

WVS/WRVS Narrative Reports

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ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE, Beck Court, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Cardiff, CF23 8RP.

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WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE.

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT.

CENTRE.....BATH.....COUNTY.....SOMERSET.....MONTH, JAN: 1941.

This report should contain a statement of the activities of the Centre during the month and include information under any of the following headings which are appropriate:-

- (1) EVACUATION (a) General Position, numbers received and remaining, (b) Residential units, i.e. sick bays, maternity homes, nursery centres, children's homes, hostels, etc., (c) Communal Feeding, (d) Clothing schemes, (e) Leisure time activities - Adult, Children, (f) Any other activities.
- (2) A.R.P. (Including provision of shelter and amenities for the homeless after air raids). (3) TRANSPORT. (4) HOSPITAL SERVICES. (Including Nursing Auxiliaries, First Aid Lectures, Blood Transfusion Service, etc.)
- (5) CANTEENS. (a) Number of canteens (b) Authority under whom each canteen works (c) Number of helpers, paid/voluntary, (d) Numbers fed per week (e) Type of food served. (6) HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOTS AND WORK PARTIES.
- (7) MEETINGS. (8) SALVAGE. (9) OTHER ACTIVITIES.

HEADINGS.

(1) EVACUATION.

(a) The general position is most satisfactory, very few mothers or children having returned, and practically all well satisfied with their billets.

(b) The Day Nursery Crèche and Canteen has now been opened at 2, Harington Place, Bath, and is proving a great blessing to evacuee mothers and their children under school age. It is run by one paid helper with the assistance of a voluntary W.V.S. worker.

(c) Communal Feeding. The work of the Canteen and Club for Evacuees at the Friends Meeting House continues to grow rapidly, and a very large number of hot meals are served there daily.

We are also in close touch with the Director of Education, who is responsible for all the communal feeding of Bath in case of air raids, and the Principal of the Domestic Science College has approached the W.V.S. to supply voluntary helpers when other centres are opened for this purpose.

(d) The Clothing Depot continues with the making and repairing of garments for distribution, for which there is a continual demand.

They are also co-operating in the L.C.C. scheme for clothing children of school age.

(f) The special Welfare Visitors recently appointed to visit adult evacuees are now calling upon them regularly, advising and helping them in their various problems, and also as to the health of their children where necessary. They have already helped materially in persuading many of these evacuees to "settle down" in their billets.

(2) A. R. P.

(a) Shelters and Rest Centres. Since the recent Conference at Taunton, much has been done for the provision of Shelters and Rest Centres in case of emergency. The Director of the Public Assistance in Bath has asked for the close co-operation of the W.V.S. in dealing with this work.

(See over page)

Signed
(Centre Organiser)

TO BE COMPLETED IN TRIPLICATE AT THE END OF EACH MONTH. ONE COPY TO HEADQUARTERS, 41, TOTHILL STREET, LONDON, S.W.1. ONE COPY TO REGIONAL ORGANISER. ONE COPY TO BE RETAINED AT CENTRE.

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We have already furnished him with a complete list of trained nurses ^{who will help} to be in charge at the shelters, and our Clothing Depot has supplied every shelter in the city, with stocks of clothing for the use of homeless refugees in case of emergency.

The Girl Guides have formed a Messenger Service, with bicycles, attached to each Rest Centre, to operate immediately after a raid, and these are to be called up by the W.V.S. and to act under our orders.

(b) The work connected with Gas Masks and Helmets continues as before.

(c) The Social Club for A.R.P. workers, under our W.V.S. representative's management, is proving increasingly popular.

(3) TRANSPORT. In addition to our activities already reported, which continue as usual, we have lately been requested to meet escorts bringing children from bombed areas to the country. We provide cars to meet them with their escorts at the station and take them to their destinations, frequently some distance outside Bath.

(4) HOSPITAL SERVICES. Nothing fresh to report.

(5) CANTEENS. The Y.M.C.A. Canteen is staffed entirely by W.V.S. workers, and there is no paid help. At the Y.W.C.A. we supply 12 helpers daily, and at the Y.M.C.A. 15 a day, the latter from 7 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. The numbers fed at the Y.M.C.A. vary greatly, and the average at the moment is 3,000 hot cooked meals per week. A typical day's menu is as follows:-
Breakfast: Bacon and egg, margarine and marmalade, tea or coffee.

Dinner: Soup, if desired.
Meat and macaroni pie,
Apple turnovers.

Supper: Soup,
Sausages and mashed potato,
or Faggots and peas,
or Sandwiches.

(6) HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT.

Daily average of workers at least 100 a day, and hospital and other garments made as already reported.

Ministry of Health material has arrived in considerable quantity, and many garments have been made from it and supplied to the Clothing Depot.

(9) (a) Sea Boot Stockings. DECEMBER REPORT:- 540 lbs of wool issued.
590 prs stockings returned.

YEAR'S REPORT, 1940:- 9,388 lbs. wool issued.
9,170 prs of stockings returned. MADE.

(b) Civil Defence Knitting. We are awaiting a supply of wool, and have members and work parties waiting to begin. We have promised the A.R.P. Organiser to undertake any work he wants done.

(c) The Billeting Officer, with the co-operation of the W.V.S., gave a party and Concert on Dec. 21st. at the Pavilion, Bath, to evacuees and some 700 invitations were issued to mothers and all their children under school age. This was a very popular event, and fruit was distributed to each mother and child at the close of the entertainment, as the Food Control regulations unfortunately made a "tea party" impossible.



WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT.

CENTRE... BATH... COUNTY... SOMERSET... MONTH. Jan. 1941

This report should contain a statement of the activities of the Centre during the month and include information under any of the following headings which are appropriate:-

- (1) EVACUATION (a) General Position, numbers received and remaining, (b) Residential units, i.e. sick bays, maternity homes, nursery centres, children's homes, hostels, etc., (c) Communal Feeding, (d) Clothing schemes, (e) Leisure time activities - Adult, Children, (f) Any other activities.
- (2) A.R.P. (Including provision of shelter and amenities for the homeless after air raids). (3) TRANSPORT. (4) HOSPITAL SERVICES. (Including Nursing Auxiliaries, First Aid Lectures, Blood Transfusion Service, etc.)
- (5) CANTEENS. (a) Number of canteens, (b) Authority under whom each canteen works (c) Number of helpers, paid/voluntary, (d) Numbers fed per week (e) Type of food served. (6) HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOTS AND WORK PARTIES.
- (7) MEETINGS. (8) SALVAGE. (9) OTHER ACTIVITIES.

HEADINGS.

1. EVACUATION. (a) A certain number have returned to London lately, probably as the result of the impression made by a recent raid in this district, when three evacuee children were killed and others injured.
- ✓ (b) The Day Nursery opened last month is doing well, and the numbers making use of it are increasing each week.
- ✓ (c) The Canteen & Club for Evacuees. This is also very popular, and the attendance in January was larger than ever.
- (d) Clothing Schemes. In dealing with applications for clothing (of which there are a great many) we are now working in close co-operation with the Assistance Board.
We have lately been greatly helped in this work by a splendid gift of clothing from America.
- (f) Welfare Visiting. (See special Report attached.)
A W.V.S. member is also helping with the After-Care Visiting Scheme for children who have recently left school.

2. A. R. P.

- ✓ (a) The work of the Gas Mask Department has been very heavy, and now all Baby Helmets are to be called in and re-examined. This work is undertaken entirely by our W.V.S. Representative and her trained helpers at A.R.P. Headquarters.
- ✓ (b) In the recent raid here, we were able to help in the various ways required by the local authorities. The greatest difficulty was re-billeting the homeless, as, Bath being so full, it is very hard to find any alternative accommodation, owing to the fact that ours is a Reception Area.

(Continued over page)

Signed *Mavis Wainman*
(Centre Organiser)

TO BE COMPLETED IN THE FIRST WEEK OF EACH MONTH. ONE COPY TO HEADQUARTERS, 41, TOTTENHAM ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1. ONE COPY TO REGIONAL ORGANISER. ONE COPY TO BE RETAINED AT CENTRE.

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3. TRANSPORT. All services already reported are still continuing.

4. HOSPITAL SERVICES. First Aid Lectures are to be resumed this month (February), arranged by the Civil Nursing Reserve.

5. CANTEENS. In both Canteens already reported on, numbers have greatly increased during the past month. Owing to the scarcity of food, dishes have had to be improvised, and as much use as possible made of oatmeal, potatoes and all other vegetables obtainable.

6. HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT. Work still going on daily at full pressure.

9. OTHER ACTIVITIES.
(a) Sea Boot Stockings. 420 lbs. wool issued.
690 stockings returned.

(b) Civil Defence Knitting. 50 lbs. wool issued.

(c) Knitted Comforts for Indian Troops.
25 lbs. wool issued.

(d) War Weapons Week. This is to be held from Feb. 15th to 22nd, and the W.V.S. are co-operating with the organisers, both in the preliminary clerical work and by supplying 100 stall-holders.



WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES for CIVIL DEFENCE

8 QUIET STREET,
Tel. 5552. BATH.

INTERIM REPORT FOR MONTH OF JANUARY 1941.

ON

VISITING OF EVACUEES IN THE CITY OF BATH.

- 6 FEB 1941

Evacuees, other than families containing children of school age, have been divided into 14 Districts, based on the Parliamentary Voting Wards. Of these, 2 Wards - Lyncombe and Twerton - have been sub-divided into 2 Sections each, as the number of Evacuees in these Districts was more than one Visitor could manage.

Good progress has been made, inspite of illness and the unavoidable resignation of several Visitors who had undertaken work.

Visitors have been asked to -

- a. Report on the general welfare and comfort of the Evacuees. It is encouraging to learn that in the great majority of cases the Evacuees state that they are happy. Naturally, there are some cases of grumbling and unjustifiable applications for help, but these are not common. When the Visitor hears that an Evacuee is quite happy and comfortable, she states that she will not call again at present, and leaves a card with either her own name and address or that of the W.V.S., so that the Evacuee may know where to apply for help and advice, should the need arise.
- b. Furnish names of Children whose Parents are willing for them to be inoculated against diphtheria. So far these numbers are rather disappointing, being only 28.
- c. Furnish names of Expectant Mothers, who receive special attention from Miss Majendie. Where necessary, an American Layette is given, and advice as to Ante-Natal Clinics etc. Numbers visited during the month are 15.

- d. Give information about Creche and Communal Feeding. So far, the number of children attending the Creche does not appear to be large, but it must be borne in mind that the distances in Bath are great and the supply of perambulators inadequate to the demand.
- e. Give information about Welfare Clinics.
- f. Report exact ages of children, so that records may be kept correct.

In addition, 12 visits have been paid in response to requests from the Billeting Office to report on cases of complaint etc., and 8 families have been re-billeted.

In conclusion, it may be said that it is too early to be able to give accurate information as to the relative numbers arriving and departing. These vary according to the intensity of Air Raids locally or in other parts of the country. In a few cases it has been noted that during a lull in air activity some families have returned to their homes, the billeting having promised to take them in again, should necessity force them to return.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT.

COUNTY.....SOMERSET.....CENTRE.....BATH.....MONTH.....February 1941.

This report should contain a statement of the activities of the Centre during the month and include information under any of the following headings which are appropriate:-

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- (2) A.R.P. (including provision of shelter and amenities for the homeless after air raids). (3) TRANSPORT. (4) HOSPITAL SERVICES. (including Nursing Auxiliaries, First Aid Lectures, Blood Transfusion Service, etc.) (5) CANTEENS. (a) Number of canteens, (b) Authority under whom each canteen works, (c) Number of helpers, paid/voluntary, (d) Numbers fed per week, (e) Type of food served. (6) HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOTS AND WORK PARTIES. (7) MEETINGS. (8) SALVAGE. (9) HOUSEWIVES' SERVICE. (10) OTHER ACTIVITIES.

HEADINGS.

- (1) EVACUATION. (a) Children are being taken back to their homes at the rate of about ~~13~~ weekly. (three)
- (b) The Day Nursery is attracting an increased number of children, and is expected to do still better when the "epidemic season" is over. (N.B. There is no serious epidemic, merely the usual cases of influenza, colds and measles etc.)

(c) and (d) Both departments continuing their work as already reported, and much appreciated by evacuees.

(f) Welfare Visitors' Report:- (7 families)
During month of February...

Arrivals 161.

Departures 202.

Billeting Vouchers withdrawn 47.

After-Care Visitors' Report (see separate Report attached.)

- (2) A. R. P. (a) Inspection of Gas Masks and Baby Helmets has kept this department even busier than usual, and more volunteers are now being trained to undertake this work.
- (b) The Social Club for A.R.P. workers is still doing well, and now has its regular programme of weekly or monthly dances, whist drives, table tennis tournaments and other fixtures.
- (c) A special meeting has been called, for the "Heads" of Food and Rest Centres and nurses attached to these Centres, to discuss further plans.

(See over page)

Signed.....*Mayone Whimsley*
(Centre Organiser)

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(3) TRANSPORT.

(4) HOSPITAL SERVICES.

No new services to report, others all continuing as before.

(5) CANTEENS.

(a) Both the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. Canteens continue to deal with increasing numbers.

(b) Mobile Canteen. At the request of the Y.M.C.A., the W.V.S. has now supplied the personnel for a Mobile Canteen, including drivers and cleaners.

(c) A.F.S. Mobile Canteen. We have now been asked by the Superintendent of Bath Fire Brigade to equip, maintain and staff a Mobile Canteen for the A.F.S., to accompany them to any raided district to which they may be called, and to stay there as long as necessary.

(6) HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT.

Nothing new to report, but work continues as usual, some 100 workers attending daily.

(9) OTHER ACTIVITIES.

(a) Sea Boot Stockings. Wool issued..420 lbs.
Stockings returned..452 pairs.

(b) Minesweepers' Jerseys.
Thick gray wool issued..394 lbs.
Jerseys returned.....76

(c) Civil Defence Wool issued...72 lbs.

(d) War Weapons Week. This has been one of our greatest "events" lately, and the help given by the W.V.S. was much appreciated. We supplied 100 helpers, many of whom undertook the "dressing" of shop windows lent for the occasion by local traders, and manned the various selling posts where Defence Bonds and Savings Certificates etc. were sold, advising inquirers as to the best way of investing their money.

This responsible and skilled work, which involved the handling of considerable sums of money with speed and accuracy, was undertaken very successfully by our helpers, and although really amateurs, they did extremely well. The gratifying result of this War Weapons Week was that Bath raised the sum of £719,000.

747/ 3-0

To Miss Johnston.

To
From Mrs. Huxley.

I think you will be interested in this report and Miss Nanson's
comment.

L. K. A.
6th March, 1941.

Note to Mrs. Huxley
From Miss Nanson.

The after-care employment of boys and girls is undertaken either by the Juvenile Departments of the Ministry of Labour or the Juvenile Employment Bureaux of the Local Education Authority, in one case from a Local Juvenile Advisory Committee and in the other a Local Juvenile Employment Committee.

Provided that the Local Committees in either case are consulted in regard to any scheme for dealing with evacuated children so that they can be fitted into any local activity of this kind, I see no reason why we should not co-operate in the work.

M Nanson

5th March, 1941.

Miss Rawson.

Have you any comments
on this After Care Scheme
for Evacuated Children?

W. K. H.

4.3.41

Mr. Hunter
from Miss Stratton.
This was attached to the
Baker Monthly Report Form
(Feb) and I thought you might
be interested.
March 3rd

After-care of Evacuated Children of School-Leaving Age.

A scheme is being developed to give advice and direction to Evacuated Children eligible to leave Bath Schools. Lists are kept (1) of those who have left school and are in employment, and (2) of those approaching school-leaving age.

The Visit or ascertains the wishes of the child as to employment, and confers with the foster-mother, also with the parents whenever possible. The child is advised to register at the Juvenile Department of the Labour Exchange, and in most cases is given a personal introduction to the Secretary. Information as to evening classes and recreation is also given. Contact with the child is maintained to ascertain that he or she is happy, and giving satisfaction to the employer.

Up to date, ten boys and six girls on our register are in employment.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE.

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT.

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HEADINGS.

1. EVACUATION. (a) Children: the numbers are now practically stationary, and those remaining here are happy in their billets and doing well.

Adults: Total of arrivals... 63
 ,, departures... 129
 ,, billeting
 vouchers withdrawn... 40

(Note. The above figures appear to indicate that there are now a good many empty billets in Bath, but this is not the case. The explanation is that many billetors are now making their own arrangements to take in their relations or friends evacuated to Bath, and also many evacuated families have found other accommodation for themselves here.)

(b) Day Nursery: The number of children brought to the Nursery has greatly increased during this month, and more voluntary helpers have been enrolled for this work. It is worth noting that all the evacuee women who bring their children to the Nursery are now employed locally in daily domestic work, with only two exceptions who are probably "unemployable" for health reasons.

(f) Welfare Visiting: This continues as before, and a card similar to the one enclosed is given to each adult evacuee at our first visit.

After-Care Scheme: See special Report attached.

2. A. R. P. Our W.V.S. workers at A.R.P. headquarters are now responsible for Baby Helmets in all districts of Bath, and have also been very busy lately with the fitting and supplying of the "Special Helmets".

(Continued over page)

Signed.....*Mayme W. Hunter*.....
(Centre Organiser)

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SPECIAL NOTE:- Our regular work goes on as usual in all departments, although there is nothing fresh to report re the following:- Clothing Depot, A.R.P. Workers' Club, Transport, Hospital Services, Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. Canteens, Hospital Supply Depot.

5. CANTEENS.

Apart from the regular Canteen work, our chief activity in March was in connection with the new A.F.S. Mobile Canteen, which was started last month and equipped and staffed by the W.V.S. This Canteen went with two of our helpers to Bristol after the very severe raid on Sunday, March 16th, where they remained for about 24 hours with the A.F.S. contingent sent from Bath.

On Thursday, March 20th, they were again sent out, to Plymouth this time, where they remained with the A.F.S. until Saturday the 22nd.

The Superintendent of Bath Fire Brigade expressed the thanks of his men for the help rendered by our members on these occasions, and we understand that another Mobile Canteen may shortly be started, for the equipment and staff of which we shall also be responsible.

9. OTHER ACTIVITIES.

(a) Sea Boot Stockings. Wool issued... 510 lbs.
Stockings returned. 455 pairs.

(b) Minesweepers' Jerseys. 100 lbs. thick wool issued,
25 Jerseys despatched to R.N. Depot,
97, Eaton Square, London, S.W.1.

(c) Civil Defence Wool. 79 lbs. worth of woollen garments returned, including scarves, socks, pullovers etc., all despatched to the Mayor's Comforts Depot, Bath.
(N.B. No more wool available at present, so none issued this month.)

REPORT by Miss Lewis on the Beginnings of
"AFTER-CARE" Work among Evacuee Children in Bath.

29. 3. 1941.

The objects of the After-Care work among evacuee children who may stay in Bath after leaving school are:-

1. To see that they remain in good billets or find good new billets.
2. To help them to secure suitable employment.
3. To encourage them to join some organisation connected with the Youth Movement.

When I was asked to organise this work, I started with the names of a boy and a girl given me in November by Miss Sansom from a list of "school-leavers" sent her by Mr Hoyle. These two had left school in October and found employment.

On visiting the boy's foster-mother I found that he seemed happy in his work and in his Scout troop. The W.V.S. Visitor confirmed the suitability of the billet.

When I went to the girl's billet I found she had left to join her parents in Bath. Three visits were paid to the mother, who agreed with the foster-parents that the girl was in unsuitable employment and that factory work was injurious to her health. I took her to see Miss Owens at the Employment Exchange, and the girl was offered a post at Fortt's in Green Street, where she is happy and doing well. There is already a marked improvement in her health and spirits. She is a member of the Oldfield Park Youth Club, and I have asked Miss Rochester to take a special interest in her.

On the next monthly list from the Education Office was included the

name of a girl of 15 at South Stoke. Two visits were paid to the lady in whose house she and her young brother are billeted, and another visit to the Bathavon Billeting authorities to ascertain their rules for billeting allowances when an adolescent begins work.

Another girl, employed at a laundry and enjoying her work, is now living with her mother in Bath. Two boys were visited in their foster-homes, the one very satisfactory and obviously doing well, the other rather a young scamp, about whom advice was given to the foster-mother!

On the next list, including those who left in December and January, were three boys and two girls. They are all in satisfactory billets and good employment.

Meanwhile the name was brought to my notice of a girl of 15 who wished to leave school. I visited the foster-mother and arranged for the girl to meet Miss Corbett-Lowe and me at the W.V.S. office. Then I took her to see Miss Owens, who gave her introductions to certain factories. These and others were visited by Miss Carless and myself to see working conditions, and a post in one of them was accepted for her provisionally. When I went to tell the foster-mother (an excellend person) she had just fixed up a post at Theobalds Cafe! She knows Mr Theobald personally and he will help the girl to get on. She is very happy there and Mr Theobald is pleased with her.

Other names reach me from various sources of boys and girls who left school before this After-Care work was begun. The Headmistress of Howrah House R.C. School, evacuated to Sion Hill, was anxious about two of her girls employed by the Admiralty. I went to see her and then to see the Wardens of the Stead Hostel and the new Y.W.C.A.

Hostel, where the girls respectively are living, and they have promised to take a special interest in them, and will get into touch with Mother Perpetua.

I have met Miss Rochester, leader of two of the Youth Clubs, several times and talked over ways of getting boys and girls to join the clubs. The foster-mothers generally prefer that the girls should not go out at night in the dark months, and several of the boys prefer to spend their evenings at home; but by degrees we shall get them interested in the Youth Movement.

It has taken time to compile complete lists with accurate ages of children still at school who are nearing 14. Miss Corbett Lowe copies the details on my lists into her card index kept at W.V.S. On many of the children I have received reports from W.V.S. visitors. Some I have seen myself, either in their foster-homes or at the schools, where I have been able to discuss them with the Head teachers, since the Education Committee gave permission to Miss Corbett Lowe and me to visit the schools for this purpose. (Since the permission came Miss Corbett Lowe has been ill, so the visiting has fallen to me. In the case of one school Miss Carless acted as my deputy, most successfully.)

It is difficult to get the parents' consent to the children's staying in Bath to work. Most parents are unwilling to go on supplying clothes, and they want to claim the children's earnings. The billeting allowance, while it is continued, now barely covers the cost of food, and the wage earned at first is hardly sufficient for clothes and pocket money. However, the continuance of this

for a time is a great help.

In spite of all our efforts there are, of course, disappointments! There is a boy, just 14, who would make an excellent house-boy, and a very suitable post was offered through the Employment Exchange; but the mother, weary of her exile to Wales, was determined to go back to London with her three younger children, and insists on this boy joining her there. I wrote twice to beg her to reconsider her decision, and I wrote to the M.P. for Carmarthen asking that pressure might be brought to bear; but before he could answer my letter, she had gone.

To set against that disappointment is the case of a boy who on leaving school last year had taken a job in a factory office, where he spent his days stamping note-paper. He hated the dull routine; his great longing was to come home dirty! I told him to register at the Employment Exchange, and through that he found a post in a garage, where he is thoroughly happy. The improvement in his health and spirits is most marked. He remains in the same good billet to which he and his brother came on the outbreak of War.

I have received much help from Miss Owens, of the Employment Exchange, who has been most sympathetic. During Miss Corbett Lowe's absence, Miss Carless has given valuable help in visiting foster-parents, factories, and one of the schools, and in helping to find new billets when foster-mothers say they will not keep the children after they leave school.

(signed) M. E. Lewis.

29. 3. 41.

If you are in trouble or need advice please come to the Women's Voluntary Service, 8 Quiet Street, and bring this card with you.

Your nearest Child Welfare Clinic is

Communal Feeding Centre. Friends' Meeting House,
York St.

Childrens' Nursery. 2, Harington Place.
9.30a.m. to 4.30p.m.

Assistance Board. 3, Gay Street.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE.

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT.

CENTRE BATH COUNTY SOMERSET MONTH April
 1941.

This report should contain a statement of the activities of the Centre during the month and include information under any of the following headings which are appropriate:-

- (1) EVACUATION. (a) General Position, numbers received and remaining.
 (b) Residential units, i.e. sick bays, maternity homes, nursery centres, children's homes, hostels, etc. (c) Communal Feeding, (d) Clothing schemes.
 (e) Leisure time activities -Adult, Children. (f) Any other activities.
- (2) A.R.P. (Including provision of shelter and amenities for the homeless after air raids). (3) TRANSPORT. (4) HOSPITAL SERVICES. (Including Nursing Auxiliaries, First Aid Lectures, Blood Transfusion Service, etc.)
- (5) CANTEENS. (a) Number of canteens. (b) Authority under whom each canteen works.
 (c) Number of helpers, paid/voluntary. (d) type of food served.
- (6) HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOTS AND WORK PARTIES. (7) MEETINGS. (8) SALVAGE.
- (9) OTHER ACTIVITIES.

HEADINGS.

(1) <u>EVACUATION</u>	(a) <u>Arrivals:</u>	Bath evacuees	102
		Outside "	92
			<u>194 Total</u>
	<u>Departures:</u>		102
	Billeting vouchers withdrawn...		36
			<u>138 Total</u>

(b) Day Nursery

The Number of children continues to increase rapidly; new and improved kitchen arrangements have been made, so that all cooking can now be done on the premises; and all the mothers are now working, although not all on Government work.

(c) Welfare and After-Care Visiting.

Both these schemes are continuing to work very satisfactorily, and three more children have been placed in situations this month. Miss Lewis remains in close touch with them all.

(2) A.R.P.

Our chief activity during April was in connection with the bombing of a certain area of Bath on the 11th, when 10 people were killed and 19 injured, besides about 250 rendered homeless, either temporarily or otherwise.

Two Rest Centres were open continuously for as long as necessary, manned by W.V.S. helpers, who were kept very busy supplying clothing from the Clothing Depot, and above all, with arrangements for the necessary rehousing, furnishing and billeting of the homeless, which work was entrusted to the W.V.S. by the local authorities.

(5) CANTEENS

The regular Canteen work goes on as usual, but in addition there have been further calls recently on our staff to accompany the A.F.S. Mobile Canteen to

Signed
 (Centre Organiser)

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IF FURTHER SPACE IS REQUIRED PLEASE USE BACK OF FORM.

Plymouth after the severe raids there. Two of our workers were there during the raids on three consecutive nights, after which two others relieved them.

- (8) SALVAGE We have now been asked to distribute a large number of circulars throughout the whole of Bath, urging householders to support the local Salvage scheme more actively. The circulars have not yet arrived, but we have a list of volunteers enrolled specially for this work when ready.

(9) OTHER ACTIVITIES

- (a) Sea Boot Stockings Wool issued 470 lbs.
Stockings returned . 620 pairs.

- (b) Domestic Fruit Preservation Scheme.
The W.V.S. has been invited to co-operate with other local organisations in this, and the Centre Leader is a member of the Garden Fruit Committee formed in Bath for this purpose.

- (c) Transport of Clothing to and from Decontamination Centres.

At the request of the A.R.P. authorities, W.V.S. have now organised a transport service to deal with this when required.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT.

CENTRE.....BATH.....COUNTY.....SOMERSET.....MONTH.....MAY 1941.

This report should contain a statement of the activities of the Centre during the month and include information under any of the following headings which are appropriate:-

- (1) EVACUATION (a) General Position, numbers received and remaining, (b) Residential units, i.e. sick bays, maternity homes, nursery centres, children's homes, hostels, etc., (c) Communal Feeding, (d) Clothing schemes, (e) Leisure time activities - Adult, Children, (f) Any other activities,
- (2) A.R.P. (Including provision of shelter and amenities for the homeless after air raids). (3) TRANSPORT. (4) HOSPITAL SERVICES. (Including Nursing Auxiliaries, First Aid Lectures, Blood Transfusion Service, etc.)
- (5) CANTEENS. (a) Number of canteens. (b) Authority under whom each canteen works (c) Number of helpers, paid/voluntary. (d) Type of food served.
- (6) HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOTS AND WORK PARTIES. (7) MEETINGS (8) SALVAGE.
- (9) OTHER ACTIVITIES.

HEADINGS.

1. EVACUATION. (a) Return for May, 1941.

Total of arrivals 165
.....

Billeting Vouchers withdrawn 109
Departures 72
Total 181

Unaccompanied Children 320
Arrivals during May 32
Departures 12

Mothers with schoolchildren 95
Arrivals during May 30
Departures 11

(b) The Day Nursery is doing well, and maintaining its efficiency.

(c) Welfare and After-Care Scheme.

This work is progressing well, and several meetings have lately been held between W.V.S. Welfare Visitors and representatives of the Ministry of Health and of the L.C.C., with a view to closer co-operation.

At the suggestion of the Somerset Chief Welfare Officer, Miss Thackeray, we are now evolving a plan for employing unaccompanied evacuee children between 11 years old and school-leaving age, when they are apt to become an increased problem to their billeting. We hope to start clubs and other means of occupying their spare time usefully, and also to obtain the co-operation of the Scouts and Guides and similar bodies.

The After-Care work also progresses well, but there is nothing fresh to report in this direction.

(Continued overleaf)

Signed *Maymie D. Munn*
(Centre Organiser)

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2. A. R. P.

(a) Repairing Gas Masks.

W.V.S. volunteers are entirely responsible for carrying out this work, which is now proceeding on a considerable scale.

(b) Gas Lectures.

A weekly course of these is being started for W.V.S. members, and we are asking as many as possible to attend.

(c) Personnel for Cleansing Stations.

At the request of the A.R.P. authorities, we have supplied organisers for these.

(d) Anti-Gas First Aid Home Service.

We are now evolving a scheme (which we hope to complete very soon) for giving every householder some elementary training in first aid for dealing with persons suffering from the effects of gas attack. This will be of value not only in avoiding congestion at the various big First Aid Stations but also by giving victims the benefit of immediate treatment, which is so essential, especially when they are some distance from a First Aid Station.

The idea is to give a preliminary lecture followed by a demonstration, so that practically every house will contain at least one person capable of acting in such an emergency.

5. CANTEENS.

In addition to the work of the regular Canteens (which goes on as usual) we are providing volunteers to help the City Engineer with a Canteen already started by him for the men of the Demolition Squad.

8. SALVAGE.

The 79,000 circulars in this connection have arrived, and are now being distributed by our workers to every house in the city.

9. OTHER ACTIVITIES.

(a) Sea Boot Stockings. Report for May 1941:-

Wool issued.....	540 lbs.
Stockings returned.....	515 pairs.

(b) Re-issue of Ration Books.

W.V.S. helpers have been enrolled for this special work as before, and begin duty at the Food Control Office on June 3rd.

(c) Ministry of Information (Assistant Canvassers).

The official in charge of a Ministry of Information van touring the city with a loud-speaker recently, appealing for the enrolment of women for work of national importance, asked for four of our workers to help in canvassing individual houses. This tour seems to have been quite successful, and valuable information obtained for the Ministry. The van went out three times each day, thus obtaining contact with different sections of the public.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE.

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT.



CENTRE.....Bath.....COUNTY.....Somerset.....MONTH.....June 1941.....

This report should contain a statement of the activities of the Centre during the month and include information under any of the following headings which are appropriate:-

- (1) EVACUATION (a) General Position, numbers received and remaining, (b) Residential units, i.e. sick bays, maternity homes, nursery centres, children's homes, hostels, etc., (c) Communal Feeding, (d) Clothing schemes, (e) Leisure time activities - Adult, Children, (f) Any other activities,
 - (2) A.R.P. (Including provision of shelter and amenities for the homeless after air raids), (3) TRANSPORT. (4) HOSPITAL SERVICES. (Including Nursing Auxiliaries)
 - (5) CANTEENS. (a) General Position. en works
- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| (c) Number of | Total arrivals... | 160 |
| (8) HOSPITAL SUPPLIES | Departures..... | 114 |
| (9) OTHER ACTIVITIES | Billeting vouchers withdrawn.. | 99 |
| | Total... | 213 |

1. EVACUATION.

Mothers with school children.

Return for June:-

Total arrivals.....	119
Departures.....	69
Billeting vouchers withdrawn	72
Total	141

Unaccompanied Children.

Total arrivals.....	41
Departures.....	45
Billeting vouchers withdrawn	27
Total...	72

(b) The Day Nursery

and Welfare and After-Care Schemes:-

Both continuing to do well, but nothing fresh to report in respect of either.

(c) Communal Feeding.

The Centre Leader has lately been considering this question with the Town Clerk, and is a member of a Sub-Committee formed for this purpose.

2. A. R. P.

In addition to the regular work carried on in connection with the repair, fitting and re-fitting of gas masks, and special Gas lectures for W.V.S. volunteers, there is the Anti-Gas First Aid Home Service (outlined in our May Report):

This scheme is now well under way, and the first contingent of "canvassers" for this work have attended a preparatory lecture by a Home Office lecturer, to coach them for their work of training others. They will work in co-operation with any existing scheme already formed by fire-watchers or others, so as to avoid overlapping.

(Please see over page)

Signed *Marion Binks*
(Centre Organiser)

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3. TRANSPORT.

In addition to the usual transport work, the W.V.S. has during the last month supplied all-day drivers with cars for officials of the Ministry of Works & Buildings.

5. CANTEENS.

The Y.M.C.A. are providing a second Mobile Canteen, for which the W.V.S. will supply voluntary drivers when required. The other Canteens are carrying on their work as previously reported.

6. HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT and WORKING PARTIES.

The Hospital Supply Depot is continuing its work as before, and is extremely busy, and the various Working Parties are keeping up their contributions well.

7. MEETINGS.

Various important meetings have lately been held, in collaboration with the local authorities, as follows:-

(1) Clothes Rationing.

An official of the Board of Trade lectured to a large audience of W.V.S. workers, explaining the new Order and answering many questions thereon, which proved very helpful.

(2) Co-ordination of Voluntary Labour.

Meetings between representatives of W.V.S. and other voluntary organisations to discuss the co-ordination of voluntary labour, to be placed at the disposal of the local authorities.

(3) Crash Evacuation of Bath and Rural Areas.

The Centre Leader attended an important meeting on June 9th to discuss this matter with the Town Clerk, the Billeting Officer and other local officials concerned, and she has since attended several similar meetings in other towns.

9. OTHER ACTIVITIES.

(a) Sea Boot Stockings. June Report:-

Wool issued.....	623 lbs.
Stockings returned..	360 pairs.

(b) Recruiting Parade.

This is to be held on July 7th, when a uniformed contingent of W.V.S. volunteers will join in a procession of Women's Services to stimulate public interest, when it is hoped to gain many new recruits for women's work of all kinds.

(c) SPECIAL NOTE.

A very real hardship exists in the difficulty of obtaining wool experienced by individual workers, who naturally wish to knit for their own relatives, but cannot afford to give up their own coupons to any extent for this purpose. The deprivation of the "personal touch" in this matter is not compensated by the issue of comforts supplied by working parties, and the point (although not strictly relevant here) is mentioned in the hope that pressure may be brought to bear later with the object of remedying this genuine "grievance".

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE.

MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT.

RECEIVED

1 AUG 1941

CENTRE... BATH... COUNTY... SOMERSET... MONTH... JULY 1941...

This report should contain a statement of the activities of the Centre during the month and include information under any of the following headings which are appropriate:-

- (1) EVACUATION (a) General Position, numbers received and remaining, (b) Residential units, i.e. sick bays, maternity homes, nursery centres, children's homes, hostels, etc., (c) Communal Feeding, (d) Clothing schemes, (e) Leisure time activities - Adult, Children, (f) Any other activities,
- (2) A.R.P. (Including provision of shelter and amenities for the homeless after air raids), (3) TRANSPORT, (4) HOSPITAL SERVICES. - (Including Nursing Auxiliaries, First Aid Lectures, Blood Transfusion Service, etc.)
- (5) CANTEENS. (a) Number of canteens. (b) Authority under whom each canteen works (c) Number of helpers, paid/voluntary, (d) Type of food served.
- (6) HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOTS AND WORK PARTIES. (7) MEETINGS. (8) SALVAGE.
- (9) OTHER ACTIVITIES.

READINGS.1 EVACUATION(a) General Position

Total arrivals for July.....	42	} women, and } children under } school age } unaccompanied } children
" departures " "	52	
Billeting vouchers withdrawn	31	
Evacuee children of School age.	811	
Arrivals during July.....	26	
Departures " "	41	

(b) Day Nursery: It has been brought to our notice that there is a need for a further extension of this work, and the matter is under consideration.

(c) Communal Feeding: British Restaurants: Further meetings have been held with the representatives of the Ministry of Food, and it has been decided that a British Restaurant shall be opened in Bath. W.V.S. have been co-opted on the Committee to help with any voluntary labour that may be required.

(d) Clothing Scheme: At the Depot they have been very inventive this month, and have made some hundreds of pairs of children's slippers from old felt hats. We are carrying out exact instructions as to distribution, and have had several meetings with the Assistance Board, as directed, which have cleared up the matter satisfactorily. We now have a clear cut scheme of working, which is approved by all concerned.

Repairing Boots and Shoes: We have contacted the Blind Society in Bath, and they have promised assistance from their members in this work.

(Please see over page)

Signed *Marjorie Shumster*
(Centre Organiser)

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(e) Leisure time activities: We are in close touch with the Youth Movement in Bath, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, and together they are forming plans to absorb evacuee children between the ages of 11 and 15. We have no special activities for adults, but our regular welfare visitors encourage and advise them to join up with the many existing organisations already in Bath for this work.

(f) After-Care Scheme : One of our Welfare workers now sits on the After-Care Committee at the Labour Exchange, which meets monthly. The work is progressing as before, and several more children have been placed in suitable positions.

2. A. R. P. (a) Anti-Gas First Aid Home Service: This is progressing extremely well, and a considerable number of members have volunteered.

(b) Defective Gas Masks at Schools: At the request of the Bath Education Authority, the W. V. S. now collect all defective gas-masks from the schools each day, repair and return them before school ends each afternoon, so that the children do not go home without them.

3. TRANSPORT, The W.V.S. were recently asked by the Ministry of Information to drive four war workers during their propaganda tour in and around Bath. A good deal of driving is also being done in the evenings, taking the members of amateur theatrical society to entertain troops at camps in the surrounding district.

5. CANTEENS: All working as usual, but nothing fresh to report.

6. HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT: The work keeps up its usual standard, and we have now been approached by the A.R.P. to make 500 sleeping bags for the A.R.P. workers in Bath.

7. MEETINGS Co-ordination of Voluntary Services: At the moment we have a list of some 200 extra voluntary helpers who will be available to be called up by the W.V.S. in case of urgent need, and the W.V.S. being the co-ordinating body.

9. OTHER ACTIVITIES

(a) Sea Boot Stockings Report for July:-
Wool issued.....623 lbs.
Stockings returned.....520 pairs.

(b) City Survey: The Chief Billeting Officer requested the W.V.S. to undertake the clerical work in connection with a Billeting Survey of the whole city of Bath, which is being carried out by the order of the Ministry and we have found workers for this.

Reported by.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE
WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE
MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT

CENTRE... BATH COUNTY... SOMERSET MONTH... AUGUST 1941

This report should contain a statement of the activities of the Centre during the month and include information under any of the following headings which are appropriate:-

- (1) EVACUATION (a) General Position, numbers received and remaining, (b) Residential units, i.e. sick-bays, maternity homes, nursery centres, children's homes, hostels, etc., (c) Communal Feeding, (d) Clothing Schemes, (e) Leisure time activities - Adult, Children, (f) Any other activities.
- (2) A.R.P. (Including provision of shelter and amenities for the homeless after air raids). (3) TRANSPORT. (4) HOSPITAL SERVICES. (including Nursing Auxiliaries, First Aid Lectures, Blood Transfusion Service, etc.)
- (5) CANTEENS. (a) Number of canteens. (b) Authority under whom each canteen works. (c) Number of helpers, paid/voluntary. (d) Type of food served.
- (6) HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOTS AND WORK PARTIES. (7) MEETINGS. (8) SALVAGE.
- (9) OTHER ACTIVITIES.

HEADINGS.

i. EVACUATION.

(a)

General Position.

Mothers with Children:

Departures.....71

Billeting

vouchers withdrawn.....38

Total 109

Arrivals 18

Unaccompanied Children:

Returned.....102

Billeting vouchers

withdrawn..... 15

New arrivals..... 38

Temporarily gone from Bath.....41

Returned to Bath.....20

(b)

Day Nursery.

Numbers attending continue about the same

(c)

Communal Feeding

The projected British Restaurant is still under consideration, but there is nothing further to report.

(d)

Clothing Depot.

The Corporation have granted further accommodation for storage and packing room, as this work is increasing so rapidly.

(continued over page)

Signed...

(Centre Organiser)

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(e) Leisure Time Activities

A meeting will shortly be held between the W.V.S and teachers, when the Organiser of the Youth Movement for Boys and Girls will give an address and advise as to the winter programme.

After-Care and Welfare Visiting

The work is progressing very satisfactorily.

2. A.R.P. (a) Anti-Gas Home Service

We are enrolling more members daily; the lectures are proving very popular, and we feel that this service is being built up in a really satisfactory way.

3. TRANSPORT. All services continuing as already reported.

5. CANTEENS We have been asked by the Welfare Officer & R.T.O to open a Canteen at the Bath G.W.R. station. The Y.M.C.A. wish to use their Mobile Canteen for this purpose, and it will be staffed by W.V.S. members.

6. HOSPITAL SUPPLIES DEPOT

The number of regular workers is well maintained, and they are kept constantly "full up" with work.

7. MEETINGS The Centre Leader of the Bath W.V.S. has been asked to sit on the Defence Committee for the City of Bath.

9. OTHER ACTIVITIES

(a) SEA BOOT STOCKINGS. August Report

Wool issued	360 lbs.
Stockings returned	445 pairs

(b) CITY BILLETING SURVEY

This work, undertaken at the Guildhall by a number of W.V.S. workers under the Chief Billeting Officer, has now been completed.

(c) HOME GUARD

We have been approached by the local Home Guard to reserve some 29 women, who will help with secretarial work, pay sheets, etc., if and when the Home Guard are mobilised.

(d) COUPON-FREE WOOL

We are organising a service for the distribution of permits for wool, commencing on September 1st,

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE **MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT**

COUNTY.....Somerset..... CENTRE.....Bath..... MONTH.....September 1941.....

This report should describe the activities of the W.V.S. Centre during the month. Where W.V.S. members are assisting in activities outside the work of the Local Authority, the Authority or organisation responsible for such activities should be stated.

A list suggesting the subjects on which information would be most helpful will be issued from Headquarters from time to time.

1. a) satisfactory, as reported by the Welfare Visitors carrying out their routine inspections.

MOVEMENT OF EVACUEES FOR SEPTEMBER

new arrivals	46	temporarily left Bath	13
returned	41	returned	16
	<u>5</u>		

<u>transferred</u>	<u>rehoused</u>	<u>B.V.withdrawn</u>
21	12	10

MOVEMENT OF MOTHERS WITH CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE

arrivals	52
departures	48
B.V. withdrawn	36
	<u>84</u>

After-care work carried out by request of Ministry of Labour and Education Authority.

- d) War Nursery working most satisfactorily; will probably have to be considerably enlarged soon as the Min: of Lab: are requiring more women workers in Bath.

2. Distribution practically at a standstill, so stocks have been brought up to date. New underground storeroom allocated by the Corporation for ARC stock.

- a) LCC London clothing scheme in full and most satisfactory operation
- b) Make and Mend parties deal with repairs for Bombed Babies Home at Denewood Grange.

3. a) Home Service working under Wardens, but WVS co-operate in anti-gas precautions.
- b) clerical staff provided for Fire Guard Registration
- e) Respirator repair service continues with unabated vigour. Issue of Wardens' rations in hands of WVS.

4. a) Rest Centres inspected monthly: all services, including Messengers, ready to go into action at once.

Signed.....Marjorie Whimster.....
(Centre Organiser)

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b) Demolition Canteen staffed and run by WVS. Hospital Supplies Depot runs a canteen for its own workers.

c) 2 YMCA mobiles staffed by WVS serving both forces and CD workers: now serving Forces at the GWR station every night from 9pm. to midnight.

6. a) Workers provided for 4 school canteens

b) 2 Ford container vans have been allocated to Bath and WVS is to staff and run them in emergency.

7. b) WVS help BRCS with Forces Libraries.

e) Close co-operation maintained with the Welfare Officer. The Centre Organiser sits on Bath Welfare Committee meeting monthly. Concert Parties are frequently driven to outlying units.

a) WVS/CNR now run a separate office at 16, Walcot Street.

c) WVS attend daily at St. Martin's Hospital, supplementing work in kitchens and dining room.

9. ✓ Work parties continually running, 120 - 200 members attending daily.

10 Transport provided for Ministry of Works, Billeting Officer, etc.

14 Many members work in the service, and it is hoped to increase the numbers soon.

16 Compulsory billeting of munition workers carried out for B.O.

17 The great event since the issue of our last report has been the visit of Lady Reading to Bath on Oct:1st, which has been of the greatest inspiration to everyone.

18 a) advice on National Rose Hip Week b) issue of wartime recipes

c) issue of vouchers for coupon free wool for the Individual Knitters scheme now totals, after one month only, 265.

d) Seaboot stocking section has issued 360 lbs of wool this month, and 480 pairs of stockings have been returned: average number of pairs per month around 450.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE **MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT**

COUNTY SOMERSET. CENTRE BATH MONTH OCTOBER 1941.

This report should describe the activities of the W.V.S. Centre during the month. Where W.V.S. members are assisting in activities outside the work of the Local Authority, the Authority or organisation responsible for such activities should be stated.

A list suggesting the subjects on which information would be most helpful will be issued from Headquarters from time to time.

1. EVACUATION.

- A. Welfare visitors reports still satisfactory. Less changing of billets this month.

Movement of Evacuees for October.

<u>Mothers and children.</u>	Arrivals.	24.
	Departures.	26.
	Billeting vouchers withdrawn.	10.
<u>Unaccompanied children.</u>	Arrivals.	47.
	Departures.	77.
	Transfers.	23.
	Temporarily left Bath.	3.
	Temp. returned.	6.

The after care work carried out in conjunction with the Ministry of Labour and Education Authority is increasing, it has been gratifying that in many cases that the parents of the children for whom suitable work is being found in and around Bath are placing their confidence in our visitors, and are grateful for the interest, and advice that is being taken.

- D. Infant and Child Welfare Committee at the request of the M.L.E. are getting definite data, before the latter's sanction is given for much enlargement of the day creche which is in operation November.

2. CLOTHING.

All clothing schemes working very satisfactorily. Stores of clothes being conserved as much as possible.

Signed Maeve D. Jones
 (Centre Organiser)

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3. A.R.P.

- A. This service is now to be enlarged at request of Deputy Controller and Head Warden, and W.V.S. have been asked to co-operate.
- B. Clerical staff working regularly at forms etc., for compulsory fire fighters.
- D. Gas lectures being arranged weekly for "Anti Gas Treatment in the Home". The number of fully equipped Houses for this work is **345**.
- E. a. W.V.S. Work at Fitting and Repairs Depot for Respirators.

Civil Defence Headquarters.

- 1. Number of Schools visited. = 26.
- 2. Number of School children fitted at Headquarters = 590.
- 3. Number of Baby Helmets issued = 98.
- 4. Number of Small Child's Respirators issued = 49.
- 5. Facepieces changed beyond local repair = 467.

Containers	"	"	"	"	= 164.
Bands	"	"	"	"	or lost. = 16.
Valves	"	"	"	"	= 30.
Contex	"	"	"	"	= 69.

New Cartons issued = 2416.
 Respirators patched = 246.
 Respirators changed (size) 575.

- 6. Number of respirators washed, disinfected etc., from children, surplus from warden's posts, deceased persons etc., approx. 1192.

7. Adults.

Facepieces changed = 55. replaced, or lost or damaged.

Containers	"	44.	"	"	"
Bands	"	44.	"	"	"
Valves	"	44.	"	"	"
Contex	"	44.	"	"	"
Cartons	"	84.	"	"	"

b. Warden's stores issued weekly.

4. HOMELESS.

- A. As last month.

5. CANTEENS.

- B. As past month.
C. Numbers served each night at Station canteen increasing weekly.

6. COMMUNITY AND EMERGENCY FEEDING.

- A. More workers being sent to help with school children meals. Ford vans staffed by W.V.S. to be used to convey cooked meals to Schools where there are no cooking facilities.
B. Canteen for evacuees organised by Friends Society, and staffed by W.V.S. is still continuing, although number attending has decreased.

7. WELFARE WORK FOR H.M. FORCES.

- As last month.

8. HOSPITAL SERVICES.

As last month.
At the request of M.O.H. a meeting was called to discuss the question of shortage of H.R. Representatives ^{from} Red Cross, British Legion W.S., Girl Guides, Old Contemplables, Labour Exchange, Town's Womens Guild, N.C.W., Mother's Union.

Attended, Mrs. Macdonald explained the scheme fully. The meeting promised to help in any way required. A. Comm. is to be formed but this has not been done yet, pending definite instructions from Regional Headquarters.

9. HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT.

This depot is exceedingly busy, as Lady Baynton has asked for an increased output in the Spagnum moss depot, swabs, mattresses etc., being urgently needed.

13. TRANSPORT.

As last month.

14. NATIONAL SAVINGS.

W.V.S. have been asked to undertake the following :-

- a. Distribution of literature.
- b. Decorating shop windows.
- c. Staffing selling depots for Warship Week to be held in Bath, week commencing Nov. 22nd. 1941.

16. CO-OPERATION WITH MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

Billposting being carried out as instructed by Bath's Chief Billposting Officer.

18. OTHER ACTIVITIES.

- A. Food officer has asked W.V.S. to supply sufficient clerical workers to carry out work in connection with new rationing scheme. Also the distribution of new ration books to be undertaken at stated depots by W.V.S.
- B. 240 lbs. sea boot wool distributed.
615 pairs of stockings knitted.
- C. 410 knitting vouchers for individual knitters issued.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE **MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT**

COUNTY.....SOMERSET...... CENTRE.....W.V.S...... MONTH.....NOVEMBER......

This report should describe the activities of the W.V.S. Centre during the month. Where W.V.S. members are assisting in activities outside the work of the Local Authority, the Authority or organisation responsible for such activities should be stated.

A list suggesting the subjects on which information would be most helpful will be issued from Headquarters from time to time.

1. EVACUATION.

- A. Welfare visitors reports are satisfactory, the following figures determine on position.

Movement of Evacuees for November.

<u>Mothers and Children.</u>	Arrivals	22.
	Departures.	56.
	Billeting vouchers withdrawn.	23.

<u>Unaccompanied Children.</u>	Arrivals.	16.
	Departures.	46.
	Transfers.	23.
	Rehoused.	8.
	Billeting vouchers withdrawn.	11.

After Cafe Work. 4 cases of children leaving school have been placed in most suitable occupations.

- D. Infant & Child Welfare Com: are now convinced that owing to the fact many more women wish to take up war work, the day nursery accomodation must be increased, suitable premises in Bath are most difficult to find, but the work is being hastened on as quickly as possible. We are supplying to the present Day Nursery nine voluntary helpers a day, the cooking for the mid-day meal is also being carried out by one of our workers, as the paid cook was found to be most unsatisfactory.

2. CLOTHING.

Clothing schemes working very well, we have supplied nine Assistance Board Cases this month. The new stock taking forms etc., are now being used in the depot.

Signed.....Margaret Lohmeyer.....
 (Centre Organiser)

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(P. 156) - Wt. 25852/102 - 40,000 - 8/41 - C & Co. 745 (9).

If further space is required, please use back of form.

3. A.R.P.

- A. This service is progressing. We held a public meeting on November 28. when the Mayor of Bath took the Chair, we hope the publicity will increase our members, one of our great difficulties is to find suitable people who are willing to become Section Group Leaders.
- B. As last month.
- D. Gas lectures are still being arranged weekly for "Anti Gas Treatment in the Home". In the new year we are proposing to hold a big demonstration on this subject, when we have members fully trained.

E. a. W.V.S. Work at the Respirator Fitting Repair Depot.
Civil Defence Headquarters.

- 1. Four visits to a Government Factory. 255 workers fitted.
- 2. Number of Schools visited. = 3.
- 3. Numbers of Baby Helmets issued. = 90.
- 4. Number of Small Child's Respirators issued = 30.
- 5. Number of School Children fitted at Headquarters = 429.
- 6. Facepieces changed beyond local repair = 241.
Containers " " " " = 58.
Bands " " " " = 4.
Valves " " " " = 8.
Contex. " " " " = 128.
New Cartons issued = 617.
Respirators patched = 95.
Respirators changed = 351.

- 7. Number of respirators washed, disinfected etc., = 600.
(from deceased persons, lost property etc.,)

8. Adults.

- Facepieces changed = 93.
- Containers = 37.
- Bands = 37.
- Valves = 37.
- Contex = 37.
- Cartons = 65.

- b. Warden's Stores issued weekly.

4. HOMELESS. Nothing further to report.

5. CANTEENS.

- B. Arrangements are being made to give a party to wives and children of the Demolition Squads. The men themselves have been encouraged to pay in weekly to help meet expenses. This canteen now is working very well, in spite of many difficulties which are constantly arising.
- C. The Mobile Canteen increase their work each week. The numbers of the vans are Y.M.C.A. 686 and 518.

6. COMMUNITY AND EMERGENCY FEEDING.

- A. We are now serving 5 schools with cooked meals for school children, using as transport the two Ford vans given to the City, the scheme is working well, and it is the intention of the Bath Education Authority to extend this service to 12 Schools in the New Year.
- B. Canteen for evacuees still continuing.

7. WELFARE WORK FOR H.M. FORCES.

- A. Hospitality for all services is organised by a Bath Welfare Comm: W.V.S. is represented on this Comm: and we work in close co-operation. We have been able to help several A.T.S. units with furniture etc., and we have made ourselves known to O.C's. of A.T.S. and W.A.A.F.S. within reasonable distance of Bath, so that they can apply to us for help and advice whenever they wish. This they have already done. We have found that they are most grateful for this co-operation.

8. HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Nothing further to report.

9. HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT.

The Depot has been particularly busy this month. Requests have come for Comforts for Russia and khaki woolies for Lady Wraxall. Overcoats have been made for the "Bombed babies". Large consignments of material received from the Legion to be made up for stock. All affiliated work parties have responded to our requests for garments, which have been urgently needed. Quantities of salvage and sheeting has been sent by Lady Wraxall to be made up into Hospital Sachets.

10. TRANSPORT.

Still continuing for Works, Buildings, Also conveying concert parties to camps, For Welfare Officer.

14. NATIONAL SAVINGS.

Street group collectors working well.

16. CO-OPERATION WITH MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

A. As last month.

18. OTHER ACTIVITIES.

- ✓ A. Food office require helpers for clerical work in the distribution of the free issue of Vitamin C.
- B. 108 Cam^{ou}flage nets completed up to date.
- C. 420 lbs. sea boot wool issued.
585 pairs Stockings knitted.
- ✓ D. 399 Knitting vouchers for individual Knitters issued (1,074 Knitters now on book).
- ✓ E. At the request of Section Officer Ousling W.A.A.F. we are helping to organise a big recruiting meeting to be held at the Pump Room on December 11th.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE **MONTHLY NARRATIVE REPORT**

COUNTY.....**SOMERSET**..... CENTRE.....**W.V.S.**..... MONTH.....**DECEMBER**.....

This report should describe the activities of the W.V.S. Centre during the month. Where W.V.S. members are assisting in activities outside the work of the Local Authority, the Authority or organisation responsible for such activities should be stated.

A list suggesting the subjects on which information would be most helpful will be issued from Headquarters from time to time.

1. Evacuation

A. Satisfactory. The following figures determine the position.

Movement of Evacuees in December

<u>Mothers and Children</u>	Arrivals	16
	Departures	24
	Billeting vouchers withdrawn	7
<u>Unaccompanied Children</u>	Arrivals	9
	Departures	11
	Rehoused	5
	B.V. Withdrawn	15
	Transfers	20
	Billeting vouchers reissued	2

- D.** 1. A Christmas party was given to Mothers and Children. It took the form of a Cinema performance in the Odeon theatre. A special programme was chosen and during the interval hot chocolate and buns were served to all. It proved to be a most successful party some 350 attending.
2. Nothing further to report with regard to daytime nurseries but the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have been granted a Nissen Hut to be erected on a suitable site.

2. Clothing

A parcel of warm clothing has been dispatched to the Regional Headquarters for the Russians.

3. A.R.P.

This service is growing somewhat slowly, but one or two successful group meetings have been held. The Service is working hard this month for the Paper Salvage drive, at the request of the City Engineer.

Signed.....*Mary Ann Whimster*.....
 (Centre Organiser)

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WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SERVICES FOR CIVIL DEFENCE

MONTHLY MANAGERIAL REPORT

E. Mrs Scott Reid's report.

W.V.S. work at the Respirator Fitting and Repair Depot.
Civil Defence Headquarters.

1. Number of Schools visited. 2.
2. Number of school children fitted at Headquarters 76
3. Number of baby helmets issued. 44.
4. Number of small child's Respirators issued. 46.
5. Facepieces changed beyond local repairs. 341.
Containers 54
Bands 4
Valves 6
Context 28
New Cartons issued 947.
Respirators patched 102.
Respirators changed (size) 89.
6. Number of respirators washed, disinfected, etc., from children. Surplus from Wardens posts, deceased persons. 582.
7. Adults
Facepieces 32
Containers 21
Bands 21
Valves 21
Context 21
Cartons 115

Instruction to Wardens (unpaid and paid) 2 classes
on all types of Respirators.

4. Homeless.

Nothing to report this month.

5. Canteens.

B. Four most successful parties given to Wives and Children of the Demolition Squads.
C. The Mobile which goes to the G.W.R. Station every night at 9p.m. staying until 1a.m. is greatly appreciated and the numbers served increase rapidly.

6. Community and Emergency Feeding

A. The transport of School meals is continuing, but more transport is required before all the schools can be served, about 450 meals are served daily at present.

7. Welfare work for H.M. Forces

A. Continuing.

C. Arrangements are being made with the Area Officer for the mending of the troops socks etc. Our scheme is complete and we are now awaiting the supplies.

8. Hospital Services

Nothing further to report.

9. Hospital Supply Depot

This depot will co-operate with the sock mending, and they have undertaken all the mending for two Red Cross Hospitals.

10. Transport Over 1,000 miles has been covered this month driving for W & B.

14. National Savings

Fresh Street Collections are being obtained through Housewives Service.

18. Other Activities

A. 100 Camouflage nets completed in a month.

B. 480 lbs of Sea boot Wool issued. 640 prs knitted.

C. 214 Knitting vouchers issued. 1,288 Knitters now registered.

6 JAN 942