - Sociale - Permettre la réadaptation d'étudiants ayant vécu dans la clandestinité, une vie anormale de hors la loi, dans les prisons de la Gestapo et dans les camps de déportation, soumis à des épreuves terribles. Leur assurer à l'intérieur du Châlet une vie de liberté et une atmosphère de confiance.
- 3) - Culturelle - Permettre aux étudiants d'exprimer l'expérience de leurs années de lutte en créant leur propre milieu culturel. Constituer des groupes d'études s'attachant aux principaux problèmes remis en question par les étudiants persistants : Réforme de l'Université - Vie politique - Vie littéraire etc... faire du Châlet un centre culturel pour la commune et le pays environnant.

ORGANISATION MEDICALE

Le Châlet des Etudiants s'adresse :

- soit à des convalescents de primo-infection tuberculeuse ayant entraîné des troubles : fébrilité, amaigrissement pleurite et pleurésies,
- soit à des nerveux : troubles de la mémoire, perte de l'attention, troubles de la vue, troubles du caractère irritabilités, provoqués par la tension nerveuse subie pendant la vie clandestine,
- soit enfin à des jeunes gens dont l'état général a été compromis par des conditions de vie et de ravitaillement très pénibles,

Ne sont pas admis les porteurs de lésions pulmonaires ouvertes pouvant provoquer la contagion de l'entourage.

La durée du séjour au Châlet est de 1 à 3 mois.

Avant d'être envoyés à Combloux, les étudiants passent une visite

- 1) - Médicale - Soigner et guérir des étudiants fatigués, ébranlés nerveusement, sous-alimentés, offrent un terrain propice à la maladie.
- 2) - Sociale - Permettre la réadaptation d'étudiants ayant vécu dans la clandestinité, une vie anormale de hors la loi, dans les prisons de la Contape et dans les camps de déportation, soumise à des épreuves terribles. Leur assurer à l'intérieur du Châlet une vie de liberté et une atmosphère de confiance.
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Avant d'être envoyés à Combloux, les étudiants passent une visite médicale. Le médecin qui les a examinés approuve leur séjour en montagne et fixe approximativement la durée de la cure (à Paris, les candidats sont examinés par les Services Médicaux de la Cité Universitaire).

Un médecin est attaché au Châlet des étudiants.

Il examine les pensionnaires à leur arrivée, confirme le diagnostic, indique les activités qu'ils pourront avoir et le genre de cure qu'ils feront.

Une cure obligatoire pour tous est fixée comme suit :

Lever : 9 heures

Sieste : de 2 à 4 heures

Coucher : 10 heures

Un système d'auto-discipline fonctionne dans la Maison pour faire respecter les cures.

ORGANISATION DE LA VIE EN COMMUN

COOPERATION DES ETUDIANTS ET DE LA DIRECTION

Le principe d'après lequel l'organisation intérieure de la Maison a été élaborée est la suivante : le Chalet est le domaine et l'oeuvre propre des étudiants qui y vivent. Ils ont, au même titre que les services techniques de la Maison, le souci d'assurer à tous le repos le plus complet possible, la responsabilité de maintenir entre eux l'amitié et la confiance et celle de développer le rayonnement culturel du Chalet. Cette coopération entre les étudiants et la direction a déjà reçu plusieurs applications complètes

1) - La discipline des cures est assurée par les étudiants eux-mêmes.

Les trois étages de chambres où les étudiants doivent se trouver pendant la sieste et la nuit, ont été divisés en 6 groupes ou "Oasis". Les habitants de chacun des oasis ont élu un responsable ou "Chameau" à qui ils reconnaissent autorité pour faire respecter la discipline médicale. Ce sont les chameaux qui à 14 heures et à 21 heures donnent le signal de la fin des activités et veillent à ce que chacun se retire dans sa chambre. Ce sont eux qui font respecter le silence pendant les heures de repos.

2) - Les étudiants du Chalet ont créé entre eux un groupe d'entraide ou "Sacculine". Ce groupe a pour but :

a) - de secourir les moins fortunés des étudiants du Chalet, soit pendant leur séjour, soit au moment de leur départ, soit par des dons, soit en leur offrant des possibilités de se procurer des ressources.

b) - de les aider à se suralimenter en organisant la recherche

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- b) - de les aider à se suralimenter en organisant la recherche de certaines denrées (œufs, lait) qu'il est impossible de fournir en quantités suffisantes aux pensionnaires.
- 3) - Un comité d'étudiants de cinq membres a été désigné pour coopérer avec la direction pour toutes les questions d'intérêt général (doléances des étudiants discipline médicale - proposition du repos et des activités de la Maison - orientation culturelle).

Ces trois institutions ne sont pas limitatives. La Maison est en cours de développement et de nouvelles nécessités de coopération apparaissent à mesure que les problèmes deviennent plus complexes.

ACTIVITES CULTURELLES

Les activités culturelles de la Maison correspondent à deux besoins :

- 1) - un besoin d'animation. L'inactivité absolue ne procure pas un véritable repos. Les étudiants ont besoin de se distraire et de s'occuper dans un domaine et un rythme de vie différent de ceux de la ville.
- 2) - un besoin d'information - après une longue période d'obscurité intellectuelle due à l'occupation, les étudiants désirent entreprendre une recherche libre et objective sur tous les problèmes qui les touchent de près. Le travail a été commencé avec le désir de constituer une documentation sérieuse qui puisse servir aux futurs pensionnaires et particulièrement aux prisonniers, coupés depuis longtemps de toute information objective.

Enfin l'action culturelle est la fonction même d'une communauté d'étudiants dans la société. Aussi le Châlet des étudiants se propose-t-il de devenir un centre culturel pour le pays environnant.

Les groupes suivant fonctionnent à l'heure actuelle dans la Maison :

Groupe de Musique - (donnant un concert de musique classique par semaine - cinoque et piano)

Journal Mural - (informations intérieures et extérieures)
(Denise Demenach)

Groupe de Photographie - (Renée Burlet)

Groupe de Radio - (une émission par semaine faite d'un micro installé dans une pièce du Châlet par un haut-parleur fonctionnant dans le salon) Jean Pierre Cailler

Chorale - (Bernard Lallich)

Groupes d'études politiques - (Laurence Cohen)
(Conférences déjà faites sur l'insurrection de Paris - Les

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Les groupes suivent fonctionnent à l'heure actuelle dans la Maison :

Groupe de Musique - (donnant un concert de musique classique par semaine - disque et piano)

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(Denise Domenech)

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Groupe de réforme de l'Université (Raymond Jasse)
(conférences déjà faites sur la réforme de 1896, la femme dans l'université, la situation sociale de l'étudiant, la Cité Universitaire, le fonctionnement des Etudes au Séminarium de St. Hilaire, la réforme des études médicales etc...)

Enfin tous les étudiants se réunissent à l'occasion de certains événements pour organiser des fêtes auxquelles les notabilités du village sont conviées.

RECRUTEMENT

Nous donnons à titre d'indication, quelques extraits des fiches d'anciens pensionnaires du Chalet, aujourd'hui revenus à la vie normale.

M.R - 19 ans, 3ème année de Médecine ; a assuré à lui seul la garde d'un service de 180 malades à l'hôpital de Chen pendant toute la durée de la bataille - 6 semaines de travail ininterrompu - primo-infection - un mois de cure.

P.L - 29 ans - licence d'histoire - prisonnier en Allemagne de juin 1940 à juin 1944 - fatigue nerveuse - un mois de cure.

J.C - 22 ans - Agrégation d'histoire - arrêté pour diffusion de tracts - 15 mois à Fresnes et à Villeneuve - dépression nerveuse - trois mois de cure.

C.P - 24 ans - Licence de sciences - Militante des Jeunes communistes - entrée dans la Résistance en novembre 40 travaux forcés - évadé 11 jours plus tard - condamnée à mort par contumace - parents déportés - fatigue nerveuse - 1 mois de cure.

G.L - Entré dans la Résistance en janvier 43 - Réussi le concours d'entrée à Normale Supérieures Lettres en juin - part au maquis en juillet - guide régional des maquis écoles du M.F. N - parents et frère déportés - commande une compagnie dans le régiment de Franche Comté lors de la libération - nommé capitaine - fatigue générale 6 semaines de cure.

CONCLUSION - Le Chalet des Etudiants de Combloux doit être considéré comme une expérience dont la communauté étudiante elle-même déterminera elle-même la forme et l'ampleur. Dès

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FONDS EUROPÉEN DE SECOURS AUX ÉTUDIANTS

COMITÉ

HANS ROSSMANN, PRÉSIDENT
 ABEL JOSEPH GREMAUD, VICE-PRÉSIDENTS
 ROBERT C. MACKAY
 ANDRÉ DE BLENAY, SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL
 MALCOLM W. DAVIS
 TRACY STONG
 W. A. VOLES, T. HOOFST

ORGANISATIONS AFFILIÉES

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 FÉDÉRATION UNIVERSIELLE DES
 ASSOCIATIONS CHÉTIENNES ÉTUDIANTS
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 INTERSTUD GENEVE

Informations et documents

Série 1944-1945 No. 1

INSTITUT DE CHIMIE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ DE LYON

Dégâts subis et suggestions
 sur l'aide nécessaire.

Dégâts subis par l'Institut de Chimie

L'Institut de Chimie de l'Université de Lyon groupe différents services: d'une part, ceux de l'Ecole de Chimie Industrielle et de l'Ecole française de Tannerie, et d'autre part, les services de la Faculté des Sciences comprenant respectivement les laboratoires de Chimie Industrielle, les laboratoires de Chimie biologique et les laboratoires de Chimie minérale. Cet Institut a été très sérieusement endommagé au cours du bombardement du 26 mai 1944; une bombe dont on estime le poids (d'après ses effets et les éclats qui ont pu être recueillis) à 500 kg., est en effet tombée de plein fouet sur une partie du bâtiment, alors que de nombreuses autres, tombées dans le voisinage immédiat de l'Institut, détruisaient par leur souffle une grande partie des fenêtres, portes et cloisons qui avaient échappé à l'action de la première. A côté des dégâts matériels considérables provoqués par ces explosions, on a à déplorer la mort de cinq assistants, dont deux appartenant au laboratoire de Chimie Industrielle, trois aux services de l'Ecole de Chimie.

Les dégâts matériels sont les suivants :

Aile N-E du bâtiment: Les murs et l'étage sont encore debout, mais la toiture n'existe plus, non plus que les cloisons intérieures; cette aile renfermait au 1er étage le laboratoire de Chimie Industrielle, et au rez-de-chaussée une partie des laboratoires de troisième année de l'Ecole de Chimie. Tous ces laboratoires, et la quasi-totalité du matériel qu'ils contenaient (appareils et produits) sont complètement détruits.

Aile Nord du bâtiment: seule la moitié est de cette aile a été coup souffert: c'est celle qui a reçu la bombe de plein fouet et qui s'est écroulée. C'est là que se trouvaient notamment le bureau de travail et la bibliothèque personnelle du professeur de Chimie biologique, et cet écroulement, suivi d'un incendie, a été la cause de la perte totale des livres et

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Les dégats matériels sont les suivants :

Aile N-2 du bâtiment: Les murs et l'étage sont encore debout, mais la toiture n'existe plus, non plus que les cloisons intérieures; cette aile renfermait au 1er étage le laboratoire de Chimie Industrielle, et au rez-de-chaussée une partie des laboratoires de troisième année de l'Ecole de Chimie. Tous ces laboratoires, et la quasi-totalité du matériel qu'ils contenaient (appareils et produits) sont complètement détruits.

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L'un des deux grands amphithéâtres, dit Amphithéâtre Nord, a été mis également complètement hors d'usage par suite de l'écroulement du mur Est. Le défoncement du plancher, l'arrachement et la pulvérisation de son mobilier. Il devra être entièrement reconstruit.

Les autres parties du bâtiment ont moins souffert; elles sont néanmoins pratiquement dépourvues de fenêtres et de vitres. Notamment la bibliothèque de l'Institut de Chimie n'a souffert que par ses fenêtres et ses vitres, pulvérisées, mais heureusement il n'y a à déplorer aucune perte des nombreux et précieux ouvrages qu'elle contenait.

D'autre part, ces dégâts ont été accentués par les explosions qui ont secouré tous les quartiers voisins des ponts, lors de la destruction de ceux-ci le 2 septembre, par l'armée allemande en retraite. Les résultats de ces ébranlements se sont manifestés par l'aggravation des fissures des quelques cloisons qui tenaient encore, par la brisure de nouvelles fenêtres et par la volatilisation des quelques carreaux échappés par miracle au bombardement, ou remplacés peut-être un peu prématurément avant le 2 septembre.

Suggestions sur l'aide nécessaire

Dès les premiers jours suivant le bombardement du 26 mai, les plus grands efforts ont été entrepris pour tenter la remise en état des laboratoires, afin de leur permettre de reprendre leur activité aussi rapidement que possible. Cette remise en état serait grandement facilitée par l'apport d'une aide extérieure efficace concernant certains points précis: reconstitution de la bibliothèque du laboratoire de Chimie biologique, reconstitution des collections de produits des laboratoires de Chimie industrielle et de Chimie biologique, fourniture d'une quantité suffisante de verre à vitres.

Reconstitution de la bibliothèque du laboratoire de Chimie Biologique:

Cette bibliothèque appartenait personnellement au professeur de Chimie biologique, mais était mise à la disposition de tout le personnel de ce laboratoire. Comme il a été dit plus haut, elle a été entièrement détruite et un certain nombre d'ouvrages, par suite de leur origine, sont actuellement impossibles à trouver. Voici la liste de ceux qu'il serait particulièrement souhaitable d'avoir rapidement :

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Buchanan & Fulmer	Physiology and Biochemistry of Bacteria. Vol. I et III (le vol. II a pu être sauvé).	- id. -
Waksman	Principles of Soil Microbiology	- id. -
Dixon	Manometric Methods	

Clark	Determination of Hydrogen Ions (dernière édition)	William & Wilkins Co.
Bergey (?)	A compilation of Culture Media	- id. -
Brock	The Determination of Aminoacids	
Schmidt	The chemistry of Aminoacids and Proteins	
Polin	Methods of Biochemistry	
Bayliss	General Physiology - (dern. édition)	
Guggenheim	Die Biogenen Amine	S. Karger, Bâle
Stern et Oppenheimer	Oxidations and Reductions	
Feigl	Tupfel Analyse - (dern. édition)	Springer (?)
	Ergebnisse der Enzymforschung. vol. VI et vol. IX.	Akad. Verlags- Gesellschaft
	Journal of Biological Chemistry depuis et y compris le vol. 133	
	Chemiker-Taschenbuch	
Vogel	Die Technik der Bierhefe Verwertung	
Vogel	Chemie u. Technik der Vitamine	
Bernhauer	Gärungschem. Praktikum	
Nord et Weidenhagen	Handbuch der Enzymologie	

Appareils et produits chimiques qu'il nous est actuellement impossible de nous procurer en France:

1. Pour le laboratoire de chimie industrielle: 1 boîte de poids haute précision, 200 g. en totalité, avec subdivisions du gramme.
1 millivoltmètre à plusieurs sensibilités entre 10 et 100 mv.
1 milliampèremètre à plusieurs sensibilités entre 5 et 500 mA.
2 redresseurs de courant: cuivre-oxyde de cuivre, 8v., 1A.
1 pile étalon type Weston ou Eppley
Couples thermoélectriques fins
3 électrodes de verre Koning

Matériel:

Tubes demi-sûreté en verre Iyrex :	5 kg diam. extérieur 7-8 mm
	10 kg " " 10-11 mm
	10 kg " " 13-15 mm
	10 kg " " 18-20 mm
Tubes caoutchouc pour eau et gaz,	10 m. diam. intérieur 8 mm
	10 m. " " 12 mm
	5 m. " " 15 mm

1498

Block
The Determination of Aminoacids

Schmidt
The chemistry of Aminoacids and Proteins

Polin
Methods of Biochemistry

Bayliss
General Physiology - (dern. édition)

Guggenheim
Die Biogenen Amino

Stern et Oppenheimer
Oxidations and Reductions

Feigl
Tupfel Analyse - (dern. édition)
Ergebnisse der Enzymforschung. vol. VI et vol. IX.
Journal of Biological Chemistry depuis et y compris le vol. 133
Chemiker-Taschenbuch

Vogel
Die Technik der Bierhefe Verwertung

Vogel
Chémie u. Technik der Vitamine

Bernhauer
Gärungsgehen. Praktikum

Nord et Weidenhagen
Handbuch der Enzymologie

S. Karger, Bâle
Springer (?)
Akad. Verlagsgesellschaft

Appareils et produits chimiques qu'in nous est actuellement impossible de nous procurer en France:

1. Pour le laboratoire de chimie industrielle: 1 boîte de poids haute précision, 200 g. en totalité, avec subdivisions du gramme.
1 millivoltmètre à plusieurs sensibilités entre 10 et 100 mv.
1 milliampèremètre à plusieurs sensibilités entre 5 et 500 mA.
2 redresseurs de courant cuivre-oxyde de cuivre, 8v., 1A.
1 file étalon type Weston ou Eppley
Couples thermoelectriques fins
3 électrodes de verre Korning

Matériel:

Tubes demi-sûreté en verre Pyrex : 5 kg diam. extérieur 7-8 mm
10 kg " " 10-11 mm
10 kg " " 13-15 mm
20 kg " " 18-20 mm

Tubes caoutchouc pour eau et gaz, 10 m. diam. intérieur 8 mm
10 m. " " 12 mm
5 m. " " 15 mm

pour vide, 10 m. diam. int. 5 mm. ext. 15 mm
2 m. " " 10 mm. " 35 mm

1499

Fil de résistance pour chauffage à température élevée jusqu'à 1100°
(type nichrome): 500 g. diamètre 0,5 mm.
500 g. diamètre 0,7 mm.

3 creusets pour ultrafiltration de Bechold.

Produits chimiques:

Chlorure cuivreux pour analyse,	2 kg. en petits flacons
Sulfate cuivrique pur crist.	1 kg.
Chlorure de nickel pur crist.	0,500 kg.
Nitrate de nickel pur crist.	1 kg.
Nitrate d'argent p. analyse	0,100 kg.
Nitrate de cobalt pur crist.	1 kg.
Permanganate de potassium pour analyse :	0,500 kg
Bichromate de potassium pur crist.	2 kg
Chlorure ferrique sublimé anhydre pur	0,100 kg
Chlorure chromique sublimé anhydro	0,100 kg
Iodure de potassium pur crist.	0,500 kg
Acide pyrogallique pur crist.	0,250 kg
Alcool propylique normal pur	2 kg
Colloïdion p. ultrafiltration Bechold	0,250 kg
Anhydride phosphorique pur	2 kg
Iodure d'éthyle	1 kg
Iodure de méthyle	1 kg
Mercur	0,5 ou 1 litre

2. Pour le laboratoire de Chimie biologique :

Une collection comprenant 1 à 10 g. des différents acides aminés vendus par la Maison Hoffmann-La Roche de Bâle.

Ninhydrine pure 10 g.

Fourniture d'une quantité suffisante de verre à vitres:

Il conviendrait, pour pouvoir clore convenablement les différents laboratoires, d'avoir à sa disposition environ 500 feuilles de verre à vitres assez épais, de 100 x 120 cm. Pour le reste de l'université, compter environ vingt fois autant (cela ne permettrait encore que de parer au plus pressé, indispensable au démarrage).

Lyon, le 19 septembre 1944.

L'Administrateur de l'Institut de Chimie:

(Signé: Cl. Fromageot.)

Produits chimiques:

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Lyon, le 19 septembre 1944.

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(Signé: Cl. Proméget.)

Annexe manuscrite du Recteur de l'Université de Lyon.

L'Institut de Chimie, objet du rapport ci-dessus de M. le Professeur Claude Fromageot, est la partie de l'Université qui a subi le plus de dégâts et qu'il est le plus urgent de remettre en état.

Pour le reste des services de l'Université, je n'ai pas encore reçu les propositions, je les transmettrai dès que possible.

En attendant, il n'y a pas de besoin plus urgent que le verre à vitre, marchandise actuellement introuvable à Lyon; car les locaux universitaires n'ont plus de fenêtres et tout travail y est actuellement impossible.

Lyon, le 20 septembre 1944.

Le Recteur de l'Université:

(Signé:) André Allix

FONDS EUROPEEN DE SECOURS AUX ETUDIANTS (F.E.S.E.)
ENTR'AIDE UNIVERSITAIRE INTERNATIONALE (E.U.I.)
13, rue Calvin, Genève, Suisse.

Juillet 1944.

CONFERENCE INTERNATIONALE D'ETUDIANTS

"La communauté universitaire dans le monde de demain"

À Genève, en Suisse, petit lopin de terre européenne resté libre, l'Entr'aide Universitaire Internationale et le Fonds Européen de Secours aux Etudiants ont organisé, du 17 au 20 juillet dernier, une rencontre internationale d'universitaires, qui eût pu paraître une gageure : réunir en pleines hostilités des étudiants et professeurs de 22 pays représentant les 5 continents, leur faire vivre trois jours de vie commune, les intéresser à une tâche commune, et même leur insuffler la volonté commune d'aider à la reconstruction de la vie universitaire internationale semblait un défi au cloisonnement de la guerre. Pourtant, cette tentative est devenue une réalité couronnée de succès.

Les participants, au nombre d'une centaine, n'étaient pas venus là au hasard des inscriptions. Le Comité d'organisation les avait voulu aussi représentatifs que possible, tant par leur expérience que par leur esprit ; l'on vit réuni là un microcosme du monde en guerre, des réfugiés, des prisonniers évadés, des combattants légaux ou illégaux, apportant chacun l'écho d'une expérience personnelle de la guerre, apportant chacun sa contribution à la réorganisation d'un monde nouveau. La véritable Europe, qui combat et qui souffre, sur laquelle on écrit beaucoup et dont on ne sait rien, était là.

Tels ces réfugiés d'Autriche meurtris par six ans d'expatriation et d'humiliations excessives, ayant fait le tour de l'Europe occidentale avant de trouver asile en Suisse ; tel ce jeune universitaire yougoslave combattant pour son pays en avril 1941, pendant 29 mois prisonnier, dont 12 en Allemagne, 4 mois de maquis italien dans une brigade internationale composée d'Anglo-Saxons et de Balkaniques ; tel ce Grec, interné pendant deux ans dans un camp de prisonniers politiques d'Italie, animé du fougoureux désir de libérer son pays des ennemis extérieurs et intérieurs ; tels ces étudiants russes, prisonniers évadés, actuellement étudiant la philologie germanique à l'Université de Bâle ; tels, enfin, ces officiers de la fameuse 8ème armée d'Afrique que les hasards de la guerre ont amenés de l'Université de Londres à l'Université de Zurich en passant par Tobrouk.

La Conférence discuta de trois ordres de problèmes : les plans d'action immédiats du F.E.S.E. et de l'E.U.I., de la réintégration, après la guerre, des universitaires prisonniers, réfugiés, combattants, détournés des études par cinq ans de lutte et la reconstruction de plus longue haleine, matérielle, intellectuelle et spirituelle des universités.

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Tels ces réfugiés d'Autriche mourraient pas six ans d'expatriation et d'humiliations excessives, ayant fait le tour de l'Europe occidentale avant de trouver asile en Suisse ; tel ce jeune universitaire yougoslave combattant pour son pays en avril 1941, pendant 29 mois prisonnier, dont 12 en Allemagne, 4 mois de maquis italien dans une brigade internationale composée d'Anglo-Saxons et de Balkaniques ; tel ce Grec, interné pendant deux ans dans un camp de prisonniers politiques d'Italie, animé du fougueux désir de libérer son pays des ennemis extérieurs et intérieurs ; tels ces étudiants russes, prisonniers évadés, actuellement étudiant la philologie germanique à l'Université de Bâle ; tels, enfin, ces officiers de la fameuse 8ème armée d'Afrique que les hasards de la guerre ont amenés à l'Université de Londres à l'Université de Zurich en passant par Tobrouk.

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D'utiles enseignements purent être tirés de ces voix d'étudiants, qui confirmaient ceux qu'un concours-enquête de l'E.U.I. sur "la réforme de l'Université" avait apportés peu auparavant. Un certain nombre d'étudiants plaçant leur foi en une vérité transcendente, généralement chrétienne. D'autres - et généralement les plus éprouvés, les plus ébranlés - sont des

adeptes plus ou moins conscients de ce pragmatisme dialectique qui veut que l'université ne soit guère plus qu'un reflet de la société en changement, un instrument de formation scientifique au service exclusif du peuple. Tous sont unis dans la recherche d'une université sociale et libre, d'une université nouvelle, ouverte aux éléments les plus méritants d'une société en voie de transformation.

Ces voix européennes, sincères, souvent maladroites, parfois contradictoires, toujours émuantes resteront gravées dans la mémoire des participants. Malgré les différences d'opinion qui se firent jour, il fut néanmoins possible d'établir en conscience une "Charte de l'Université" dont voici le texte; elle réaffirme les principes traditionnels de l'université, la recherche désintéressée, la liberté, le cosmopolitisme, mais insiste sur le sens de la communauté sur les trois plans de l'université, de la société nationale et de la société internationale.

CHARTRE DE L'UNIVERSITE

L'Enteraide Universitaire Internationale reconnaît comme fondements véritables de l'université les valeurs suivantes

(I) la recherche sincère et désintéressée de la vérité

ce qui implique :

(a) une curiosité intellectuelle délibérément critique à l'égard de tous les résultats acquis et de toutes les synthèses intellectuelles déjà achevées

(b) le devoir de résister à toutes les pressions extérieures de nature à entraver cette recherche

(II) la formation d'hommes ayant une conception large et cohérente de la culture humaine et du sens de la responsabilité des intellectuels vis-à-vis de la société

ce qui implique :

(a) la participation au développement de la culture sur le plan national et international

(b) la lutte contre un empiètement excessif de la préparation technique sur la formation intellectuelle

(III) la fraternité universitaire

ce qui implique :

(a) qu'aucune différence de sexe, de classe, de fortune, de race, de nationalité, de religion ou de conviction politique et sociale, ne doit constituer une infériorité ou une disqualification universitaire pour personne

(b) qu'il importe de favoriser à l'intérieur de l'université la vie communautaire dans toute la mesure du possible

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CHARTE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ

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- (b) qu'il importe de favoriser à l'intérieur de l'université la vie communautaire dans toute la mesure du possible
- (c) qu'il faut réaliser une vraie solidarité entre les universitaires de tous pays.

La Conférence fut particulièrement féconde sur le plan concret pour le Secrétariat du F.E.S.E. et de l'E.U.I.. Rien n'est plus utile, en effet, que de recueillir de la bouche des intéressés eux-mêmes l'écho de leurs aspirations intellectuelles, de leurs besoins matériels, de leurs soucis, de leurs préoccupations, de leurs espoirs.

Les réfugiés et les internés purent indiquer au F.E.S.E. comment leur condition en Suisse pouvait être améliorée, comment le F.E.S.E. pourrait intervenir pour faciliter leur rapatriement, comment encore, il pourrait rester en contact avec eux pour faciliter leur réintégration dans la vie civile. Les anciens prisonniers, les anciens combattants, les anciens partisans purent donner de précieux renseignements sur la mentalité et les problèmes de leurs camarades, fournir une série de suggestions concrètes pour leur venir en aide. A plus lointaine échéance, les représentants de divers pays ravagés par la guerre purent indiquer dans quel ordre de priorité les besoins de leurs camarades étudiants devaient être satisfaits après la fin des hostilités. Et, ce qui est plus, le F.E.S.E. a trouvé là une équipe de jeunes gens qui, de retour dans leur pays, se feront les promoteurs de l'idée de solidarité universitaire, répandront parmi leurs compatriotes retrouvés le message de fraternité de Genève et feront germer dans la paix une sémence répandue dans la guerre. Ainsi : de Suisse, le F.E.S.E. et l'E.U.I. ont pu renforcer directement leurs positions internationales d'après-guerre.

Dans une solennelle séance d'ouverture, le Recteur de l'Université de Genève, le Professeur Anthony HAZEL, souhaita la bienvenue aux participants, rappela les principes permanents qui vont à la base de l'université.

Le Professeur Gunnar NYSTRÖM, Président du Comité suédois du F.E.S.E., membre de la Commission gouvernementale suédoise pour la reconstruction d'après-guerre, a fait le voyage de Stockholm pour participer à cette réunion dont il a présidé la première journée. Les renseignements qu'il a fournis sur la participation très générale des étudiants suédois à l'œuvre commune furent entendus avec le plus vif intérêt.

La seconde journée fut présidée par le Professeur Jacques PIRENNE, de l'Université libre de Bruxelles, tandis que le Professeur Gustave COLONNETTI, de Turin, présida la journée de clôture.

Les Comités exécutifs du F.E.S.E. et de l'E.U.I., réunis une semaine plus tard, pour établir les plans d'action pour l'année universitaire 1944-45, purent dans une très large mesure bénéficier de cette fraîche expérience et projeter des actions de secours correspondant aux impérieux besoins et reflétant cette réalité européenne qui n'est plus celle du passé, qui n'est plus même celle du présent, mais déjà celle de l'avenir.

Ce furent trois journées qui durèrent.

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EP/MP

705-54

NEWS LETTER

WORLD STUDENT RELIEF

E.S.R.F.

June-July 1945

Series 1944/45 - No. 4

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13, rue Calvin, Geneva
Switzerland

A New Departure

The observant reader will notice that the title of this News Letter has been modified since our last issue. It now bears the phrase "World Student Relief" as well as the initials E.S.R.F. The change is in some-what tardy recognition of the fact that this is a document which contains news from all parts of the world, a fact which is of more than passing significance. When a given piece of work has validity and merit, there is a kind of inevitability about its becoming universal. "If it is true at all, it is true for all."

The importance of student relief was very much on the minds of International Student Service, the World's Student Christian Federation, and Pax Romana, when World War II broke out and people began to realize how far-reaching would be its terrible results. These organizations united to form the European Student Relief Fund, as we all know. Three years before, student relief work had been undertaken in China with equal alacrity. After Pearl Harbor, North America became a field for student relief too, with prisoners, internees and evacuees added to the refugees who were already being helped. Since the fact of student relief thus extended to three continents, it was the most natural thing in the world that the various pieces of work should be bound together under a common name, World Student Relief, which represents common commitment to a common task.

This News Letter, therefore, recognizes the world character of our work and its long history in its contents. Future issues will bear specially written news items from Australia, New Zealand, China, Canada, the United States, as well as news items from Europe. This particular issue is a translation of the "Bulletin du F.E.S.R." which has been prepared especially for the delegates of the E.S.R.F.-I.S.S. Conference at Combloux, Haute Savoie, France, from August 22nd to 29th. If there is more information from Europe than from elsewhere in this number it is simply because the editor is a victim of the old proverb "What one is drowned in fills the mouth".

- The Editor -

TRAVEL NOTES FROM A NEW ARRIVAL IN GENEVA

1494

If our readers will permit me to substitute "Editorial I" for "Editorial we", I should like to add a few lines of a personal nature. I feel no hesitation in doing this since I have the good fortune to meet either face to face or through correspondence, a great number of the readers of this "News Letter".

In February of this year I left the United States, bound for Great Britain and the continent with Geneva as my ultimate goal. England pro-

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TRAVEL NOTES FROM A NEW ARRIVAL IN GENEVA

If our readers will permit me to substitute "Editorial I" for "Editorial we", I should like to add a few lines of a personal nature. I feel no hesitation in doing this since I have the good fortune to meet either face to face or through correspondence, a great number of the readers of this "News Letter".

In February of this year I left the United States, bound for Great Britain and the Continent with Geneva as my ultimate goal. England provided just the right transition stage from the United States to the continent in wartime. V-bombs, the war weariness of those who have endured since 1939, reduced food rations and all the other accompaniments of the war in Europe I experienced directly for the first time. (No, the V-bombs only indirectly!) The effect of the war on the universities, the splendid

program of our British committee of International Student Service in spite of great difficulties, the careful work of the British Affiliated Committee of World Student Relief on behalf of Geneva - these occupied the foreground of my activities and impressions.

Then followed five weeks in France, half of which were spent in Paris and half in visiting Caen, Lyon, Marseille, Grenoble and Combloux. The outstanding impression - difficulty everywhere! Life is still too disorganized for anything to be done simply or easily. There is difficulty in transportation, whether in Paris or in the provinces; there is difficulty in getting the dozens of papers, or signatures on papers, which one must have if one is to budge. There is difficulty in trying to find a place to sleep. There is extraordinary difficulty in trying to communicate with people in other parts of France; this is sometimes harder than to get in touch with people in other countries. These are some of the difficulties that our French committee, Entr'aide Universitaire Française, has faced in getting its program underway, to which must be added the greatest of them all - the shortage of manpower. Our committee has had great problems of personnel; and the loyalty and devotion of its staff are demonstrated in their carrying a load which should really be shared by twice as many persons.

Finally, 25 April, Geneva. What a thrill it was to cross the threshold of 13 rue Calvin where for three and a half years I had directed cables and letters! And how good it was to begin to know and work face to face with André de Blonay and Yvonne Frykholm, and with Charlotte Löhrig and "Yasi" Yaskoff, whom I had known for so long through correspondence. It was exciting, too, to get to know the other members of the senior staff - Edmond Perenczi, Max Herrgacher, Hans Gnehm, Henri-François Tévoz, Bernard Dacret, Bernard Béguin - all the interesting junior staff which represents at least a dozen nationalities. I am impressed with their effective work, done without any shouting as to "what it is all about", but with a very clear sense of the tremendous importance of the job in terms of human values and in conserving some of the most vital elements of western civilization.

It was good, too, to meet the World's Student Christian Federation at 13 rue Calvin, as I met it when I was last here in 1936, and to greet Suzanne de Dietrich, Adeline Dupasquier, Eric Duncan, a recent arrival like myself, and Marie-Jeanne de Haller. Their close association in the relief program is a source of great strength to it.

Since my arrival I have participated in my first E.S.R.F.-I.S.S. Executive meeting. Here again it was stimulating to come to know the personalities and points of view behind those names which I had seen on a letterhead for so long - Dr. Hans Bosshardt, Abbé Gremaud, Max Schneebeli, Max Eisenring, and others. In this period I have also spent a day at our Polish internee university in Fribourg, a day at the student sanatorium at Leysin, and a weekend in Zurich at a conference of the National Union of Students of Switzerland. More impressions of these anon!

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The happy contacts I had from my W.S.S.F. post with our committees in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and China give me the very solid feeling that I am here in Geneva as a kind of connecting link between these countries as well as the United States and Geneva. To all friends and colleagues abroad, then, I send my warm greetings and the assurance of my need of contact with you and support by you.

5 July 1945.

Wilmina Rowland
Assistant General Secretary

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICE SALUTES THE COMBLOUX CONFERENCE

For the first time since 1939, students are crossing frontiers to meet together under the auspices of International Student Service (I.S.S.) and the European Student Relief Fund (E.S.R.F.).

At last, after a period of disintegration which has reduced Europe to a collection of disconnected and isolated units, students of different nationalities will have an opportunity of getting to know one another and discussing together common problems whose successful solution will depend in large measure upon themselves.

Once again, after six years of separation, the community of friends and members of I.S.S. will find themselves reunited for a few days, ready and able to work together once more.

Despite all the obstacles in the path of the traveller in a Europe which is still disorganised, the moment is nevertheless well-chosen to revive the tradition of I.S.S. Conferences. After years of struggle and suffering, students are eager to contact fellow-students of other countries, to compare experiences, and to pool the gains and losses of the past. Above all else they welcome the chance to test the strength of their common hopes and convictions for tackling the great problems of university reconstruction.

France is our host for this first post-war meeting, and our thanks are due to the "Entr'aide Universitaire Française" for its invitation. This again is in line with the best I.S.S. traditions -- the Combloux Conference is simply a continuation of the pre-war series of I.S.S. reunions: Nice 1937 - Fontainebleau 1938 - Poitiers 1939. The success and far-reaching achievements of all these conferences were only made possible by the generous welcome of our French friends.

The place of the Conference was not a random choice. Not only is Combloux beautifully situated, but the "Chalet des Etudiants" is one of the first and most successful of E.S.R.F. post-war achievements. Here has been created a microcosm of that student community which it must be our aim to recreate today on both the national and international planes.

Unless serious last-minute hitches occur, this Conference is assured of a wide range of international representation. Acceptances have already been received from delegations for Belgium, Canada, France, Great Britain, Holland, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America. We bid them welcome.

It is inevitable in present circumstances that the countries principally represented should be those of Western Europe. It is our earnest hope to widen the circle of our friendships in the near future. The small community of Combloux is only a nucleus around which we shall en-

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Under the general title:

FROM WAR TO PEACE

First Steps in University Reconstruction

the Combloux Conference will first seek to review the various efforts made since the liberation of Europe to promote the resumption of university life, the reintegration of displaced students, and the realization of those far-reaching university reforms whose urgency is today universally recognized. A secondary purpose will be to enable both I.S.S. and the E.S.R.F. to keep themselves informed concerning the university situation, the currents of student opinion, student ideals and student needs in the different countries. And finally the Conference will give those students who have grown to maturity under war conditions or in Resistance movements their first opportunity to take part in the work of our international organizations, to express their opinions and criticisms, and to make suggestions. To this new generation of students who will be making their first contact with I.S.S. at the Combloux Conference, and who come to it with convictions formed and minds tempered by war experiences, we extend a cordial welcome.

Throughout the war years we have worked to maintain a tradition of co-operation and international student unity which was threatened from all sides. We have rescued from the flames a capital of experience, of ideals and of friendships. Whether this capital is to fulfill its great promise for the future reconstruction of the University depends upon the extent to which we can interest the student of 1945 in our work, gain his confidence, and secure his collaboration. We aim to work together with the whole student body for the renaissance of university life in Europe. Within the I.S.S. there is no gulf separating the generations; old and young unite in one true community inspired by the same determination to reconstruct, the same ideals, and the same respect for university tradition tempered by a realization of new and imperious necessities. May the Combloux Conference mark the birth of a great and enduring friendship.

FROM WAR TO PEACE

I. The European Student Relief Fund in 1944-45

The period 1944-45 has been essentially a period of transition between war-time and peace-time activities, and has entailed many changes both in the character and in the scope of E.S.R.F. activities. During the hostilities the great aim was to mitigate war's disintegrating effects on the university as an institution, and to give what help was possible to students in prisoner-of-war camps and elsewhere. Despatches of books, study materials and food gave practical demonstration that student unity and university integrity were surviving all the ordeals to which they were being subjected. Our peace-time activities, on the other hand, are directed to assisting university reconstruction proper, partly by the supply of books and study material which have not been available for years, but principally by the re-establishment of international contacts and co-operation between students and universities of different countries, by

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Needless to say both the war and peace-time activities of the European Student Relief Fund are guided by the same fundamental principles accepted as the basis of co-operation between its three constituent bodies, International Student Service, the World's Student Christian Federation, and Pax Romana. These basic principles may be expressed as follows:

- (a) Impartial service to all students and professors in need or suffering from the effects of war or oppression, irrespective of religion, race, country or nationality;
- (b) Individualised service with an emphasis upon the intellectual, spiritual and ethical forces represented by W.S.R. and embodied in its constituent movements;
- (c) Rehabilitation of university life in its full scope rather than relief only;
- (d) Co-operation among students and faculties inspired and sustained by the ideal of international student solidarity;
- (e) Promotion of self-help and co-operative efforts in addition to direct assistance;
- (f) Reliance upon indigenous leadership: "The resident forces are the redemptive ones";
- (g) Co-operation with other agencies concerned with student relief.

Ever since the Fund's formation in March 1940 and during the whole period of the war its interest has been the practical one of providing relief to university students in all parts of Europe. All have been helped, whether prisoners of war, deportees, refugees, or members of national Resistance groups. As viewed from Geneva during these crucial years Europe has represented and still represents a living reality - a suffering community with needs crying to be met, aspirations to be encouraged and struggles which urgently require our support. And above all Europe retains a background of common culture which no lines of demarcation can permanently disturb. The same spirit of mutual aid which has guided our work for European students during the war will inspire our peace-time activities. Its attitude of positive neutrality, the encouragement consistently given to the constructive forces of the University, and its avoidance of all political propaganda, together put the E.S.R.F. in a very strong position for bringing effective aid to European students from whatever zone of occupation they may come.

We propose to give a brief summary of the practical action hitherto undertaken by the E.S.R.F. in the various countries of liberated Europe:

France

Even before the war, International Student Service enjoyed very considerable support in France which enabled it to undertake relief action during the whole period of hostilities. This work had to be clandestine and was effected by funds quietly passed into the hands of committees in the southern university towns for assistance to both French and foreign students. Immediately after the liberation, André de Blonay, E.S.R.F. General Secretary, managed to get to Paris, there to establish the "Entr' aide Universitaire Française", the French national committee of the E.S.R.F. This new Committee is composed partly of old friends from the

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The practical schemes launched by the E.S.R.F. in post-war France include the following:

Student Rest Centres

A "Chelet des Etudiants" was opened at Combloux (Haute Savoie) on January 15th, 1945. The official inauguration ceremony took place on April 8th 1945. Here students representing the best elements in the French university may recover their strength and balance after long and exhausting years in the French Resistance, or as prisoners and political deportees in Germany. This scheme has met with such great success that the French committee is at present considering ways and means of opening more centres on the same lines in Brittany, in the Vendée, and in the neighbourhood of Paris.

Assistance to Bombed-out Universities

The University of Caen was almost completely destroyed and has been able to continue its teaching only in a very makeshift manner. The E.S.R.F. was first on the spot with relief supplies of books and study material. The University of Caen has since been "adopted" by the Swiss University of Lausanne, which has already sent a first shipment of books to its needy "foster children".

The University of Lyon has been "adopted" by that of Geneva, and, through the agency of the European Student Relief Fund has received clothing, food, laboratory supplies and apparatus. As much as one and a half tons of food supplies have been sent, and more than seven hundred volumes will shortly be on their way.

Several Universities of Southern France have benefited from funds sent to the various E.S.R.F. committees for distribution to needy students, both French and of other nationalities, and for the opening of student canteens.

Facilities for French students to visit Switzerland, either to receive medical treatment for tuberculosis in Leysin or to enjoy a period of rest and recuperation, are available for special cases chosen by the "Entr'aide Universitaire Française". A first group of students suffering from tuberculosis arrived at Leysin on February 8th, 1945. Arrangements are being completed to bring a number of French students who, although not seriously ill, are tired or run-down in health. They will be welcomed into Swiss families for a two months' holiday period.

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Entr'aide Universitaire Française has Professor Jean Thomas as Chairman, and its offices at 137 Boulevard St. Michel are staffed by M. Philibert, Mlle. Descombey, and Mlle. Grasse. In its early days the activities of this committee were financed from Geneva headquarters, but as time goes on Entr'aide Universitaire Française hope to be able to find sufficient independent finance to cover at least a part of their activities. An appeal for funds will shortly be launched.

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Belgium

The present situation in Belgium is much less grave than that of many neighbouring countries, since it has suffered relatively little from the war and is still in possession of foreign exchange credits. However, there has been a need for student relief activities. Here also the post-war action of the European Student Relief Fund is in a sense a continuation

of its war-time activities. Ever since 1942, hundreds of Belgian students have been receiving individual food parcels arranged for through the E.S.R.F. Our General Secretary, André de Blonay, nevertheless visited Brussels during the autumn of 1944, establishing contacts with those who had helped with the plan in Belgium. Contacts were thus established with the main university circles as well as with the Brussels University Foundation, and have since been maintained and strengthened by visits from other E.S.R.F. Secretaries.

Arrangements for Belgian T.B. students to come to Switzerland for treatment were initiated by M. de Blonay during his first visit to Brussels. The Belgian Government voted a credit of five million francs for this scheme, and the first group of Belgian students was able to reach Leyden on April 23rd, and the second on June 12th. Swiss families will also be found to offer hospitality to a certain number of Belgian students in a low state of health.

Food supplies in more substantial quantities have been sent from the Geneva office. 1,200 food parcels have been sent to various of the Belgian universities.

Book supplies have taken the form of standardised collections of books representative of publications of general interest appearing in Switzerland and in the Anglo-Saxon countries during the war. They have been sent to the universities of Ghent, Brussels, Louvain and Liège. These have been greatly appreciated as such works have been unobtainable in Belgium for some years.

The University of Louvain is particularly in need of assistance both for the reconstruction of its magnificent library which was gutted by fire for the second time in 25 years and for re-equipment in scientific instruments and apparatus.

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A reconstituted Belgian Committee of International Student Service has been set up with Professor Breuer as Chairman. It is composed of the Rectors of the four Belgian universities, various distinguished professors, the presidents of the various Students' Unions and representatives of other student groups. Its offices have been established at 57 rue des Tirailleurs, Saint Gilles, Brussels, with two secretaries, Jean Kestelyn and Jacques Lefevre.

We should mention that the University Foundation (11 rue d'Esmont, Brussels) has always offered its full co-operation as a distributing agent and in other ways.

Holland

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Holland

Of all the countries of Western Europe, Holland perhaps most deserves the practical sympathy of students of other lands. In January of this year, only a small area of the country had been liberated and could receive outside assistance, and all the large cities were suffering from terrible famine. Even after the liberation of the rest of the country, material conditions are still difficult. At the present time the university population has to endure hardships which entitle them to the special consideration of students in more fortunate countries.

The European Student Relief Fund was quickly on the spot, and thanks to the sympathetic support of the Dutch Government was able to come to the assistance of Dutch students with food supplies as long ago as March. These were sent to Eindhoven, the relief centre of the liberated zone, where stocks were accumulated ready for the swift relief of suffering in other areas as they were progressively liberated. Further despatches of books, food supplies and clothing have since been made. No less than one and a half tons of foodstuffs have already arrived and been distributed to Dutch students. An E.S.R.F. secretary, Robert Martin-Achard, has paid two visits to Holland. On the first he was able to co-operate with James Henderson of the British W.S.R. Committee in preparing the way for a number of different relief schemes, and he is at present (July 1945) in Amsterdam supervising their execution. Several Swiss universities have "adopted" different Dutch universities as follows: Basle - Utrecht, Zurich - Leyden; Neuchâtel - Groningen; Fribourg - Nijmegen. Standard book collections, similar to those sent to France and Belgium, will shortly be on their way to Holland through the agency of the Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross.

Arrangements for Dutch students suffering either from tuberculosis or other ailments to receive treatment abroad are being made in Switzerland, where tubercular students will be accommodated at a clinic at Leyden and others receive hospitality in Swiss families. In England also a rest home for Dutch students has been organised along the lines of the "Chalet des Etudiants" at Combloux.

A Dutch Committee of the E.S.R.F. has just come into being, with offices at Brussels 34, The Hague, and Hubert Drion as Secretary. Previously it was Dr. H.C. Hamaker, Secretary of the Eindhoven Temporary University Foundation, who acted for the E.S.R.F. in collaboration with Capt. Kok of the Military Authorities. Close contact is also maintained between Geneva and the Student Resistance groups represented by Mr. A.C. Haenen of the Student Contact Committee.

Italy

The general lines of E.S.R.F. action in post-war Italy were sketched well ahead, thanks to the advice and collaboration of a number of eminent Italian university professors who had taken refuge in Switzerland. But the practical details could be gone into only in May 1945 when M. de Blonay was able to pay a visit to Rome. He was immediately successful in establishing valuable contacts in official educational circles, with the Vatican, and among the Allied Military Authorities. Among the numerous projects shortly to be put into operation in Italy may be mentioned the Student Rest Home to be opened at Rocca di Papa near Rome and various medical services for the student body undertaken in collaboration with UNRRA. It is hoped that it will shortly be possible to send food supplies and study material across the Swiss-Italian frontier. An E.S.R.F. representative will be permanently stationed in Italy, where he will work in close co-operation

other areas as they were progressively liberated. Further despatches of books, food supplies and clothing have since been made. No less than one and a half tons of foodstuffs have already arrived and been distributed to Dutch students. An E.S.R.F. secretary, Robert Martin-Achard, has paid two visits to Holland. On the first he was able to co-operate with James Henderson of the British W.S.R. Committee in preparing the way for a number of different relief schemes, and he is at present (July 1945) in Amsterdam supervising their execution. Several Swiss universities have "adopted" different Dutch universities as follows: Basle - Utrecht, Zurich - Leyden; Neuchâtel - Groningen; Fribourg - Nijmegen. Standard book collections, similar to those sent to France and Belgium, will shortly be on their way to Holland through the agency of the Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross.

Arrangements for Dutch students suffering either from tuberculosis or other ailments to receive treatment abroad are being made in Switzerland, where tubercular students will be accommodated at a clinic at Leyden and others receive hospitality in Swiss families. In England also a rest home for Dutch students has been organised along the lines of the "Chalet des Etudiants" at Combloux.

* * *

A Dutch Committee of the E.S.R.F. has just come into being, with offices at Emmastraat 34, The Hague, and Hubert Drion as Secretary. Previously it was Dr. H.C. Hamaker, Secretary of the Eindhoven Temporary University Foundation, who acted for the E.S.R.F. in collaboration with Capt. Kok of the Military Authorities. Close contact is also maintained between Geneva and the Student Resistance groups represented by Mr. A.C. Haenen of the Student Contact Committee.

Italy

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Switzerland

One of the main E.S.R.F. post-war activities has been to arrange accommodation and treatment for student war victims suffering from tuberculosis. This is done at a newly established clinic of the International

University Sanatorium at Leysin. This new clinic, which includes a number of different houses, has been opened as the result of collaboration between several organizations. A substantial proportion of the cost of the scheme is borne by the Swiss Gift Fund for War Victims ("Don Suisse"). Already large groups of students have arrived from French and Belgian universities and will be followed in the course of the year by Dutch, Italian, Czechoslovak, and Yugoslav students. These cases are chosen by the different national committees of the E.S.R.F. in consultation with selection committees of medical and academic specialists, and must conform with the stipulations that the illness should be the result of war conditions and should be curable in six months to a year.

The Swiss national committee of the E.S.R.F. has also organized a holiday rest period with Swiss families for foreign students run-down in health.

The various relief and educational activities pursued throughout the course of the war for military internees and civilian refugees in Switzerland are of course being continued up to the moment of the departure of these students to their home countries or other lands willing to admit them.

Yugoslavia has already received small quantities of study material taken by a large group of Yugoslav students repatriated from Switzerland. A visit shortly to be paid to Belgrade by an E.S.R.F. Secretary will mark the launching of effective relief and reconstruction activities in this country.

Czechoslovakia is at present being visited by an E.S.R.F. representative whose first report is awaited with great interest. A first shipment of various supplies will be leaving Switzerland before the end of July, and accommodation is being arranged in Switzerland for tubercular students and other sufferers newly liberated from concentration camps.

It is hoped to send E.S.R.F. representatives into Poland during the course of the summer.

Two E.S.R.F. delegates, Francis and Margaret House, are at present active in Greece, where they are particularly occupied in student social problems and in helping students to reconstitute their own organizations. They are serving on the staff of UNRRA, seconded to this organization by the E.S.R.F. Similar activities are being carried on by an E.S.R.F. representative in Syria.

In the United States, Great Britain, Canada and France, student relief activities are carried on for German prisoners of war in so far as circumstances and official regulations permit. For this work a great number of highly qualified field workers are needed in order to bring personal influence to bear in helping German students not only to pursue

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In the United States, Great Britain, Canada and France, student relief activities are carried on for German prisoners of war in so far as circumstances and official regulations permit. For this work a great number of highly qualified field workers are needed in order to bring personal influence to bear in helping German students not only to pursue their studies but also to adopt a new mental attitude and realization of the true character of the University. Of material assistance in this work will be a number of special brochures shortly to be issued by the E.S.R.F. In the United States and Canada the programme is carried on by the North American Committee of World Student Relief, and in England by the British Affiliated Committee of World Student Relief.

Students in Soviet Russia suffering as a result of war ravages are being assisted through the North American Committee of W.S.R., which is in touch with the Student Department of the Soviet Youth Antifascist Committee.

It will thus be seen that although the activities undertaken by the European Student Relief Fund in liberated Europe cannot claim to do more than touch the fringe of the vast needs which exist, they are nevertheless so organized as to produce their best results where most urgently needed. What is specially significant is that the E.S.R.F. is the only organization bringing help to student victims of war directly from their fellow students in more fortunate countries. All through our work it is made abundantly clear that it is the students themselves throughout the world whose concern it is to safeguard and revive the cultural and academic values represented by the best tradition of the University.

II. International Student Service in the liberated countries of Europe

Material relief, great though its immediate necessity may be, is far from being the only concern of the European Student Relief Fund and International Student Service. Of supreme importance for the long-range development of the University are their efforts to re-establish the threads of intellectual collaboration between students of all countries, through the organization of international conferences, student travel and exchange schemes, and the resumption of I.S.S. researches into urgent university problems.

International Student Service grew out of the original "European Student Relief" which was an organ forged after the last war by the World's Student Christian Federation for relieving student distress in Europe. I.S.S., which became independent in 1925, thus represented a co-operation between Christian and non-sectarian elements.

It is inspired by the ideal of a university community in which professors and students side by side work in the interests of truth and national culture. It has an unshakable confidence in the intellectual and spiritual recovery of the true university spirit in harmony with the national and international realities, both economic and social, of the modern world.

One of the features of I.S.S. activities is its flexibility and adaptability to changing needs. Its present programme includes the following elements:

(1) Relief Action for Student War Victims or those suffering from Political Persecution. Since 1940, I.S.S. has carried out this section of its activities through the European Student Relief Fund, of which it forms one of the three constituent bodies. The technical execution of

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(2) The Research and Information Department of I.S.S. is particularly concerned with purely student problems: housing, living conditions, and social services including medical attention, co-operative organizations, insurance and savings funds, student centres, "self-help" activities, etc. It is also the business of this Department to keep in close touch with currents of student thought in all countries, and to evolve plans for university reform which, while conforming to certain universally-valid principles, shall nevertheless be adapted to the particular needs and ideas of each country. Even during the war, the closest contact possible under the circumstances was maintained with the universities of many European countries. Most valuable monographs were issued giving particulars of the war-time university situations, both from the material and academic standpoints, in the different countries under German occupation. This documentation proved of great service for the preliminary outlining of post-war relief plans.

Various publications are issued by the Department, ranging from modest multigraphed monographs and reports to the ambitious new international review "University 1945". The research department of I.S.S. also undertakes all publicity and similar work for the European Student Relief Fund: a monthly I.S.S.R.F. News Letter or Bulletin is published in English and French and yearly or two-yearly reports appear in English. Sectional reports on special phases of the work are also to be issued in Italian, Polish, Serbo-croate, German and Czech. In general all publications appear in both English and French.

(3) The convocation of International Student Conferences is one of the traditional activities of I.S.S. Here students from many different, and often differing, countries meet, the individual contribution of each reflecting his particular political horizon, religious background, or cultural training. The current problems of the day, university and otherwise, are thrashed out in free discussion, and the new tasks to which the organisation must face up are discovered. The personal contacts and international friendships formed during these conferences have always proved of the greatest value to the cause of student unity, and much is hoped for from those being planned for the post-war period on both regional and international planes.

Even during the war the presence of students of many different nationalities as refugees or internees in Switzerland made it possible to hold most successful and stimulating annual summer conferences at which the general lines of the post-war action of I.S.S. and E.S.R.F. could be laid down. However, it is the 1945 Combloux Conference, on the general theme "From War to Peace", that will be the first truly representative international student conference to be held since 1939.

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(4) Finally, International Student Service organizes international student exchanges and student travel schemes, thus greatly furthering international understanding and student unity by enabling some of the best elements of each student community to become acquainted with the culture riches of foreign lands. A first step in this direction is the provision of accommodation and medical treatment in Switzerland for students from other countries who are suffering from tuberculosis and other ills, and soon it is hoped to offer facilities to students in sound health who wish to study abroad. Student exchanges between France and England are under consideration, groups of French students will soon be able to come to Switzerland, and at the present time I.S.S. has at its disposal

a limited number of places in American universities available for European students, a few of whom will thus be able to follow university courses in the New World for the first time in many years. These are but the small beginnings of an action which will steadily widen in scope and importance from year to year.

International Student Service is controlled by an International Assembly under the chairmanship of Professor Jean Thomas, who is at present Director of the Foreign Cultural and Academic Relations Department of the French Ministry of Education. As the Assembly was unable to meet during the war years, an Emergency Executive Committee composed of those Assembly members who lived in Switzerland was given responsibility for the organization since 1939. Its chairman is Doctor Hans Bosshardt.

In the course of the present year all the different constitutional bodies of International Student Service will be re-established under whatever forms may most effectively enable them to take their part in the total I.S.S. reconstruction programme. For instance, many of the national committees to be reconstituted will represent E.S.R.F. alone, or I.S.S. alone, or frequently both at the same time, whichever is found most suitable to the particular circumstances and practical conditions in various countries.

The execution of both I.S.S. and E.S.R.F. programmes is carried out by the International Secretariat at 13 rue Calvin, Geneva, under the direction of André de Blonay, I.S.S. General Secretary.

The fundamental basis of both these organizations is the community of interests of students in all countries. At no time in the history of the world has it been so important that the bonds of international understanding and student unity should be strong enough to hold together a disrupted world.

The natural development required of our two organizations in order to continue to widen the scope of their work on an adequate scale will require a progressively greater body of support from successive generations of students. At the present moment national committees or correspondents exist in the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, China, Eire, France, Great Britain, Greece, Holland, Hungary, India, Italy, New Zealand, Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, and the U.S.A.

It is essential that these contacts should be strengthened and extended through the support of all students inspired by the will to reconstruct the University in accordance with its fundamental principles and truths. The unchanging verities are not transmitted automatically from generation to generation; they can only exist by being consciously accepted by each individual student and deliberately incorporated into his basic mental make-up. It is a renaissance of the human spirit in each generation that must be aimed at.

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ROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRIA

Direct relations have been established with the University of Innsbruck, and relief action is being prepared. Student delegates from Innsbruck have visited Switzerland and contacted the Geneva Secretariat.

Relations have also been established with an accredited representative of the Vienna democratic student organization who was able to travel to the Swiss frontier, and detailed reports of the university situation in Vienna have reached us in Geneva.

CANADA

A big student Congress was held in Montreal to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Canadian Catholic Youth Foundation. Some 30 countries were represented by more than a hundred visiting students.

CHINA

With a total population of 450 million, China has today 143 universities or institutes and 73,000 students. In 1937, before the war, there were only 100 universities and 42,000 students. 34 universities have been affected by the war, and more than 50,000 students and professors have been evacuated into the interior. Thus it will be realized that the majority of Chinese universities are carrying on in particularly difficult conditions. Many are situated in villages, with the most primitive arrangements. There is no electricity, no running water, and few other comforts. Students are generally lodged in overcrowded dormitories. Libraries and laboratories are wholly inadequate, and the currency inflation does not make things easier. A university professor earns less than a rickshaw coolie. More than 90 per cent. of the students are dependent upon Government relief. And tuberculosis represents an ever-present and increasing menace.

World Student Relief sends aid for Chinese students through the National Student Relief Committee which has sub-committees in 28 university centres in Free China. In 1944 the N.S.R.C. disbursed more than 70 million Chinese dollars to provide clothes, books and study allowances for no less than one fifth of all Chinese students. The budget for the financial year 1945-46 will be 300 millions. Further sums have been devoted to equipping university centres, cost of displacement, etc.

FRANCE

We have just learnt of the death of M. Louis Carton, Professor of Mathematical Physics at the University of Poitiers, who, together with M. Théodore Lefebvre, was assassinated by the Germans at Woelfenbuttel. The famous biologist, Professor Marcel Renant of the Sorbonne, was fortunate enough to return from captivity. M. Jean Warin, Professor of Literature, died in a German prison last December.

On June 6 the Lycée Michelet (Paris) held a moving ceremony in honour of its students shot by the Germans on June 10, 1944. (Université libre)

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The Strasbourg University will reopen this autumn.

GREAT BRITAIN

The British I.S.S. Committee is organising a big student conference for the end of August. The principal subject for discussion will be the complex problem of Germany's future.

James Henderson is now Secretary of both the I.S.S. and W.S.R. committees. He is assisted by Leslie Smith.

The British I.S.S. Committee will shortly be opening a Student Home for Dutch students and hopes soon to be able to issue a similar invitation to students from Norway.

Mr. Churchill has announced in the House of Commons that the Government were organizing large-scale student exchanges between Great Britain and the U.S.S.R.

The Catholic paper "Unitas" has devoted a special number to the European Student Relief Fund.

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Reports reaching us from W.S.R. representatives in Greece indicate that, although the food problem has been temporarily solved thanks to UNRRA action, the Universities are in urgent need of books and laboratory material. Francis and Margaret House are particularly occupied with the question of social services for students which are particularly needed owing to the overcrowding existing in the Greek universities.

HUNGARY

From Budapest come reports to the effect that the problem most to the fore in student circles is that of the purging of the universities.

News of a most creditable new departure in the Hungarian university field comes from Cluj (Kolozsvár). Between the two wars, a Rumanian university was alone tolerated. Since the Vienna Agreement it had been replaced by a Hungarian University. And now there are both a Rumanian and a Hungarian seat of learning functioning side by side, and sharing libraries, clinics and laboratories.

ITALY

André de Blonay, E.S.R.P. General Secretary, spent the month of May in Rome preparing the way for and launching the first relief action of the European Student Relief Fund in Italy.

Rome.- E.S.R.P. offices have been opened in the premises of the National Research Council which is directed by Professor Gustavo Colonetti. One of the first achievements was the founding of a student centre and rest home at Rocca di Papa (2,300 ft.) near Rome.

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Mr. de Blonay was asked to address the First Democratic Student Congress held in Italy -- among the problems treated at this Congress were the purging of the Italian university, national and international student organisation, and relief action. The best elements of the universities of both Rome and Naples are endeavouring to organise themselves democratically, but in general students feel rather lost, undecided, and above all uncertain of what the future holds for them. When they are not simply apathetic, they are easily influenced by extremist proposals, which are often contradictory. Another cause of difficulty is the distrust of students for their old professors, and the fact that professors seldom seek any human contact with their students. A notable exception is the excellent influence of Professor and Mrs. Colonetti among the Rome students.

There are two principal student organizations in Rome -- the Italian Catholic Student Federation (FUCI), and the left-wing Italian Student Union (USI), which showed great courage by its activities during the German occupation. These incidentally were responsible for the University of Rome being eventually closed.

The recent Congress held jointly by these two organizations established an Inter-faculty Student Council, neutral with regard to both politics and religion, to represent general student interests.

Naples. In Naples there is practically no collaboration between Catholic and non-Catholic elements. Our General Secretary found that the economic and social situation of the students was serious. The high cost of living obliges the majority to work their way through their studies, and the general health of students, especially with regard to T.B., is alarming. No facilities are provided for medical examination. Hospital accommodation and medical supplies are seriously insufficient. The tasks facing the E.S.R.F. are thus immense. Its first concern must be to organize the distribution of relief through local committees, and next to do all in its power to encourage these student groups, and working in a true democratic spirit for the spiritual and moral renascence of the Italian University, and to revive contacts between Italian students and those of other nationalities.

Milan. An E.S.R.F. Secretary has been able to visit Milan, Genoa and Bologna, and an observer has been to Venice. The most advanced and progressive spirit was found among the Milan students, where a University Student Association (AUS) has been formed to spread democratic ideas both in the university and among the populace. The Government has officially adopted the criteria established by the students for the purging of fascism. In the national sphere the AUS seeks to work a radical transformation in the character of the national life, and to encourage sympathy and co-operation between students and workers, but is not confined to the narrow limits of any one party. Within the university it upholds the ideals of equal opportunity for all of free education right up to the university, and the participation of students in the university government including such matters as curricula, administration of laboratories and libraries, constitution of examining bodies, etc.

A young Italian student who has for some months past been working at the Geneva headquarters of E.S.R.F. has just left for Milan, where he will organize our relief action in North Italy.

PALESTINE

An International Student Service Committee has just been constituted in Palestine under the chairmanship of Dr. Magnes, Rector of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

POLAND

Naples.-- In Naples there is practically no collaboration between Catholic and non-Catholic elements. Our General Secretary found that the economic and social situation of the students was serious. The high cost of living obliges the majority to work their way through their studies, and the general health of students, especially with regard to T.B., is alarming. No facilities are provided for medical examination. Hospital accommodation and medical supplies are seriously insufficient. The tasks facing the I.S.R.F. are thus immense. Its first concern must be to organize the distribution of relief through local committees, and next to do all in its power to encourage those student groups who are working in a true democratic spirit for the spiritual and moral renais-sance of the Italian University, and to revive contacts between Italian students and those of other nationalities.

Milan.-- An I.S.R.F. Secretary has been able to visit Milan, Genoa and Bologna, and an observer has been to Venice. The most advanced and progressive spirit was found among the Milan students, where a University Student Association (AUS) has been formed to spread democratic ideas both in the university and among the populace. The Government has officially adopted the criteria established by the students for the purging of Fascism. In the national sphere the AUS seeks to work a radical trans-formation in the character of the national life, and to encourage sympathy and co-operation between students and workers, but is not confined to the narrow limits of any one party. Within the university it upholds the ideals of equal opportunity for all of free education right up to the university, and the participation of students in the university govern-ment including such matters as curricula, administration of laboratories and libraries, constitution of examining bodies, etc.

A young Italian student who has for some months past been working at the Geneva headquarters of I.S.R.F. has just left for Milan, where he will organize our relief action in North Italy.

PALISTINE

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POLAND

Professors are arriving from all over the country in preparation for the re-opening of the University of Warsaw. The University has been completely re-organised, and special workers' courses will be arranged for the great numbers of men engaged on the reconstruction of Warsaw.

The University of Lodz has already reopened.

U.S.A.

The World Student Service Fund has received contributions towards this year's programme of action from 550 colleges and universities and 150 higher educational institutions. The strongest support has come from Michigan State College (2,500 dollars), Michigan University (2,500 dollars) and the University of Chicago (3,000 dollars). Twenty universities have organized book collections for the benefit of the Philippine universities.

W.S.S.F. is planning a great extension in its fund-raising activities for 1945-46. Five or six regional offices will be set up in different key centres to ensure the best possible co-ordination of the fund-raising campaign which is aiming at the high figure of one million dollars.

A cable has just arrived in Geneva with the news that the students and professors of the University of Michigan had held a big and enthusiastic meeting of their joint organization at which it was decided to "adopt" one of the universities of liberated Europe. The International Secretariat immediately cabled a suggestion that the University of Michigan should finance the establishment of a student centre at the Strasbourg University which is to reopen this autumn. The reply of Michigan is awaited with great expectation.

SECRETARIAT

In September of this year, André de Blonay, E.S.R.F. General Secretary, will leave for a two months' visit to the United States.

During the summer Miss Wilmina Rowland, Assistant General Secretary at Geneva, will be going to England to attend the International Student Congress organized by the British I.S.S. Committee, and also to represent World Student Relief at the meeting of the World Youth Council.

Roland Elliott, of the W.S.R. North American Affiliated Committee, will shortly be leaving for China to organize relief action in the liberated areas of the Far East.

Reports from one of our friends who is visiting Prague are eagerly awaited in Geneva.

Two of our Canadian fellow-workers, Robert Tillman, of the Canadian I.S.S., and Mr. Peletier, representing the French-Canadian Catholic student body, are shortly expected at Geneva headquarters.

Reinforcements to the Geneva staff will be Edgar Reckard, expected every day from America, and Mr. Ehrenstrachle, who will be coming to Switzerland from Sweden next January.

During July the E.S.R.F. will be sending a representative to Vienna and Budapest. Travelling with a Red Cross convoy, he will bring much-

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During July the E.S.R.P. will be sending a representative to Vienna and Budapest. Travelling with a Red Cross convoy, he will bring much-needed relief to students in these two towns where conditions are particularly difficult.

Yngve Frykholm, Assistant General Secretary at Geneva, will be going back to Sweden this autumn to support the Swedish national committee's fund-raising appeal. The new Swedish national secretary is Carl de Geer.

A valuable stock of study books in Russian has just reached Geneva from America.

Representatives of ten different national committees will be present at the meetings of the Executive Committee of E.S.R.P. and the Emergency Executive Committee of I.S.S. which will be held in Geneva at the beginning of August.

GENEVA'S MAIL BAG

"In view of the agreement come to between the Dutch military authorities and the European Student Relief Fund, I consider it of the highest importance that a representative of your organisation should visit Holland at the earliest possible moment in order to organise student relief in collaboration with the Dutch universities.

"I therefore extend a formal invitation to your representative to undertake this mission, and venture to hope that this delegate will be afforded every possible facility in the accomplishment of his task."

Mr. von BOLKENSTEIN
Dutch Minister of Education, Arts
and Sciences

"In the name of the students of the Lyons University I wish to express our thanks for the food supplies which we have just received from you in good condition. Thanks to this generous action of the students of Geneva, their fellow students in Lyons will be able to enjoy substantial improvement in their diet at a time when the acute food shortage prevalent throughout France constitutes a serious threat both to their health and powers of concentration.

"In the new France of tomorrow, the students of today will bear heavy responsibilities as leaders in all branches of national activity. They are already making a splendid contribution to the recovery of their country, and the assistance received from their Swiss friends is another striking demonstration that the student community is maintaining one of its great traditions by leading the way in international friendship and student unity."

Prof. AILLIX
Rector of the University of Lyons

"As the secretary of the Eindhoven Temporary University Centre, set up with a view to organising university instruction in liberated

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Prof. ALLIX
Rector of the University of Lyons

"As the secretary of the Eindhoven Temporary University Centre, set up with a view to organising university instruction in liberated Holland, I seize the opportunity to express our deep gratitude for the help that your organisation so kindly offered."

Dr. HAMAKER
Secretary of the Eindhoven Temporary
University Centre

"Please accept my unbounded thanks and admiration of your organization, its staff, and all its supporters, for the amazing increase in the scope of your activities. I wish to make a special point of assuring you of our satisfaction in the most fruitful co-operation established between us. May it endure!"

Dr. Jean WILLEMS
Director of the University Foundation
at Brussels

"It was with great pleasure and satisfaction that we received today the most precious shipment of food which you despatched to us on March 14. Everything arrived in good condition.

"Please accept the deep gratitude of all of us for this gift, so timely and so substantial. We are profoundly appreciative of the spirit of solidarity and student unity which inspires your action. Please convey to all concerned our most sincere thanks.

"The food will be of inestimable benefit to our young students who have endured such hardships, and I can assure you that it is accepted and valued not only for the material comfort it represents but still more as an expression of mutual help and international sympathy."

The RECTOR of the University of
Louvain, Belgium

"The new consignment of food supplies mentioned in your letter of March 29 has now arrived in Belgium, and the Belgian Red Cross has advised us that the proportion intended for the Free University of Brussels will shortly be delivered to us.

"These supplies arrive just when our need is very great in order to succour those of our unfortunate students who have returned alive from the Nazi torture camps.

"Our M. Maistriaux has returned this very day -- he has been ordered immediately to bed. Nine of the students who were fellow-prisoners with him will not return. Four of them were hanged and the other five died of starvation and hardship.

"You will understand that, in these conditions, concentrated foods like condensed milk are specially needed. It would be a blessing if many young students here could enjoy a rest period in a sanatorium.

"All our students are pressed for time. The date of the examinations has had to be advanced. One class after another is mobilised, M. Servais got married last week, and he will be doing his military service in a few days. M. de Heinzelein, his successor, has also been called up. A happy piece of news is that M. Mardulyn, who has

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"You may be sure that we shall do everything possible to send a delegate to the Combloux Conference. It is however too soon to make definite arrangements."

Dr. J.F. COX
Rector of the Free University of
Brussels

"We, the students of Austria, pay tribute to your work and to all the student organisations associated in it. All the information and printed matter you have sent us have been devoured with avidity. The mass of creative ideas they contain are of the greatest value to our work, although unfortunately we have not yet had sufficient time to put them into full practice. Our organisation has just recently come into being, and has to struggle against stubborn resistance both from within and without. Our great fight is not only against National Socialism, but also against the apathy of the masses and the reaction now existing against any form of radicalism. It is our fervent hope that at the next meeting of your Executive Committee, the resumption of close relations with the Austrian Academic Union will be finally decided upon.

"Enclosed you will find various appeals and documents of which we beg you to make whatever use you think fit. Their wide circulation and publication will be of the greatest service in arousing sympathy and winning us friends in our heavy task.

"We earnestly beseech you to use all the means in your power and all the great influence of your organization in order that the Austrian university may be able to return to its former eminence in the academic world, an eminence founded on cultural and scientific labours and traditions as well as on principles of friendship for all nations before it was overwhelmed by the flood of Hitlerian fascism.

"Again please accept our repeated thanks for your interest in our labours. May we soon be once more united through your organisation with all student unions throughout the world!"

From the Chairman of the Austrian
Academic Union at Innsbruck

"I want to thank you again for that fine book you sent me! Well - it was Faulkner's 'Political and Social History of the United States'.

"It was published by the Croft Publishing Co., and had a deep blue cover, with one or two stars to denote the edition. I used to carry it around, just for the comfort and solace it gave to me. God! it was a wonderful book!

"Why, that book meant life to me. It raised me out of the misery of days that never ended; of time that went on forever; of boredom; of negation of soul and body, that can only come with months of confinement... That book made me forget... that book made me live again!

"I began to teach American History. That not only helped me, for now I know I can teach; but it helped hundreds of others... many indirectly. Men used to stop me, who never came to class, to ask all sorts of questions about American history. All aroused a real interest and helped to break down the apathy that was thicker than the walls that

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"They speak of the unsung heroes of the war. Well, you are one of them. I see you, still, in the station at Geneva, welcoming us to life again.

"Thirty-seven months was a long time to be shut up. But, it would have been plain hell without that book. Many thanks, and good luck!"

An American Soldier

"I am sure that you will be glad to hear that all of the occupants of Stalag Luft III are now liberated. We were removed from Stalag Luft III January 27, 1945, to Stalag VII A at Moosburg, Germany. April 29 we were freed by the 99 Tank Division, U.S. Army. We are now en route to America.

"I wish to thank you for your assistance in sending educational material. Without your help camp life would have been dull indeed. If I can ever be of assistance to you in the future please command me."

An American Soldier

"Many thanks for your letter. I am writing immediately to Mr. Leslie Smith and I intend to do all within my power to take an active part in the I.S.S. in Great Britain.

"This is work in which I am eager and proud to participate; nor shall I ever forget the debt which I owe to the European Student Relief Fund. May I say too, how very sincerely I echo the sentiments which you expressed in the conclusion of your letter to me - 'hoping that your voice will be one of those raised in support of every measure calculated to prevent the recurrence of another catastrophic conflict'.

"Wishing your organisation every possible success."

A British Soldier

"I received enclosed form just as our camp was being evacuated by the German authorities and could not reply before I was repatriated.

"Now that I am safely back home permit me to offer my profound thanks and admiration for the wonderful work your society is doing. I hope to enter the teaching profession myself soon and I should be proud to continue my association with your society and to help in any possible way that I could."

A British Soldier

"May I take this opportunity to thank you for everything you did for me when I was a P.O.W. in Germany.

"I spent four years over there, and without the help that your organisation and many others provided, I should not have returned to this country so well equipped to take my place in society again.

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A British Soldier

"I am writing to express my gratitude for all that you and your organization have done for myself and my friends while we were P.O.Ws.

"I have received several books and note books when at Oflag VII B, and shall be pleased to subscribe to your funds when it is possible to send money to Switzerland from this country, that is, if you have no agency in England."

A British Soldier

"I am enclosing herewith a questionnaire duly filled in as requested. This document was received as a P.O.W. Now I am in the happy position of once more being a free man and in my own country. Nevertheless the debt of gratitude we owe to your untiring efforts to lighten the gloom of P.O.W. life needs to be repaid and I should be only too pleased if, at any time in the future, I can be of service to your organization in any capacity.

"I shall therefore be pleased if you will keep my name before you should any opportunity arise whereby I can be of assistance in furthering your cause in England."

A British Soldier

"I am happy to inform you that I am now repatriated from Stalag 363, Hohenfels, Bavaria, and am quite fit. When we were forced to march from our camp I was forced to leave all my study books behind which you so kindly helped me to procure. Can you inform me if there is any chance of these being forwarded to me?

"I am greatly in need of them in order to continue studying, which I began whilst a P.O.W. My books were on Salesmanship, Commerce, Economics and Advertising.

"Once again I thank you most heartily for the great help you gave me."

A British Soldier

"It was very good of you to send me books and writing material when I was a P.O.W. in Germany and I feel I must write and thank you for the assistance and encouragement that your interest and generosity gave me. I am certain that in some ways I derived benefit from my five years' captivity, and this fact is in no small means due to you.

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"I suggested at the time that I should pay the cost of what you sent me. However, a subscription (which I hope is at least as great as the cost) will save you correspondence, and will be a more fitting return for your kindness and a better token of my gratitude. I hope, therefore, that you will accept the enclosed cheque for £5."

A British Soldier

"A considerable period has now elapsed since I last had the opportunity of writing to you - and in that period much has happened to us all. You are doubtless well acquainted with the spectacular release of the prisoners in Stalag 357 - W/O's Alderton, Springett, Higginbotham and myself were fortunate enough to be amongst those who were released and for the past 7 weeks we have been taking full advantage of our newfound freedom and indulging in all those little pleasures that have been denied to us for so long. The greatest gift that freedom has offered me is the return of my individuality, a prize that I treasure above all else.

"Shortly before we were liberated, I received a number of application forms from you relating to the post-war activities of the E.S.R.F. I had previously written to you expressing my interest in the movement and my admiration of the ideals that surround your organisation. Unfortunately in those wildly chaotic moments of liberation, the forms were lost and since my interest is now more keenly alive than ever I would greatly appreciate it if you could send me another 50 or so. A number of my friends have expressed their desire to continue helping your organisation, and if I have some of your application forms I can send them on to them.

"Now that the war in Europe is over, I feel very loath to lose contact with all the good friends in Geneva, whose wonderful spirit and ready assistance was a constant reminder to us that we were not forgotten. Our debts to those who, like yourself, worked untiringly on our behalf, are legion and if there is anything that we can do in return please don't hesitate to let us know.

"I would be extremely grateful if you would extend to all the Allied Relief Organisations in Geneva and to your staff, my grateful appreciation for the manner in which they met our frequent and voracious demands for books and materials.

"To you all I send best wishes for a very successful and happy peace-time."

A British Soldier

"At last I am glad to be able to write to you from my own country instead of Germany. Firstly I want to let you know how deeply I appreciate the help and consideration you have shown myself and other P.O.W. during our captivity, and that your assistance has been invaluable. Without the materials and books from you and the Y.M.C.A., we could never have carried on as we did and it's due to you that I am ready to return to college any time, much more advanced than before the war. I only hope you will not hesitate to let me know if there is anything I can do to repay the debt which I owe. Shortly before the evacuation of Stalag 344, I filled in a form, re E.S.R.F., which you sent, but owing to dis-

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A British Soldier

"I have been liberated and I am once again in France. After the first excitement of my plunge back into civilised life my grateful thoughts turn towards you.

"I am sure that my fellow prisoners, now scattered, would wish me to express, however briefly and inadequately, their affectionate thanks. Throughout our period of captivity you have helped us climb the weary road. Thanks to you we were able to save our academic souls. What a lot of paper we used up!

"I sincerely hope I may have an opportunity to say my word of appreciation either orally or in writing, for your generous interest, and my testimony to its value and efficacy.

"In the meantime we want you and all your helpers to know that your organisation and its works are a living and treasured memory in all our minds.

"In 1944 you were so good as to forward a manuscript I entered in the 'Captivity Contest'. The entry was entitled 'The Gates of Bronze' and was awarded the third prize of Frs. 50 in books in the 'Art and Literature' section. Could the European Student Relief Fund please put me into touch with the Committee for the 'Captivity Contest'?

"Would you be so kind as to tell me in what way and to what extent the French public may support the E.S.R.F.

"With sincere gratitude and warmest greetings."

A French Soldier

1483

"It gave me great pleasure to receive your last letter, and I want to thank you once again for all your kindness and help to me during my deportation in Germany. Please accept also my sincere appreciation of all you did for my friend Verdier, killed at his post in Germany."

From a French civilian worker in the
Compulsory Labour Corps

"In my own name and in that of all my hundred fellow workers, I thank you for all you did for us. Yours was the fight of civilisation against brutality."

A French student

"This letter of thanks for despatches of books made to me by your organisation during my period of captivity in Germany is written on French soil after being repatriated much sooner than I had dared to expect. Your books enabled me to forget the passage of time during

I am sure that my fellow prisoners, now scattered, will express, however briefly and inadequately, their affectionate thanks. Throughout our period of captivity you have helped us climb the weary road. Thanks to you we were able to save our academic souls. What a lot of paper we used up!

"I sincerely hope I may have an opportunity to say my word of appreciation either orally or in writing, for your generous interest, and my testimony to its value and efficiency.

"In the meantime we want you and all your helpers to know that your organisation and its works are a living and treasured memory in all our minds.

"In 1944 you were so good as to forward a manuscript I entered in the 'Captivity Contest'. The entry was entitled 'The Gates of Bronze' and was awarded the third prize of Frs. 50 in books in the 'Art and Literature' section. Could the European Student Relief Fund please put me into touch with the Committee for the 'Captivity Contest'?

"Would you be so kind as to tell me in what way and to what extent the French public may support the E.S.R.F.

"With sincere gratitude and warmest greetings."

A French Soldier

1483

"It gave me great pleasure to receive your last letter, and I want to thank you once again for all your kindness and help to me during my deportation in Germany. Please accept also my sincere appreciation of all you did for my friend Verdier, killed at his post in Germany."

From a French civilian worker in the
Compulsory Labour Corps

"In my own name and in that of all my hundred fellow workers, I thank you for all you did for us. Yours was the fight of civilisation against brutality."

A French student

"This letter of thanks for despatches of books made to me by your organisation during my period of captivity in Germany is written on French soil after being repatriated much sooner than I had dared to expect. Your books enabled me to forget the passage of time during many otherwise dreary hours, and, by making it possible for me to work, aided me at least not to forget the small amount of learning that I had acquired."

A Fontainebleau student

"It is from back in France that I have the pleasure of writing to you, and I have still to thank you for keeping in touch with us even when we were at Augsburg. The news of my family which I received through you was all that I had of them during the last ten months."

A French student

"Oflag XVII A had the good luck to be liberated and repatriated in May 1945. As general secretary of the Camp University I am anxious to thank you for all you did for us and in particular for the friendliness and cordial sympathy with which your help was given. Please accept the gratitude of myself and my fellow prisoners towards your organization and all its collaborators."

The Educational Officer of Oflag XVII A

1482

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
AFO 394

ED/tjr/ass

ED/52/40

25 October, 1945

SUBJECT : Transmittal of enclosed letter.

TO : Signor O. Binder,
Schweizerischer Bund,
für Jugend-Herbergen,
Zurich I, Seilergraben I,
Switzerland.

The enclosed letter is forwarded on to you at the request
of the Comitato Alberghi Italiani per la Gioventù.

CARLTON W. WASHBURN
Lt. Col., A. U. S.
Director of Education.

1481

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
APO 394

ED/JVV/rg

ED/5.B/AB

31 July, 1945

SUBJECT : Request from Chief of European
Student Relief Fund.

TO : The Legation of the United States
of America
(Att: Lt. Col. Omar Colcaise
Asst. Military Attache
Bern, Switzerland).

1. Reference is made to your letter pertaining subject of
2 July 1945.
2. AFHQ has been requested to grant the necessary permit.
3. You will be informed as soon as we get a reply from AFHQ.

For the Director of Education:

J.V. VELLA
Captain
Executive Officer.

1480

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
APO 394

ED/JVV/rg

ED/2E/AC

31 July, 1945

SUBJECT : Request from Chief of European
Student Relief Fund.

TO : Public Safety Subcommittee
(Att: Major Balance).

Attached please find letter from Asst. Military Attache
United States Legation, Bern, pertaining subject.

It is requested that permission be obtained from AFHQ for
Dr. Gnehm, the head of the Italian section, Miss Wilma Rowland, the
American representative of the European Student Relief Fund, and one
car and trailer containing educational material to enter Italy the
latter part of August.

M. Andre' de Blonay who made the request, is very well
known to this Subcommittee.

For the Director of Education:

1479

J.V. VELLA
Captain
Executive Officer.

CC/ew

2 July 1945

SUBJECT: Request from Chief of European Student Relief Fund.

TO: Headquarters Allied Commission, Education Sub-commission,
AFU 394.

ATTENTION: Lt. Colonel Carleton Washburne

1. This office received a visit this morning from M. André de Bonay, Chief of the European Student Relief Fund, who requests permission a) to Dr. Onehn, the head of the Italian section, b) Miss Wilma Rowland, the American representative of the European Student Relief Fund, c) one car and trailer containing educational material, into Italy the latter part of August.

2. Entry for this party will have to be cleared by your office with, we presume, the various security channels of your headquarters.

3. We shall be pleased to facilitate their delivery to the Italo-Swiss frontier upon receipt of instructions from you.

For the Military Attache:

OSCAR COLCAIRE
Lt. Colonel, MIS
Asst. Military Attache

1478

Handwritten: New file 5P
Handwritten: [initials]
Handwritten: European Student Relief Fund

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LOMBARDIA REGION
EDUCATION DIVISION
APO 394

Tel. 12641
Ext. 2032

11 July, 1945

ED/4-91

SUBJECT: Education - Fonds Européen de Secours aux Etudiants.

TO : Allied Commission Headquarters,
(Attn. Education Sub Commission).

1. Ref. telephone-conversation of yesterday's date on above subject (Lt. Col. Washburne - Major Vesselo speaking).

2. Herewith copy of plans of above-mentioned association for reconstruction of Italian Universities.

3. Further specific projects and plans will be forwarded as soon as prepared.

For the Regional Commissioner:

Handwritten signature: A.A. Vesselo
A.A. VESSELO
Major A.E.C.
Regional Education Officer.

1477

FONDS EUROPÉEN DE SECOURS AUX ÉTUDIANTS

COMITE:

HANS BOSCHARDT, PRÉSIDENT
 ANNE JOSEPH GREMAUD, VICE-PRÉSIDENT
 ROBERT C. MACKIE
 ANDRÉ DE BLOHAY, SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL
 MALCOLM W. DAVIS
 TRACY STRONG
 W. A. VISSER T. MOOFT



ORGANISATION AFFILIÉE
 ENTRAIDE UNIVERSITAIRE INTERNATIONALE
 FÉDÉRATION UNIVERSIELLE DES
 ASSOCIATIONS CHRÉTIENNES D'ÉTUDIANTS

PAX ROMANA

15, RUE CALVIN
 GENEVE 15 (SUISSE)
 TÉLÉPHONE: 4 33 34
 CHÈQUES POSTAUX: 7.1.3872
 ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE:
 INTERSTUD GENEVE

Référence:

(Prima ad internat.)

RICOSTRUIRE L'UNIVERSITA'

I piani per il dopo guerra del

Fondo Europeo di Soccorso agli Studenti

LA SITUAZIONE.

Quattro anni sono trascorsi da che il Fondo Europeo di Soccorso agli Studenti è stato costituito per iniziativa dell'Ente Aide Universitaire Internationale, della Fédération Universelle des Associations Chrétiennes d'Étudiants e di Pax Romana; quattro anni durante i quali il FSEF ha coordinato e condotto le diverse azioni di soccorso agli studenti vittime della guerra; ha successivamente esteso il campo delle sue attività fornendo aiuto sia morale che intellettuale a tutti coloro che, fiduciosi nella solidarietà universalistica, si sono rivolti a lui. E' così oggi riconosciuto in tutta Europa come ente competente per i problemi concernenti gli studenti e le università che, in un modo o in un altro, sono stati colpiti dalla guerra.

Migliaia di studenti la cui esistenza era minacciata sono stati salvati materialmente e spiritualmente. Vantila prigionieri in Germania, in Italia ed oltremare hanno ricevuto materiale di studio. Gli studenti offesi in Francia, Belgio, Norvegia e Grecia hanno ricevuto dei viveri. Più di tremila studenti di ogni nazionalità, rifugiati od internati in Svizzera hanno avuto la possibilità materiale e finanziaria di continuare i loro studi interrotti.

ROBERT C. MACHRE
ANDRE DE BLONAY, SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL
MALCOLM W. DAVIS
TRACY STRONG
W. A. VISSER T. MOORT

ORGANISATIONS AFFILIÉES
ENTRAIDE UNIVERSITAIRE INTERNATIONALE
FÉDÉRATION UNIVERSITÉ DES
ASSOCIATIONS CHRÉTIENNES ÉTUDIANTS
PAX ROMANA

CHARGÉ AFFAIRES
ADRESSE TÉLÉGRAPHIQUE
INTERSTUD GENEVE

Date: _____
(Pense à l'heure)

RICOSTRUIRE L'UNIVERSITÀ

I piani per il dopo guerra del

Fondo Europeo di Soccorso agli Studenti

LA SITUAZIONE. =

Quattro anni sono trascorsi da che il Fondo Europeo di Soccorso agli Studenti è stato costituito per iniziativa dell'Ente Aide Universitaire Internationale, della Fédération Universelle des Associations Chrétiennes d'Etudiants e di Pax Romana; quattro anni durante i quali il FESE ha coordinato e comitato le diverse azioni di soccorso agli studenti vittime della guerra; ha successivamente esteso il campo delle sue attività fornendo aiuto sia morale che intellettuale a tutti coloro che, fiduciosi nella solidarietà universitaria, si sono rivolti a lui. L'oggi così riconosciuto in tutta Europa come ente competente per i problemi concernenti gli studenti e le università che, in un modo o in un altro, sono stati colpiti dalla guerra.

Migliaia di studenti la cui esistenza era minacciata sono stati salvati materialmente e spiritualmente. Venti mila prigionieri in Germania, in Italia ed oltremare hanno ricevuto materiale di studio. Gli studenti affamati in Francia, Belgio, Norvegia e Grecia hanno ricevuto dei viveri. Più di tremila studenti di ogni nazionalità, rifugiati od internati in Svizzera hanno avuto la possibilità materiale e finanziaria di continuare i loro studi interrotti.

Questa azione condotta con uno spirito di comprensione internazionale ha fatto rinascere la volontà di lavoro di innumerevoli giovani che avevano perso il coraggio e la fiducia nell'avvenire. L'azione di soccorso iniziata in tempo di guerra sarà continuata in tempo di pace. Non è suffi-

= 2 =

ciente salvare gli studenti dai pericoli presenti, ma bisogna pure preparare il loro avvenire. A questo scopo, bisogna considerare fin d'ora con quali mezzi si dovrà fronteggiare la disperata situazione che regnerà in Europa quando le ostilità saranno finite.

Le condizioni degli studenti saranno tragiche. Decine di migliaia di giovani, smobilitati, liberati dai campi di prigionia, d'internamento, di concentramento o di lavoro ritroveranno una libertà di cui non sapranno fare uso, ritroveranno una patria che forse non potrà loro offrire nulla. Dovranno risatarsi psicologicamente, porre le basi economiche della loro vita. Gli studenti avranno fame, gli studenti saranno mal vestiti, gli studenti saranno malati, avranno bisogno di un aiuto per rifarsi una nuova esistenza.

Ed oltre ai problemi materiali, si presentano i problemi spirituali. L'Europa sarà divisa, agitata da gravi conflitti, sommersa da ondate di odio e di violenza. Dovrà ciononostante rinascere dalle sue rovine e trovare una nuova unità malgrado gli antagonismi ideologici. Questa rinascita esigerà la collaborazione dell'Università.

Prima della guerra l'università non ha raggiunto i suoi scopi in molti campi. Ha fornito ai giovani l'arma della scienza senza dar loro quelle basi morali che avrebbero dovuto permettere di servirsi con un giusto criterio. In alcuni paesi hanno perso il contatto con la realtà e con la vita. Sul piano nazionale ed internazionale ha opposto ben scarsa resistenza alle forze disintegratrici che hanno condotto a questa guerra i troppi spesso l'Università ha accettato di essere uno strumento in mani nichiliste.

Domani la nuova università dovrà comprendere l'importanza della sua missione che ha non solo di diffondere la scienza, ma di formare degli uomini; di nuovo come nei secoli scorsi dovrà rappresentare un elemento di 4455 nel mondo. In ogni paese dovrà adattarsi all'evoluzione sociale che è stata così rapidamente accelerata da questa guerra e dovrà essere la guida delle nuove comunità.

L'università non potrà raggiungere questo scopo che nella misura nella quale potrà esistere, cioè a seconda della misura in cui le distrazioni della guerra saranno riparate, le biblioteche ed i laboratori ricostruiti, la libertà di pensiero assicurata agli intellettuali; un minimo di sicurezza indispensabile ai lavori dello spirito dovrà essere accordato agli studenti e ai professori. Per raggiungere questo scopo che si presenta immenso e al

= 3 =

quale si deve tendere con un vero spirito di comprensione nazionale ed internazionale, le organizzazioni affiliate al FESE sembrano particolarmente qualificate per la loro esperienza e per le loro tradizioni.

QUALI PRINCIPI GENERALI ISPIRERANNO L'AZIONE DEL FESE.

- 1.) = I servizi del FESE saranno offerti a tutti gli universitari, studenti e professori, che ne avranno bisogno e questo senza distinzione di religione, di razza, di paese o di nazionalità.
- 2.) = L'azione del FESE avrà, nella misura del possibile, un carattere individuale; cercherà di sviluppare le forze intellettuali, spirituali e morali che ispirano le tre organizzazioni affiliate.
- 3.) = Il lavoro di soccorso non sarà considerato come un fine a se stante, ma come un mezzo per favorire il rinascere della vita universitaria.
- 4.) = Il FESE cercherà di unire studenti e professori in una stretta comunità di pensiero e di azione ispirata dall'ideale di una solidarietà universitaria internazionale.

METODI DI LAVORO.

- 1.) = Il lavoro del dopo guerra del FESE consisterà nella continuazione, secondo un piano organico, dell'opera di soccorso realizzata durante le ostilità. Sarà condotto nell'ambito del Fondo Mondiale di Soccorso agli Studenti recentemente creato allo scopo di assicurare la coordinazione delle attività di soccorso attuate e progettate nelle diverse parti del mondo (Cina, India, Stati Uniti, Canada).
- 2.) = Posto sotto la responsabilità di un comitato esecutivo internazionale, nell'ambito del quale le organizzazioni affiliate godono di un'equa rappresentanza, l'azione del FESE si esercita per mezzo di una segreteria permanente la cui sede è a Ginevra. Questi rappresentanti dei diversi paesi associati all'opera del FESE i collaboratori di questa Segreteria la tengono in contatto, coi loro viaggi, con la realtà materiale e spirituale della vita universitaria europea.
- 3.) = Nella misura del possibile, il FESE lavorerà in ogni paese per mezzo dei collaboratori nazionali e locali delle organizzazioni internazionali di cui è l'espressione.

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Ed ~~na~~ solo su richiesta di questi = o in loro mancanza = che si ricorrerà a personale straniero per la selezione del quale si terrà conto della particolare psicologia e dei problemi specifici di ogni paese.

In alcuni casi il FESE potrà affidare ad una delle organizzazioni affiliate il compito di organizzare, per suo conto ma a nome di questa, una particolare azione di soccorso.

4.) = ~~Contatto~~^{Vinta} che, per ragioni morali e materiali, il soccorso non può e non deve avere un carattere temporaneo, il FESE cercherà di sviluppare il metodo del "self-help" e l'organizzazione nell'ambito della università, di cooperative suscettibili di dare rapidamente allo studente soccorso la sua indipendenza economica, condizione essenziale per la sua completa dignità morale.

5.) = L'azione internazionale del FESE sarà coordinata con quella delle organizzazioni di soccorso tendenti a scopi paralleli ai suoi. Sul piano universitario, contatti saranno stabiliti il più strettamente possibile con le nuove organizzazioni la cui attività si manifesterà dopo la guerra.

6.) = Nel campo dell'organizzazione privata, il FESE accetterà, quando le circostanze lo permetteranno, di distribuire soccorsi per conto di enti governativi, questo nella misura in cui la sua indipendenza materiale e morale non ne sarà diminuita.

I COMPITI DEL FESE.

Benchè sia difficile considerare complessivamente sin d'ora la situazione universitaria dell'Europa dopo la guerra possiamo tuttavia esaminare i compiti più urgenti ai quali sarà necessario far fronte.

1473

L' AZIONE IMMEDIATA

A) Il "ritorno" degli studenti.

Il FESE farà ogni sforzo possibile per facilitare il rimpatrio delle migliaia di studenti prigionieri o emigrati. Interverrà per rendere possibile il viaggio di ritorno e per facilitarlo. Il FESE poi avrà fatto ogni sforzo per reintegrare nella società e nell'ambiente universitario i numerosi studenti sfasciati dalla vita dei campi e dall'atmosfera esaltante dei combattenti o dei rinvii, che avranno perso il piacere dello studio o forse anche il piacere dello sforzo intellettuale.

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A questo scopo il FESE sosterrà la creazione di "Case dello studente" dove i migliori che ne sentiranno la necessità potranno trascorrere qualche mese riconfortanti.

Fin d'ora il FESE ha preso le disposizioni necessarie per accogliere, in condizioni soddisfacenti, degli studenti francesi.

Si tratta di evitare che ai fondi una classe di falsi intellettuali, senza diploma e senza finalità, resisti dalla guerra e fermenti di disintegrazione sociale.

D'altronde solo dove i mezzi finanziari impediranno il proseguire degli studi il FESE distribuirà borse per mezzo dei suoi comitati locali.

B) L'aiuto materiale

Per assicurare agli studenti il vitto, l'abbigliamento, l'alloggio e le cure sanitarie indispensabili, gli enti governativi dovranno fornire uno sforzo notevole. Ciononostante il FESE avrà i suoi compiti particolari. Dovrà attirare l'attenzione degli enti di soccorso sui bisogni specifici degli studenti, dovrà curare che delle facilitazioni siano loro accordate, dovrà intervenire quando i soccorsi gli sembreranno insufficienti. Disporrà in paesi neutrali di depositi di viveri che farà giungere, come durante la guerra, alle università che hanno maggiormente sofferto. Il FESE ha oltre alla necessaria esperienza una preziosa conoscenza della situazione nei diversi paesi ed ha collaboratori qualificati i cui servizi saranno indispensabili.

C) L'aiuto intellettuale

La maggior parte dei paesi europei ha in questo momento una grande penuria di materiale di studio, in seguito alla distruzione di numerose biblioteche e di case editrici e a causa della mancanza di carta e di mano d'opera.

Il FESE farà ogni sforzo per assicurare fornire alle case editrici dei paesi risparmiati dalla guerra per metterli a disposizione delle università e degli studenti la cui attività sarà ostacolata dalla carenza di libri. Assumerà a suo carico per una determinata materia o per un dato argomento l'edizione di opere rispondenti ad urgenti necessità. Ha, a questo scopo, preso

1472

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contatto con diverse associazioni di librai e di editori. Questa azione si estenderà ugualmente alle riviste scientifiche, ai quaderni e a tutto il materiale di studio. D'altra parte al momento dell'armistizio il WESE disporrà di importanti depositi di opere scientifiche, riserva della sua azione intellettuale nei campi.

Infine, il WESE farà ogni sforzo per accogliere in Svizzera ed in altri paesi neutri, accordando loro borse di studio, studenti che non saranno in condizione di continuare proficuamente i loro lavori nel proprio paese a causa delle distruzioni della guerra. Contribuirà così considerevolmente a favorire la formazione di ingegneri, di architetti, di medici e di economisti, cioè di "operai qualificati per la ricostruzione".

D) L'aiuto sanitario

Il WESE si prepara sin d'ora ad accogliere in Svizzera ed in altri paesi centinaia di studenti tubercolosi o diversamente colpiti nella loro salute fisica e psichica degli avvenimenti della guerra.

Si è già assicurata la disponibilità di piccoli sanatori in Svizzera e tutto è pronto per ricevere subito i primi gruppi di studenti belgi e francesi.

Gli studenti malati non tubercolosi potranno pure venire in Svizzera per un soggiorno di due o tre mesi. L'ospitalità sarà fatta sia presso famiglie sia in determinati edifici organizzati a questo scopo.

L'AZIONE A LUNGA SCADENZA

A) Organizzazione dei servizi sociali.

1471

Nella maggior parte dei paesi dell'Europa occidentale, i servizi sociali per studenti erano assai bene organizzati ed hanno continuato a funzionare fino ad oggi.

Verosimilmente però in numerosi casi sarà necessario fornire un'assistenza a questi servizi che saranno sovraccaricati di considerevoli richieste d'aiuto. In paesi come la Grecia, la Norvegia, la Jugoslavia e la Polonia i servizi sociali ancora rudimentali sono stati assai rapidamente sorganizzati. La guerra ha creato bisogni immensi. Un aiuto generoso e rapido sarà necessario se dall'esterno si vuol evitare la totale proletarianizzazione degli studenti.

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A questo scopo il FESE invierà nei paesi che hanno maggiormente sofferto dei rappresentanti che avranno il compito di studiare le varie necessità, di distribuire gli aiuti materiali o finanziari che il FESE potrà mettere a disposizione e di organizzare i soccorsi secondo i principi del "self-help", affinché gli studenti che ne godono i benefici abbiano la coscienza di partecipare personalmente a questa azione.

B) Allestimento delle università.

In molti paesi europei, un gran numero di edifici universitari, di biblioteche, di laboratori sono stati distrutti. Il FESE interverrà quando altre organizzazioni non saranno più in grado di farlo e collaborerà con gli enti governativi incaricati di riallestire le università più danneggiate. Cercherà di estendere il principio dell'adozione che, durante la guerra, ha allacciato università libere ad università prigioniere.

C) Ripresa della vita studentesca internazionale.

Non appena i mezzi di comunicazione lo permetteranno, il FESE farà ogni sforzo per mezzo dell'Entr'Aide Universitaire Internationale per dare sviluppo allo scambio di studenti dei diversi paesi, per riunire conferenze internazionali di studenti per trattare problemi che saranno loro a cuore e per favorire con ogni mezzo che sembrerà opportuno non solo lo spirito di un reciproco aiuto ma pure lo spirito di una collaborazione intellettuale e spirituale fra i membri della comunità universitaria.

Questo rapido cenno vuole solo dare un'idea della diversità dei compiti che si presentano fin d'ora al FESE.

IL FONDO EUROPEO PREPARA IL SUO INTERVENTO

1470

1. Formazione di quadri

Il FESE ha organizzato in Svizzera ed in Inghilterra dei corsi per formare dei quadri raggruppati studenti dei vari paesi per associare alla sua opera del dopo guerra un gruppo di giovani particolarmente qualificati.

Questi corsi che hanno avuto fin'ora un gran successo saranno continuati ed ampliati.

Per completare la formazione tecnica e facilitare il compito dei suoi futuri collaboratori, il FESE pub-

= 8 =

blica un manuale del lavoro sociale che ha per scopo di dare un'idea completa delle azioni di soccorso da organizzare e dei metodi da adoperare. Affinchè l'aiuto meglio si adatti alle differenti necessità nazionali, il FESE ha redatto monografie illustranti la situazione delle università sotto l'occupazione nella maggior parte dei paesi europei, sia per quanto concerne la situazione delle università sia i bisogni degli universitari sia le risorse dei vari organi nazionali studenteschi.

2. Informazione

Il FESE cerca, con ogni mezzo che gli sembra utile, di far conoscere agli studenti dei vari paesi devastati dalla guerra la sua esistenza, le sue possibilità, i suoi fini. A questo scopo prende contatto appena possibile coi rappresentanti della gioventù universitaria, facendo ogni sforzo per associarsi gli elementi che sono animati da un nuovo spirito forgiato nella lotta e nella resistenza. Inoltre informa pure con pubblicazioni e documentazioni.

3. = Quando la situazione di un paese si delinea nettamente, il FESE traccia un problema d'azione in collaborazione con i rappresentanti degli studenti interessati e sottomette un bilancio provvisorio ai suoi comitati nazionali. D'altronde per far fronte agli imprevisti il FESE ha costituito un fondo speciale per la ricostruzione.

Non sono questi che alcuni accenni del programma di ricostruzione e di soccorso agli studenti nel dopo guerra, ma queste indicazioni sono sufficienti per mostrare la vastità del compito che attende gli studenti del mondo intero, gli sforzi e la buona volontà dei quali dovranno essere indirizzati dal FESE.

Posti di fronte a questa immensa miseria, ¹⁴⁸⁹ questi brucianti bisogni ed a questa necessità sociale gli studenti privilegiati non rifiuteranno di associarsi alle attività del FESE e non vorranno negargli le risorse di cui ha bisogno. Come la pace, così pure il mondo universitario è indivisibile. Gli studenti non si ritaneranno in un isolazionismo ingannatore, ma si arrenderanno all'evidenza; comprenderanno al tempo stesso la fragilità e la necessità di stretti contatti universitari internazionali e si adopereranno con tutto il loro cuore per RICOSTRUIRE L'UNIVERSITÀ.

Ottobre 1944.

