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SECRETARY OF SOVIET PRESIDENT KALENIN DISCUSSES JEWISH  
COLONIZATION PLAN IN SOUTH RUSSIA

States Government Will Give Land, Assistance and Official Recognition to Plan; Ready to Grant Financial Control to Jewish Organizations from Abroad.

Moscow, July 9 (Jewish Telegraphic Agency). "The economic situation of the Jews in the Pale of settlement has always been critical. Now, with the development of governmental industry and trade, and the restriction on private enterprise, the Jewish situation is growing worse daily," declared Comrade Smidovitch, First Assistant Secretary to Kalinin, the President of the Russian Socialist Federated Soviet Republic, in an interview with the representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today. The Russian statesman commented upon the Jewish question in connection with the plan to start Jewish colonization in southern Ukraine and northern Crimea.

For the purpose of relieving the situation of the toiling masses, Smidovitch further stated, the Russian Government intends to settle 50,000 Jewish city dwellers on 100,000 desiatin of government land in the neighborhood of the Jewish colonies of the Ukraine and Crimea. The land will be given to the settlers not as concessions, but for termless, free usage. The soil in northern Crimea is good for different kinds of agriculture, horticulture, gardening and tobacco raising.

The only obstacle in the way of realizing this scheme is the lack of means of the government. While the government is ready to grant transmigration and taxation privileges, and is even ready to pay the cost of parcelling the land and building artesian wells, it is unable to carry through the entire project. The Ort, and other Jewish organizations from abroad have offered to provide the funds necessary. The money thus supplied will be at the exclusive disposal of local legalized societies, which will include representatives of the foreign organizations. The same societies will also take part in the organization work.

A special government committee will be formed to take care of the enterprise, and a decree concerning it will be published in the nearest future by the Soviet Government. This govern-

mental committee will not interfere with the financial affairs of the plan.

As to the plan for establishing an autonomous Jewish republic on that territory, Comrade Smidovitch stated that when the Jews will have settled and will have expressed their desire for autonomy, the Russian Socialist Federated Soviet Republic will grant it to them, as it has granted it to the other nationalities in the Union, according to their desire.

"At the present time, there is no such territory in existence, and consequently there cannot be such a question raised," concluded Smidovitch.

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RABBI SCHOR, SELF-APPOINTED CHIEF RABBI OF ROUMANIA, CRITICIZED BY ROUMANIAN JEWISH PAPER.

Bucharest, July 9 (Jewish Telegraphic Agency). Rabbi Chaim Schor, who, upon his recent arrival in the United States, described himself as the Chief Rabbi of Roumania, was severely criticized by the Jewish paper "Ujket" of Transylvania for denying the existence of an anti-Semitic movement in Roumania, as well as the occurrence of anti-Semitic excesses.

The paper quotes the statement of the "Chief Rabbi" that the Jews in Roumania occupy responsible positions in the government and army, do good business and are prominent leaders of society, declaring that the Rabbi apparently desires to flatter the Roumanian Government. "Such false statements, when circulated abroad, do much harm to the Jews of Roumania," the paper concludes.

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New York, July 9 (Jewish Telegraphic Agency). In connection with the mission of Rabbi Chaim Schor to the United States, and his statements in the non-Jewish press concerning the excellent situation of the Jews in Roumania, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency is in a position to publish an excerpt from a letter written by one of the prominent Jewish citizens of Roumania to a well-known Jewish social leader here:

"I must give up pointing out what is true or false in these and other rumors in connection with the voyage of Rabbi Chaim Schor, but I may say, and fully recommend to you and to all our brethren, to consider the fact that this Rabbi Schor, who has proclaimed himself Chief Rabbi of Roumania, is a man of ignorance even in rebus iudaicis. He has caused our co-religionists in Roumania during the past twenty years many difficulties with the Roumanian authorities, so much so, that