

**REPORT OF THE WELSH LEAGUE OF NATIONS
UNION - DRAFT MEMO.**

(1) **BRANCHES.** The figures for Adult Branches since 1934 is as follows:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Paid Membership.</u>	<u>No. of Branches.</u>
1934	13,537	264
1935	15,675	263
1936	18,255	298
1937	12,745	235
1938	13,018	239
1939	8,442	137
1940	4,635	104
1941	2,604	53
1942	2,544	52

For the year 1943 I have been able to go into greater detail and I find that the position is as follows:-

<u>County.</u>	<u>No. of Branches.</u>	<u>No. of Members.</u>
Anglesey	3	33
Gaernarvon	3	17
Cardigan	3	802
Garmarthen	3	55
Denbigh	5	253
Flintshire	3	14
Glamorgan	19	783
Merioneth	1	85
Monmouth	5	154
Montgomery	3	66
Radnor	1	50
	<u>49</u>	<u>2,292</u>

The above Branches have no organized activities going on, but members have continued to contribute throughout the years, and they are called category A Branches. There are, I am informed, about 130 branches in Category B, which could be revived with some work in the different localities where they happen to be situated, and there are about 100 Branches in Category C which will not revive until a National Campaign will stimulate them. There are also a large number of Branches with details about address of Secretary etc. in the office but they have been placed in Category D. Many of these Branches amount to no more than inquiries which have been made from time to time about the formation of a Branch, but nothing has been heard of them since. The above classification is based on a survey made in 1940. When I have more help in the office a re-classification could be made.

I have met some of the Officers of the Branches and attended a meeting last Saturday at Pontypool. The meeting was arranged by the Pontypool Educational Settlement and the local Branch of the League of Nations Union. The speaker was Mr. K. Ziliacus, and I was the Chairman. The meeting was well attended, and the Secretary of the local Branch promised to call the officers of some other branches in Monmouthshire together in February and invite me to talk to them about the development of the work in the post-war world.

On the whole though my impression is that the officers of the Branches are mostly people who have done very faithful service over a number of years, they are in the main passed retiring age, are not in touch with modern developments, and lack some of the essential qualities which one requires for life during the next ten years.

Nevertheless, we will have to revive the Branches but we will also have to proceed with some caution because all the interested people I have met during this last six weeks have been unanimous in suggesting that the name of the Union should be changed, and I also know that the administrative committees of the League of Nations Union in London are considering their position and hope to get permission of the Privy Council to make the necessary changes in the Union's title and aims. Perhaps it will not be possible to do this until after the War.

We do not know what will be the name of the new international authority, but the Moscow Conference decided to establish in the post war world a more effective "general international organization". Nothing has been said by any of the governments of the United Nations to indicate how soon they are likely to adopt a name for the new international organization, and it seems reasonable to suppose that there will perhaps be an interval of some years before a general international organization will be set up. We should, therefore, consider what the work of the Union should be in the intervening period.

We must in this intervening period convince people that we are looking forward to the establishment of a new effective international authority and not backwards to the old League of Nations. Can we set up some new committees with an appropriate name which will make it absolutely clear that we are working for the establishment and success of a new international organization?

Perhaps it would help us in approaching the public on a new basis if we made greater use of the term "United Nations". We do not know that the new international authority will take over this name but, in the meantime, we are pledged to support the United Nations in winning the War and in preparing relief, reconstruction, and the establishing of a wider international authority. Therefore, it might be worth while for the Executive Committee to consider -

- (1) Setting up a United Nations Committee to organize a series of towns meetings on United Nations Day, June 14.
- (11) Asking the more lively Branches to organize a meeting in their town in co-operation with other bodies, when perhaps we could ask the Civic Head to take the chair. This would bring a bit of life into the Branches and give them a little prestige.

It would not be difficult, I am sure, to set up a fairly distinguished committee in Cardiff. We could invite the different Consuls to send representatives and also the different national clubs, e.g. French, Czech, etc. to nominate members for this committee. We could also ask for the help and support of the Inter-Allied Information Committee at the Ministry of Information, which is now being re-constituted as the United Nations Information Committee. Many good speakers can be supplied by the latter committee and they could be used in different parts of Wales on United Nations Day.

We must, however, attempt to do something before June 14 in order to prepare public opinion for peace-making. The different declarations from the Atlantic Charter to the Moscow Conference and the work of the different international committees, e.g. U.N.R.A. and the conference at Hot Springs are of immense importance. Could we begin a public campaign by organising a large meeting in Cardiff and perhaps invite a leading member of the government to speak on the Moscow Conference? If this could be done, we would perhaps call the campaign by some short title.

We should also consider publishing small pamphlets on different aspects of international affairs. These should not be more than about four small pages in length, and should explain briefly the meaning and necessity of carrying out the promises that have been made.

- (2) WORK AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE. The number of Junior Branches attached to the Union during 1943 are as follows:-

<u>County.</u>	<u>No. of Branches.</u>	<u>No. of Members.</u>
Brecon	2	116
Denbigh	1	10
Glamorgan	2	114
Merioneth	1	302
Monmouth	2	424
Pembroke	1	50
	<u>9</u>	<u>996</u>

In its work within the public system of education, the Executive Committees of the Union, in both England and Wales, were advised by the Advisory Education Committees. These committees were responsible for the educational work of the L.N.U. and in all the work emphasis was laid upon the ideal of training young people for citizenship in the state and the world community.

During the years preceding the War, however, public opinion was divided, embittered political controversy arose over foreign policy, and the L.N.U. came into conflict with the policy of the government. The L.N.U. pursued the policy in which it believed, and conducted campaigns in the country in support of that policy, but the Education Committees were never asked to do this and did not attempt it. Nevertheless the propriety of the Union continuing to conduct the activities of the School Societies were widely questioned for the first time by parents, teachers, Heads of Schools, and governing Bodies, and the position of the Associations of Local Authorities and some of the National Associations, who were represented on the Education Committee, gave rise to serious questioning. For these reasons, and because the fortunes of the League were steeply declining, the number of Junior Branches also suffered a drastic decline.

In the winter of 1938-39 it was decided to hand over the work of the English L.N.U.'s Advisory Education Committee to a self-governing Council, with its own name and clearly defined aims. The new self-governing Council is called the "Council for Education in World Citizenship", and its title defines in a comprehensive way the objects of the work of the Advisory Education Committees in both England and Wales.

On May 16, 1942, a meeting of the Scholarship Sub-Committee was held at the Temple of Peace, at which the Rev. Gwilym Davies introduced a discussion on the formation of the English Council for Education in World Citizenship and suggested that Mr. W. C. Judd be asked for more information about the Council, and that Mr. Evan T. Davies, the Chairman of the English Council, together with Mr. Judd, the Secretary, should be invited to attend a combined meeting of the Scholarship Sub-Committee and the Advisory Education Committee to discuss with them the subject of the Council for Education in World Citizenship and the position of Wales in relation to it.

This Joint Meeting was held on July 11, 1943, at the Temple of Peace, and Mr. Evan T. Davies and Mr. C. W. Judd attended the meeting and explained the functions and aims of the Council for Education in World Citizenship. At this meeting, it was decided that -

- (1) the Advisory Education Committee should apply for representation on the Council for Education in World Citizenship;
- (2) it be recommended to the Executive Committee of the Welsh Council of the League of Nations Union that the Advisory Education Committee be henceforth called the Welsh Committee for Education in World Citizenship;

- (3) members of the Advisory Education Committee be again strongly recommended to become "Correspondents of the Council for Education in World Citizenship".
- (4) the Scholarship Sub-Committee, at its next meeting, should consider the various suggestions which had been submitted at the meeting.

At a subsequent meeting of the Scholarships Sub-Committee, held on Monday, September 6, 1943, the Rev. Gwilym Davies gave a full account of the activities of the Council for Education in World Citizenship, and dealt particularly with the report which had been published by the Joint Commission of the London International Assembly and the Council for Education in World Citizenship. In that report the Commission had entrusted the Welsh Committee for Education in World Citizenship -

- (i) to make a special study of the proposal for an International Organisation for Education;
- (ii) to draft a supplementary paper on that subject in the light of the experience of the last 20 years;
- (iii) to suggest in greater detail a possible constitution and procedure.

On December 4, 1943, a meeting of the Scholarships Sub-Committee was held at the Temple of Peace, when the Rev. Gwilym Davies presented a draft constitution for the proposed International Organization for Education and, at this meeting, it was decided -

- (i) to call the Welsh Committee for Education in World Citizenship, the "Provisional Committee for Education in World Citizenship";
- (ii) to set up a Sub-Committee to discuss the composition and functions of the Welsh Council for Education in World Citizenship.

On December 22, 1943, a Sub-Committee met to discuss the composition and functions of the proposed Welsh Committee for Education in World Citizenship. Briefly, this Sub-Committee thought that it would be advisable to proceed with provisional suggestions at the moment, so that the Executive Committee should be informed of this aspect of the work, and asked to approve any plans which the Sub-Committee have in mind.

We are hoping to hold a meeting of the Scholarship Sub-Committee on January 22 so that we can discuss the whole position with the Executive Committee on January 29. I hope very much that the work of this Committee will proceed, because I feel that we can do a most vital piece of work in Wales amongst young people. My feeling is that the prospects amongst the youth are more hopeful than amongst adults. The same sort of Committee working in England have organised many young people's conferences and, last week, 2,500 young people between fifteen and nineteen years of age attended a four-days conference in London. I am convinced that such

conferences could be arranged in Wales, and especially in Cardiff, where the Temple of Peace could be used for such a purpose. If this Welsh Committee for Education in World Citizenship is established in Wales, it must

- (i) have as its headquarters the Temple of Peace in Cardiff;
- (ii) be educational and work within the public system of education, dealing with the enduring aspects of International Affairs;
- (iii) be independent of, but work in co-operation with, the English Council for Education in World Citizenship;
- (iv) ask school and youth clubs, citizens societies and individuals etc. to become 'correspondents' of the Committee, at a fee of ten shillings a year. In return, we could send them some literature and organize day, week-end, and holiday conferences for them.
- (v) ask all residents in Wales, who are 'correspondents' of the English Council, to transfer their names and subscriptions to Cardiff. (The English Council would make this request if it were put to them);
- (vi) be the Body responsible at the appropriate time for organizing international travel. We might prepare a case for the Board of Education, asking the government to give grants to selected secondary school pupils and members of youth clubs to enable them to pay visits to other countries;
- (vii) prepare a case for any Advisory Body which might be set up in Wales, emphasising the international aspects of Education.

The scope and possibilities of work of this kind are practically limitless and I suggest that a strong Sub-Committee should be set up to consider the whole question of our future work amongst young people. If a strong Committee were set up it would have the following advantages:-

- (i) The teaching profession, and those responsible for the service of Youth, are ready for a step forward in this direction and are hoping very much that "somebody will do this work".
- (ii) In dealing with the enduring aspects of ^{teing} International Affairs we would not be ~~entirely~~ ourselves to the fortunes of any international authority that is set up after the war (Explanation: During the inter-war years, the whole organisation in Cardiff was tied to the League of Nations and, as the League declined, so did the organisation wither here. On the other hand the W.E.A. in Wales organised more classes in International Affairs during the War years than they did in the years previous to the war. This we must do more that one thing in the Temple of Peace. We must (a) prepare people for Peace Making and propagate the idea of setting up a new international authority which will be more realistic and effective than the old League, and (b) work amongst the young people

in schools and colleges etc. attempting to make of them good world citizens. This work can go on in peace or war and will not depend upon the fortunes of the International Instrument.

- (111) We can by moulding the thoughts of the young people create a generation of new men in Wales. Those who are now fifteen will be twenty five in ten years time and, if they are guided rightly in these young years, we will have built up a strong movement in Wales, and thinking of what this movement will be in ten years time we must remember that the "revitalizers" of any society or movement are the youth of the community.

Lastly, I see great prospects here and hope very much that we can build up a strong unified organization which will have a broad representative basis and will become responsible for work amongst young people.

The organization of the Branches amongst Adults and Juniors will depend in the end on the people in the locality, but I think that we ought to press for the organization of one strong branch in each town and the setting up of a strong committee in each County. This county committee could be composed of representatives of town committees, and the Annual Meeting of the County Committee should be addressed by a fairly good speaker, and I should be at the meeting representing Welsh Headquarters. I am sure that this arrangement would ensure our keeping in live touch with the officers of Branches etc. who are working in the country.

- (3) RECONSTRUCTION OF THE UNION. This needs doing very badly but I think we should consider the whole thing during the next few months and, in the meantime, get in touch with the leading men in each country and the different organisations. I know personally many of the leading men in the Educational, Trade Union, Religious, the Press, B.B.C., and Rotary movements. I have spoken in general terms to many of them about my "new work" and, I am sure, they would help us if we made the right approach. On the other hand there are very many able and interested young Welshmen who are now in the Forces and, before making final decisions about the reconstitution of the Union, could we make provisional arrangements so that when these young men get back they cannot make the complaint that we let them win the war but do not consult them about winning the peace. I am thinking of men who are now doing first class work in the Army Education Corps. and in the Army Bureau of Current Affairs. They have had a very varied experience amongst the soldiers and they could bring to our deliberations a freshness of outlook which would be most valuable. We could consult Mr. W. E. Williams and Dr. Basil Yeasdayk both of whom I have met and who are now in charge of army education. They know of some of the work of the leading young Welshmen and would advise us about the best type of man.

(4) THE LIBRARY. I am sure that in time a good library in the Temple of Peace would be appreciated by many people, and would attract scores of men and women to the Temple.

We should consider buying a set of the following books:-

- (i) The Survey of International Affairs.
- (ii) Bulletin of International News.
- (iii) International Affairs.

We should also consider setting a room apart where we could keep periodicals and weeklies etc. People could come here then to read these. We should also put in this room pamphlets on International Affairs which people could buy. I have already spoken to Mr. Osborn, of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, who is quite prepared to allow us to become a "Book Agency" for them, and will supply us with books at a reduction of 25% for sale. We could also approach other publishers who produce books on International Affairs.

(5) USE OF THE TEMPLE OF PEACE. I have left the use of the Temple of Peace as one of the last points of this memo., not because I think that it is least important aspect of our work, but because I am convinced that the Temple must be exalted by the life and work which is going on here, and then it will become a natural international centre in Wales and will be used far more often by other Bodies. I have already arranged for a service to be held here in connection with the Annual Meeting of the Baptist Union later in the year. A meeting will be held on St. David's Day, and the British Legion Annual Conference is being held during February. The authorities have asked for permission for one of their officers to turn the page of the Remembrance Book, and I am trying to persuade them at least to hold a service here, if not some of their meetings. At the present time I think we should not state a fee for the use of the Temple, but should ask people to make a donation to our funds and, as the Temple becomes more widely known and used, we can then state a fee.

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writing
us.

We should have a re-dedication service at an appropriate date after the Armistice and a special form of service prepared for it. We should also get printed a general form of re-dedication service, and at the appropriate time invite all forms of organizations to come to the Temple for a re-dedication service, women's institutes, schools, etc., etc. could be asked to come here to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace and justice in International Affairs.

It would be a fine thing if these organizations set a day apart after the Armistice in which they could come to Cardiff and dedicate themselves to Peace at this Temple, which has been built to enshrine the ideals of Justice and Peace.

We should also appeal for a Friends of the Temple Fund and for donors of larger sums of money, but we must make of the Temple a place where people can find something of interest to them, such as literature, study circles, etc. and, if we can provide this in the future, I am sure that there will not be any difficulty in getting people to subscribe.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION - WELSH NATIONAL COUNCIL
UNDEB CYNGHRAIR Y CENHEDLOEDD - Y CYNGOR CENEDLAETHOL CYMREIG

TELEPHONE : CARDIFF 4362

TELEGRAMS : DAFFODIL, CARDIFF

GENERAL SECRETARY : DAVID SAMWAYS, B.A.

THE WELSH NATIONAL TEMPLE OF PEACE AND HEALTH
CATHAYS PARK
CARDIFF

Jan 12. 1944.

Dear Mr Foot:

Here is the memo. which I have prepared
for Lord Davies. I have sent it to Hordman
where I am meeting him on Friday. I am
conscious of its length and many word ends -
some of them designedly so. I would be pleased
if you kindly read it and I'll ring you
to see what you think of it on Friday. I want
your thi w. a. m. l.

For the year 1943 I have been able to go into
greater detail and I find that the position is as follows:-

County.

No. of Branches.

No. of Members.