

100 Years of Allotments in Europe



**International Federation of Allotment Gardens
1926 – 2026**

by Caterina Paetzelt

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In this book, the generic masculine form is used for the sake of readability. Female and other gender identities are expressly included wherever necessary for the meaning of the text.

Foreword



Sylvia Wohatschek
General Secretary
Fédération Internationale des Jardins Familiaux

100 Years Together for the Allotment Garden Movement

When representatives of allotment garden federations from several European countries founded the International Organisation of Allotment Gardeners in Luxembourg on 3rd October 1926, they could not have known what challenges Europe would face in the decades to come. They could not have foreseen the political, social and economic upheavals that Europe would experience in the years that followed. And yet they demonstrated remarkable foresight. They recognised that many of the challenges facing people in their respective countries were the same, and that together they were stronger than alone. They created a platform for exchange, cooperation and mutual support, thereby laying the foundation for an international allotment garden movement that endures to this day.

What began a hundred years ago was far more than the founding of an international organisation. It was a commitment to an idea that has lost none of its relevance to this day: everyone should have the opportunity to cultivate a piece of land, grow their own food and be part of a community.

The emergence of the allotment garden movement is closely linked to the social challenges of its time. Industrialisation had drawn countless people from rural areas into the cities. Many families lived in difficult conditions; green spaces were scarce and the food supply was often uncertain. Allotment

gardens offered an answer to these problems. They enabled people to grow their own fruit and vegetables and improve their living conditions through their own efforts.

The importance of this development became particularly evident in the decades that followed. During wartime and the post-war periods, allotment gardens became an indispensable part of the food supply in many European countries. Where food was scarce, the gardens provided fresh fruit and vegetables. Where there was hardship, they gave hope. For countless families, the produce from their plots was not merely a supplement to their diet, but made an essential contribution to daily life. The history of allotment gardens is therefore also a history of resilience, solidarity and food security.

As prosperity increased, the role of allotment gardens changed. Areas once used solely for food production became places for recreation and leisure. Yet anyone who concludes from this that their significance has diminished is mistaken. The challenges of our time have changed, but the importance of allotment gardens remains.

Today, we face issues such as climate change, soil sealing, the loss of biodiversity and increasing urbanisation. It is precisely under these conditions that the value of allotment gardens for our towns and communities becomes clear. They are green

oases in densely built-up areas, help counteract urban overheating, retain water and provide habitats for a wide variety of animal and plant species. The high level of biodiversity found in many allotment garden sites is no coincidence. It is the result of sustainable, responsible and nature-friendly cultivation practices passed down from one generation to the next.

Our gardens not only make an important contribution to the environment and the climate, but are also places of learning. Here, children and young people discover where food comes from, how it is grown and how much work goes into a harvest. Having a garden of one's own builds confidence in the origin and quality of food. Today, this knowledge of where our food comes from is an important reason for many people to grow their own fruit and vegetables. In an increasingly digital world, this knowledge, preserved across generations, is more important than ever.

Above all, however, allotment gardens are places of community. People have always been at the heart of our movement. Conversations, friendships and neighbourly relationships develop across the garden fence. People support one another, share experiences and lend a hand whenever help is needed. At a time when many people experience loneliness and anonymity, allotment gardens create spaces where people can meet and strengthen social cohesion. They show that community cannot be imposed, but grows wherever people meet one another with openness, respect and a willingness to help.

What happens on a small scale across the garden fence also shapes our international cooperation. Across national and linguistic boundaries, we share experiences, learn from one another and

work together to preserve and further develop the allotment garden movement. The past hundred years have shown that, despite the diversity of our allotment gardens, far more unites us than divides us.

As we look back today on 100 years of the international allotment garden movement, we are celebrating more than the history of an organisation. Above all, we are celebrating the people who have written this history: the founders with their foresight, the generations of allotment gardeners, the office-holders in our federations and associations, and all those who have championed, and continue to champion, the allotment garden movement with conviction.

They all deserve our thanks.

The past hundred years have shown how adaptable and, at the same time, how enduring the allotment garden movement is. The challenges have changed, but the values on which our movement is founded have remained the same: responsibility, sustainability, solidarity and community.

We may therefore look to the future with confidence. For if the history of a century has taught us anything, it is this: the importance of allotment gardens does not end with one generation. It continues to evolve because people are willing to take responsibility, preserve what has stood the test of time and, at the same time, remain open to new ideas. It is now up to us to carry the allotment garden movement forward with the same conviction, foresight and collective strength that united the founders of our international movement. In this way, allotment gardens will continue to make an important contribution to our society and to future generations.

Introduction

Allotment gardening is a unique societal, social and ecological phenomenon. In Europe in particular, no other community of interest links the issues of urban development, social justice, health, food security and environmental awareness to such a significant degree.

Allotment gardening is deeply embedded in the social, economic and cultural developments of the last two centuries. Originally emerging in response to industrialisation and the associated housing and food problems faced by the working class, allotments have become an integral part of urban life in many European countries. In addition to providing food, they gained in importance over the course of the 20th century as places for recreation, social integration and urban ecology.

The historical development of allotment gardening has been shaped by social and political circumstances. This reflects the major challenges of European history: the social consequences of industrialisation, the food crises during the world wars, the socio-political debates of the post-war period, the environmental movements since the 1970s and, finally, the current discussions on sustainable urban development in the 21st century. In each of these phases, allotment gardens expanded their significance and adapted to the prevailing social conditions.

The European umbrella organisation, the Fédération Internationale des Jardins Familiaux a.s.b.l., plays a central role in the organisation, further development and political advocacy of the allotment garden movement.

Since its foundation in Luxembourg in 1926, the federation has served as a platform for cross-border exchange, the dissemination of information on contemporary, environmentally sound and climate-adapted gardening, and the political representation of the allotment garden movement at European level.

Today's European allotment garden structures are far more than a social phenomenon with a history. Their significance extends beyond purely ecological and economic benefits. They are not merely spaces for individual gardening; in the face of climate change, urbanisation and migration, they serve as multifunctional spaces that fulfil several relevant functions for the entire population.

In terms of urban planning: Allotments are an integral part of urban green spaces. They help improve the urban climate by creating corridors of fresh air, enhancing air quality and helping to cool the city during hot summer months. Furthermore, allotments contribute to water retention and soil improvement, as unsealed surfaces can absorb rainwater, thereby supporting natural material cycles.

Social: Allotments provide affordable and accessible local recreational spaces for the urban population. They also serve as meeting places and promote social integration by facilitating contact between different population groups and generations. For children in particular, they are important places for playing and experiencing nature; they raise awareness of the need to treat flora and fauna with respect, thereby strengthening an understanding of ecological interdependencies.

In addition to ecological and economic benefits, allotment gardens make an important contribution to environmental education, stress relief and social cohesion. They strengthen residents' sense of belonging to their city or neighbourhood and are therefore a significant element of local culture.

Ecological: The natural design of allotment sites provides vital habitats for numerous animal and plant species. Flowering plants and fruit trees serve as a food source for insects, particularly bees and butterflies, whilst hedges and compost heaps offer shelter for birds, hedgehogs and other small animals. Allotments thus make a valuable contribution to biodiversity.

The use of environmentally friendly cultivation methods, such as avoiding chemical fertilisers and pesticides or composting organic waste, also promotes the sustainable use of resources. All in all, allotment gardens are not only green oases of relaxation but also key building blocks for urban environmental protection.

The founding of the 'Office International des Jardins Ouvriers' was a pioneering step in establishing an internationally active allotment garden organisation that was also recognised at a political level. It was a deliberate move to raise awareness and increase the profile of allotment gardens throughout Europe. The allotment garden concept was thus elevated to an international level, with the aim of bringing about the creation of national laws to protect allotment gardens and securing financial support. Through the Office, a link has been forged between local civil society initiatives and international structures.

Allotment Gardening

in Europe

The origins of the European allotment garden movement date back to the period of profound social, economic and urban upheaval in the 19th century. Starting in Great Britain, the decisive transition from an agrarian to an industrial society took place across European countries. Inventions and technical innovations transformed production conditions and facilitated the manufacture of mass-produced goods. The railway, as a new means of transport, accelerated travel and the movement of goods. The steel industry experienced a rapid boom.

Industrialisation led to rapid urban growth in Europe. Millions of people moved from the coun-

tryside to the cities to work in the newly established factories. The urban-rural landscape changed significantly. Cities expanded through the incorporation of surrounding villages and parishes; in the major cities, residential districts for the working class sprang up, and there was a rapid expansion of infrastructure, including local transport, gas and electricity supplies. Cities became centres of production, transport and services, and experienced an enormous increase in population. However, rapid urban growth brought with it not only opportunities but also social hardships, such as overcrowding, precarious housing conditions, poor hygiene and inadequate nutrition.

Population trends in major European cities

City/Country	Year: Population	Year: Population	Year: Population	Year: Population
Berlin ¹ /Germany	1846: 408,502	1876: 980,194	1900: 1,888,848	1920: ~ 3,900,000
Copenhagen ² /Denmark	1850: 129,000	1880: 235,000	1900: 401,000	1920: 561,000
London ³ /Great Britain	1841: 1,949,277	1881: 3,830,297	1901: 4,536,267	1921: 4,484,523
Paris ⁴ /France	1846: ~ 1,000,000	1876: ~ 2,000,000	1900: 2,800,000	1920: ~ 2,907,000
Stockholm ⁵ /Sweden	1850: 93,000	1880: 169,000	1900: 301,000	1920: 419,000
Vienna ⁶ /Austria	1840: 469,400	1880: 1,162,591	1900: 1,769,137	1916: 2,239,000

Across Europe, various strands of development for allotment gardens initially emerged, mostly as social reform and welfare projects. Originating from the upper middle class and church structures, these initiatives were intended to create opportunities for self-sufficiency, to compensate for poor housing conditions, and to provide recreation, time spent in nature and the promotion

of good health. Another key aim was to provide educational guidance, further training and support for families, children and young people.

In addition, many associations organised further community-building activities, such as club festivals, choirs, libraries, music events and lecture evenings.

From the very beginning, the new allotment garden associations organised themselves so that they could act collectively at a local level, establish institutionalised structures and safeguard what had been achieved. Associations joined together to form regional federations. These federations eventually formed umbrella organisations at a national level.

Particularly after the First World War, Europe was characterised by hunger, a housing shortage and social instability. In many towns and cities, allotment gardens played an important role in self-sufficiency. At the same time, national federations were gradually established.

The need for international cooperation arose from several factors:

- **Shared social goals:** food security, health, and child-rearing.
- **Political legitimacy:** allotment garden movements sought recognition from local authorities and governments.
- **Exchange of experience:** knowledge of cultivation methods, administration and legal matters was to be shared across borders.

The aim was to establish an international federation that would act as a coordinating body and advocate for the interests of all allotment gardeners in Europe, transcending national borders.

¹ https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Einwohnerentwicklung_von_Berlin [as at 2 October 2025]

² https://www.atlas-europa.de/t04/bevoelkerung/europ_staedte/pdf/BevStaedte-Tabelle_dt.pdf [as at 3 October 2025]

³ <https://www.demographia.com/dm-lon31.htm> [as at 2 October 2025]

⁴ <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris> [as at 2 October 2025]

⁵ https://www.atlas-europa.de/t04/bevoelkerung/europ_staedte/pdf/BevStaedte-Tabelle_dt.pdf [as at 3 October 2025]

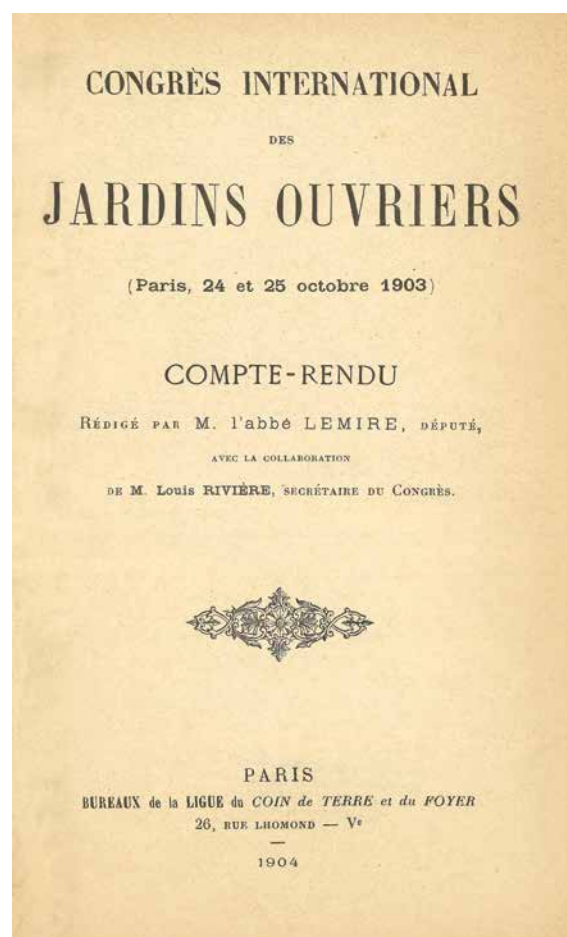
⁶ https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demografie_Wiens [as at 2 October 2025]

The International Federation

A shared commitment to the cause and the exchange of ideas on future possibilities were the driving forces behind European allotment garden organisations establishing contact, maintaining their links and exchanging views on key issues. An international alliance was the intended outcome.

International Congress 1903

In this regard, the first official meeting took place at the 1st International Congress of Workers' Gardens on 24th and 25th October 1903 in Paris. Delegates from the federations of Belgium, Germany and Switzerland took part. In addition to getting to know one another and presenting the potential for developing the allotment garden concept in the various countries, the focus was particularly on raising awareness through the press.



International Congress 1906

A further meeting took place during the 2nd International Congress of Workers' Gardens, held in Paris from 9th to 11th November 1906. Alongside delegates from Belgium, Germany and Switzerland, representatives from the Netherlands and Italy¹ were present for the first time. At the end of the meeting, it was agreed that the next congress should be held in Brussels.



Delegation from the 'Ligue française du Coin de Terre et du Foyer' visiting the Berlin administration of the Red Cross workers' gardens, September 1907. From left to right: Dr Lancy (Dunkirk), Mrs Lejeune (Geneva), Abbé Lemire (Hazebrouck), J. Ladeu (Saint-Omer), Reverend Looten (Lille), Mrs Fraeckel (Berlin), Prof. Hazard (Reims)

Reference DKMF 42-2010

International Congress 1910

At the 1910 congress in Brussels, reports were presented on allotment gardening in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and France.² The congress planned for this occasion in Berlin at the end of August 1914 was cancelled due to the outbreak of the First World War.

After the First World War

From the mid-1920s onwards, the desire for an international federation began to emerge once again, independently of one another, within the various European federations.



Die Schaffung einer Internationalen Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Kleingärtnerorganisationen.

Von Rektor Förster, Frankfurt a. M.

Das Wort „Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft“ ist Modewort geworden. Wahrscheinlich nicht das schlechteste. Nach so viel Jahren des Krieges und der blinden Kriegswut ist es eine sittliche Notwendigkeit, daß die Bande internationaler Verständigung und Befriedung wieder erneut geknüpft werden. Und es ist wohl auch richtig, daß man diese Aufgabe nicht den Politikern allein überläßt, sondern daß auch die Wirtschaftskreise und andere, ideell eingestellte Kräfte um die Anbahnung wertvoller und für alle Teile vorteilhafter Beziehungen sich bemühen. Daß einflussreiche Kreise der Finanzwelt und Industrie das Gebiet internationaler Zusammenarbeit längst betreten haben, ist bekannt. Aber auch andere Organisationen haben bereits engere Fühlung genommen. Im Oktober 1924 fand in Brugg (Schweiz) die Tagung eines Internationalen Sachverständigen-Komitees statt, das sich mit der Frage der Gründung eines Internationalen Verbandes der landwirtschaftlichen Vereinigungen beschäftigte. An dieser Tagung nahmen Vertreter aus Deutschland, Frankreich, England, Italien, Holland, Ungarn, Amerika usw. teil. Seit 1905 besteht ein Internationales Landwirtschafts-Institut zu Rom, das auf Grund eines von 40 Regierungen unterzeichneten Übereinkommens gegründet wurde und dem später 31 weitere Staaten zustimmten. Die für eine neuzeitliche Gestaltung des Städtebaues interessierten Kreise haben seit langem einen internationalen Bund geschlossen und unterhalten eine eigene Zeitschrift: „International Federation for Town and Country Planning and Garden Cities.“ („Internationaler Bund für Städtebau und Gartenstädte.“) Bekannt ist, daß der Internationale Städtebaukongress zu Amsterdam 1924 sich auch mit der Frage der Eingliederung der Dauerkolonien in die Städtebaupläne eingehend beschäftigte und daß der Hamburger Städtebauer Professor Schuhmacher dort einen vielbeachteten Vortrag über die Grünpolitik der Großstadtlumgebung hielt, in dem besonders der Kleingartenbau berücksichtigt wurde. In der Schrift des Bundes deutscher Mieter vom 15. Mai 1926 ist zu lesen, daß der Einladung der französischen Mieterorganisation zu ihrer Tagung entsprochen werden soll. Unter dem 20. Mai berichtete die Frankfurter Zeitung, daß der Hamburger Verband des Deutschen Lehrervereins auf der diesjährigen Deutschen Lehrertagung in Danzig einen Antrag eingereicht hat, wonach sich der Deutsche Lehrerverein grundsätzlich für die Anbahnung internationaler Beziehungen unter der Lehrerschaft einsetzen soll. Die Liste internationaler Arbeitsgemeinschaften ist hiermit lange nicht erschöpft. Namentlich innerhalb der Arbeiterschaft haben sich eine Reihe von Gruppierungen internationalen Charakters gebildet. Liegt nicht der Gedanke nahe, daß auch die Kleingärtnerschaft auf dem Wege der Herbeiführung internationaler Beziehungen versucht, ihre Lage zu verbessern und zugleich dem Werke internationaler Verständigung zu dienen?

Kleingartenwacht, Vol. 3, No. 8, 1926, p. 87 – Förster, Heinrich – The creation of an international working group of allotment garden organisations

In 1925, the chairman of the English federation, Thomas Shaw, spoke in favour of this at the English congress in Birmingham. Other supporters included Joseph Reissberger of the Austrian federation, A. Dalskow from Denmark – a participant at the 1925 Belgian congress – and Jean Bouquet from Luxembourg.

On 27th April 1926, the chairman of the English Federation, P. Collins from London, sent a circular on this matter to the federations in Belgium, England, France and Luxembourg. Similarly, Heinrich Förster, from the German Federation, sent further circulars to the federations in Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Austria, Sweden and Switzerland regarding the proposed international federation³.

To prepare for the founding of the international federation, a meeting was scheduled for 3rd October 1926 in Luxembourg. The preparations were carried out by the Luxembourg federation. Invitations in German, French and English were sent to Germany, the USA, England, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Scotland, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland⁴. Ten federations subsequently clearly signalled their interest in international cooperation.

Founding meeting

The founding meeting took place at the Cercle social club in Luxembourg. Seven federations were represented at the founding of the 'Office International des Jardins-Ouvriers' on 3rd October 1926 in Luxembourg⁵.

Germany, 'Reichsverband der Kleingartenvereine Deutschlands', Frankfurt am Main

- Heinrich Förster, Federation President
- G. Reinhold
- Kurt Poenicke

England, "National Union of Allotment and Garden Holders", Yorkshire

- John Robson, President of the Federation
- D. P. Collins

Austria, 'Austrian Federation for Allotments, Housing Estates and Small Animal Keeping', Vienna

- Joseph Reissberger, Federation President

Belgium, "Ligue Nationale du Coin de Terre et du Foyer", Brussels

- Joseph Goemaere
- Nicolas Crutzen
- Emilie Lemineur
- Paul Wéry
- Eugène De Witte



France, 'Ligue Française du Coin de Terre et du Foyer', Hazebrouck

- Abbé Lemire: President of the Federation
- Paul Bacquet
- Gabriel Hanra
- Georges Hecker
- G. Godeluck

Luxembourg, 'Ligue Luxembourgeoise du Coin de Terre et du Foyer', Esch-sur-Alzette

- Charles Roger, President of the Federation
- François Flick
- Jean Bouquet
- Camille Libar
- Ed. Leick

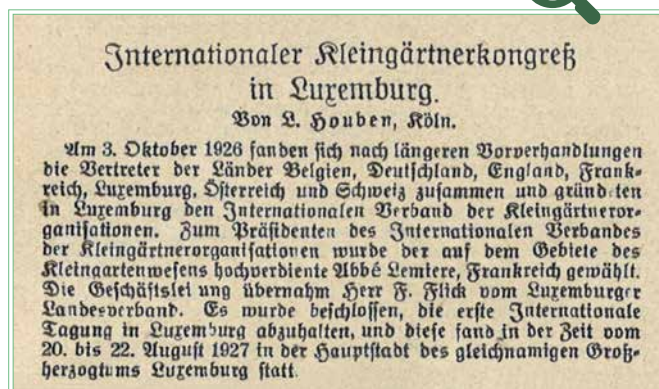
Switzerland, 'Jardins ouvriers', Basel

- Guill. Meier, President of the Federation
- Ludwig Ziegler

'The international union of allotment gardeners has become a reality. In Luxembourg on 3rd October, representatives of a large number of allotment garden organisations established the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations. Although several organisations remain outside the newly founded federation, it can certainly be assumed that, little by little, all organisations will join the International Federation⁶.'

Membership figures of the member federations in 1926

Germany	420,000
Denmark	156,000
England	100,000
Belgium	63,000
France	52,400
Austria	19,700
Scotland	8,000
Switzerland	7,193
Luxembourg	3,600



Kleingartenwacht, Vol. 4, No. 11, 1927, p. 123 – Houben, L. – International Allotment Gardeners' Congress in Luxembourg

'The establishment of the working group was then unanimously approved. It is to be known as **the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers**, the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations. Its permanent headquarters are to be in Luxembourg, with François Flick of Esch as its secretary. He is to be assisted in the secretariat by a Swiss and an Austrian. The Executive Board shall consist of one representative each from France, Germany, Belgium and England. It shall meet in Luxembourg as required, at least once a year. The International Secretariat is not authorised to interfere in the affairs of the individual national organisations. It shall receive their annual reports, as comprehensive as possible, and circulate them to all as a year-book. It shall collect legal, administrative, statistical and other documents relating to allotment gardening from all countries and make them available to the affiliated organisations; it shall carefully prepare the international congresses, which are to be held every two years, beginning in 1927.⁷'

The following were elected to the Executive Committee:

- **Chairman:** Abbé Lemire (F)
- **Vice-Chairmen:** Heinrich Förster (D), Joseph Goemaere (B), John Robson (England)
- **Secretary:** François Flick (L)
- **Members:** Joseph Reissberger (Austria), Meier (Switzerland)



Les Participants
à
la Conférence préparatoire
de l'Office International des Jardins ouvriers
à Luxembourg, le 3 octobre 1926.



L'abbé Lemire, France (1), Förster, Allemagne (2), Robson, Angleterre (3), Goemaere, Belgique (4), Flick, Luxembourg (5), Reissberger, Autriche (6), Meier, Suisse (7).

DK Archive I.4 – Brochure: *La Fondation de L'Office International des Jardins ouvriers. Luxembourg 1927*, p. 31

The participants at the founding event in 1926 in front of Luxembourg City Hall during the official reception hosted by Mayor Diederich⁸: 1. Abbé Lemire (France), 2. Heinrich Förster (Germany), 3. John Robson (England), 4. Joseph Goemaere (Belgium), 5. François Flick (Luxembourg), 6. Joseph Reissberger (Austria), 7. Meier (Switzerland)

Resolutions:

- The International Federation sets as its objective the promotion of allotment gardening.
- The official name is 'Office International des Jardins ouvriers' (O.I.J.O.) / 'International Bureau of Allotment Garden Organisations'.
- Luxembourg is designated as the seat of the Office, as its geographical location places it at the heart of Europe and makes it easily accessible to all partners.
- The adopted statutes stipulate that one representative from each member federation shall be admitted to the Office's committee.
- A meeting of the Executive Committee is to take place at least once a year.
- The amount of the annual membership fees is set at 500 francs for larger organisations and 250 francs for smaller ones.
- To establish an operating fund, members

are to make one-off payments equivalent to the annual membership fee.

- It is proposed that a collection of documents relating to the international allotment garden movement be established at the Office's secretariat.
- Annual reports are to be compiled from the materials provided by the member federations.
- International congresses are to be held every two years. The host federation in each instance is responsible for the preparation and organisation.

On the evening of 3rd October, a joint banquet took place at the Central Hotel Molitor.

The following day, the delegates went on an excursion to the town of Esch. There, they visited the ironworks and the associated workers' housing estates, including communal facilities such as convalescent homes and sanatoriums for tuberculosis patients, as well as the forest school.⁹



Archive: 26-K-II – *Garten und Heim* newspaper, Vol. 3, Issue 10, October 1927 – First Congress 1927,1

The International Congresses

1st International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1927



The Office's first congress took place in Luxembourg from 20th to 22nd August 1927. This first official event organised by the Office was intended to raise public awareness of the role of the new international federation.

The Office focused on the following topics¹⁰ and addressed them at the congresses:

- Securing allotment land
- Funding for allotment gardening
- Aesthetic design of the gardens
- Establishing a legal framework
- Involving young people in gardening activities
- Provision of plots for the unemployed
- Small animal husbandry



Grüß an die Internationale!

Am 3. Oktober wurde die internationale Organisation der Kleingärtner in Luxemburg gegründet.

Die österreichischen Kleingärtner begrüßen alle in dieser neuen Organisation zusammengeschlossenen Kleingärtner auf das herzlichste. Mächtig ist der Eindruck, den diese neu-geschaffene Organisation ausstrahlt und gewaltig wird der Wille der Kleingärtnerschaft, der sich hier im gemeinsamen internationalen Zusammenschluß auswirken wird.

Die österreichische und Wiener Kleingärtnerschaft bleibt deshalb vertrauensvoll in die Zukunft und die letztere kann stolz darauf sein, daß so mancher Erfolg, den die Wiener Kleingärtner bereits in letzter Zeit errungen haben, für andere Länder und Städte beispielgebend wirkt.

Wenn daher von jetzt ab unser Verbandsorgan, einem Antrage des Koll. Reißberger gemäß, mit allen Organisationen des Auslandes zusammenkommt, so bedeutet dies, daß unsere Wiener Erfolge den Kollegen der übrigen Nationen bekannt werden, während wieder Errungenschaften in anderen Ländern zu unserer Kenntnis gelangen. Die Gele-gung für die Kleingartenbewegung wird durch die Klein-gärtner-Internationale ausgestaltet werden, die Kleingarten-anlagen zu Daueranlagen umgewandelt werden, wenn sie sich in das Stadtbild einfügen und der Kleingärtner-Internationale wird es gelingen, für die Kleingartenbewe-gung noch manchen Erfolg zu schaffen.

Es gilt nunmehr, in einigen Zusammenhänge rastlos an der Gestaltung der österreichischen Kleingartenbewe-gung mitzuarbeiten, alle Kleingärtner in die Organisation zu bringen, die den mächtigen Schutz der Kleingärtnerschaft aller Länder und Nationen von nun an genießt. Auf daher zu gemeinsamer Arbeit, zur gemeinsamen Tat! Die Klein-gärtner aller Nationen entboten den österreichischen Kol-legen ihre herzlichsten Grüße! Wir erwidern diese ebenso innig und wollen getreulich mitwirken, die Kleingarten-bewegung zu sichern und auszugestalten, zum Wohle des Volkes!

Internationaler Arbeitergärtnerkongress in Luxemburg.

Luxemburgs Ruf als internationale Kongreßstadt lockt zum zweiten Mal die Führer der europäischen Arbeitergärtnerorganisationen herbei. Waren vor 10 Monaten — am 3. Oktober 1926 — zur Gründung des Internationalen Verbandes der Arbeitergärtner etwa 20 Vertreter der 7 Länder: Belgien, Deutsch-land, England, Frankreich, Luxemburg, Österreich u. Schweiz in der Hauptstadt unsers Landes erschienen, so steht nunmehr fest, daß zum diesjährigen Inter-nationalen Kongreß, den die junge Organisation mit aller Energie durchzuführen bemüht ist, eine zehnfach stärkere Vertretung aus insgesamt 14 ver-schiedenen Staaten — neu hinzukommen: Finnland, Holland, Italien, Polen, Schottland, Schweden und Tschecho-Slowakei — sich in Luxemburgs Mauern zu-sammenfinden werden. Frankreich (Elsas) dann auch England und Belgien werden besonders stark ver-treten sein.

Reference: 26-K-II - Luxemburger Zeitung,
4 August 1927, evening edition



Internationaler Verband der Kleingärtnerorganisationen in Luxemburg

Geschäftsstelle: 100, Viktor-Hugostrasse, Esch-Alzette.

Tagung des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtnerorganisationen,

veranstaltet vom Internationalen Verband der Kleingärtnerorganisationen unter dem hohen Protektorat I. K. H. Großherzogin von Luxemburg und dem Protektorat der Großherz. Regierung und der Stadtverwaltung von Luxemburg am 20., 21., und 22. August 1927.

Gegenstand der Tagung: Die Gesamtfragen der Kleingartenbewegung im allgemeinen und die auf der Tagesordnung stehenden Fragen im besonderen.

Zeitpunkt der Tagung: Samstag, 20., Sonntag, 21., und Montag, 22. August 1927 in Luxemburg-Stadt.

Ort der Sitzungen: Der grosse Festsaal des städtischen „Carole“, Waffenplatz in Luxemburg-Stadt.

Zeiteinteilung: Der Kongress umfasst sechs Sitzungen. Sämtliche Sitzungen sind öffentlich. Sie finden statt von 9 Uhr bis 11 Uhr vormittags, von 2 Uhr bis 4 Uhr und von 5 Uhr bis 7 Uhr nachmittags. Abends finden keine Sitzungen statt.

Eröffnung: Die Eröffnungssitzung findet Samstag, den 20. August, um 9 Uhr morgens statt.

Schlussitzung: Sonntag, den 22. August, um 5 Uhr abends.

Vorsitzende und Redner: Die Sitzungen finden unter dem Vorsitz ausländischer und luxemburgischer Persönlichkeiten statt. Die Schlussitzung wird unter dem Vorsitz eines Mitgliedes der Luxemburger Regierung abgehalten. Die Schlussrede wird Herr abbe Lemire, 1. Vorsitzender des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtnerorganisationen, halten.

Arbeitsprogramm.

SAMSTAG, den 20. August.

Eröffnungssitzung von 9 bis 11 Uhr vormittags.

Vorsitz: Frankreich.

TAGESORDNUNG:

1. Begrüßungssprache des Präsidenten des Organisationsausschusses, Herrn Arthur KIPGEN, Luxemburg.

2. Bericht des Geschäftsführers des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtnerorganisationen.

Berichterstatler: François FLICK, Geschäftsführer des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtnerorganisationen.

3. Die Lage des Kleingartenwesens in den dem Internationalen Verband angeschlossenen Ländern.

Berichterstatler: Heinrich FORSTER, 1. Vorsitzender des „Reichsverbandes der Kleingärtnervereine Deutschlands.“

2. Sitzung von 2 bis 4 Uhr.

Vorsitz: Belgien.

TAGESORDNUNG:

Die Lage der Kleingärtnerorganisationen in den verschiedenen Ländern, Aussprache über die Entschliessungen.

3. Sitzung von 5 bis 7 Uhr.

Vorsitz: Deutschland.

TAGESORDNUNG:

Vorschläge des Kongresses betr. Entwicklung und Förderung des Kleingartenwesens, Studium der wirksamsten Mittel zur Schaffung von Daueranlagen.

Berichterstatler: Joseph GEMARE, lebenslänglicher Schriftführer des Nationalen Garten- und Heimverbandes, Brüssel.

SONNTAG, den 21. August.

4. Sitzung von 9 bis 11 Uhr.

Vorsitz: England.

TAGESORDNUNG:

Die Gesetzgebung auf dem Gebiete des Kleingartenwesens und die Aufgaben der staatlichen und gemeindlichen Behörden auf dem Gebiete des Kleingartenwesens in den verschiedenen Ländern.

Berichterstatler: Joseph REISSBERGER, 1. Vorsitzender des Österreichischen Verbandes für Kleingarten-Siedlungen und Kleintierzuchtweisen, Wien.

5. Sitzung von 2 bis 4 Uhr.

Vorsitz: Oesterreich.

TAGESORDNUNG:

1. Stellungnahme zu den Anträgen, die dem Kongress unterbreitet worden sind. Berichterstatler: John ROBSON, 1. Vorsitzender der National-Union der Kleingärtner Englands.

2. Anträge und Entschliessungen betreffend die nächstfolgende Internationale Tagung des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtnerorganisationen.

Berichterstatler: Wilh. MEIER, 1. Vorsitzender des Schweizerischen Kleingärtnerverbandes, Basel.

Schlussitzung, um 5 Uhr.

Vorsitz: Ein Mitglied der Grossherzoglichen Luxemburgischen Regierung.

TAGESORDNUNG:

Zusammenfassung der Arbeiten des Kongresses, Schlussrede des Herrn abbe LEMIRE, 1. Vorsitzender des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtnerorganisationen.

MONTAG, den 22. August.

Für diesen Tag sind Ausflüge im Auto vorgesehen.

Arbeiten der Tagung.

Rundschreiben: Ein Rundschreiben, das die Gegenstände des Kongresses bezeichnet, wird verfasst und an diejenigen Teilnehmer versandt werden, welche es verlangen.

Berichte und Aufzeichnungen: Die Teilnehmer werden gebeten, Berichte und Aufzeichnungen auszubilden und einzusenden. Die Antworten auf das Frageschreiben und die nicht darin vorgesehenen Mitteilungen, die aber dennoch als wissenschaftlich crachtet werden, sollen bis spätestens 1. Juli an die Geschäftsstelle des Internationalen Verbandes, 100 Viktor-Hugostrasse, Esch a. d. Alz. (Luxbg.) eingeschickt werden.

Gesamtbericht: Die Berichte der verschiedenen Berichterstatler werden zu einem Gesamtbericht zusammengefasst.

Aussprache und Entschliessungen: Die Anträge zum Gesamtbericht werden Gegenstand der Verhandlungen und der Entschliessungen der Tagung bilden gemäss Anordnung des Frageschreibens.

Internationale Ausstellung von Urkunden: Sie wird gleichzeitig mit der Tagung veranstaltet werden. Alle Tafeln, Tabellen, graphische Darstellungen, Ansichten und Photos von Kleingärten, sowie Bücher, Zeitschriften, Werbroschüren, usw., betr. das Kleingartenwesen, werden in dem Ausstellungssaal ausgestellt werden. Diese Ausstellung kann zwischen den Sitzungen von den Teilnehmern besichtigt werden. Sie werden eingeladen, sich am Samstag, den 20. August, um 11 Uhr vormittags dorthin zu begeben. Die Ausstellungsgegenstände sind bis spätestens 10. August an den Ausstellungsleiter, Hrn. Mathias Stranen, Assistent der Gewerbeinspektion, Luxemburg-Stadt, zu senden.

Mithilfe: Die Mithilfe der Organisationen wird erbeten:

1. Für die Ausarbeitung der Berichte. Um den Berichterstatlern eine sichere und wertvolle Grundlage zur Ausarbeitung ihrer Berichte zu bieten, wird ein Fragebogen, welcher die von dem Kongress zu bearbeitenden Verhandlungsgegenstände umfasst, an die Leiter der uns bekannten Kleingärtnerorganisationen gesandt werden. Diese werden höflichst gebeten, darauf eine möglichst vollständige Antwort vor dem 1. Juli zu geben.

2. Für das Einbringen von Ausstellungsmaterial. Ansichten, Aufnahmen, Plänen, graphischen Darstellungen u.s.w., die in dem Ausstellungsraum ausgestellt werden und die ein ebenso wechselvolles wie lebendiges Bild des gesamten Kleingartenwesens abgeben sollen.

3. Für das Ausarbeiten von Teilnehmern. Die Namen und Anschriften aller Freunde des Kleingartenwesens, insofern sie Interesse an dem Kongress und seinen Arbeiten haben, werden mit Dank von der Geschäftsstelle des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtnerorganisationen entgegengenommen.

Auskünfte: Mit Bezug auf alles, was den Kongress und die Ausstellung betrifft, beliebe man sich an die Geschäftsstelle des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtnerorganisationen: 100, Viktor-Hugostrasse in Esch a. d. Alz. (Luxbg.) zu wenden.

Organisatorische Massnahmen.

Unterkauf: Der vorbereitende Ausschuss wird für Unterkunft der Teilnehmer Sorge tragen.

Beitrag: Er beträgt 25 belgische Franken (5 Belga) für alle Teilnehmer an der Tagung und gewährt Anspruch auf den Bericht über die Arbeiten des Kongresses.

Ein reduzierter Beitrag von 10 belg. Franken wird gewährt für die über die Zahl hinausgehende Teilnehmer einer und derselben Familie (Gatte, Gattin, Sohn, Tochter). Der reduzierte Beitrag gibt keinen Anspruch auf den Kongressbericht.

Die Nichtmitglieder erhalten gegen Einzahlung von 10 belg. Franken (2 Belga), eine Eintrittskarte, welche für alle Sitzungen, die Schlussitzung einbegriffen, Gültigkeit hat.

Anmeldungen werden unter: 100, Viktor-Hugostrasse, Esch a. d. Alz., (Grossherzogtum Luxembg.) entgegengenommen. Es genügt dazu, den einliegenden Anmeldeschein auszufüllen und an die angegebene Adresse zu senden. Die Teilnehmer werden gebeten, den Betrag der Anmeldung beizufügen. Die Mitgliedskarte dient als Quittung.

Unterstützungen und Geschenke: Die öffentlichen und privaten Verwaltungen wie auch die Persönlichkeiten, die der Tagung ihre Sympathie bezeugen möchten, können als fördernde Mitglieder zeichnen. Die Liste dieser Spender wird zu Anfang der Urkunden über den Kongress veröffentlicht.

Offizielle Empfänge: Während der Tagung werden Vertretungen der Kongresssteilnehmerschaft seitens der Grossherzog. Luxembg. Regierung und seitens der Stadtverwaltung offiziell empfangen werden.

Festbankett: Am Abend des 2. Kongressstages wird ein gemeinsames Festessen durch Suskription die Teilnehmer an der Tagung und die Freunde der Kleingartenbewegung vereinigen.

Ausflüge: Im Anschluss an die Tagung finden am Montag, den 22. August interessante und erholende Ausflüge statt. Besichtigung wichtiger sozialer Unternehmen und der schönsten Punkte des Landes bilden das Ziel.

Mitteilungen: Der Organisationsausschuss wird allen Kongresssteilnehmern rechtzeitig nähere, zweckdienliche Mitteilungen zugehen lassen betr. Empfänge, Unterkunft, Festessen, Ausflüge, u.s.w., u.s.w.

Luxemburg, den 30. April 1927.

Der vorbereitende Ausschuss des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtnerorganisationen:

1. Vorsitzender: Abbe Lemire, Frankreich;
Stellvertretende Vorsitzende: J. Gémare, Belgien; Heinrich Förster, Deutschland und John Robson, England;

Geschäftsführer: Fr. Flick, Luxemburg;
Mitglieder: Jos. Reissberger, Oesterreich; W. Meier, Schweiz; G. Dalskow, Dänemark; E. J. Reinila, Finnland; Thomas Shaw, Irland und A. C. Kubiast, Tschecho-Slowakei.

Der Organisationsausschuss:

Präsident: Arth. Kipgen, Generaldirektor „Arbed“, Luxemburg;

Stellvertretende Vorsitzende: René Wagner, Notar, Esch-Alz.; Ch. Roger, Ing.-Professor, Esch-Alz.; Gustav Hentgen, Bureauvorsteher, Luxemburg;

Geschäftsführer: Fr. Flick, Esch-Alzette;

Sekretär für Ausland: J. Bouquet, Esch-Alzette;

Sekretär für Inland: J.-P. Muller, Pétingen;

Rechner des Kongresses: Franz Nitschke, Luxemburg-Neudorf.

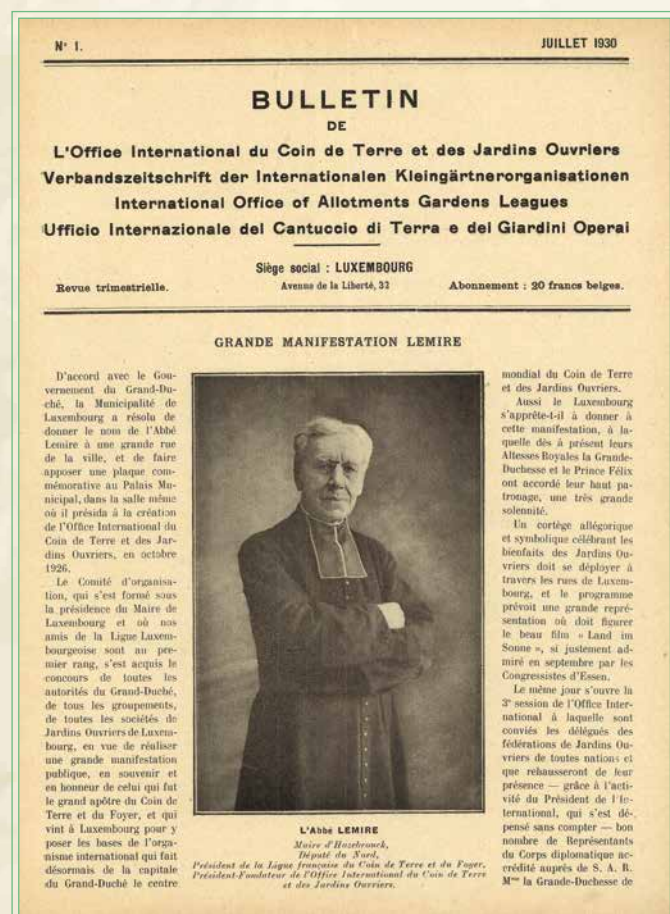
Beisitzende: Jos. Hess, Esch-Alz.; Ed. Leick, Bonneweg; M. Stranen, Hollerich; Cam. Libar, Differdingen; Em. Ludwig, Dudelingen; H. Hoffmann, Oberkorn; N. Kerschen, Niederkorn; J.-P. Weiler, Rodingen; Paul Pommers, Diekirch; Em. Gaasch, Schifflingen und Léon Laux, Bettemburg.



2nd International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1929

In 1929, the 2nd Congress took place in Essen. This was held in conjunction with the 7th Reich Allotment Gardeners' Day organised by the German Federation. A total of 40 delegates from the International Federation were present, representing Belgium, Germany, England, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Italy, Luxembourg, Austria, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.¹¹

From July 1930, the federation's magazine, *Bulletin*, was published quarterly.

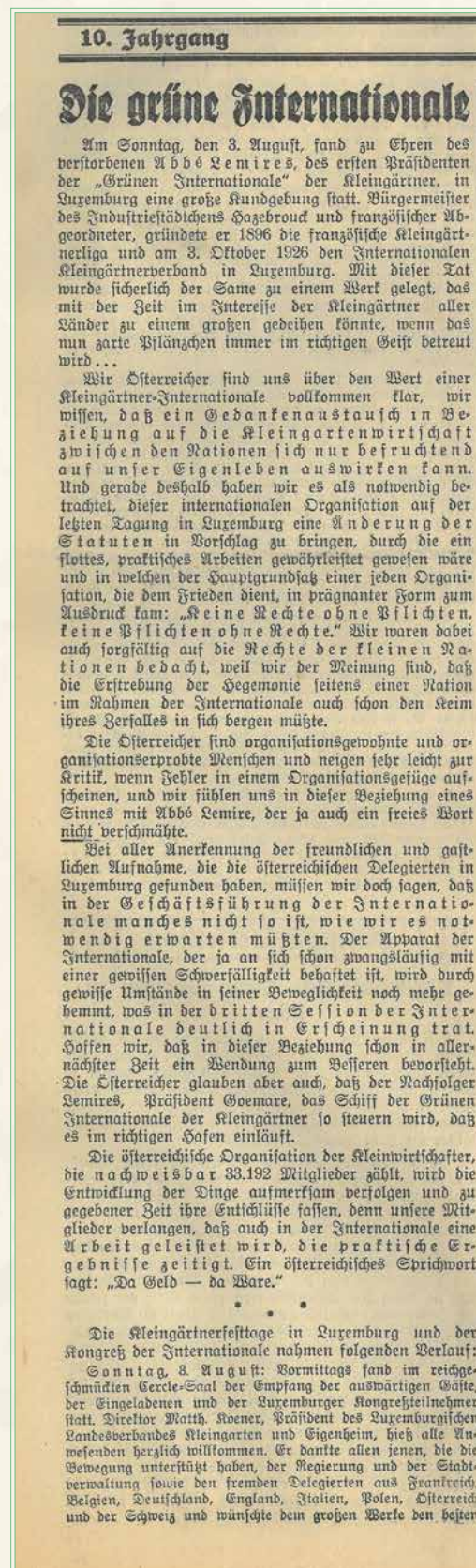


First issue of the federation's journal, July 1930
Museum collection: DKA I No. 16

Abbé Lemire

During the third meeting of the International Allotment Garden Organisations on 3rd and 4th August 1930 in Luxembourg, a commemorative ceremony was held in honour of the founder of L'Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Ouvriers. A commemorative plaque was

unveiled at the Cercle social club in Luxembourg in honour of Abbé Lemire, who had died on 7th March 1928.



Text from *Kleingarten und Eigenheim*. Vol. 3, No. 7, p. 119, on the unveiling of the commemorative plaque in 1930



The commemorative plaque bearing the inscription at Luxembourg City Hall, dating from 1930, is still located today on the left-hand column next to the main staircase.



Participants at the ceremonial unveiling of the inscription at Luxembourg Town Hall in honour of the founding of the Office, 3rd August 1930.

Museum collection: From: *Bulletin de L'Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Ouvriers*. No. 2, Luxembourg, January 1931, p. 5.

3rd International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1931

The 3rd International Allotment Gardeners' Congress took place from 7th to 9th November 1931 at the Palais de l'Académie in Brussels. The main theme, 'Workers' Gardens and Home Ownership', was addressed and discussed through a series of lectures and debates.



Opening address at the third international Allotment Gardeners' Congress by President Joseph



Goemaere on 7th November 1931 at the Palais de l'Académie in Brussels

Museum collection: From: *Bulletin de L'Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Ouvriers*. French edition, No. 2, Luxembourg, December 1931, p. 2.

4th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1933

This was followed by the 4th International Congress, held from 8th to 10th September 1933 in Vienna. It took place at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Internationaler Kongress der Kleingärtner.

Nachfolgend das Programm des vom 8. bis 10. September in Wien stattfindenden IV. Kongress des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtner. (Sitz: Luxemburg).

1. Tag: Donnerstag, 7. September: Ankunft der Kongressteilnehmer. Auskünfte erhältlich bis 7. September im Sekretariat des österr. Verbandes, Wien XV, Moeringgasse 7, später am Kongressort, Wien I, Stubenring 8—10.

2. Tag: Freitag, 8. September: 9 Uhr: Eröffnung im Festsaal der Wiener Handels- und Gewerbekammer: 1. Ansprache des Intern. Präsidenten; 2. Wahl und Ansprache des Kongresspräsidenten; 3. Ansprachen der fremden Delegierten. — 11,30 Uhr: Empfang seitens der Regierung. — 13 Uhr: gem. Mittagessen. — 14 Uhr: Gesetzl. Massnahmen zum Schutze der Kleingarten- und Eigenheimbewegung. (Referenten: Hr. Fernand Loesch, Advokat, Intern. Sekretär, Luxemburg und Dr. Léon Scheibel, Syndikus, Mühlhausen). — 15 Uhr: Finanzielle Sicherungen der Kleingarten- und Eigenheimbewegung. (Referenten: Präsident Dr. Roth, Basel und Präsident N. Crutzen, Industriel, Verviers. — 16 Uhr: Besuch der Ausstellung.

3. Tag: Samstag, 9. September: 9 Uhr: Jugendpflege im Kleingarten. — 10 Uhr: Internationaler Verband: a) Gliederung, b) Finanzen, c) Gartenbau, d) Presse. (Referenten: Ausländ. Delegierte). — 13 Uhr: Mittagessen. — 15 Uhr: Sitzung des Internationalen Vorstandes, Neuwahlen. — 16 Uhr: Massenversammlung und Ansprachen.

4. Tag: Sonntag, 10. September: 10 Uhr: Eröffnung der Daueranlage Wolfersberg. — 14 Uhr: Rundfahrt durch Wiener Kleingärten. Am Montag, 11. September, Alpenfahrt mit Sonderwagen.

NB. — Während der Kongressdauer finden für die Damen u. Begleitpersonen der Kongressteilnehmer Führungen durch das alte und neue Wien statt.

Programme from the magazine 'Kleingarten und Eigenheim'

5th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1935

The 5th Congress took place in Poznań, Poland, from 21st to 24th September 1935.

kosten. r Frau sein r Geld zum r und füt e im bauen. etariar. Das gen Bürger, arbeiter geschlossen rem hehren aus uns eine bürfe, die et hat, hatte mmelt. onungstypen, geschlossen beitergärten dies ist ein büro geleistet s kleinen tem Kapital rde aus der urüd zur h demnächst en werde ihr t angebracht, ngeschlossenen n Krisenzu- gen, die Zu- sind überall n Mitglieder, es wäre des- beitrages Schulben. 100 Franken. rd warten. e Internatio- sher in vier drei Viertel Hchrift wird itel in ihrer 1000 befige- en auf 1000 Desgleichen nen Gruppen m, der Mit- wie das un- pocht werden.	Programm des Kongresses. Freitag, den 20. September. Empfang der internationalen Delegierten im Generalsekretariat in Polen, ul. Matajki, 40—41 (Telephon 70—17). Samstag, den 21. September. Der Kongress tagt im großen Universitätsaal. Um 9 Uhr 30: Eröffnung des Kongresses und Begrüßung durch den Präsidenten der Polnischen Nationalen Liga. Ansprache des Kongresspräsidenten, Herrn Josef Gómae, Präsident des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtner und Siedler. Ansprachen der Führer der fremden Delegationen. Um 12 Uhr: Empfang im Stadthaus. Um 13 Uhr: Gemeinsames Mittagessen. Nachmittags-Sitzung. Um 15 Uhr: Ueber die finanzielle Einrichtung von Garten und Heim. Der Kleingarten zur Verhütung der Arbeitslosigkeit. Der Kleingarten als Vorbeugungsmittel gegen die Tuberkulose. Die Delegierten teilen die in ihrem Lande schon getroffenen und noch zu treffenden Maßnahmen mit. Allgemeine Aussprache. Verfilmter Bericht über Garten und Heim sowie die Arbeitergärten in Polen. Sonntag, den 22. September. Vormittags-Sitzung. Um 9 Uhr 30: Gesehgebung zum ständigen Schutze der Kleingärten. Bericht über die Gesehgebung durch Herrn Ferdinand Zisch, Generalsekretär des Internationalen Verbandes. Die Delegierten teilen die in ihrem Lande getroffenen Maßnahmen mit. Allgemeine Aussprache. Um 12 Uhr: Umzug durch die Stadt. Um 13 Uhr: Gemeinsames Mittagessen. Nachmittags. Um 16 Uhr: Allgemeine Verammlung der Kleingärtner und Siedler. Ansprache des Präsidenten der Nationalen Liga. Um 17 Uhr: Beschäftigung der Siedlungen und Arbeitergärten von Polen. Montag, den 23. September. Vormittags. Um 9 Uhr 30: Ueber die finanzielle Einrichtung von Siedlungen und Arbeitergärten; a) Bericht der Finanzkommission; b) die Delegierten teilen die in ihrem Lande getroffenen und projektierten Maßnahmen mit; c) allgemeine Aussprache. Besetzung des Ortes für den VI. Internationalen Kongress im Jahre 1937. Sitzung des Vorstandes des Internationalen Verbandes zur Bestellung eines Kassiers. Um 13 Uhr: Gemeinsames Mittagessen. Nachmittags. Um 15 Uhr: Beschäftigung der Stadt Posen unter Führung der Mitglieder der Polnischen Liga. Abends: Feste. Am Dienstag, den 24. September, wird der IV. Nationalkongress der Polnischen Liga für Garten und Heim abgehalten.	meinen leb Eine Tätigkeit d Gesehgeb Außer der hat uns b lerer Ber Ausbild Garten un Wenn verschieden Heim betr der Mäng und Gart Tätigkeit d der Ante legt und Gesehgeb International nalen Arb vorliegt, w Arbeitergä Su die Kredite Ersabri fämpfu lofigste Arbeits fache W Wir benn der zweite „fi nalen S findet unt gen gere Der Sel Der Der im Septe tomis Kleingärte sammelte Dieser B Präsident; Generalsek Gesand Im S Stattfander lich die B Stellung a) D b) de Ad eignun uerst in nötige La Die Staate
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ence of dealing with the working classes agree that the best, healthiest, most beneficial and most popular solution is the allotment garden. Of all the activities purported to fill the workers' leisure time, this is in fact the one best suited to workers and civil servants; it is the only one that benefits the whole family, whilst at the same time bringing all its members together and bringing them joy¹² [...].'



A view into the meeting room

Allotment Gardens and Home Ownership,
issue no. unknown, p. 153



Presidium of the 1937 Congress / Address by Leo Lagrange, Under-Secretary of State for Sport and Leisure

Allotment Gardens and Home Ownership,
issue no. unknown, p. 154

6th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1937

The 6th International Congress took place in Paris from 8th to 11th July 1937. The presentations focused on workers' leisure activities as a counterbalance to work. *'Ever-increasing industrialisation and mechanisation normally provide workers with ever-increasing amounts of leisure time, which must be put to good use. This gives rise to a new social problem that demands an urgent solution for the protection of the family. All those with experi-*

Outbreak of the Second World War

The practice of holding the congresses every two years was interrupted by the outbreak of the Second World War. The event planned for Diekirch from 3rd September 1939 had to be cancelled. The Office ceased its activities in 1940 as a result of the war.¹³

Warum der Internationale Kleingärtnerkongress vom 3. September 1939 in Diekirch nicht stattfinden konnte.

Es ist unsern Kleingärtnern bekannt, daß der Internationale Kongreß in letzter Minute abgestellt wurde. Derselbe war bis in alle Einzelheiten vorzüglich organisiert worden und hatte den vorhergehenden Kongressen dies voraus, daß die auf der Tagesordnung stehenden Themata endlich eine Basis für zukünftiges Schaffen darstellten. Leider erlaubte es die drohende Wolke am europäischen Himmel nicht, daß die ausländischen Delegierten ihre Mitarbeit aufrechthielten und die luxemburgische Regierung, im Einverständnis mit Hrn. Goemaere, Präsident des Internationalen Büros, fand es angebracht, folgenden Beschluß zu fassen:

Luxembourg, le 28 août 1939.

Monsieur P. J. Muller, Secrétaire général
du Bureau International du Coin de Terre et du
Foyer, Luxembourg.

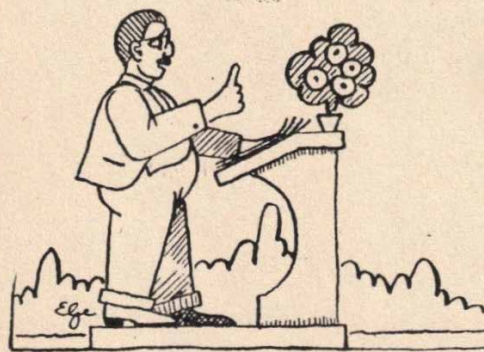
Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,

Déférant au désir exprimé par Monsieur le Ministre d'Etat, Président du Gouvernement, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Congrès International

After the Second World War, 1947

After the Second World War, international cooperation had to be re-established. In 1947, it was revived on the initiative of Joseph Olinger, President of the Luxembourg Federation. On 20th and 21st September 1947, a meeting took place in Luxembourg with delegates from Belgium, England, France, the Netherlands, Austria and Poland¹⁴ In addition to the particular importance at that time of food supply from crop yields, the focus was also on recreation and relaxation in the countryside.

In addition to resolutions regarding the prospective expansion of cooperation between the international federations, it was decided that Dr Aloyse Weirich, a lawyer in Luxembourg, would take on the role of international secretary¹⁵.



Office international du Coin de terre et des Jardins ouvriers Tagungen vom 20. und 21. September 1947 in Luxemburg

Nachdem Besprechungen zwischen den Vertretern der Landesverbände Frankreich, Belgien, England u. Luxemburg im Laufe des Sommers stattgefunden hatten, erhielt Luxemburg den Auftrag, die früheren Mitglieder des Office International einzuladen, sich wieder zu einer Grünen Internationalen zusammenzuschließen und sich am 20. und 21. September in Luxemburg einzufinden, zwecks Kontaktnahme und Aussprache. — Die erste Sitzung fand am Samstag, den 20. September um 5 Uhr nachmittags im Rathaus der Stadt Luxemburg statt.

Office international du Coin de terre et des Jardins-Ouvriers. Réunions des 20 et 21 septembre 1947 à Luxembourg.

PARTICIPATION:		
Pays :	Délégués:	Adresse à Luxembourg:
ANGLETERRE:	MM. Giles, secr. Farnsworth	Hôtel Molitor
AUTRICHE:	MM. Köhl, président Staudinger, secr.	"
BELGIQUE:	MM. le baron Moyersoen, prés. Straps, vice-prés. Hepchet, secr. gén. Bassin, dir. gén. de Witte, insp. gén.	Hôtel Brasseur " " " "
FRANCE:	MM. Boissard, président Thoumyre Mme. Lo Moal, secr. gén. Pulby, secr. Mlle. Arbelet	Hôtel Molitor " Hôtel Molitor " "
HOLLANDE:	MM. Visser, président den Drijver, secr.	"
SUISSE:	MM. Kohler, président Padrutt, secr.	"
LUXEMBOURG:	MM. Kipgen, président d'honneur Olinger, président Mme Olinger Mlle Fournelle, interpr. MM. Weirich, secr. gén. Off. Intern. Beck, secr. gén. Jager, vice-président Hirtzger, " Meintz, trésorier Krier, rédacteur Hack, comité central	" " " " " " " " "
PROGRAMME: Samedi, 20 septembre: À 17 heures I. réunion dans une salle de l'hôtel-de-ville. le soir dîner en commun à l'Hôtel Brasseur. Dimanche, 21 septembre: À 9 heures= II. réunion dans la même salle. À 11 heures: Réception officielle par Monsieur le maire de la ville de Luxembourg. À 11½ heures: Excursion en autocar par Mondorf-les-Bains, Remerschen vers Ehnen, où il sera servi un repas en commun. Dans l'après-midi visite du marché aux vins de Grevenmacher. Retour à Luxembourg.		
Pour la Ligue organisatrice,		
le secrétaire général, Paul Beck		le président, Joseph Olinger

List of participants at the Office's meeting on 20th and 21st September 1947 in Luxembourg

Office fonds: 1-C-1 OFFICE I - A 1947-1959, 3
-- 20-21 September 1947, Luxembourg

Meetings in 1948 and 1949

Further meetings of the Office's committee took place on 23rd October 1948¹⁶ in Luxembourg and on 30th April 1949¹⁷ in Brussels. At these meetings, the federations came together again following the turmoil of the Second World War, and plans were made to resume the International Congresses.

In addition, it was agreed that a rotating presidency should be introduced. It was thus decided that the international president would be the representative of whichever national league was entrusted with organising the next congress.¹⁸



Office letterhead, 1949

7th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1949

For the first time since the war years, the 7th International Congress took place in London on 29th and 30th July 1949¹⁹. This first congress sought "to achieve the new objectives by emphasising not merely the economic benefits, but above all the social and human significance of the allotment garden, which, through direct contact with the earth, contributes significantly to restoring the physical, moral and mental balance of modern man, which has often been disrupted by unnatural working conditions"²⁰.



Archive reference: 25-K-1 - I, 1 - Congress booklet, London 1949, Title / p. 1

Les délégués des six nations représentées au congrès se réunirent le 29 juillet à deux heures de l'après-midi dans la «Conference Hall».

Etaient présents du Comité de l'Office International:

ANGLETERRE:

Mr. H. BERRY, M. P., L. C. C., président de l'Office International, caissier de la Ligue d'Angleterre,
Mr. G. W. GILES, O. B. E., F. R. H. S., délégué-suppléant, secrétaire de la Ligue d'Angleterre,
Mr. FARNSWORTH, délégué-suppléant, membre du comité central de la Ligue d'Angleterre.

AUTRICHE:

Mr. Anton KÖHL, vice-président de l'Office International, président de la Ligue d'Autriche,
Mr. Franz STAUDINGER, délégué-suppléant, secrétaire de la Ligue d'Autriche,
Mr. Johann BURGHAEUSER, délégué-suppléant, vice-président de la Ligue d'Autriche.

BELGIQUE:

Mr. le Baron MOYERSON, délégué de l'Office International, président de la Ligue de Belgique,
Mr. Jacques BASYN, délégué-suppléant, directeur général de la Ligue de Belgique;
Mr. Eugène DE WITTE, délégué-suppléant, inspecteur de la Ligue de Belgique.

FRANCE:

Mr. Pierre PULBY, délégué-suppléant, membre du comité central de la Ligue Française,
Mr. Gilbert OLIVIER, délégué-suppléant, conseil juridique de la Ligue Française.

HOLLANDE:

Mr. P. VISSER, vice-président de l'Office International, président de la Ligue Hollandaise,
Mr. J. VIJVERS, délégué-suppléant de l'Office International, secrétaire de la Ligue Hollandaise,
Mr. F. J. WEISZ, délégué-suppléant de l'Office International, membre du comité central de la Ligue Hollandaise.

LUXEMBOURG:

Mr. Joseph OLINGER, délégué de l'Office International, Président de la Ligue Luxembourgeoise,
Mr. Paul BECK, délégué-suppléant de l'Office International, secrétaire général de la Ligue Luxembourgeoise,
Mr. Lucien MARC, délégué-suppléant de l'Office International, membre du comité central de la Ligue Luxembourgeoise.

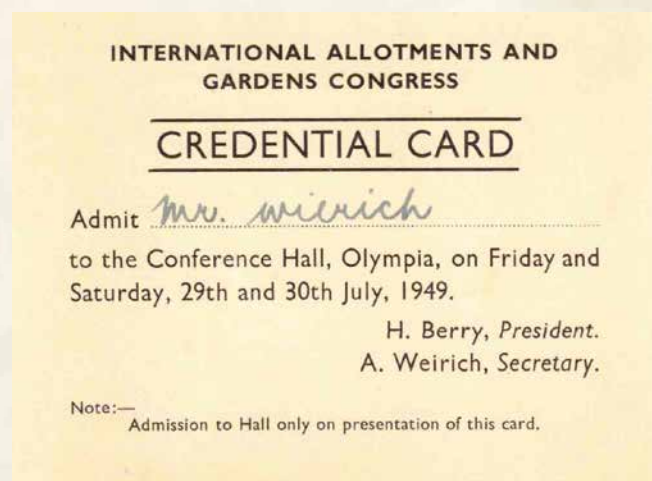
La SUISSE avait dû s'excuser.

Secrétaire Général de l'Office International: Aloyse WEIRICH, Luxembourg.

4

List of participants at the 1949 London Congress

Reference: 25-K-1 - I, 1 - Congress booklet, London 1949, p. 4



Accreditation card for Aloyse Weirich, 1949 Congress, London

Reference: Office: 26-K-II

The London Congress concluded with the following joint resolution: *'This International Congress of Allotment and Garden Federations, having met in London, appeals to all governments to take every*

possible step to provide allotments and gardens in the interests of food production, social welfare and general well-being.²¹

*

Après une discussion très animée où prirent une part active Messieurs: Pulby, Basy, Scott (Angleterre), Kohl, Weisz (Holland), Monsieur le Président Berry proposa la résolution suivante, qui fut unanimement approuvée:

«That this International Congress of Allotment and Garden Societies assembled in London presses upon all Governments the necessity for taking every possible step to provide allotments and gardens in the interests of food production, social welfare and general well-being.»

Reference number: 25-K1 - I, 1 - Congress booklet, London 1949, p. 6

Germany's readmission to the Federation

Following discussions by the Executive Committee, the German Federation was, upon application, unanimously readmitted as a member of the International Federation with effect from 1950.

3) As the German Allotment Gardeners' Federation has submitted an application for admission to the International Bureau, and following discussions held with the Federation by the President and the Secretary-General of the Bureau, the Committee of the Bureau's Executive Board expresses its warm commendation for this useful initiative.

Its admission was then unanimously approved. The Secretariat is requested to inform the German Federation of this decision.

Transcript of the minutes

ZUGESCHICKTES DES KOMITEES BEFINDET SICH BEI DER VERWALTUNG
3) Da der deutsche Kleingärtnerverband ein Ansuchen um Aufnahme in das internationale Büro gestellt hat und nach Besprechungen, die mit demselben seitens des Präsidenten und dem Generalsekretär des Büros geführt wurden, drückt das Komitee der Bürodirektion seine warmen Belobigungen für diese nützliche Tätigkeit aus.
Die Aufnahme desselben wird dann einstimmig beschlossen. Das Sekretariat wird gebeten dem deutschen Verband davon Kenntnis zu geben.

Re-admission of Germany to the Federation in 1950

Source: 1-C-I OFFICE I - A 1947-1959, 2

8th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1951

The 8th Allotment Gardeners' Congress took place from 3rd to 5th August 1951 in Luxembourg.

DER Kleingärtner
V. b. b.
Offizielles Organ des Zentralverbandes der Kleingärtner, Siedler und Kleintierzüchter Österreichs
Redaktion: Verbandskanzlei, Wien, VI, Getreidemarkt 11. Telefon 8 23-4-74
Allseitige Inseratannahme: Wiener Werbegesellschaft, Porzellan & Zerbe, Wien, I, Seitzerg. 4 (Tuchlaubenstr.) Tel. U 22-5-14
Nummer 9 Wien, 1. September 1951 4. Jahrgang

Vom 8. Internat. Kongress in Luxemburg
Nun ist dieser Kongress vorbei, der nach einem Abschied von Generalleutnant Dr. Weizsäcker als Fest der Freundschaft bezeichnet wurde. Die verschiedenen Veranstaltungen während der Kongresswoche vom 3. bis 5. August boten reichlich Gelegenheit, daß sich die Delegierten aus Belgien, Deutschland, England, Frankreich, Holland, Luxemburg, Österreich und der Schweiz näher kennen und trotz des Sprachunterschiedes glänzend verstanden. Man braucht sich nur, wie der luxemburgische Verbandspräsident Brande aus Hamburg erklärte, „in die Augen sehen“, so wurden neue Verbindungen angeknüpft und alte vertieft.
Dieser 8. Kongress in Luxemburg stand vor allem im Zeichen der zukünftigen Bestandsaufnahme der Internationale, wie der luxemburgischen Liga selbst, welche die Parole „Jedem Arbeiter sein eigenes Heim, jedem sein eigener Garten“ durch Vorlesungen und Lehrmeister Alde Lennus auf ihre Fahnen geschrieben hat. Dessen Votum ist früh verlesen und in Belgien, Frankreich und Luxemburg besonders verdient Begrüßung und ersten Präsidenten der „Grünen Internationale“ wurden reichlich warme Worte des Glückwunsches gesendet. Wie wir in einer Festrede feststellten, wurde ihm in Luxemburg (Hauptstadt) auch ein imposantes Monument errichtet.
Detaillierter Schlußvortrag über den Verlauf der Beratungen der Internationalen Büros des Kongresses schloß, über die weiteren Veranstaltungen und die Ergebnisse der internationalen Delegationen liegen im Konzept wohl vor, doch würde der Umfang einer „Minuten-Verständigung“ kaum genügen, um all diese Berichte aufnehmen zu können. Wir werden deshalb ausgiebiger in das folgende Nummer unserer Zeitschrift, die vielen Streiflichter aufweisen lassen, um dadurch die Verbindlichkeit der Leserschaft für die Einrichtungen der „Grünen Internationale“ zu betonen, und auch deshalb, um einen Wunsch des Internationalen Büros zu erfüllen, die gesamte mitteilungsreiche Mitgliedschaft über die internationale Kleingärtnerbewegung näher zu orientieren. Es wurde lebhaft erwünscht, daß die österreichische Verbandsschrift in derartiger Weise die Beiträge zu belegen bemüht ist.
Zur öffentlichen Konferenzöffnung im geschmückten Festsaal des Cercle-Baus, einem Repräsentationsgebäude im Zentrum

Arbeitsunterbrechung während des letzten Vortrages. Ferner wurde er ausser orts- räumlich verlagert, Herr Berry (England), welcher den 7. Kongress in London vor zwei Jahren in meisterhafter Art leitete.
„Es ist nun Aufgabe der heute verantwortlichen Leitung“, erklärte Präsident Olinger, „da von Menschen mit edlen und ungenügenden Herzen begonnene soziale Werk fortzusetzen, indem eine ständige und dauerhafte Verbesserung gesucht wird, um die wirtschaftlichen, sozialen und menschlichen Verhältnisse des Hand- und Kopfarbeiters zu verbessern. Dies kann mit erreicht werden, wenn ihm der Zutritt zum stützenden und wohlhabenden Leben des Kleingärtners geöffnet wird, wenn ihm die Liebe zur Erde und zu deren Bearbeitung eingeprägt wird, wenn ihm die Möglichkeit gegeben wird, seine Freizeit nützlich zu gestalten und zugleich seine Existenz durch schöpferische Bodenbesitzhaltung zu verbessern. Aber nicht nur für ihn, sondern auch für seine Familie soll in frischer Luft und Sonne in selbstgeschaffener Schönheit seines Gartens Platz gefunden werden, damit er die Glückseligkeit seiner Familie in würdiger Umgebung genießen kann. Auf diese Weise kann die „Grüne Internationale“ das nationale Volk und deren Funktionierungswelt ewig unerschütterlich als ein so wichtiger Bestandteil der Menschheit und des Friedens schaffen.“
Es ist selbstverständlich, daß diese Zusammenfassung des Führens und des verbindlichen Durchführens eines solchen Ideals

Wiener Bezirks-Ausstellungen
des Kleingärtner, Siedler und Kleintierzüchter in
Simmering
vom 28. September bis 1. Oktober im Simmeringer Brauhaus, XI, Hauptstrasse 59 (mit Preisen und Plänen). Feiertags-Eröffnung am Sonntag, dem 29. September, um 8.30 Uhr früh.
Ausstellungsberechtigt sind:
Alle Bezirksvereine und die Bezirksfachgruppen, ferner die Vereine der Bundesweiten Landwirtschaft und die Ortsgruppe I des Landesverbandes - der Bezirksrat Wien.
Stöckl
am 29. und 30. September in den neuwachen Sälen des Arbeiterbundes Donaustr. 107, Erbsengasse-Karl-Strasse.
Alle dem Landesverband Wien und der Bundesweiten Landwirtschaft sowie dem Österreichischen Stellvertreter angeschlossenen Vereine, Genossenschaften und Stadtkleingärtner

Article 'On the 8th International Congress in Luxembourg'

Der Kleingärtner. Official journal of the Austrian Federation of Allotment Gardeners, Settlers and Small Animal Breeders. Vol. 4, No. 9, 1 September 1951, p. 1

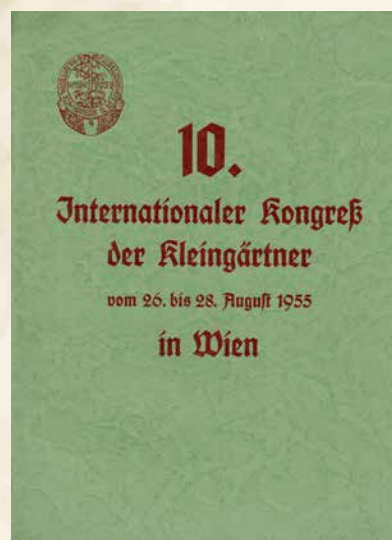
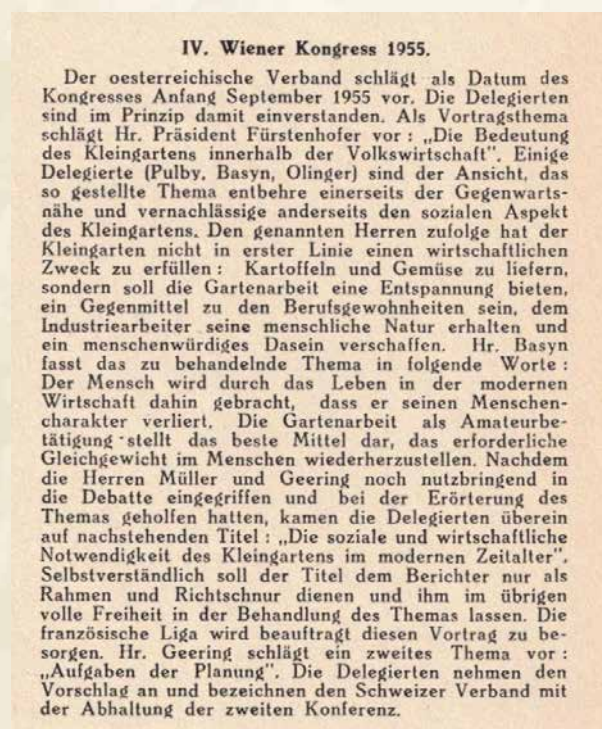
9th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1953

The 9th Allotment Gardeners' Congress took place in Amsterdam from 4th to 6th September 1953. The three main areas of focus ²² were summarised under the theme 'Allotment gardens and their functions in the social, physical and psychological spheres'. It was recognised that young people should be encouraged to take an interest in gardening and involved as independent individuals. Equally important was the continued acquisition of allotment land for the establishment of permanent gardens.

The publication of the federation's own journal was discussed but rejected for the time being on cost grounds.

10th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1955

The 10th International Congress took place from 26th to 28th August 1955 under the motto 'The Significance of the Allotment Garden in the National Economy and in Modern Civilisation' in Vienna, in the assembly hall of the Old Town Hall.



Mappe 1955, 26-K-II

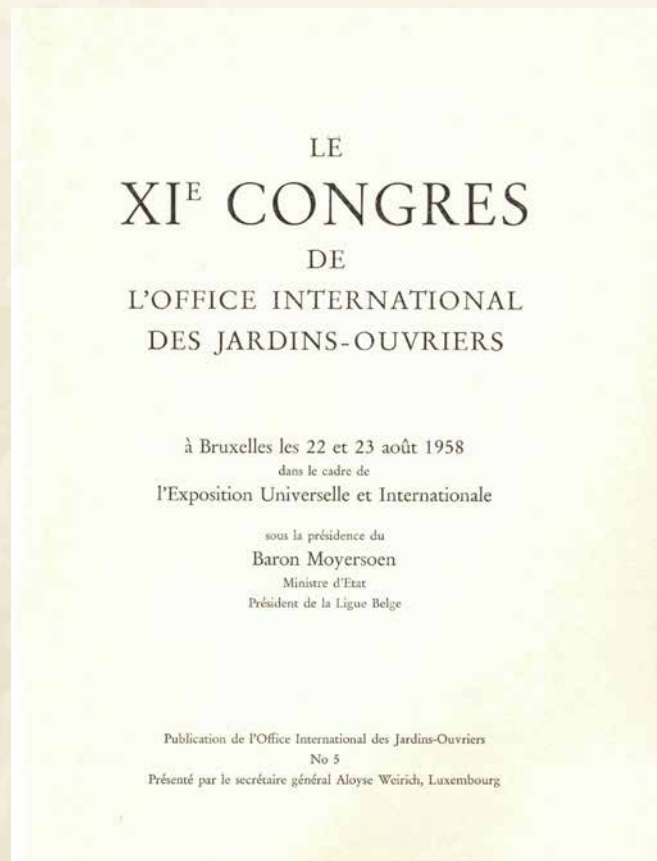


At this congress, the Austrian Federation presented the Office with a green silk flag embroidered by Viennese allotment gardeners. The national flags of the member federations bore the inscription 'Vienna 1955'. In subsequent years, this was supplemented with the name of the city and the year of each subsequent congress.



11th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1958

Due to the World's Fair, the 11th Congress was held in Brussels in 1958 rather than in 1957. The theme of the Congress was 'Urban Planning and Allotment Gardens'.



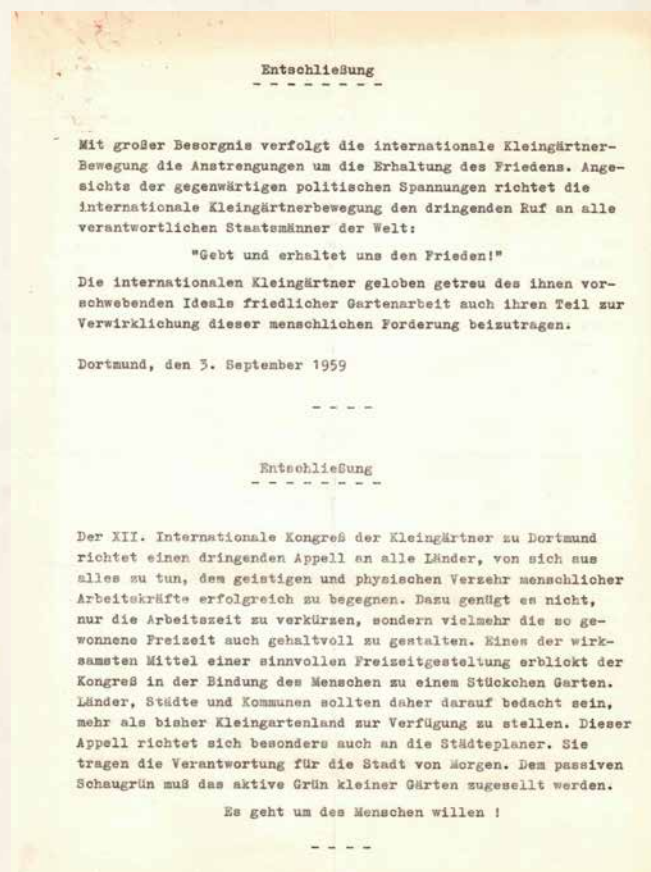
Source: 25-K-1 - I, 1 - Congress booklet, Brussels 1958, 2 (3)



Handover of the 'Green International' banner to the Chairman of the Swiss Federation, Dr Ebi.

12th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1959

The 12th Congress took place in Dortmund from 4th to 6th September 1959. The title of the Congress was: 'The Importance of Allotments in the Modern World'.



Resolution

Source: 26-K-II. II

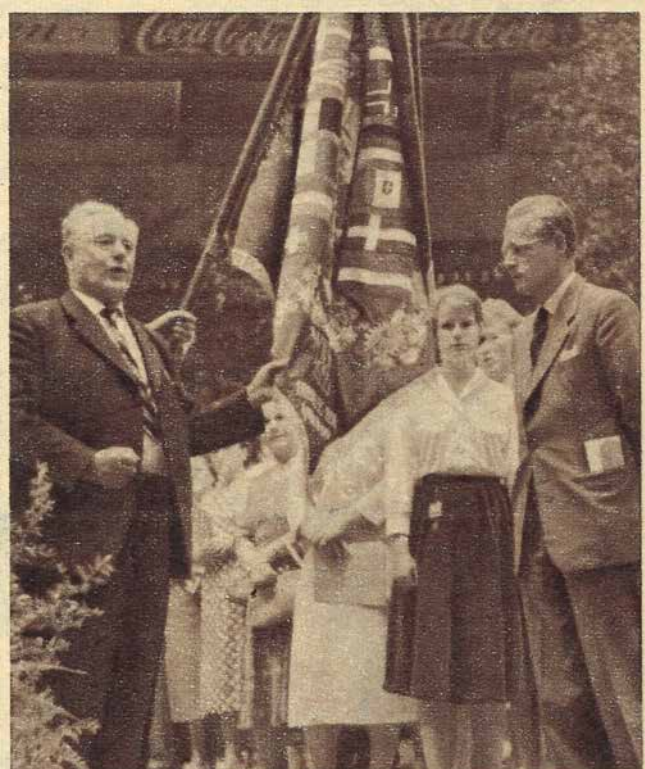
More information in the chapter
"Resolutions and joint positions".





Federation President Paul Brando welcomes guests of honour at the congress in Dortmund

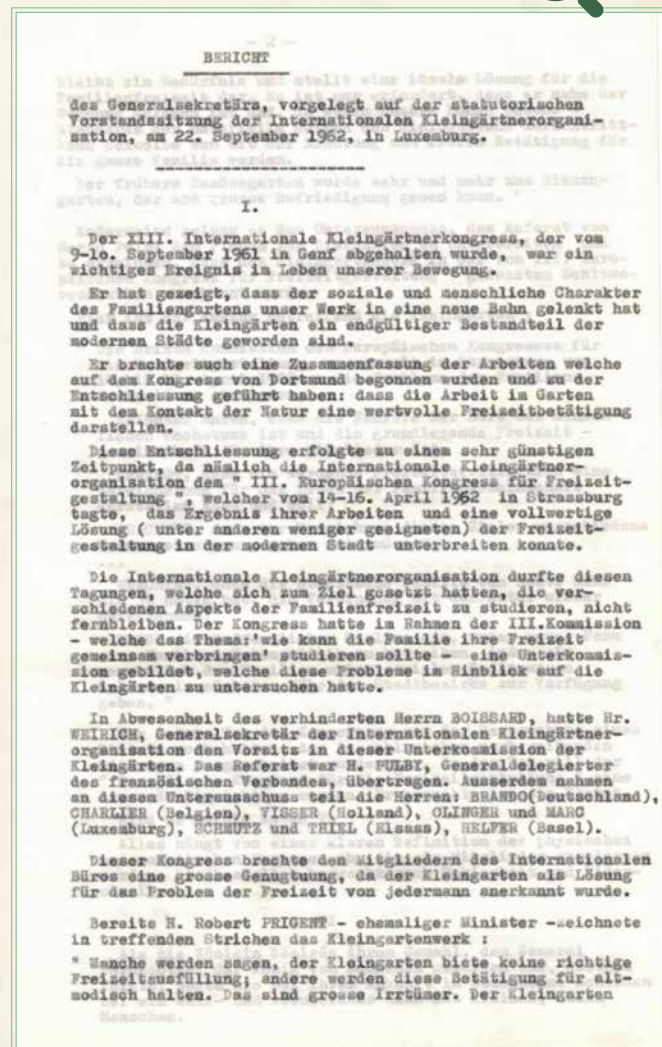
Source: Brando, Paul – Allotment Gardens – Then and Now. Hamburg 1965, p. 151 – International Allotment Gardeners' Congress 1959 in Dortmund



President Brando hands over the flag to the Chairman of the Swiss Family Garden Federation, Dr Ebi.

13th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1961

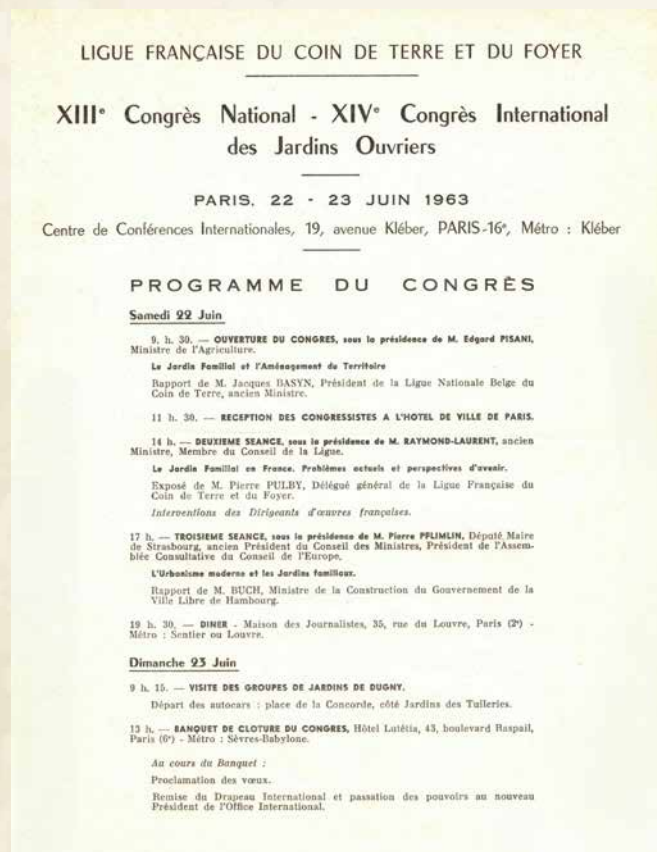
Under the title 'Do free hours also mean freedom?', the 13th Congress took place in Geneva in 1961.



Source 18-C-XVIII Suisse I – Geneva Report

14th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1963

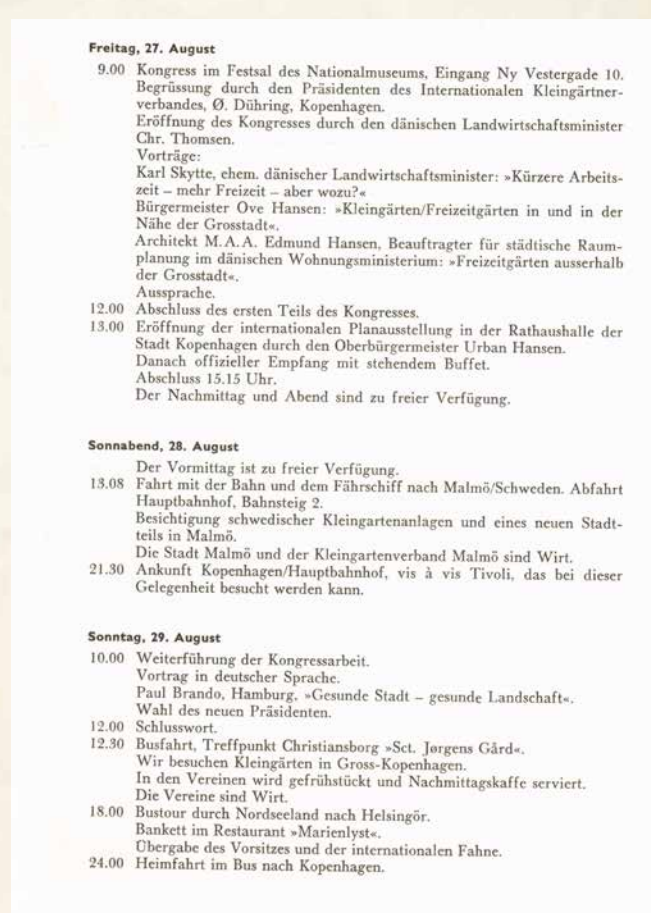
The title under which the 14th Congress took place in Paris in 1963 was 'Establishment of allotment garden sites'.



Programme 1963

15th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1965

In 1965, the 15th Congress took place in Copenhagen under the title 'Allotment Gardens: A Leisure Garden in and around the City'.



Programme 1965

16th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1967

In 1967, the 16th Congress was held in Luxembourg under the title 'Allotment Gardens and the Worker's Right to Leisure'.



Presidium at the opening of the Congress



Joseph Olinger delivering the opening address



Logo



Commemorative stamp

17th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1970

In 1970, the 17th Congress took place in Stockholm under the title 'The Garden: A Balancing Factor for Modern Man'.



18th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1972

The congress took place in Vienna from 7th to 10th September under the title 'Modern allotment garden planning as a structural element of urban development'.

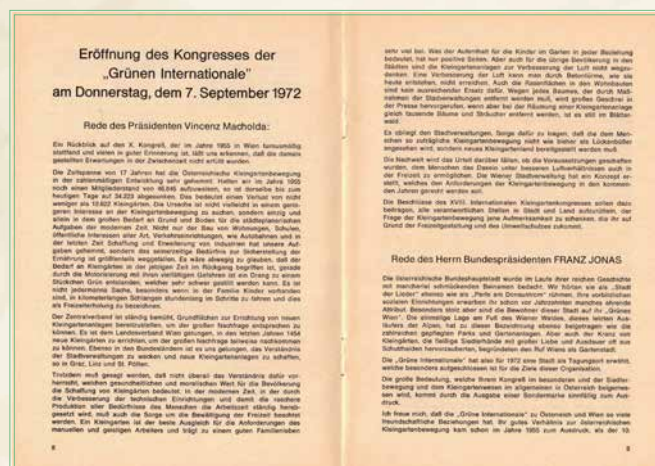


Commemorative stamp 1972

26-K-II, II



The Austrian Allotment Gardener. Official journal of the Austrian Federation of Allotment Gardeners, Settlers and Small Animal Breeders. No. 11 1972, p. 1



Congress booklet, Vienna 1972



19th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1974

The 19th Congress took place in Amsterdam from 11th to 15th September 1974 under the title 'The Allotment Garden in Spatial Planning'.



The Luxembourg President, Joseph Leyder, during his speech at the Green International.



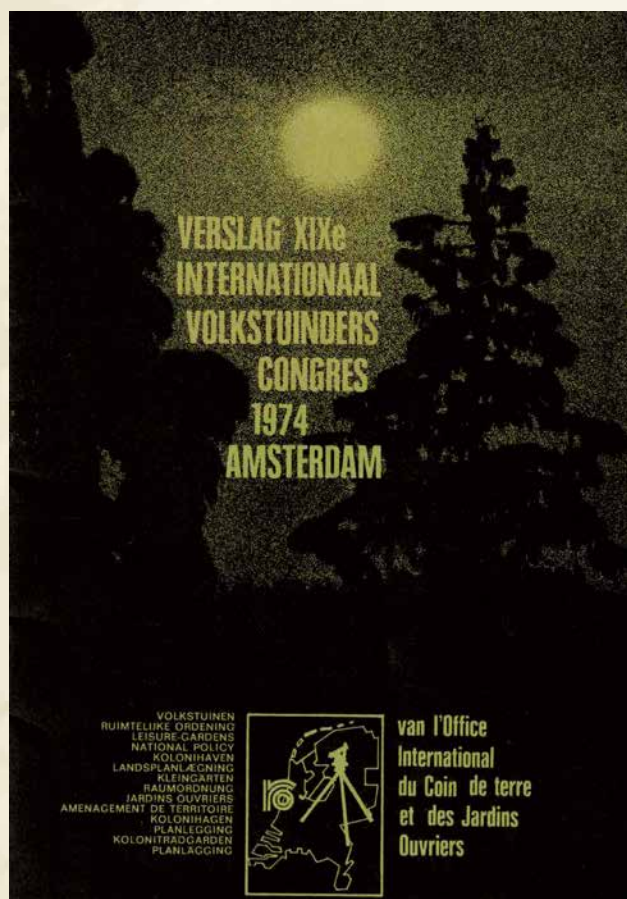
Resolution



Malou Weirich, daughter of the Secretary-General of the International Federation, presented Prince Claus of the Netherlands with flowers.



Members of the Executive Committee (6th from the left: Secretary-General Aloyse Weirich)
25-K-I - I, 1



Programme booklet
25-K-I - I, 1



Audience
26-K-II, IV -- **De Amateurtuinder** magazine, vol. 57, Dec. 1974, title

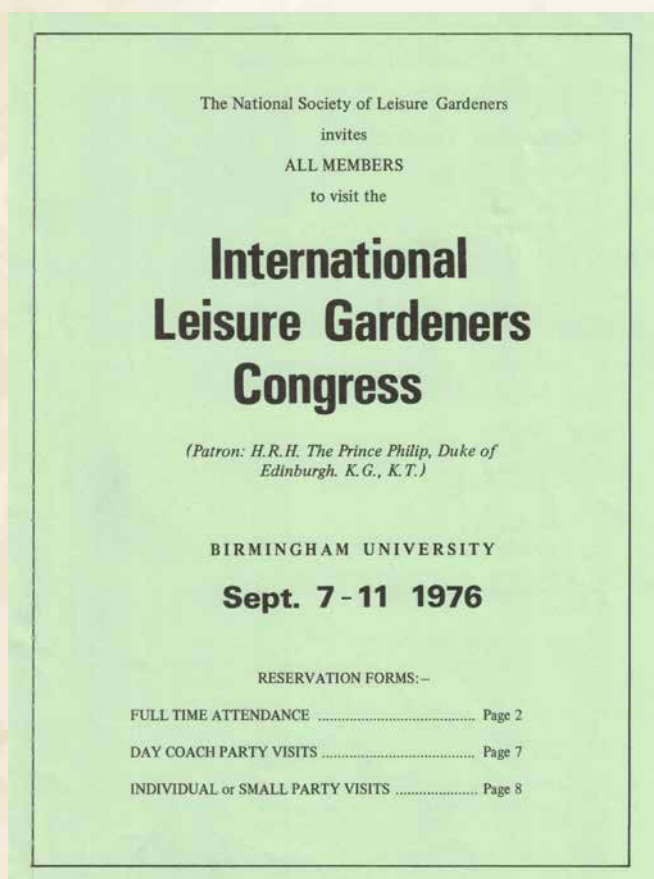
20th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1976

The 20th Congress took place in Birmingham from 7th to 11th September 1976 under the title 'Allotments and Leisure'.



1976 Congress Logo

Source: 1-C-I OFFICE I - B 1960-1985,1



Invitation to the 1976 Birmingham Congress, in English
26-K-II, II

Programm Vorschlag

Deinstag, 7. September

- Nachmittag Ankunft der ausländischen Besucher, Dokumentarischer Nachweis, Literaturausgabe und Zeit zum Einrichten.
Abend Cocktailparty und Kaltes Abendessen.
(Gastgeber: Die Universität von Birmingham).

Mittwoch, 8. September

- Vormittag Eröffnungszeremonie in der Great Hall.
(Der Kongress wird von einem Mitglied der königlichen Familie oder einem Staatsminister eröffnet werden).
Erste formelle Sitzung.
Offizielles Mittagessen in Mason Hall Gastgeber: Vereinigung der Freizeitgärtner.
Nachmittag Im Reisebus zu Kleingärten in Birmingham.
(Tee an den Gartenanlagen).
Abend Empfang der Stadt Birmingham, und Festmahl
(Gastgeber Der Bürgermeister und die Stadtverwaltung von Birmingham).

Donnerstag, 9. September

- Vormittag Zweite formelle Sitzung in der Great Hall.
Die Ausstellung ist ab 10 Uhr geöffnet.
Mittagessen in Mason Hall.
(Gastgeber: Die Regierung).
Nachmittag Ausstellung wird um 6 Uhr geschlossen.
Abend Dinner in Mason Hall
(Gastgeber noch nicht festgesetzt).

Freitag, 10. September

- Vormittag Rundfahrt zu den Geländen der Freizeitgärtner in Birmingham und Coventry.
Leichtes Mittagessen in kleinen Gruppen auf oder nahe dem Gartengelände.
(Gastgeber: Birmingham and District Allotments Council, und Coventry Allotment Gardens Council).
(Vorstand der Schrebergärtner von Birmingham und Umgebung, und Vorstand der Schrebergärtner von Coventry).
Nachmittag Rundfahrt per Reisebus.
Abend Abendessen in Mason Hall
(Gastgeber: Handel und Industrie).

1976 Programme

26-K-II, II



1976 Programme Booklet

26-K-II

21st International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1978

The 21st Congress, entitled 'The Political and Social Value of Allotments', took place in Bremen from 30th August to 1st September.



1978 Congress Logo

8-C-VIII CZECH REPUBLIC I 1992-2015, 1

KONGRESSPROGRAMM	
Mittwoch, 30. August 1978	
17.00	Begrüßung der Anwesenden „KONGRESS INTERNATIONAL“ von Werner Hans Stefan Solty - vom Rathaus
18.00	Konferenz im Haus der Bürgerschaft, am Markt - Parlamentarismus, Sozialismus I -
20.00	Empfang durch das Präsidium der deutschen Bürgerschaft, Dr. Dieter Klink Tafelrunde offener Vorstand der Liga (im großen Saal) offener Vorstand des Bundes Deutscher Gartenfreunde offener Vorstand des Landesverbands Bremen
Donnerstag, 31. August 1978	
Eröffnung des 21. Kongresses der „Grünen Internationale“ Tafelrunde „Die Glocke“, Donnersbach 6/7, großer Saal	
9.00	Lokal
9.30	Es folgt zur Begrüßung der „Münsterer Schwestern“ eine Lesung von Martin Storr Begrüßungsansprachen Präsident des Senats der Freien Hansestadt Bremen, Hans Kuschel Präsident der Bürgerschaft, Dr. Dieter Klink Präsident der „Grünen Internationale“, Hans Stöckert Festredner und Eröffnung des Kongresses, Bundesminister Dr. Dieter Haack Die soziologische Bedeutung des Kongresswesens in Europa anschließend folgt noch einmal die „Münsterer Schwestern“
12.00	Mittagspause der Kongressdelegationen im „Bremen Rathaus“
14.30	Fortsetzung des Kongresses im großen Saal des Hauses „Die Glocke“ „Neue Aufgaben für die Kongressarbeit Europa“ überregional: Planung und Strukturfragen national: Referenzen Gesellschaftliche Umwelt heute - Jürgen Pörsch, Stockholm - Prof. Dr. Hans Herbert Strack - Universität Bonn - Diskussion
19.00	Empfang durch den Präsidenten des Senats der Freien Hansestadt Bremen, Bürgermeister Hans Kuschel, in der ersten Rathauskammer - nur für Kongressdelegationen - Gemeinsames Abendessen im großen Saal des Hauses „Die Glocke“ - nur für Kongressdelegationen -
Freitag, 1. September 1978, vormittags	
Bundsfest mit Blumen und Seilen Tafelrunde: für die Buse 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 am 10.00 Uhr im großen Marktplatz für die Buse 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 am 10.15 Uhr Markt in Dornum - nur für Kongressdelegationen -	
Fahrtreue und Terminplan für die Buse 1-5	
9.00	ab Martinshagen zur Haltepunktstraße Ankunft „Wunderpark“ - Kongressort „Zur Hasekappe“
12.15	Mittagspause „Romer Stube“, Kulturzentrum - nur für Kongressdelegationen -
Fahrtreue und Terminplan für die Buse 6-10	
9.00	Abfahrt der Buse ab Dornum Tafelrunde „Wunderpark“ - Kongressort „Zur Hasekappe“ und „Rathauskammer“
10.15	Abfahrt zur Haltepunktstraße
12.15	Mittagspause „Romer Stube“, Kulturzentrum - nur für Kongressdelegationen -
Freitag, 1. September 1978, nachmittags	
Bundsfest am Kongressort Fahrtreue und Terminplan: Bus 1, 14.30 ab Dornum - Unterhörnstraße Klo - „Tafel“ - „Fahberg“, Ziehlung „Die Kasse“ - „Am Schönbühl“ „Walter March“ Ziel: „Münster“, ca. 18.00 Bus 2 + 3, 14.30 ab Dornum - Unterhörnstraße Klo - „Tafel“ - „Münster“, Ziehlung „Die Kasse“ - „Am Schönbühl“ Ziel für Bus 2: „Fahberg“ ca. 17.30 Ziel für Bus 3: „Am Rind“ ca. 17.30 Bus 4 + 5, 14.30 ab Dornum - Klo - „Gartenstraße Bremen-Nord“ „Walter March“ - „Halle Feld Hagen“ „Am Eichenhof“ - „Hohenstein Park“ Ziel für Bus 4: „Am Wendenhof“ ca. 17.30 Ziel für Bus 5: „Gute Frucht“ ca. 17.45	

Programme for the 1978 Bremen Congress, 1

26_K-II, IV



Bremen Congress logo

26-K-II, II

22nd International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1980

The 22nd Congress took place in Basel from 30th August to 3rd September. The theme discussed was 'The Family Garden and Young People'.



1980 Congress, Basel

from *Koloniträdgarden*, June 1980, p. 3, 26-K-II, IV

23rd International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1982

Under the motto 'The Allotment Garden and Leisure', the congress was held in Brussels from 5th to 7th April.



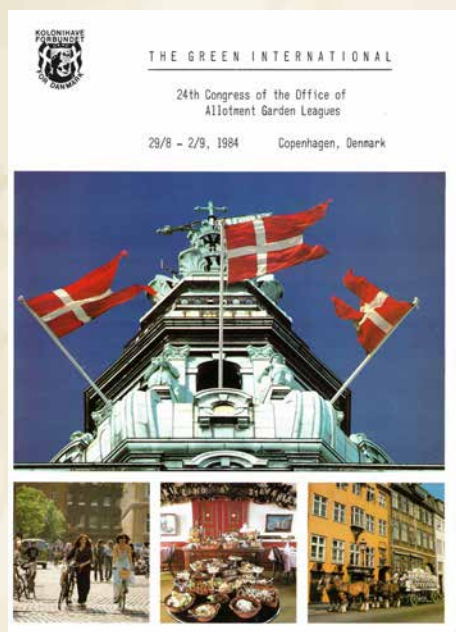
XXIII. Internationaler Kongreß der Kleingärtner (Grüne Internationale)

International Federation, Brussels 1982

Der Fachberater, 2.1982, p. 44 -

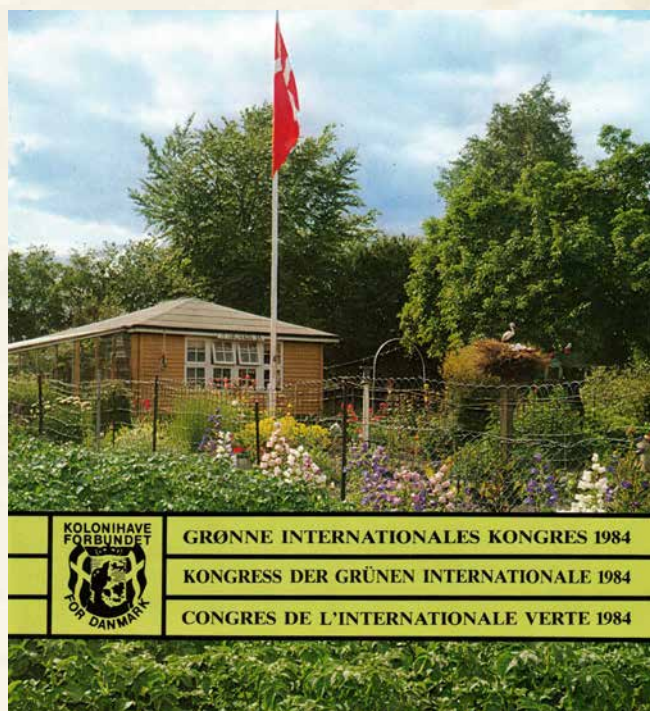
24th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1984

In 1984, the 24th Congress took place in Copenhagen under the title 'The Legal Protection of Allotments and their Integration into Urban Development Plans'.



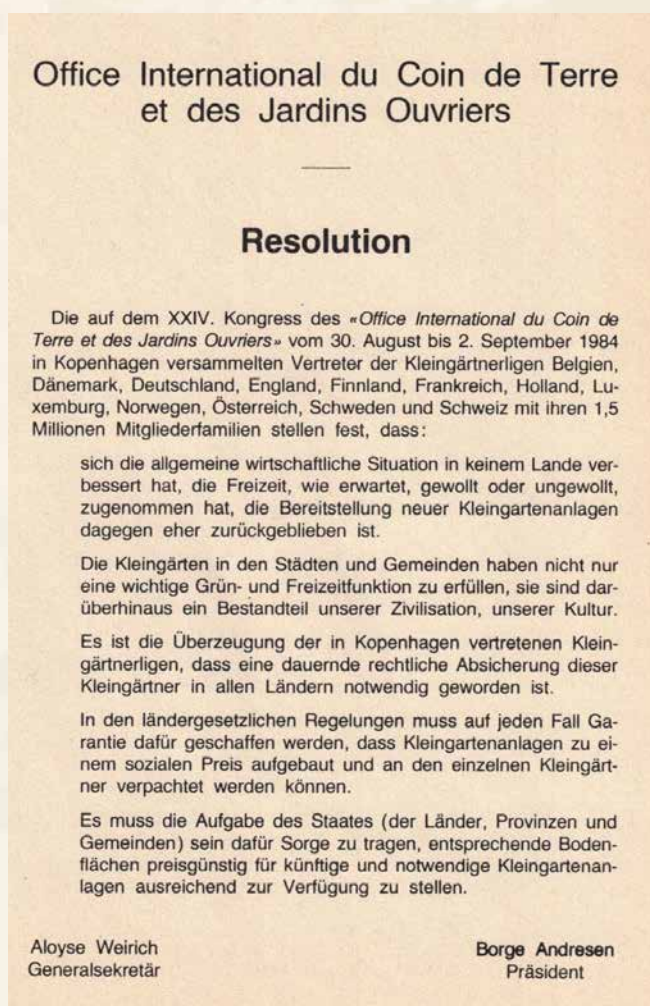
Cover page of the 1984 congress folder

12-C-XII SCANDINAVES I - 1949-1987,1



Brochure for the 1984 Congress, Copenhagen

27-K-III, I



Resolution 1984

25th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1986

The 25th Congress took place in Paris in 1986 under the title 'Allotment Gardens and Ecology'.

XXVème CONGRES INTERNATIONAL DU COIN DE TERRE ET DES JARDINS OUVRIERS 28 - 29 - 30 AOUT 1986 PARIS PALAIS DES CONGRES	
SOUS LE HAUT PATRONAGE DE	
Monsieur Jacques CHIRAC, Premier Ministre, Maire de Paris	
Monsieur Pierre MEHAIGNERIE, Ministre de l'Équipement, du Logement, de l'Aménagement du Territoire et des Transports	
Monsieur François GUILLAUME, Ministre de l'Agriculture	
Monsieur Michel GIRAUD, Président du Conseil régional de l'Île-de-France, Président de l'Association des Maires de France	
PROGRAMME	
JEUDI 28 AOUT 1986	
8h 30	Accueil des Congressistes
9h 30	Ouverture solennelle du Congrès
10h 15	Exposé : "Législation comparée en matière de Jardins familiaux"
	Rapporteur : Maitre Malou GRAND-WEIRICH (Luxembourg)
11h 15	Départ vers l'Hôtel de Ville
12h 00	Réception à l'Hôtel de Ville
13h 00	Retour de l'Hôtel de Ville
13h 30	Déjeuner à l'Hôtel Concorde-Lafayette
14h 30	Conférence de Presse
15h 30	Exposé : "Contribution des Jardins familiaux à la promotion de l'environnement sur les plans technique, financier et administratif"
	Rapporteur : Monsieur Berndt ANDREAS, Directeur général des Espaces verts à Brème (R.F.A.) et débat
17h 00	Exposés sur les problèmes actuels propres à chacune des ligues représentées (1ère partie)
18h 00	Fin de séance
	Soirée libre
VENDREDI 29 AOUT 1986	
9h 00	(Pour les seuls représentants français) Assemblée générale statutaire de la Ligue française
10h 00	Exposé : "Les groupes de Jardins familiaux, facteurs de développement de la vie associative et de la convivialité"
	Rapporteur : Monsieur Maurice SERGHERAERT, Maire d'Hazebrouck (France) Débat et discussion
11h 30	Départ en autocar pour la visite des jardins en région parisienne
	Déjeuner dans les groupes de jardins
16h 00	Arrivée au Palais des Congrès
de 20h à 24h	Dîner de gala en bateau-mouche sur la Seine
SAMEDI 30 AOUT 1986	
9h 00	Réunion du Comité de l'Office international
10h 30	Exposés sur les problèmes actuels propres à chacune des ligues représentées (2ème partie) Présentation et vote de la motion du Congrès sur "Les Jardins familiaux et l'environnement"
	Conclusions du Docteur WEIRICH
	Election du Président et du Vice-Président pour la période à venir
	Bénédiction du drapeau
	Discours de clôture du Président sortant
13h 00	Déjeuner et départ

Programme, Paris Congress 1986

27-K-II, I



Postcard, 1986 Paris Congress

16-C-XVI FRANCE I - II 1989-1993, 2 --



Congress folder 1986, Paris

16-C-XVI FRANCE I - II 1989-1993, 2



Präsident Jaques Bour, Paris, eröffnet den 25. Kongreß „Grüne Internationale“ in Paris.

25th International Congress, Paris

Der Fachberater. Vol. 36, No. 4, 1986, p. 4

New Secretary-General

Following the sudden death of the Secretary-General, Dr Aloyse Weirich, his daughter Malou Weirich took over the position in April 1987.



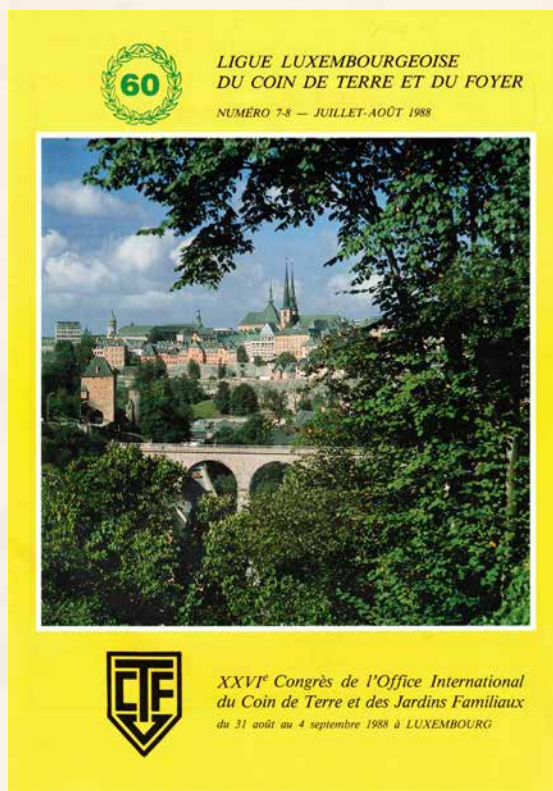
26th International Congress of the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers, 1988

In 1988, the 26th Congress took place in Luxembourg under the title 'The contribution of the family garden to the human and natural environment in the urban landscape'.



1988 logo

Source: 1-C-I OFFICE I - I 1986-1988,1



Brochure: Luxembourg Congress 1988 (1)

27-K-III, II



Congress Presidium, 26th International Congress, Luxembourg 1988
Der Fachberater. Vol. 38, No. 4, 1988, p. 3



Der Fachberater. Vol. 38, No. 4, 1988, p. 4, International Congress 1984, Copenhagen

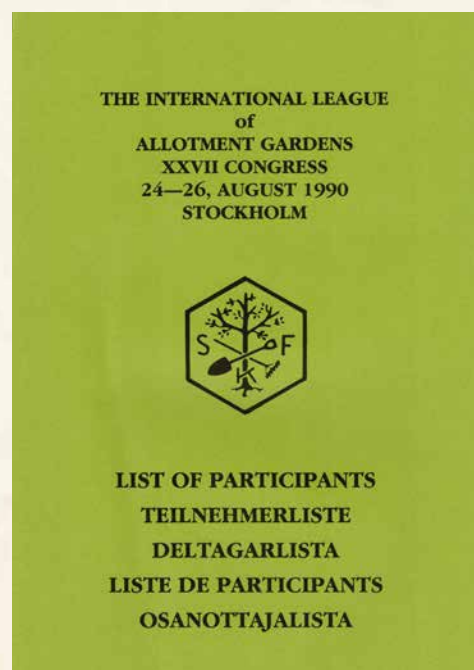
The Hyphen

From April 1988, the Office International des Fédérations des Jardins Ouvriers published the federation's quarterly journal "The Hyphen".



27th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 1990

From 23rd to 26th August 1990, the 27th Congress took place in Stockholm under the title 'The Significance of Allotment Gardens for the Future Social Evolution of Our Society'.



Conference proceedings, Stockholm, 1990
27-K-III, III



Günter Gartz's speech at the 1990 Stockholm Congress
Der Fachberater. Vol. 40, No. 4, 1990, p. 3

Council of Europe

In 1989, the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux applied for participatory observer status with the Council of Europe. This was confirmed on 16th September 1990. Since then, the Office International has been a member of the Council of Europe. In 1992, allotment gardens were included in the European Charter of Cities for the first time.

This is significant because this Charter was sent to all towns and cities with over 30,000 inhabitants, with the intention that these principles be put into practice. Whilst they are not legally binding, they offer a means of influencing urban planning in the long term. Allotment gardeners can invoke this Charter and use it as a tool to preserve existing allotment sites and create new ones.



Image source: 39-OI-I - I, 2

28th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 1992

In 1992, the congress took place in The Hague under the title 'Green Without Borders'.



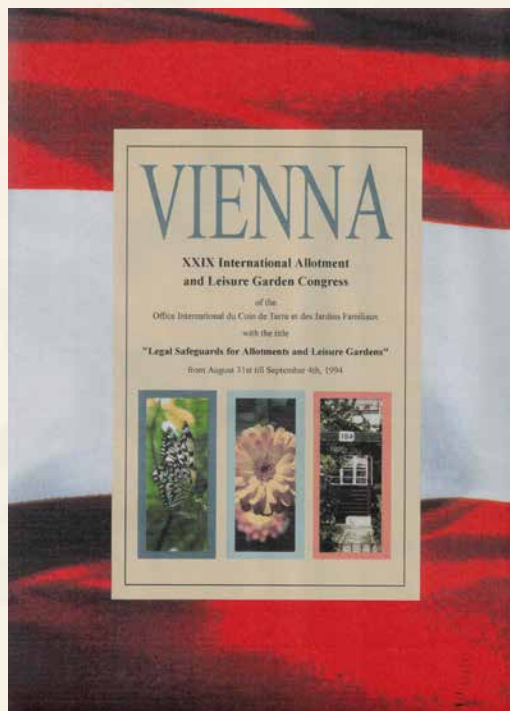
*International Congress 27-29 August 1992, The Hague
Der Fachberater. Vol. 42, No. 4, 1992, p. 32 -*



From left to right: the outgoing President A. L. Bouma, Secretary-General Malou Weirich, the new President, Eng. Wilhelm Wohatschek, and the new Vice-President G. Gartz in The Hague.

29th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 1994

In 1994, the congress took place in Vienna. The theme was 'Equal rights for all.' Legal certainty for allotment gardens and allotment gardeners in Europe.



*Conference folder, Vienna, 1994
25-K-I - I, 1*



Handover of the presidency at the 29th International Congress in Vienna in 1994 from Ing. Wilhelm Wohatschek to Günter Gartz.

Der Fachberater. Vol. 46, No. 3, 1996, p. 128 -- Foto-Walz, Dr. J.B

30th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 1996

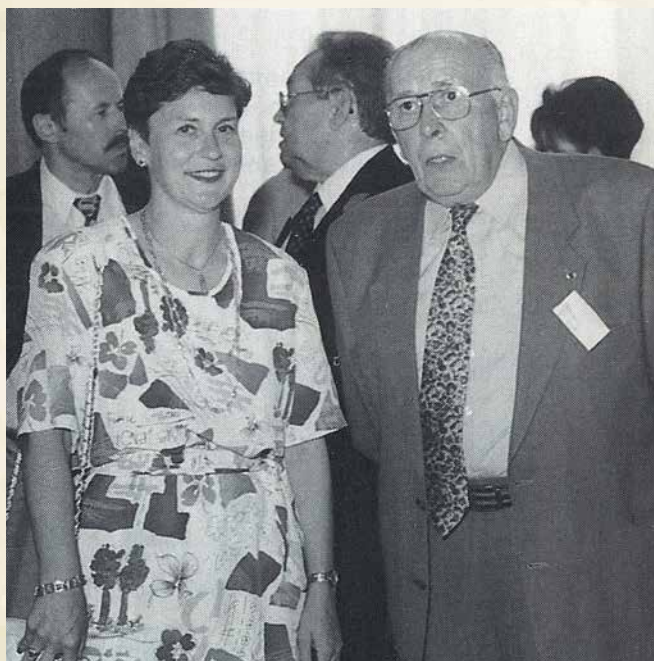
In 1996, the congress took place in Dresden under the title 'Allotment gardens – indispensable for people, society, nature and the environment'.



Dresden Congress 1996

27-K-III, III





Secretary-General M. Weirich and the Office's President, elected in 1996, Prof. Henri Mahu
Der Fachberater. Vol. 47, No. 1, 1997, p. 21 Foto-Walz, Dr J.B.

31st International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 1998

In 1998, the congress took place in Brussels under the title 'Promoting Allotment Gardening: Economic, Social and Environmental Aspects'.



Brussels Congress, 1998
 27-K-III, IV-



32nd International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 2000

The 32nd Congress took place in Lausanne from 24th to 26th August 2000 under the title 'Allotment Gardens in the 3rd Millennium: Social, Environmental and Spatial Planning Aspects'.



2000 Lausanne Congress
 18-C-XVIII SUISSE I - IV 1999-2009, 1



34th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 2005

The 34th Congress took place in Lyon in 2005 under the title 'Allotment Gardens at the Heart of Cities'.



Office letterhead 2005

Source: 3-C-III OFFICE III-X 2004-2005, 1

33rd International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 2002

In 2002, the 33rd Congress was held in York under the title 'Agenda 21 and Urban Planning'.



35th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 2008

In 2008, the 35th Congress took place in Kraków on the theme 'The Future of Allotments in Europe'.



36th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 2011

In 2011, the 36th Congress took place in Copenhagen under the title 'Allotments of the Future'.



37th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 2014

The 37th Congress, held in Utrecht in 2014, was entitled 'All Eyes on Allotments'.



38th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 2016

The 38th Congress took place in Vienna in 2016. The theme was 'Garden expert advice on sustainability and the responsible use of resources'.



39th International Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux, 2024

The theme of the 39th Congress in Berlin was 'Allotments in Europe: Green Spaces for All'.



- ¹ Picot, Robert: Second International Congress of Allotment Gardens, held in Paris on 9th, 10th and 11th November 1906. Report compiled by M. l'abbé Lemire. Offices of the Ligue du coin de terre et du foyer, Paris. Paris, 1907. p. 62. [<https://archive.org/details/deuximecongrsin00unkngoog/page/n71/mode/2up>]
- ² Weirich, Aloyse: Die Internationale Kleingärtnerorganisation und die angegliederten nationalen Verbände. Publication by the Office of the International Allotment Garden Organisation. No. 4. Luxembourg 1958, p. 5.
- ³ La Fondation de l'Office International des Jardins Ouvriers en 1926 à Luxembourg. Luxembourg 1927. Reprint to mark the 75th anniversary of its foundation. Ed. German Federation of Allotment Gardeners (Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde e.V.). Bonn/Berlin 2001, p. 24.
- ⁴ Weirich, Aloyse: Die Internationale Kleingärtnerorganisation und die angegliederten nationalen Verbände. Publication by the Office of the International Allotment Garden Organisation. No. 4. Luxembourg 1958, p. 5.
- ⁵ La Fondation de l'Office International des Jardins Ouvriers en 1926 à Luxembourg. Luxembourg 1927. Reprint to mark the 75th anniversary of its foundation. Published by the German Federation of Allotment Gardeners (Bundesverband Deutscher Gartenfreunde e.V.), Bonn/Berlin 2001, p. 4ff.
- ⁶ Förster, Heinrich: 'Aus der Internationalen Kleingartenbaubewegung'. In: *Kleingartenwacht*, Vol. 3, No. 11, 1926, p. 119.
- ⁷ Poenicke, Kurt: Konferenz zur Gründung einer internationalen Arbeitsgemeinschaft in Luxemburg, 3 and 4 October 1926. In: *Kleingartenwacht*. Vol. 3, No. 11, 1926, p. 121.
- ⁸ *Garten und Heim*. Illustrated journal for the promotion of workers' allotments and owner-occupied housing. Vol. 3, Issue 10, October 1927, p. 144 / Poenicke, Kurt: Conference on the establishment of an international working group in Luxembourg, 3 and 4 October 1926. In: *Kleingartenwacht*. Vol. 3, No. 11, 1926, p. 121.
- ⁹ Poenicke, Kurt: Konferenz zur Gründung einer internationalen Arbeitsgemeinschaft in Luxemburg, on 3 and 4 October 1926. In: Kleingartenwacht. Vol. 3, No. 11, 1926, p. 121.
- ¹⁰ Weirich, Aloyse: Die Internationale Kleingärtnerorganisation und die angegliederten nationalen Verbände. Publication by the Office of the International Allotment Garden Organisation. No. 4. Luxembourg 1958, p. 7.
- ¹¹ Reinhold, W.: Zweiter Internationaler Kongreß der Kleingartenverbände. In: *Kleingartenwacht*. Vol. 6, No. 10, p. 94.
- ¹² Beck, Paul: VI. Internationaler Kleingärtnerkongress vom 8-11- Juli 1937 in Paris. In: Kleingarten und Eigenheim. No. unknown, p. 152.
- ¹³ XV. Kongress des Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Ouvriers. In: Dohem an am Gard. Issue unknown. p. 151.
- ¹⁴ Weirich, Aloyse: Die Internationale Kleingärtnerorganisation und die angegliederten nationalen Verbände. Publication by the Office of the International Allotment Garden Organisation. No. 4. Luxembourg 1958, p. 7.
- ¹⁵ Office international du Coin de Terre et des Jardins ouvriers. Meetings held from 20 to 21 September 1947 in Luxembourg. In: *Le Coin de Terre et le Foyer*. No. unknown, p. 122ff.
- ¹⁶ Minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Office International in accordance with the Statutes, held on 23 October 1948 in Luxembourg, p. 1 (Reference: Office 1-C-I OFFICE I – A 1947–1959, 3 – 23 October 1948 -- p. 1)
- ¹⁷ Minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Office International in accordance with the Statutes, held on 23 October 1948 in Luxembourg, p. 2 (File Office 1-C-I OFFICE I – A 1947–1959, 3 – 23 October 1948 – p. 2)
- ¹⁸ Die Gründung der Grünen Internationalen. In: Der österreichische Kleingärtner. No. 12/1976, p. 2
- ¹⁹ Minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Office International in accordance with the Statutes, held on 23 October 1948 in Luxembourg, p. 2 (File Office 1-C-I OFFICE I – A 1947–1959, 3 – 23 October 1948 -- p. 2)
- ²⁰ Weirich, Aloyse: Die Internationale Kleingärtnerorganisation und die angegliederten nationalen Verbände. Publication by the Office of the International Allotment Garden Organisation. No. 4. Luxembourg 1958, p. 7.
- ²¹ Le XII^{me} Congrès International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Ouvriers à London, Luxembourg 1949, p. 19. (Collection Office 25-K-1 – I, 1 – Congress booklet, London 1949)
- ²² Report on the proceedings of the 9th Congress of the International Allotment Garden Bureau. Meeting held in Amsterdam from 4 to 6 September 1953. In: Coin de Terre et Foyer. No. unknown, p. 134ff.
- ²³ X. Internationaler Kongress der Kleingärtner in Wien. In: Dohem an am Gard, issue unknown, p. 147

Member federations



The 'Fédération Internationale des Jardins Familiaux' brings together national organisations from many European countries.

In Austria, the Austrian Federation of Allotment Gardeners and Settlers has represented the interests of more than 40,000 families since 1916. In Belgium, bilingual organisations bring together the 'volkstuinten' and 'jardins ouvriers'. Denmark has a long-standing allotment garden movement in the form of the Kolonihaveforbundet. Finland organises its 'Siirtolapuutarha' through the Suomen Siirtolapuutarhaliitto ry. These allotment gardens often include small weekend cottages. France's Fédération Nationale des Jardins Familiaux et Collectifs represents numerous gardens across the country.

Germany is home to the Bundesverband der Kleingartenvereine Deutschlands, the largest federation in Europe, comprising around 900,000 allotment gardens. In the UK, the National Allotment Society champions the long-standing tradition of allotments. Luxembourg's Ligue Gaart an Heem looks after the interests of gardeners in the Grand Duchy. The Netherlands has a strong organisation for allotment gardens in the form of the Algemeen Verbond van Volkstuinders Verenigingen.

In Norway, the Norsk Kolonihageforbund represents allotment gardens, whilst in Sweden this role is fulfilled by the Koloniträdgårdsförbundet. Finally, in Switzerland, the Swiss Family Gardeners' Federation organises the cantonal and local gardening initiatives.

Together, these federations form the basis for the Office's work and represent both the diversity and

the shared objectives of the European allotment garden movement.



Belgium

**Founded in 1896 (royal society),
a non-profit federation since 1921
Founding member in 1926**

In Belgium, the movement got off to a relatively late start. From the end of the 19th century, the first 'jardins ouvriers' began to emerge, often on the initiative of social and religious organisations. During the First World War and in the crisis years following 1918, allotment gardens became an important part of the food supply. Today, they are firmly integrated into the urban green space system and are increasingly serving as places for intercultural encounters.

The federation organises allotment gardens in the Flemish part of Belgium.

Members: approx. 20,000

Associations: approx. 200

Tuinhier vzw

Ieperseweg 87 B - 8800 Rumbeke-Beitem

Email: info@tuinhier.be

Website: www.tuinhier.be

KOLONIHAVE
FORBUNDET



FOR DANMARK

Denmark

Founded: 1908

Founding member in 1926

The Danish 'Kolonihaver' are regarded as a particularly distinctive form of allotment garden. The first gardens were established as early as the 1820s to give children and families access to nature. From the 1860s onwards, organised allotment schemes began to develop in Copenhagen. A characteristic feature to this day is that many plots contain small houses ('Kolonihavehuse'), which in some cases are also used as summer cottages. This blurs the boundaries between allotments and weekend cottages.

Members: approx. 40,000

Associations: approx. 400

Kolonihaveforbundet

Smedeholm 13 C DK - 2730 HERLEV

Email: info@kolonihave.dk

Website: www.kolonihave.dk



Germany

Founded in 1921

Founding member in 1926

Germany has played a defining role in the European allotment garden movement. From 1864 onwards, the Leipzig 'Schreber movement' was instrumental – as one of a total of six founding strands – in the systematic allocation of small garden plots to working-class families. Educational, health and social objectives were combined from an early stage. During both world wars, allotment gardens were of great importance for food security. After 1945, they were strongly promoted in both German states. The Federal Allotment Garden Act of 1983 enshrined their legal status and continues to protect them to this day from excessive commercialisation and development. With over 900,000 allotment gardens, Germany has one of the largest movements in Europe.

The Federal Allotment Garden Act serves a protective function in matters relating to rent caps, protection against termination, the conclusion of open-ended tenancy agreements, compensation arrangements and the provision of replacement land when allotment garden plots are requisitioned in the public interest.¹

Members: approx. 900,000

Associations: approx. 13,000

Bundesverband der Kleingartenvereine Deutschlands e.V.

Hermannstraße 186 12049 Berlin

Email: bkd@kleingarten-bund.de

Website: www.kleingarten-bund.de



Finland

Founded: 1930

Joined by 1931

Allotment gardens first appeared in Helsinki, Finland, in 1916. They were intended to provide the urban population with healthy food and opportunities for recreation. After the Second World War, they became more widespread, partly for reasons of self-sufficiency. Today, Finnish allotment gardens are strongly focused on leisure and environmental education.

Members: 3,850

Associations: 32

Suomen Siirtolapuutarhaliitto ry

Pengerkatu 9 B 39 FI - 00530 HELSINKI

Email: info@siirtolapuutarhaliitto.fi

Website: www.siirtolapuutarhaliitto.fi



France

Founded in 1896

Founding member in 1926

In France, the 'jardins ouvriers' (workers' allotments) spread rapidly from 1896 onwards. Abbé Jules Lemire, a Catholic priest and Member of Parliament, founded the 'Ligue Française du Coin de Terre et du Foyer'. Allotments were regarded here not only as a means of combating poverty, but also as a tool for social discipline and moral strengthening. After the world wars, the sites were reorganised under the term 'jardins familiaux'. Today, they play a role in urban sustainability strategies.

Members: approx. 13,000

Associations: 86

Fédération Nationale des Jardins Familiaux et Collectifs

86 Bis rue Amelot, building D. F - 75011 PARIS

Email: contact@jardins-familiaux.asso.fr

Website: www.jardins-familiaux.asso.fr



United Kingdom

Founded in 1930

Founding member in 1926

British allotments have a particularly long tradition dating back to the 18th century, when land was expropriated under the 'Enclosure Acts' and small plots were granted to the landless as compensation. In the 20th century, allotments took on new significance, particularly during the First and Second World Wars, when they formed part of the 'Dig for Victory' campaigns. Today, the focus is on leisure, self-sufficiency and biodiversity, and there is strong demand for plots.

Members: approx. 132,000

Clubs: over 2,200 clubs and organisations

The National Allotment Society

O'Dell House/Hunters Road GB - CORBY
Northamptonshire NN17 5JE
Email: contact@thenas.org.uk
Website: <https://thenas.org.uk/>



Luxembourg

Founded in 1928

Founding member in 1926

In Luxembourg, the allotment garden movement developed from the early 20th century onwards, closely linked to the industrial development of the south of the country. Many gardens were initially used for self-sufficiency. Today, federations such as the "Liga Gaart an Heem" are actively working to promote an ecological approach and the integration of new sections of the population.

Members: approx. 15,500

Associations: 90 sections

Liga Gaart an Heem

97, rue de Bonnevoie L - 1260 LUXEMBOURG
Email: liguectf@pt.lu
Website: www.ctf.lu



Netherlands

Founded in 1928

Joined by 1931

The Dutch 'volkstuinten' first appeared around 1895 in Rotterdam and Amsterdam. During both world wars, they were key elements of the food supply. Due to high levels of urbanisation, they continue to play an important role as urban recreational spaces to this day. Their strong organisational structure is reflected in national associations.

Number of members: approx. 33,000

Clubs: approx. 220

AVVN: gardening together, naturally

Paulus Borstraat 41, NL-3812 TA Amersfoort

Email: info@avvn.nl

Website: www.avvn.nl



Norway

Founded in 1927

Joined in 1970

Norway adopted the allotment garden model from 1910 onwards, initially in Oslo. Here too, the two world wars were a key driving force. Since the 1970s, Norwegian allotment gardens have increasingly been seen as spaces for leisure and recreation, with an emphasis on environmental and health aspects.

Members: approx. 2,000

Associations: 15 sites

Norsk Kolonihageforbund

Postboks 1928 Vika 0110 OSLO

Email: forbundet@kolonihager.no

Website: www.kolonihager.no



Austria

Founded in 1916

Founding member in 1926

In Austria, the movement began at the start of the 20th century, gaining particular momentum during the First World War, when the people of Vienna were reliant on allotment gardens due to food shortages. The 'settlers' movement after 1918 led to the establishment of numerous gardening and housing associations. Today, Vienna's allotment garden sites are established both as leisure gardens and as regular residential areas.

Members: approx. 40,200

Associations: approx. 400

Zentralverband der Kleingärtner und Siedler Österreichs

Simon-Wiesenthal-Gasse 2 A – 1020 VIENNA

Email: zvwien@kleingartner.at

Website: www.kleingartner.at



Koloniträdgårdsförbundet

Åsögatan 149, 116 32 Stockholm 08-556 930 80 www.koloni.org

Sweden

Founded in 1921

Joined in 1927

Swedish 'koloniträdgårdar' were established from the 1890s onwards, inspired by German and Danish models. They served to promote health, children's education and self-sufficiency. Today, they are an integral part of the green space system in many towns and cities and play a central role in promoting biodiversity.

Members: approx. 24,800

Associations: approx. 250

Koloniträdgårdsförbundet

Gustavslundsvägen 141 SE-167 51 Bromma

Email: kansli@koloni.org

Website: www.kolonitradgardsforbundet.se



Switzerland

Founded in 1925

Founding member in 1926

Switzerland adopted the allotment garden model around 1900, initially in Basel, Zurich and Geneva. During the war years, 'family gardens' played a vital role in food security. Today, they are heavily regulated and some command very high lease prices. In addition to recreational use, their educational and environmental functions are increasingly emphasised.

Members: approx. 20,000

Associations: approx. 180 sections

Schweizer Familiengärtner Verband (SFGV/FSJF)

Heinrich-Federer-Strasse 32 CH - 8038 Zürich

Email: rahel.meier@familiengaertner.ch

Website: www.familiengaertner.ch

Former member federations

Poland

Joined by 1931²

Re-joined in 1974³

Application for membership in 1990

Withdrew in 2015⁴

Japan

The Federation for Japan Allotment Garden has been linked to the Fédération Internationale through a cooperation agreement since 16th March 2006. It was a full member from 2015 to 2024.

Ireland

Member until 1931⁵

Withdrew in 1940

Italy

Member until 1931⁶

Withdrew in 1940

Czechoslovakia

Member until 1931⁷

Withdrew in 1942

Czech Republic

Re-accession 1998⁸

Withdrew in 2008⁹

Slovakia

Re-entry 1998¹⁰

Withdrew in 2015¹¹

¹Information leaflet published by the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux. 3rd edition. Luxembourg 2016, p. 25

²⁻⁸Information leaflet published by the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux. 3rd edition. Luxembourg 2016, p. 6

⁹ <https://www.zahradkari.cz/czs/> [as at 15 September 2026]

^{10, 11}Information brochure published by the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux. 3rd edition. Luxembourg 2016, p. 6

Overviews

International congresses

Congress/Year	Venue Motto/Theme
1. 20th to 22nd September 1927	Luxembourg The overall issue of the allotment garden movement
2. 6th to 7th September 1929	Essen In conjunction with the 7th National Allotment Gardeners' Day of the German Federation
3. 7th to 9th November 1931	Brussels Workers' Gardens and Home Ownership
4. 8th to 10th September 1933	Vienna
5. 21st to 24th September 1935	Posen
6. 7th to 12th July 1937	Paris
7. 29th to 30th July 1949	London The re-establishment of the Office International.
8. 3rd to 6th August 1951	Luxembourg The development of allotment gardens in various countries.
9. 4th to 6th September 1953	Amsterdam Allotment gardens and their role in the social, physical and psychological spheres.
10. 26th to 28th August 1955	Vienna The significance of allotment gardens in the national economy and in modern civilisation.
11. 22nd to 24th August 1958	Brussels Urban planning and allotment gardens.
12. 4th to 6th September 1959	Dortmund The importance of allotment gardens today.
13. 9th to 10th September 1961	Geneva Do free hours also mean freedom?

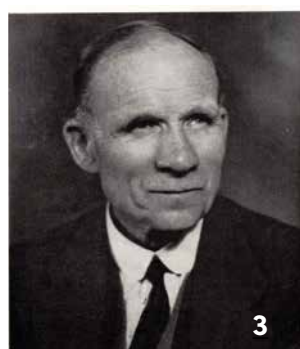
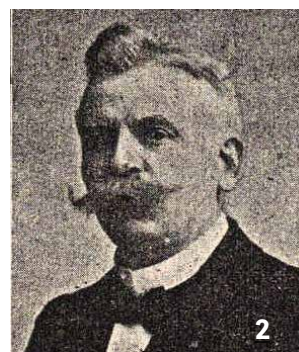
14. 22nd to 23rd June 1963 Paris
Establishment of allotment garden sites.
15. 27th to 29th August 1965 Copenhagen
Allotment gardens: a leisure garden in and around the city.
16. 15th to 17th September 1967 Luxembourg
Allotment gardens and the worker's right to leisure.
17. 12th to 14th June 1970 Stockholm
The garden: a source of balance for modern people.
18. 7th to 10th September 1972 Vienna
Modern allotment garden planning as a structural element of urban development.
19. 12th to 15th September 1974 Amsterdam
Allotment gardens and spatial planning.
20. 7th to 11th September 1976 Birmingham
Allotments and Leisure.
21. 30th August to 3rd September 1978 Bremen
The political and social value of allotment gardens.
22. 3rd to 7th September 1980 Basel
Allotments and the family.
23. 5th to 7th April 1982 Brussels
The allotment garden and leisure time.
24. 29th August to 2nd September 1984 Copenhagen
The legal protection of allotment gardens and their incorporation into the city's development plans.
25. 27th to 31st August 1986 Paris
Allotment gardens and ecology.
26. 31st August to 4th September 1988 Luxembourg
The contribution of the family allotment to the human and natural environment in urban areas
27. 24th to 26th August 1990 Stockholm
The importance of allotment gardens for the future social evolution of our society.
28. 27th to 29th August 1992 The Hague
Green Without Borders.

29. 31st August to 3rd September 1994 **Vienna**
'Equal rights for all' – legal certainty for
allotment gardens and allotment gardeners in Europe
30. 22nd to 25th August 1996 **Dresden**
Allotment gardens – indispensable for people, society,
nature and the environment.
31. 26th to 28th August 1998 **Brussels**
Promotion of allotment gardens, economic, social
and environmental aspects, as well as the role of the authorities.
32. 24th to 26th August 2000 **Lausanne**
Social aspects of allotment gardening in Europe
33. 21st to 25th August 2002 **York**
Agenda 21 and urban planning
34. 24th to 28th August 2005 **Lyon**
Allotments in the heart of cities
35. 28th to 30th August 2008 **Krakow**
The future of allotment gardens in Europe
36. 18th to 20th August 2011 **Copenhagen**
Allotments of the Future
37. 28th to 31st August 2014 **Utrecht**
All eyes on allotment gardens
38. 17th to 20th August 2016 **Vienna**
Expert advice on sustainability and
the responsible use of resources
39. 27th to 28th August 2024 **Berlin**
Allotment gardens in Europe: Green spaces for all

Staffing

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1955 to 1958	Karl Fürstenhofer, President of the Austrian Federation
1955 to 1958	P. Visser, President of the Dutch Federation

Secretary-General

1947 to April 1987	Dr Aloyse Weirich – Image 12
1987 to 2023	Malou Weirich – Image 13
Since July 2023	Sylvia Wohatschek – Image 14



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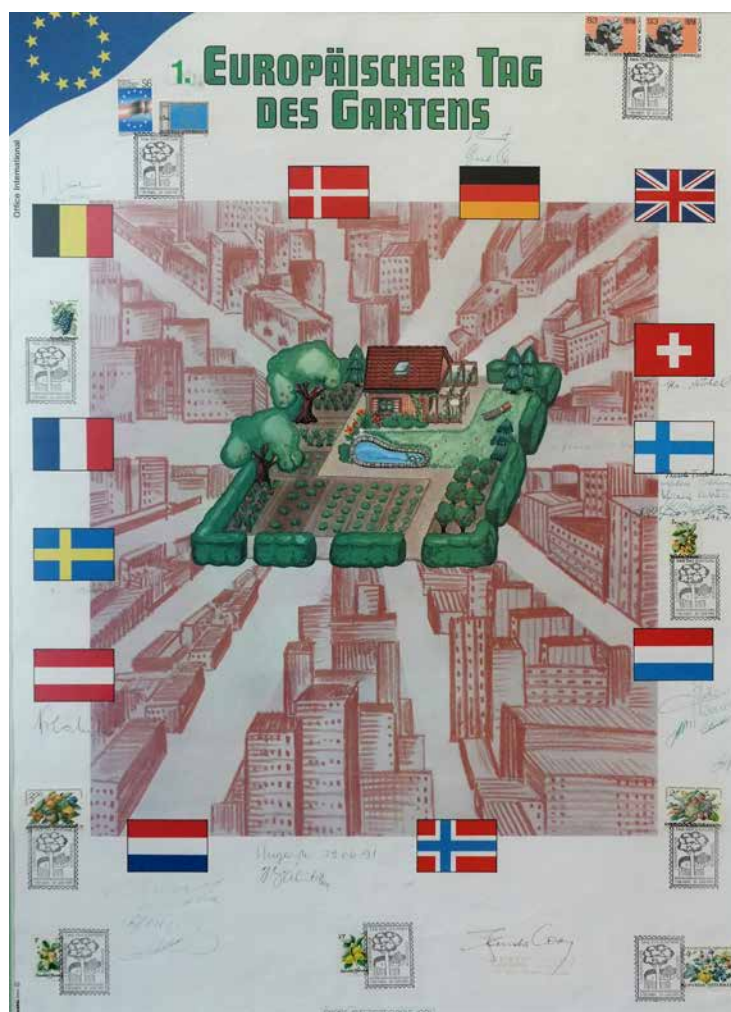
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European/International Day of Gardens

1. 29th June 1991 Vienna, Austria
“Allotments: Green spaces for all – Allotments – Oases for healthy recreation and meaningful leisure activities for all sections of the population”
2. 27th June 1993 Sandnes, Norway
“Allotment gardeners as protectors of the urban and natural environment. Allotments in urban and spatial planning”
3. 13th June 2010 Bremen, Germany
“A passion for gardening”



International seminars

- 1981 Virklund, Denmark
- 1983 Herrsching, Germany
- 1985 Bremen, Germany
- 1987 Düsseldorf, Germany
- 1989 Liège, Belgium
- 1991 Vienna, Austria ‘Environmentally responsible behaviour in allotment gardens’
- 1993 Sandnes, Norway
- 1995 Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- 1997 Hradec Králové, Czech Republic
- 1999 Warsaw, Poland
- 2001 Munich, Germany
- 2003 Bratislava, Slovakia “Water, organic fruit growing & allotments in the heart of the city”
- 2006 Vienna, Austria “Allotments – Good for People and Nature”
- 2009 Ghent, Belgium “Sustainable ecological use of allotment gardens”
- 2012 Zurich, Switzerland ‘How are we perceived by those around us, and what image do the public, the media and politicians have of our allotment movement?’

Study Sessions

17th to 20th June 2004, Warsaw, Poland

‘Policies of European and national allotment garden federations towards children and young people’

31st August to 2nd September 2007, Denmark, Norway

‘Fundamental values of allotment gardens’

26th to 28th August 2010, Birmingham, United Kingdom

“Designing sustainable allotment garden sites”

22nd to 25th August 2013, Berlin, Germany

‘The achievements of the allotment garden movement and their effective reflection in the media and in political decision-making’

27th to 30th August 2015, Luxembourg

“Expert advice on sustainability and the responsible use of resources”, in preparation for the 2016 Congress in Vienna

24th to 27th August 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark

‘The future functioning of the Office International’

22nd to 25th August 2018, Kortrijk, Belgium

‘Allotments and urban planning’

21st to 24th August 2019, Graz, Austria

‘Biodiversity in allotment gardens’

17th to 20th August 2022, Stockholm, Sweden

‘Social Sustainability, Lobbying and Collaboration with Other Organisations’

14th to 17th August 2023, Cambridge, UK

‘Soil Health’

21st to 24th August 2025, Tulln, Austria

‘We Are Prepared – How Allotment Gardeners can respond to Today’s Crises’

Resolutions and joint positions

Resolutions 3rd September 1959 / Dortmund (DE)

Resolution

The international allotment gardeners' movement is following efforts to preserve peace with great concern. In view of the current political tensions, the international allotment gardeners' movement issues an urgent appeal to all responsible statesmen around the world:

“Grant us and preserve peace for us!”

True to their ideal of peaceful gardening, the international allotment gardeners pledge to do their part to help realise this human appeal.

Resolution

The 12th International Allotment Gardeners' Congress in Dortmund makes an urgent appeal to all countries to take the initiative in doing everything possible to successfully counter the mental and physical exhaustion of the workforce. To this end, it is not enough merely to reduce working hours; rather, the leisure time thus gained must also be spent in a meaningful way. The Congress regards a person's connection to a small plot of garden as one of the most effective means of meaningful leisure activity. Countries, cities and local authorities should therefore endeavour to make more allotment land available than has been the case to date. This appeal is directed in particular to town planners. They bear responsibility for the city of tomorrow. Passive, ornamental greenery must be complemented by the active greenery of small gardens.

This is for the sake of humanity!

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Resolution 29th August 1992 / The Hague (NL)

Allotment Gardeners for the Environment

Resolution of the Office International des Jardins Ouvriers et Familiaux and the representatives of the member organisations, who were gathered in The Hague (Netherlands) from 27 to 29 August 1992.

1. Allotment holders as users of the environment

Allotment holders make use of the environment and as such are dependent upon an intact environment.

2. Environmental impacts affecting private allotments

In view of the above, allotment holders are particularly affected by the increasing pollution of the soil, the atmosphere and the water.

3. Allotment holders as environmental conservationists or polluters

Allotment holders do not only influence the environment through their conduct as normal citizens but also through the particular way in which they treat the soil, the plants and the animals committed to their care. As a rule, this is done in a manner conducive to, or even compatible with, the environment. However, it may still happen now and then that allotment holders do not take proper care and hence cause damage to the environment, which may be either attributable to a lack of knowledge or to other reasons.

4. Allotment holders' responsibility for the environment

Allotment holders assume a special responsibility for the ground assigned to them, especially when this ground - as is done in many instances - is made available on particularly favourable terms and even in central urban districts notwithstanding other users' conflicting interests. This responsibility calls for appropriate action.

5. Concrete action to be taken in view of allotment holders' responsibility

Allotment holders declare themselves:

- for the establishment and extension of a system of qualified "expert advice",
- for an officially authorised "proof of proficiency" for expert advisers,
- for the introduction of a "good expert practice in allotment keeping"; this should be done on a step-by-step basis and in a coordinated manner first at national and later at international level, e.g. in the form of a manual or a set of rules",*),
- in particular for the concept of "integrated control"**) including soil protection,
- for an environmentally compatible and hygienic composting and disposal of wastes from allotments,
- for the development and improvement of a training concept for those holding a mandate in the allotment sector and for each individual allotment holder,
- for the use of "environmentally friendly products", especially products carrying an environmental certification mark such as "Blauer Engel" or "ECO label",
- for a phasing-out of chemical plant treatment products by systematically implementing the "integrated control" concept and new findings adopted from "ecological agriculture".

6. Functional extension in allotment gardening

Until recently, private allotments mainly served the purposes of the allotment holder and his family, e.g. for producing a yield, for recreational purposes, for meaningful leisure pursuits, for enhancing human health by outdoor exercise, for promoting a more family-minded attitude through joint activities in the garden as well as social contacts.

Today, however, private allotments are beginning also to fulfil an increasing number of public functions, such as reducing the pressure on recreation areas in the immediate vicinity of conurbations, contributing to the public green (especially areas accessible to everyone), promoting cross-link biotope concepts, serving for instructional

purposes e.g. school gardens, improving the local microclimate, etc.

7. Conclusions to be drawn from this functional extension

Therefore, the Office International des Jardins Ouvriers et Familiaux and the representatives of the affiliated member organisations support the following initiatives:

7.1

To inform the competent authorities of the specific problems confronting the allotment holder and his family, the general public and the environment as such as a result of the increasing pollution of the soil, the atmosphere and the water and as a result of the still unsolved problem of an orderly disposal of wastes from private allotments. The aim of this is to prevent, among other things, a further close-down of allotment grounds or the imposition of crop restrictions for fruits and vegetables;

7.2

To reach an agreement with the competent authorities ensuring that any future assignment of land for private allotment gardens be made conditional upon the results of a specific Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for this purpose.

The aim of this is to prevent such allotments from being established on heavily polluted ground or at sites whose peripheral location would involve a considerable increase in traffic;

7.3

To gain the competent authorities support for the idea of a “manual for good expert practice in allotment keeping” to be based on the “integrated control” concept, and for appropriate instructional and advanced training measures;

7.4

To appeal to trade and industry to offer products, in particular plant treatment products, in a manner conducive to the environment (e.g. ECO label) and tailored to suit the needs of allotment holders, i.e., appropriate package sizes and environmentally friendly packaging material;

7.5

To seek to establish a permanent basis of cooperation with environmental pressure groups and horticultural associations in order to ensure a mutual exchange of experience thus prompting allotment holders to increasingly adjust their management practices to aims of environmental protection and professional expertise.

^{*)} Comparable, for example, to the concept of ‘good laboratory practice’ within the European Communities for the chemicals sector

^{**)} ‘Integrated Pest Management’ (see EC/COM (98) 34 final of 24 February 1989): ‘The targeted application of a combination of biological, chemical, cultural and plant breeding measures, whereby the use of chemical plant protection products is limited to the necessary minimum in order to keep infestation by harmful organisms at a level that does not cause economically unacceptable damage or loss’. (Integrated plant protection; integrated pest control: The rational application of a combination of biological, chemical, cultural or plant breeding measures, whereby the use of chemical plant protection products is limited to the necessary minimum.)

^{***)} Environmental Impact Assessment

Resolution 29th June 1993 / Sandnes (NO)

Allotment Gardens and Spatial Planning Guidelines adopted in Sandnes on 29 June 1993

Guidelines

Through appropriate urban planning and, in particular, appropriate green space planning, the urban and landscape character is to be preserved and developed, the quality of life enhanced, and the best living conditions for people created. In the countries that are members of the European Federation, allotment gardens represent a characteristic and traditional form of green and recreational spaces. They are often part of a coherent green network. They provide an important counterbalance for those sections of the population who live in densely built-up urban areas with insufficient green spaces.

However, allotment gardens also continue to fulfil an important social function. The vast majority of allotment holders are tenants living in flats without a garden. Allotments offer them a counterbalance to shortcomings in their living spaces and neighbourhoods, as well as to what is often a one-sided working life. There, they can create a private recreational space for themselves in a natural environment. This is particularly important for families with young children, who often find that there are insufficient play facilities in their neighbourhoods.

In addition, the economic benefits of allotment gardens for people on lower incomes and for large families are of considerable importance. Furthermore, they enrich the range of recreational spaces available to the wider population. With their specially designated plots for the elderly and people with disabilities – which are often integrated into the scheme – as well as their school gardens, they are of great significance to these groups of residents. Through their design, they contribute both to nature conservation and environmental protection, as well as to improving quality of life, and thus fulfil a public function – all under financially favourable conditions for the authorities, as the allotment gardens are maintained by the users themselves.

However, they also continue to fulfil a private function for individual users, enabling city dwellers, amongst other things, to grow healthy vegetables and fruit; to engage in light, health-promoting activity; to relax in a healthy environment; and to maintain or restore their physical and mental balance. For this reason, allotment gardens must be incorporated into urban and green space planning. For this reason, the existing allotment gardens and allotment sites must be preserved and safeguarded to the greatest extent possible. For this reason, allotment gardens tailored to demand (in terms of number and layout) must be planned, established and legally secured. Only through the combined effect of measures under public and private law, as well as association regulations, can adequate provision be made for urban planning requirements, organisational objectives, design standards for the sites, and the design and usage patterns of allotment gardens.

1) Urban planning requirements

- Allotment gardens are individual recreational spaces within green areas. They must therefore preserve the character of green spaces, both in terms of their appearance and their form of use.
- As part of the urban green network, allotment gardens should be integrated into green corridors.
- Allotment sites should be accessible to the public as recreational spaces, allow free movement through them, and foster interpersonal relationships.
- Allotment gardens should be situated in a convenient location in relation to residential areas, possibly near sports and leisure centres.
- They should be accessible on foot or by public transport so that they can be used for daytime leisure activities as well as at weekends.
- Where possible, new allotment garden sites should not be established away from built-up areas.
- Allotment gardens, like all green spaces, should cause as little environmental impact as possible (noise, air and soil pollution).
- When planning new sites or renovating existing ones, sufficient consideration

should be given to design aspects.

- Existing allotment gardens should be safeguarded wherever possible – they must not be used merely as placeholders for higher-value land uses.

2) Organisational objectives

- Allocation criterion: Residents of flats without gardens and people who, due to their life circumstances, have a particular need, should have the opportunity to be allocated a garden plot to cultivate for personal, non-commercial purposes and for recreation.
- Allocation should be governed by objective and social criteria.
- Allocation costs should be kept as low as possible. (This applies both to the allocation of a new allotment plot and to transfers.)
- Greater participation in community activities (social events and charitable allotment-related activities).
- Establishment of allotment garden information centres in towns and local authorities, which, in collaboration with the relevant specialist departments and allotment garden associations, provide allotment gardeners with information and advice.

3) Design standards for the internal structure of allotment garden sites

- Allotment gardens should display a variety of designs and avoid uniformity.
- Particular attention should be paid to the design of the allotment plot.
- Plots should generally range in size from 250 to 450 square metres. A variety of plot sizes should be available.
 - Development of design concepts.
- Allotment sites should be clearly structured and feature a balanced mix of public, semi-public and private areas.
- For the planning of new sites, as well as for the regeneration of existing sites, detailed urban planning parameters should be specified in the development plan.
- The principle of simplicity and economy should be observed in the design of allotment garden sites.
- The paths within the allotment garden should be designed in a varied manner and serve to enhance the visual and

functional organisation of the site.

- Preference should be given to the use of natural materials.
- Car parks should be laid out and designed in such a way as to avoid disruption.
- The sites should be surrounded by fencing that serves to provide protection and visual integration, whilst avoiding the impression of isolation.
- The allotment garden sites should have communal facilities that are available to association members and, to some extent, to the public.
- In the water supply to the allotment gardens, emphasis should be placed on quality assurance and economical consumption.
- The standard of waste disposal facilities should be kept modest in the interests of preserving the green character of the site and saving costs, whilst waste disposal requirements should be minimised.
- Compostable waste should be recycled within the allotment site.
- The demand for electrical power for work purposes in the allotment sites should be kept to a minimum wherever possible.

4) Design and usage patterns of the allotment plot

- The majority of the allotment garden's floor area should be used for gardening for personal consumption.
- With regard to planting and detailed design, diversity and the local character must be preserved.
- Demonstration and educational gardens should be established.
- The garden regulations should place particular emphasis on the environmental sustainability of the methods and products used in the garden.
- The allotment cottage or arbour should blend in with its surroundings and the overall appearance of the site.
- Allotment garden sheds must not be used as second homes, unless permitted or encouraged by legislation.
- The size, materials and design of the sheds or arbours should meet urban planning and local character requirements, and

costs should be kept to a minimum.

- Establishment of various types of allotment garden schemes: tenant gardens, kitchen gardens, and recreational and leisure gardens.

5) Conclusion

Reason:

- the constant demand for allotment gardens in all European countries;
- the need to take all elements, including allotment gardens, into account in a balanced spatial planning approach;
- the need to determine land use for all types of use in the long term;
- the need to safeguard green spaces, including allotment gardens, by incorporating them into land-use plans and, where appropriate, into national constitutions;
- the need to create people-centred cities for the future whilst avoiding the mistakes of the past; the allotment garden federations united within the Office International, as representatives of the interests of European allotment gardeners, call upon the respective competent governments in Europe, and in particular the European Community and the Council of Europe:
- to take allotment gardens, in their various forms, into account in their work as an integral part of urban development and landscape design;
- to make provision for the need for

- allotment gardens in their planning;
- to provide them with legal certainty by incorporating them, together with other green spaces, into development plans, i.e. to guarantee their long-term use and
- thereby provide them with the foundation and the opportunity to be designed and developed in accordance with urban planning and environmentally sound criteria;
- to alleviate the demand for allotment gardens, to promote the creation of alternatives to allotment gardens, e.g. in the form of terraced flats, courtyards with gardens, etc., as the available land within urban areas cannot be increased;
- to ensure that all types of green space are placed under constitutional protection;
- when drawing up an urban development plan, to develop an allotment garden concept, if possible in collaboration with representatives of allotment gardeners and based on the principles set out above;
- where it does not already exist, to initiate legislation on allotment gardens;
- to include representatives of allotment garden organisations as advisory members on planning committees;
- to propose the establishment of a section dedicated to allotment gardens within municipal, regional or national committees for green space planning, where this does not yet exist.

Resolution 25th August 1996 / Dresden (DE)

Allotment gardens – indispensable for people, society, nature and the environment

Resolution of the XXXth Congress of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux held in Dresden from 22nd to 25th August 1996

The representatives of the 3,150,000 leisure garden families of Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, England, Finland, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, and Switzerland, acknowledge that:

1. People and society

The role that allotment gardens play both for individual people and in society have often undergone a certain evolution and has adapted itself to the developments of the society in the course of their more than 100 years of history. Besides their use for gardening purposes, the leisure gardens are today a place for recreation, leisure time occupation and personal development for all people, influencing the lay-out of the leisure garden sites.

In order to be able to comply with these important functions, the participants of the International Congress ask that:

- sufficient areas for allotment gardens will be provided by the municipal, regional and national authorities to associations and/or federations.
- these areas should be laid out both near the residential areas with access by walking or by public means of transport and at the town borders in order to guarantee an adequate transition between the urban and the rural areas;
- the allotment gardens should be incorporated in urban planning schemes and construction plans.
- the authorities ask only moderate leases or do not levy the legal maximum of lease rental for allotment land if such a

maximum exists because of the social function of allotment gardens.

2. Nature and the Environment

Additionally, the allotment gardens fulfil today a vital function with respect to urban planning and ecology. In order to underline this, the leisure garden movement supports all ecological measures, measures for the safeguard of the biological diversity and the ecological gardening to be elaborated in form of a European legislation. The most important factor of this legislation should be a gardening respectful of the rules of the integrated plant protection respectively an horticulture contributing to the improvement of the groundwater. The leisure gardeners contribute consciously to stimulate the education of the society by the deepening of people's concern for the protection of nature and environment. This process could be stimulated by the transmission of a cultivation method adapted to allotment gardens to the next generation of leisure gardeners and the organisation of competitions. In addition the leisure gardeners favour the creation of common walking paths passing through the leisure garden sites, that should be part of the public green space.

In order to be able to comply as well in future with these important functions with the active support of the political responsible persons, the participants of this international congress ask that this European legislation will take into consideration:

- a consistent integration of the allotment gardens in the system of green zones and the landscape, in order to increase their attractiveness and quality.
- help so that a maximum share of the total areas could be reserved for public use in order to provide spare-time and recreation facilities for the general public in the form of so-called allotment parks when new allotment areas are laid out.
- suitable protective measures to minimise noise and other pollution effects on the gardens when planning allotment gardens near traffic zones.
- measures aiming at a gardening in accordance

with the requirements of nature and ecology when restructuring old allotment areas.

- advice and support of leisure garden federations and associations in their efforts to reach a generally applied gardening, that is respectful of nature.

3. Social Engagement and Volunteering

In addition to their contribution to the quality of life, the leisure gardens are a place enabling the development of fellowship. They offer the possibility to assume a social commitment, especially by exercising honorary and benevolent offices within these associations and federations. This social engagement is an important precondition for the functioning of a democratic society and a precondition for the so often required solidarity.

To remain able to interest sufficient citizens - especially younger persons - in working on a honorary basis in the future, the participants of this International Congress call for:

- an increase in the awareness of the social changes in our society with all their effects on honorary offices, in order to meet the new requirements placed on them; This requires a redefinition of the consideration

given to those that exercise a honorary office in the leisure garden movement;

- the support required to exercise honorary offices by arranging for more flexible working hours in business and administration wherever this is required, particularly for executive personnel;
- the adoption of appropriate measures to meet the security needs of people holding honorary offices through legislation regulating the extent of their liability; Our organisations are requested to grant to those that exercise a honorary office the necessary judicial protection;
- a minimisation of administrative regulations and legal provisions with respect to work on a honorary basis;
- the creation of opportunities for qualification and further training in order to meet the increased requirements placed on work on a honorary basis and to stimulate them by providing the necessary financial means;
- the improvement of the consideration of these offices in our society and the stipulation that the amounts that might be granted to cover costs expenditures have to be tax-free in order to stimulate the exercise of honorary offices for activities of public interest.

Resolution 28th August 1998 / Brussels (BE)

At the centre of the discussions during the 31st congress of the Office International from August 26th to August 28th the topic was “The promotion of the allotment and leisure gardens on the basis of its economic, social, and ecological significance as well as the role of the appropriate authorities in its realization”.

After examining seminar papers on principles and after detailed discussions on the topics mentioned above, the plenary session passes the following resolution:

The congress represents with its 280 delegates from Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden and Switzerland, altogether more than three million allotment holder families who run and cultivate more than 125,000 hectare garden land.

The congress realises:

- that the yield obtained by each allotment holder serves his self-sufficiency - even if to a different extent - and often serves to secure the basis of his livelihood,
- that by their ecologically responsible cultivation of these garden areas the allotment holders make an effective contribution to reduce the damage to the environment,
- that the allotment enables – inter alia – the unemployed, persons who have retired early, seniors, single parents, large families, and foreign fellow-citizens to get, apart from a sensible occupation and psychic stabilization, above all social integration.

The congress is of unanimous opinion that the goal of allotments in the spirit of the universal declaration of human rights of Dec. 10th 1948 is to contribute to the realization of economic, social, and cultural rights of man, which are indispensable to his dignity and the free development of his personality. Thus the allotment and leisure gardens realise the principles enunciated by the Heads of the State and Government who formulated them with regard to the social discrimination against certain groups on the occasion of their second

summit meeting in Strasbourg on October 10th and 11th, 1997.

The participants to the congress agree on a commitment to carry on devoting all their energies to the realization of the allotment holders' goals in the economic, ecological and social spheres.

The congress expects the appropriate authorities on European, national, regional as well as on local levels to support the essence of allotments in this endeavour.

Therefore the congress demands:

- that the representatives of the allotment and leisure garden organisations are appointed as fully authorized members into the corresponding committees, such as for town planning and environment,
- that allotment areas are covered in the municipalities' development schemes as permanent allotment areas or covered by other legal regulations in all countries,
- that, furthermore, land in the vicinity of the residential buildings will be provided in the plans for land utilization for new allotments,
- that the rents for allotment land are kept low according to the social function of the allotment gardens,

that in all the areas regular analyses of soil become a self-evident measure for all allotment holders in order to ensure for the future an ecological cultivation of the garden land.

To realise the tasks and demands mentioned in this resolution it is indispensable to support the allotment and leisure garden organisations on all levels, not only in non-material ways, but also reasonably materially.

Brussels, 28 August 1998

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Resolution 26th August 2000 / Lausanne (CH)

Social aspects of allotment gardening in Europe

The subject concerning the social aspects of the allotment garden movement in Europe was at the centre of the discussions of the 32nd congress of the International Office held in Lausanne from August 24th to August 26th, 2000.

After a previous enquiry in the national organisations and intensive discussions on this subject, the plenary assembly decides to adopt the following resolution:

The allotment gardens have in most European countries assumed an important social and socio-political function.

- The changing world of employment requires more physical and psychological effort for people who need more recreation and contact with nature, which can be found in allotment gardening.
- For families with children the allotment garden offers an ideal addition to the family lodging. Especially families with many children, that can only rarely afford a holiday, find in the allotment garden an affordable recreation. The discovery of nature allows the family to experience the benefits flowing from community and solidarity.
- The ability of the allotment garden movement to stimulate integration offers to single parent families, immigrants, foreign citizens and handicapped persons a special chance to create and pursue social contacts.
- The number of people that don't take part in the professional life is increasing steadily. People become older. The expectation of life is situated currently at an average of 75 years and is increasing. Due to this fact, the allotment garden is becoming for even more elderly people a meaningful occupation during their retirement.
- The involuntary leisure time due to unemployment and early retirement is compensated by the possibility offered to those concerned to prove their profes-

sional knowledge and skills in the associations. The recognition of their own achievements by the community contributes to safeguard the persons' self-esteem.

In a period where the state withdraws from many social functions, the allotment garden associations could assume important social missions. From this situation flows an obligation for the states to improve the basic conditions of the allotment garden movement. This social obligation corresponds to the common European heritage, the importance of which the Heads of State and Government of the member states of the Council of Europe emphasised in October 1997.

Therefore the delegates of the 32nd Congress of the International Office as representatives of more than 3 million families of allotment gardeners request all decision making persons on all levels of politics and administration to take the following obligatory basic principles of the allotment garden movement into consideration in their decisions.

The Congress expects all the competent authorities at European, national, regional and local level to support the allotment garden movement as an element of our common European heritage in those efforts.

They therefore call for:

1. Existing allotment garden sites have to be safeguarded all over Europe. Therefore they have – if this is not yet the case – to be quickly protected either by their integration in the town planning schemes or by other legal regulations, regardless of their size. In order to meet future needs, land should be allocated for the creation of new allotment sites.
2. To allow, in future, large groups of the population to rent an allotment garden, a socially acceptable rent has to be guaranteed.
3. The costs e.g. taxes, fees, and contributions etc. that have to be supported by the allotment gardeners cannot be increased, because otherwise the possibilities of financing allotment garden sites will be questioned and entire allotment

garden sites risk being closed down throughout Europe.

4. Because of the outstanding socio-political function of the allotment garden movement in Europe, financial support is still essential and has to be guaranteed in future.
5. Where such support is not provided, or is no longer provided, the political forces responsible are called upon to create the necessary legal framework for this.

Only in this way the important socio-political function of the allotment garden movement in Europe can be safeguarded for the future.

Lausanne, 26th August 2000.

Decision 26th August 2000 / Lausanne (CH)

Decision on the ecological aspects of the leisure garden movement.

Allotment gardeners from various European countries are convinced of the ecological significance of allotment gardens. National allotment garden organisations, as well as the international federation, the Office International, have repeatedly demonstrated this in numerous statements, but above all through their practical actions.

This issue, which is vital for the future of our society, was also the subject of discussions at the XXXII Congress of the Office International in Lausanne.

The following aspects of these discussions were particularly highlighted:

- Allotment sites are generally located in densely populated areas. They therefore provide a much-needed local recreational space for many people – allotment holders and members of the public alike – which requires little travel and thus helps to protect the environment. As valuable green spaces, they provide habitats for plants and animals and contribute to species conservation and biodiversity.

This is ensured above all by favouring plants and varieties suited to the local conditions.

The soil is the foundation for the continued existence of plants, animals and humans. To maintain and enhance soil fertility, sustainable, nature-based management of the soil is essential. This also promotes beneficial organisms and active soil

life. Organic farming should therefore be specifically supported, and the use of synthetic chemical fertilisers and plant protection products should be avoided wherever possible. Composting practices that promote natural cycles, the cultivation of mixed crops, site-adapted, robust and healthy plants, as well as balanced crop rotation and environmentally sound plant protection, keep the soil fertile and prevent plants from being infested by pests and diseases.

The application of good-quality compost as required keeps the soil fertile. Soil samples are used to assess nutrient requirements. When applying wood ash and using rainwater, particular care must be taken to avoid a possible over-concentration of pollutants. The responsible use of water in the garden contributes to the protection of natural resources. Healthy plant waste is not burnt but composted. Collection points and take-back schemes for old chemicals support the disposal of waste in accordance with environmental regulations.

The ecological aspects mentioned are also of considerable socio-political relevance and are promoted amongst the general public by the allotment garden movement. Beyond the physical and mental well-being of individuals, they form the foundation for the sustainable use of gardens and, at the same time, a basis for the livelihood of future generations.

Lausanne, 26th August 2000.

Decision 26th August 2000 / Lausanne (CH)

Decision on the town planning scheme aspects of the allotment and leisure garden movement.

Allotment gardeners across Europe recognise the importance of allotment gardening. This lies primarily in the conservation of the soil as a prerequisite for a healthy diet, in its contribution to the upkeep and preservation of urban green spaces, and in the improvement of the urban climate.

Unfortunately, this contribution by allotment gardeners to public welfare receives far too little recognition in our society. For this reason, amongst other things, allotment sites are still being removed or relocated to the outskirts of towns and cities as a result of urban redevelopment plans.

In view of this trend, strategies are needed to ensure our objectives have a lasting impact. These include, in particular:

- Improving the exchange of experience and coordinating initiatives and projects in the allotment gardening sector.
- Collaboration in the planning and implementation of projects with representatives from politics and the public sector, as well as with like-minded organisations and interest groups.
- Stepping up public relations work to better inform and engage the public in support of our objectives.
- Strengthening allotment gardeners' personal responsibility in the self-management of allotment garden sites.

These strategies are primarily aimed at safeguarding existing allotment garden sites. They are to be implemented at EU level, and by individual countries and local authorities, which create the spatial planning conditions through laws and regulations.

The development and safeguarding of these sites is primarily the responsibility of local authorities. Allotment gardeners must be involved at all levels of the planning and safeguarding of allotment garden sites.

Local politicians must be made aware of their specific obligations towards the environmental and social objectives of the allotment garden movement and provided with the relevant information.

This also applies to the public at local level. In particular, the press and other media must be mobilised to support the interests of allotment gardening in order to influence necessary political decisions.

Lausanne, 26 August 2000.

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Resolution 30th August 2008 / Kraków (PL)

The Future of Allotment Gardens in Europe

The representatives of the European federations from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden and Switzerland associating almost 3 million allotment gardeners, proceeding in Cracow during the XXXV International Congress of Allotment and Family Gardens, acknowledge the necessity for the further development of allotment gardens in Europe, which for over a hundred years have had an enormous meaning for families, society and environment.

The participants of the congress acknowledge:

- That the idea of allotment gardening is still up to date and that the allotment gardens continue to be necessary for the future generations. Therefore it is necessary to preserve them in Europe. This will demand from our movement and from each national federation conscious policies and specific actions.
- That it is essential to protect the allotment gardens for the future by law. This is the basis for a further development of the allotment gardens and a guarantee of their preservation for the coming generations.
- That a State and government policy aiming at supporting allotment gardening is necessary. The allotment gardens assume social missions: They are a place of meeting and fellowship for young and old, families, people of different generations, workless people and professionally active people of different social and national origins. Therefore the governments should provide proper policies and support for the national allotment garden federations.
- That there is a need to promote the idea of allotment gardening, especially by internet, press and television. City inhabitants should have the possibility to get informed on the various values and advantages of the allotment gardens, and in consequence to appreciate their positive meaning for the urban communities and the environment.

Action must be taken to achieve social support and create a positive image of the allotment garden movement.

- That the allotment gardens are an essential element for the physical and mental health of people and increase the quality of life of all citizens. Healthy fruit and vegetables, cultivated in the own garden enrich the menu. The contact with the growth and the development of nature and the creativity while gardening stimulate the senses. Contacts and fellowship in the association help to avoid loneliness.

The participants of the congress recommend:

- That the European allotment garden federations develop a greater activity with the European Union. Such a large number of Europeans should be present on the European level, and should be recognised by the European Institutions.
- That the functioning and management of allotment gardens should be improved. This involves developing new gardens and modernising existing ones with the thought of fulfilling the changing needs of future generations.
- That the federations should establish or strengthen their cooperation with the municipal authorities. This refers especially to the task to protect the continuous existence of the allotment gardens within the city zoning policies. This requests the inscription of the allotment gardens in the urban planning schemes.
- That the federations adopt a rational policy concerning the process of allotment garden liquidations, because the future of the European allotments also depends on this. The federations must make their decisions in these matters with deliberation, properly reviewing each situation and must guarantee the restoration of liquidated gardens.

The Congress, concerned about the future of allotment gardens in Europe, drawing on tradition and past achievements, and firmly convinced of their positive value for society and towns:

- 1) **Calls** upon all governments and Parliaments for support and help in continuing and developing the allotment gardening movement in all European countries.
- 2) **Calls upon the European Institutions for protection of allotment gardens in all member states, and also for creating political and legal conditions for the preservation and development of these gardens.**
- 3) **Requests, that the allotment movement throughout Europe will be recognised by European States and governments.**

The Congress is convinced that this resolution will receive a positive response from the national governments, as well as the European Union.

Kraków, 30 August 2008

Mission Statement 30th August 2014 / Utrecht (NL)

We exist for a good reason

Summary

The representatives of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux (International Allotment Garden Federation), which brings together 3 million allotment-holding families in Europe, unanimously adopted the following mission statement during their 37th International Congress in Utrecht from 28th to 30th August 2014. The first allotment gardens in Europe were established in the mid-19th century, and our international movement was founded on 3rd October 1926 in Luxembourg. Our movement provides allotment gardens to more than 3 million families across 14 European member countries. At the start of the 21st century, allotment gardens fulfil various vital functions within our societies, which are suffering from the crisis.

- Allotments are an indispensable source of food for the poorest
- They are healthy recreational areas for low-income families
- Gardening is a healthy physical activity. Furthermore, it helps people to relieve the stress of city life and helps older people to overcome depression caused by grief and loneliness
- They offer people of all ages, and especially the youngest, a place where they can discover nature and learn to grow healthy and organic fruit and vegetables
- They facilitate the integration of immigrants.
- Plots suitable for older people with reduced mobility and for people with disabilities are provided
- Allotment sites open to the public are the green lungs of our towns and cities
- Allotments contribute to the protection and development of biodiversity. In allotments, the variety of flora and fauna is greater than anywhere else in urban and peri-urban environments
- Our members respect and protect the environment
- Allotment holders consume the produce from their plots and help to reduce their carbon footprint
- The association's structures enable numerous volunteers to gain civic engagement and participate in city life
- Allotment schemes form an integral part of urban and regional spatial development policies. Our gardens, open to all, have a national and European perspective. We therefore call on national authorities and the European Union to recognise the efforts of our movement and to support and promote the protection and development of allotments in our countries, in order to meet the growing demand. The waiting lists are getting longer every year: this is linked to the number of people living in an urban environment where nature is scarce.

Mission Statement

Preamble

This mission statement sets out the identity, tasks and objectives of the Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Familiaux a.s.b.l. (Office International) as the European federation of allotment and family gardeners. It is based on the experiences of its national member federations and looks to the future. Shaping a sustainable allotment garden movement is our aspiration and the benchmark for our actions. We regard the further development of the allotment garden movement in European countries and the safeguarding of its social standing in the 21st century as our primary task. At the same time, we aim to provide conceptual support for the development of equivalent or similar organisations in other countries. At the heart of our work lies the representation of the interests of European allotment gardeners.

Our organisation

In Europe, the development of an organised allotment garden movement began in the mid-19th century. The call for an organisation to unite the individual national federations was realised on 3rd October 1926 with the formation of the 'Office International des Jardins Ouvriers', based in Luxembourg. The General Secretariat is still located there today. By 1931, 13 national federations were already members of the Office International. The Second World War interrupted its work. It was re-established in 1947. Currently, 14 national leagues belong to it. The European allotment garden movement comprises over 3 million allotment plots. This enables over 10 million people to take up gardening. This vast number of allotment sites is available to the public.

Our values

For more than 100 years, allotment gardening has held a firm place in European social life. It has weathered the upheavals of the 20th century and proven its sustainability. The shared social and ideological values of allotment holders form the bedrock of the movement's continued existence. The social bonds and financial circumstances of those involved have, on many occasions, withstood the various attempts by landowners to put allotment land to profitable use, and have contributed

to the social recognition the movement enjoys today. Allotments are indispensable in the modern city for many reasons.

The allotment garden scheme offers space for people and nature. It creates open spaces to accommodate changing living conditions, diverse lifestyles and individual preferences, brought about by demographic change. Everyone can get involved, develop and flourish. The inclusive elements of the garden in general, and those of the allotment garden in particular, are a valuable asset. Allotments are an integral part of European culture, particularly gardening and leisure culture. Through physical activity in the fresh air, the production of healthy horticultural produce, opportunities for active recreation and their educational potential rooted in nature, they make a valuable contribution to a physically and mentally healthy lifestyle. The hobby of gardening opens up unlimited opportunities for creative leisure activities, provides educational opportunities for young and old alike, and promotes physical, mental and emotional well-being. A sense of community and social interaction bring us together. 'Allotments make an important contribution to improving the quality of urban life'! We see ourselves as an established part of European gardening culture and possess specialist expertise in municipal green spaces. Through our work, we make a significant contribution to the sustainable and holistic principles of Agenda 21. In the face of climate change, the green oases of allotment gardens also help to maintain a people-friendly urban climate.

Our tasks and objectives

Our tasks and objectives are geared towards the model of the sustainable European city. This involves linking housing, work and leisure more closely, preserving cultural heritage and making living conditions more people-friendly. Through our activities, we aim to contribute to sustainable urban development.

We regard the social, environmental and urban planning aspects of allotment gardening as a valuable asset. We are committed to ensuring these are taken into account in local politics. At the heart of

our work is ensuring that, in all member states, the legal framework is in place to safeguard all existing allotment gardens and to create new ones in line with demand. Allotment sites must not be designated as land earmarked for future development. Rather, they must be enshrined in existing urban development plans as components of public green spaces. We wish to expand, deepen and promote the contribution we have already made to intergenerational dialogue both within and outside the family, and to the integration of people from different social and ethnic groups as well as religious backgrounds. We take into account the consequences of ongoing social development processes and the resulting changes in land-use requirements. We are responding to demographic change by offering new gardening and land-use options. We will make the allotment landscape more colourful, both literally and figuratively. Our work serves the causes of environmental protection, nature conservation and landscape management. We will preserve and expand the biodiversity of plant species that has hitherto been characteristic of allotment gardens. This will simultaneously create favourable conditions for a rich urban fauna. With their unique diversity of plant species, allotment gardens are making an increasingly valuable contribution to the preservation of heritage varieties and, consequently, of genetic resources. Our aim is to manage allotments in accordance with ecological and organic principles. To this end, we will expand the specialist advisory service for our clubs and associations and make it available to other allotment enthusiasts as well.

For children and young people, allotment gardens are increasingly becoming venues for nature education and environmental learning. Through closer cooperation with the education sector, this aspect will become even more important. For older people and those with disabilities, allotment gardens provide opportunities for social integration and meaningful leisure activities, both for themselves and through voluntary work for the community. Our contacts, which extend beyond national borders, promote the exchange of experiences and are a treasure trove for the further development of the allotment garden movement, not only in Europe but also on other continents. This is very much in line with the international trend towards urban agriculture. The archived working

materials, spanning almost 90 years now, serve to support the preservation of traditions in member countries and among other interested parties. They demonstrate the significance of allotment gardening as a cultural institution and, at the same time, provide inspiration for related work at all organisational levels, right down to the allotment garden association.

Our public relations work

Only as well-informed gardening enthusiasts (allotment gardeners) can we develop and nurture a sense of 'togetherness' as the unifying element of our shared interests across national borders. The articles published in our magazine 'Hyphen', which are also made available online, serve this purpose. In this way, they are accessible to all federations and associations.

In addition to federation news, there is information on issues relating to the European Union's agricultural and environmental policies. We are making increasing use of the internet both to present the Office International in a contemporary manner and to provide up-to-date information to the national leagues. The establishment of an internal platform as a discussion forum for reaching a common position enables a swift and direct exchange of ideas. We publish brochures on innovative projects and the European allotment movement to provide inspiration for other federations and associations, but also to raise our own public profile, particularly amongst politicians and administrators at all relevant organisational levels. Our seminars, study conferences and congresses serve to discuss current issues arising from the work of the national federations and development challenges within the European allotment garden movement. Targeted publications on these topics have an impact both internally and externally. Published congress resolutions addressed to governments have repeatedly proved to be an effective means of supporting federations facing existential threats due to legal reasons. The awarding of certificates of honour for particularly outstanding projects in the areas of 'Social Activities' and 'Nature-Friendly Gardening', as well as the 'Golden Rose', attracts considerable interest amongst the national leagues. The 'European Day of the Garden' also serves as a high-profile public relations initiative.

Our visions

The social, urban planning and environmental significance of allotment gardening continues to gain wider social recognition. This has led to the introduction of appropriate protective legislation in all countries.

This safeguards the existing allotment garden stock and ensures access even for socially disadvantaged sections of the population. Building on the social significance and recognition that allotment gardening has now achieved, it is growing in numbers both within Europe and beyond. It is aligning itself with the trends in urban gardening. This also involves a qualitative adaptation to the conditions of social development in the countries belonging to the organisation. The quantitative growth of allotment garden sites in further countries is leading to a greater, outwardly visible diversity within the allotment garden movement. Its social, urban planning and environmental significance is growing equally in all countries. This national recognition is also reflected in international organisations. The allotment garden federations are increasingly cooperating with other sectors of recreational horticulture as well as nature conservation and environmental protection. This enhances their political potential. The opening up of allotment gardens as part of public green spaces – and thus as an element of urban planning – increases the political influence of clubs and associations within local authorities. Our technical expertise in matters of recreational horticulture makes us sought-after partners for dialogue. National federations respond flexibly to social developments in their respective countries and develop appropriate offerings in terms of garden types and design. This helps to attract future generations and ensures the sustainability of the allotment garden movement. The federations enjoy a consistently positive image. They are perceived, both externally and internally, as open, innovative, tolerant, socially and environmentally committed, health-conscious and sociable.

Nature education and environmental education for all participants, particularly children and young people, are becoming increasingly prominent within allotment garden associations and are leading to recognition by the national education system. A school subject called 'school garden'

exists in most member countries. The implementation of joint project ideas in the social and environmental spheres is revitalising the allotment garden movement in all countries and receives financial support from the public sector and other sponsors.

Legal notice

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Image collection

The Formation of an International Working Community of Allotment Garden Organisations.

By Rector Förster, Frankfurt a. M.

The term "International Working Community" has now become a catchword. Especially in recent years, during and after the war, the blind force of war has shown so clearly how necessary it is that bonds of mutual understanding and cooperation between nations be created and maintained. It is therefore also appropriate that this task should not be left to politicians alone, but that economic circles should likewise deploy their established forces and strive, in every respect, for closer and more beneficial relations.

It is well known that influential organisations in the field of allotment gardening have long since entered the international arena. But other organisations have achieved closer cooperation in this field. As early as October 1924 in Brugg (Switzerland), a conference of an international committee of experts took place, which dealt with the question of founding an International Federation of Allotment Garden Associations. Delegates from Germany, France, Switzerland, Spain, Holland, Hungary, America and others took part in this conference. Since 1905, an International Institute of Agriculture has already existed in Rome, which on the basis of a resolution of 40 agricultural organisations has worked for a closer understanding between nations and was later joined by 31 further states. For the design of the building of the city of Rome itself, international circles have long been joined and an international federation has been founded for this purpose, which publishes its own journal "International Federation for Town and Country Planning and Garden Cities." It is also known that the International Federation for Municipal Construction and Urban Green Areas has recently dealt intensively with the question of the incorporation of allotment colonies into urban development plans and that the Hamburg town planner Prof. Schuhmacher there gave a lecture on the green policy of urban development at the congress of the German Tenants' Association on 15 May 1926, in which it was stated that the German Association of Tenants should adopt the demand of the French tenants' organisation. Under the date of 20 May, the Frankfurter Zeitung reported that the Hamburg Association of German Civil Servants had also submitted a motion at its general meeting in Danzig, calling on the German Civil Servants' Association to work towards the inclusion of international relations under the leadership of the teaching profession in its programme.

The list of international working communities could be extended at length here. They now also include an association of groups of allotment gardeners with an international character. It is not the intention of the author to improve the position of the allotment gardener within the framework of international relations or to discuss their current situation, but rather, by means of the above-mentioned examples, to serve the work of international understanding.

AI-generated translation and reconstruction of the original German document.

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International Allotment Garden Congress in Luxembourg.

By L. Houben, Cologne.

On 3 October 1926, after longer preliminary discussions, the representatives of the countries Belgium, Germany, England, France, Luxembourg, Austria and Switzerland came together in Luxembourg and founded the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations. Abbé Lemièrre, France, was elected President of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations for his outstanding services to the field of allotment gardening.

The management was taken over by Mr. F. Flick from the Luxembourg national association.

It was decided to hold the first international conference in Luxembourg, and this took place from 20 to 22 August 1927 in the capital of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on the same occasion.

AI-generated translation and reconstruction of the original German document.

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Les Participants
à
la Conférence préparatoire
de l'office International des Jardins ouvriers
à Luxembourg, le 3 octobre 1926.



*L'abbé Lemire, France (1), Færster, Allemagne (2),
Robson, Angleterre (3), Gæmære, Belgique (4), Flick,
Luxembourg (5), Reissberger, Autriche (6), Meier,
Suisse (7).*

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Greetings to the Internationale!

On 3 October, the international organisation of allotment gardeners was founded in Luxembourg.

The Austrian allotment gardeners send their warmest greetings to all members of this new organisation. It makes a lasting impression to see the endeavours and the great will with which this newly created organisation aims to promote the allotment movement and to strengthen the international cooperation within it.

The Austrian and Viennese allotment movement therefore looks to the future with confidence and can be proud that the Viennese allotment gardeners have already achieved such success in recent times, serving as an example for other countries and cities.

If, from our association, a motion in accordance with Councillor Reißberger is now supported by all organisations abroad, this means that our Viennese successes will become known to colleagues in other nations, while experiences gained in other countries will in turn come to our knowledge. The legal framework for the allotment movement will be shaped by the Internationale, allotment sites will be transformed into permanent facilities when they are incorporated into the urban landscape, and many further successes will be achieved for the allotment movement.

It therefore now depends on us, by working together closely on the design of the Austrian allotment movement, to bring all allotment gardeners into the organisation, so that through the united efforts of the allotment gardeners of all countries and nations the important protection of the allotment movement can now be enjoyed. Let us therefore work together for a common cause, for a shared mission!

The allotment gardeners of all nations send their heartfelt greetings to the Austrian colleagues! We renew these sincere wishes and would like to contribute with all our efforts to secure and shape the allotment movement for the benefit of all!

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International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations in Luxembourg

Head Office: 100, Victor Hugo Street, Esch-Alzette.

Conference of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations,

organised by the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations under the high patronage of H.R.H. the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg and under the patronage of the Grand Ducal Government and the City Administration of Luxembourg on 20, 21 and 22 August 1927.

- Subject of the conference:** The general questions of the allotment movement and the special questions on the agenda.
- Dates of the conference:** Saturday, 20, Sunday, 21 and Monday, 22 August 1927 in Luxembourg City.
- Place of the meetings:** The large ceremonial hall of the municipal "Cercle", Place d'Armes in Luxembourg City.
- Schedule:** The congress will comprise six sessions. All sessions are public and will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. No sessions will be held in the evening.
- Opening:** The opening session will take place on Saturday, 20 August, at 9 a.m.
- Closing:** Sunday, 22 August, at 5 p.m.
- Chairmen and speakers:** The sessions will be chaired by distinguished foreign and Luxembourg personalities. The closing session will be chaired by Abbé Lemire, President of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations, and a member of the Luxembourg Government.

Programme.

SATURDAY, 20 August.

Opening session from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Chair: France.

AGENDA :

1. Welcome address by the President of the Organising Committee, Mr. Arthur KIPGEN, Luxembourg.
2. Report by the Managing Director of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations.

Reporter: François FLICK, Managing Director of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations.

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3. The position of allotment gardening in the countries affiliated to the International Federation.

Reporter: Heinrich FÖRSTER, 1st Chairman of the "Imperial Federation of Allotment Garden Associations of Germany."

2nd session from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Chair: Belgium.

AGENDA :

The position of allotment garden organisations in the various countries.
Discussion on the resolutions.

3rd session from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Chair: Germany.

AGENDA :

Proposals concerning the development and promotion of allotment gardening.
Study of the most effective means for the creation of permanent allotments.

Reporter: Joseph GOEMAERE, life-long Honorary Secretary of the National Federation of Gardens and Allotments, Brussels.

SUNDAY, 21 August.

4th session from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Chair: England.

AGENDA :

Legislation in the field of allotment gardening and the tasks of the state and municipal authorities in the field of allotment gardening in the various countries.

Reporter: Joseph REISSBERGER, 1st Chairman of the Austrian Federation for Allotment Settlements and Small-Animal Breeding, Vienna.

5th session from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Chair: Austria.

AGENDA :

1. Consideration of the motions submitted to the Congress.

Reporter: John Robson, 1st Chairman of the National Union of Allotment Gardeners of England.

2. Motions and resolutions concerning the next International Conference of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations.

Reporter: Wilh. MEIER, 1st Chairman of the Swiss Federation of Allotment Gardeners, Basel.

Closing session, at 5 p.m.

Chair: A member of the Grand Ducal Luxembourg Government.

AGENDA :

Summary of the work of the Congress. Closing address by Abbé LEMIRE, 1st Chairman of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations.

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MONDAY, 22 August.

Excursions by motor car are planned for this day.

Work of the Conference.

Circular letter: A circular letter outlining the subjects of the Congress will be prepared and sent to all participants who request it.

Reports and records: Participants are requested to prepare reports and records, to work them out and to submit them. The answers to the questionnaire and to the other communications not yet foreseen, but which may nevertheless be of interest, should be sent, no later than 1 July, to the office of the International Federation, 100 Victor Hugo Street, Esch a. d. Alz. (Luxembourg).

General report: The reports from the various reporters will be compiled into a general report.

Speeches and resolutions: The motions for the general report will be the subject of the discussions, and the resolutions of the conference will be adopted in accordance with the order of the questionnaire.

International exhibition of certificates: This will take place at the same time as the conference. All panels, tables, graphs, drawings, views and photographs of allotments, as well as books, periodicals, advertising material, brochures, etc. relating to allotment gardening will be exhibited in the exhibition hall. This exhibition can be visited between the sessions by the participants. They are invited to come on Saturday, 20 August, at 11 a.m. to inspect the exhibits there. The exhibition items must be sent to the exhibition manager, Mr. Mathias Stranen, Assistant of the Labour Inspectorate, Luxembourg City, no later than 10 August.

Assistance: The cooperation of the organisations is requested in:

1. *Preparation of the reports.* In order to provide the reporters with a secure and valuable basis for preparing their reports, a questionnaire will be sent, covering the subjects to be dealt with by the committee known as the allotment gardening organisations. They are kindly requested to provide the most complete answer possible by 1 July.
2. *Sending of exhibition material.* Views, photographs, plans, graphic representations, etc., which are to be exhibited in the exhibition hall and should give a comprehensive picture of the entire allotment movement, are requested.
3. *Invitation of participants.* The names and addresses of all friends of the allotment movement, insofar as they are interested in the Congress and its work, will be gratefully received at the office of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations.

Enquiries: For all matters relating to the Congress and the exhibition, please contact the office of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations: 100, Victor Hugo Street, Esch a. d. Alz. (Luxembourg).

Organisational Arrangements.

Accommodation: The Preparatory Committee will make arrangements for the accommodation of the participants.

Contribution: This amounts to 25 Belgian francs (5 Belgian belgas) for all participants at the conference and entitles them to receive the reports on the work of the Congress.

A reduced contribution of 10 Belgian francs will be charged for participants beyond the number of one from the same family (husband, wife, son, daughter). The reduced contribution does not entitle the participant to receive the report of the Congress.

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Non-members will receive, on payment of 10 Belgian francs (2 Belgian belgas), an admission card, which is valid for all sessions, including the closing session.

Registrations will be received at: 100, Victor Hugo Street, Esch a. d. Alz. (Grand Duchy of Luxembourg). It is sufficient to fill in the enclosed registration form and send it to the above address. Participants are kindly requested to enclose the registration fee. The membership card serves as a receipt.

Support and gifts: Public and private administrations as well as individuals who wish to express their sympathy for the conference may do so by becoming supporting members. The list of these donors will be published at the beginning of the Congress in the certificate book.

Official receptions: During the conference, representatives of the Congress participants will be officially received by H.R.H. the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg, the Government and the City Administration.

Banquet: In the evening of the second day of the Congress, a joint banquet will be held by subscription for the participants and the friends of the allotment movement.

Excursions: Following the conference, on Monday, 22 August, interesting and recreative excursions will take place. Visits to important social undertakings and the most beautiful sites of the country will be the aim.

Communications: The Organising Committee will ensure that all Congress participants receive in good time further useful information regarding receptions, accommodation, banquets, excursions, etc., etc.

Luxembourg, 30 April 1927.

The Preparatory Committee of the International Federation of Allotment Garden Organisations:

Chairman: Abbé Lemire, France;
Vice-Chairmen: J. Gœmaere, Belgium; Heinrich Förster, Germany; John Robson, England;
Managing Director: Fr. Flick, Luxembourg;
Members: Jos. Reissberger, Austria; W. Meier, Switzerland; G. Dalskow, Denmark;
E. J. Reinilä, Finland; Thomas Shaw, Ireland; and A. C. Kubiést, Czecho-Slovakia.

The Organising Committee:

President: Arth. Kipgen, General Director of "Arbed", Luxembourg;
Vice-Chairmen: René Wagner, Notary, Esch-Alz.; Ch. Roger, Civil Engineer, Professor, Esch-Alz.;
Gustav Hentgen, Office Manager, Luxembourg;
Managing Director: Fr. Flick, Esch-Alzette;
Secretary for Foreign Affairs: J. Bouquet, Esch-Alzette;
Secretary for Home Affairs: J.-P. Muller, Péttingen;
Treasurer of the Congress: Franz Nitschké, Luxembourg-Neudorf.
Additional Members: Jos. Hess, Esch-Alz.; Ed. Leick, Bonneweg; M. Stranen, Hollerich;
Cam. Libar, Differdingen; Em. Ludwig, Düdelingen; H. Hoffmann, Oberkorn;
N. Kerschen, Niederkorn; J.-P. Weiler, Rodingen; Paul Pammers, Diekirch;
Em. Gaasch, Schifflingen; and Léon Laux, Bettemburg.



G. WILLEMS, ESCH-ALZ.

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BULLETIN

DE

L'Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Ouvriers
Verbandszeitschrift der Internationalen Kleingärtnerorganisationen
International Office of Allotments Gardens Leagues
Ufficio Internazionale del Cantuccio di Terra e dei Giardini Operai

Siège social : LUXEMBOURG

Revue trimestrielle.

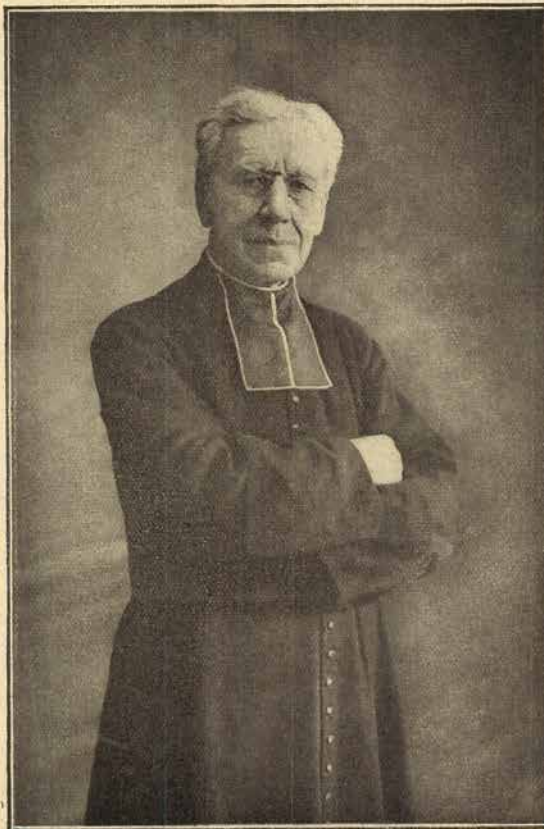
Avenue de la Liberté, 33

Abonnement : 20 francs belges.

GRANDE MANIFESTATION LEMIRE

D'accord avec le Gouvernement du Grand-Duché, la Municipalité de Luxembourg a résolu de donner le nom de l'Abbé Lemire à une grande rue de la ville, et de faire apposer une plaque commémorative au Palais Municipal, dans la salle même où il présida à la création de l'Office International du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Ouvriers, en octobre 1926.

Le Comité d'organisation, qui s'est formé sous la présidence du Maire de Luxembourg et où nos amis de la Ligue Luxembourgeoise sont au premier rang, s'est acquis le concours de toutes les autorités du Grand-Duché, de tous les groupements, de toutes les sociétés de Jardins Ouvriers de Luxembourg, en vue de réaliser une grande manifestation publique, en souvenir et en honneur de celui qui fut le grand apôtre du Coin de Terre et du Foyer, et qui vint à Luxembourg pour y poser les bases de l'organisme international qui fait désormais de la capitale du Grand-Duché le centre



L'Abbé LEMIRE

*Maire d'Hazebrouck,
Député du Nord,*

*Président de la Ligue française du Coin de Terre et du Foyer,
Président-Fondateur de l'Office International du Coin de Terre
et des Jardins Ouvriers.*

mondial du Coin de Terre et des Jardins Ouvriers.

Aussi le Luxembourg s'apprête-t-il à donner à cette manifestation, à laquelle dès à présent leurs Altesses Royales la Grande-Duchesse et le Prince Félix ont accordé leur haut patronage, une très grande solennité.

Un cortège allégorique et symbolique célébrant les bienfaits des Jardins Ouvriers doit se déployer à travers les rues de Luxembourg, et le programme prévoit une grande représentation où doit figurer le beau film « Land im Sonne », si justement admiré en septembre par les Congressistes d'Essen.

Le même jour s'ouvre la 3^e session de l'Office International à laquelle sont conviés les délégués des fédérations de Jardins Ouvriers de toutes nations et que rehausseront de leur présence — grâce à l'activité du Président de l'International, qui s'est dépensé sans compter — bon nombre de Représentants du Corps diplomatique accrédité auprès de S. A. R. M^{me} la Grande-Duchesse de

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10th Year

The Green Internationale

On Sunday, 3 August, a large gathering took place in Luxembourg in honour of the late Abbé Lemire, the first President of the "Green Internationale" of allotment gardeners. On the initiative of the Mayor of the City of Frankfurt and French Alliance Councillor, who founded the French allotment league in 1896, the International Allotment Garden Federation was established in Luxembourg on 3 October 1926. On this occasion, the same work was given a secure foundation, which, with the passage of time, could grow into a great movement of allotment gardeners in all countries, if only the right spirit is now instilled into young plants.

We Austrians have fully recognised the value of an international allotment organisation. We know from experience that an exchange of ideas on allotment horticulture between nations can be fruitful for our own lives and work. And precisely for this reason we consider it necessary to introduce a revision of the statutes at this last conference in Luxembourg, in order to provide a solid, practical basis of work and to bring a clear, concise expression to the fundamental principles of every organisation. It should bear in mind the dignified form: "No rights without duties, no duties without rights." We were also particularly careful to safeguard the rights of the smaller nations, because we are of the opinion that the elimination of opposition on the part of individual nations within the framework of the Internationale has already sown the seeds of its decline.

Austrian members are disciplined and open-minded people and are not easily critical. If mistakes are made in the way an organisation is run, they point them out and we are strong in the conviction – in this spirit, and with the words of Abbé Lemire – that even free criticism does not offend.

With full recognition and gratitude for the friendly and warm hospitality that we Austrian delegates received in Luxembourg, we must nevertheless say that in the management of the Internationale many things are not yet as they should be, as many difficulties have arisen, which at times were burdened by a certain degree of partiality. We hope that in this relationship, which has already been tested many times, the successor to Lemire, President Goemare, will be able to steer the ship of the Green Internationale of allotment gardeners so that it continues to sail safely into the future harbour.

The Austrian smallholders' organisation, which can now prove 33,192 members, will continue, in the course of time, to follow the development of matters within the Internationale, because our members demand that work is also carried out here in the Internationale, which brings practical results. Our Austrian saying is: "Actions speak louder than words – money talks."

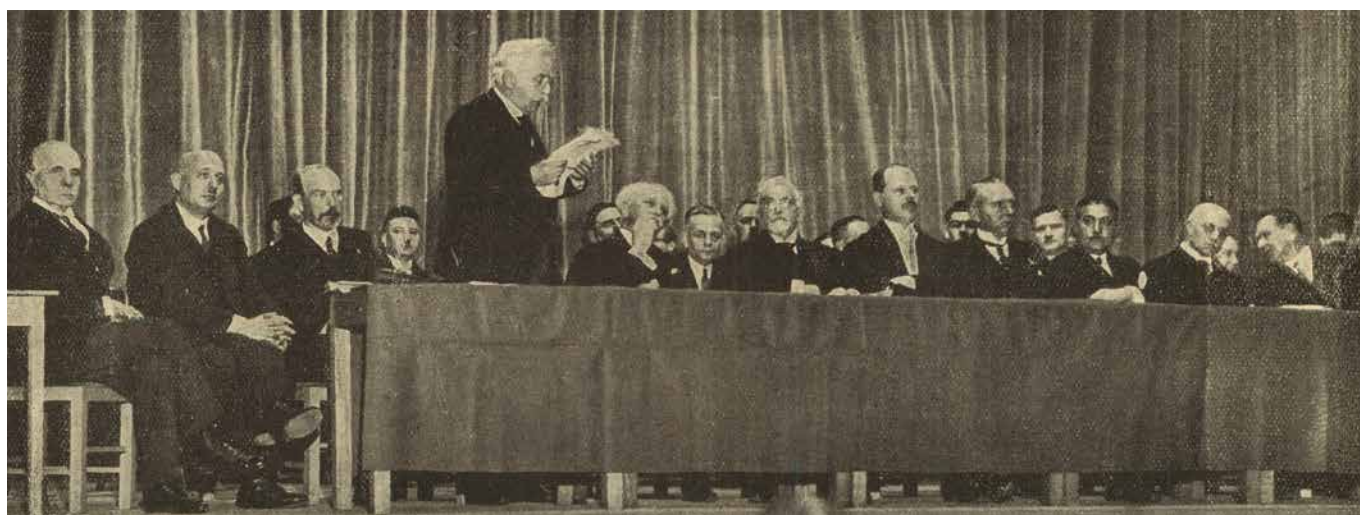
* * *

The Gardeners' Festival in Luxembourg and the Congress of the Internationale then proceeded as follows:

On Sunday, 3 August, in the afternoon, a reception was held in the richly decorated Cercle des Sociétés, to which the invited guests and the Luxembourg congress participants had been assembled. Presidents Matto, Koerner, the mayor of the City of Luxembourg, the national association of smallholders and the owners' association were cordially welcomed. He thanked all those who have supported the movement, the city administration and the foreign delegates from France, Belgium, Germany, England, Italy, Poland, Austria and Switzerland, and wished the great work every success.

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Programm des Kongresses.

Freitag, den 20. September.

Empfang der internationalen Delegierten im Generalsekretariat in Posen, ul. Matajki, 40—41 (Telephon 70—17).

Samstag, den 21. September.

Der Kongreß tagt im großen Universitätsaal.

Um 9 Uhr 30: Eröffnung des Kongresses und Begrüßung durch den Präsidenten der Polnischen Nationalen Liga.

Ansprache des Kongreßpräsidenten, Herrn Josef Goemaeere, Präsident des Internationalen Verbandes der Kleingärtner und Siedler. Ansprachen der Führer der fremden Delegationen.

Um 12 Uhr: Empfang im Stadthaus.

Um 13 Uhr: Gemeinsames Mittagessen.

Nachmittags-Sitzung.

Um 15 Uhr: Ueber die finanzielle Einrichtung von Garten und Heim. Der Kleingarten zur Verhütung der Arbeitslosigkeit. Der Kleingarten als Vorbeugungsmittel gegen die Tuberkulose. Die Delegierten teilen die in ihrem Lande schon getroffenen und noch zu treffenden Maßnahmen mit.

Allgemeine Aussprache.

Verfilmter Bericht über Garten und Heim sowie die Arbeitergärten in Polen.

Sonntag, den 22. September.

Vormittags-Sitzung.

Um 9 Uhr 30: Gesetzgebung zum ständigen Schutze der Kleingärten.

Bericht über die Gesetzgebung durch Herrn Ferdinand Lösch, Generalsekretär des Internationalen Verbandes.

Die Delegierten teilen die in ihrem Lande getroffenen Maßnahmen mit.

Allgemeine Aussprache.

Um 12 Uhr: Umzug durch die Stadt.

Um 13 Uhr: Gemeinsames Mittagessen.

Nachmittag.

Um 16 Uhr: Allgemeine Versammlung der Kleingärtner und Siedler. Ansprache des Präsidenten der Nationalen Liga.

Um 17 Uhr: Besichtigung der Siedlungen und Arbeitergärten von Posen.

Montag, den 23. September.

Vormittag.

Um 9 Uhr 30: Ueber die finanzielle Einrichtung von Siedlungen und Arbeitergärten;

a) Bericht der Finanzkommission;

b) die Delegierten teilen die in ihrem Lande getroffenen und projektierten Maßnahmen mit;

c) allgemeine Aussprache.

Festlegung des Ortes für den VI. Internationalen Kongreß im Jahre 1937.

Sitzung des Vorstandes des Internationalen Verbandes zur Bestellung eines Kassiers.

Um 13 Uhr: Gemeinsames Mittagessen.

Nachmittag.

Um 15 Uhr: Besichtigung der Stadt Posen unter Führung der Mitglieder der Polnischen Liga.

Abends: Festeessen.

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Am Dienstag, den 24. September, wird der IV. Nationale Kongreß der Polnischen Liga für Garten und Heim abgehalten.

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3) As the German allotment gardeners' association has made an application for admission to the International Office and, following discussions held with the President of the association and the Secretary-General of the Office, a report was submitted to the Committee of the Office Directorate, setting out the reasons for this useful activity. The same will then be discussed and decided upon in agreement. The Secretariat is requested to inform the German association of this decision.

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REPORT

This report is submitted by the Secretary-General as a basis for discussion at the statutory meeting of the Executive Board of the International Allotment Garden Organisation, held on 22 September 1962 in Luxembourg.

I.

The 13th International Allotment Garden Congress, which took place from 9 to 10 September 1961 in Geneva, was an important event in the life of our movement.

It showed that the social and human character of the family garden has entered a new phase and that allotment gardens have become an integral part of modern cities.

It also referred to the summary of the work which had begun at the Congress in Dortmund and led to the resolution: that gardening, through contact with nature, represents a valuable leisure-time activity.

This resolution was adopted at a very favourable time, namely when the International Allotment Garden Organisation was preparing the content of the 3rd European Congress on the Design of Leisure Time, which was held from 14 to 16 April 1962 in Strasbourg, and which resulted in findings from its work and a comprehensive solution (among other things less well suited) for the organisation of leisure time in the modern city.

The International Allotment Garden Organisation was able to use these conferences, which had set themselves the aim of examining the various aspects of family leisure time, to study these aspects further. The Congress had decided, within the framework of the 3rd Commission - which, like the family, should study leisure time together - to set up a sub-committee to examine these problems with regard to allotment gardens.

In the absence of the prevented Mr. BOISSARD, Mr. WEHRICH, Secretary-General of the International Allotment Garden Organisation, chaired this sub-committee on allotment gardens. The rapporteur was Mr. PULBY, General Delegate of the French Association. In addition, the following gentlemen took part in this sub-committee: BRANDO (Germany), CHARLIER (Belgium), VISSER (Netherlands), OLINGER and MARC (Luxembourg), SCHMUTZ and THIEL (Alsace), HELFER (Basel).

This Congress gave the members of the International Office a valuable general survey, as allotment gardens were recognised as a solution to the problem of leisure time for everyone.

H. Robert PRIGENT - former Minister - already emphasised the following in his concluding remarks on the allotment garden movement:

"Some say that allotment gardens do not offer the right form of leisure-time activity; others consider this activity to be outdated. These are major misunderstandings. The allotment garden

Opening of the Congress of the "Green International" on Thursday, 7 September 1972

Speech by President Vincenz Machold:

Looking back at the 10th Congress, which was held in Vienna in 1955 and at which I took part, it is with great pleasure and in good memory that I can recognise that the expectations formed at that time have been largely fulfilled in the meantime.

Over a period of 17 years, the Austrian allotment garden movement has made remarkable progress in terms of figures. Whereas in 1955 there were still 46,845 members, today there are 342,23, a figure which is still too low, as this means that 12,622 allotments have not yet been developed. The reason for this is perhaps not so much a lack of interest in the allotment garden movement, but rather the fact that in view of the great demand, it is increasingly difficult to find suitable plots of land in urban planning for the requirements of modern times. Not only the construction of housing, schools, public interest buildings, traffic facilities, new roads and, in recent times, the establishment and expansion of industries have taken up our land, but modern life with its security and nutritional needs has also largely displaced the need for allotment gardens. It would be wrong to believe that the need for allotments is in decline; on the contrary, partly as a result of motorisation with its many dangers, there is a growing urge to have a small piece of land of one's own, where one can escape for a few hours from a very difficult situation. This is especially true when there are children in the family, who can spend hours running around in kilometres of length, which can rightly be described as leisure time.

The national association is constantly striving to create new allotment sites that meet the great demand. It has succeeded in creating new allotments in Vienna alone in recent years, while in many other federal states we have partly succeeded in awakening the understanding of local authorities and in creating new allotment sites, for example in Graz, Linz and St. Pölten.

Nevertheless, it must be said that understanding for this is not yet widespread among those in positions of political and moral responsibility. In modern times, when technical facilities and thus the faster production of all the necessities of life mean that people are increasingly relieved of their working hours, concern must also be shown for the use of leisure time. An allotment garden is the best outlet for the demands of the manual and intellectual worker and contributes to a good family life

to a great extent. What a stay in the garden means for children in every respect has only positive aspects. But for the rest of the population in the cities, allotment gardens also mean an improvement in air quality. One can see how the air we breathe is created today, not polluted. The green areas in residential developments are not sufficient to achieve this. If the extensive tree plantings planned as part of urban planning measures are removed in favour of housing construction and replaced by allotments, it is just a drop in the ocean, which, like thousands of trees and shrubs, remains still in the forest of leaves.

It is the duty of the local authorities to ensure that the allotment garden movement, which is so beneficial to people, is not treated as a stopgap, but that larger allotment sites can be provided.

It is also necessary to consider whether the conditions have been created to enable leisure time to be spent in the fresh air. The City of Vienna has developed a concept to meet the requirements of the allotment garden movement in the coming years.

The resolutions of the 18th International Allotment Garden Congress should contribute to the fact that those responsible in towns, cities and countries are made aware of the issue of the allotment garden movement, which is based on leisure time and environmental protection.

Speech by Federal President FRANZ JONAS

The Austrian capital city has, throughout its long history, been adorned with many illustrious names. We have heard it referred to as the "City of Life", just as "Pearl on the Danube" reflects its exemplary social institutions, many of which enjoyed a worldwide reputation even decades ago. One of the most distinctive attributes of this city and its residents, the "Green Vienna", is its unique location at the foot of the Vienna Woods, which, like the river Alps, has contributed to this epithet, as have the many well-kept parks and garden installations. But even the need of allotment gardeners, who often come from the labouring classes and whose ingenuity and perseverance created the former suburban settlements, helped to establish Vienna's reputation as a city of gardens.

The "Green International" has therefore chosen a city as its venue for 1972 that is particularly well suited to the aims of this organisation.

The great importance which your congress has for the population in general and for the settlers' movement and allotment gardening in particular in Austria is also expressed by the issue of a commemorative stamp.