

# **Bulletin No.7 10th June, 1937.**

## **NATIONAL JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SPANISH RELIEF**

Chairman: The Duchess of Atholl, M.P.

Vice-Chairmen: The Earl of Listowel, Miss Eleanor Rathbone. M.P.

Hon. Secretaries: Mr. D.R. Grenfell. M P., Capt. J.R.J. McNamara. M.P., Mr. Wilfrid Roberts, M P.,

35, Marsham Street, S.W.1. Telephone: Victoria 2168

Organising Secretary: Mrs. Mary M. Miller.

Co-operating Societies: The Service Council of The Society of Friends, The Save the Children Fund. The Spanish Medical Aid Committee, The Scottish Ambulance Unit. The Spanish Women's Committee for Help to Spain, The Women's Committee against War and Fascism, The Spanish Youth Foodship Committee, The Southern Spanish Relief Committee.

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We must apologise for the delay in the appearance of Bulletin Number 7. We feel sure that our readers will appreciate that the staff of the National Joint Committee has been overwhelmed with work during the past month in making arrangements to receive and maintain the Basque children in this country. The office has now been moved to larger premises in the same street (No. 53) and the staff has been considerably enlarged, so we hope that in future Bulletins will appear with less irregularity.

### **BASQUE CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE**

The initiative in evacuating the refugee children from Bilbao to this country was taken by our Committee, which secured the provisional approval of the Home Office. Many offers of assistance were received from numerous other organisations, including the Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, the Trades Union Congress, and the Salvation Army. It was, therefore, considered better that the work should be carried out by a new Committee, specially constituted for the purpose of caring for the children in England to be known as the Basque Children's Committee.

This Committee has subsequently been joined by the Friends Service Council and the Save the Children Fund. Appeals to the public are being made both individually by the co-operating societies and jointly.

The public have responded magnificently but the responsibility of these 4,000 children is a very heavy one and we estimate that the cost of maintenance will be at least £2,000 a week. We would like to urge the need for raising more money, especially now, when the arrival of the children is still fresh in the public mind. Gifts of clothing, toys, etc., should be sent to a house adjoining the Office, 51, Marsham Street, whence they will be distributed to the various centres.

## BASQUE REFUGEE CHILDREN

The Habana left Bilbao at 6.40 a.m. on Friday, 21st May, 1937, with 3,840 children, accompanied by 200 women teachers and attendants and 16 priests. There were also travelling with them Mrs. Leah Manning, a representative of the National Joint Committee for Spanish Relief, two children's specialists and two nurses, who went out to assist in the selection and preparation of the children. At the last moment an air-raid took place and not all the children were able to get on board. They followed in a yacht as far as Bordeaux.

The Habana arrived in Southampton waters on Saturday evening, 22nd May. A tug with food and drink went out to meet her and to bring back a serious case to the Borough Hospital. The children disembarked on Sunday, 23rd. They were given a great welcome and were met on the quay by Madame Azcarate, Senor Lizaso, Head of the Basque Delegation in London, the Duchess of Atholl and other officers of the National Joint Committee, Sir Walter and Lady Layton, Sir Walter and Lady Citrine and representatives of the T.U.C. and many others representing various Spanish relief organisations. There were present many Spanish-speaking English people and Spaniards, to act as interpreters.

The disembarkation went on most of that day and the following morning. Owing to the smooth and efficient work of the Port Medical authorities, who examined each child, and to the excellence of Mrs. Manning's arrangements at the other end, the disembarkation was effected rapidly and efficiently. Those children who did not satisfy the Medical authorities were sent to the Baths, where they were bathed, had their clothes baked and their hair cropped, before proceeding to the camp. They represented not more than 30 per cent. of the total number. The rest went in 'buses — 50 at a time — to the Camp.

Work had been in progress at North Stoneham, Eastleigh, making preparations for their reception for the last fortnight. A 30 acre field, belonging to Farmer Brown, and covered with buttercups and meadowsweet, had been transformed into a city of canvas — 500 bell tents and several enormous marquees. Sanitary arrangements had been made and water from the Southampton supply laid on.

Volunteers from Southampton had on more than one occasion worked all night to prepare the camp. 200 of them (boy scouts, girl guides, Trade Unionists, joiners, lorry drivers, fitters, etc.) devoted their Whitsun holiday to preparing for the reception of the 2,000 children who were anticipated for the middle of the week. But, following representations by one of the doctors who flew back from Bilbao to present his case, the Home Office agreed to the admission of all the 4,000 children who had been carefully selected at the Bilbao end. The doctor informed the Ministry of Health, that those selected, while suffering from the effects of prolonged undernourishment, were in a surprisingly good state of health, considering the privations to which they had so long been subjected.

The arrangements for this Camp, had to be accomplished on a very large scale at very short notice, and the extension of the camp to accommodate 4,000 instead of 2,000 inflicted a considerable strain on the staff and organisational resources. The organisers had a very uphill task during the first few days of the Camp, but we can say with confidence that things are now running smoothly. Mr. Henry

Brinton has proved a very capable administrator and his heterogeneous staff of volunteers all work harmoniously under him.

The first care of the Committee has been to ensure the health of the children, and attention has been paid to the provision of adequate medical staff and equipment. There are five medical officers, resident in the Camp, in charge of the various departments, which include a completely equipped isolation unit, which acts as a diagnosis centre and for treatment of observation cases; a convalescent hospital of 52 beds at Moorhill; casualty clearance tents for minor injuries, despatch unit for examining children who are leaving the camp for other destinations in England, and a dental unit. The Nursing staff consists of six fully trained sisters and 30 V.A.D.s drawn from the British Red Cross of Hampshire under a resident Matron.

One of the major difficulties has been that of sanitation, as these children have very little idea of English hygiene and have had no previous experience of camp life, but they are very intelligent and amenable to discipline and have already learnt much.

The provisioning of the Camp has had to be on a vast scale, if the feeding of the four thousand is to be adequate — 40,000 oranges, several tons of onions, 500 gallons of milk a day, 4,000 portions of chocolate, any amount of white bread and butter, which the children have been without for so long. Breakfast is at 8 a.m. and consists of hot milk, bread and butter; dinner is at 1 p.m. and consists of meat and vegetables, or stew, and bread and fruit; at tea time they are given bread and chocolate.

Children who have been going short of food for some time have a disconcerting tendency to hoard white bread under their jerseys. The children arrived in a much better state of clothing than we had anticipated, and it was not necessary to provide each child with a complete set, as we had intended. Those who went through the Baths were presented with fresh clothes — jersey, shorts or tunics, underclothes and every child in the camp was given a mackintosh. One of their biggest needs was for shoes.

The social life of the Camp had to come next to the physical and medical needs of the children, but the Committee has appointed someone, who is responsible for organising sports and entertainments and a staff is being collected to help the children to get the best out of their camp life. A cinema has been installed in a giant marquee, with nightly showings of Charlie Chaplin and Mickey Mouse. A conjuror and a local brass band have given their services and the children have themselves danced traditional Basque dances to the accompaniment of a pipe.

We fully expected that the care of 4,000 Spanish speaking children would be no easy task. Serious difficulties were encountered at first, but we can say with confidence that they have been, and are being rapidly overcome, and that the children are, on the whole healthy and happy if their high spirits are anything to go by.

In the early days, they rushed to take cover in their tents whenever an aeroplane circled overhead, but after a day or so, the same children were cheering a stunt pilot looping the loop over the camp. They have gained in weight — an average of 2 to 3 lbs. Unfortunately, however, two children were taken off the boat to the Isolation Hospital at Southampton, suffering from what subsequently proved to be typhoid. Two other cases have since developed and were also sent immediately to the Isolation Hospital. These four cases must have become infected before they arrived in England. The

best medical advice obtainable has been sought, and we have been assured that the control of this infectious disease does not present an alarming problem, provided the children can be quickly distributed to homes, where they will be in groups of more manageable numbers, and where sanitation will be available. Naturally, every precaution recommended is being taken. One, perhaps minor, disadvantage resulting from the occurrence of these cases is that the children must be isolated from the public, as completely as possible until the three weeks' quarantine is over. Having taken every possible precaution, it can only be hoped that no more cases will occur and that those we have will recover quickly. The outbreak naturally adds considerably to our costs. All the children have now been inoculated against typhoid.

#### HOMES FOR THE CHILDREN

Arrangements have been made as rapidly as possible for the evacuation of the children from the Camp to the Homes in various parts of England, now preparing to receive them. On the request of the Basque Government, as well as of the Home Office, none are going into private families, but they will be kept in groups of not less than 30 in large empty houses or institutions. Catholic homes and institutions are making themselves responsible for no less than 1,200 children. 50 boys have already gone to Southampton Training College, 50 to Honiton, Devon, and 100 girls to Freshwater in the Isle of Wight. The Salvation Army have already taken 400 children to their Home in Clapton and their Farm colony in Hadleigh, Essex. 60 children have gone to Worthing, where a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Mayoress has been set up, and 60 younger ones to Tunbridge Wells, where they will be cared for by experts in Children's Nursery school training. 50 have left for Ipswich, and another 50 will shortly follow, and 40 to Street in Somerset.

Homes are being prepared and are almost ready in Scarborough (100); Brampton, Cumberland (150); Cambridge (40); Colchester (50); Woolwich, Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society (20); Blackboys Farm, Sussex (20); Derby (50); Birkenhead (24); Birmingham (40); Manchester (40); Bognor Regis (50); Newbury (100), and Committees in many other centres are working with a view to caring for Basque children, e.g., Cardiff, Hull, Wakefield, Chester, etc.

We shall publish regular reports on the progress of these Homes. In view of the number of generous offers we have received from individuals to adopt children temporarily and the fact that we are unable to avail ourselves of these kind offers, we are appealing to individual people who have been disappointed over this, to make themselves financially responsible for a child in the nearest centre. The cost to the Committee will be about 10/- a week and it will be possible for the " foster-parents " to visit their children personally in one of these homes.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We would like to take the opportunity of acknowledging some of the generous gifts in cash, in kind and in services, that have contributed so much to the work of the Committee and to the welfare of the children. It is impossible to thank everyone individually, and we trust we will be forgiven for any omissions, but there are some names of those who have given in kind which we would like especially to mention in this Bulletin. Messrs. Rowntree's for chocolate; Messrs. Cadburys for chocolate; Messrs. Horlicks for a drink a day for each child; Vita-Products Company for vita grape juice; Cluea Fruit Company for oranges and vegetables; Mr. Christenson for jellied veal and tinned salmon; The Marmite Company for 1 cwt. of marmite; The Co-Operative Society for £250 worth of food and £70

worth of gum boots; The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives for £200 worth of shoes; Lord Hollendon of Morley's for gifts of underwear; The Jaeger Company for underwear and boys knitted goods; Mr. Joe Beckett for toys and sports goods; Messrs. Woolworth and the Standard Fireworks for toys; The Prudential Assurance Company for jig-saw puzzles; Mr. Sidney Bernstein for a cinematograph apparatus and show; The R.S.P.C.A. for their film of the camp (which is being sent to the children's parents in Bilbao); Messrs. Marks and Spencers for varied assistance, including staff; The workers of Spitalfields Market who collected fruit and vegetables for the children from the stalls; The multitude of kind people who have sent clothes, shoes and toys, both to the Camp and to the London office.

The list of helpers who have given us their advice and their services at Southampton and in London is too long for reproduction, but we would like to express our deepest gratitude to the following: The officials of the Port of Southampton who waived the landing charges for the children; The Doctors and employees of the Public Baths who gave up their Sunday to bathe the children; The management and employees of the Hants & Dorset Motor Bus Co. who conveyed the children from the boat to the camp on a Sunday; The numerous hairdressers who cropped them; The Southampton L.N.U. who lent us their office; Farmer Brown who allowed us to use his field; Dr. Craig, Dr. Williams and Dr. Garrett, Medical Officers whose advice in this difficult undertaking has been invaluable; Mr. Lee, Borough Engineer of Eastleigh, whose advice and example were of great practical value; The members of the Southampton V.A.D., of the St. John's Ambulance Unit, of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, and of the Boys Brigade, all of whom worked untiringly; The Boy Scout Headquarters who lent us a camping expert; Mrs. Anderson, of the Hampshire Girl Guides, whose section of the Camp was a model; the officials of the Great Western Railway Company, who reduced their transport charges for the children.

We would like to thank all those who have worked down at the Camp, as administrators, cooks, interpreters, odd job men, etc., but we feel that when all have worked so well, it would be invidious to mention individuals. The staff in London have worked until midnight every night, without even having the satisfaction of seeing the children. Finally, we would like to say how deeply grateful we are for helpful advice and co-operation of the various Government departments, notably the Home Office, the War Office and the Ministry of Health.

#### CHILDREN'S HOSTEL IN CATALONIA

To the many who responded to our appeal for Foster-parents to refugee children in a Hostel in Catalonia, we tender our apologies for the delay in establishing this Hostel. Mr. Langdon-Davies, who went out to Barcelona on behalf of the Committee a few weeks ago, found on his arrival that, owing to political complications, it was impossible to conclude any definite arrangements. However, together with Mr. Jacobs, of the Society of Friends, he got in touch with Ayuda Infantil, the Spanish organisation responsible for the care and administration of refugee and other children. This body, which has great experience in setting up children's colonies, is entirely unaffected by political vicissitudes, and its aims are such that the Committee would approve.

The site for the Hostel has been chosen at Puigcerda, near the border, in one of the large empty buildings which have been put at the disposal of Ayuda Infantil for the specific purpose of children's hostels. A secretary is being sent out from England who will be responsible for maintaining relations between the children and their foster-parents. The idea is to make Puigcerda a children's Republic,

with a number of such colonies and hostels. Other organisations in various countries are already preparing similar schemes. Our colony would be a separate entity within the Republic. There is room for at least 1,000 children, and as more foster parents enrol, more buildings can be taken over. It might, for instance, be possible to transfer some of the children from Bilbao to Catalonia. Details of the Hostel and the children will be sent direct to the foster-parents, and an account will be included in the next Bulletin.

## MADRID

While we as a committee feel we should not engage in any fresh commitments in Spain, so long as we have the responsibility of caring for the Bilbao children in this country, we fully realise the importance of maintaining work already undertaken. Mr. Garratt has returned to England and his successor, Mr. Lawrence Elder, in his reports, impresses upon us the continued necessity for evacuating the civil population of Madrid, a need which is borne out by the report of our Chairman and Miss Rathbone. Mr. Elder writes: "I have been up to Madrid again for a couple of days and the authorities impressed on me once again the need for more transport for evacuation purposes. Shelling seems to be getting more serious and general over the civil population and there are still crowds of children running about the streets . . . I took the opportunity of finding out for myself something of the conditions under which Madrid is living with its daily bombardments. I walked through those thickly populated parts where shells are falling every day.

After consultation with Mr. Olgiate, of the International Voluntary Service for Peace, who is responsible for the sending out of evacuation buses from Switzerland, and with the Spanish evacuation authorities, he came to the following conclusions: "That evacuation of Madrid is held up by want of transport. That large numbers of the population have simply resigned themselves to the risk of death by shelling or bombing, because there is no means of getting out of it. So far only the very fringe has been touched by us." and he suggests a regular daily service leaving at a fixed hour every morning and an increased number of buses, to carry a minimum of 100 persons daily. A regular daily service with one evacuation coach (25 adults or 30 children) augmented by the Bedford lorries when they can be released from the victualling of refugees in Murcia and other centres, has been offered by Mr. Elder on behalf of the Committee; the Swiss have offered two coaches daily.

The number of civilians killed in Madrid during April by shellfire amounts to 316 and 693 wounded. In response to the urgent representations of the need for more transport, the Committee sent out two new vehicles, both Fords, to Spain. One was loaded with soap, the other with meat, and there was in addition a consignment of medical supplies for Sir George Young.

## MURCIA

While attention has been focussed on northern Spain, the plight of refugees in the South has continued to strain local efforts beyond their capacity and to increase the need for foreign relief.

The recent bombardment of Almeria has meant that the countless refugees from Malaga who swarmed into the town earlier in the year have had once more to take the road northwards. The Friends who, as ever, are to be found working with quiet efficiency wherever the need is greatest, have representatives in this part of Spain.

The following is a report from Francesca Wilson on the conditions in Murcia: " One's first impression of the refugee situation is of terrible chaos and misery. The first, day in Murcia I went to the Pablo Inglesias - a huge building where 4,000 are housed. The building is in reality an unfinished block of flats, about nine stories high. The floors have not yet been divided into rooms, and form vast corridors, swarming with men, women and children of all ages. There is no furniture of any sort - only straw mattresses. It must be remembered that many of the refugees have been in this building for two months. Nearly all come from Malaga, and look indescribably poor, dirty and wretched. The Municipality, which complains of being one million pesetas in debt for its refugees, can only afford to give one meal a day to this house, with the addition of a little milk to the children in the morning. I thought the dish of soup which they did get was quite good - potatoes and rice mainly - but was appalled to think that that was the only meal for all those hungry people. The noise was terrific, babies crying, boys rushing madly from floor to floor, women shouting to them. There is nothing for the children to do. People crowded round asking if we were going to do anything for them; many children begged us to take them away to colonies or somewhere. " One man (aged about 25) spoke to me in English. He had had a shop and been a " rich man " in Malaga but had lost everything. He said he looked for work every day, but couldn't find it, that every day he saw children dying in that building - 'The horror of our lives is indescribable.' A woman came up crying bitterly saying that she had lost her two smallest children in the confusion of the flight and didn't know whether they were alive or dead. Looking round everywhere I saw sick children, and the hopelessness on everybody's faces was such as I have not yet seen in Spain."

There are six refuges or shelters which house in all 8,650 refugees. 4,000 are lodged in private houses, but fed at the expense of the local Committee, while at least 100,000 have taken shelter in the surrounding villages.

#### FRIENDS SERVICE COUNCIL AND SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

Francesca Wilson is representing the Council in Southern Spain. The Friends sent 10½ tons of food from Valencia to meet the needs of the refugees in Murcia, which was distributed as follows: 2 tins of condensed milk per week per head to 500 children from 1 to 12 years, and a drink of cocoa and ration of biscuits daily to 700.

Acute difficulties are being experienced owing to the shortage of transport facilities, soap and medical supplies. The distribution of supplies in Barcelona is working smoothly and efficiently. Cocoa, milk, sugar and biscuits are given out in the canteens established at the station (for refugees on their arrival) and in the Sans, Carmen and Gracia districts. A new canteen, supported by Norwegian Friends, is being opened in San Andres.

The Friends are supporting the idea of children's colonies outside Barcelona. Barbara Wood's latest report from Madrid was more optimistic. She writes that there has been a certain improvement in obtaining and distributing supplies since the Defence Junta was dissolved and that evacuation has been speeded up. A shipment of food, including dried cod, the gift of Danish Friends and some English firms, arrived in Valencia per s.s. Pinto and was received with enthusiasm.

#### SPANISH MEDICAL AID COMMITTEE

The Committee has recently sent over £300 worth of medical supplies and four ambulances to Bilbao. They have also been collaborating closely with the National Joint Committee for Spanish Relief in the work for the Basque children, and the Hon. Secretary, Leah Manning, has been in Bilbao organising the evacuation of children to France and England.

The Committee is also sending help to the Asturias where the need is as great as that in Bilbao. In a letter from Santander to Miss Megan Lloyd George, it is stated that "above all, anti-typhoid vaccine is extremely necessary. I feel sure that when you foreigners who know and like us Asturians, know of our pressing need you will not hesitate to help us, as we should help you in similar circumstances." In response to this request, £500 worth of medical supplies and an ambulance have been ordered for the Asturias.

The main work of the Committee is still on the Madrid front. The field hospital has been extended to serve a whole division (3 brigades) and consequently further medical supplies and hospital equipment are needed, in order to convert a hospital of 50 beds into one of 300. A new fever hospital has been started near Valencia, which will contain about 120 beds and to which a bacteriological laboratory will be added as soon as the necessary funds are forthcoming.

The Chelsea and Holborn Committees are undertaking to supply this equipment and the personnel has already been selected. The Medical Aid Committee has also undertaken to "adopt" the newly set up Ralph Fox villa, convalescent home for members of the International Brigade, and to send out an English nurse. An appeal is being made for such non-medical needs as gramophone records, books and newspapers, chocolates and cigarettes.

The Secretary, who has just returned from Spain, reports that the new light ambulances are proving a great success as they are more mobile and lighter than the large type previously sent out. They cost only £250 each, and are within the reach of local committees, many of whom have already guaranteed one. The total received by the Committee amounts to £30,000 and money continues to come in from all parts of the country. There are now 41 ambulances and lorries operating in Spain.

#### SOUTHERN SPANISH RELIEF COMMITTEE

An ambulance with a doctor and nurse was recently sent out to join the University Ambulance Unit in Almeria. A children's hospital and play centre have been opened in Murcia, and as we report elsewhere, the need for relief in this part of Spain is of growing urgency. Sir George Young was in Almeria at the time of the bombardment. The buses sent out on May 29th by the National Joint Committee were carrying a consignment of medical supplies for the Unit.

#### YOUTH FOODSHIP COMMITTEE

The Committee are collecting money for a foodship for Bilbao.

#### SCOTTISH AMBULANCE UNIT

The Unit is still engaged upon its very important work of distributing foodstuffs to the civilian population of Madrid. It was visited by the Duchess of Atholl and Miss Rathbone while they were in

Madrid and underwent a bombardment. Miss Jacobsen has been given official recognition of her services in Spain.

#### SPANISH WOMEN'S COMMITTEE FOR HELP TO SPAIN

The knowledge and experience of the members of this Committee has proved of the highest value to those responsible for organising the reception of the Basque children. Miss Elizabeth Wilkinson, Secretary of the Committee, has just returned from Bilbao and the Asturias, where she reports the most terrible shortage of all necessities. A ship is leaving Amsterdam on June 6th, with a consignment of food for Santander and the Asturias, and the Spanish Women's Committee are contributing to its cargo.

#### SPAIN AND CULTURE

A Meeting on Spain and Culture will be held at the Albert Hall on Thursday, June 24th, at 8 p.m. The proceeds will be in aid of the Basque Children's Fund. The Duchess of Atholl will be in the Chair and among the speakers will be Picasso, Heinrich Mann, Professor Langevin (of the French Popular Front Committee) and Professor W.G. Constable (former Director of the National Gallery). The meeting, which is supported among others by Professor J.B. Trend, J.B.S. Haldane, P.M.S. Blackett, H.G. Wells, E.M. Forster, Virginia Woolf [Woolf], Havelock Ellis, Harold Nicolson, Sean O'Casey, Philip Noel-Baker, Vanessa Bell, Dame Sybil Thorndike, Gwen Ffrangcon-Davis, is assured, from the nature of its speakers, of a very great success. There will simultaneously be shown photographs of Spanish architecture, until lately at the Catalan exhibition in Paris. Further information can be obtained from the offices of the National Joint Committee.

#### LOCAL BRANCHES

Our local Branches report great activity, mainly in connection with the Basque children. A number of new Committees have been formed and a number of existing Committees have written to us, applying for affiliation. It would greatly facilitate our work if Secretaries would send in a report of their activities from time to time - otherwise it will not be possible to mention them individually in the Bulletin.

David Thomson, who has done a great deal of work for the Carlisle Committee, has been appointed District Organiser for the North of England, and has already visited a number of centres.

Leeds: The Leeds Committee are appealing to all sections of the community both for the Basque Children and for the Catalan Hostel scheme.

Carlisle: A meeting was recently held at which the film News from Spain was shown, and Sir George Young and Henry Brinton spoke. The sum of £140 was raised.

Hull: An appeal has been widely circulated and a letter, signed by all the M.Ps. and prominent citizens, has been sent to the local press. A meeting has been arranged for June 13th, at which the Archbishop of York will take the Chair and Wilfrid Roberts and Miss Monica Whately will speak.

Bradford: The basis of the Medical Aid Committee is to be widened and a Joint Committee formed.

The Committee has been engaged in raising money and making, by voluntary labour, 3,000 mattresses for the Friends Service Council for the refugee hospital at Tarragona. 40 girl machinists and 20 men have spent their weekday evenings and Saturday afternoons in manufacturing these mattresses.

Wakefield: The newly formed branch of the National Joint Committee has been very active, and a successful meeting was held on May 30th., at which the Duchess of Atholl spoke, and the Bishop of Pontefract took the Chair. The Committee is appealing for the Basque children.

Harrogate: The Secretary reports a successful flag day, which raised £105. The Committee is arranging a public meeting for the end of this month and has shown the Spanish Exhibition, together with an exhibition of Spanish paintings collected by Leeds.

Edinburgh: At a meeting held in aid of the Basque children, in the Usher Hall, the principal speakers were the Duchess of Atholl, Miss Jennie Lee and Peter Kerrigan, recently returned from Spain.

Cardiff: The Cardiff Trades Council and Labour party Aid Spain Committee have been collecting both in cash and in kind for Bilbao; it has now issued an appeal for the Basque children and hopes to find a Home for a hundred children. An open-air meeting was held on May 30th, at which Miss Barclay Carter spoke.

Derby: A meeting was held to arouse interest in the project for bringing a group of children to Derby. Senorita Margareta Comas, who witnessed the arrival of refugees from Bilbao at Bordeaux, appealed.

Other meetings, past and future, are as follows: Manchester: May 31st (Basque children). Mayor in Chair, Speaker: Richard Acland. Oxford: June 4th. Speakers: Duchess of Atholl, Graham White, M.P., in aid of Basque children. Collection by Lady Mary Murray. Cambridge: June 7th (in aid of Basque children). Speakers: Leah Manning, the Earl of Listowel. Kensington Medical Aid Committee: June 2nd. Speakers: Capt. McNamara, Vyvian Adams, Mrs. Manning. Hertford: June 11th. Speaker: Miss Rathbone. Chester: June 17th (Basque children). Speakers: Duchess of Atholl, Bishop of Chester. Wm. H. Taylor & Sons, Dukes Road, London, W.3