

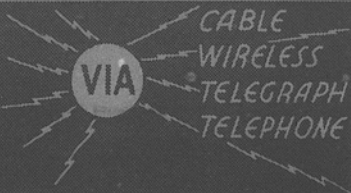
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VITAL ROLE REFUGEES COULD PLAY IN SETTLING ALASKA STRESSED BY INTERIOR DEPARTMENT REPORT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15. (JTA) — The Department of the Interior made public today a comprehensive report on the prospects for development of Alaska both by Americans and the victims of racial persecution in Europe.

The report, the result of an exhaustive survey ordered by Interior Secretary Harold L. Ickes and carried out under the direction of Under Secretary Harry Slattery, depicts enthusiastically the agricultural, industrial and commercial possibilities of the territory.

Without making specific recommendations as to the absorption of refugees, the report throughout emphasizes the vital role this category of prospective settlers could play in development of a region which is one-fifth the size of the United States yet has a total population of only 59,278, or a density of one-tenth of a person for every square mile.

In submitting the report, which was prepared with the assistance of various government departments and agencies, Mr. Ickes described it as "an intelligent framework upon which plans might be developed."

"Prospects for Alaskan development are particularly favorable today," he said, "because of the possibility of transplanting to Alaska for the benefit of the United States, industries which were developed in Europe but which have been broken up or diverted by current waves of intolerance."

The Slattery survey cites the wealth of natural resources in the territory, the climatic advantages, the need for building up the white population, the strategic value to the United States of an increased population, and recommends creation of privately financed "public purpose" corporations to undertake development of the region. These corporations could be chartered, the report states, under legislation modeled partly on the China Trade Act of 1922 which would require them to "conform to such conditions as Congress might prescribe with reference to the type of industry to be developed in Alaska and the type of settler to be admitted."

The report emphasizes the "disastrous effect" of the present immigration laws upon the population of Alaska, adding: "Whatever justification there may be for the present quota laws with respect to the settled areas of the United States, application of the same yardstick to an under-populated territory whose future well-being depends on new immigration and new capital is extremely questionable from the standpoint of national policy."

In discussing planned settlement projects for Alaska, the report cites two examples in the past 50 years where the Federal Government has "actively encouraged" such settlements. One, the Matanuska Valley project, largely financed by the Government, has produced conflicting views as to its success. The other, involving the Metlakatla island group, was exclusively a private venture inaugurated by a group of 800 victims of religious persecution in Canada and has developed into "probably the most prosperous municipality in the country."

Summarizing the experiences gained from these two settlement projects, one Government-subsidized and the other a private venture by refugees, the Slattery report lists the following "elements of successful settlement in Alaska: (1) A group of human beings bound together by a common tragic experience and by common ideals will assume the responsibilities of a self supporting community under circumstances where individuals who lack common interests will tend to look to the Government to help them over any obstacles that may arise. (2) Settlers in Alaska, who can go back to a more or less comfortable existence if they tire of Alaska, are apt to take a critical view towards the problems of a pioneer community, whereas men and women who have definitely cut their ties with the past, who feel that they must make their new life a good life or perish in the attempt, are more likely to face the hardships and to endure the sacrifices which the fashioning of that good life demands."

In a section on the attitude of native Alaskans toward immigration, the report points out that they feel as early American colonists felt, "that any legislation preventing the migration of immigrants to territory that demands population is injurious and despotic."

"The people of Alaska," the report declares, "are probably as free from national and religious prejudices as any other people in the world. They are themselves a melting pot of three races, Eskimo, Indian and Caucasian, and of many religions and nationalities. . . . Alaska must seek its population growth as did the United States through immigration, and nowhere in the world today will the immigrant find less racial or religious prejudice. . . . Hospitality and tolerance based only upon humanitarian impulses may wear away. In Alaska the welcome that is extended to settlers is dictated by the pressing and well understood economic needs of a sparsely settled country with undeveloped resources. Tolerance and democracy are natural products of the frontier where a man is appraised for his worth and not for his ancestry. The people of Alaska, then, want to see their land populated and it makes little difference whether this population comes from the United States or from abroad, provided only the settlers who come to Alaska are equipped for Alaskan life in physique, training, interest, and financial resources."

Other points brought out by the Slattery survey include the following: There are 94,000 square miles of farming and grazing land in Alaska; the climate in the southern coastal region is the most favorable, featuring cool summers, warm winters and considerable rainfall, with no great variation in temperature, while the interior has long cold winters and short warm summers with fairly light rainfall; potentially, Alaska offers a market larger than America's present export market in all of South America; national forest land in southeastern Alaska contains 3,000,000 acres of merchantable timber; mineral resources include large gold deposits, copper, chromite, bituminous coal and probably petroleum.

ZIONIST CONGRESS, OPENING TONIGHT, TO PONDER TACTICS IN FIGHT AGAINST BRITISH POLICY

GENEVA, Aug 15 (JTA) More than 550 delegates from all parts of the world meet in the Municipal Theater tomorrow evening in the first session of the 21st biennial World Zionist Congress, which will formulate a program of action against Britain's new Palestine policy.

The Congress opens three weeks before the sessions of the League of Nations Council and Assembly at which final action will be taken on the Mandatory Power's plan to establish an independent Palestine state with the Jews relegated to the position of a one third minority, their immigration halted after entry of 75,000 within five years.

Condemning the new policy as a breach of faith, a violation of the mandate and the Balfour Declaration, and a surrender to Arab terrorism, the Congress will give its chief attention to discussing tactics to be used in a campaign to seek rejection of the White Paper by the League at its September session and a further program of resistance. In the event the League approves the British policy.

The preliminary conferences of the various Zionist factions represented at the Congress produced a division of opinion on the methods to be used in the fight against the White Paper. Some of the Zionists, especially the Mizrachi, are determined to introduce in Palestine, a policy of passive resistance similar to that employed by Gandhi in India. Many Zionists believe that this program, which carefully excludes everything that could lead to terrorism, would bring Jewish resistance to a point where it would not only render the White Paper ineffective but may even force Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald to resign.

Opposing this program, however, are other groups in the Zionist movement which believe in a more moderate form of resistance. They argue that the international situation is such that Britain could hardly maintain an "anti-Jewish" policy for any length of time in Palestine, which is an important strategic point on the Mediterranean. Hence, it is argued, it will not take long for the British Cabinet to realize that it must rectify the mistake represented by the White Paper and regain the friendship of the Jews as trusted elements able faithfully to guard the Palestine coastline from sabotage. It is held that Britain could not depend on the Arabs in the event of international complications.

This moderate viewpoint, which is based on the idea of marking time, is compared by its advocates to that of the Czechs in the German "protectorate." Just as the situation

which has been forced upon the Czechs is not accepted by the Czech people, so the situation which Britain is forcing upon the Jews would remain "unaccepted" by the Jewish people until the opportunity arose to change it.

Leading members of the American delegation to the Congress served notice that they were opposed to non cooperation or passive resistance as a method of combating Britain's policy although they were prepared to fight it by other means. Spokesmen for the delegation were Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland and Abraham Goldberg of New York.

Addressing a session of the General Zionist Confederation last night, Dr. Silver advised the Zionist world to wait for a more favorable turn in the international situation to aid the fight on the British policy, which, he said, was the result of the general international situation. "We cannot accept the White Paper," Dr. Silver said, "but nevertheless we must continue to cooperate with the Mandatory Government in order to avert chaos in Palestine and demoralization of our work with the Palestine Jewish Community. Passive resistance will hurt none so much as ourselves. We must work in Palestine both with the British Government and the Arabs, or with one or the other. Alone we face disaster."

Mr. Goldberg declared the British policy could be combated if the Jews did not "give way to despair, if we mobilize all our means and forces and if the Congress differentiates between the British people and the British Government."

Leading the fight against the British policy will be Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, who, in his opening address tomorrow evening, will appeal to Britain to reconsider her decision at the eleventh hour, before the League has the last word, and take into consideration not only the Jews' loyalty to England and the millions of dollars spent by Jews in converting Palestine into a prosperous country, but also the present persecution of Jews in Central Europe and the need of millions of Jewish refugees and potential refugees for a land where they could be welcomed and absorbed.

With the Congress scheduled to last two weeks, half of its time will be given to sessions behind closed doors at which important discussions will be held and decisions taken dealing with the Jewish fight in Palestine.

TOLERANCE PREREQUISITE OF DEMOCRACY, COLUMBIA PARLEY TOLD

NEW YORK Aug 15 (JTA) Racial and religious tolerance as one of the prerequisites for the preservation of democracy was stressed today by speakers addressing the opening sessions of the Congress on Education for Democracy, attended by more than 2,500 delegates and registrants at Columbia University.

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia, in the opening address in the McMillin Theater, declared education and democracy could not rest upon "brute force" and each "must have a moral foundation and an intellectual interpretation." He defined democracy as "government by the people, in the interest of all the people, with guarantee of civil and religious liberty of every person."

Addressing the opening meeting, Dr. Charles A. Beard, the historian, declared that only "with the protection of civil rights can American education 'defy powers that seem omnipotent' and span the full measure of its responsibility." Warnings on racial hatred were given by Dean William F. Russell of Teachers College, who declared that one of the three "attacks" on democracy was directed "to the racial and national minorities because they are dissatisfied," and by Representative-at-Large T.V. Smith of Illinois, who said that the doctrine that all people were educable, an essential part of democracy, could be trusted "to frustrate anti-Semitic bullies." The price of liberty is not merely eternal vigilance but also perpetual restraint. Lord Josiah Stamp, British economist, told the congress in an address broadcast from London over an NBC network.

Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron of Baltimore, speaking this afternoon at a general meeting on "Democracy and Its Challenge" declared that appeals to racial and religious prejudice were aggravating class divisions in this country. "Anti-Semitism, up to these last few years a relatively latent force in our country, is being artificially stirred by those who resist by any means the liberalization of our social and economic order," Rabbi Lazaron declared. "Call a liberal measure Jewish, point to the renegade Jews prominent in the Communist movement and the resulting non-sequiturs are sufficient to damn without further examination by the huge numbers of our people who do not stop to analyze or evaluate."

NAZI USE OF TOY FILMS FOR PROPAGANDA REVEALED IN LONDON

LONDON Aug 15. (JTA). An attempt to spread Nazi propaganda in England by means of "cinema toys" imported from Germany was revealed here today with the announcement that the Woolworth Company, operator of five and ten cent stores, had withdrawn the toys from sale upon discovery that they contained scenes of Jew baiting and outdoor Nazi meetings in the Reich. The toy films, which bore "Made in Czechoslovakia" markings, had been sold to the Woolworth firm as containing scenic views of various countries and sporting events. They had been so described in the import manifest. When reproduced, however, the films were found to include such Jew-baiting scenes in Germany as aged women being forced to sweep streets while a large crowd laughed. Other scenes showed outdoor Nazi meetings, close ups of Hitler giving the Nazi salute and shots of Hitler and Mussolini.

Alexander Nissen, manager of the Woolworth store at Bradford, declared today that he was ordered by the company's headquarters to discontinue sale of the films when their true character was discovered. "There is no doubt," he said, "that had our buyer known the type of pictures supplied he would not have bought them."

N Y POST SENDS MAURICE SAMUEL TO EUROPE ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

NEW YORK Aug 15. (JTA). The New York Post announced today that it has engaged Maurice Samuel, noted author and lecturer, to tour Europe on special assignment. Mr. Samuel will sail tomorrow.