A(V/A)

COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE FOR WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE

INTERIM REPORT
APRIL 1 1947 - SEPTEMBER 30 1947



COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE FOR WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE

President: The Countess of Plymouth Chairman: Captain Geoffrey Chawshay, D.L. Vice-Chairman: -Sir LEONARD TWISTON-DAVIES, K.R.E., D.L. Honorary Treasurer: R. R. WILLIAMS, O.B.E. Messrs, Lean & Lean Anditors: -Messes, Wenyworth Price, Gadsby & Co. Hankers : -MIDLAND BANK, QUEEN STREET, CARDIFF Director : -Dr. W. J. WILLIAMS I. B. EVANS OWEN PARKY

> Headquarters: 118, CATHEDRAL ROAD, CARDIFF. Telephone: 905,

North Wales Regional Office: 148, High Street, Bassoon, Triphow: 526.



VICE-PRESIDENTS:

*Dr. Whelam George *Dr. W. J. Gruffydd, M.F. Viscount Kemslet

*Mes, Lilian G. Manshi Lewis *Sir EWEN J. MACLEAN *LADY MERTHYR. *GROFFREY SUMMERS, C.B.E. C. G. THARDRAN *IESTYN RITYS WILLIAMS

* Founder Members and Members of First Executive,



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

The Hon, Josep H. Bauce. J. L. C. CECH-WILLIAMS SIT E, WYNNE CEMLYN-JONES ALAN D. RUSSELL CLARKE ALUN B. OLDPIELD DAVIES Professor D. R. SEABORNE DAVIES

HUW T. EDWARDS Ald, GWILYN EVANS GEORGE E. HAYNES, C.B.E. LEWILLYN HEYCOGK ALPRED E. HUGINS

Mrs. JENNIE JENKINS

Mrs. MARGARET IOHN Mrs. KATHLEEN BLODWEN JONES Dr. GWENAN JONES WILLIAM JONES, C.B.E. Sir JOHN LLOYD HUBERY H. MERRETT Alderman W. J. SADDLER Dr. BRINLEY THOMAS Alderman THOMAS WATERHOUSE, O.B.E.

GEORGE A. WATSON Sir Robert Werber, D.L. Sir WYNN POWELL WHELDON, D.S.O. Captain HARRI WILLIAMS R. R. WILLIAMS

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Representing Local Government.

-dwgwiet:				Mrs, J. Morris (County Countil)
Breesnabire				Principal Joseph Jones (County Council)
Carmaroon	bbri 2			Alderman Mrs. Fisher (County Council)
Deutyelehin	e.			Disacros of Enucation (Education Committee Alderman W. Parry (County Council)
				Alderman EDWARD WILLIAMS (Education Comr
Flintshire:				Councillor ARTHUR JONES (County Council)
				Alderman Watermouse, o.s.r. (Education Comm
Merioneth:				Alderman Romert Generation (County Council)
				Councillor Williams (Education Committee)
Montgowers	dien :			Councillor G. F. Davies (County Council)
Radwershire		-	-	E. Kensey Morgan (Education Committee)
Cardiff:				Alderman James Helliver (City Council)
Merthyr:				Councillor O'Disscott. (Education Committee)
Commence of				Alderman W. J. Dawres

2. Representing Educational Bodies.

Joint Four !						Miss O. Syrwary and Mr. G. Davies
Training Colle	2.110					Principal T. J. Winner
Coleg Harlesh						THE WARDEN
W.E.A.:	2					D. T. Gut
G.W.B. +						Rev. Dr. W. Saunders
C.W.B. : Settlements :						JOHN DENNITHORNE
						George Jones
United Nation	w. U.	sion :				Professor WILLIAM REES
Central Counc	Tal.	Physical	Rieriat	Mar Z		E. H. Prayer

United Nations Union: Central Council of Physical					Pro	fessor 1 H. Pax	WILLI	AM REES
		2. Rep	prese	nting 1	Rural	Life.		
Penelmskeshire R.C.C.;			-	-	-	-	-	Rev. J. Davies
Montrouthshire R.C.C.:								D. L. JONES, O.B.E.
Abgirny R.C.C.: -	-	-						J. O. Jones
Caernaryou R.C.C								SECRETARY
Montgomery R.C.C.:								SECRETARY
Council for Prenriation of	Ronal	Wales:						T. ALWYN LLOYD
Agricultural Workers' Un	lon 2							EDDY JONES W. TROMAS
Federation of Young Farms	rr Cl	mba z						

Welsh Industrial Committee :	-	-	1		George Hours
					H. S. PEACOCK
					MALCOLM SMITH

5. Representing Social Life.

Y.W.C.A.: -								Miss MAI ROBERTS
Y.M.C.A.r -								W. J. Parii
British Legion:								Kennedy Hunt
Retary: -				-	-	-	-	R. A. Joses
Federation of Wes							Mrs. HIGHLEY	
World Friendship	-	-		170	-		McTaggart Short	

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL-continued.

6. Representing Cultural Life.

National Eistedofod:

- Alderman Estyn Willems
- Sir Chonga Fossert, E.D., O.B.E., O.J.
- University Countil of Music:
- J. Mongan Nationals

Fideration of Masic and Ariz: - R. Bell. Joseph Miss Estrate Grainger
Commendation: - D. A. Lewis

7. Representing Youth Organisation.

8. R. James
Rev. E. WHITTORD ROBERTS
The Hon. J. H. BROCK
Lady WHILLDON
L. F. ROBLOLT
Our representative to be appointed

.

Miss RACHEL DAVIES

9. Individual Members.

Councillor Burry

MAX CORNER

MAX CORNER

MAS. GERMET DAVIES

MES. GERMET DAVIES

MES. GERMET DAVIES

MES. S. O. DAVIES

SERVEYS DAVIES

SERVEYS DAVIES

SERVEYS DAVIES

MES. S. DAVIES

SERVEYS DAVIES

SERVEYS DAVIES

SERVEYS DAVIES

SERVEYS DAVIES

SERVEYS MES. S. DAVIES

MIGHT BURDON EVANS

MIGHT BURDON EVANS

AMAGERMEN EVEN WILLIAMS

Dr. Grippith Evans
Dennis Grippiths
J. W. Williams

J. IVOR GRIFFTHIS

ABBENDA

LEDY OLWEN CAREY EVANS C. G. HUGGHES
A. G. PRES-JONES J. T. EDWARDS
Dr. D. E. PARRY WILLIAMS J. C. GRIPPITH JONES

INTERIM REPORT

This report of the first six months of the life of the new Council is mainly concerned with its composition and with its activities during that period.

The Council was duly incorporated under licence from the Board of Trade on December 9th, 1946. The first meeting of the 43 founders of the Council was held on March 14th, 1947, and the Council effectively began its work on April 1st, 1947. The audited financial accounts of the Council will, therefore, be due after March 31st, 1948.

The new Council takes over the former North Wales administration and the South Wales and Monmouthshire Council of Social Service. That Council is now in process of liquidation, a process that will be completed by March 31st, 1968. Thus, until that date the two Councils run together.

The Founder Members form the first Executive of the Council except that some of these members prefer to act as Vice-Presidents. The composition of the "Annual General Meeting" of the Council is servout at the beginning of this Report. This "Annual General Meeting" was held on November 13th, 1947, at the Shire Hall, Shewsbury, at 2 p.m.

The existing Committees of the Council are:-

Executive - - - Chairman: Captain Geoffrey Crawshay

Finance and General Purposees - Chairman: T. H. VILE

South Wales Regional - - Chairman : H. H. MERRETT

North Wales Regional - - Chairman: Sir Wynn Whilldon

Four additional Committees will be formed by the Executive Committee -

- (a) Old People's Welfare;
- (b) Rural Life;
- (e) A Drama Committee functioning, it is hoped, as a National Drama Association for Wales;
- (d) A Music Committee which will also function as a Federation of County Music Committees.

The Clubs.

The new Council takes over the club work of the South Wales Council. The pre-war and war-time activities of that Council have to some extent ceased. There is no longer large scale unemployment and distress. There are no "Special Areas" (they are now "Development Areas") and no Special Commissioner.

The Men's and Women's Clubs that were formed from 1936 onwards continue their vivid life. After the ending of the Special Commissioner's office the Assistance Board took over financial responsibility. On March 1918, 1947, the Assistance Board withdrew its grants and now the Ministry of Education gives financial aid, though on a greatly reduced scale, for the year 1947-1948, on the understanding that the Council enters into negotiations with those Local Education Authorities concerned with the former "Special Areas".

It is pleasant to say that these Clubs, which number 141 (30 men's with membership of about 1,700 and 102 women's with membership of about 3,000) after the inevitable drain of war-time upon their resources, show distinct evidence of renewed vigour.

Their activities may be briefly summarised :-

Wismer's Clabs. A staff of three women organisers (supervised by a Senior Woman Officer) together with eleven instructresses give instruction in Homecraft, Cookery, Nutrition, Fruit Preservation, Household Magaement, Household Repairs, Household Budgeting, House Planning, and Kitchen Equipment. There is also instruction in Dressmaking and Tailoring, Clothes renovation, Furnishing renovation, Rug-making, Quilting, Embroidery, Leatherwork. In Addition, there is educational work in First Aid and Home Nursing, Music, Drama, Health, and Hygiene.

Mos's Clubs. A staff of three instructors visit the Clubs and maintain the Council's experimental craft centre at Cwmbran. They give instruction in Woodwork, Upholstery, Household Repairs, Bookbinding, Woodcarving, Other activities consist of Music, Drama, Discussion groups, and Popular Lectures

A Music adviser organises musical activities in the Clubs. A Drama Organiser, supported by a panel of part-time advisers gives advice and instruction (through one-day schools) in production and technique. The Council maintains at 148. Cathedral Road, Cardiff, a large drama lending library, which contains upwards of 5,000 volumes. Stage equipment, lighting sets, and curtains are also hired out to amateur companies.

A highly successful Final Eisteddfod (the culmination of a series of Area Eisteddfodau) was held at Mountain Ash Pavilion on May 31st, 1947. It was attended by upwards of 1,200 club members. The display of craft work revealed a high standard of achievement.

In the first fortnight of August, the Council organised on behalf of the Monmourthshire Local Education Authority, a holiday camp at Rhoose for 200 children from the Monmourthshire Children's Homes. In the second fortnight two holiday camps, each of a week's duration, were held at Rhoose for members of the Women's Clubs. In the first week 141 attended and in the second week 146.

All this speaks for itself and clearly shows the strength of response to generous facilities for informal education. It is obviously work that cannot be allowed to languish. The loyalty of club members to the Council and their appreciation of what is done for them is finely shown in their efforts to aid the Council financially. In the year 1946-1947, through various activities—Drama performances, Concerts, Craft Fairs, Whist-drives, etc.—they raised for the benefit of the Council (£1.69).

Rural Life.

Aided by the Development Commission the Council is deeply concerned in maintaining close relationship with the five Rural Community Councils that exist in Wales. It aims at the establishment of New Rural Community Councils in Counties not yet organised and at the formation of Local Councils of Social Service. Similarly, the work of the Rural Industries Bureau in reviving the crafts of the countryside and aiding craftsmen with equipment and loans comes within our province. Indeed, all those projects which are being encouraged by the Development Commission for the benefit of rural areas are charges laid upon the Council.

Three Rural Officers are engaged in furthering this policy and in dealing with Village Halls, the formation of Parish Council Associations, and in any measures that rend to re-invigorate the life of Rural Wales.

The Cymmrodorion Welsh War Relief Committee, after investigation and quity into the work of the Council, decided to support the Council financially by handing over to it the surplus funds available to the Committee.

This gram was generously awarded in view of the Council's activities in Rural Wales. As a result of the grant the Council has been able to develop and extend its rural policy, and has formed or is forming County Associations of Parish Councils (so far, in Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Penthrokeshire, and the North Wales Countiles) and County Associations of the National Playing Fields Association (in Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Pembrokeshire, Angleisey, and Gaernarvon).

Also, the Council is encouraging Local Village Committees, formed with the object of obtaining either a village hall or a playing field, to extend their activities to include all the interests of village life, to consider the welfare of the village as a whole and to promote undertakings which are generally desired and which will succeed better by teamwork. This association with the Village Hall or National Playing Field project is essential, for it is difficult to maintain a lively and dynamic village community unless it is linked up with some practical village activity.

The Carnegie Trust with sympathetic understanding of the claims of Wales awards a grant to the Council so that it may act as its agent for the promotion of Country Music and Country Drama Committees, the appointment of organisers and the encouragement of amateur music and drama activities.

A Drama Tour of a specially selected company was organised in August. 1957. Three plays were performed; Saunders Lewis's translation of Moliere's "Le Médecin Malgré Lui," an excerpt from Gwynn Jones's translation of "Macbeth," and Magdaden Morgan's translation of J. O. Francis" Birds of a Feather," The Company performed in 18 centres in North and Mid Wales. Expert opinion is that high standards of production and acting were attained. This Tour was made possible by a generous guarantee of £500 from the Arts Council, and by the devotion and high artistic endeavour of the producer, cast, stage staff, advance agents.

The Welfare of Old People.

This is a problem of ever-increasing importance. It is premature to say more now than that the Council has set up a Committee for Wales, is in touch with the new National Corporation for the Welfare of the Aged and is engaged in considering appropriate schemes and projects.

Citizens' Advice Bureaux.

The National Council of Social Service has seconded an officer, working under the Welsh Council to maintain touch with existing Bureaux and to form new ones where necessary. Here it is due to recognise and thank the National Council for its deep concern with the work in Wales. By linancial aid, by advice and encouragement, and by sterfling support, it has placed us under obligations that cannot well be repaid. This is an extract from the Annual Report of the National Council of Social Service, 1965-646.

"The formation of a Council for Wales has taken rather longer than was anticipated, but it is now probable that one will be in operation by the end of March, 1947. The National Council welcomes this move and will do its utmost to help the new Council to become firmly established. There is a great need in Wales, both in town and country, for an efficient, forward looking, co-ordinating social service agency which will cover the whole Principality. Nowhere are there more formidable difficulties of geography, finance, and overanisation to be overcome.

London Welsh.

The Honorary Secretary of the Cymmrodorion Society is a founder member of the Council. With his aid steps are being taken to form a "London Welsh Group" who will have at heart the Welfare of the Council. There are similar groups of Welshmen in other parts of England who may be willing to support the Council. Beyond these, there are the various constituencies of Welshmen overseas, who have already shown deep concern with the state of their native country. As example, the Ladies' Committee of the St. David's Society of Brishane, Australia, have asked the Council to act as their representative for the distribution of their quota (to be distributed in Wales) of the food sent to Great Britain in response to the Brishane Lord Mayor's "Food for Britain" appeal. The Honorary Treasurer of the Council has volunteered to act as Appeals Officer for Welsh Groups overseas.

Churches' Group.

It is hoped to form a "Churches' Group." This would be a group, in association with the Council, that would represent all phases of religious life in Wales, and would, as occasion serves, advise the Council of any action, executive, institutional, or by way of survey they may deem necessary.

Finance.

For every £5 of expenditure, the Council at present receives from Governand Trust Grants about £3. Thus a large sum of money (approximate) £4,500 must be raised by way of Voluntary Subscriptions and other forms of financial effort. For the future it would appear that financial support must depend upon:

- (a) Diminishing Government Grants
- (b) Trust Grants
- (c) Grants from Local Authorities
- (d) Voluntary Subscriptions,

Miscellaneous.

The Council provides the Secretariat for the Standing Conference for Wales of Voluntary Youth Organisations.

It provides a Welsh Regional Officer for the National Playing Fields' Association.

It also acts as the Welsh Agency for the Refugee Children's Movement (Limited), the Central Office for Refugees, and the Czech Refugee Trust Fund, In virtue of his office and otherwise, the Director of the Council is:-

Chairman of Merthyr Settlement;

A Vice-President of the Y.M.C.A.

and is a member of the following committees:-

- (1) Welsh Committee of the Arts Council of Great Britain,
- (2) Welsh Committee of the British Council,
- (3) Main Committee of the Rural Industries Bureau,
- (4) Bureau of Current Affairs Committee (Carnegie Trust).
- (5) Survey Council for Rural Wales.
- (6) University Extension Board,
- (7) B.B.C. Appeals Committee.
- (8) Education Committee of United Nations Association (Welsh Council).

The effectiveness of the work of the Council depends to a great degree upon the members of the staff. They respond willingly and generously to the onerous demands made upon them. Their duties involve, apart from office routine, much evening work, travelling under difficult conditions, and periods of intensive strain when emergency calls. The Council recognises with deep appreciation the services they render.

It is appropriate to refer in this Report to a significant example of cooperation and co-ordination. For the purposes of the recent "Industrial Wales" Exhibition at Olympia, we were asked to do something to emphasise the social and cultural sides of Welsh life. We decided to stage a "Social and Cultural" Exhibit. All the voluntary and cultural Organisations were asked to provide us with material for this purpose. 68 organisations responded and the work of planning the exhibit was begun under the expert direction of Paul Matt.* the Council's Craft Adviser. With much voluntary help the exhibit was finally installed at Olympia, and gained many tributes of appreciation. A series of twelve photographs shown in this Report will help towards appraisal of the Exhibit. We owe them to the interest of Sir Robert Webber in the work of the Council. He arranged that the Kemsley Press should photograph the exhibit and moreover include in the portfolio the negatives so that this reproduction might become possible.

With more knowledge on the part of everyone of the final shape of the exhibit, it could have been even more comprehensive. The opportunity may ver come for its enlargement. This is, we believe, the first instance of almost all of the organisations in Wales co-operating under a Central Welsh Council for invaluable purposes of publicity and enlightenment.

The post-war world faces new conditions which demand a reconsideration of the scope of voluntary effort. We must establish co-operation with Statutory Bodies. We should not attempt work which is effectively done by Local Authorities but rather supplement that work by acting with (or indeed as agents of) the Central Government and the Local Authorities, To these ends, Voluntary Organisations must be efficient to the highest degree, and, to avoid duplication and overlapping, their activities must be co-ordinated. This, apart from its own special concerns, we conceive to be an important function. of the Council-to focus voluntary effort and to be its clearing house in Wales.

* Since August, 1947, Paul Matt has left Wales on his appointment as Crafts Advisor to know that Wales is still within his sphere of work.

























ADDENDUM.

RURAL ACTIVITIES IN WALES

Village Halls.

There are in Wales upwards of 300 projects from villages which are essentially roral in character for obtaining Village Halls. Local Committees fully representative of all village organisations have been formed and they are busily occupied in preparing plans and rasting money. Assistance has been given to all these villages, the amount and conditions of grant aid from the Carnegie U.K. Trustees and loans from H.M. Treasury explained, and legal advice has been made available.

It is hoped to provide a number of remote and isolated villages, where there is no accommodation whatsoever for social activities, with temporary buildings to meet their immediate needs and to serve until permanent building becomes possible.

Playing Fields.

The Welsh Council acts in an advisory capacity for the National Playing Fields Association and help and advice has been given in the preparation munerous Playing Field Schemes. The conditions under which the Ministry of Education is willing to provide grant aid have been outlined, and assistance has been given in regard to the purchase and lay-out of the ground and to legal advice on technical matters.

County Playing Fields Associations to stimulate interest in physical recreation and representative of Local Authorities and sports organisations either have or are being established in 7 of the Counties. The secretarial work fost-these associations is undertaken by the Welsh Council or the Rural Community Council interested.

An attempt to revive interest amongst the Social Service Clubs in Glamorgan has met with an encouraging response and preparatory steps are being undertaken for a Club Festivale.

Parish Councils.

County Associations of Parish Councils have been formed in 8 of the Counties with the object of assisting Parish Councils in the performance of their duties and in order to promote a widespread inherest in Local Government. A high proportion of Parish Councils have affiliated, exceeding 80 per cent, in some counties, and in the larger counties Area Committees have been formed in each of the rural districts. There is an encouraging and genuine realisation of the important part which the Parish Council can occupy in the Local Government structure. More than 130 Parish Councils sent representatives to the National Conference of Parish Councils.

The Secretarial work for the County Associations is carried out by the Welsh Council or a Rural Community Council.

Rural Industries.

For the purpose of rural industries Wales is divided into four groups of Counties with a full time organiser engaged in each area and employed by Rural Community Councils. This number is shortly to be increased to six with the appointment of two additional organisers to the staff of the Welsh Council. Rural craftsmen are assisted, with interest free loans, to purchase equipment and modernise their workshops. Technical advice and instruction in the use of modern equipment is made available and arrangements made for the recruitment and training of apprentices so urgeartly needed if the country craftsman is to survive. Other services include advice to craftsmen in costing and simple accountancy, help in obtaining material and fuel, and questions of deferment from military service of key men.

Drama.

There are Dram Associations or Leagues in the majority of the counties, In several of these, for instance Glamorgan, Moamounbshire, and Anglesey, the Associations were established by the Welsh Council or the Rural Community Council and the administrative work is undertaken by the Councils. Day or week-end schools for producers and players have been held in Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Caternatvenshire, Denbigh, and Anglesey—Drama Festivals have been organised and lectures and advisory visits arranged for local societies.

The Council's Drama Library is supplying the demands of numerous Drama lovers in Wales and the number of plays raken out in sets and single copies numbered some thousands in the past year. The Library is added to annually—special attention being given to meet the increasing demands for all-women casts and for Youth Groups.

Heavy demands are also made on the Stage Curtains and Stage Lighting Equipment which is available on loan.

Music.

There are Music Committees in existence in a number of Counties and negotiations have taken place with the L.E.A.'S in Pembroke, Carmarthen, Beecon, and Radnor with a view to establishing Music Committees and appointing Music Organisers.

County Festivals were organised by the Rural Community Councils in Anglesey and Montgomery.

It is impossible in this Addendum to give in detail for each county the position in respect of the above activities. But such detailed reports are available and can be sent to anyone interested in a particular county.

THE COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE FOR WALES & MONMOUTHSHIRE (Inc.) CYNGOR GWASANAETH CYMDEITHASOL CYMRU A MYNWY (Corff.)

N. WALES REGIONAL OFFICE : 148. HIGH STREET. BANGOR.

Tel. : Banger 526.

Fresident - COUNTESS OF PLYMOUTH Chairman - Caps, GEOFFREY CRAWSHAY,

Director - - Dr. W. J. WILLIAMS -Secretory + J. B. EVANS

HEADQUARTERS : 118, CATHEDRAL ROAD, CARDIFF.

Tel. : Cardiff 905.

February, 1948.

Dear Sir,

We enclose a report of the work of the Council for the period April 1st, 1947, to September 30th, 1947. We hope you will be interested in reading it and that you will appreciate the importance of the work the Council seeks to do.

All grants from Government Departments and Trusts have to be supplemented by voluntary moneys, and thus we have to raise a large sum annually (upwards of £4,500) to maintain the work.

We appeal, therefore, for your financial support. There is attached --

(a) a subscription form;

(b) a form of covenant which would secure that the appropriate income tax payable would accrue to the Council.

Yours faithfully,

Frank (President).

(Chairman).

R. A. Villiams (Treasurer) W.J. Loves ... (Director).

(Treasurer).





