

A TIDE RISING EVER HIGHER



A British comment on the problem of refugees.

Low © All Countries

WORLD SEARCHED FOR HAVENS

British Consider Dominions, Colonies and Other Countries for Refugee Homes

By FERDINAND KUHN Jr. Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES. LONDON, Nov. 19.—The indications are that the German Government intends to liberalize her immigration figures for Palestine soon and a large part of the coming round-table conference in London, so that between 20,000 and 30,000 newcomers can be admitted every year.

Palestine Limitations
 Not all of these, of course, will be German Jews, but tiny Palestine continues to be a refuge for large numbers for whom life in Germany has become unbearable. Palestine is far too small and crowded, and there has been a general realization this week that new Palestines must be found across the seas for those whom President Roosevelt described as "helpless, persecuted wanderers with no place to lay their heads." This is why the atlas is being searched these days for thinly settled and undeveloped parts of the earth where, with adequate financial and diplomatic backing, Jewish settlers might repeat the triumphs of pioneering that they have achieved in the Holy Land.

On Monday in the House of Commons Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain is expected to announce the British Government's readiness to receive part of the great refugee army into the British colonial empire, provided that private individuals in this country and the United States help to pay for their emigration, training and resettlement. Later there probably will be a meeting of the four vice chairmen of an intergovernmental committee known as the Evian conference, so that a new effort to get Jews out of Germany can be undertaken if the men have been trained beforehand in agricultural work. It is understood Canada, too, is willing to admit substantial numbers of qualified refugees into British Columbia and other promising parts of that vast dominion.

A Staggering Problem
 Already this much is certain—whatever can be done for the Jewish man now will not be enough. Last Summer it was estimated that more than 660,000 Jews and others were expected to emigrate from Germany, which represents an army of misery greater than any Europe has known since the frightful Russian famines of 1921, and its evacuation from Germany presents a problem infinitely more complicated.

Area Found Promising
 A few years ago when a home was being sought for Assyrian Jews, an area was investigated and found to be promising for agricultural development. The climate was found to be tolerable; much of the land belonged to the British Crown and there were comparatively few natives who would be affected by the influx of newcomers. In Guiana the chief difficulty was reported to be the lack of communications from the coast into the interior. The plan fell through because the Assyrians cared enough about the money to transport and resettle them. In the case of the Jews, however, British colonial authorities believe they can be found and that they themselves would bring the skill and drive that the Assyrians

do not pretend to have. Yet the emigration of even 20,000 to British Guiana would cost far more per head than in the case of Palestine—so much, indeed, that many experts believe Jewish settlement are skeptical of the whole project and call it a pipe dream.

Other British colonial areas where Jews might settle are in the highlands of Tanganyika, Kenya and Northern Rhodesia, in Africa. There are only 400 Europeans living among 2,000,000 natives in the vast expanses of Northern Rhodesia and it is possible that with effort and expense a settlement for the Jews can be built up there.

South America
 Otherwise the most promising fields for colonization of Jewish settlers are in South America, which until now have been reluctant to take them. The States of Para and Paranha in Brazil, fertile valleys in Colombia and large areas in Southern Argentina and are believed to be fit for a scale emigration of pioneers from Europe if it can be financed big enough scale.

Some who have been connected with League of Nations refugee work for many years believe the key to the refugee problem is to be found in Soviet Russia, although leaders of the existing Jewish colony of Birobidjan in Eastern Siberia were "liquidated" in the recent purge by methods no less brutal than those now being used against Jews in Germany.

Jews in Germany have been people for the most part—doctors, lawyers and tradesmen—who would be helpless in trying to pioneer a country. What is to be done with the 100,000 elderly still left in the Reich? Where do professional men find new settlements where they can build their lives anew? These are only a few of the questions that make the problem of the German Jews the most baffling of modern times.

MAKING THEM MIND IN ENGLAND

Since then, however, the process of expropriation by Germany has been speeded by forced liquidation and "Aryanization" of Jewish businesses. Now the crippling "fine" of 1,000,000,000 marks has been imposed on the Jewish community and orders have been issued that no Jews shall be allowed to emigrate until the "penalty" to the State has been paid.

In other words, it is doubtful whether Jews will be allowed to take any property with them at all, and more than doubtful whether Germany will contribute anything to their emigration.

Whither? Is Question

Where are they to go? The United States immigration quota permits something like 27,000 Germans annually to be admitted—a figure that over a five-year period would account for about one-fifth of all the Jews now in Germany. Britain has no quota but in recent months has been admitting more German Jews in proportion to her population than the United States.

It is hoped here that in addition to the United States and Britain perhaps The Netherlands and other countries will admit large numbers of German Jewish children, who in many ways are the saddest victims of all.

Palestine is another place where many thousands of German Jews have already found refuge.



Behave yourselves or Mr. Chamberlain'll give you to that Hitler."