Dear Mr. Myron Taylor,

As Lord Winterton explained to you, he has to leave town early in the afternoon to-day, and in his absence he has asked me to send you, for your confidential information, the enclosed statement of the view which he would propose to express on the programme drawn up between Mr. Rublee and Herr Wohltat.

Lord Winterton has asked me to say that although, as he explained, he could not bind himself to vary the terms of this memorandum, he would be very glad to receive your observations on it, and would, of course, be ready to consider any suggestions you might wish to make.

Yours sincerely,

A. W. G. Randall

The Hon. Myron C. Taylor.
Memorandum.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom take note of the results of the conversations between Mr. Rublee and the German Government, and, subject to their existing laws and practices, are prepared to take their part in facilitating the orderly execution of a programme of emigration. His Majesty's Government point out that if increased transfer facilities can be granted, the organisation of emigration will be expedited. They consider it desirable that the contact established with the German authorities should be maintained.
February 15, 1939.

CRAFT LETTER

Dear Mr. Wohlthat:

Referring to the conversations which I had the honor of holding with Mr. Schacht and yourself in Berlin from January 11 to February 2, 1939, inclusive, and in particular to my letter to you of February 1st which contained the text of the confidential memorandum expressing the result of our conversations, and to your reply of February 2, 1939, I am happy to inform you that I am now in a position to tell you of the result of the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee held in London on February 13 and 14, 1939.

I reported in full regarding my conversations with Mr. Schacht and yourself to the Committee, which was composed of the plenipotentiaries of the United States of America, the Argentine Republic, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Sweden, Uruguay and Venezuela. The text of the confidential memorandum, which was included in my report, was then distributed to the representatives of the participating Governments.
The Committee gave most careful consideration to my report, and in particular to the memorandum which you agreed correctly states the program which Germany, acting unilaterally, would take.

The Committee, having taken note of my report, instructed me to inform you that the committee, acting independently, has been, is using, and will use, its best endeavors to develop opportunities within the next five years, for permanent settlement of involuntary emigrants from Germany, within the limits of the laws and practices of the member Governments.

The Committee also took cognizance of the projected formation of a private international corporation which would serve as an agency for financing emigration from Germany, for maintaining such contacts with the German authorities as might be necessary for this purpose.

To my great regret, I am obliged, for personal reasons, to retire from the office of Director of the Committee at this time. Sir Herbert Emerson has been invited to serve as Director, and Mr. Robert Fell has been appointed Vice-Director of the Committee, which maintains its separate and independent existence.

Yours very sincerely,
HON MYRON TAYLOR, CLARIDGE HOTEL, LONDON

PRACTICALLY NO IMPROVEMENT MEDICAL

INTERDICTION TO LEAVE BED STOP ABSOLUTELY

SORRY AM HEARTILY WITH YOU IN YOUR WORK

HOMMAGES KIND REGARDS = COULON =
Dinner Given at Claridge's, London
by
THE HONOURABLE MYRON TAYLOR
to the
EVIAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES
13th February 1939

Adams, Mr. Walter
Arias, Senor Dr. Don Rodolfo Garcia
Attlee, Rt. Hon. C.B., M.P.
Baker, The Hon. Philip Noel, M.P.
Brooks, Mr. H. E.
Buttersworth, Mr. Walton
Cambon, Monsieur Roger, C.V.O.
Carias, Senor Don Tiburcio
Cecil, Rt. Hon. Viscount
Chapin, Mr. V.
Clark, Colonel Ralph
Colban, Monsieur Erik Andreas
Cooper, Mr. E.N., O.B.E.
Corbin, H. E. Monsieur Charles, G.C.V.O.
Cotes, Mr.
de Buntamanto, Senor Cesar Montero
Defly, Monsieur Leon
De Foy, Monsieur
De Mattos, Jonkheer E. Teixeira
De Negri, Senor Gustavo Luders
De Watteville-Berckheim, Baron Francis
Duncan, Rt. Hon. Viscount
Emerson, Sir Herbert
Espinoza, Senor Rogelio
Figueroa, Senor Francisco A.
Hier-Davies, Captain H.N.
Hoare, Rt. Hon. Sir Samuel, Bt., G.C.S.I., C.B.E.
Iglesias, Senor Manuel Rivera
Johnson, Mr. Herschel
Killmann, Mr. G. G.
Le Breton, H.E. Senor Tomas A.
Linder, Mr.
Lobo, Senor Herlio
Makins, Mr. Roger
Mand, Monsieur Emmanuel
Monany, Mr. Sean
Ocana, Senor Eligio
Pell, Mr. Robert
Penaranda, Senor Juan
Phyts, Monsieur Bjorin Gustav
Planchart, Senor Julio
Treasury Chambers,  
S.W.1.  

15th February, 1939.  

Dear Mr. Taylor,  

I write to confirm that Lord Halifax will be pleased to see you to-morrow afternoon (Thursday) at 3 p.m. at the Foreign Office.  

Yours sincerely,  

H.G. Brooks  

The Hon. Myron Taylor,  
Claridge's Hotel,  
Brook Street,  
W.1.
"Consider Refugee Developments--The palatial setting of the recent meeting in Paris at which George Rublee, American director of the International Refugee Bureau, reported on his negotiations with Nazi officials relative to the removal of Jews from Germany. Left to right: Mr. Rublee, Myron C. Taylor and Lord Winterton, vice-chairman and chairman, respectively, of the intergovernmental refugee body; French Foreign Minister George Bonnet, who presided; M. Caracano, Argentine Ambassador to France; M. Hlio Lobo, Brazilian Ambassador to France; and Henri Berenger, noted French diplomat."
Consider Refugee Developments—The palatial setting of the recent meeting in Paris at which George Rublee, American director of the International Refugee Bureau, reported on his negotiations with Nazi officials relative to the removal of Jews from Germany. Left to right: Mr. Rublee; Myron C. Taylor and Lord Winterton, vice-chairman and chairman, respectively, of the intergovernmental refugee body; French Foreign Minister George Bonnet, who presided; M. Caracano, Argentine Ambassador to France; M. Hlio Lobo, Brazilian Ambassador to France; and Henri Berenger, noted French diplomat.
Thank you so much for your letter, and also for the book which you sent me, and which I forgot to thank you for before.

I can truthfully and honestly say that I miss you and George Rublee very much indeed.

I propose to send you, from time to time, an account of the progress of the work of the Committee. One or two irritating "hold-ups" have occurred since you left, but we are trying to get them right.

One concerns further talks with representatives of the Reich, and the other the investigation of a Settlement Scheme in Northern Rhodesia, but I think that this is a case more of misunderstanding than of anything else.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

(Edward Winterton)

Myron Taylor Esq.,
La Badia,
Via Boccaccio 119,
Florence.
Myron C. Taylor Esq.,
Villa Schifania,
115, Via Boccaccio,
Florence, Italy.

Dear Mr. Taylor,

I enclose a copy of a letter which I am mailing today to Pierrepoint Moffat at the State Department. I have arranged with him to send a letter each week covering the developments of the week. I shall send you a copy of every letter so that you will keep abreast of our activities and supplement it with a personal word to you.

Mr. Rublee got off in, I am convinced, a happy frame of mind. I think he was very much relieved to be able to lay down this burden in such favourable circumstances, and he spoke very warmly of your great courtesy to him in the last days. Joe Cotton is sailing today. Mr. Warburg offered him a very good job in connection with the proposed private corporation, and he has taken it under consideration. My impression, however, is that he will not come back although I am sure that he would be very useful and would do a good job.

Sir Herbert and I have canvassed the field very thoroughly, and I am sure that we are going to get along splendidly. He has gone for a tour of inspection on the continent and will be back sometime next week.

I am sure that you realise how grateful I am to you for your backing and support and appreciative of the splendid work
which you accomplished during your many weeks stay here.
It was very kind of you indeed to arrange the financial matters
with Mr. Rubies. I shall keep a careful accounting and will
see that any money which is spent is put to profitable use.

Do take a good rest and forget about the problems here.
I am certain that everything is now back on the track and
that there will be real success. Please present my respects
to Mrs. Taylor and say that Thecla sends her love.

Devotedly,

[Signature]
February 25th 1935.

Jay Pierrepont Moffat Esq.,
Department of State,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Pierrepont,

Generally, this week has been given over to readjusting the office to the new régime, and, I am glad to say, we are off to a happy start. A private room has been set aside here for Sir Herbert, who will occupy it, full time, two days a week. The other days, I shall have a morning conference with him at the League bureau. Once a week, we shall have a meeting with Lord Winterton at the Treasury. In this way, our various efforts will be coordinated. The separation between the two organisations will, otherwise, be absolute. Sir Herbert has made it clear that the members of his League staff will not have access to our files and vice versa, that, in short, he is the point of union and the chief executive and his right hand will only know as much of what his left hand is doing as he may wish. This sounds severe, but I think that it is just as well that the rules should be laid down rigidly at the outset. In actual practice I am certain that I can get along with Kuhlmann and Duncanmon and that there will be perfect cooperation.

While on the subject of personnel, I have heard from Noel Field who is planning to spend next week with me. He appears to be interested in the job, but the League will not release him until about May 1st. I am sure that, with temporary assistance, I can get along until then. What I need now is someone to back up Mrs. Latham in handling the streams of callers who pour in here every day. They take all one man's time and must be handled with tact. It is a real job.

Throughout this week the Germans have been shillyshallying as to how the future contact with them should be maintained. You will recall that they said first of all that the contact should be maintained through Abshagen in London. Then they said that Bergermann would see me and receive Mr. Rublee's
letter. I waited all day Monday for a word from them and even went so far as to attempt to track Bergermann down - without result. Later in the week, I was informed that Bergermann did not wish to become involved in the Jewish question and that as a consequence he had declined to see me, Berlin had been consulted once again, the latest word was that I should write a personal letter to Kohlthai, who would be back from Sofia almost immediately, requesting an appointment and saying that I wish to deliver Hr. Ruble's personal letter and make certain oral explanations. They suggested that this letter should reach him through Prantke in Berlin. All this has been done, and I am now awaiting a word about the appointment. I must in all frankness say that the Germans have not been helping their case by this method of dealing with us and there is evidence at the Foreign Office here of distinct irritation. In my opinion, however, there is a definite advantage in maintaining the contact with Kohlthai, who, I am informed, is to succeed Brinckman as the permanent executive at the Wirtschaftsministerium.

On the settlement side, Sir Herbert and I sat down on Monday to formulate a plan of campaign. Bearing in mind the German plan, with its specification that 150,000 wage earners should be emigrated in a period of from three to five years, we have come to the following general conclusions:

1. It is clear that the problem cannot be regarded as confined to the evacuation of 150,000 persons from Germany within a maximum period of five years, since other demands on available outlets are certain to arise and there is little likelihood that the present outflow of refugees of all categories and ages will be discontinued;

2. The immigration laws and practices of most countries of settlement will not permit us to carry out a system of strict selection, although it may be possible to make some progress in this direction, notably in the case of Australia and Palestine;

3. Before an orderly scheme of emigration can be drawn up, it will be necessary to have an approximate estimate of how far the special category of wage earners was represented in the total emigration from Germany during 1938;
4. Accordingly, the following three questions should be addressed to all Governments of countries of settlement:

(a) How many visas were granted for the emigration of persons of all categories from Germany in the period January 1 to December 31, 1938;

(b) How many of these visas were issued to "Jews" as defined in the German "confidential memorandum";

(c) How many visas, granted to Jews, were for (i) males between the ages of 15 and 45, (ii) for single females between the ages of 15 and 45.

This request for information was circulated to the Embassies or Legations of the settlement countries, also to the Australian High Commission and to the Palestine Agency, yesterday. It is understood that I should bring the three questions to your attention, for such action as the Department may wish to take. Of course, what we want is as much information along these lines as you can let us have as soon as possible.

Portugal has also been heard from this week, that is, indirectly through the British Foreign Office. Randall, chief of the Foreign Office League section, informed me last night that, following Mr. Taylor's conversation with Sir George Mounsey, informal soundings were made at Lisbon as to whether the Portuguese Government would be interested in collaborating in the efforts now being made to establish involuntary emigrants from Germany in places of settlement. The Portuguese Government has replied informally through the British Embassy at Lisbon that it would not be disposed to collaborate in this sense and specifically that it would not be willing to open up the Portuguese colonies for the settlement of emigrants from Germany. The British add that they can do nothing more and feel that it would be a great mistake to press the Portuguese further on this matter.

The only other development of moment during the past week is unpleasantness in connection with the demand of Commander Godman, about whom I wrote you some months ago, to be reimbursed for alleged expenses in Berlin in connection with his efforts to bring the Committee and the German authorities into contact. You will recall that Mr. Rublee was presented to Godman by Waley, of the Treasury, at the Treasury. Mr. Rublee did not
like the man and was averse to having dealings with him, but it was intimated to us both by the Treasury and by Winterton’s office, that he was a useful intermediary and that we should deal with him. Now Saley says that he was merely doing a service to Sir George Crystal in presenting Godman to Mr. Rublee, that he knew absolutely nothing about Godman and that he washes his hands of the whole matter. Winterton’s office declines even to hear of Godman and they all join loudly in saying that it is a matter exclusively for what they describe as the “executive” of the Committee (meaning me because Sir Herbert Emerson refuses to have anything to do with the matter). They almost say, but not quite, that Mr. Rublee made a gaff in receiving Godman and that it is up to me to get the Committee out of the hole in which it was placed by Mr. Rublee. I have broad shoulders and am perfectly willing to straighten the matter out as I can, but I have made it quite plain to Randall, at the Foreign Office, that since Godman is a British subject to whom we were introduced in a British Government office, with a request that we should deal with him, it seems strange that they should not wish to assume some part of the responsibility. The upshot is that Randall has called a meeting for Monday at the Foreign office when Saley and Brooks (Winterton’s assistant) and I will be present. The unpleasant feature of the matter is that Godman threatens to publish in the “Express” which has paid down a small sum as a retainer, an expose of the Committee’s dealings with the Germans which would be met for all those persons who would like to blow up the German conversations.

Yours ever,

Robert T. Poll.
Vice-Director.
My dear Jynx,

Many thanks for your last letter.

You will be glad to know, if you have not already heard the news from other sources, that Pell is going to Berlin today in order to hand Rublee's letter to Wohltat tomorrow.

The other difficulty, to which I referred in my letter, is already in process of being resolved, and I hope that the mission of investigation into the possibilities of settlement in Northern Rhodesia will be able to sail at an early date.

Inspired by your example, which I can truly assure you has been a great example to me, I have been exceedingly active since you left in seeing all sorts of people in connexion with our movement, including some of my principal colleagues in the Government;

The Hon. Myron Taylor,  
Hotel de Paris,  
Monte Carlo.
while nothing can replace the value of your presence here, I have felt under an honourable obligation not to let the fact of your absence reduce in any respect the urge and pressure to get things moving.

We had a useful session of the "1922 Committee", a body the nature of which I explained to you when you were here last week, when Emerson, Pell and I made speeches; there were a number of questions afterwards, and I feel sure that the meeting did good.

I am speaking at a meeting in the country on March 8th, but shall be in London on the 9th; I shall be at a committee in the morning and may have questions in the afternoon, so if you wanted to ring me up I wonder if you would do so at any time between 8 and 10.30 a.m. at my house (Victoria 8278). I hope you wont mind my making this suggestion; I would widen the time when I shall be available, but it is difficult to be sure where I should be at any other time of the day, as it happens to be rather a full day for me in various ways.

My
My wife joins me in sending our kindest regards to your wife.
Dear Mr. Taylor:

I enclose a copy of a confidential memorandum of my conversation with Wohltath in Berlin. I think that it gives you the full picture. My impression is that Goering wishes to go ahead with his program, but desires ammunition with which to justify his activities to Hitler. This ammunition in the first instance is to take the form of the memorandum on settlement projects which I am to take back to Berlin in a fortnight’s time. Goering’s other preoccupation is that the financing machinery on the inside of Germany and on the outside shall come into being simultaneously, that is, that the private corporation on the outside and the trust on the inside of Germany shall be set up at the same time. In studying the situation it seems to me that the clue to the timing lies with the appointment of the third or foreign trustee. When he has been approved by both sides, his appointment can be held off until both corporation and trust can be announced to the public. It is my impression that Wohltath is in agreement with this way of proceeding.

I had a long conference this morning with Winterton and Emerson. It was agreed that I should draft the memorandum and discuss it with the British, American and French Governments before submitting it to the Germans. I am setting to work immediately on this very delicate task, and shall have something to show you when you come to London.

I like Emerson immensely and admire him a great deal. I think that he is an excellent choice for our purpose and is a man of the highest integrity.

It is very good news that you are planning to come to London, and I shall look forward to reviewing developments in detail with you. Please present my respects to Mrs. Taylor.

Hon. Myron C. Taylor,
American Embassy,
Paris.
To Sir Herbert Emerson.

From The Vice-Director

Subject Conversation with Mr. Wohlthat, Berlin, March 3, 1939.

1. I kept the appointment which was made for me with Mr. Wohlthat by the American Embassy, and had a discussion with him which lasted approximately three hours.

2. First of all I handed to him the letter which Mr. Rublee was authorised by the Chairman and Officers of the Intergovernmental Committee to prepare. This letter indicated the intentions of the Intergovernmental Committee with regard to a programme of settlement over a five year period. The full text was as follows:

"Dear Mr. Wohlthat:

Referring to the conversations which I had the honour of holding with Mr. Schacht and yourself in Berlin from January 11 to February 2, 1939, inclusive, and in particular to my letter to you of February 1st which contained the text of the confidential memorandum expressing the result of our conversations, and to your reply of February 2, 1939, I am happy to inform you that I am now in a position to tell you of the result of the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee held in London on February 13 and 14, 1939.

I reported in full regarding my conversations with Mr. Schacht and yourself to the Committee, which was composed of the plenipotentiaries of the United States of America, the Argentine Republic, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eire, France, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Sweden, Uruguay and Venezuela. The text of the confidential memorandum, which was included in my report, was then distributed to the representative of the participating Governments.

The Committee gave most careful consideration to my report, and in particular to the memorandum which you agreed correctly stated the program which Germany, acting unilaterally would adopt.

The Committee, having taken note of my report, instructed me to inform you that the Committee, acting independently, has been, is using and will use its best endeavours to develop opportunities within the next five years for permanent settlement of involuntary emigrants from Germany within the limits of the laws and practices of the member Governments."
The Committee also took cognizance of the projected formation of a private international corporation which would serve as an agency for financing emigration from Germany and for maintaining such contacts with the German authorities as might be necessary for this purpose.

To my great regret, I am obliged, for personal reasons, to retire from the office of Director of the Committee at this time. Sir Herbert Emerson has been invited to serve as Director, and Mr. Robert Fell has been appointed Vice-Director of the Committee, which maintains its separate and independent existence."

3. After reading the letter several times, Mr. Wohltzath said that it appeared to him to furnish a sufficient basis for a continuation of conversations with the Intergovernmental Committee. He said that he alone was authorized to conduct these conversations and that therefore whatever meetings took place would have to be held in Berlin. Mr. Wohltzath apologized for the inconvenience to which the representatives of the Committee would be put but said that he thought it was wiser to handle the matter in this fashion since he would report directly to Field-Marshall Goering without any other intermediaries.

4. Wohltzath noted the reference in Mr. Rublee's letter to a five year period in which the settlement program might be put into effect. He regretted that there was no mention of three years since a reference of that sort would have been helpful. I replied that we had to be perfectly honest in dealing with this question and that, frankly, there did not seem to be much possibility of settling the number of people involved in a period under five years.

5. Wohltzath then said that after thinking over the problem, in particular how the German program of emigration should be related to the Committee's program of settlement, he had come to the conclusion that the two activities should proceed pari passu. For example, where the Committee was able to show that it was in a position to open up a place of settlement, Germany
would put into effect some of the measures which were set forth in the "confidential memorandum" which Mr. Rublee reported to the Committee. As a beginning, he suggested that it would be useful if he were furnished with a detailed memorandum of the projects which were now on foot for the settlement of involuntary emigrants in British Guiana, Northern Rhodesia, the Philippines and the Dominican Republic, and such supplementary details regarding infiltration as would be useful. He suggested that, when this memorandum was prepared, I might make a further appointment with him through the American Embassy, when we would discuss the memorandum. He would then submit it to his "principalia", who would decide whether it justified their putting into effect certain of the measures which were outlined in the "confidential memorandum". He emphasized that time was of the essence of the situation and believed that it would be highly desirable if I would bring the memorandum back, say, within ten days. I replied that I was certain that a memorandum of this nature could be drawn up very rapidly, that I would consult with Sir Herbert Emerson and Lord Winterton upon my return to London and would communicate with him through the American Embassy as soon as we were ready to proceed.

6. With that then turned to the reference in Mr. Rublee's letter to a private international corporation which it was proposed to set up outside of Germany. He asked me where this matter now stood, and how far the plans for the formation of this corporation had crystallized. I replied that since the Inter-governmental Committee was essentially a continuing international conference of more than thirty governments it could not assume the responsibility of setting up a corporation of the kind described in the German "confidential memorandum". I remarked that all it could do was to take cognizance of the project, if this project
were brought to its attention by private persons. I said that
certain private business people had indicated to the Committee that
they were studying the possible formation of a corporation along
these lines and, accordingly, the Committee at its meeting on
February 14 had taken note of their plans. I said that I had
heard that a certain group in London and a further group in New
York were actively engaged in formulating certain ideas, that they
were in close touch and that should the setting up of such a cor-
poration seem warranted they would be in a position to proceed
very rapidly. Wohltath asked me who was behind the project. I
said that I was not at liberty to give any details since such in-
formation as I had received had come to me most informally. He
asked whether the support was exclusively in Jewish circles. I
said that I thought not, that undoubtedly non-Jewish financiers
were interested since when it came to financing settlement projects
the necessary capital would have to be drawn from the community as
a whole.

7. I then asked Wohltath whether any progress had been made
towards the setting up of the trust fund on the inside of Germany.
Mr. Wohltath replied that the means of setting up this trust fund
had been very carefully studied and that he was sure that the
necessary decree establishing the trust could be issued at a
moment's notice. He observed that it would be difficult if not
impossible to set up a trust on the inside of Germany before a
corporation was created on the outside. I said that I did not
see why this necessarily followed, but that it was clear to me that
what he had in mind was the simultaneous establishment of the two
corporations, the one on the inside, and the other on the outside.
He admitted that this was his preoccupation, and emphasized the
difficulty of Germany taking action unless the other side was pre-
pared to move at the same time.
I suggested that perhaps the whole matter then hinged upon
the selection of the third or foreign trustee. He agreed that
that was an extremely important aspect of the matter. I asked him
whether he was in a position to furnish me with any further details
regarding the status and remuneration of the third trustee, and to
indicate whether the German side had any preference as regards the
nationality and personality of the third trustee. Mr. Wohltat
repeated what was said in the "confidential memorandum" namely,
that he should be an Aryan and a person of distinction. He said,
moreover, that there would be some advantage if he were German
speaking and a subject of a small neutral country. He said that
he would be remunerated from that part of the interest on the trust
fund which would be set aside for administrative expenses and that
he had no further details to communicate at this time but would be
prepared to elaborate on these points at the next meeting. I
then observed that private persons had been considering the ques-
tion of the third trustee carefully and, of course, could not make
any commitment until they knew exactly what the conditions were in
which he would be named. I said that they had given some thought
to the name of Professor Bruins of the Hague, although I made it
clear that this was very tentative, and that Professor Bruins him-
self had not been approached. Wohltat knew of Bruins and said
that on first sight this choice seemed highly acceptable. He
would, however, consider the matter further and discuss it with
his principals.
8. Mr. Wohltat then turned to the subject of Mr. Rublee's resignation. He said that he and Marshal Goering had been extremely disturbed to hear of Mr. Rublee's intention to resign. They had been favourably impressed with his straightforward, patient and wise manner of conducting the conversations and it had come as a severe blow to them that he would not continue to serve as intermediary between the German side and the Committee. I explained at length the reason why Mr. Rublee had felt that he must retire. I explained that Mr. Rublee had come to Europe in August expecting to proceed almost immediately to Berlin for conversations with the German authorities. He had not been able to proceed to Berlin for reasons which were not in the Committee's control. I added that Mr. Rublee's patience had almost been exhausted, and he was on the point of resigning when word had come that Mr. Schacht would take up this matter during his visit to London. I said that Mr. Rublee had accepted the post of Director at great personal sacrifice, that he could not afford any longer to neglect his law practice and that to his very sincere regret and after examining the problem from all angles, he had most reluctantly decided to withdraw. Mr. Wohltat then asked whether this decision was final. I said that it was final and that Mr. Rublee had returned to the United States.

9. Mr. Wohltat next enquired why Sir Herbert Emerson, who was the League High Commissioner and therefore distasteful to the German authorities, had been chosen as Mr. Rublee's successor. I replied that Sir Herbert was a very distinguished British subject, who was highly respected not only in London but in other capitals as well and had had a notable career in India, from which he had retired as Governor of the Punjab. I pointed out that the union between the Intergovernmental Committee and the League High Commission was a personal one in
Sir Herbert, that the Committee and the Commission remain separate and distinct, and that it would make for greater efficiency in that it would eliminate any overlapping which might previously have existed and would place in one leader the responsibility for organising the entire settlement programme. I said that this would obviously be to the German interest and I was certain that when they had considered the matter fully he and his principals would come to the same conclusion. I pointed out that the nomination of Sir Herbert to the post of Director had been put forward by my Government. I pointed out that my Government was not a member of the League, that the question of the League of Nations was a live political issue in the United States, and that it was a tribute to Sir Herbert's effectiveness and distinction that my Government had been willing even to consider him for this post. Mr. Wohlthat then said that he did not believe that there would be any serious objection to this arrangement on the German side as long as Sir Herbert was not required to enter upon direct conversations with the German side. The German authorities could not deal with an official of the League of Nations no matter how distinguished he might be, and it would constitute a great concession on their part if they were willing to continue conversations at all in view of the reorganisation which had taken place in the Committee. He thought it wiser to explain, if an explanation were needed, that Sir Herbert was my principal as Marshall Goering was his. There was no need for the principals to come together.

10. At this point I raised with Wohlthat the question of German ships carrying emigrants, without adequate papers, and attempting to land them in ports in various parts of the world, in the Pacific, in the Carribean, in the Black Sea and in the Mediterranean. I pointed out that this form of activity if
continued would seriously hamper the efforts of the Intergovernmental Committee to open up places of settlement for involuntary emigrants from Germany. I cited the case of British Guiana. I said that the Anglo-American Commission had no sooner arrived to begin its enquiry when a German ship with several hundred Jews on board had put in at an appearance. The passengers could not be landed because they did not have visas. The local authorities had been put in an unpleasant predicament and public opinion was naturally aroused. I said that this process had been repeated in several Central and South American ports and that the efforts of the Committee to bring certain of the participating Governments in this area around to a receptive mood had received a serious setback. I said that in the German interest this activity should not be permitted to continue. Wohlthat denied that the German Government was responsible for this practice. He said that the arrangements for the emigration of these people in this manner was made between the Jewish organisations in Germany and the shipping companies. He said that the German Government had taken measures to discourage the activity but without result. He did not know what precisely the authorities could do to put a stop to the practice but doubtless there were measures which they could take and he would cause enquiries to be made at once. Parenthetically there seems to be some justification for Wohlthat's observation that the responsibility rests primarily with the Jewish organisations. I had a secret meeting with Jewish leaders and they admitted quite candidly that they had sent people out in this fashion and said that they would continue to send them out. They said that in this way they would show in as public a manner as possible that the outside world was doing virtually nothing to open up places of immigration, and that former places which had been previously available are now closed. They spoke of the heavy pressure which was put on them by the secret police to emigrate a certain number
of people each week. They observed that the pressure was even
greater in Vienna and declared that the police would not accept
"No" for an answer. They had no alternative but to continue the
practice, unfortunate though it might seem.

ll. I thereupon stressed to Rohl that the absolute
necessity of giving the Committee a breathing spell in which to
settlement organise various projects. I remarked that it was difficult to
reconcile this obvious necessity with the recent activity of
Berlin police in instructing the leaders of the Jewish
community to prepare persons for emigration at the rate of
a hundred per day. I described to him in some detail the
conditions in the countries of refuge, told him of the efforts
which were being made to cope with the situation by the creation
of camps, etc. and emphasised that the financing of these
people in countries of refuge was eating into the capital
from private sources which might be applied to certain projects.
I stated that if the rate of emigration from Germany were to
be increased substantially now the problem would become
unmanageable. I concluded that it was essential to the success
of any programme that orderly emigration should replace the
chaotic exodus and as soon as possible. Rohl then said that he
appreciated frank speaking, that his object was to find a means
of introducing order into the emigration and that he would see
what might be done to improve existing conditions although he
could make no commitment at this point.

12. The conversation then turned to the press. Rohl then
said that the articles which had appeared in the Manchester
Guardian following Mr. Rublee's return from Berlin had been very
harmful, and wondered if there was not some way in which the
Guardian might be convinced of the error of its position.
I said that obviously as an American official I could not deal
with the British Press. I understood however that some effort
had been made to explain the position to the Manchester Guardian
but without any appreciable result. Rohl then took issue
with the Associated Press of America which had sent out a
number of reports in recent weeks which were patently false. I
said that I had talked with the Associated Press men both in
London and in Berlin and I thought that the situation would
improve. Wohltath said that he had the impression from
his reading of various articles in the American and British
Press that they must have been written with a full knowledge
of what the "confidential memorandum" contained. I pointed out
that the memorandum had been distributed to the representatives
of more than thirty Governments, that I would be surprised
if newspaper men had not had access to it, but that the
essential fact was that the text had, so far as I knew, not been
published anywhere. Wohltath admitted that this was the case
so far as he knew and said that that was at least something.

13. Wohltath then raised the question of intermediaries.
He said that he thought it was most unfortunate that the
Committee had felt called upon to employ intermediaries, notably
one intermediary, Commander Godman. He said that Commander
Godman had been used in various cases by the British Treasury
for very delicate operations which he preferred not to discuss.
He thought that it was a mistake, however, to bring Godman
into this field of activity and might have unfortunate results.
I recited in some detail our experiences with Godman, and told
Wohltath of his recent threat to "blow up the German conversa-
tions". Wohltath said that it was known to the German authori-
ties that Godman traded on the fact that his wife was a cousin
of Field Marshal Goering's. He said that if she was a cousin
she was a very remote cousin and was not accepted by the
Field Marshal, so that Godman, no matter what he might say,
did not have access to the higher authorities. He concluded
that it would be as well to have no further relations with
Godman, and I assured him that I was in full agreement with
him on this point.
14. It was agreed that there would be a further meeting within the next fortnight when I would hand to Wohlthat a memorandum giving details of the Committee's activities on the settlement side.
March 9, 1939

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I enclose, to complete your record, a copy of my letter No. 3 which I have sent Pierrepont this week.

Devotedly,

Hon. Myron C. Taylor,
American Embassy,
Paris.

Enclosure

P.S. May thank for the picture of the front of the house (which have come.
Dear Pierrepont:

I enclose a copy of a confidential memorandum of my conversation with Wohlthat in Berlin. I think that it gives you the full picture. My impression is that Goering wishes to go ahead with his program, but desires ammunition with which to justify his activities to Hitler. This ammunition in the first instance is to take the form of the memorandum on settlement projects which I am to take back to Berlin in a fortnight's time. Goering's other preoccupation is that the financing machinery on the inside of Germany and on the outside shall come into being simultaneously, that is, that the private corporation shall be set up at the same time. In studying the situation it seems to me that the clue to the timing lies with the appointment of the third or foreign trustee. When he has been approved by both sides, his appointment can be held off until both corporation and trust can be announced to the public. It is my impression that Wohlthat is in agreement with this way of proceeding.

As I indicate in my memorandum, I had a long secret conference with the Jewish leaders in Berlin. They are, of course, very nervous and jumpy, and inclined to discount much of what we are doing. At the same time, they are ready to acknowledge that there has been an easing of the situation, and that it is all to the good that Goering is centralizing the administration of the emigration. They were quite frank about the ship loads of their co-religionists which they are heading in various directions such as Shanghai, the Mediterranean and the Caribbean. They said that they had to get their people out, whether there was an easing of the tension or not. At any moment an incident might occur which would endanger the very lives of their people. They could not afford to take chances, with the consequence that they were very ready to yield to the pressure of the secret police and the enticement of the shipping companies and to emigrate their people without papers and without a fixed destination. They said that no opportunities for infiltration existed any longer, with the exception of the American quota and the refuge opportunities offered in England. The rest of the world had dried up. They
had, therefore, to fall back upon force majeuer, and reveal to the world in this dramatic fashion what was their plight. I pleaded with them that they were doing more harm than good by this way of proceeding, that they were defeating our efforts to open up places in Latin America, but they laughed in my face. After six years of dealing with this problem they are very hard. They do not believe in promises. Too many promises have been broken. They want action and are in a state of mind where they will force action.

Following my return from Berlin, I conferred at length with Lord Winterton and Sir Herbert Emerson, also Monick of the French Embassy. It was agreed that I should make a draft memorandum which would then be submitted to the American, British and French Governments in the first instance, and by way of courtesy to the other officers of the Committee. When the text had been approved I would be authorized to take it back to Berlin. As a first set-back in the preparation of this draft, the Foreign Office informed me this morning that I could say nothing about Palestine. They also warned me that I would have to be most cautious in my references to British Guiana and to Northern Rhodesia. Just by way of further encouragement, the Dominican Charge d'Affaires, for whom I gave a luncheon yesterday, said that the statement with regard to his country would have to be most general.

With regard to Northern Rhodesia, a terrific row has been going on here throughout the last two weeks. The basis was that the Rothschild emigration committee was authorized by the Government to assemble a Commission which would be sent to Rhodesia for the purpose of surveying possibilities of "small scale settlement". The Rothschilds replied that they could not send out a mission at great expense unless its terms of reference were agreed upon with the Government in advance. They also asked that an official of the Government should be assigned to accompany the mission. The Government, in answer, said that no official either from this end or from the local government in Rhodesia could have any connection with the mission. They then produced terms of reference which were so poor that Lord Hailey, the Chairman of the Co-Ordinating Committee, threatened to resign. Sir Herbert Emerson, who is magnificent, rushed into the breach and saved the situation temporarily. The Colonial Office is now reconsidering terms of reference, but so far has not given any indication that they will be very satisfactory. The battle continues.
Sir Herbert returned from his visit of inspection in France, Belgium and Holland about the same time that I got back from Berlin. He has given me a very confidential indication of what he discovered in these countries. The conditions in France are appalling. The government is doing little or nothing to cope with the situation, and is treating the people who have escaped across the borders as criminals, housing them in abandoned jails, depriving them of proper medical attention, and generally behaving badly. Sir Herbert was given very little cooperation by the French in his investigation, in fact it might be said that they did everything to hamper his efforts. In Belgium he found that there were between 8,000 and 9,000 adult refugees, and about 500 children. The number of adults is continually increasing, since although the Belgian Government has formally closed the frontier, no serious attempt is being made to carry out the closure, and both private organizations and government services told him that it was in fact impracticable to close the frontiers. While, therefore, the Government is still at liberty to close the border to those who have entered the country illegally, there is no immediate prospect of it exercising that right, although it might be compelled to do so if the numbers continue to increase at the present rate. The rate of irregular entry into Belgium is about 400 a week, and there is at present little evidence that the rate is declining. The excess of entries over departures constitutes the main problem in Belgium, both for the Government and the private organizations which are hard put financially. There is practically no antisemitic feeling in the country at present, although there is some evidence that there is a trend in this direction. Private organizations have been very generous in supplying funds, but they are rapidly reaching the point where they cannot afford to make further large contributions, so that without external support the situation may very quickly get out of hand. Most of the refugees at present are being supported in Brussels or in Antwerp. The cost of board and lodging of a refugee is approximately 3 Belgian francs a day and this is very near the subsistence limit and cannot be cut down any further. It allows a man to live but little more. Other refugees are in a camp, or rather settlement, at Merxelles, about 45 miles from Brussels. This village is the headquarters of the State Workhouse for Vagrants, and the Government has placed at the disposal of the private associations some of the buildings. There are facilities for sports and there are work shops with adequate rooms for training purposes. Between 900 and 1,000 refugees are in this settlement. Most of them are between eighteen and thirty-five and belong to the shop-keeper, salesmen, clerk and petty
merchant class. There are virtually no skilled mechanics or agriculturalists. The Superintendent is a refugee doctor and he is assisted by two Government officials. The conduct of the persons in the camp is excellent and the morale is high. The Belgian Government is now planning to set up a second camp at Marneffe, about 50 miles from Brussels. There is a large government building there which was originally a castle, later a Jesuit College and was recently used for the accommodation of Spanish children. It has large out-buildings which might easily be converted into excellent work shops. The surroundings are beautiful and healthy and there are about 100 acres of land available for agricultural training. At least 1,000 refugees can be accommodated there. The Government is prepared to stand the expense of conditioning this settlement if its maintenance will be taken over by the private organizations. Special facilities are being organized for children. The Germans have recently adopted the practice of placing children from three to ten years old on trains with a tag pinned on their chest stating "I am so and so, going to join my mother in Brussels". Of course, there is no mother at Brussels, and the children have to be taken care of upon arrival by the Red Cross and other agencies. Many of these children are so young that they only know their first names. They carry no papers or other indications of who they are or where they have come from. These children are coming across the frontier at such a rate that Belgium will soon have well over 1,000 children on its hands. On the Belgian side they are being very well and efficiently treated, and are being placed in private homes as soon as this can be arranged. Facilities are rapidly being exhausted, however, and the Belgians will soon be in need of outside help.

In Holland Sir Herbert found that there were approximately 22,000 refugees. The great majority of these are old or middle-aged persons, some sufficiently financed to carry them along for a short time. Many of these are living outside Government control, but are obliged to report at regular intervals to the authorities. The Dutch Government is using military forces to seal the frontier, and there are few irregular entries into the country at this time. Briefly, the Government's policy appears to be to allow the earlier legal entries to melt into the population, but to make things very difficult for the recent illegal entries. Sir Herbert was not
permitted to visit the camp where illegal entrants are maintained, but he understands that these places are more in the nature of concentration camps than settlements. Camps are under the command of officers of the Army Reserve who, as he is informed, are very sympathetic towards the refugees. The food is said to be good and there are certain facilities for outdoor exercise. A certain amount of teaching in English and other languages is being given and a small beginning is being made in instructing these people in the crafts. Generally speaking, facilities for retraining are very meagre. Most of the refugees are said to be too pleased to be out of Germany to worry about their present disabilities. The Government is said to have plans now for setting up one central camp where from three to four thousand refugees will be housed, where there will be facilities for retraining and recreation and where less rigorous methods will be adopted than are now the rule. The Government will pay a part of the cost which is estimated to be around £125,000. The private organizations will have to defray the remainder of the expenses. There are approximately 1,500 refugee children in Holland and in accordance with its general policy, the Government does not allow these children to be placed with private families. They are accommodated in homes, and Sir Herbert found that the administration of the homes was efficient and the character of the children excellent. Unfortunately, the Government is not prepared at present to allow the children to attend ordinary schools, and the associations are finding it difficult to make arrangements to teach children of varying ages. The cost of living in Holland is high. There is very little, if any, anti-Semitic feeling in the country. At the same time, unemployment is high, and if refugees were seriously to compete with domestic labor, public opinion might rapidly change. Private charity has been very generous and the resources of private organizations for this purpose do not seem to be exhausted.

Of course, all these Governments, together with the British Government, are insistent that the refugees should be moved on to places of final settlement within a year, and both Sir Herbert and I are very much worried about the situation on the settlement side. It is quite clear, no matter what may be said, that Latin America is sealed at the present time. The two projects in the British Empire, that is British Guiana and Northern Rhodesia, are of a long range nature, with the accent on the "long". The British are not even sure they will be permitting anybody to go to Rhodesia. What does this leave? The Dominican Republic and the Philippines for settlement and the United States for infiltration, with 3,000 a year
to Australia. It is understood, however, that this 3,000 will be drawn from the refugees now in England.

Sir Herbert and I had a confidential talk with Home Office experts here this week, and we asked them frankly how many people they were prepared to retain permanently after the end of this year. They said that they could not permit more than 3,000 to remain in England. Outlets would have to be found for the others. The people while here are not allowed to work. They have to be supported by private charity, and conditions are not made easy for them. The condition, in almost every case, for temporary entry into England has been evidence that these people were included on the American quota. Now that the British have discovered that application for the quota does not necessarily mean that the applicant could obtain a visa, entry of persons on a temporary basis here has virtually been stopped. So we are pretty close to rock bottom.

The Godman affair is boiling briskly. (1) Godman’s solicitors have notified us that he is seeing the Committee and/or its responsible representative to collect the sum of £2,500 for services rendered. (2) The legal advisers of the British Government have decided (a) that Lord Winterton is Chairman of the British Delegation and as such, Chairman of the Inter-governmental Committee without executive authority or responsibility; (b) that Sir Herbert Emerson as an official of the League of Nations, enjoys under the covenant of the League, full diplomatic immunity and cannot be sued in the British Courts; (c) that other officials of the Committee (meaning me) who are not at the same time officials of the League of Nations, do not enjoy diplomatic or any other immunity or any special status, and are regarded as private citizens, subject to be sued and taxed. Parenthetically, this is flatly contrary to what I have been given to understand from the outset of our establishment here. I have been repeatedly told, although I can find no record in writing, that the Director and the Assistant or Vice-Director of the Intergovernmental Committee should have the same status as officials of the League of Nations on duty in London. The Foreign Office now says that there is no precedent for this and that it cannot be granted.

This, I believe, covers the week’s developments.

With best regards to you and to Ted Achilles,

Pierrepont Moffat, Esq.
Department of State
Washington, D.C.
Myron C. Taylor Esq.,
71, Broadway,
New York.

Dear Mr. Taylor,

I enclose a copy of the fifth letter to Pierrepont Moffat. I believe that it is self-explanatory and covers the week's developments.

Many thanks for your cable regarding the use of the private fund. I cabled you because Winterton insisted on seeing something in writing from you indicating that money would be forthcoming with which to "settle" Godman. Winterton, who, at first, merely declined to assume any responsibility in the matter, began this week to say it was a purely American affair and should be settled with American money. I hate to see Godman get any portion of the fund which is so useful and may be essential later. However, I suppose it has to be done and the sooner the whole matter is out of the way the sooner we shall be able to concentrate on more important things.

I am awaiting with interest word from you about the private corporation. I have been in touch with the people here but so far they do not seem to have taken any actual step such as appointing a Chairman or filing their articles of association. I believe that they, too, are awaiting word from you.

With respects to Mrs. Taylor,

Devotedly yours,
17th March 1939.

Dear Mr. Taylor,

I understand that with a view to assisting the organised emigration of refugees from Germany, it is suggested that a trust fund be established in Germany to be administered by two Germans and one Aryan non-German. This trust fund is, it is said, to be constituted by means of a levy of 25% on the individual fortunes of Jews.

2. In order to arrange for the transfer of assets of the trust fund mentioned above it is suggested that one or more corporations be formed outside Germany and that these corporations should also finance the settlement of refugees in the new countries.

3. The first of these corporations may be set up in England and may have the name of "Refugee Advance and Transfer Corporation" or, more simply, merely "Refugee Finance Corporation". It may ultimately become the central holding company in contact with various subsidiary companies in the new countries of settlement, or it may become the corporation merely for dealing with advances and transfers to and on behalf of settlers in Great Britain or the British Empire.

4. The company registered in England could be a company limited by guarantee, with or without capital, and could raise money in the form of debentures or notes; or it could be an ordinary limited liability company with a small nominal capital, raising its money in debentures or notes as before. The enclosed memorandum and articles may serve as a guide to the type of corporation which it is envisaged must in any case be set up.

5. If subsidiary companies are formed in each country prepared to accept refugees as permanent settlers, it will be advisable to consult the laws of the new countries so that the type of company most suited to the country may be formed. There is, therefore, no object in considering the English Company in any other light than as a central corporation having wide power so that it may be as flexible as possible and so fulfil its capacities in as convenient a form as possible in the future.

In this connection the central company might make loans direct to the settlers or to the subsidiary companies which in turn might make them to the settlers.
6. Whatever form the company ultimately takes, it is agreed that the machinery should be put in motion for the setting up of some corporation in Great Britain as soon as possible so as to give the Germans evidence of good faith on this side and prepare the method by which advances may be made to the settlers from funds raised outside Germany and from the transfer of the assets of the trust fund described above.

7. I also enclose two copies of a memorandum dated 16th February 1939 which was handed to Mr. Linder prior to his return.

I would repeat that the actual form which the company will ultimately take cannot be decided at the present juncture, but I hope that this letter and the enclosures may be useful to you.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Myron Taylor Esq.,
Claridge's,
Brook Street,
W.l.
Letter No. 5.

March 25th 1939.

JAY PIERRPONT MOFFAT ESQ.,
Department of State,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Pierrepont,

I have had your reply to my telegram requesting your view regarding the meeting with Wohldt, and Sir Herbert, to whom I communicated the substance of your message, and I am wholly in accord with the conclusions. We believe that the conversations should proceed with a minimum of delay and that the basis of the confidential memorandum should be maintained with perhaps an extension of the period in which the programme is to be carried out.

There is to be a meeting at Winterton's on Monday next, when I am expected to state your position and Winterton will give the latest British view. In the meantime, we hope to have further word from the French and possibly from the other Vice-Chairmen to whom the draft memorandum for Wohldt has been transmitted together with a personal covering letter from Sir Herbert.

At the meeting called by Winterton on Wednesday last, a rather strong line was taken by the representatives of the various British Ministries concerned against the immediate continuation of the conversations with Wohldt. The reason given was that this was no time for us to help the Germans out of difficulties, even those caused by their anti-Jewish policy, that instead it should be made clear to them that, although we of the outside world could be helpful to them in this as in other matters if they behaved, if they misbehaved they could not hope to benefit by our invaluable assistance. After considerable discussion, the British position was summarised in the three points which I reported to you, namely: (1) that, in principle, the conversations should continue; (2) that, however, the Germans should be made to feel our displeasure by a suitable delay; and (3) that they should be impressed with the fact that when the conversations were resumed that the basis on which they
had proceeded so far was destroyed by the seizure of Czechoslovakia.

The French later the same day informed me that they took the same view as the British.

I said to both that I was not in a position to repudiate the views of the American Government but would take steps to ascertain them. In the meantime, I hoped that the views which they had reported would be regarded as tentative and subject to further consideration.

Throughout the week, Sir Herbert and his staff have been working long hours on the refugee situation in Czechoslovakia, attempting to bring some order out of the chaos and striving to save at least the most exposed individuals. Sir Herbert has asked me to be present at all the meetings to consider the steps to be taken although I was not called upon to make any comment.

The situation at the outset was completely chaotic. One of the first steps taken by the Gestapo at Prague was to arrest all the Czech members of the League Agent's staff and also to arrest everyone remotely connected with the Czech private refugee organisation. The persons in greatest danger who managed to escape the wholesale arrests either found refuge in the British, French and other Legations or took to the woods. A few escaped across the Polish frontier. Some were turned over to the Germans by the Poles. Others were well treated and allowed to proceed to Katowice. Accordingly, the first step taken by Sir Herbert was to have a list drawn up of the most prominent Czech "politicals" and German-Austrian refugees and telegraphed to the British Consul at Katowice. The Home Office here agreed that the people on this list might be admitted to the United Kingdom in a refugee status. The second step was to send Kullmann, the Deputy High Commissioner of the League, to Warsaw to obtain permission from the Polish Government for the organisation of a central committee of Czech and German refugees at Warsaw with a sub-committee at Katowice. Sir Herbert also arranged that, very secretly, Kullmann should be given 200 blank visas for England which the British Consul at Katowice might issue on his recommendation. Kullmann was also provided with a working fund.

It is too early to tell what the results of all this will be but it looks as though a trickle were started which may develop into a regular flow. The trickle, however, consists
almost exclusively of Czech "politicals". Virtually no Germans, Austrines or Sudeten refugees have succeeded in crossing the frontier. As for the Jews, they have not been seriously disturbed so far. The measures taken against them are largely vexatious, but they are very frightened and want to leave the country by one means or another.

The associated problem was the disposal of the balance of the 4 million pounds gifted by the British to the Czechs. It was the original intention to use this for refugees, and there was public pressure immediately after the events in Czecho-Slovakia that this intention should be fulfilled in the new circumstances, provided there was sufficient safeguard against misuse. The money was on deposit with the National Bank of Czecho-Slovakia, and immediate problem therefore was to get it back to the British Treasury. The corollary problem was to persuade the Government, meaning Sir John Simon, to agree to its being applied to the emigration and maintenance of refugees from Czecho-Slovakia. Sir John proved very difficult to persuade and at this writing the matter is still in the air. Without this fund, the private organisations here do not see how they can assume the additional burden of the Czechs.

The Northern Rhodesian Commission has gone off today with Sir Herbert’s friend Sir James (not Sir John) Dunnett at the head. Winterton gave a luncheon during the week for Sir James which I attended together with Sir Herbert, and Sir Hubert Young, who was formerly Governor of Rhodesia and is now Governor of Trinidad. Sir Hubert believes (this is of course strictly confidential) that there are great possibilities in Rhodesia. He is fearful, however, that positive action will be blocked by the railroad which are allied with the mining interests. As matters now stand there is a monopoly and the production of the mines in Northern Rhodesia is hauled all the way across Africa to an outlet on the Indian Ocean. The power for operating the mines is provided by coal which is carried by the railroad on the return trip. The railroad interests are fearful that if a large number of people are settled in the region the monopoly will be broken. Possibly a rival railroad will be established on the short haul through Angola and the local water power, which is excellent, will be harnessed. By the same token these interests are opposed to the development of Angola and make their influence felt at the Foreign and Colonial Offices. Unless they can be convinced that there is something in the settlement for them, Sir Hubert does not feel that much will be accomplished in Rhodesia.
no matter what the report of the commission may be. At least Sir James Dunnett is now apprized of the situation and will do his best the bring the "railroads" into line.

I reported on our meeting with the financial representatives of the American, British and French private organizations in my letter of March 22nd to Ted Achilles, and on our interview with Kelly regarding the Dominican visas in my letter of March 23rd to Warren, a copy of which I sent you. The only other matter which has monopolized much - too much - time is the Godman affair. Breed, Abbot and Morgan have examined our file carefully and considered the whole question and believe that they would win a case in Court. They admit however that Godman would undoubtedly introduce evidence which would not be helpful to us in our work and might cause serious embarrassment. Accordingly they advise a settlement, provided of course that we can obtain reasonable terms. Winterton, on his side, has brought in the Attorney General but exclusively to defend his - Winterton's - interests as a Minister. The Attorney-General also advises a settlement but points out that this settlement cannot be made out of the funds of the Intergovernmental Committee. In view of this opinion and the fact that he has no responsibility in the matter, Winterton has suggested that I cable Mr. Taylor to inquire whether he will raise funds to pay off Godman. Winterton does not believe that English private persons should be asked to do this.

With best regards,

Yours ever,

Robert T. Fell.
Vice-Director.
Sunday morning

Dear M - Ambassador,

I think it is not useless to send you the to-day Petit Parisien. Reading the Nice telegram about Italian Jews, I am afraid the promises which were given to go in Rome are, perhaps, not exactly fulfilled. Perhaps that can give you an idea of your ambassador in Italy, renewing your request.

Again our best wishes for your trip home, our homages à Madame Taylor, and our best regards.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Les juifs expulsés d'Italie se présentent en masse à la frontière française

Nice, 11 mars (dép. P. Persius)

Il y a quelque temps, on déclarait, en Italie, qu'il existait des Juifs venus d'Autriche ou de Hongrie qui se présentaient en masse aux frontières de l'Italie, notamment à Trieste, en provenance de pays où ils avaient été expulsés. Ces Juifs étaient généralement des non-Italiens, des Juifs espagnols et des Juifs portugais. Leur but était de se diriger vers l'Europe, en particulier vers la France, en Espagne, ou même en Russie. Le gouvernement italien avait alors ordonné la fermeture des frontières aux Juifs non-Italiens et la mise en place de contrôles aux points de passage. Cependant, malgré ces mesures, de nombreux Juifs continuaient à tenter de traverser les frontières.

Un départ à La Rochelle

La Rochelle, 11 mars (dép. P. P.)

250 juifs des deux sexes, provenant de divers pays d'Europe, sont arrivés à La Rochelle, à bord d'un pavillon anglais, et ont demandé à s'installer dans la ville. La mairie de La Rochelle a accueilli ces demandes avec une certaine pragmatisme, en leur proposant de travailler dans la ville et de contribuer à son économie. Cependant, la présence de ces Juifs a suscité des réactions négatives chez certains citoyens laochelois, qui sontiment que ces Juifs pourraient être une menace pour l'ordre public et pour l'économie locale.
Mrs. W. S.\n
French Line\nS.S. Normandie\n
Mr. Theobald,\n
Puu.\n
Cudross Street, London.\n
Many thanks for your letter of strc\narranged department has sent check for October third. About your suggestion direct to me, must take line asked. Department also to prepare similair as I smd like their direct point of view, to consider alongside ones received\n
Mr. Hart and others collect on the yesterday letter my complimentary regarding your work. Regards all.\n
Taylor\n
Charge 160
MacDonnell
Mogadore

Must report to President first

Hope Thursday after which say

They planned meet committee in

preferably Washington or New York or

your convenience -

[Signature]
49. Hill Street,
Berkley Square, W.I.

Sir,

Dear Mr. Taylor,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 1st March, 18—. I am very much obliged for the information you have given me. I shall do all in my power to secure the return of that most valuable letter. In case you should not hear from me, I shall be extremely obliged.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
What of our conspiracy here.

Dmitry 2 20th
April 1 1939

BY SS Normandie
Sailing Apr 1
Arriving Southampton Apr 6
Robert Pell, Esq.,
5 Culross St.,
Park Lane, London.

Dear Robert:

Enclosed copy of my letter of March 30th to Secretary Hull will give you the detail of some of my activities since I returned home, which included a rather long talk with Secretary Hull, a visit with Secretary Welles, and a luncheon and three-hour talk with the President.

I am pressing the situation as much as I can, and am having another meeting of the Advisory Committee Tuesday noon, so that they too will go to work.

I may say that practically nothing constructive was done by Rublee, Linde, and Cotton up to the time of my arrival here, but I did gain the impression that the atmosphere among the racial groups was a bit against doing anything rather than to do what we expected.

I was very glad to have the copy of your letter to Moffatt which came on the "Normandie" yesterday, and brought me up to date with your activities.

Of course I miss you very much. I hope you will keep up the stout heart and press forward on all fronts as rapidly as possible.

Please give my very kindest regards to Lord Winterton and to Sir Herbert Emerson. The efforts of both in this matter have been very greatly appreciated by all of us and by our Government as well.

Also give Tecla our love; and with the same to yourself, believe me,

Faithfully yours,
March 30 1939

The Honorable Cordell Hull,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Upon my return from Europe last Thursday, I promptly arranged for a meeting here last Friday with the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees. I then outlined the tentative plans that had been set up by a group of the leading members of the Jewish community in London as the basis for the formation of the external corporation, which, upon its being qualified, will become the negotiating agency between those on the outside of Germany who are interested in the relief of the German-Austrian emigrants and the three trustees in Germany, for the administration of their property which it is contemplated under the German proposal shall be placed in the trustees' hands.

There were present at that meeting the following:

Messrs. Theodore C. Achilles
Joseph P. Chamberlain
Basil Harris
Louis Kenedy
James G. McDonald
James M. Speers
Rabbi Stephen S. Wise

I urged prompt contact by members of the American Jewish community with those of London and Paris, to set up and complete the organization of such external corporation, and advised that a representative group should promptly visit London for the purpose of conference in that respect.

Before seeing the President, yourself, and Secretary Welles on Monday, I spent an hour discussing the subject with former Justice Brandeis at his home in Washington.

On returning from Washington Monday evening, I arranged to have a meeting in my office of other representatives of the Jewish community, which took place at four o'clock Tuesday and at which were present the following:

Messrs. Joseph Hyman
Henry Itelson
Albert Leaker
Charles Liebman
Harold Linder
James G. McDonald
Lewis Strauss
George L. Warren
I then reviewed the entire position at length with this group, who gave assurance of their interest and appreciation, and that they would undertake to contact other interested members of their race and faith, with the view to action upon the suggestion above outlined.

Yesterday, Wednesday, I had still another group, similarly constituted, consisting of:

Mesara, Paul M. Baerwald
Henry Morgenthau
James H. Rosenberg
Rebdi, Jonathan B. Wise

To them I likewise explained the situation in detail, and they too gave satisfactory assurance of their interest and their intention to cooperate as promptly as possible in planning action with their associates.

I did not avail myself of the opportunity which the President accorded me to bring a group to see him Wednesday before he left for the South, but indicated to Secretary Welles on the telephone that I would rather postpone such meeting until the President returns in order to have a better coordinated group who through the contacts now planned will be representative of a larger number of the leaders.

In each of these meetings I took particular pains to point out that the President and you, in initiating the Intergovernmental Committee and in its subsequent activities, had sought to bring about a basis of adjustment of the German-Austrian refugee question, so that ultimately the detail of administrative action could be brought within the control of the refugees and/or their friends in the outside world through the medium of the Intergovernmental and the external corporation; that these efforts have now reached the point of success; that the obligation to proceed in order that the opportunity may not lapse through laches was one that must be availed of without delay; that the many questions which might arise would have to be met as they arose rather than postpone action through an attempt to solve in advance a great many problems which might never arise, or if they did, might arise out of entirely changed circumstances than can presently be visualized. I am happy to say that this line of discussion brought forth very generally the fullest commendation of the efforts which the President and yourself and your colleagues have made toward the solution of this very difficult problem.
I undertook to invite Mr. Bernard Baruch to the last two meetings, but found him out of town.

I am writing this letter for your personal information, so that you may be fully acquainted with the present position, in which there will I believe be further prompt developments.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,

(Sd) MYRON C. TAYLOR.
DEAR MR. TAYLOR,

I enclose my letter No. 6. to Pierrepont. As you will see from it, I have had to keep to my bed for several days but am now on my feet and leave at noon for Paris on the way to Berlin. The French are still obturate about the resumption of the conversations with Wohlthat; as a consequence Sir Herbert has decided to take the bull by the horns and to send me straight to Berenger in the hope of persuading him to adopt a less negative attitude.

I have nothing to report regarding the corporation. I have checked with the Rothschilds and Lucas and am obliged to conclude that nothing has been done. The Articles of Association have not been filed and no one has been named so far to head the company.

I shall inform you immediately of the results of my conversations in Berlin.

With personal regards and respects to Mrs. Taylor,

Ever devotedly,
Dear Pierrepoint:

I toppled over at the beginning of this week, with the result that I have had to keep to my bed for several days, and attempt to keep in touch over the telephone.

I shall give you the latest news first - that is, with regard to perhaps our most important job, the conversations with the Germans. It was decided this morning by Sir Herbert, who has been working on the Government here, that I should go to Paris on Monday and thence to Berlin as soon as I can obtain the agreement of the French to the memorandum. Sir Herbert feels that the delay has been altogether too long, and is insistent that we should make a move immediately.

We have been held up by the French. Sir Herbert prevailed upon Winterton and the Foreign Office here to modify their views and to agree that I should go to Berlin without delay. Coulon came over here on Tuesday and I received him in state in my bedroom. The burden of his message was that Senator Benger, who was opposed to conversations with the Germans at this time, would resign if his views were overruled. I gave Coulon all the arguments which I could summon against this position - and gave him by proxy through Thelma a large dinner, in the hope of melting the ice. I saw him several times, and he left, I thought, in a less rigid frame of mind. I have just talked to him on the telephone, and, although he would not say that Benger had abandoned his position, he seemed more amenable. I emphasized to him that Sir Herbert and I would not move without the Senator's consent and for that reason I would go to Paris on Monday and remain there until M. Benger had agreed that I might proceed to Berlin. It is, in consequence, up to me to wheedle the Senator around and I am confident that I can do this.

Pierrepont Mofett, Esq.,
Department of State.

LETTER NO. 6
March 31, 1939
The other Vice-Chairmen have all more or less been heard from. The Dutch, on condition that some mention of their generous offer with regard to Surinam is included, have agreed to the text and to the policy. The Argentine Ambassador has been grumbling, but he has indicated orally that he will make no comment, and raise no objection. We expect to have a written communication from him today. Lobo, so far, has not raised any objection. It looks, therefore, as though I would be in Berlin before the end of next week and back in London by Easter.

With regard to the private corporation I have very little to report. The people in the City appear to have taken no step whatever so far. They have not filed their articles of association as they promised Mr Taylor they would do, and they have not named a man to head the corporation. Simon Marks came in to see me one afternoon and could hardly contain himself with fury. He said that the crowd in the City were putting every obstacle in the way of setting up the company and had no intention of doing anything serious. He said that he had tried to pin them down and was given nothing but generalities. (Incidentally, I believe that this should be treated as confidential, because I do not think that he would like to be quoted.) In other words, when I go to Germany I will have nothing more than the letter which Mr. Taylor took back to the United States. This may be something but it certainly is not much.

Sir Herbert Emerson tells me that he is having the greatest difficulties with regard to Czechoslovakia. Kullmann is meeting with little success in his attempts to persuade the Polish Government to set up a refugee camp, and fewer people are getting across the frontier, while the terror inside the country is increasing. Sir Herbert is very much worried about the position, but what can he do?

Incidentally, I pinned Coulon down with regard to the question of personnel. I asked him whether it was true that there was a feeling in Paris that the bureau of the Committee was too American. He hemmed and hawed and eventually said that since it was President Roosevelt who had taken the initiative in setting up the Intergovernmental Committee it was felt that the active agency of the Committee should be manned by persons selected by the American Government, in order that the initiative might remain with it. He said that his Government...
and the British Government were in the position of supporting the initiative and would not wish to take too prominent a part in the executive. He did not think that his or the other governments would wish to enter into the question of personnel for the office. I am sure that this reflects the views of our British friends, and it is therefore for us to consider whether we wish to add to the personnel in the near future.

I hope that the next letter will be written after my return from Berlin.

Very sincerely yours,
Dear Mr. Taylor:

Very many thanks for your kind letter of April 1, which I found upon my return here yesterday. You seem to be very active indeed. I only hope that you will convince the "racial groups" of the necessity of making some constructive effort.

I had a long talk yesterday with Sir Herbert Emerson about the private corporation, and later lunched with Mr. Warburg. They both reported that opinion in the higher financial circles here has veered radically against the idea of a corporation which would in any way be related to a trust in Germany. Mr. Warburg has developed an alternative plan, which he has cabled to his son in New York, for expanding the refugee settlement corporation. Sir Herbert is inclined to take the view that it is useless to discuss any full-blown corporation in the present circumstances; it would perhaps be wiser to form a separate corporation for each concrete project - something along the lines of a Massachusetts Bay Company. Of course, with the international tension what it is, everything that we are doing seems a little unreal and this furnishes a pretext to our Jewish friends to back out.

I have sent Pierrepont a very strictly confidential memorandum of my conversations in Paris and Berlin. I think that it is probably wiser not to entrust this material to the ordinary mails, so that I shall have to depend upon Pierrepont to show you this memorandum on your next visit to Washington. In brief, our friend the Senator in Paris was in one of his most cantankerous moods, while our friend in Berlin was more inclined to discuss politics than refugees.

I shall send you further word towards the end of this week.

With respects to Mrs. Taylor and yourself,

Hon. Myron C. Taylor,
71 Broadway,
New York.
My dear Myron,

I have delayed an answer to your letter of April the 5th, which was acknowledged in my absence on a short Easter holiday, because I hoped that I should have some more definite information to give you about progress within a few days than, in fact, has been the case.

I had in mind certain confidential talks which I had hoped to have had before now with some of my senior colleagues in the Government to consider whether anything could be done to accelerate the flow of refugees from Germany and arrange for their permanent settlement, but, owing to the terrific pressure of events upon them, these discussions have not yet taken place. I hope that they will in the course of the present week. Meanwhile, as Pell will have informed you, he has been to Berlin and as I sign this letter he is on his way there again, since he has heard from Herr Wohlthat, through an intermediary, that he wants to resume conversations. Since we last met, my mind, and I think those of Emerson and Pell, has been moving on the lines that even if we can get no financial aid for the involuntary migrants out of Germany, or, in other words, if Germany refuses to allow them to take out any goods or money, thereby falling back on her previous attitude, a quite possible contingency, we can, nevertheless, get a very large number
permanently settled in countries of sparse population if facilities are offered by the Governments of those countries in the shape of land at a reasonable price. In that connexion, we all think that there will probably be more chance of forming the outside corporation either on a general basis or as an ad hoc body for dealing with particular settlement schemes, if such schemes can be produced on paper in outline and show a reasonable chance over a term of years of being interest bearing.

So more than ever I am anxious to get the reports of the various missions of investigation, namely, those into the possibilities of settlement in British Guiana, Northern Rhodesia, the Philippines and the Dominican Republic. I understand that the British Guiana report will probably reach us within the next fortnight or three weeks, and I have taken steps to try and get an interim report from Northern Rhodesia before the end of June, as it is always difficult to get anything done in August as everyone is on holiday, and July will be the last month before the Autumn in which one can easily get a scheme considered and approved. I hope in the case of Northern Rhodesia to be able before Parliament adjourns at the end of July to announce that the Government has approved (if approval be possible as a result of the interim report) a scheme of settlement in Northern Rhodesia, and that voluntary organisations are sending out the first party of settlers in August or September, which is an ideal time for starting operations, since the rains commence about the end of October, the rainy season being the period when cultivation takes place.
Fell tells me that the two investigations for which your country is responsible, namely, those into the projected schemes in the Philippines and the Dominican Republic will probably also be available during the Summer.

I think that before you left it was mentioned that there was more accommodation in the refugee camp at Richborough than could be filled owing to the dilatoriness of the Germans in allowing involuntary migrants who have British visas to leave the country. Pell took this matter up with Herr Wohltat, who expressed surprise at the state of affairs, of which he appeared to be ignorant, and promised to try and get things remedied. When last I heard about the matter there were no less than 400 vacancies at Richborough which had arisen in this way.

Emerson gives an excellent account of the refugee camps in Holland and Belgium, and we all feel that when settlement schemes start it is only fair to the authorities and the voluntary organisations in these two countries to take settlers from these camps on an equality basis with the camp at Richborough.

Though I am afraid it is only a rather narrow stream, still refugees for countries of permanent settlement are filtering out of Britain and the Continent. For example, a number have gone to Australia within the last few weeks, and a few are going to special positions in the Colonies.

Last week, Emerson, Pell and I had a confidential talk with my friend and former private secretary, Colonel Robins, who is resident director of a Chartered Company (British South Africa Company).
in Southern and Northern Rhodesia, that is to say, he is the administrator of their vast interests there. In addition to telling us that the Chartered Company would welcome settlement in Northern Rhodesia, he gave us some interesting examples of refugees, some Czechs and some from Germany, all of them men who may be described as technicians, who had found jobs in Southern Rhodesia; told us that some 12 or 15, all men of considerable eminence, had obtained permanent or temporary work either with the Government, the Chartered Company or private business organisations.

Notwithstanding the continued disorder in Palestine, German refugees are still going there each month in considerable quantities.

I enclose a copy of correspondence which I had as long ago as last October with Anthony Eden. I replied that I would see what could be done. Since then, efforts have been made to find an opening for the members of the German Theatre in Prague, whose views, as I understand, are strongly opposed to those of the Nazis, but, owing to the fact that other refugee cultural organisations, such as ballet companies and orchestras, have already been given facilities to work in this country, it has not been possible to fit them in. No doubt your refugee organisations in America will know all about the matter, but I mention the case to you in the hope that there might be a possibility of allowing them to enter America on temporary visas and start operations in some theatre there; I should think they would be assured of an audience for
several months if they produced the right type of play. It is quite conceivable that they might form the nucleus of a successful Repertory Company touring the States.

Sincerely yours,

(Sd) EDDIE.

The Hon. Myron Taylor.
17 Fitzhardinge Street,
W. 1.
21st October 1938.

My dear Eddy,

I enclose herewith a remarkable letter which I have had from the members of the German Theatre in Prague.

It is indeed a heart-breaking story that they tell. At the same time I am quite at a loss to know how to answer them.

I believe that some Germans from Czechoslovakia are to be admitted into this country, but I do not know on what conditions.

I should be very grateful if there is any suggestion you could make as to the reply I should send these unhappy people.

So sorry to trouble you,

Yours ever,

(St) ANTHONY EDEN.

The Rt. Hon. Earl Winterton, M.P.
Prague,  
18th October 1938.

Dear Sir,

The members of the German Theatre in Prague apply to you because we know that you are deeply concerned by the tragic events of our country, which had to pay such a price for the peace of the world.

Your speech has shown us that the independent England feels for the victims of this peace the deepest sympathy and has promised them help.

We know that just now a great part of the population of Czechoslovakia has to fight for some possibilities to live and that our plea seems small and unimportant compared with their afflictions. But still we apply to you, Sir, because we are sure that besides those to whom help must come our own destiny, as the destiny of a cultural institution, deserves your interest.

The oldest German cultural institution of Bohemia, the "German Theatre in Prague" has lost a great part of its justification by the cession of the Sudeten-german districts. The Czechoslovakian Government has assisted our German Theatre in Prague to such an extent that it became one of the most important and significant cultural institutions in Central Europe and the last home of free German dramatic art. In the present situation a continuance of the whole organisation is impossible. The theatre has hitherto presented opera, drama and comedy in two houses and has had a personnel of nearly 400.

Our plan is to obtain new opportunities of work for 30 artists of this theatre whose livelihood is gravely threatened. We do not want the dramatic art which has been developed and matured by tradition to be destroyed. We want to preserve democratic culture in the spirit from Lessing to Thomas Mann in an other country. We wish to transfer our organisation to England or to an English Colony or Dominion. There the best of our artists would present a cross-section of Czechoslovakian art and folklore in the German and Czech language with English explanations. In doing this we should create a new form of dramatic art, while at the same time cultivating the free literature of the world. After some while these beginnings would be developed in the English language.

Our state is for us more than a native land in the usual sense. It is a shelter for freedom of thought and of expression, of humanity and true democracy which stood alone in the hour of decision. Today, this impoverished state no longer has the means
of assisting the cultural possessions of the German minority which has become so small. We democratic German artists wish therefore to relieve our state and to bear witness abroad of the high cultural level of our native land.

This is our plan. In deepest confidence we apply to you and all speakers of the independent England. Do help us! Help us to build up a new artistic and material existence! We beg you to put this proposal before authoritative quarters and to support our applications for permission to enter England and to remain and to work there, and also for the means to enable us to make the journey and to cover the first weeks.

England's generosity has given sanctuary already to many representatives of the German intellectual life. Let England give us too the possibility to continue our artistic work in any country of Great Britain.

We are, Sir,
Yours very truly,

RENATO MORDO
Stage-manager.

Actors
Stage-architect

Please answer to:

Renato Mordo,
Husinecka 4,
Prague XI, C.S.R.

-2-
Dear Sir:

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I have made enquiries into this matter and I understand that at the suggestion of the Aliens Department the Warden of Toynbee Hall, Dr. J. J. Mallon, who is also interested in the position of these unfortunate people, has approached the Trustees of Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon, in order to ascertain whether they would be prepared to offer these Germans a home. We have not yet been informed of the Trustees' response to Dr. Mallon's enquiry, but as soon as there is anything definite to report I will see that a further letter is sent to you.

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/After
3.

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RENATO MORDO.  
Stage-manager.

Actors.  
Stage-architect.

Please answer to:

Renato Mordo,
Husinecka 4,
Prague XI, C.S.R.
COPY.

Home Office,
S.W. 1.

21st November 1938.

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Private Secretary.