

## The Dilemma of the New Jewish Exodus

CAN a quarter of a million Jews be helped to get out of Adolf Hitler's Third Reich? Where shall they go? Can Palestine support a hundred thousand of them? These questions agitated the eighteenth World Zionist Congress, which convened in Prague last month. These problems are by no means exclusively Jewish, notes the press of Europe.

Witnessing the steady stream of refugees fleeing across all borders from Germany—a conservative estimate puts the total at

tries in which Jews can not live and countries to which they can not emigrate.

This British observer detects in the present dilemma of the German Jews the same racial tragedy that has gone on almost uninterruptedly since the middle ages: the Jewish exodus from one realm to another, the spawning of ghettos, and the creation of a nomadic trading and professional proletariat, inevitably sowing the seeds of anti-Semitic feeling, and leading usually to fresh persecution. Religious

"The problem of the Jewish exodus is at once smaller and greater. It is smaller because the numbers involved are more restricted. It is greater because it is not a question of transferring people simply from country to country, to carry on their old living, but of fitting them at the same time to carry on a new life.

"If it is more difficult, it will, on the other hand, command the best brains of the Jewish people; and international cooperation combined with Jewish effort should be adequate to solve it. The Jewish National Home (Palestine) will accommodate a substantial part and will, moreover, give an example and an inspiration to the rest of the Jewish population of the reconstruction and normalization of Jewish life."



ON THE MARCH AGAIN

—Bils in *Gringoire* (Paris)

more than 50,000—European observers can not escape the conclusion that "the Jews are on the march again." Not toward the *promised* land, but toward the *permitted*, as a Paris weekly expresses it. They are turning to France, to Belgium, to Holland, to Czecho-Slovakia, a few to Great Britain. It is believed that no less than 30,000 have found temporary refuge in Paris. A few thousand more are in Switzerland—Basel, Zurich, Geneva and Lausanne. Brussels, Antwerp, Amsterdam offer temporary shelters to others.

While this flight from Nazi persecution can not be described as jumping from the frying-pan into the fire, the fact remains, as a correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* points out, that everywhere these refugees arrive to find a crisis of unemployment and social unrest. Few of them, strangers in strange lands, can find any regular employment. In most countries of the Continent, philanthropic agencies have already exhausted energies and resources in an effort to maintain thousands of native unemployed.

This enforced Jewish exodus coincides tragically with a period of the severest restriction upon immigration by most nations. These Jews escape into an inhospitable world, a world divided, the correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* notes, into coun-

tries in which Jews can not live and countries to which they can not emigrate.

The 50,000 refugees represent but a small proportion of the German Jews now "on the march." The problem becomes one almost of mass-migration. We are reminded by the *World Almanac* for 1933 that out of Germany's total population of 62,348,782 persons, 564,379 were Jews. The problem of the new exodus, according to the liberal *Guardian*, can not be solved without international action and cooperation. Hopeless as this problem appears at first glance, we are reminded, achievements of the past decade in seemingly hopeless tasks of repatriation have been noteworthy. The *Guardian* writer finds hope in these facts:

"In that more tranquil and care-free world before the Great War it was possible for a single country to absorb in a year more than a million immigrants. To-day no country, great or small, can absorb annually 10,000 immigrants without careful and scientific planning.

"On the other hand, we have seen in the last decade how international action has contrived to find a home for two million Greek refugees from Anatolia in European Greece, for 160,000 transferred Bulgarians from Macedonia in their homeland, for over 50,000 Armenians in Syria and Russia.

### A Canadian Looks at Russia

Robert Cromie went to Russia expecting to find a starved and depressed people on the verge of collapse. He went looking for the sensational, the romantic, the dramatic, for his mind had been filled with reports printed in his own newspaper. Returning last month to his home town, Vancouver, B. C., this Canadian publisher of the *Vancouver Sun* startled members of the Vancouver Board of Trade by his enthusiastic assertion that the Union of Soviet Republics has already "made the grade."

"Don't worry about Russia—she is made!" asserted this picturesque, yet conservative Canadian. According to a summary published in his own daily, Robert Cromie is certain that the spirit of youth will carry Russia through hardships and privation, that ordered discipline will emerge from present chaos:

"There is a tremendous reservoir of life in Russia that will carry them on and on. The secret of Russia's success is the progress made by the young workers and teachers.

"Where Russia differs from America is that the rewards in money and in recognition go, not for exploitation and manipulation, but for effort and endeavor.

"In Russia the spread between the least paid worker and the highest paid official is one to thirty. In America the spread between the least paid worker and the big money manipulators is one to thirty thousand.

"Don't worry about Russia. She is made. She has her work to do and is doing it reasonably well.

"There should be an exchange of trade between Russia and Canada. There is, for example, no reason why we should not swap Russia \$10,000,000 worth of cattle for a similar value in hard coal.

"Union labor men glory in the thought of the trimming capitalistic owners would get under Communism. My observation is that there would be more shootings of union labor officials than of capitalist owners."

## Japan's Hope for Quota Immigration

ALL Japan is rejoicing at the possibility that the next session of Congress may repeal the Asiatic Exclusion Act—a breeder of ill-will since its passage in 1924. Senator David Reed and Representative Albert Johnson, Chairman of the House Immigration Committee, are reported as the probable sponsors for such a bill.

"So long as the law continues in force," writes *Nichi Nichi*, independent Tokyo journal, "Japanese antipathy against the United States will remain, making true good-will between the two countries impossible." And the Foreign Office states: "We feel the exclusion regulations at present in force are an affront to Japan's national honor."

Renewal of this anti-exclusion sentiment, never absent since the enactment of the law, emerged in response to a statement by Roy Howard, of the Scripps-Howard newspapers. On his return from Japan, Mr. Howard wrote: "A good start [toward a more friendly attitude to Japan] would be to repeal the unjustifiable and trouble-breeding exclusion act, substituting a law admitting Japanese into the United States on the quota basis." This led the *Osaka Mainichi*, an independent paper, to remark: "We rejoice that a leading American journalist felt advised to make this timely proposal. . . . Can we take the anti-Japanese clause otherwise than as a slur upon Japanese honor and pride?"

Traditional champion of exclusion, California has already reversed its attitude. The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, as well as other chambers of commerce in the State, are now agreed on the necessity for repeal as a means of healing Japan's wounded pride, and thus establishing friendlier relations with her.

California civic organizations now seem to agree that the quota system represents a scientific method of immigration control, accomplishing rigid restriction yet at the same time removing offense to Japan, thus laying the foundation for international good-will. Such bodies now admit that exclusion of Asiatics has cast a stigma upon "our Oriental neighbors," has wounded legitimate feelings of national pride and honor, and agree with the Japanese press that almost ten years of exclusion have resulted in nothing but wounded feelings. "This whole matter might be summed up," according to George J. Presley, executive vice-president of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, "as a desire to accomplish the right end in a just and courteous and statesmanlike manner befitting a great nation such as ours."

On the other hand, V. S. McClatchy, executive secretary, California Joint Immigration Committee, fears that a quota will eventually flood the country with Orientals. The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce denies this, asserting that

the quota is rigidly limited and that admission is not to include laborers.

Bitterness over exclusion is not limited to the Japanese. Tho anxious for repeal, China has her private quarrel with Japan on the matter. *The China Weekly Review*, representing official opinion, writes rather bitterly: "Whether such a measure would receive favorable consideration in Congress now in view of Japan's wholesale violation of treaties in which the United States is vitally interested is extremely questionable." If, it goes on, America should lift the ban on the Japanese, other excluded nations

would, of course, expect the same privilege. "But this would arouse no enthusiasm in Tokyo because the Japanese do not like to be classed with the Chinese, Siamese, East Indians and other Far Easterners. What they would like to see would be a lifting of the ban against the Japanese alone, while others continued to be barred out."

The proposed quota basis would permit the yearly entrance of 185 Japanese, including whites born in Japan, and 105 Chinese. Minimum quotas of 100 would be allowed to India, Afghanistan, Nepal, Siam, Bhutan, Hejaz, Arabian Peninsula, and New Guinea.

## The Poppy Paradise of the China Coast



Publishers' Photo Service, New York

### THE LITTLE STREET OF FORGOTTEN MEN

"First class" gambling houses line the crooked streets of old Macao; and the sickly-sweet fumes of opium assail the nostrils of passers-by

First spearhead of the Occident into the heart of the ancient Chinese empire, oldest European settlement in the Orient, and from the historical view-point one of the most important cities of China, Macao now slumbers in opium-dazed senility.

Wilbur Burton, an American newspaperman, paints a lurid and shocking picture—in *The China Weekly Review*—of the tragic decay of Macao, founded by Portuguese settlers in 1557. In the history of China this Portuguese settlement played a leading rôle for almost four centuries; but to-day the city of ruins and gravestones seems to have decayed into a combination of Monte Carlo, Tia Juana, and a poppy paradise. "Have friends double-crossed you? Has love turned to ashes? Has business failed? Then—" so counsels Wilbur Burton, "go to Macao to forget among forgotten men."

From beautiful Hongkong, the British crown colony, from Canton, the Chinese metropolis, eighty miles inland up the Canton River, visitors flock over to Macao for the week-ends, to indulge in opium-smoking and gambling. They may find a Eurasian band playing an Argentine tango to a

Chinese audience in the plaza in front of the Portuguese administration building. But most of them prefer to penetrate into noisome alleys where vice festers, or where the sign "*Fumatorio*" advertises countless opium divans. Every Chinese hotel, we read, is equipped with facilities for opium smoking. "Many streets are literally laden for many blocks with the pungent fumes . . ." Macao's method of regulating this traffic, declares this American critic, obviously encourages the spread of narcotic addiction.

Other streets are wholly given over to gambling. All Macao's residents and visitors seem to prefer fan tan, a game in which bets are placed on how many small brass chips or counters will be left over from a large pile after division by four. Fascinating, it seems, is the musical clink of myriads of brass chips being stacked and counted, and counted and stacked. "But the existence of a foreign colony on the China coast which thrives almost entirely on gambling and opium-smoking can only be soberly viewed as one of the worst of the many things for which the white race has to answer in the annals of Asia."