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JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY, N.Y.C.

VOL. V. NO. 132.

Thursday, May 11, 1939.

BRITAIN PUTS OFF GUIANA POLICY; REPORT FAVORS TRIAL PROJECT; FUTURE MASS POSSIBILITIES SEEN

LONDON, May 10. (JTA) -- The British Government has postponed stating its policy on refugee settlement of British Guiana, Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald told the House of Commons today in announcing publication of a report on colonization possibilities of the South American colony submitted by an Anglo-American commission of experts.

The commission's report said land suitable for ultimate large scale settlement had been formed and recommended early establishment of experimental settlements of from 3,000 to 5,000 young men and women at a cost of roughly \$3,000,000 for two years. Emphasizing that the area under consideration required considerable development, improvement and further investigation, the report concluded that it "undoubtedly possesses potential possibilities that would fully justify the carrying out of a trial settlement."

Mr. MacDonald told Commons that the Government was giving "active consideration" to the report and expected to be in a position to issue a statement of policy at an early date.

Laborite Tom Williams asserted that the experts had grave doubts on the possibility of large scale immigration because of climate and communications and asked for simultaneous publication of the experts' individual memoranda. Mr. MacDonald replied that the Government was also studying the individual reports and had "considerable hopes of the possibility of settling refugees in British Guiana."

The report of the eight-man commission was made public in New York by the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees, which sponsored the survey after Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain had last Fall offered Guiana, among other territories, as a possible site for refugee colonization. It was issued simultaneously in Georgetown, British Guiana, and in London.

Signing the document were Edward C. Ernst, chairman, Emile C. Bataille, Joseph A. Rosen, C. Douglas-Jones, G. Evans and Desmond Holdridge. Lt.-Col. Richard U. Nicholas and Dr. Anthony Donovan were not present when the report was under consideration, and filed separate reports, which were not immediately made public. Mr. Douglas-Jones and Mr. Evans are the British members, the rest being Americans.

The summary of the report follows:

"The Commission is of the opinion that, while the territory offered for settlement in British Guiana is not an ideal place for refugees from middle European countries, and while the territory could not be considered suitable for immediate large scale settlement, it undoubtedly possesses potential possibilities that would fully justify the carrying out of a trial settlement project on a substantial enough scale that would make it possible to determine whether and how these potential possibilities could be realized.

"The Commission is of the opinion that in the area available for settlement there are: (a) soils suitable for permanent agriculture; (b) natural resources which make possible a co-related industrial development; and (c) climate and health conditions are of such a nature that settlement by people of middle European origin is feasible.

"The points to be clarified are: (a) whether the actual area of the fertile soils in the Kanuku and other mountain ranges bordering the savannahs, are as extensive as preliminary observations suggest; (b) whether substantial areas of the savannahs could be developed by suitable methods for closer agricultural and pastoral undertakings; (c) whether a permanent system of agriculture could be established on clearings in the rain forest areas by the adoption of suitable methods; (d) whether heavy industries could be developed based on the most important natural resources existing in this area, particularly forest reserves, water power and minerals; (e) whether light industries could be developed on the basis of locally produced raw materials; (f) whether health can be maintained in both forest and savannah areas at a reasonable cost; (g) whether water and land transportation facilities could be improved to make the interior reasonably accessible at a cost not entirely out of proportion to the settlement capacity of the country.

"The Commission therefore recommends the following plan:

"1. A number of receiving camps and trial settlements to be started at the earliest possible date involving a population of 3,000 to 5,000 carefully selected young men and women placed at properly chosen locations.

"2. A properly equipped technical organization under competent leadership to be set up from the very beginning to supervise and direct the activities of these trial settlements and render them all possible technical, financial and other assistance.

"3. Each of these groups must contain a number of people with specialized training who would be capable of securing the necessary information and in order to make the settlements self-contained.

"4. The approximate cost of establishing and maintaining these trial settlements for a period of two years, with a population of 5,000 people, is estimated at \$3,000,000. This is a rough figure and is to be accepted with caution."

The report makes clear that colonization is only feasible on a large scale because of the large capital investment and extensive development that would be necessary to make the land fit for settlement. Initial settlement would have to be on a "suitable agricultural basis," with the settlers self-sufficient as regards food. They might then be able to develop "a normal economic entity" with industrial, agricultural and pastoral pursuits and permitting export of surplus products to world markets in exchange for products impossible to produce in the new settlements.

The climate, "considered as a tropical one, may be termed healthful," the commission reported, and does not preclude possibility of white settlement. In addition, it was found that "severe tropical diseases at present do not occur with dangerous frequency or degree of malignancy;" that "there are considerable extents of soil suitable for immediate permanent cultivation and others capable of subsequent improvement;" that "bases for a certain industrial development appear to exist;" that "construction of a transport route presents no insurmountable difficulties," and that "the present inhabitants of the colony would welcome immigration by people of European origin."

The commission found the area south of the fifth parallel of north latitude "potentially suitable for large scale settlement," but emphasized that this did not mean "open to immediate large scale settlement."

The experimental stage, the report states, should comprise a trial settlement with mixed farming and experiments in dairy cattle, a pastoral trial settlement in the open savannah, a settlement adjacent to the mouth of a fertile valley affording opportunity for combined agricultural and pastoral effort and establishment of receiving and quarantine centers at the seaward end of a prospective "corridor" to the sea.

The colonists, it is held, "should be chosen from young married, but childless couples, and single young men and women! They should be in good health and of sturdy physique and they should be carefully chosen with a view to fitting their talents to the requirements of the trial settlements." Training of the women in Indian technology and provision of adequate medical service are also urged.

The Indians will welcome the coming of the colonists, the report says. Conflict over lands will hardly arise since the "Kanakaku type" of soil, recommended for use by the colonists, is avoided by the Indians as requiring too sustained effort for their type of shifting cultivation. The Indians "look forward to the coming of colonists with keen anticipation since they see in the project three features highly desirable in their eyes: education, medical attention and a market for their labor."

The report notes that on Feb. 25 "Dr. Rosen, suffering from exposure, was flown out to Georgetown for temporary treatment" and later rejoined the commission.

The commission assembled in Georgetown on Feb. 14. Its report is dated April 19. The areas which the commission was authorized to investigate were (1) 22,500 square miles south of 5° north latitude between the Essequibo River and the Brazilian boundary, (2) 14,800 square miles south of 5° north latitude, between the Essequibo and Courantyne Rivers, (c) 4,600 square miles in the northwest.

ILLEGAL ENTRY DEBATED IN COMMONS; MACDONALD REFUSES TO SET WHITE PAPER DATE

LONDON, May 10. (JTA) -- The question of Jewish illegal immigration into Palestine was the subject of debate in the House of Commons today, with Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald replying to attacks on the Government's policy by Laborite Tom Williams and other members.

Interrupting a discussion concerning 182 illegal immigrants quarantined at Haifa, Mr. Williams declared they were no more illegal than the Government which had "sidestepped" the absorptive capacity principle formerly governing Palestine immigration.

"Illegal immigration," Mr. MacDonald replied, "is definitely illegal. As for the policy of the Government, that is a matter of opinion, but I cannot agree with the implications of the question."

Laborite David Adams urged that the illegal immigrants be permitted to remain. Mr. MacDonald said their case was still under consideration and voiced agreement with another member who declared their number could be deducted from the regular immigration quota.

The Colonial Secretary refused to give a definite date for publication of the Government White Paper. He gave a blunt negative to Geoffrey Mander, Liberal, who asked if the recent London conference on Palestine had been "dominated by the ex-Mufti in the background."

The Daily Herald's diplomatic correspondent reported today that the Cabinet was not unanimous on the forthcoming White Paper on Palestine and that at least one minister had advised further delay in its issuance. Last reports were that publication of the document, which is expected to provide for ultimate establishment of an independent Arab-dominated Palestine state in which Jews would be fixed as a one-third minority, had been postponed until May 23 or 24.

BRITON OFFERS MEXICAN ESTATE FOR SETTLEMENT OF EXILES; ASKS \$275,000 FOR 138,172 ACRES

PARIS, May 10. (JTA) -- The British owners of 138,172 acres of heavily wooded land on the Pacific coast of Mexico have offered to sell the entire tract for \$275,000 for possible settlement by 2,000 refugees, it was learned here today.

The offer, believed to have been made with the knowledge of the Mexican Government, was made to Sir Herbert Emerson, League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and director of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee. It will be transmitted to the office of George L. Warren, executive secretary of President Roosevelt's Advisory Committee on Refugees, in New York for investigation. Half of the \$275,000 asked for the estate must be paid in cash and the remainder within five years. The transaction includes, besides land, 3,000 head of cattle, 50,000 coffee trees and 8,000,000 feet of walnut timber. These assets are assertedly worth more than three-fourths of the sum asked. The climate is good and the land well watered.

Offer of the estate, known as Hacienda Alcianucl, has already been considered by the Refugee Coordinating Committee in London, which decided to turn it over to Mr. Warren's office for investigation.

HOUSE IMMIGRATION BODY TO OPEN HEARINGS ON REFUGEE BILL MAY 24

WASHINGTON, May 10. (JTA) -- The House Immigration Committee today set May 24 for the opening of hearings on the Wagner-Rogers bill for admission of 20,000 German refugee children to the United States in the next two years. The bill was reported favorably last Friday by a joint subcommittee of the House and the Senate.

MacFadden Urges Entry Ban; Bishop Manning Bids Refugees Welcome

NEW YORK, May 10. (JTA) -- A complete ban on immigration to the United States on the grounds that it adds to unemployment is advocated by Bernarr MacFadden, magazine publisher, in the current issue of Liberty Magazine. Supporting a bill introduced by Senator Robert R. Reynolds (Dem., No. Car.) for a ten-year stoppage of immigration, Mr. MacFadden asks,

"what earthly reason have we for adding to our unemployment burdens by allowing immigrants to land on our shores? They are strangers and should be barred out absolutely."

Help and welcome to refugees "to the full limit that is possible" was urged yesterday by Bishop William T. Manning in the opening address of the 156th convention of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of New York. Bishop Manning condemned the "open return to paganism" in many parts of the world and with it "a deification of the State, a brutality and cruelty, a contempt for the rights of the individual and a racial and religious intolerance and persecution which seem almost incredible."

REFUGEE PROBLEM AMONG MOST VITAL FACED BY HUMANITY, DE TESSAN TELLS ORT FETE

NEW YORK, May 10. (JTA) -- The refugee problem as it affects Europe and America was termed one of the most important matters faced by humanity by Francois de Tessan, member of the French Chamber of Deputies, at a luncheon today of the women's division of the American ORT Federation at the Hotel Astor. M.de Tessan, who is a member of the French Parliamentary ORT Committee, outlined the organization's aims and accomplishments, declaring it had proved that the Jews, "if well guided, are fully capable of becoming farmers and learn to love the earth and give it all the care which it deserves." City Councilman George Backer, president of the ORT, presided. Other speakers were Klaus Mann, son of the famous exiled German novelist, Thomas Mann, and Vincent Sheean, noted foreign correspondent and author.

BOLIVIAN VISAS STILL BEING ISSUED IN WARSAW, J.T.A. TOLD

WARSAW, May 10. (JTA) -- The Bolivian Consulate, commenting on La Paz reports that a six-month suspension of immigration had been decreed, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that it had received no instructions and was granting visas as usual without distinction as to race or religion.

FASCIST PARTY SUFFERS HEAVY SETBACK IN GENEVA ELECTIONS

GENEVA, May 10. (JTA) -- The anti-Semitic Fascist Union Nationale was heavily defeated in the Geneva municipal elections, retaining only two of its former eight seats out of a total of 62, according to final returns today.

440 REFUGEES LANDED AT SHANGHAI BY ITALIAN LINER

SHANGHAI, May 10. (JTA) -- The Italian liner Conte Rosso disembarked 440 German Jewish refugees here.

LEAGUE COUNCIL SESSION MAY GET BRITISH STATEMENT ON PALESTINE

GENEVA, May 10. (JTA) -- Although matters of specific Jewish interest do not figure on the agenda of the League Council session opening May 15, League circles expect that the nomination of a new member of the Mandates Commission, to replace Lord Hailey, may be used by the British representative for an important declaration on future British policy in Palestine.

According to a decision of the previous session, the report of the Third Commission on Danzig will be adopted by the forthcoming meeting. In view of the international situation, it is considered improbable that the Council will discuss Danzig legislation, particularly racial decrees. It is expected, however, that the diplomats will discuss the Danzig position privately, trying to reach an unofficial Anglo-French-Polish agreement on the future of the Free City.