INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE
Evian, France
July, 1938.

DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA.

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C.I./E/2.(1)

COMITE INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL

Evian, Juillet 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian, July 1938.

Evian, 10 juillet 1938.

LISTE REVISEE DES DELEGUES
REVISED LIST OF DELEGATES.

		Adresses a Evian Addresses at Evian
AUSTRALIE AUSTRALIA	Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. T.W. WHITE D.F.C., V.D., M.P. Ministre du Commerce et des Douanes; Minister for Trade and Customs.	Hôtel Royal
	Mr. Alfred STIRLING, External Affairs Officer, London.	" "
	Mr. A.W. STUART-SMITH, Australia House, London.	" "
REPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC	Dr. Tomas A. Le BRETON, Ambassadeur en France. Ambassador to France.	" "
	M. Carlos A. PARDO, Secrétaire général de la Délégation permanente pres la Société des Nations. General Secretary of the Permanent Delegation to the League of Nations.	" "
BELGIQUE BELGIUM	M. de FOY, Administrateur, Directeur général de la Sureté Publique; Magistrat honoraire. General Director Administrator of the Sureté Publique.	Hôtel Bedford
	M. J. SCHNEIDER, Directeur du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et du Commerce exterieur. Director of the Foreign Office.	" "

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BOLIVIE BOLIVIA	M. Simon PATINO, Ministre en France. Minister to France. M. A. Costa du Rels	
ROYAUME-UNI UNITED KINGDOM	The Right Hon. The Earl WINTERTON, M.P. Chancelier du Duché de Lancastre. Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.	Hôtel Royal
	Sir Charles Michael PALAIRET, K.C.M.G., Ministre Plénipotentiaire. Minister Plenipotentiary.	" "
Conseillers: Advisers:	Sir John SHUCKBURGH, K.C.M.G., C.B., Sous-Secrétaire d'Etat adjoint au Colonial Office. Deputy Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office.	" "
	Mr. J.G. HIBBERT, M.C., Directeur au Colonial Office, Principal, Colonial Office.	" "
	Mr. E. N. COOPER, O.B.E., Directeur au Home Office. Principal, Home Office.	" "
	Mr. R.M. MAKINS, Conseiller adjoint pour les questions de la Société des Nations au Foreign Office. (Secrétaire de la Délégation.) Assistant Adviser on League of Nations Affairs, Foreign Office. (Secretary to the Delegation).	" "
Secrétaires de Lord Winterton. Private Secretaries to Lord Winterton:	Captain Victor CAZALET, M.P., Mr. T.B. WILLIAMSON, Home Office.	" " " "
BRESIL BRAZIL	M. Helio LOBO, Ministre de Première Classe. Minister First Class.	Hôtel Bedford
Expert	M. Jorge Olinto de OLIVEIRA, Premier Secrétaire de la Légation du Brésil. First Secretary to the Brazilian Legation.	Hôtel Royal
CANADA	Mr. Hume WRONG, Délégué Permanent auprès de la Société des Nations. Permanent Delegate to the League of Nations.	Hôtel Verniaz
Expert	Mr. W. R. LITTLE, Commissaire d'émigration européenne a Londres. Commissioner for European Emigration in London.	" "

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CHILI CHILE	M. Fernando Garcia OLDINI, Ministre en Suisse et Représentant auprès de l'Organisation Internationale du Travail, avec rang d'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire. Minister to Switzerland and Representative accredited to the International Labour Organisation, with the rank of E.E. and M.P.	Ermitage
COLOMBIE COLOMBIA	M. Luis CANO, Délégué permanent auprès de la Société des Nations, avec rang d' Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire. Permanent Delegate to the League of Nations, with rank of E.E. and M.P.	Genève 17 Boulevard Helvétique.
	Professeur J. M. YEPES, Conseiller Juridique de la Délégation Permanente auprès de la Société des Nations. (Délégué adjoint) Legal Counsellor to the Permanent Delegation accredited to the League of Nations.	" "
	M. Abelardo Forero BENAVIDES, Secrétaire de la Délégation Permanente auprès de la Société des Nations (Secrétaire). Secretary of the Permanent Delegation to the League of Nations (Secretary).	" "
COSTA RICA	Professeur Luis DOBLES SEGREDA, Chargé d'Affaires à Paris, qui siège à son titre diplomatique. Chargé d'Affaires at Paris, who will hold his diplomatic rank.	Hôtel Royal
CUBA	M. Juan ANTIGA ESCOBAR, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire en Suisse. Délégué permanent près la S.D.N. Minister to Switzerland. Permanent delegate accredited to the League of Nations.	Genève 3 avenue Théodore Flournoy.
DANEMARK DENMARK	M. Gustav RASMUSSEN, Ministère des Affaires Etrangères. Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	Hôtel Royal
	M. THOSLS HOFF, Ministère de la Justice. Ministry of Justice.	" "
REPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	M. Virgilio TRUJILLO MOLINA, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire en France et en Belgique. Minister to France and Belgium. Dr. Paradas	
EQUATEUR ECUADOR	M. Alejandro CASTILLO CONCHA, avec rang de Chargé d'Affaires; with rank of Chargé d'Affaires.	Genève 6 Rue des Contamines.

ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	The Honourable Myron C. TAYLOR Ambassadeur en mission spéciale. Ambassador on special mission.	Hôtel Royal
	Mr. James G. McDONALD, Conseiller, Président du Comité Consultatif Président Roosevelt pour les réfugiés politiques. Adviser, Chairman of President Roosevelt's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees.	" "
	Mr. Robert T. PELL, Conseiller Technique, Division des Affaires Européennes, Département d'Etat. Technical Adviser, Division of European Affairs, Department of State.	" "
	Mr. George L. BRANDT, Conseiller Technique. Ancien Chef de la Division des Visas au Département d'Etat. Technical Adviser, formerly Chief of the Visa Division, Department of State.	" "
	Mr. Hayward G. HILL, Secrétaire de la Délégation, Consul des Etats-Unis d'Amérique à Genève. Secretary of the Delegation, American Consul, Geneva.	" "
	Mr. George L. WARREN, Adjoint à Mr. McDonald, Secrétaire Exécutif du Comité Président Roosevelt pour les réfugiés politiques. Assistant to Mr. McDonald, Executive Secretary, President Roosevelt's Committee on Political Refugees.	" "
FRANCE	S.E. M. Henri BERANGER, Ambassadeur de France. Ambassador.	" "
Experts et Secrétaires. Experts and Secretaries.	M. BRESSY, Ministre Plénipotentiaire Sous-Directeur des Unions Internationales au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères. Minister Plenipotentiary, Assistant Director of the International Bureaux Section at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	" "
	M. COMBES, Directeur au Ministère de l'Intérieur. Director at the Ministry of the Interior.	" "
	M. Georges COULON.	" "

FRANCE (suite) (continued)	M. FOURCADE, Chef de Bureau au Ministère de l'Intérieur. Head of Bureau at the Ministry of the Interior.	Hôtel Royal
	M. Francois SEYDOUX, de la Sous-Direction d'Europe au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, of the Sub-Department for Europe at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	" "
	Baron BRINCARD, de la Sous-Direction de la Société des Nations au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères. Sub-Department for the League of Nations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	" "
GUATEMALA	M. Jose Gregorio DIAZ, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire en France. Minister to France.	Hôtel Royal
HAITI	M. Leon R. THEBAUD, Attaché Commercial à Paris, avec rang de Ministre. Commercial Attaché at Paris, with rank of Minister.	Hôtel Splendide
HONDURAS	M. Mauricio ROSAL, Consul à Paris, avec rang d'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire. Consul at Paris, with rank of E.E. and M.P.	Hôtel Royal
IRLANDE IRELAND	Mr. Francis Thomas CRESSING, Délégué Permanent près de la Société des Nations. Permanent Delegate to the League of Nations.	" "
	Mr. John DUFF, Secrétaire-adjoint du Ministère de la Justice. Assistant Secretary of the Department of Justice.	" "
	Mr. William MAGUIRE, Deuxième Secrétaire-adjoint du Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce. Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of Industry and Commerce.	" "
MEXIQUE MEXICO	M. Villa MICHEL, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire du Mexique en Hollande. E.E. and M.P. to Netherlands.	Paris
	M. Manuel TELLO, Chargé d'Affaires p.i. du Mexique près de la Société des Nations. Chargé d'Affaires p.i. to the League of Nations.	Genève 107 Rue de Lausanne.

NICARAGUA	M. Constantino HURDOCIA, Ministre en Grande-Bretagne et en France, avec rang d' Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plenipotentiaire. Minister to Great Britain and France with the rank of E.E. and M.P.	Hôtel Royal
NORVEGE NORWAY	M. Michael HANSSON, ancien Président de la Cour d'Appel mixte d'Egypte, Président de l'Office international Nansen pour les réfugiés.	" "
	M. C.N.S. PLATOU, Directeur général du Ministère de la Justice. General Director of the Ministry of Justice.	" "
	M. Finn MOE, Journaliste, représentant des organisations privées de réfugiés en Norvège. Journalist, representative of private organisations of refugees in Norway.	Parc
Conseiller: Adviser:	M. R. KONSTAD, Directeur du Bureau central des passeports de Norvège. Director of the Central Office of Norwegian Passports.	
NOUVELLE ZELANDE NEW ZEALAND	Mr. C. B. BURDEKIN.	Splendide
PANAMA	Dr. Ernesto HOFFMAN, Consul Général à Genève et Délégué permanent près la Société des Nations. Consul-General at Geneva and Delegate accredited to the League of Nations.	Genève Hôtel de la Paix
PARAGUAY	M. Gustavo A. WIENGREEN, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire du Paraguay. Envoyé Extraordinaire and Minister Plenipotentiary of Paraguay.	L'Ermitage
PAYS-BAS NETHERLANDS	M. W. C. BEUCKER ANDREAE, Chef de la Section Juridique au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères. Head of the Legal Section at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	Hôtel Royal
	M. R.A. VERWEY, Directeur du Service de l'Etat des assurances contre le chômage et des bourses du travail, Ministère des Affaires Sociales.	" "
	M. I. P. HOOYKAAS, Conseiller au Ministère de la Justice. Adviser to the Ministry of Justice.	" "

PEROU PERU	M. Francisco Garcia CALDERON, Ministre en France, avec rang d'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire. Minister to France, with rank of E.E. and M.P.	Hôtel Royal
SUEDE SWEDEN	M. G. ENGZELL, Directeur des Affaires Juridiques au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères. Head of the Legal Department of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.	L'Ermitage
	M. C. A. M. de HALLENBORG, Chef de Section au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères. Chief of Bureau at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.	"
Secrétaire de la Délégation: Secretary of the Delegation:		
	M. Eric DROUGGE, Secrétaire à l'Administration du Travail et de la Prévoyance Sociale. Secretary at the Administration of Labour and Social Affairs.	"
SUISSE SWITZERLAND	Dr. Heinrich ROTHMUND, Chef de la Division de la Police du Département fédéral de justice et police. Director of the Police Division at the Federal Department of Justice and Police.	Hôtel Mirabeau
	M. Henri WERNER, Avocat, Juriste, Division de la Police du Département fédéral de Justice et Police. Legal Adviser to the Police Division at the Federal Department of Justice and Police.	" "
URUGUAY	Dr. Alfredo CARBONELL-DEBALI, Délégué Plénipotentiaire de l'Uruguay. Delegate Plenipotentiary of Uruguay.	Hôtel La Plage
VENEZUELA	M. Carlos ARISTIGUNO-COLL, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire des Etats Unis du Vénézuéla en France. Envoyé Extraordinaire and Minister Plenipotentiary, in France of the United States of Venezuela.	Hôtel Royal

C.I.E./2(1) Addendum.

Evian, le 14 juillet 1938.

COMITE INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - Juillet 1938.

ADDENDUM A LA LISTE REVISEE DES DELEGATES
ADDENDUM TO THE REVISED LIST OF DELEGATES

		Adresses à Evian Addresses at Evian
BOLIVIE BOLIVIA	M. A. COSTA DU RELS, Ambassadeur, Délégué permanent près la Société des Nations; Ambassador, Permanent Del te to the League of Nations.	Hôtel Splendide
REPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	(ajouter): Dr. Salvador E. PARADAS, Chargé d'affaires p.i. de la Délégation permanente près la Société des Nations; Acting Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Delegation accredited to the League of Nations.	" "
PANAMA	Dr. Ernesto HOFFMAN, Consul général à Genève, et délégué permanent auprès de la Société des Nations, avec rang d'Envoyé extraordinaire et Ministre plénipotentiaire. Consul General at Geneva, and Permanent Delegate to the League of Nations, with the rank of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.	Hôtel de la Paix, Genève.

Haut Commissariat pour les réfugiés provenant d'Allemagne:
High Commissioner's Office for Refugees from Germany:

Sir Neill MALCOLM
Lord DUNCANNON
M. ERIM

Secrétariat général du Comité intergouvernemental:
Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Committee:

M. Jean PAUL-BONCOUR	Secrétaire général Secretary General
Melle. G. BOISSEAU	Secrétaire général adjointe Assistant Secretary General
M. J. HERBERT) Mr. LLOYD)	Interprètes Interpreters
M. MULLER) Mr. McAFEE)	Traducteurs Translators
M. MEZIERES	Trésorier - Treasurer.

2.

C.I./E.1.
Evian, July 5th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE.

Evian, July 1938.

AGENDA OF THE COMMITTEE.

COMMUNICATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE GOVERNMENTS INVITED.

1. To consider what steps can be taken to facilitate the settlement in other countries of political refugees from Germany (including Austria). The term "political refugees", for the purposes of the present meeting, is intended to include persons who desire to leave Germany as well as those who have already done so. The conference would of course take due account of the work now being done by other agencies in this field and would seek means of supplementing the work done by them.

2. To consider what immediate steps can be taken, within the existing immigration laws and regulations of the receiving countries, to assist the most urgent cases. It is anticipated that this would involve each participating Government furnishing, in so far as may be practicable, for the strictly confidential information of the Committee, a statement of its immigration laws and practices and its present policy regarding the reception of immigrants. It would be helpful for the Committee to have a general statement from each participating Government of the number and type of immigrants it is now prepared to receive or that it might consider receiving.

3. To consider a system of documentation, acceptable to the participating States, for those refugees who are unable to obtain requisite documents from other sources.

4. To consider the establishment of a continuing body of Governmental representatives, to be set up in some European capital, to formulate and to carry out, in co-operation with existing agencies, a long-range programme looking toward the solution or alleviation of the problem of refugees from Germany and eventually from certain other countries.

5. To prepare a Resolution making recommendations to the participating Governments with regard to the subjects enumerated above and with regard to such other subjects as may be brought for consideration before the Intergovernmental Meeting.

3.

C.I./E/C.R.1

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

VERBATIM REPORT

OF THE FIRST MEETING, (Public)

Held on Wednesday, July 6th, 1938, at 4 p.m.

Chairman: His Excellency Monsieur Henry BERENGER.

M. BERENGER (Delegate of France):

Interpretation: I have the privilege to-day of addressing you as the Delegate of the French Government, and of receiving you, on behalf of that Government, on French soil - soil which is associated with traditions of hospitality, shelter, and free discussion. I therefore welcome the members of the Intergovernmental Committee on political refugees, which is meeting in response to the moving appeal made by the President of the Republic of the United States of America. I feel that it is indeed a great honour for me to have this privilege to-day, and I am convinced that from our discussions will emerge some practical results of great value, which can be added to and superimposed upon the results of those efforts already made by the League of Nations and by the High Commissioner for Refugees from Germany.

We do not, of course, propose immediately to embark upon the consideration of the problems that will have to be dealt with by the Intergovernmental Committee. This, after all, is our opening meeting, and my sole task at present is to give you welcome. I do heartily welcome all my colleagues members of the Committee, and also the representatives of the Press,

who have attended our opening meeting in such large numbers in order to gather information as to the work the Committee is to undertake.

I also welcome the representatives of the great associations for refugees, who have hitherto so courageously defended the cause of people so deserving of great sympathy.

I therefore extend a most hearty welcome to all; to the representatives of the Press, that free and independent Press which can alone ensure in our democracies an atmosphere in which liberty and democracy may prosper, an atmosphere in which we recognise the right of all to live as they desire. It is in that direction that the Press does afford us great assistance, and for that reason I welcome them the more heartily.

I am also glad to welcome those representatives of the various refugee associations who have come here of their own free will; they were not convened, but they are nevertheless welcomed by us.

This Committee is not an international conference: it is not an international parliament of the kind that meets at the end of the lake, nor is it a platform for declarations. Rather, we are a practical working body which the President of the United States desired to create; a body modest in itself, but one that will seek to apply those ideas which have been so brilliantly put forward in past years in the Sixth Committee of the Assembly of the League of Nations.

That, I think, really concludes my duty as Chairman of this opening meeting, but I think I should be lacking in my duty if I did not seek to express the wishes of all present in addressing

to Mr. Roosevelt, the distinguished President of the United States of America and head of the great American democracy, the tribute which the whole world desires to offer him for the generous initiative that he has undertaken and, more particularly, that for which he was responsible on March 25th last. President Roosevelt was good enough to ask his Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, to address invitations for this meeting, and I therefore venture to ask the distinguished Ambassador sent by President Roosevelt to represent the United States to convey to the President the thanks of all present. We all know and appreciate the great work the President has done with a view to reconciling differences between capital and labour; we would like to take this opportunity of paying a tribute to that work. I am sure that the task to which we now set our hands will prove to be worthy of the greatest efforts; it is work for the benefit of those Stateless persons who have lost their national status as a result of revolutions in various countries, and I am sure that the presence of the American Ambassador will give us great assistance and encouragement in pursuing our purpose, which has already been undertaken by the League of Nations.

NOMINATION OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN:

Interpretation: Our first duty as a Committee should be to proceed to the examination of the credentials of delegates, and I therefore propose that the following Credentials Committee be set up, namely, the delegates of Australia, Columbia, the Netherlands and Sweden.

The Chairman's proposal was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN:

Interpretation: This Committee will meet as soon as possible; accordingly, I invite the various Delegations to present their credentials to the Secretariat at the earliest possible moment.

We are now going to hear a number of declarations, of which I understand three have already been prepared - those setting forth the views of the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and France. Before calling on H.E. Mr. Myron C. Taylor, I should like to welcome three persons who have been good enough to take part in our opening meeting to-day, and who, by their very presence, show the close link that does exist between the League of Nations, the High Commissariat for Refugees from Germany, and ourselves in the work that we are undertaking to-day. We do not intend to make any startling innovations; that, I am sure, was not the desire of President Roosevelt. Our object is simply to do something that may embrace countries which are not Members of the League of Nations, and I therefore desire to say how glad we are to have with us the Secretary-General of the League of Nations, M. Avenol, to whom we are grateful for accepting our invitation to attend. I also wish to say how glad we are to welcome Mr. John Winant, the Director of the International Labour Office, and Sir Neill Malcolm, the High Commissioner for Refugees from Germany, whose work has proved so valuable following upon that already done by Mr. McDonald. We hope to derive benefit from the advice and experience of the High Commissioner during our work here.

Mr. Myron C. TAYLOR (United States of America): On behalf of my Government, I wish to express my gratitude to the Government of France and to the distinguished Ambassador of France - who is affectionately remembered in my country - and to the President of the Foreign Relations Committee of the French Senate, M. Berenger, for the hearty collaboration that has been extended in organising this meeting of Governments which has been called on the initiative of President Roosevelt, and for the friendly interest which M . Berenger has manifested in presiding to-day. I also wish to express my personal appreciation of His Excellency's many courtesies to me since I came to the fair land of France.

SPEECH BY MR. TAYLOR.

Mr. Chairman:

(1) Some millions of people, as this meeting convenes, are, actually or potentially, without a country. The number is increasing daily. This increase is taking place, moreover, at a time when there is serious unemployment in many countries, when there is a shrinkage of subsistence bases and when the population of the world is at a peak.

(2) Men and women, of every race, creed and economic condition, of every profession and of every trade, are being uprooted from the homes where they have long been established and turned adrift without thought or care as to what will become of them or where they will go. A major forced migration is taking place, and the time has come when Governments - I refer specifically to those Governments which have had the problem of political refugees thrust upon them by the policies of some other Governments - must act and act promptly and effectively in a longe-range programme of comprehensive scale.

(3) Mindful of the harrowing urgency of this situation President Roosevelt took the initiative of calling this meeting at Evian. The response of the more than thirty Governments which were invited to participate has been generous and encouraging and the courtesy of the French Government in offering the hospitality of its territory to the meeting and in arranging the technical details of our reception calls for deepest appreciation and most profound thanks.

(4) At the outset, we must consider that we are dealing with a form of migration which presents peculiar difficulties. The earliest migratory movements of which we have record consisted in the migration of races which overran western and southern Europe in a concerted hostile movement of whole peoples, advancing as military or political waves on those areas of the world where a high standard of living was already established. Then came the colonization movements which were largely migrations by organised groups usually under direct political authorisation essentially for governmental purposes. This was followed by the Nineteenth and early Twentieth Century migration which was movement by individuals and families on an enormous scale induced by unsatisfactory economic and living conditions in the countries of origin and promise of a higher standard of living in the countries of settlement. Now, we have a form of compulsory migration, artificially stimulated by governmental practices in some countries which force upon the world at large great bodies of reluctant migrants who must be absorbed in abnormal circumstances with a disregard of economic conditions at a time of stress.

(5) We must admit frankly, indeed, that this problem of political refugees is so vast and so complex that we probably can do no more at the initial Intergovernmental Meeting than put in motion the machinery, and correlate it with existing machinery, that will, in the long run, contribute to a practicable amelioration of the condition of the unfortunate human beings with whom we are concerned. While, for example, our ultimate objective should be to establish an organisation

which would concern itself with all refugees, wherever governmental intolerance shall have created a refugee problem, we may find that we shall be obliged on this occasion to focus our immediate attention upon the most pressing problem of political refugees from Germany (including Austria). Accordingly, my Government in its invitation referred specifically to the problem of German (and Austrian) refugees and proposes that, for the purposes of this initial Intergovernmental Meeting and without wishing to set a precedent for future meetings, persons coming within the scope of the conference shall be: (a) persons who have not already left Germany (including Austria) but who desire to emigrate by reason of the treatment to which they are subjected on account of their political opinions, religious beliefs or racial origin, and (b) persons as defined in (a) who have already left Germany and are in process of migration.

(6) Doubtless, some delegates will suggest that there is already established under the general supervision of the League of Nations a Commission for political emigrants from Germany and that the Council of the League of Nations on May 14, 1938, agreed upon a Resolution making recommendations with regard to the reorganisation of this Commission and with regard to the Nansen Office whose distinguished head is the delegate of Norway. It is the firm belief of the American Government that the intergovernmental organisation which it is proposed to set up at this meeting, the League Commission and the Nansen Office should be complementary and should work together towards a solution of the problem of political refugees in which the fate of so many hapless human beings is at stake.

As evidence of my Government's intentions in this respect, I should like to propose, before we proceed further, that Sir Neill Malcolm, the League's Commissioner for refugees from Germany, should be invited by the Intergovernmental Committee to assist in its deliberations. Happily, as I have already observed, Judge Michael Hansson, head of the Nansen Office, is officially in attendance and will, I am sure, give us the benefit of his profound knowledge and wide experience.

(7) I shall not at this point dwell at length upon the technical aspects of the problem with which we shall have to deal. May I merely suggest that it will be advisable for us to exchange, for the strictly confidential information of the Committee, details regarding the number and the type of immigrants whom each Government is prepared to receive under its existing laws and practices, details regarding these laws and practices and indications regarding those parts of the territory of each participating Government which may be adapted to the settlement of immigrants. Then, there will be the problem, which must be carefully considered, of documenting political emigrants who have been obliged to leave the country of their original residence in circumstances which render impossible the production of customary documents. It will also be incumbent upon us to consider the various studies which have been made in the respective countries of the problems of aiding the emigration and the settling and the financing of political refugees. I might observe, in this connection, that President Roosevelt has set up in the United States an Advisory Committee on Political Refugees whose Chairman, Mr. James G. McDonald, is at present at this meeting and will, I know, be prepared to furnish you with detailed information

regarding his organisation.

(8) You will have noted that my Government's invitation to this meeting stated specifically that whatever action was recommended here should take place within the framework of the existing laws and practices of the participating Governments. The American Government prides itself upon the liberality of its existing laws and practices both as regards the number of immigrants whom the United States receives each year for assimilation with its population and the treatment of those people when they have arrived. I might point out that the American Government has taken steps to consolidate both the German and the former Austrian quota so that now a total of 27,370 immigrants may enter the United States on the German quota in one year.

(9) From the inception of this present effort on behalf of political refugees, it has been the view of the American Government that the meeting at Evian would serve primarily to initiate the collaboration of the receiving Governments in their assistance to political refugees and that the work would have to be carried forward subsequently in a more permanent form. It is the belief of the American Government that this permanent collaboration might be most effectively maintained by the regular meeting of the diplomatic representatives of the participating Governments - or such other representative as a participating Government may wish to designate - in a European capital, and we hope that the French Government will agree that these meetings may take place at Paris. It might be useful if a Secretariat were to be established to assist the Intergovernmental Committee in its continued form in caring for administrative details - the expenses of this Secretariat to be borne by the participating

Governments on a basis to be recommended by this initial meeting.

(10) In conclusion, I need not emphasise that discrimination and pressure against minority groups and the disregard of elementary human rights are contrary to the principles of what we have come to regard as the accepted standards of civilisation. We have heard from time to time of the disruptive consequences of the dumping of merchandise upon the world's economy. How much more disturbing is the forced and chaotic dumping of unfortunate peoples in large numbers. Racial and religious problems are, in consequence, rendered more acute in all parts of the world. Economic retaliation against the countries which are responsible for this condition is encouraged. The sentiment of international mistrust and suspicion is heightened and fear, which is an important obstacle to general appeasement between nations, is accentuated.

(11) The problem is no longer one of purely private concern. It is a problem for intergovernmental action. If the present currents of migration are permitted to continue to push anarchically upon the receiving States and if some Governments are to continue to toss large sections of their populations lightly upon a distressed and unprepared world, then there is catastrophic human suffering ahead which can only result in general unrest and in general international strain which will not be conducive to the permanent appeasement to which all peoples earnestly aspire.

SPEECH BY LORD WINTERTON. (United Kingdom)

H.M. Government in the United Kingdom warmly welcome the generous initiative of the President of the United States in calling this meeting together to consider the international problem which has been created by the actual and prospective emigration from Germany and Austria. I wish also to express my thanks to the French Government, whom we are proud to have as our hosts and who have been at such pains to make the arrangements for this meeting.

H.M. Government are anxious to co-operate to the fullest extent possible with the United States Government and the other Governments represented at this meeting in the endeavour to find a practical means of relieving the difficulties which confront the unfortunate people who wish to emigrate, and the countries which are asked to receive them. I have listened with great pleasure to the speech of the United States Delegate, and I am in general agreement with him as to the nature of the task which lies before us.

For H.M. Government in the United Kingdom and for the British people this problem is mainly a humanitarian one. It has been the traditional policy of successive British Governments to offer asylum to persons who for political, racial or religious reasons have had to leave their own countries. The United Kingdom has never yet had cause to regret this policy, and refugees have often enriched the life and contributed to the prosperity of the British people. But the United Kingdom is not a country of immigration. It is highly industrialised, fully populated and is still faced with the problem of unemployment. For economic and social reasons the traditional policy of granting asylum can only be applied within narrow limits. But within

those limits the people of the United Kingdom are ready to play their part.

His Majesty's Government have now had more than five years' experience in dealing with the problem of refugees coming from Germany, and have signed both the international instruments which were drawn up at the Intergovernmental Conference held at Geneva under the auspices of the League of Nations in 1936 and 1938. It is the intention of His Majesty's Government to ratify the Convention of 1938 at the earliest possible moment, i.e., 9th August next, and they trust that other countries which were not represented at the Conferences or have not yet signed the Provisional Arrangement of 1936 or the Convention of 1938 will seriously consider if they can now accede to one or other of these covenants which provide for a certain measure of protection for refugees coming from Germany. It is the intention of His Majesty's Government to apply the provisions of the Convention of 1938 to refugees coming from Austria.

Turning to the practical measures which have been taken to ensure that refugees coming to the United Kingdom should be treated in a humane and sympathetic manner His Majesty's Government have from the beginning of this movement of emigrants from Germany worked in the most intimate and constant co-operation with the voluntary organisations. The policy followed in full consultation with these organisations has been of a two-fold character. On the one hand it was recognised that in a highly industrial and thickly populated country like the United Kingdom there were certain difficulties in absorbing foreigners within the present economic framework. It was considered therefore that in a large number of cases, particularly of young people, the refugees would eventually have to proceed to a country of final settlement

overseas, and to this end facilities have been freely given to young persons to undertake a course of education or enter industrial enterprises for training or re-training. In addition, permission for an extended stay in the United Kingdom has been granted to many others until arrangements for their emigration to another country have been completed. On the other hand, the majority of refugees who have been admitted to the United Kingdom have not been re-emigrated and in a large number of cases it has been found possible to agree to their remaining and establishing themselves in industry, business and in various professions. His Majesty's Government recognise that some of these refugees have made a useful contribution to the national life in their various fields of activity. Some of them, by starting new enterprises in areas where there is a large amount of unemployment, have made a contribution towards the scheme for increasing trade in such districts.

It is the intention of His Majesty's Government to continue the practice which has been developed during the past five years in dealing with the various categories of refugees and, in consultation with voluntary organisations, to explore to what extent they can accelerate the process of assimilation of those elements among the present refugee population who can usefully be fitted into the social and economic life of the country. His Majesty's Government have been prepared to examine in a spirit of sympathy applications not only from refugees who are admitted to the United Kingdom for education, training or other reason on the understanding that they will eventually emigrate, but also applications from other refugees in the United Kingdom who wish to establish themselves there without the fear that they will be required to leave the country. His Majesty's Government believe that one of the

most useful contributions which countries of first refuge can make to the work of the present Conference would be to signify their readiness to absorb so far as they can in their economic, industrial and social systems the refugees from Germany and Austria who have already been admitted to their territories. I hope at a later stage in our proceedings to have an opportunity of indicating in detail the practical contribution which His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are prepared to make in finding openings in the United Kingdom for the persons who may desire in the next few years to leave Germany and Austria.

H.M. Government are also carefully surveying the prospects of the admission of refugees to their colonies and over-seas territories. The question is not a simple one. The economic and social factors which operate in the United Kingdom are here further complicated by considerations of climate, of race, and of political development. Many overseas territories are already overcrowded, others are wholly or partly unsuitable for European settlement, while in others again local political conditions hinder or prevent any considerable immigration. These factors impose strict limitations on the opportunities for offering asylum to European refugees, but H.M. Government are not unhopeful that some of their colonial territories may in their turn be able to take a part, if only a relatively minor part, in assisting to solve the problem. H.M. Government are in particular examining the possibility which may exist for settlement in certain of the East African territories. But any project which may emerge is unlikely to involve the setlement of more than a limited number of selected families at any rate in the early stages. The whole matter is under active consideration at the present time. It is obvious that careful local investigations must precede anything in the nature of concrete proposals.

These investigations are now proceeding; but time has been short, and though it is my strong hope that the results will be encouraging, my colleagues will appreciate that at the present stage it would be premature for me to make any positive statement on the subject.

I trust that if all the Governments represented here are willing on their side to make a positive contribution, however modest, this meeting may make progress in the fulfilment of what in my opinion is its primary task, namely the enlargement of the facilities for the admission of emigrants from Germany and Austria to countries of permanent refuge.

There is a second matter which cannot be ignored in considering this problem of emigration. This meeting will endeavour to find an orderly solution of the difficulties before it, but its tasks will be immeasurably complicated and even rendered insoluble unless the country of origin is prepared to make its contribution, and unless emigrants which other countries may be asked to accept have some means of self-support. No thickly populated country can be expected to accept persons who are deprived of their means of subsistence before they are able to enter it. Nor can the resources of private societies be expected to make good the losses which the emigrants have suffered. If countries of immigration are to do their best to facilitate the admission of emigrants, then they are entitled to expect that the country of origin, on its side, will equally assist in creating conditions in which the emigrants are able to start life in other countries with some prospect of success.

The United States Delegate referred to the question of machinery and of organisation. I warmly agree with his desire to co-ordinate and correlate the work of this meeting as closely as

possible with the work of other agencies. The Governments represented here will be aware of the work which has been done on certain aspects of the refugee question by the organs of the League of Nations, work which it is intended to continue after the end of the present year. I would draw the special attention of the meeting to that part of the report adopted by the Council of the League on May 14th last in which the future High Commissioner's work is defined. I think it very important to avoid duplication of effort and multiplication of international organisations, more particularly as it will be the action of governments rather than the creation of machinery which will be decisive in the solution of this problem of emigration. I feel sure it will be possible to find means of avoiding duplication. I wish to support Mr. Taylor's proposal that the League High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany should be invited to assist at our discussions.

We shall have an opportunity later of discussing the more detailed points raised by the United States Delegate, and I have only one more general observation to make.

This meeting has been convened to consider the question of emigration from Germany and Austria and not to deal with the problem of emigration from other countries. There might be some who would prefer us to survey a more extended horizon, but the limited problem before us will tax, even in favourable circumstances, the good will of the States represented here to the full, and it will only raise false expectations if it is believed that ~~a policy of~~ pressure on minorities of race and religion can force other countries to open their doors ~~to the victims.~~ There is no easy or immediate solution even to the problem before us, but I believe we can make a beginning and

help to alleviate in some degree the consequences of a situation, the poignancy and gravity of which has struck the imagination and excited the sympathy of people in all countries.

SPEECH BY M. HENRY BERENGER: (France)

The French Government fully approves the initiative taken by the American Government and so clearly expounded in the speech which we have just heard.

Mr. Myron C. Taylor, the Ambassador specially appointed for this purpose by President Roosevelt, has acquainted us with the views of the President and the Department of State on the present day refugee problem and the solutions which America proposes for it.

France feels all the greater sympathy for these problems in that, since the Great War, she has constantly received, sheltered and even allowed to settle on her territory an enormous number of exiles and refugees from all quarters. These refugees now number more than 200,000 in a population of ~~less than~~ 40,000,000 for whom the presence of more than 3,000,000 aliens is already the source of many difficulties.

This is relatively the highest figure which can be claimed by any country as regards the problem raised by President Roosevelt.

France has hitherto solved the problem on her own territory and at her own risk and expense by appealing to the benevolence and sympathy of private agencies in co-operation with the administrative resources of the French State and the organisations set up by the League of Nations.

Many millions of francs have thus been spent by French generosity on hundreds of thousands of refugees. Simultaneously France has constantly endeavoured to co-operate closely in defining and giving effect to a new social status for these unhappy individuals who have

been so well called the "stateless" victims of present-day national revolutions.

France already takes part in the work of the Nansen Office, of the Office of the High Commissioner for German Refugees, and of the League of Nations Committee. And it has been unanimously admitted that that part is a most active one.

Thus, France continues to be faithful to the long-standing tradition of universal hospitality which has characterised her throughout all her history. She will maintain this tradition so far as the limits laid down by her geographical position, her population and her resources permit.

Though she has herself reached, if not already passed, the extreme point of saturation as regards admission of refugees, France understands the new effort proposed by President Roosevelt and ~~designed~~ defined by his Ambassador, Mr. Myron C. Taylor.

Not only will she not refuse to help in defining this fresh effort or take this further step forward, but she will give every assistance to the Intergovernmental Committee at Evian.

Like America, France considers the refugee problem to be an international political problem, which can only be finally solved by the joint and collective action of the Governments of the world.

In regard more particularly to German and Austrian refugees, France is prepared to discuss with the other nations how their emigration can best be directed and their settlement effected.

There are various territorial, shipping, financial, monetary and social measures which will first have to be closely and carefully considered in sub-committee. That, it seems to me, should be the real object of our meeting here.

We are not an international conference; we are an Intergovernmental Committee. We are not a forum for eloquent speeches; we are a centre for the co-ordinated work of practical experts.

We pay a tribute of respect to the work done at Geneva which is deserving of all our admiration and sympathy, but it cannot and should not be the task of Evian to start the work of Geneva over again.

There is no further need to lay down the law - that has been eloquently expressed in the Political Committee of the League of Nations. The problem is, if possible, to achieve practical results in co-operation with all the Governments, even those which are not, or are no longer, Members of the League of Nations.

The task will be difficult, thankless and uncertain. But it will be useful work, work which will do honour to the American Government. I wish here on behalf of the French Government to signify its fullest agreement in principle with that task, and to convey its sincerest wishes for its realisation, always bearing in mind my country's possibilities and that she has already almost exhausted her own resources which unfortunately are not so boundless as her zeal to serve the cause of humanity.

M. HANSSON (Norway):

Interpretation: Before making a short statement on behalf of the Norwegian Government, I should like to pay a tribute to our Chairman, and to say how much we have always appreciated the assistance that he has indefatigably offered on every occasion in connection with work for refugees. I myself recall one occasion on which I ventured, at a very early hour, to disturb M. Bérenger to ask him to deal with a question of very great importance to refugees, to myself and also to the Nansen Office, of which I have the honour to be the head. The question I desired to discuss with him related to the 1933 Convention which at that time had not been ratified by France, and the securing of ratification by France was regarded in all quarters as being of the greatest importance. After a long conversation, M. Bérenger was good enough to make a promise which he of course kept, and very soon afterwards France ratified the Convention to the great benefit of the refugees. Indeed, we all appreciate the great generosity with which France in general acts in the question of refugees. Recent legislation in France even further improves the fate of refugees. I am thinking of the Decree Law of May 2nd and the Circular of May 28th as a result of which expulsion, that very great problem and one of the scourges of the refugee question, may, we hope, be regarded as brought to an end.

On behalf of the Norwegian Government I desire to support what has been said by the distinguished speakers who have preceded me. The Norwegian Government desires to remain faithful to the tradition of hospitality with which it has always been connected, and we certainly do not desire to repeat at the present moment the eloquent statements that have already been made. I would, however, like to say that Norway, as also the United Kingdom in accordance with the

view just expressed, does feel a certain hesitation with regard to the possibility of creating an organisation that might in any way diminish the importance of that single organisation which is to be established by the League of Nations in the near future, or that may relieve the League of Nations of its obligations to deal with the general problem of refugees. The Norwegian Government would be specially glad if in some form or other it was possible for the Government of the United States, and the private organisations for assistance to refugees which are so intimately connected with the work that is being done on behalf of German refugees, to set up some organisation that might effectively establish contact with the Government of the German Reich with a view to bringing about a solution of the great questions involved in migration from Germany, and in the establishment of emigrants from Germany in other countries. We feel that in this way a great deal might be done towards the solution, desired by all, of the problem with which this Conference is faced.

PROGRAMME OF WORK.

The Chairman:

Interpretation: The Credentials Committee will meet tomorrow morning at 10.30. In the afternoon, there will be a plenary session of the Committee in the course of which further general declarations will be heard. In addition, the Committee must envisage the possibility of maintaining contact with the representatives of the refugee associations which have spontaneously come to Evian. In this connection, a sub-committee could later be set up for the purpose of keeping in touch with these associations and of submitting a report on their claims to

the Assembly.

I now wish to speak to the journalists who are present in such great numbers. I am sure they will all understand how delicate is the position of the Bureau of the Committee, and I am convinced that they will all accord their collaboration by keeping in touch with the Secretary-General, M. Jean Paul-Boncour, who will be able to give them all useful information. I do not think I need to insist on the possibility of the harmful effects that might ensue, from the point of view of the work of the Committee, if ill-considered reports were to be circulated. We must not forget that there are two sides to the problem: there are those who wish to assist the refugees, and there are those who are expelling them. It is quite possible that ill-considered or inaccurate reports might give rise if not to new persecutions at all events to new difficulties, and I therefore appeal to all to exercise the necessary measure of moral discipline.

Before declaring the meeting closed, I propose that we send a message of homage to the President of the United States.

The Chairman's proposal was adopted.

The meeting adjourned.

4.

C.I./E/C.R.2

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

VERBATIM REPORT

OF THE SECOND MEETING,

held on Thursday, July 7th, 1938, at 3.30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN: M. BERENGER, later Mr. M.C. TAYLOR.

TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

The CHAIRMAN read the following telegram addressed to President Roosevelt on behalf of the Committee:

"The Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees addresses to President Roosevelt the tribute of its gratitude for the initiative taken by him on March 25th last with a view to securing a practical solution of the problem raised by the movement of refugees throughout the world, and in particular by the movement of refugees from Germany, including Austria. The Committee expresses the hope that this initiative may, with the collaboration of all Governments concerned, lead to successful results."

GENERAL STATEMENTS (Continuation).

M. Helio LOBO (Brazil) spoke as follows:

"During the whole of its existence as a sovereign nation Brazil has adopted the open-door policy in regard to immigration. More than that, she has always encouraged the admission of the labour necessary for the exploitation of her wealth particularly in agriculture. To such an extent that, during more than a century, to be exact between 1820 and 1930, she received about four and a half million immigrants, almost all Europeans, or about one-tenth of her total population.

It is only in consequence of the world crisis that Brazil has taken measures limiting immigration in order to protect her home market against unemployment (1930), though she has also made exceptions in the case of persons needed for agricultural operations or holding labour contracts.

Concern for the defence of the labour market at home was associated with concern for assimilation of the immigrants, since not only . the currents changed since the War (1914) but it was also important to counteract a somewhat slow absorption certain nationalities. This assimilation is all the more essential since we see from the data of the International Labour Office that whereas in 1920 Brazil represented only 1.7 per cent of the population of the world, she contained 6.7 per cent of the foreigners registered as living outside their country.

Whereas immigration from Latin countries declined (Italy 34 per cent of the total, Spain 12 per cent and only Portugal with 30 percent remaining almost on the same level), immigration from eastern Europe and from Asia continued to increase and the traditional ethnical background showed a certain tendency to change - a problem still further complicated by the fact that the new arrivals proved to be less permanent settlers than the

former immigrants.

In 1934, therefore, Brazil fixed an annual minimum quota of 2 per cent of the total number of immigrants of each nationality who had settled in her territory in the last fifty years. Experience has shown, however, that the old sources of immigration failed to exhaust the quotas fixed for them, whereas in the case of the new sources the limits were almost always insufficient. Germany took the fourth place in immigration to Brazil before the War with the happiest of results for the country.

The total number of persons admitted under the quota system was about 42,000 per annum, and it is certain that the State of Saó Paulo, which has always absorbed nearly 60 per cent of the immigrants coming to Brazil, needs almost as any for her rural activities every year. To meet this shortage of labour the quota was calculated not on the basis of the immigrants settled in the country, but on the basis of those who entered it, thus doubling the number. Germany and Austria never exhausted their quotas,which are 3,099 and 1,655 per annum respectively.

For those reasons and notwithstanding internal migratory movements - about 50,000 persons from all quarters moving to the great coffee and cotton belts - Brazil has had to expand the flow of immigration to the countryside; the problem did not and does not arise in the case of urban areas where, on the contrary, the imminence of unemployment must always be borne in mind.

The new Immigration Law of 1938, while maintaining the constitutional figure of 2 per cent laid down in 1934 and maintained in 1937, allows the unused balances of immigration quotas to be applied to the admission of other nationalities whose quotas have been exhausted. Further, the minimum quota which was 100 per annum may, if necessary, be raised to 3,000. It should be

observed that 80 per cent of each quota has to be earmarked for agricultural immigrants or technical experts in agriculture, and that no member of these latter categories may change his occupation until four years after his arrival in the country. The Immigration and Colonisation Board is the body responsible for interpreting and giving effect to the provisions of the law.

The Brazilian Government has just given its support to the decisions recently taken in Geneva regarding migrations for colonising purposes and migrant labourers (see International Labour Office, Studies and Documents, Series O (Migration) No.7; Provisional Minutes, 24th Session, International Labour Conference, No.18; Paula Lopes, La Colonisation au Brésil, International Labour Review, February 1936; Fernand Maurette, Quelques aspects sociaux du développement présent et futur de l'économie brésilienne, Geneva 1937; L'Immigration et la Colonisation au Brésil, same Review, February 1937.)

Brazil recognises that these studies and surveys aim at the gradual and technical solution of a problem of importance to countries of emigration and also countries of immigration, and that as regards German and Austrian refugees the question is more urgent. She is prepared to respond to the noble appeal of the American Government and to make at this critical moment her contribution towards a favourable solution of the problem within the limits of her immigration policy and for the sake of the lofty ideal which all of us here have in mind.

M. de FOY (Belgium) made the following speech:

"Belgium has acceded to the various agreements regulating the circumstances and situation of refugees. She is at present bound by:

1) the Convention concerning the International Status of Refugees signed at Geneva on October 18th, 1933, applying to Russian, Armenian and assimilated refugees as defined in the Arrangements of May 12th, 1926, and June 30th, 1928;

2) the Provisional Arrangement Concerning the Status of Refugees Coming from Germany signed at Geneva on July 4th, 1936.

She has also taken part in drawing up the Geneva Convention of February 10th, 1938, which is to replace the Provisional Arrangement of 1936.

At the present time the Royal Government is giving favourable consideration to this 1938 Convention with a view to ratifying it very shortly.

As a result of the generous and considerate application of the first two Conventions, Belgium has received on her territory:

8,800 Russian and assimilated refugees
2,000 German refugees (1)
800 Austrian refugees
80 Stateless refugees;

i.e. a total of 11,680 refugees.

To this large figure must be added 3,000 Spanish children, 120 Spanish refugees, and 250 Italian refugees.

The latter additions raise to the impressive figure of 15,050 the number of foreigners ejected from their homes by political disturbances for whom Belgium is at present bearing a

(1) Not including 4,000 other German refugees who have been given provisional asylum and have then emigrated to other countries.

serious responsibility.

The picture thus revealed is instructive, and entitles me to assert that the Belgian authorities have given effect in the most loyal and generous manner to the Conventions on Refugees. In this connection it may be useful to explain the procedure adopted by Belgium on the question.

An alien who asserts that he is entitled to the benefits of the Conventions in question must, on arriving in Belgium, report to the communal authorities and fill up a questionnaire explaining the circumstances under which he was forced to leave the territory of his own country. This questionnaire is forwarded to the central police authorities.

If the person's claim to be a political refugee is clearly proved, the police authorise the communal authorities to issue a residence certificate to the alien in question.

If a case seems doubtful the Minister of Justice refers it to the Inter-Departmental Commission responsible for examining the situation of refugees.

Under the chairmanship and guarantee of an honorary President of the Court of Appeal and with the assistance of representatives of the Ministerial Departments concerned, and of a delegate representing the private organisations for assistance to refugees freely chosen by the party, this Commission considers the case proposed after hearing both sides. Though it is given in a purely advisory capacity the finding of this Commission is usually, not to say always, adopted and ratified by the Minister of Justice.

In view of the large number of refugees already established on her territory, Belgium to her great regret

is nevertheless under the urgent necessity of reconsidering the problem of refugees before she accepts fresh international obligations.

Accordingly, while accepting in principle the draft Protocol laid before it by the League of Nations Secretariat, it proposes the extension to refugees coming from Austria of the benefits of the Provisional Arrangement of July 4th, 1936, and eventually of the Convention of February 10th, 1938, Belgium thinks it essential that the situation should first be clarified.

In thus acting she wishes to be able with a full knowledge of the facts to adopt an attitude which can in practice be reconciled with the economic and social requirements of her own domestic situation.

On this point she feels it necessary to await the initial results of the discussions of the present Conference.

While she will continue in practice to give the most generous consideration to the difficult situation of refugees from Austria, Belgium esteems it a point of honour not to assume fresh international obligations whose consequences she cannot estimate and which might, notwithstanding her real wishes and her tradition of generous hospitality, exceed her practical possibilities.

Belgium considers that the extent of her burden in the matter of giving shelter to refugees must accordingly be dependent on and in proportion to that which the other States which have responded to the generous suggestion of the Government of Washington agree to accept.

With that reservation Belgium will be glad to be able to continue the policy which she has hitherto been able to follow

in regard to the refugees who appeal to her traditional reputation as a hospitable people and a country of refuge.

This cautious but by no means negative attitude is all the more imperative in the case of Belgium for the following reasons. Belgium is a small country with a very dense population (7,800,000). Of this number 319,230 are foreigners; as a result of the economic depression she bears the burden of more than 250,000 unemployed. Further, the increasingly strict and relentless policy adopted by certain States threatens democratic countries with a large influx of fresh categories of refugees. Finally, other countries are preparing to adopt a similar policy towards their minorities or their nationals of Jewish origin.

This attitude of cautious expectation seems to me to be in consonance with the declarations made in this room yesterday by the representatives of two great States neighbours of Belgium.

They, like we, have urged that immigration has reached the point of saturation but hold out, it is true, the hope that with patience openings may be found in certain overseas territories.

I note also from the statement of the honorable representative of the United States of America that the quota for German emigrants is now fixed at 27,370.

I trust that other privileged nations may be able to offer the Conference fresh prospects and grounds for hope.

Belgium is glad to approve the creation of a Permanent Committee of delegates of the various Governments here represented, and expresses also the desire to co-operate with existing organisations in order that emigration may continue to proceed on rational, systematic and humanitarian lines."

SPEECH BY LT. COLONEL THE HON. T.W. WHITE (AUSTRALIA).

The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia welcomes the initiative of the President of the United States in calling this Conference for so humanitarian a motive. Believing the matter of urgent importance, as does the United Kingdom Government, Australia has sent a Minister of State as leader of the Delegation to support the principle of so worthy a cause.

Yesterday the leader of the British Delegation, the Rt. Hon. Earl Winterton, admirably stated the case on behalf of the United Kingdom and the Colonies. The Dominions, however, are in a different category to the Colonies, being free partners in the British Commonwealth and arbiters of their own economy and national destiny. Australia has her own particular difficulties, for, as Earl Winterton rightly said, "the question is not a simple one" and "economic and social factors as well as considerations of climate and political development have to be taken into account in each country".

M. Berenger has pointed out in his sympathetic statement on behalf of France (to whom we are all grateful for arranging the preliminaries of this Conference) that the United States and Australia owe their development to migration from the old world. This is so, and in Australia's case such migration has naturally been predominantly British, nor is it desired that this be largely departed from while British settlers are forthcoming.

Nevertheless the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia has had very much in mind the problem of foreign migration as well, and a proportion of new arrivals during recent

years has been from foreign sources. Realising the unhappy plight of German and Austrian Jews, they have been included on a pro rata basis which we venture to think is comparable with that of any other country. To ensure that the new arrivals are suitable, they are very largely sponsored by the Australian Jewish Welfare Society.

Under the circumstances Australia cannot do more, for it will be appreciated that in a young country manpower from the source from which most of its citizens have sprung is preferred, while undue privileges cannot be given to one particular class of non-British subjects without injustice to others. It will no doubt be appreciated also that as we have no real racial problem we are not desirous of importing one by encouraging any scheme of large-scale foreign migration.

Moreover, it will, I hope, be also realised that in the particular circumstances of our development we are confining migration principally to those who will engage in trades and occupations in which there is opportunity for work without detriment to the employment of our own people.

What the United Kingdom is doing, together with our own efforts and those of others already related, will, we trust, encourage members of the Intergovernmental Committee here assembled to formulate further plans for co-operation toward the solution of a tragic world problem and thus bring hope to many unhappy people.

SPEECH BY MR. HUME WRONG (CANADA).

I have not much to add to what has already been said, but I do not wish to let this general discussion close without expressing the sympathy and concern of the Canadian Government for the victims of changes of régime and of racial and class conflict. Appreciating the humane and generous motives which led President Roosevelt to suggest the creation of this Committee, my Government has been glad to participate in its work in the hope that the enquiry to be undertaken will bring some real measure of alleviation. Our thanks are also cordially due to the French Government for their hospitable acts in arranging for the Committee to meet at Evian and in providing the necessary technical services.

No-one will deny that we are facing a problem that bristles with difficulties. Indeed, if a simple solution were possible, there would have been no purpose in this Committee's meeting. Canada has in the past not been ungenerous in its reception and treatment of political refugees. In the decade after the war certainly not fewer than 10,000 political refugees from Europe found permanent homes in Canada. In 1930, when the economic crisis descended on Canada with extreme gravity, circumstances forced a change in immigration policy because of the impossibility of absorbing immigrants in any volume. The regulations then adopted are still in effect; and, in view of the terms on which this Committee has been convened, - that any action to be taken will be within the existing immigration laws and regulations of the receiving countries - I may briefly mention their nature. Canadian legislation does not permit the establishment of immigration quotas. For the last eight years immigration

to Canada from the European continent has been limited (except for certain classes of agriculturalists and near relatives of those already in Canada - exceptions which do not include many political refugees) to persons who in each case by special order are exempted from a general prohibition of entry. Unfortunately the continuance of serious unemployment and of economic uncertainty and disturbance still limits severely Canadian power to absorb any considerable number of immigrants.

By the system of special administrative exemptions, however, a substantial number of immigrants from Europe, including refugees, have been admitted to Canada since 1930; and the Canadian Government, deeply and genuinely sympathising with those who have been, or may be, forced to leave their native lands, is ready to consider, as part of any general settlement, the application of their regulations in the most sympathetic and friendly manner which may be practicable in the circumstances.

The Canadian Government, while necessarily reserving fully the decision as to future policy on the subject of immigration, is taking part in this Committee with a view to the freest exchange of information on the present situation and consideration of the problems which it involves. They feel that this examination should not be solely confined to the possibilities of the permanent settlement of political refugees from Germany. To get the problem in perspective information is needed on its extent and character, including estimates of the number of persons involved and some knowledge of the German laws and regulations governing emigration. Furthermore an important aspect alluded to yesterday by Lord Winterton should be borne in mind - the need for the country of origin to make a contribution, so as to allow those whose departure is desired to take with them capital and possessions. Action along these lines may well prove to be a

condition precedent to any solution.

Mr. Taylor and most of the other speakers have mentioned the need of careful co-ordination between the programme of this Committee and the work of the League of Nations, where the question of refugees will probably be among the most important subjects of discussion at the next Assembly. We have before us now only a part of the problem, though it is the part which is most urgent and distressing. I am very glad that there are with us Judge Hansson and Sir Neill Malcolm - the invitation to whom to assist in our deliberations I warmly support - since their assistance should ensure both that no aspect of co-operation with the League is overlooked and that the whole refugee problem is kept constantly in mind.

I conclude by expressing the earnest hope of my Government that our deliberations, thorny and unyielding though the problem may appear to be, will not be unfruitful, and may lead to the mitigation of a situation which everywhere arouses compassion and sympathy.

GH

M. le BRETON (Argentine) spoke as follows:

The Government of the Argentine Republic cordially welcomed the initiative taken by the Government of the United States in issuing invitations to the present Conference, for its traditional policy in regard to immigration has always been such as to enable it to co-operate in humanitarian efforts to ensure the well-being of those who have for various reasons desired to emigrate from their own countries.

Statistics prove that no country has done more than the Argentine in welcoming immigrants regardless of their original nationality, political beliefs and religious creeds.

I would venture to refer to the figures published on July 3rd last by the Office of the Jewish Agency accredited to the League of Nations.

After the United States, the Argentine is the country that has received the greatest number of Jewish immigrants, and, if the area and population of the two countries are compared, it will be found that it is the Argentine which has received the greatest proportion. In the last year for which statistics are available, - 1935 - for every 48 Jewish immigrants who entered the United States, 32 entered the Argentine. In view of the fact that the population of the United States is ten times that of the Argentine, this is really striking.

If the field of comparison be confined to South America, it will be found that the Argentine has received 270 immigrants of this category for every 100 received by all the other countries of South America taken together.

My sole purpose in quoting these figures is to show that, in actual fact, we have taken action in anticipation of the humanitarian proposals to be made by the present Conference, and that we have reason for feeling that we have fulfilled our

duty of solidarity and collaboration in present circumstances when migratory movements have been so seriously disturbed.

The Argentine is, above all, an agricultural country which offers great possibilities. Its "slogan" has always been the motto "To govern is to populate". Experienced agriculturalists will naturally, and for a long time to come, find great opportunities in a vast and fertile territory such as ours which produces the most varied and most valuable products of the soil. A most important featuré is the breeding of livestock. Thanks to our temperate climate and the natural fertility of our grassland, stock-raising can be carried on in the open air in a way that leads to a development that is at once natural, efficient and healthy, and yet does not call for the employment of labour on a large scale.

Our industries, the development of which has, up to the present time, been on a moderate scale only, have at their disposal all the labour required.

Immigration into the Argentine must therefore be directed towards agricultural work and certain specialised forms of employment.

It is, of course, natural and logical that the number of immigrants who intend to enter occupations that are already fully supplied with labour must not be allowed to exceed what is reasonable. Otherwise, the results would be harmful not only to the general economic life of the country, since opportunities for the employment of our own people would be reduced, but also to the very immigrants whom we have already received, for it would make it impossible for us to ensure the continuance of satisfactory conditions and that comfortable and happy existence which we desire them to enjoy in our country.

There is one point that should be brought to the notice of those who contemplate going to the Argentine. In accordance with our laws and with our lengthy experience in matters relating to the treatment of foreigners who desire to

take their place in our national life, they are assured of ample facilities and are treated on the same footing as our own nationals. Those however who intend, whilst living within our territory, to remain permanently bound by the special conditions derived from their country of origin, would do well to abandon their intention while there is time and refrain from going to the Argentine. Our extreme liberality will never go so far as to lead us to grant to new immigrants a situation of advantage or privilege as compared with nationals of the Argentine or other immigrants who have already established themselves definitely in our country.

We do not think that it is necessary - nor, indeed, would it be possible - to determine in advance the extent of our future effort in this matter. We are convinced, however, that our attitude in the past is sufficient to prove the generosity of the view we shall adopt in the future. The immigration authorities, with the assistance of the Consular service, will provide constant information as to the number of immigrants of each occupation it may be possible for us to assimilate at any time. Within those limits, we shall, as in the past, co-operate in the general action undertaken.

We do not intend to attempt to exercise any influence over the decisions taken by other countries with large territories and sparse population in regard to the way in which they incorporate immigrants into their respective territories or decide not to admit them. On the other hand we shall always take our own decisions in such matters in the light of our own circumstances and of the possibilities which the social and economic conditions at any given moment indicate as the extreme limit of our capacity to receive immigrants.

Just as we shall carefully refrain from concerning ourselves either directly or indirectly with internal decisions

taken by countries of emigration, so, in our turn, we shall be all the more jealous of our own rights in all matters relating to the manner in which and the means by which immigrants will be allowed to enter and establish themselves in our country.

One of our distinguishing characteristics is the absence of prejudices of every kind. We are hospitable by nature. This characteristic is expressed in the preamble to our Constitution, and our wide and fortunate experience in the matter of immigration enables us to contemplate the future with complete tranquillity.

We fully understand that those who wish to emigrate should endeavour to do so to countries which they think offer the greatest chances of prosperity. Accordingly, when their preferences lead them to choose our country, we regard this as a proof of their faith in its future, a faith which we firmly share.

We have no reason to consider this question with reserve or with prejudice or from a selfish standpoint. We are fully determined to co-operate within the limits of what is possible. Those limits provide an ample field for the noble work of the present Conference. It is with this determination that we shall collaborate in studying and solving this problem, which is as delicate as it is important, because of the way it affects human welfare and the future of every country.

M. BEUCKER-ANDREAE (Netherlands):

Interpretation: The Netherlands Government, being profoundly moved by the tragic aspect of the problem of Jewish emigration at the present time, and more particularly the tragic destiny of refugees from Germany and those who may in future wish to leave that country, being profoundly moved, too, by the pitiful moral situation created for Jewish children, has welcomed with sympathy the generous initiative taken by President Roosevelt in inviting this Committee to meet on the hospitable soil of France, which has provided us with our distinguished Chairman for the opening of this Conference.

We desire to play our part in contributing to finding a solution for this problem, by encouraging the organisation of the migration of refugees. This is a problem which has been in the forefront of our consideration for several years. We are a neighbouring country to Germany, and the Netherlands has therefore naturally become one of the countries of first refuge. It assumed this rôle at the very beginning of the internal political changes that have occurred in neighbouring countries. My country has followed an age-old tradition in granting generous hospitality to such refugees. When the inflow continued, however, it became increasingly aware of the fact that it was impossible for it to continue to absorb such great numbers, and that international collaboration was essential to deal with the problem of the emigration of refugees to countries where they could find a permanent home.

At the conferences held in Geneva, the Netherlands Government has stressed the importance of finding a solution to this problem of emigration. For their part, they have been glad to collaborate in the task of assisting Jewish refugees

to fit themselves for a new existence by encouraging the institution in my country of various establishments for agricultural training, and for the training for various industrial occupations of Jewish refugees, so that they might in that way be prepared in due course to emigrate to countries where they might finally settle. Although several thousand refugees, partly through the very praiseworthy efforts made by Jewish organisations amongst others, have in this way been helped to reach the countries of their final destination, the number of refugees still in the Netherlands is very considerable. It has been calculated by the competent authorities that they number between 24,000 and 25,000, a figure that is relatively very high by comparison with a population which does not quite amount to 9,000,000.

The density of our population, which had already led the Netherlands Government to encourage the emigration of its own nationals, the very serious unemployment in the country - an average of 400,000 - were facts that prevented the Netherlands Government to its great regret from admitting any continuation of the inflow of refugees. For the moment, the Government is not in a position to admit any refugees, unless it be in exceptional cases. Owing to the density of its population, the part played by the Netherlands in granting assistance to refugees must always be rather that of a country of temporary sojourn. As the refugees now in the Netherlands emigrate, it will be possible to admit further refugees for a temporary sojourn, provided that their final emigration to countries in which they will settle permanently is sufficiently guaranteed.

My Delegation has listened with great interest to the observations made by various speakers, and associates itself with

several of the ideas that have been put forward. As regards immigration into the Netherlands overseas territories, the Netherlands Delegation would venture to point out that those territories lie within the tropical zone and that experience hitherto would seem to show that migration of white people for settlement offers little probability of success. The only possibilities that could arise with regard to these territories would be for certain individuals, who might find a suitable means of existence there. The problem that has been laid before us for consideration is certainly one of very great importance, and one that we cannot hope to solve all at once.

The CHAIRMAN:

Interpretation: The list of speakers who will submit general statements is not to be regarded as closed. There are several Governments which have not yet had an opportunity of stating their views, and they will be able to do so at a later meeting, possibly on Saturday morning.

In order that we may act with due regularity, we should now receive the Report of the Credentials Sub-Committee, which will be presented by the Secretary-General.

The Report, as circulated, was presented by M. Paul-Boncour, Secretary-General, and was adopted (see pages 21 and 22).

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Credentials Sub-Committee met on July 7th at 11 a.m. The Sub-Committee consisted of:

AUSTRALIA: Mr. Alfred STIRLING

COLOMBIA: M. J.M. YEPES

NETHERLANDS: M. BEUCKER-ANDREAE

SWEDEN: M. de HALLENBORG

and M. Jean PAUL-BONCOUR, Secretary-General of the Intergovernmental Committee.

The Secretary-General referred to the Credentials Sub-Committee a letter sent to him by the representative of the United States of America to the effect that the Department of State, Washington, had in fact received from each of the Governments represented at the Conference, as shown on the annexed list, a communication accrediting to the Intergovernmental Committee, Evian, the delegates taking part in its proceedings.

After examining the documents lodged by Delegations with the Secretary-General of the Committee, the Credentials Sub-Committee suggests that the Committee should regard the United States Delegation's letter above referred to and the authentic documents produced by the various delegates as credentials authorising each Member thus accredited to take part in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee.

The Credentials Sub-Committee will hold itself at the disposal of the Bureau of the Committee and continue the examination of any documents which Delegations may still wish to communicate to the Secretariat, more particularly in the event of the Intergovernmental Committee deciding to opt for the conclusion of contractual arrangements.

Annex to the Report of the Credentials Sub-Committee.

Argentine
Australia
Belgium
Bolivia
Brazil
United Kingdom
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Cuba
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
France
Guatamala
Haiti
Honduras
Ireland
Mexico
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Norway
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Sweden
Switzerland
United States of America
Uruguay

CONSTITUTION OF THE BUREAU OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE CHAIRMAN:

Interpretation: The Committee being now duly constituted, our next business must be to elect our Bureau. On this point I feel that I shall be voicing the sentiments of most, if not all, of the Government representatives here present, but I shall also and in particular be promoting the accomplishment of the task which we have begun in proposing as Chairman Mr. Myron C. Taylor, who represents that very eminent personality President Roosevelt. I would therefore ask you to invest him with this office to which he has a claim not only in virtue of his personal qualities on which I will not dwell at any greater length, but also in order to ensure the continuity of our work and link the old world with the new.

The Chairman's proposal was unanimously adopted.

(Mr. Myron C. Taylor took the presidential chair.)

The CHAIRMAN: I am deeply grateful for the honour which you have done my country in selecting me to act in the capacity of Chairman of this most important meeting. Up to the present moment, I think we have all been impressed by the success which has attended our efforts at this meeting. I attribute a good measure of that success - without bringing into the discussion the great humanitarian impulse which has brought us together - to the skill, wisdom and charm of manner and speech which your temporary Chairman has contributed in so full a measure to make the initial stages of this important occasion so very auspicious.

Succeeding one so distinguished and of such great ability, I feel quite unable to carry on the duties of this meeting at the

same high level of quality and character which has so far been maintained, and, superceding for the moment customary parliamentary practice - and it seems that I am justified in ignoring for the moment the ordinary rules in a meeting which has not yet adopted any particular procedure - I wish to propose from the chair that we should convey our gratitude to H.E. M. Bérenger, President of the Foreign Relations Committee of the French Senate, by electing him as the Honorary Chairman of this meeting.

The Chairman's proposal was unanimously adopted.

On the proposal of Lord Winterton, M. Jean Paul-Boncour was elected Secretary-General.

PROGRAMME OF PROCEDURE.

The programme of procedure as contained in Document C.I./E./3 was adopted.

The meeting rose.

5.

C.I./E./3.

July 7th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

PROCEDURE PROPOSED BY THE COMMITTEE'S BUREAU.

Sub-Committee on the Reception of Those Concerned with the Relief of Political Refugees from Germany Including Austria.

This Sub-Committee would hear in an executive session a representative of each organisation which is registered with the Secretariat General. It is understood that in each case the organisation will present a memorandum of its views through its representative who may be permitted to speak for a limited time. The Sub-Committee would make a synopsis of the memoranda which it has received and report to the Conference.

The Sub-Committee on Organisations would be composed as follows:

Chairman: Lieut.Col. the Hon. T.W. White, Australia.

Members: Belgium, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, France, ~~Haiti, the Netherlands, Switzerland.~~ Mexico, Peru, Cuba, Nicaragua

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Technical Sub-Committee.

This Sub-Committee would hear in confidence the statements of laws and practices of the participating Governments, statements of the number and types of immigrants each is prepared to receive and consider the question of documentation. It would make a report to the Conference.

The Technical Sub-Committee would be composed as follows:

Chairman: Judge Michael Hansson, Norway.

Members: Brazil, Canada, Chile, United Kingdom, United States of America, France, Haiti, the Netherlands, Switzerland.

Sir Neil Malcolm, High Commissioner for Refugees from Germany, would be invited to participate in the work of this Sub-Committee.

This Sub-Committee may invite the representatives of other delegations which do not participate in the Committee to consult with it.

6.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./1
Evian, July 8th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE.

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT OF THE IMMIGRATION LAWS AND PRACTICES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA GOVERNING THE RECEPTION OF IMMIGRANTS.

INTRODUCTION

Immigration Policy of the United States.

1. The regulation of immigration into the United States is the sole prerogative of Congress and is effected under statutes enacted by Congress. The immigration policy being followed, as expressed by the statutes, is basically that of negative selection, specified classes of aliens who are undesirable because of mental, physical, moral or economic defects being excluded from admission into the United States, upon which method of selection numerical limitation is superimposed.

PART I.

Selection of Immigrants.

1. The excluding provisions of law, referred to above, are principally contained in Section 3 of the Immigration Act of February 5, 1917, which prohibits the admission of the following classes of aliens:

(1) Mental defectives, being idiots, imbeciles, feeble-minded persons, epileptics, persons having previously had attacks of insanity, persons of constitutional psychopathic inferiority and persons with chronic alcoholism.

(2) Paupers, professional beggars and vagrants.

(3) Diseased persons, being persons afflicted with tuberculosis in any form, or persons afflicted with a loathsome or dangerous contagious disease.

(4) Persons who are mentally or physically defective, the physical defect being of a nature which may affect the ability of the alien to earn a living.

(5) Criminals, being persons who have been convicted of or who admit having committed a felony or other crime or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.

(6) Polygamists.

(7) Anarchists and certain other politically undesirable aliens, being chiefly persons opposed to organised government.

(8) Prostitutes and procurers.

(9) Contract labourers, being persons induced, assisted, encouraged, or solicited to migrate by offers or promises of employment, with exception for specified occupational classes and for skilled labour if labour of like kind unemployed cannot be found in the United States. Aliens coming to join American citizens or legally domiciled husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, or children, or returning to continue a home which they have already established or who have such other ties as would induce them to return, and whose primary purpose in coming is consequently not that of employment, are not regarded as contract labourers.

(10) Persons likely to become a public charge.

(11) Persons excluded from admission and deported from the United States, such persons, however, being allowed to reapply for admission after one year, or sooner if permitted by the administrative authority.

(12) Persons financially assisted to come to the United States, being (a) persons whose ticket or passage is paid for with the money of another, or who are assisted by others to come, unless it is shown that such persons do not belong to one or the foregoing excluded classes, and (b) persons whose ticket or passage is paid for by any corporation, association, society, municipality, or foreign government, directly or indirectly.

(13) Stowaways, who, however, if otherwise admissible may be admitted within the discretion of the administrative authority.

(14) Children under 16 years of age, unaccompanied by or not coming to a parent, who, however, if not likely to become a public charge, may be admitted within the discretion of the administrative authority.

(15) Illiterates over 16 years of age, physically capable of reading, with exception being made for certain close relatives of American citizens or of admissible or legally admitted aliens, for aliens coming to avoid religious persecution and for several other less important classes of aliens.

2. The aforementioned provisions of law apply to aliens desiring to enter any part of the territory subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, except the Isthmian Canal Zone.

3. In addition, the immigration laws exclude, with exceptions, aliens accompanying excluded aliens, aliens who are natives of certain parts of Asia, aliens repatriated at the expense of the Federal Government, aliens from foreign contiguous territory (under certain conditions), aliens arrested and deported or ordered deported and permitted to depart voluntarily, aliens ineligible to American citizenship, and aliens not possessing documents required by law.

PART II.

Numerical Limitation of Immigration.

1. The numerical or quota limitations on immigration are imposed by the Immigration Act of 1924. This Act applies to the States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, the District of Columbia, Porto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The Act defines an "immigrant" as any alien departing from any place outside the United States destined for the United States except one who comes within a specified class of non-immigrants. Immigrants are divided into two classes, nonquota immigrants and quota immigrants.

2. Nonquota immigrants, as the term implies, are not subject to numerical limitation. They are immigrants able to qualify within one of the following categories:

(a) Relatives of American citizens, being the unmarried child under 21 years of age, or the wife, or the husband (if married before July 1, 1932), of a citizen of the United States.

(b) Returning resident aliens, being immigrants previously lawfully admitted who are returning from a temporary visit abroad.

(c) Natives of Western Hemisphere countries, being immigrants born in the Dominion of Canada, Newfoundland, the Republic of Mexico, the Republic of Cuba, the Republic of Haiti, the

Dominican Republic, the Canal Zone, or an independent country of Central or South America, and the wives and the unmarried children under 18 years of age accompanying or following to join such immigrants.

(d) Ministers and professors, being immigrants who continuously for at least two years immediately preceding the time of their admission into the United States have been, and who seek to enter the United States solely for the purpose of, carrying on the vocation of minister or of any religious denomination, or professor of a college, academy, seminary, or university, and their wives, and unmarried children under 18 years of age accompanying or following to join them.

(e) Students, being those who are bona fide students at least 15 years of age who seek to enter the United States solely for the purpose of study at an accredited school, college, academy, seminary, or university. (Students are admitted only for the duration of their course of studies.)

(f) American women who have lost their United States citizenship by marriage to aliens, or the loss of United States citizenship by their husbands or by their marriage to aliens and residence in a foreign country.

3. Quota immigrants are other immigrants, who are, as stated, subject to the numerical limitations. The total number of immigrants allowed annually to enter under the quota is 153,774 which total is apportioned among the countries to which the quota restrictions apply, according to their relative contribution to the American population as enumerated in 1920, with the proviso that the minimum quota for any country shall be 100 (except that by a special provision of law the quota for the Philippine Islands is fixed at 50). A table of the quotas is attached.

4. Quota nationality, that is, the quota to which an immigrant is chargeable, is determined by country of birth, except that to prevent separation of families the law provides that the quota nationality of a child under 21 years of age is to be determined by the country of birth of its accompanying parent (by that of the father when both parents accompany it), and a wife may be charged to the quota of the native country of her husband when he is of different quota nationality and the quota for her country is exhausted.

5. The law places upon American consuls abroad the responsibility of keeping immigration within the prescribed numerical limits and each quota is under the primary control of a consul (generally located in the capital of the quota country) designated as the quota-control officer of the quota.

PART III.

Documentary Requirements for Immigrants.

1. Immigrants entering American territory to which the Immigration Act of 1924 is applicable are required to present (a) unexpired passports or official documents in the nature of passports issued by the Governments of the countries to which they owe allegiance or other travel documents showing their origin and identity (as prescribed by regulations), and (b) valid immigration visas, quota or nonquota, (to which certain other documents must be attached, as indicated below) except in certain instances which are not of interest for the purpose of the present statement.

2. The travel documents which may be accepted in lieu of passports or official documents in the nature of passports, as prescribed by regulations, are (a) documents showing the bearers' identity and nationality, issued by a duly authorised official, and (b) affidavits executed by the immigrants identifying themselves which may be sworn to before an American Consul.

3. The immigration visas are issued at designated American consular offices. The visa document comprises the immigrant's application for a visa (identifying the immigrant and declaring that he is not a member of any one of the excluded classes, which application must be sworn to before the consul) and the consular visa placed thereon.

4. The law requires the immigrant to furnish, if available, to the Consul, with his application, two copies of his police, prison and

military records, two certified copies of his birth certificate, and two copies of all other available public records concerning him kept by the Government to which he owes allegiance. When copies of public records kept by a Government other than that to which the immigrant owes allegiance are available and necessary to establish the immigrant's identity or admissibility into the United States under the immigration laws, copies of such documents may be required by the consul. One copy of the documents so furnished is attached to the application to become a part thereof and the other copy is attached to the duplicate of the application for the consular files.

5. A document is "available" when it can be obtained by reasonable effort, even though its production may take time or cause inconvenience. The document is not regarded as "available" if it cannot be obtained without risk of serious inconvenience (aside from normal delay and expense in obtaining it) involving personal injury, embarrassment, or financial loss either to the immigrant or to a member of his family, as might occur in the case of an immigrant who is a political or religious refugee.

6. Immigrants must also present to the consul such documentary proof as may be necessary to establish their admissibility into the United States under the excluding provisions of the law.

7. A facility is granted to intending immigrants in the acceptance of documents, for examination as to their sufficiency and satisfactory nature, forwarded by mail by the immigrant to the consulate in advance of the immigrant's required personal appearance at the Consulate to apply for a visa.

PART IV.

Consular Issuance of Immigration Visas.

1. Immigration visas are issued only by the American consuls

abroad. They are valid for departure to the United States within a period of four months from date of issuance. The law forbids the consul to issue a visa to an immigrant if he knows or has reason to believe that the immigrant is inadmissible into the United States under the immigration laws. The law places the burden of proof upon the immigrant to establish that he is not subject to exclusion and it is the consul's duty, upon receiving the immigrant's application for a visa, to examine the immigrant and his documents and determine whether the immigrant is legally qualified to receive a visa. At places in Europe important from an immigration viewpoint, the consul is assisted in his examination of immigration visa applicants by medical officers of the United States Public Health Service and by immigration officers of the Department of Labour which Department is charged with the responsibility in finally determining the admissibility of immigrants upon their arrival at ports of entry into the United States. Thus, immigration is largely controlled at its source and immigrants receiving visas have reasonable assurance of admission upon arrival in the United States. As a result of the system, the number of immigrants, with visas, rejected by the immigration authorities upon arrival in the United States is negligible.

2. In the issuance of nonquota immigration visas, the immigrants, in addition to establishing their admissibility under the excluding provisions of the law, are required to produce satisfactory proof that they are properly classified within the nonquota category in which they are applying for visa, before they may be issued nonquota visas. Nonquota status for relatives of American citizens is established upon the approval of a form of petition executed by the American citizen concerned. Returning resident

aliens are not required to have nonquota visas for re-admission upon their return from a temporary visit abroad if they are in possession of permits to re-enter obtained prior to their departure from the United States. (See II, 2 supra).

3. In the issuance of quota immigration visas, the policy, dictated by the law, of "first come, first served" is followed, with preferential treatment being accorded specified classes of immigrants. Preference up to 50 per cent of the quota is accorded the fathers, or mothers, of citizens of the United States who are 21 years of age or over, or who are the husbands of citizens of the United States by marriages occurring on or before July 1, 1932 (preference status being established for such relatives upon the approval of a form of petition executed by the American citizen concerned), and in quotas of 300 or more, to quota immigrants who are skilled in agriculture, their wives, and dependent children under 18 years of age, if following or accompanying them. The second 50 per cent of each quota plus any portion of the first 50 per cent as may not be required for the issuance of visas to first-preference immigrants is available for the unmarried children under 21 years of age, and the wives of alien residents of the United States lawfully admitted for permanent residence, verification of such lawful admission being obtainable through official channels. The balance of any quota is available for issuance of visas to other, or non-preference quota immigrants. To prevent a congestion in the arrival of immigrants the law prohibits the issuance of visas against quotas of 300 or more at a rate greater than 10 percentum of the quota per month.

4. To each nonquota or quota visa (except nonquota visas for students), when issued, the consul attaches an "Immigrant

Identification Card" bearing the photograph of the immigrant and containing a personal description of him. The original of the card is given to the immigrant upon his admission into the United States by the immigration authorities and becomes his certificate of lawful entry for permanent residence.

5. A consul may only refuse an immigration visa for a legal reason which he must be prepared to cite and support to the satisfaction of the Department of State and for the information of inquirers having a legitimate interest in the case.

7.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./2.

Evian, July 8th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

STATEMENT OF DETAILS REGARDING THE NUMBER AND THE TYPE OF IMMIGRANTS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO RECEIVE UNDER ITS EXISTING LAWS AND PRACTICES.

The United States of America is prepared to receive emigrants into its territory under the following conditions:

1. The territory referred to comprises the States, the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii, the District of Columbia, Porto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

2. Emigrants must be properly documented and be found to be admissible under the immigration laws, reference in this connection being made to the attached statement of the immigration laws and practices of the United States of America governing the reception of immigrants.

3. Emigrants will be accepted without numerical limitation who are able satisfactorily to qualify within one of the following categories of nonquota immigrants:

(a) An immigrant who is the unmarried child under twenty-one years of age, or the wife, or the husband, of a citizen of the United States: Provided, That the marriage shall have occurred prior to issuance of visa and, in the case of husbands of citizens, prior to July 1, 1932;

(b) An immigrant previously lawfully admitted to the United States, who is returning from a temporary visit abroad;

(c) An immigrant who was born in the Dominion of Canada, Newfoundland, the Republic of Mexico, the Republic of Cuba, the Republic of Haiti, the Dominican Republic, the Canal Zone, or an independent country of Central or South America, and his wife, and his unmarried children under 18 years of age, if accompanying or following to join him;

(d) An immigrant who continuously for at least two years immediately preceding the time of his application for admission to the United States has been, and who seeks to enter the United States solely for the purpose of, carrying on the vocation of minister of any religious denomination, or professor of a college, academy, seminary, or university; and his wife, and his unmarried children under 18 years of age, if accompanying or following to join him.

(e)* An immigrant who is a bona fide student at least 15 years of age and who seeks to enter the United States solely for the purpose of study at an accredited school, college, academy, seminary, or university, particularly designated by him and approved by the Secretary of Labour, which shall have agreed to report to the Secretary of Labour the termination of attendance of each immigrant student, and if any such institution of learning fails to make such reports promptly the approval shall be withdrawn; or

(f) A woman who was a citizen of the United States and lost her citizenship by reason of her marriage to an alien, or the loss of United States citizenship by her husband, or by marriage to an alien and residence in a foreign country.

4. Other emigrants will be admitted under numerical limitation, as quota immigrants, who are chargeable to quotas established by law for various countries, as follows, with preference in the issuance of immigration visas required for admission being granted to the fathers or mothers of citizens of the United States who are 21 years of age or over or who are the husbands of citizens of the United States by marriages occurring on or after July 1, 1932, and in quotas of 300 or more, to immigrants skilled in agriculture and their wives and dependent children under the age of 18 years, accompanying or following to join them, and to the unmarried children under 21 years of age

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* Students, as distinguished from other nonquota immigrants, may be admitted only for the duration of their course of studies, and not for permanent residence.

and the wives of aliens lawfully admitted into the United States for permanent residence:

Country	Quota
Afghanistan	100
Albania	100
Andorra	100
Arabian peninsula (except Muscat, Aden Settlement and Protectorate, and Saudi Arabia)	100
Australia (including Tasmania, Papua, and all islands appertaining to Australia)	100
Belgium	1,304
Bhutan	100
Bulgaria	100
Cameroons (British Mandate)	100
Cameroun (French Mandate)	100
China	100
Czechoslovakia	2,874
Danzig, Free City of	100
Denmark	1,181
Egypt	100
Estonia	116
Ethiopia (Abyssinia)	100
Finland	569
France	3,086
Germany	27,370
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	65,721
Greece	307
Hungary	869
Iceland	100
India	100
Iran (Persia)	100
Iraq (Mesopotamia)	100
Ireland (Eire)	17,853
Italy	5,802
Japan	100
Latvia	236
Liberia	100
Liechtenstein	100
Lithuania	386
Luxemburg	100
Monaco	100
Morocco (French and Spanish zones and Tangier)	100
Muscat (Oman)	100
Nauru (British mandate)	100
Nepal	100
Netherlands	3,153
New Guinea, Territory of (including appertaining islands) (Australian mandate)	100
New Zealand	100
Norway	2,377
Palestine (with Trans-Jordan) (British mandate)	100

Country	Quota
Philippine Islands	50
Poland	6,524
Portugal	440
Ruanda and Urundi (Belgian mandate)	100
Roumania	377
Samoa, Western (mandate of New Zealand)	100
San Marino	100
Saudi Arabia (Hejaz and Nejd and its dependencies)	100
Siam	100
South Africa, Union of	100
South West Africa (mandate of the Union of South Africa) . . .	100
Spain	252
Sweden	3,314
Switzerland	1,707
Syria and the Lebanon (French mandate)	123
Tanganyika Territory (British mandate)	100
Togoland (British mandate)	100
Togoland (French mandate)	100
Turkey	226
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	2,712
Yap and other Pacific islands under Japanese mandate	100
Yugoslavia	845

5. No preferential treatment may be accorded to so-called political refugees, as such, as distinguished from other immigrants.

6. This statement is made with reservation of the right of the Congress of the United States of America to change the immigration laws, the regulation of immigration into the United States being the sole prerogative of the Congress.

8.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./3.
Evian, July 8th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

MEMORANDUM ON UNITED KINGDOM IMMIGRATION LAWS AND PRACTICES AND THE PRESENT POLICY OF HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE RECEPTION OF IMMIGRANTS.

The admission of aliens into the United Kingdom is governed by the provisions of the Aliens Order.

This measure contains no quota restrictions or any specific regulations as to the classes of aliens who may be admitted to this country. The United Kingdom is not of course an immigration country, being an old country which is highly industrialised, very densely populated and having serious unemployment problems of its own. The passenger traffic to and from British ports comprises mostly short-term visitors who leave in due course. The Aliens Order was framed to interfere as little as possible with this traffic and at the same time to exclude aliens who are undesirable or who are likely to become a charge upon public funds or seek work for which a British subject or resident foreigner is available. The order specifically provides that a foreigner shall not be given leave to land unless he is in possession of means to support himself and his dependents and if he is desirous of taking work in this country he must be in possession of a permit issued to his prospective employer by the Ministry of Labour: the policy of the Ministry in dealing with an application for a permit is to require the employer to satisfy it that a person possessing suitable qualifications cannot be found in the country for the post in question.

The grant of leave to land is vested in the Immigration Officers at the ports who are appointed by and carry out their duties subject to the directions of the Home Secretary who is invested with very wide powers to exempt any person or classes of persons from the provisions of the Order. Under the Order a decision of an Immigration Officer is final but in practice persons interested in an alien who has been refused leave to land can appeal to the Home Office to have the case investigated.

In dealing with a person who wishes to set up in business or pursue some other independent occupation, an Immigration Officer if satisfied as to the bona fides of the person and that he has adequate means would ordinarily give leave to land for a temporary period to enable him to make an application to the Home Office. Any such application would be considered on its merits in the light of all the circumstances.

The system of a centralised control over the functions of the Immigration staff provides an elastic system of administration and enables the Home Secretary to carry out whatever policy His Majesty's Government may from time to time think it right in the national interests to adopt with regard to refugees.

The introduction of a visa system for holders of German and Austrian passports has further provided machinery by which the cases of intending immigrants to the country can be investigated before they start on their journey, so as to obviate the hardships of rejection at the ports which might otherwise arise. The grant of a visa by a British Passport Control Officer or Consul abroad does not guarantee the grant of leave to land which is vested in the immigration officer but when a visa has been authorised by the Home Office there is little likelihood of rejection at the port except possibly on medical grounds.

General instructions have been issued to British Passport Control Officers and Consuls abroad as to the principles upon which they should deal with applications for visas by persons who wish to emigrate from Germany and Austria. Arrangements are also being made with the Co-ordinating Committee which has been set up by refugee organisations, to have cases investigated by the organisations where an applicant for a visa has no definite plans in view and plans for his future and settlement have to be made.

9.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./4.
Evian, July 8th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

MEMORANDUM ON AUSTRALIAN IMMIGRATION LAWS AND PRACTICES AND THE PRESENT POLICY OF HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA REGARDING THE RECEPTION OF ALIEN IMMIGRANTS.

During the financial depression alien immigration was confined practically to close dependent relatives of persons already settled in Australia, and to persons who could introduce capital of their own to the extent of £500.

In March 1936, in view of the improved economic position, Cabinet approved that landing permits could be issued to the following classes:-

(a) dependent relatives of persons already settled in Australia, subject to satisfactory guarantees for maintenance being furnished. Dependent relatives include wives, minor children, adult single daughters and sisters, parents and fiancees;

(b) persons outside the category of dependent relatives who -

(i) are nominated by persons in Australia guaranteeing to the satisfaction of the Minister that the nominees will not be allowed to become a charge upon the State;

(ii) will engage in trades and occupations in which there is opportunity for absorption without detriment to Australian workers; and

(iii) are in possession of £50 (Australian) landing money;

(c) aliens without guarantors in Australia who will engage in trades and occupations in which there is opportunity for their absorption without detriment to Australian workers, provided also that they are in possession of £200 (Australian) landing money.

The Commonwealth Government is not able to grant special facilities for the admission of groups of Jewish migrants, whether from Germany or Austria, but each case will be considered on its merits on application, the usual form being submitted to the Department of the Interior.

In addition to these individual applications, applications sponsored by the Australian Jewish Welfare Society by German and Austrian Jews will be considered, with certain special provisions in the case of migrants of the employee class.

Instead of requiring the Society to furnish the name of a prospective employer in each case, an undertaking will be accepted from the Society in respect of migrants of the employee classes -

(a) that on arrival of the migrants they will be definitely placed in employment in their respective occupations;

(b) that they will be employed at award rates; and

(c) that no persons at present employed will be displaced to make way for the migrants.

A limited number of permits will also be issued to Jewish applicants who have no guarantors in Australia, selected from applications received from various countries; some preference will be given to political refugees from Austria and Germany.

The Commonwealth Government are ready to receive applications for permits from non-Jewish Austrians, these applications being subject to the present policy and rules regulating migration to Australia.

In all cases there will be the customary safeguard that admission will not be detrimental to Australian workers.

10.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./5.

Evian, July 8th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

STATEMENT REGARDING BRITISH COLONIES, etc.

1. Generally speaking there are no restrictions on the entry into the Colonial Dependencies of refugees, Jewish or others, from European countries, provided that they obtain the necessary passport facilities and that they comply in other respects with the immigration regulations of the Colony concerned, which apply to all intending immigrants, whether British subjects or aliens. The intending immigrant would have to show that he had definite prospects of employment in the Colony or other means of subsistence. In most Colonies an immigrant is or may be required either to possess, or to deposit, or to furnish security for, a minimum sum of money, before he is allowed to land, so that should he subsequently become destitute he could be repatriated without expense to the Colony.

2. Lord Winterton in his opening speech to the Committee gave some indication of the steps that are being taken to investigate the question of the admission of a limited number of refugees into certain East African territories. It is not possible at the moment to give more specific information on this point. The matter is under investigation and the outcome still uncertain; but as was indicated by Lord Winterton, any project which may emerge is unlikely to involve the settlement of more than a limited number of selected families, at any rate in the early stages. The Sub-

Committee can rest assured that the matter is being actively pursued with every desire to find a successful solution.

The British Colonial Office is maintaining close touch with the Colonial Governors with the object of being apprised of any openings which may arise for individual refugees with professional or business qualifications.

3. Last year the attention of all Colonial Governments was drawn to the new standard form of certificate of identity which had been adopted by the British Home Office for issue to Refugees from Germany as defined in the Provisional Arrangement of the 4th July, 1936, and they were asked to consider the adoption of a similar form of document for issue in their territories to such refugees as and when necessity arose.

As soon as the Convention of the 10th February, 1938, relating to refugees from Germany, has been ratified by His Majesty's Government, it is the intention to ask all Colonial Governors whether they agree to the provisions of this Convention being applied to the territories under their administration.

11.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./ C.T./ 6

JULY 8th 1938

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

DECLARATION BY THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION ON THE IMMIGRATION LAWS AND THEIR APPLICATION IN NORWAY

Norway has never been a country of immigration. On the contrary, until after the end of the world war, emigration from Norway was very considerable; it amounted to tens of thousands of persons annually out of a population which at the time barely exceeded two millions. It may be boldly asserted that in no country was emigration as high as in Norway in comparison with the figure of the population. When emigration stopped, chiefly because of the new immigration regulations in the United States, Norway found herself faced with the problem of finding work for this surplus population. Partly as a result of this change in the situation, it has been found necessary to bring under control the movement of immigration into Norway, and this was done by enacting the law of April 27th 1927 on the admission of foreigners. It is true that this idea of control is not implicit in the text of the law, but during the preliminary proceedings very great stress was laid on the point that permission to immigrate should only be granted to foreigners who are not regarded as undesirables and who are presumed to be in a position to maintain themselves in a legal occupation without prejudice to national labour. During the ten years that the law has been in force, this principle has always governed its application.

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The law contains no exceptional clause regarding political refugees. If it has nevertheless proved possible to apply it to such persons more or less in such a way that they have received an immigration permit - notwithstanding the prevalence of unemployment in the trade or occupation in which they were interested - this is due to the fact that comparatively very few refugees have applied for permission to enter Norway.

The prospects of employment are in fact very slight; consequently it will be impossible to find jobs for a considerable number of refugees.

It should, however, be pointed out that Norway has ratified the Convention of October 28th 1933 and the Provisional Arrangement of July 4th 1936 and that through her representative she has signed the Convention of February 10th 1938. The question of ratifying the latter Convention is at present being considered by the competent authorities. In addition to the Aliens Law, a number of special laws contain clauses which limit the admission of aliens wishing to find employment in Norway. Even in cases where the authorities responsible for enforcing the regulations for control of immigration consider that there are good grounds in some cases for allowing refugees to look for employment in Norway, they cannot always do so because of the provisions of the special laws above-mentioned. Among the laws which are of special importance in this respect may be mentioned those on commerce and the laws on handicrafts.

Since Norway, as above stated, is not a country of immigration, she has never issued regulations regarding immigration quotas, and it is impossible, on the basis of the data so far available, to give any particulars as to how many

and what class of immigrants the country might be able to absorb. The only immigrants whom, in the strict sense of the term, Norway needs are industrial specialists, but the need for these only arises infrequently, and solely for a few isolated individuals at a time.

The Norwegian Government is prepared to continue the policy which it has hitherto followed on this question.

12.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./7

July 8th 1938

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

DECLARATION BY THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION REGARDING

LEGITIMATION PAPERS FOR REFUGEES

On the initiative of the League of Nations several States at one time agreed to grant Russian refugees and certain other refugees a special identity certificate, (known as the Nansen Passport) to be used as a travel document. A model of such a document was drawn up by the League of Nations. Later the question arose of assisting all stateless persons by supplying them with a legitimation paper (passport). For this purpose a conference was convened by the League of Nations which drew up recommandations for the issue of an identity and travel document for persons without nationality or of doubtful nationality. Several States gave effect to these recommandations.

The arrangement provides that stateless persons requiring it for travel purposes will obtain the above identity paper. The form of the document may vary but they must all have on the outside a black oblique line printed in the top left hand corner.

Subsequently, when emigration began from the Saar Territory and Germany, the League of Nations was obliged to take up the question and specimen travel documents were designed for these refugees. In point of fact, no less than four travel documents have thus been drawn up for refugees, stateless persons and persons without nationality of doubtful nationality.

In view of this complicated situation, the Central Passport Control Office in Norway introduced the simplification of using in all cases the "identity and travel document" model only. Anyone living in Norway who is unable, in law or in fact, to procure another kind of passport may obtain this legitimation paper. In this way the arrangement is of benefit to all classes of refugees.

13.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./9.
Evian, July 8th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO IMMIGRANTS PROCEEDING TO CANADA FROM COUNTRIES ON THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE.

The Canadian Immigration Regulations provide that medical officers shall make a physical and mental examination of all immigrants, passengers or other persons seeking to enter or land in Canada from any ship or vessel, except in the case of Canadian citizens and persons who have Canadian domicile; such examination is made in accordance with and subject to regulations prescribed by the Minister of Mines and Resources.

"Immigrant" means a person who enters Canada with the intention of acquiring Canadian domicile, and for the purposes of the immigration regulations every person entering Canada is presumed to be an immigrant unless belonging to the "non-immigrant" classes.*

Prohibited Classes.

The prohibited classes may be summarised as follows, namely, persons who are mentally or physically defective, persons suffering from infectious, contagious, or obnoxious diseases, beggars, prostitutes, criminals, illiterates, alcoholics, revolutionaries, anarchists, and generally, persons regarded as undesirables.

* Canadian citizens, those who have Canadian domicile, Diplomatic and Consular Officers, Tourists, etc.

Occupational Regulation.

The only alien immigrants, being subjects or citizens of countries on the Continent of Europe, who are eligible for entry to Canada under existing regulations are the following:

(1) an agriculturist having sufficient means to farm in Canada;

(2) the wife or unmarried child, under 18 years of age, of any person legally admitted to and resident in Canada, who is in a position to receive and care for his dependents; and,

(3) the fiancee of any adult male, legally admitted to and resident in Canada, who is in a position to receive, marry and care for his intended wife.

A continental immigrant of any other occupation can only be admitted by special administrative exemption.*

Passport Regulation**

The Canadian Passport Regulation provides that any alien immigrant sailing directly or indirectly from the Continent of Europe must be in possession of a valid passport, issued in and by the Government of the country of which such person is a subject or a citizen, such passport to be presented within one year of the date of its issue.

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* Admission by special Administrative Exemption is made with due regard to existing unemployment and the requirements of the industrial and economic conditions in Canada, and to the particular circumstances of each individual case.

** One of the main objects of the passport regulation is to enable the immigration authorities to deport an immigrant, either upon rejection at the port of entry, or within a period of five years for cause subsequent to entry. In the case of a person who has effected illegal entry there is no limit of time within which deportation can be effected.

Contract Labour

The landing in Canada of any immigrant of the following specified class, viz. contract labour, is prohibited:

Provided that the Minister of Mines and Resources may admit any contract labour if satisfied that his labour or service is required in Canada.

And provided further that the provisions of this Regulation shall not apply to the exclusion of farmers, farm labourers and house workers.

The term "contract labour" as used in this Regulation means and includes any immigrant seeking entry to Canada under contract or agreement, express or implied, to perform labour or service of any kind in Canada.

Procedure

The Passport of any alien immigrant sailing directly or indirectly from the Continent of Europe, shall carry the visé of a Canadian Immigration Officer* stationed on the Continent of Europe.

The Passport of any alien immigrant not included in the preceding paragraph, shall carry the visé of a British Diplomatic or Consular Officer, or of a Canadian Diplomatic Officer in the country of issue, as may be required by the Minister of Mines and Resources.

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* Canadian Immigration Officers are stationed in Paris, Antwerp (including Rotterdam), Hamburg (including Bremen), and Gydnia.

14.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./8.
Evian, July 9th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

SWEDEN.

STATEMENT REGARDING IMMIGRATION LAWS AND PRACTICES.

The regulations now in force in Sweden concerning the admission and residence of aliens are laid down in the Aliens Law of June 11th, 1937, together with administrative ordinances issued by virtue of that Law. As to the general principles, the said Law is practically identical with a Law enacted earlier, in 1927.

1) Entry.

Any alien who wishes to enter Sweden must be provided with a passport or some other document of identity corresponding to a passport. Pieces of identity such as "Fremdenpass" ("Alien's passport"), Nansen passports, etc. are accepted when issued by competent authorities of foreign countries. However, documents of travel, other than regular passports, should as a rule carry a return visa or otherwise be shown to be valid for return voyage into the country of issue.

In principle, passports and other documents of travel entitle the holder thereof to enter Sweden only if the document has been visa'd by a Swedish Legation or by a Consulate authorised to grant visas. By reciprocal agreements, the obligation of visa has, however, been abolished in relation to a considerable number of countries - among them Germany - as far as citizens

of the respective countries, holders of regular passports, are concerned. It might be mentioned that "Austrian passports" are subject to visa.

Any alien who is unable to produce a regular passport or any other admissible travel document, together with a Swedish visa in cases where such is required, may be refused entry into Sweden. Certain categories of criminals, vagabonds, gypsies etc. may not enter the country. Nor may aliens looking for work be admitted, unless they have in advance applied for an employment permit and received such permit through the intermediary of a Swedish Legation or Consulate.

2) Sojourn.

Any alien subject to the obligation of visa who wishes to stay in Sweden after the expiration of the visa of entry must apply for a renewal of visa. Aliens not subject to the obligation of visa having entered Sweden on a regular passport, may stay in the country for a maximum period of three months. Anyone wishing to stay longer must secure a permit of sojourn.

Visas, as well as permits of sojourn, are granted for definite periods and may be successively renewed.

3) Employment.

No alien may accept or have any occupation or work without having obtained an employment permit. Such permits are granted for definite periods and may be successively renewed. Any alien who desires to conduct trade or industry on his own account is, however, required to have a special permit. Such permits are granted by the King in Council. As a rule, they can be obtained only by those aliens already established in Sweden for a fairly long period of time.

4) Expulsion.

If an alien has been refused renewal of visa or of permit of sojourn, or is otherwise no longer entitled to stay in Sweden, he is generally given a time of from two to four weeks within which to settle his affairs and depart voluntarily. If he should remain beyond the said time, he will be removed from the country by the authorities. As to criminals and similar elements, a regular expulsion procedure is provided.

5) Provisional Travel Documents.

If an alien who has already entered Sweden finds himself unable to obtain a foreign passport or travel document or a renewal of the foreign document on the strength of which he had entered, such alien may, upon application, be granted a Swedish travel document (Fremdenpass) or, if he were a Russian refugee, a Swedish Nansen passport.

It may be observed that the Swedish travel document fulfils the requirements laid down in the 1938 Convention concerning the status of refugees coming from Germany.

6) Exceptions.

From the principal rules above stated, the regulations contain a number of exceptions particularly concerning Swedish-born alien persons with their relatives and also citizens of the neighbouring Scandinavian countries.

7) Refugees.

Sweden has not ratified or adhered to the Refugee Agreements of 1933, 1936 and 1938. This has largely been due to technical difficulties, many stipulations of these Conventions not being in formal concordance with Swedish law. In fact, however, those refugees admitted to remain in the country may enjoy in Sweden most of the rights stipulated for in the Conventions. In certain respects their treatment is even more liberal.

It can thus be said that Sweden in practice applies the principles of these Conventions. Nansen passports are recognised by Sweden and also issued by the authorities of the country.

In this connection it may be stated that political refugees properly speaking, who have arrived directly from the country of origin and who in Sweden abstain from political propaganda or other illegal activities, are never made to leave the country against their wish. Should such a refugee abuse the hospitality of Sweden, he may be expelled, but in no case, however, to the country from which he had fled.

8) Applications.

The purposes of the rules in force in Sweden as to the entry and residence of aliens are, in the first place, to prevent criminal and similar elements from entering the country and, in the second place, to protect the labour market. It should here be mentioned that the entry of aliens into Sweden is not regulated by any quota system. The Aliens Law provides for examination of each separate case on its merits. Considerations of humanitarian or personal nature are thus easily taken into account by the authorities.

After the world War, Sweden experienced an influx of refugees from countries east of the Baltic Sea. During these later years refugees have been admitted from Germany and Austria to a fairly large number.

Because of her geographical situation, Sweden is not a country of passage for refugees. Those who have been given permission to remain have consequently, as a rule, been granted employment permits. The Swedish authorities have thus tried to facilitate the assimilation of these refugees. In this connection, certain difficulties have naturally appeared. Most of the refugees,

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as far as they are able and willing to work, seem to be apt chiefly for office work or employments connected with commerce and trade. The unemployment that, to a certain degree, still persists in Sweden is, however, being particularly felt in such branches of economic life. This evidently means a serious obstacle in the matter of finding work for the refugees. It has further been found that the economic structure of the country, the absence of big cities and generally the conditions of work and life in Sweden, considerably different as they are from those of the Continent, involve difficulties as to the assimilation of refugees coming from Central Europe.

15.

~~Confidential.~~

C.I.E./C.T./10.
Evian, July 9th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

DECLARATION MADE BY THE NETHERLANDS DELEGATION AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON JULY 8th, 1938.

M. Beucker-Andreae was prepared to give details of the Netherlands legislation. There was no special Immigration Law. On the basis, however, of the general legislation regarding aliens the Government refused for the time being to allow the immigration of refugees except in certain special cases.

In the case of the Netherlands Indies, the Royal Decree of October 13th, 1915, which had been frequently amended, governed immigration to those territories. The special clauses dealing with this subject were Articles 18a) and 18b) introduced under a Royal Decree of November 4th, 1933, and establishing a system of quotas. M. Beucker-Andreae read Article 18a) which enacts that a Government order will fix annually:

a) the total number of aliens who may be admitted during the coming year;

b) the number of aliens who may be admitted during the coming year in respect of each group of countries of origin, and subject to observance of the other conditions which have to be complied with to obtain admission.

Article 18b) provides that, if the number of aliens admitted remains in a particular year below the limit laid down, the number fixed under the provisions of this paragraph for each group may be increased by at most a tenth of the total number of aliens in the group in question who were admitted into the

Indies in the ten years previous to the entry into force of the Decree of November 4th, 1933.

In the case of Surinam the provisions governing immigration are contained in the Royal Decree of June 13th, 1938, which will shortly come into force.

On the question of identity documents, M. Beucker-Andreae stated that, though his country had not ratified the Convention of February 10th, 1938, it did not refuse in certain special cases to issue identity papers to refugees. There was a special passport system in the Netherlands for refugees, but such passports were issued only to persons who had resided in the country for a long time without being Netherlands nationals. There were also identity cards which were issued in special cases to persons who could not be given the above passports.

16.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./11.
Evian, July 9th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

DECLARATION BY M. LEON R. THÉBAUD, DELEGATE OF HAITI.

Haiti, which, even before her emancipation and since then without a break, chivalrously fought for the independence of countries in the three Americas and can even claim to be jointly responsible for the independence of several of those countries, has always shared in all international movements to promote the freedom and well-being of humanity.

In Geneva also, at the Fourteenth Assembly of the League of Nations, the Haitian Delegation had the honour to submit and, with the support of the French Delegation, to secure the extension to other nations of the resolution adopted regarding international protection of the rights of man and of citizens.

It was with spontaneous alacrity, therefore, that the Government of the Republic of Haiti responded to the noble appeal made by that eminent statesman, President Roosevelt, realising the purpose to be served by this meeting and the distinguished personalities who would attend it on behalf of the various Governments.

The Government of Haiti has been so preoccupied with the current development of the financial crisis which for some months past has affected Haiti more severely than ever, that it has had no time to consider the possibility of offering fresh facilities to the categories of political refugees in which it might be

interested. This is all the more to be regretted since the present financial crisis is solely the result of the various customs restrictions such as embargoes, quotas, higher rates of duty, etc..

In view of the importance of this Intergovernmental Congress held on the initiative of the United States of America, which will certainly be followed by other similar conferences and congresses, the Government of Haiti thinks it preferable for its part to take cognisance of the various forms of action and decisions which will be adopted by the Governments here represented, so that it can study how it can best facilitate the admission of political refugees from Germany and Austria.

You are, of course, aware of the hospitable character of the people of Haiti, who have already welcomes what I would describe as a very large number of immigrants in comparison with the population of the country (about 3,200,000). I feel already certain, therefore, that the facilities which my Government will extend to immigrants of the categories which the country wishes to admit will be highly advantageous to them.

In view of the country's economic structure(essentially agricultural), its social situation and the financial crisis at present prevailing, Haiti must insist on the foreigners who ask for her hospitality being thoroughly healthy stock ,capable of being rapidly absorbed into the community and possessing sufficient capital and resources to create permanent employment. In the time being, preference will be given among such persons to agriculturists and agricultural experts and to persons with technical qualifications in small industries who bring with them working capital and are likely to settle in the country definitely.

I was therefore very interested to note from the statement made by M. Beucker-Andreae, representative of the Netherlands, the policy adopted in his country which might

eventually fit in usefully with the principles of the Haitian Government , seeing that the Netherlands furnish education in agriculture and training for industrial occupations to refugees so that they may be equipped for emigrating to countries where they can settle definitely. The Government of Haiti would be glad to keep in constant touch on this question with the Netherlands and all other countries which maintain this practice.

To help those with whose fate this congress is concerned, I suggest setting up a committee to summarise in one volume the immigration laws and regulations of the various countries and all practical information of any kind on such countries. This would enable the unhappy exiles to ascertain as speedily and as thoroughly as possible which country suited them best from the standpoint of their physical, intellectual and moral attainments, i.e. their actual personality.

The delegation of Haiti will communicate later to the Sub-Committee the laws which govern emigration to Haiti.

17.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./12.
Evian, July 9th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DELEGATION OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Letter from Mr. C.B. Burdekin.

I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of your Committee, a copy of the Laws[1] of New Zealand with regard to Immigration. The law which deals particularly with immigration into the Dominion of non-British persons is the Immigration Restriction Amendment Act, 1919, particulars of which will be found in the enclosed publication, commencing on page 911. I would draw attention particularly to Section 5 of this Act (page 912) which, as will be seen, makes it essential that a permit be obtained before any person not of British birth and parentage may enter New Zealand. The Minister of Customs in New Zealand is given complete discretion as to the granting or refusal of any application (vide sub-Section (3) of Section 9 - page 914). No specific conditions have been laid down as necessary qualifications for the granting of a permit, e.g. no minimum amount of capital has been fixed, nor have quotas been adopted in respect of any country.

(1) As it is materially impossible to arrange for its reproduction, this document will be kept in the archives of the Secretariat at the disposal of Delegations.

Copies of the prescribed form on which to make application for a permit are obtainable from the Office of the High Commissioner for New Zealand in London.

I may mention that the condition laid down in sub-Section (1) of Section 9, viz. that the application form is to be sent by post "from the country of origin of the applicant or from the country where the applicant has resided for a period of at least one year prior to the date of the application" is not, in practice, strictly enforced, and there would be no risk of refusal of an application merely on the ground that it was sent from a country of temporary refuge, even though the applicant had resided there less than one year.

Any person to whom an entry permit is granted is allowed to engage in any occupation in New Zealand on the same footing as a natural-born New Zealand citizen, and such person may apply for naturalisation after 5 years residence. Residence in any other part of the British Empire is accepted as counting towards this period of 5 years, provided that the 12 months immediately preceding the date of application for naturalisation must be spent in New Zealand.

Some difficulty arises in the case of certain professional persons such as Doctors and Dentists, by reason of the fact that the professional bodies established in New Zealand under the special laws relating to such professions are not prepared to accept for purposes of registration professional qualifications obtained elsewhere than in New Zealand itself, in Great Britain, or in certain other parts of the British Empire. Consequently such persons require to re-qualify in New Zealand or Great Britain before they can be registered in New Zealand, and, until registered, it is unlawful for them to practice their professions, though they are not prevented from accepting any other class of work which it may be possible

for them to find.

This last-mentioned matter does not arise out of the Immigration laws, and in fact the professional bodies concerned are legally authorised, if they see fit, to recognise any foreign degrees which they consider of equal standing to a New Zealand degree. In practice, however, they have recently, in all cases, declined to do so.

Should there be any points upon which your Sub-Committee may wish to obtain further information with regard to the law or practice in New Zealand, I shall be happy to endeavour to supply it.

18.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./13

July 10th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Memorandum from the representative of Belgium.

There is no immigration "quota" in Belgium.

To reside in Belgium, however, aliens must have a permit from the Central Police A thorities acting on behalf of the Minister of Justice.

As I had the honour to state in my declaration to the Committee made on July 7th, the Belgian Government has admitted more than 15,000 refugees into its territory, either in pursuance of the Geneva Agreements or in consequence of the country's traditional hospitality.

The outlook in the social and economic spheres and the statistics of the country's population have convinced the Belgian authorities of the need for seriously restricting immigration. It is important in the first place that the social organism should absorb the foreign elements which have been allowed to enter and that a remedy should be found for the serious scourge of unemployment which, notwithstanding rises and falls, affects annually about 250,000 Belgian workers.

At the most we would be prepared to admit, mainly to show that we are anxious to collaborate with other nations, a certain number of Germans and Austrians, but to the extent that the countries members of the Committee and in particular our

neighbours, (France, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Luxemburg and Switzerland), are prepared also to admit them to their European territories.

As regards Jewish immigration, more particularly, Belgium has at present 80,000 Jews, many of them recent arrivals, and the Belgian authorities feel that to avoid provoking social disturbances and perhaps even a wave of anti-Semitism, it is advisable to refrain from settling further numbers of Jews in the country. Belgium is of course prepared to grant transit facilities to German and Austrian émigrés who are, or will in future be, holders of permits to settle in the neighbouring countries or in overseas lands, but she cannot agree to her territory being a waiting room for emigrants who leave their country with the fallacious and purely subjective hope of being allowed to settle in another country.

The question of the identity documents to be produced for emigrants is a simple matter.

The German or Austrian national who wishes to come to Belgium must produce a national passport which has been visaed by a Belgian diplomatic or consular representative.

The necessity for producing this document is based on the principle of reciprocity: Belgians who wish to go to Germany must also comply with this formality.

As regards more particularly political refugees strictly so-called, viz. those who have fled their country because of a serious, imminent or proven threat to their persons based on their political activity, Belgium has introduced a special form of treatment which was described in the Belgian representative's declaration of 7th instant. The lack of a passport or visa is not necessarily an obstacle to their admission into Belgium.

When a person is recognised as a "refugee" his identity is proved by the various official documents in his possession.

If he is entirely without documents the police authorities apply to official sources for information as to his identity and character.

The information thus produced or obtained serves as a basis for the issue of a permit of residence, proving his identity, and eventually of a passport, which latter is granted to Stateless aliens to enable them to travel outside Belgium.

Should it be impossible to establish the alien's identity in the above manner, the Central Police Authorities accept, subject to the right of control, any evidence as to identity established by any legal process and, where necessary, on the initiative of the private agency by which he is recommended.

It is suggested in this connection that the representative of the High Commissioner for Refugees from Germany, or the representative whom the Intergovernmental Committee will, it seems, require to have in each of the States represented at the present Conference, should be empowered to issue the identity certificate in question. This certificate should contain a statement of the facts justifying its issue. [In conclusion, Belgium always grants to the political refugees allowed to enter her territory a labour permit, whereas the issue of such a permit to other aliens depends on the economic situation or the position of the labour market.

19.

C.I.E./C.R.3

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938

VERBATIM REPORT

of the

Third Meeting (Public) held on Saturday, July 9th, 1938,

at 11 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Myron C. TAYLOR.

TELEGRAM FROM PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

The CHAIRMAN: The honorary Chairman has asked me to read to the meeting the following telegram, which he received this morning:

> "I am deeply appreciative of the kind message which you sent to me on behalf of the Intergovernmental Committee on political refugees. I wish the Committee full success in its deliberations, which mean so much to a large group of distressed humanity. - Franklin D. Roosevelt."

In opening this third meeting, I desire to express the pleasure and satisfaction with which we have listened to the statements of Governments whose delegates have already spoken. Faced with economic and other difficulties in their own lands, they have already made substantial contributions to this important effort. It was most encouraging to note the offers of co-operation so generously and unanimously extended. It is heartening to witness the earnestness with which the representatives of the several Governments have addressed themselves to this great human problem, the urgency of which is apparent to all.

The gathering of facts is progressing satisfactorily, both in regard to the framework of existing laws and practice in

the various countries represented here, and in addition, an opportunity has been given to those who represent organisations or groups active in the work of relieving the distress of the many thousands who need physical assistance and moral support in their tribulations. If there are any other organisations who wish to present their views and who have not yet had an opportunity of being heard, I shall be glad to find an occasion between now and Monday to provide such an opportunity. A large number have already presented proposals and suggestions. In both those fields it will be our endeavour to prepare a summary for the further consideration of the members of this body. Those activities are among the vital features of the work for which this meeting was called. It is encouraging to note that so many Governments have shown a desire to be heard in open session.

GENERAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUATION.

Mr. W.B. BURDEKIN (New Zealand): The New Zealand Government desires in the first place to express its sincere sympathy with those unfortunate persons who, at the present time, are compelled to leave their own countries and to seek new homes. Within the limits of its immigration laws, the New Zealand Government has already accepted a certain - though admittedly very limited number - of such refugees, and is prepared to consider individual applications, though it would only be raising false hopes to suggest that the acceptance by New Zealand of any large number of refugees could be anticipated. The number which can be admitted is, of course, largely governed by economic conditions.

The position under the Immigration Laws of the Dominion, so far as any person not of British birth and parentage is concerned, is that individual application requires to be made to the Minister of Customs in New Zealand, and my Government has not, up to the present time, favoured the submission of applications through the medium of refugee organisations.

In reviewing the merits of each application, it is the practice to consider whether the applicant is likely to become a charge upon the public funds and also whether his knowledge or ability is such that he would prove a useful citizen of the Dominion, but it is not possible to give an assurance that every applicant who may be considered reasonably acceptable on these grounds will receive the desired permit at the time his application is received.

The risk of an applicant becoming a charge on public funds is obviously greatly increased if he is not allowed to bring from his country of origin more than an isignificant proportion of his possessions.

While it has not, up to the present time, seen its way to go beyond the procedure to which I have referred, the New Zealand Government is nevertheless keenly interested with regard to any steps which may be decided on by the Governments represented on this Committee with a view to facilitating the migration of an increased number of refugees, and anticipates that the proceedings of this Committee will prove of considerable value to it in determining its future policy in connection with this extrmely difficult and urgent problem.

M. YEPES (Colombia):

Interpretation: The Colombian Government desires to express its keen sympathy towards the generous initiative taken by President Roosevelt on behalf of political refugees. We fully share the humanitarian and the Christian feelings which prompted the distinguished North American statesman to invite us to meet here. Mr. Roosevelt, who on the very day of his installation in the White House proclaimed a policy of good neighbourly relations which he has since practised with great success in Latin America, now extends that policy to the whole world and is endeavouring to cause his country to emerge from that isolation into which it had withdrawn for many years past. Whilst showing an interest in the fate of those unfortunate people who are driven from their own countries by hatred, the President of the United States shows the world that good neighbourly relations do impose duties of mutual assistance and co-operation as between all continents for the welfare of humanity, and it is for that reason that Colombia, at the very first moment, accepted the invitation of the Washington Government to take part in this Conference. That is why we are here; it is a feeling of human solidarity by which we are prompted.

The problem of political refugees offers two aspects which I should very much like to outline briefly. First of all, there is a question of principle which can be studied and settled only collectively; and secondly, there is a question of fact which each country has to consider and settle by its own means and in the light of its own special circumstances. It seems to me that we cannot, as is suggested in certain quarters, expect to consider this problem exclusively as an empirical problem and ignore

questions of principle which may become the most important things, for it is they which determine the matter for the future and for all time.

This is the question of principle very briefly stated. Can a State, without upsetting the basis of our civilisation and, indeed, of all civilisation, arbitrarily withdraw nationality from a whole class of its citizens, thereby making them Stateless persons whom no country is compelled to receive on its territory? Can a State, acting in this way, pour upon other countries masses of citizens of whom it wishes to get rid, and can it in this way thrust upon others the consequences of a fatal internal policy? The whole tragedy of those thousands of unfortunate people who are driven from country to country, who are exposed to the tender mercies of the police authorities dealing with foreigners, who suffer from the lack of tact of frontier employees, all their tragedy arises from the fact that this preliminary question was not settled in time. We should do little good to-day by finding homes for present political refugees and by hearing the grievances - justifiable grievances, as I gladly recognise - of those who have come to put their complaints before this modern "wailing wall", the Conference of Evian. So long as the chief question is not decided, we shall do merely ephemeral work, work that will last but a day and which we shall have to start again tomorrow. For as things are going on in Europe, tomorrow we shall be dealing not perhaps with Jewish refugees but with Catholic or Protestant refugees, Fascist or anti-Fascist refugees, Communists or anti-Communists, Stalinists or Trotskyists, or Republicans or Nationalists from Spain. In short, we shall have to consider all those who, in a country under a dictatorship, no longer enjoy the favour of the master of the

day. The worst thing is that the bad example of the Old World may be copied in other continents, and the world will then become uninhabitable.

I am not prepared to resign myself to the belief that two thousand years of Christian civilisation must lead to this terrible catastrophe. Such is the enormous aspect of the problem we shall have to settle, for if we wish to do the work of statesmen we must attack this evil in our causes and in its deepest roots. I am glad to believe that that was the idea of President Roosevelt when he convened this Conference.

I wonder whether, at the same time as we are dealing with the concrete problem - a problem which is after all but the small one of the present refugees - we ought not to set up a Legal Sub-Committee for the purpose of studying this question in its general and permanent aspects. This Sub-Committee would, after a more or less lengthy period for consideration, propose to us a plan for a solution which we might well submit to our Governments and lay before the public opinion of the world. It would be the duty of such a Sub-Committee to study the essential problem of the rights and duties of the State towards its own nationals, and particularly the question of whether the organisation of the international community is or is not based upon the principle that every individual has the right to belong to any particular nation and not to be deprived of his nationality without automatically acquiring another.

The Committee would have to consider the question of the granting to refugees of a passport or some other paper of international validity which would enable them to proceed normally from one country to another. It would also have to devise a full legal status for denationalised political refugees with a

view to determining to what law they would be subject in matters of personal status and acts of civil life. The work of this Sub-Committee would not be easy; it would require devotion, juridical experience and very high qualities of heart. The League of Nations, the International Labour Office, academies of international law could collaborate in it so that the results achieved might be considered as representing the authentic views of the civilised world, and any State which would not accept the conclusions generally adopted by the others would thereby automatically place itself outside the bounds of civilisation and would become an international outlaw.

One must have been in contact with the tragic life, full of uncertainty, that is led by Stateless people in all countries to realise the enormous tragedy of the man who is driven about from place to place because he has no fatherland - a tragedy that even Dante could not have foreseen. The Press of the world constantly describes scenes that occur every day in offices issuing residence permits or in American Consulates in Europe. The following is a sample. A refugee asks for a residence permit, or for an authorisation to go abroad. He is asked: "Have you the necessary papers, so that we may grant you permission to remain in our country or give you a visa for going abroad?" The answer is: "The authorities in my own country have taken away my papers before expelling me." - "Have you any money, so that you may live without having to resort to public charity?" - "All my property has been confiscated; besides, I could not in any case have taken any foreign exchange with me because of my country's laws." - "Why then did you leave your own country?" - "I told you, I was expelled, and moreover my nationality has been taken away from me."

That is a scene which, in the discharge of my Consular duties I see - alas - almost every day. I think it is a shameful state of affairs which we should all of us endeavour to put an end to at the earliest possible moment.

In this connection, and in concluding this part of my remarks, I would like to remind you that the only time the Institute of International Law met in the freedom of America - and I hope America will always remain free and idealistic - it approved a declaration of the international rights of man, which, side by side with the Covenant of the League of Nations and the declaration of the great principles of modern international law to which I shall refer presently, was to have been the constitutional charter of the contemporary world. This declaration, signed by the most authoritative scientific institution in this connection, drawn up by distinguished men of science from all countries, said in its first article: "It is the duty of every State to recognise the equal rights of all persons to life, liberty and property, and to grant to all within their territory the full and complete protection of those rights without distinction of sex, race, language or religion".

Article 5 of the same declaration said: "The equality referred to must not be nominal but actual and effective; no discrimination, either direct or indirect, will be tolerated, and in particular it will not be permissible for any State arbitrarily to withdraw its nationality from those who, for reasons of race, language or religion, it would wish to deprive of the rights of its nationality."

Further, in the "Declaration of the great principles of modern international law" drawn up by the distinguished Latin-American jurist, Monsieur Alejandro Alvarez, and approved by the

International Diplomatic Academy, the International Juridical Union, and the International Law Association, a second edition of which has just been published a few days ago, we find Article 28, which is as follows: "Every State must ensure to every individual within its territory full and entire protection of the right to live, to liberty and property without distinction of nationality, race, language or religion."

I do not wish to add a single word to these so lofty and so noble legal opinions which are, furthermore, so appropriate at the present time, and so I pass at once to what I called at the outset the question of fact .

This question of fact is that of the special situation in which each nation find itself owing to its own particular circumstances. So far as Colombia is concerned, we are a sincerely democratic country, a country of free discussion, as M. Bérenger said to us a few days ago when speaking of his own country. In my country there is to-day, and throughout the whole of the present century there has been, not a single political prisoner, despite peaceful changes in our régime. Nor is there a single citizen of any opinion, belief or party whatsoever who cannot return to the country when he feels inclined to do so. Ours is a country where, in agreement with our Constitution, the foreigner enjoys the same civil rights as nationals; where all men of goodwill, good moral and civil conduct, who are prepared to submit themselves to the national law are admitted without discrimination and may work and gain their living. We may even be said to have anticipated President Roosevelt's intentions, for we have already received a large number of European political refugees and sometimes the Government has officially entered into contract with them to secure their

services in education or other national undertakings. Unfortunately, and despite our humanitarian feelings, we could not indefinitely maintain this policy, and we found ourselves compelled to limit immigration so that it includes only agricultural workers of honourable character who are prepared to come and work on the land. Such immigrants will always be welcome in Colombia, but we cannot accept - nor would we tolerate - the entry of undesirable persons on the pretext that they were going to engage in agricultural work, thereby entering our country illegally. As regards intellectuals or traders, middlemen of all kinds, we cannot encourage their immigration into our country ; for, as we are above all an agricultural country, we do not desire to bring about an organised foreign competition with our own workmen, who are not very numerous in our cities, nor do we wish to upset national trade or the liberal professions, which are already overcrowded with our own nationals. I shall have an opportunity to give certain supplementary information in this connection to the Technical Sub-Committee set up to hear in confidence statements of the immigration policy of the Governments represented at this Conference.

In conclusion, I would like to refer to the moving appeal made by M. Bérenger when he addressed his remarks to the Republics of the New World, appealing to them to throw their doors wide open to political emigrants from Europe. The same appeal has been made by other speakers. My distinguished friend M. Bérenger knows the great esteem I always feel for him and have felt for so long; he knows the extent of the admiration felt by all Colombians for the great country whose generous hospitality he offers us to-day. I therefore hope he will allow

me to say that it is not enough to assert that France, England and the Netherlands have, so far as their home territory is concerned, already reached the point of saturation with regard to political refugees, and can no longer receive any more; for those three countries are also American countries through the fact that they possess rich colonies - the French West Indies, the British West Indies and the Netherlands West Indies in the New World. M. Bérenger is therefore himself a worthy representative in the French Senate of one of the most beautiful and one of the richest islands of the American Mediterranean legions, and we hope he may long continue to represent that part of French territory, because that enables us to regard him as, in a sense, one of ourselves. Therefore, the appeal which was addressed here to the American Republics should be regarded as applying also to those European nations who still possess colonial territories in America. Indeed, paraphrasing the historic phrase that everyone knows very well, we might repeat here "Messieurs les français, Messieurs les anglai Messieurs les hollandais, It is for you to act first; it is to you that this appeal is addressed."

M. Garcia OLDINI (Chile) spoke as follows:

"The Government of Chile applauds the extremely humanitarian motive underlying the initiative taken by the President of the United States of America in convening this meeting to consider the possibilities of solving the problems which emigration in its most recent forms creates for communities and equally for human compassion.

We wish also to thank the French Government whose generous hospitality has enabled this conference to be held in such tranquil and beautiful surroundings so conducive to wise and well-balanced solutions.

The question before us is, as already pointed out, difficult and complicated. It would be idle, perhaps risky, to try to find an immediate and complete solution for it. Its manifold aspects show it to be not only a problem but a series of problems. The representative of France has already pointed to the various territorial, shipping, financial, monetary and social measures which will first have to be closely and carefully considered. It would certainly be possible to include other aspects of the problem also.

Only in proportion as these related but different problems can be solved will we come nearer to or depart farther from the humanitarian solution aimed at by President Roosevelt. If we do not clearly realise where we are starting from and what limits there are to our possibilities, we run the risk of raising false hopes which would perhaps be followed by positive and cruel disillusions.

That is why I consider it my duty, while expressing the sympathy and goodwill felt by my country, to point out the obstacles which in actual fact are constantly looming up before us.

I have already had occasion to point out at the Conference of Migration for colonising purposes held at Geneva by the International Labour Office that the migration problem is closely bound up with the questions of production and unemployment and that these depend largely, particularly in the younger countries, on the possibility of placing on the international market the results of their efforts and labour.

It would be unwise and not in the interest of national labour to increase suddenly the supply of workers and, consequently, production, unless this increase went hand in hand with an expansion of markets and greater facilities for disposing of the products of such labour.

The last depression, the consequences of which have not yet completely disappeared, taught my Government to act with great caution in this matter. We are still open to receive man-power from abroad. We are prepared to join in every noble effort made to alleviate human distress but only to the extent that such action is not likely to prejudice the position to which our workers are entitled and, as stated in the agenda, "within the framework of existing legislation and regulations". Thus, the problem must in our case be regarded as consisting of a whole series of particular cases and we cannot, therefore, accept any formal obligations or agree to broad, general solutions.

In the sphere of agricultural colonisation Chile is in a similar situation. We have, by developing our agriculture, tried to remedy primarily the effects of the last depression. Consequently, here again the problem presents the special aspects and characteristics to which I have just referred.

It should, however, be added that the surveys of immigration and colonisation questions at present being made by the competent departments of our administration are not yet finished

and that, logically speaking, it is impossible at the present moment to say to what extent we will be able to intensify our work in the sphere of immigration for colonising purposes.

What I have said shows that our action in the matter before us depends on a whole series of factors, the chief of which - the possibility of finding an outlet for the surplus production which would be the inevitable and immediate consequence of an increased supply of labour - is beyond our control.

So far as the above factors permit and within the limit of the possibilities referred to, we are prepared in accordance with the invariable tradition of hospitality characteristic of our nation and its institutions, to give the most cordial consideration to any suggestions the Committee may make and to examine with the maximum goodwill any practical, realisable measure likely to help to lessen the distress from which at this time a section of humanity is suffering and which evokes the anxiety and sympathy of mankind."

M. GASTELU (Ecuador) spoke as follows:

"My Government is keenly interested in taking part in this meeting held on the generous initiative of President Roosevelt who is thus interpreting the noble feelings of the great American nation.

We feel that the effort made will have favourable reactions and that the objects desired will be attained. This belief is all the more justified in that it is the great American republic which has taken the initiative in calling this meeting. Ecuador will always be prepared to assist so far as her possibilities and her legislation on immigration and the settlement of aliens permits.

Ecuador could never have ignored this effort to find possibilities for emigration and openings for refugees, for she has always loyally co-operated in all humanitarian and charitable activities. Thus, in 1935 my Government engaged a number of foreign professors whose situation in Europe did not seem to be favourable, and in this way gave them an opportunity of making a more permanent career and adapting themselves to a new environment.

May I add that the Republic of Ecuador has always opened its doors to people who wished to make a new career for themselves there. The admission of emigrants has never been subject to any restrictions of a racial character or any preference and if statutory regulations have since been imposed they were due to the new state of affairs caused by the crisis as much as to concern on behalf of the immigrants themselves.

As, however, Ecuador is an essentially agricultural country, we must take actual facts and national necessities into consideration and these would not admit of too great an influx of intellectual workers. My Government could not remain

indifferent to the results of immigration conducted under unfavourable circumstances.

After this short statement of principles I hasten to add that my Government is fully prepared to help in this humanitarian task and to give favourable consideration to any decision which might be taken by this intergovernmental assembly."

M. Villa MICHEL (Mexico):

Interpretation: The Mexican Government deeply appreciates the generous initiative taken by President Roosevelt, thanks to whom we are assembled here as an Intergovernmental Committee. The objects of this Committee were clearly indicated by the Chairman, Mr. Myron C. Taylor, in his speech on Wednesday. My country has always observed a tradition of hospitality and comprehension with regard to political refugees. Those who have gone to Mexico have been welcomed there in the most favourable manner, and have enjoyed all liberties and guarantees, and all the possibilities of action to which foreigners have a right. Quite recently, our Minister of the Interior, acting in accordance with this tradition and interpreting the views of the Government, said in this connection that Mexico has offered asylum with deep feelings of humanity to foreigners seeking a place of safety and seeking surroundings in which they might enjoy freedom for their ideas and legal activities. Ot was, therefore, with a spirit of the greatest solidarity in international co-operation that my Government hastened to accept the invitation from the head of the American democracy ; it is prepared to contribute within the measure of its legal, social and economic possibilities towards the solution of the vast problem facing humanity and civilisation which we are now considering.

As has been so rightly observed by all previous speakers in this general discussion, this problem is one of the most difficult of its kind. Its gravity and complexity are confirmed by an analysis of the very far-reaching and important work which the League of Nations has undertaken in this domain, by studying the reports, so full of matter, that have been

submitted by Sir Neill Malcolm, or merely by reading the accounts of the great work done by private associations. It is for this reason that we think that this Committee may offer a very valuable contribution. Indeed, the meetings of the Committee itself are a positive manifestation in this sense. I am quite sure that our respective collaboration will make it possible to contemplate means for carrying out the migration of refugees from Germany and Austria in an orderly way, and this will be done as the result of study and preparation and at a rate that shall be appropriate and adequate in the light of the special conditions of each of the countries of refuge. In this way, we shall be able to act so that the inflow of refugees does not lead to any undesirable results either so far as the immigrants themselves are concerned or as regards the State by which they are received.

Any problems that may be raised in each particular case through the application of the plan for a solution - - - drawn up by the League of Nations might be studied by the permanent intergovernmental organisation whose creation is contemplated by the Government of the United States. When I referred to the League of Nations, I had in mind more particularly all that we owe to the remarkable work done by the Nansen International Refugee Office and by Sir Neill Malcolm. They are really entitled to our admiration and our gratitude. I think that it will be possible to find means to enable us to co-ordinate the activities and the field of action of existing official organs with those of the organ that is to be set up. This, naturally, will be done with a view to realising jointly a piece of work that shall be harmonious and at the same time intensive and extensive as regards the establishment of political refugees,

and a work that may be of real value with regard to the conditions in which emigrants will leave their countries of origin.

A great economic and social reform is at present being carried out in my country as the result of a programme traced in the light of our revolution. This reform prescribes the distribution of land to a very large part of the rural population which formerly was in a state of real serfdom. In accordance with that programme, my Government is endeavouring, with the limited framework of our industrialisation - which is only now starting - to raise to a level that is worthy of being called civilised the standard of life of our workers. The carrying out of this reform has made it necessary for my Government for several years past to limit the entry of immigrants. Immigrants, indeed, were flowing to us in large numbers, not only because they were attracted by the economic possibilities, but also they entertained the hope and the preconceived idea that they might be able to use my country as a starting point for subsequent penetration into neighbouring countries. Although these circumstances still subsist and subsist as a whole to-day, my Government takes the view that the question before us is not that of an ordinary case of asylum, nor is it a normal problem of migration. My Government considers that we are faced by a new and eloquent demonstration of the interdependence of peoples and nations. This interdependence is one that has been forced upon us; it is very far-reaching in its character, it compels us to consult together to-day with a view to lessening sufferings which we have not inflicted but which have world-wide effects in all spheres. I therefore desire to bring a message of goodwill and sympathy from my Government which, to the fullest extent of its legal and economic possibilities, is firmly disposed

to collaborate in a positive way with the States here present in seeking a solution for this problem.

In conclusion, may I be allowed to offer my most sincere thanks to the French Government for the generous hospitality it has been good enough to extend to us, thereby honouring its age-old traditions in this beautiful land of France.

M. CARBONELL-DEBALI (Uruguay) spoke as follows:

"The Government of Uruguay has welcomed and given the most sympathetic consideration to the generous initiative taken by the President of the United States of America, His Excellency Mr. Franklin Roosevelt, who during his visit to South America left such a profound and pleasant impression in Uruguay.

I may point out that the lofty principles evoked are in entire consonance with the tradition of Uruguay since it became a sovereign State. As in other cases which Uruguay has had to solve this is mainly a humanitarian problem and everyone who goes to Uruguay knows the great cordiality which the Uruguayan nation shows to those foreigners who go there to carry on a peaceful occupation and with what respect for their rights the Government allows all those who wish really to find a home in our country to live, think and work in freedom.

As regards our system of law I need only mention that Article 36 of the Constitution of 1934 declares that everyone is free to enter, reside in and leave the territory of the Republic and to remove his property on departure provided he obeys the law and that no loss is caused to third parties; it is further laid down that immigration is to be regulated by law, and that no immigrant may have physical, mental or moral defects which might be prejudicial to society.

It is also to be observed that in cases similar to those now under consideration by this Conference special facilities have been accorded by the Decrees of August 22nd 1924, April 30th 1925, February 7th 1930 and April 10th 1931 to refugees from various countries or without nationality.

In the system of international collaboration the Government of Uruguay is anxious to bear in mind always the great and idealistic work of the League of Nations and it is

appropriate here to point out that the President of the Intergovernmental Conference for the adoption of the juridical status of refugees coming from Germany held in 1936 was in point of fact Dr. Albert Guani, the present Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay.

Furthermore, all the rest of the problem is from the standpoint of Uruguay, essentially a question of immigration which we must envisage in the light of our country's possibilities, our economic system and the urgent necessity of populating rural areas.

As we had the honour of declaring at the Conference on Migration for colonising purposes which met at Geneva in April last, Uruguay needs immigrants who could be assimilated in our farming and stockbreeding communities by their own endeavours with some financial assistance not exceeding that yielded by the soil which could be purchased on favourable terms. The predominant feature of immigration, however, should be a special acquaintance with agriculture in all its forms. When the question arises, therefore, of sending a group of emigrants to Uruguay, consideration must first be given in each particular case to the intentions of the emigrants with a view to placing them in surroundings most favourable for their success and conducive to their general assimilation with the mass of the population. To show more clearly the interest taken by the Government of Uruguay in the problem of immigration, I will mention the step taken in 1937 by the Foreign Ministry to ensure that the competent authorities should make a comprehensive study of the various aspects of the question in connection with the national demographic trend, migratory movements as related to "vegetative" changes in the country, etc.

From this point of view we must act in accordance with the provisions of certain laws and decrees which are in force, more particularly the law of October 13, 1936 in relation to the law of June 18, 1890 and the decrees of December 29, 1936 and November 23, 1937.

I feel, therefore, that we will be unable for the time being to go beyond the official action which takes the form at present of including annually in the national budget a sum of more than 10,000 pesos for the work of the Immigration Board which has the duty of supervising, protecting and giving guidance to immigrants. It is our idea that immigration must be financed by private organisations in their respective countries.

In order to collaborate more effectively with this Intergovernmental Committee I shall hasten to communicate to the Technical Sub-Committee the text of the more important legal provisions which I have just referred to, which are the conditions under present circumstances governing Uruguay's participation in the work of the Committee.

So far as the actual circumstances of which I have only been able to give a summary description permit, the Uruguayan Government will always be favourable to the realisation of this generous and humanitarian work of international co-operation."

M. ARISTIGUNO-COLL (Venezuela) made the following declaration:

"The Government of Venezuela sympathises very heartily with the humanitarian motives of President Roosevelt and is equally imbued with the traditions of hospitality which are so inseparable a part of the international faith of the New World.

It eagerly accepted, therefore, the invitation of the United States Government to take part in the work of this Intergovernmental Committee. It must, however, be pointed out that there are certain restrictions on the welcome which Venezuela can extend to political refugees from Germany, including Austria. Our capacity of absorption is limited, not only by legislative provisions but also by the need for selecting immigrants from agricultural labourers in order to maintain the demographic equilibrium essential to racial diversity and also on social security grounds which necessitates rigorously selective methods.

Nevertheless, the Venezuelan Government will be very gratified if its help and collaboration can contribute to the solution of the problems now under consideration and study by this important gathering."

M. RASMUSSEN (Denmark) spoke as follows:

"The Danish Delegation believes it is right in assuming that the question of refugees as a whole, including Jewish emigration from certain countries other than Germany, does not fall within the purview of this Committee whose task apparently is merely to consider what facilities can be offered for the emigration of political refugees coming from Germany and the former Austrian Republic. With the best of good will, however, the countries of Europe cannot solve this problem even in its limited aspect without the help of other continents; happily, representatives of several of these countries have already let it be understood that admission to their countries was not absolutely impossible. This fact sufficiently explains the feeling of profound gratitude with which the initiative of the Washington Government was hailed.

In this connection may I say on my Government's behalf to the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Committee, how deeply we appreciate the initiative taken by his Government and how sincerely we trust that it will be able to accomplish this task successfully and, finally, how sincerely we pray for its final success.

The declarations made by the representatives of countries bordering on Germany, such as Belgium, France and the Netherlands, show that the States which are neighbours of the German Reich have had to sustain a great part of the burden thrown on them by circumstances. Denmark's position in this respect does not greatly differ from theirs.

In his statement the other day, Lord Winterton pointed out that the United Kingdom was not a country of immigration. This is also true of Denmark which is an industrialised country even in the agricultural sphere. Denmark is a very densely populated country, grappling with the problem of unemployment which is even threatening to assume a quasi-permanent form.

Moreover, Denmark is a country of emigration. Before the war more than 8,000 persons left every year, mostly for the other hemisphere - a figure which represents more than two per thousand of the country's total population. Since the war this figure has fallen to about 6,000 per annum and in recent years Danish emigration has virtually ceased entirely.

Denmark has, nevertheless, admitted a comparatively large number of German refugees. Our Government has acceded to the international Conventions concerning refugees. It has, for instance, ratified the 1933 Convention relating to the International Status of Refugees; it is also a party to the Provisional Arrangement of 1936. Finally, it has signed the Convention of February 10, 1938 and the competent authorities are at present considering this Convention with a view to

shortly ratifying it. The Royal Government also reserves the right as previously to grant asylum to political refugees. It is anxious to collaborate in the efforts made to find a satisfactory solution on international lines for the refugee problem. It trusts that ways and means will be found of ensuring the collaboration of the bodies already created to assist refugees under the auspices of the League of Nations, and it trusts that the American initiative may have a happy influence on the joint efforts still to be accomplished for solving this problem which, difficult and complicated though it may be, does not, nevertheless, seem insoluble."

Mr. Garcia CALDERON (Peru) made the following statement:

"I would like to define here my Government's point of view on this question of refugees which we are met to discuss and which is of extreme interest to us. The Government of Peru cordially associates itself with the endeavour of the Government of the United States of America and of its President. To the latter one might well apply the remark of the ancient poet "Nihil humanum a me alienum puto". He is the hope of the masses, a bold reformer who would combat the unhappiness prevalent in the world to-day with the strength of his noble and optimistic personality.

My Government is prepared to collaborate with the other Governments here represented and to admit German refugees to the extent of its possibilities and in so far as our immigration laws, which are certainly not very strict, permit. It has already received German professors and leading scientists who will promote our intellectual progress. We have not forgotten the teaching of Nietsche; we know that the Jewish influence

like leaven or ferment is of value to all nations.

Peru would be very glad to see colonists, agricultural labourers with some experience, or technical experts for her young industry arriving in the country. If traders or workmen come it might disturb her economic system or create problems similar to those which other countries have had to tackle. In the same way, to prevent the growth of an intellectual proletariat restrictions would be laid on the settlement of a large number of lawyers or doctors. While I bring you something more than mere encouragement - the promise of cordial collaboration - I feel it necessary to point out that such an immense and complicated problem as that created by the eventual appeal of other refugees must lead us - and this is a wish expressed by my Government - to set up a bureau or office which might prepare a plan for the settlement of this fresh wave of immigration. Our Chairman has referred to this point with his customary authority. Paris might be the headquarters of this permanent committee. With its incomparable charm, its discreet hospitality and its love of discussion and free criticism, it could be a centre for discussions imbued with humanity and justice.

It is with regret that my country must fix limits to its enthusiasm. You know that the new continent, from north to south, from New York to Buenos Aires, is proud of being a land of hope and optimism for the unhappy and for races in danger. It assimilates the new arrivals, inspires them with an attachment for their new home and with a pride in American nationality. We have no prejudices to overcome in this connection. The great Spanish race whose chivalry and heroism you all know, mingled with the Indians in an unprecedented fashion which has produced an extraordinary mixture of races forming the original and dramatic feature of our history. Our upper classes place no obstacles

in the way of the progress of new grades of society. Their advance is easy. I could give you the names of some of our great Presidents, of our great Ministers and of famous South American scientists to prove that powerful personalities who do not belong to Spanish stock gain the respect and admiration of our Republics.

We can attract these refugees and keep them attached to us by a great bond of sympathy if we bear in mind the conditions of our development, the problems which are already preoccupying some of our countries, particularly those on the Pacific, the incorporation of the Indian in the national civilisation, the formation of a middle class, the creation of small landowners who, as in France, will furnish a firm basis for democracy; if we arrest the excessive growth of capital and maintain the Spanish nucleus which is the essential factor in our social and political formation and which is catholic and Latin. An unorganised influx would be dangerous, but selected immigration on a moderate scale would be advantageous.

The United States have, as always, given us an example of caution and wisdom. Up to 1890 they opened their doors to all comers freely and without concern. Since then by means of farsighted legislation in 1921 and in 1924, they have stopped the flow of immigration.

What is their objective? As with us, the steady and untroubled absorption of immigrants and also the defence of their Nordic heritage and of the Anglo Saxon race against invasion by other peoples. The title of a pessimistic work by Mr. Madison Grant is revelatory on this point; it is called "The Passing of the Great Race", i.e. the twilight of the race which created the United States and made them great. A rather pessimistic vision is given of the future of the United States if they admit too many

representatives of the Slav and Latin nations.

President Roosevelt has said that America is the continent of peace - a happy definition which we must try to merit - not only of peace abroad but also of peace at home, civil peace. To maintain it we must avoid creating minorities of different origins which would lead to future conflicts: we must avoid a too hasty mingling of elements which would not adapt themselves to our traditions and ambitions and which would endanger our stability. A great breath of humanity and a new hope are animating our countries, but these must not be perverted. A Europe which is so disturbed must have at least one continent which is free from hatred and hysteria."

M. MOLINA (Dominican Republic) spoke as follows:

"President Roosevelt's happy idea of calling this Conference to seek for a solution of the tragic problem facing political exiles from Austria and Germany could not but be given the most sympathetic welcome by all thoughtful and feeling people throughout the world. The Dominican Government from the outset devoted its keenest attention to the question and it is my great honour to-day to represent it on this Committee which is beginning its humanitarian activity.

Our Conference will have to find an appropriate solution for an urgent and painful problem and I feel certain that it is our unanimous desire and hope that we will be able to accomplish our work of humanity and justice successfully.

Men, women and innocent children, without a country and without a home, lacking food and lacking employment, deprivednot only of a livelihood but also of their rights as individuals, would perish from hunger if we here did not make it our urgent

task to alleviate their grievous hardships. If we place our sense of public duty at the service of this noble humanitarian task and if we rescue these poor modern nomads from humiliation and hardship, the whole world will be grateful to us and President Roosevelt's name will be blessed by present and future generations.

The Dominican Government which for many years past has been encouraging and promoting the development of agriculture by appropriate measures and which gives ample immigration facilities to agriculturists who wish to settle in the country as colonists, would be prepared to make its contribution by granting specially advantageous concessions to Austrian and German exiles, agriculturists with an unimpeachable record who satisfy the conditions laid down Dominican legislation on emigration.

For colonisation purposes my Government has at its disposal large areas of fertile, well-irrigated land, excellent roads and a police force which preserves absolute order and guarantees the peace of the country. The Department of Agriculture could give colonists, in addition to land, seed and the technical advice which they need.

The Government which I have the honour to represent here would also be prepared to grant special conditions to professional men immigrating who, as recognised scientists, would be able through their teaching to render valuable service to their Dominican colleagues.

I trust that our Conference will be like a peaceful crystalline lake whose waters both quench the thirsty and fertilise its shores."

Sir Neill MALCOLM (League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany): I am extremely glad to have this opportunity of addressing a few words to the Committee, and I shall be as brief as possible. It enables me to pay a tribute of respect and gratitude to the President of the United States for his vision in calling together this Assembly. Secondly, it enables me to give a short resumé of the work which I have been able to do during the last two years and, perhaps, to say something of the future based upon the experience I have had.

When I was appointed High Commissioner in February 1936, I was given three definite tasks to perform. The second of these dealt with the subject with which we are here concerned: it was "to undertake consultations by the most suitable method with the different Governments regarding the possibilities and conditions of placing refugees and finding employment for them".

Later in the same year, these instructions were modified in a way with which I need not trouble you.

After very little investigation it became evident to me, and I think the private organisations were in agreement, that there was very little chance of our being able to carry through any large-scale settlement in any of the countries overseas. I think that view has been more or less borne out by the speeches we have heard in the last two days. Consequently, I had to report to the Assembly that in my opinion there was no opening at that time, with or without the help of the High Commissioner, for the private organisations to do anything effective in that direction. I came to this conclusion with considerable regret, after consultation with the High Commissioners of the British Dominions and the representatives of the more promising foreign countries.

I think I may say that I was met with universal courtesy

and encouragement, but in practically every case the same real answer was given. That was to the effect that in the present conditions of labour markets in the countries of the world, any large-scale scheme of migration could only arouse hostility, and that secondly, there was in no one of those countries any anti-Jewish feeling, but that such hostility might easily be aroused if the Government were to introduce solid blocks of foreign immigrants who would, almost necessarily, build up an alien element inside the State concerned.

This was equally true - and I want to emphasise that point - whether the immigrants were to be Jews or non-Jews. I was always asked, therefore, to avoid trying to press that form of migration, and was told that it would be far easier both for our Dominions and for other countries to receive considerable numbers of aliens if they were introduced as individuals and were able to find occupation and to become assimilated.

I was thus driven to the conclusion that a process of infiltration was likely to have far more successful results. Lists of specially qualified refugees were therefore sent out to the British Colonies, and an approach was made to the Australian Government to waive certain restrictions which met, I am happy to say, with success.

In comparison with these results, it is very interesting to study the figures of emigration which the private organisations are able to show. I want to press this point because I do not think it is always realised what a wonderful work the private organisations have been able to carry on.

Since the year 1933, when the present régime rose to power in Germany, approximately 150,000 persons have left that country. Out of that total, about 120,000 have found asylum

either overseas or elsewhere, leaving about 30,000. The latter figure seems to be more or less constant; as they are placed overseas by the private organisations, others come from Germany and fill the places of those who have gone.

This is a record which is highly creditable to the private organisations which have concerned themselves for many years with this problem of emigration and settlement. Hence it is that I am now convinced that the most promising course to pursue at the present moment is to help the private organisations, if we can, in their existing activities. In this direction, the Committee which it is proposed to set up might, in my opinion, play a highly important part. The High Commissioner, acting in co-operation with that Committee and in close touch with his own Liaison Committee, would also be able to do his share of the work.

If it should be possible for the Committee to assist private organisations financially, I feel that the money would be very well spent.

For successful emigration, three conditions are necessary: land must be available, there must be emigrants with suitable training, and money must be forthcoming. M. Oungre tells me that to set up a family on land which is already available a maximum sum of £1,000 is required; I quote M. Oungre as representing one of the largest organisations engaged in the work of emigration. There are, of course, others. His organisation advances the necessary money and recovers it, with interest, in an average period of fourteen years. His resources, though large, are limited, as are those of the other organisations, but I would suggest that the Committee would be doing good work if it placed further sums at the disposal of the various organisations. Such sums might possibly be raised by loans from Governments. That is

a matter which I have not discussed with M. Oungre, but I believe it holds out a reasonable prospect of success.

So far, I have spoken principally of agricultural settlement, because it is sufficiently obvious that highly trained experts such as doctors, lawyers and engineers, whose work lies mostly in the towns, can be settled more cheaply. Provided these men are good enough, there are vacancies for them in numerous places, and the real difficulty is to find asylum for the less well-educated masses who ought to leave Europe. In this connection I might point out that before the War an average of 100,000 persons left Europe annually for North and South America. If the world could somehow return to something approaching pre-war conditions, the settlement of German refugees would be far less formidable a problem than it is in the conditions under which we live at present.

In my opinion, therefore, there is a very great opportunity for the proposed Committee. Even apart from any influence which it might exercise in Germany, such a Committee would have behind it the enormous prestige of the President of the United States of America and the American people, as well as of European countries. Its possible influence is incalculable. It might be able to induce the German Government to adopt a more liberal policy in matters of money and property; it might be able to give financial assistance to the private organisations which have already done so much. It might in time even be able to undertake schemes of large-scale emigration and settlement such as would, at present, appear to be impossible.

The meeting adjourned.

20.

C.I.E./5(1)*

Evian, July 13th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE RECEPTION OF ORGANISATIONS CONCERNED WITH THE RELIEF OF POLITICAL REFUGEES COMING FROM GERMANY INCLUDING AUSTRIA.

The Sub-Committee for the Reception of Organisations Concerned with the Relief of Political Refugees coming from Germany including Austria met on July 8th at 2.30 p.m. under the Chairmanship of the Hon T.W. White, D.F.C., V.D., M.P., Minister of Trade and Customs of the Federal Government of Australia.

The Sub-Committee was finally constituted as follows:

Australia,
Belgium,
Costa Rica,
Cuba,
France,
United Kingdom,
Mexico,
Nicaragua,
Peru,
United States of America,
Venezuela.

The Committee heard the following persons: Sir Neill Malcolm, Professor Norman Bentwich, Lord Marley, M. Edouard Oungre, Mrs. Ormerod, the Rev. Father O o, Mr. Walter Adams, Dr. M. Goldmann, Dr. Ruppin, Dr. Steinberg, M. Georg Bernhard, M. Raoul Evrard, Rabbi Jonah Wise, Mr. Eppstein, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Brotman, M. Leo Lambert, M. Gourevitch, M. Marcovici, M. Benjamin Akzin, Dr. Brutzkus, Dr. Oskar Grun, M. Forcht and Madame Irene Harand.

These persons claimed to represent the following organisations:-

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* This report, together with the Annex, replaces Doc. CIE./5

Comité international chrétien pour les non-aryens International Christian Committee for non-aryans	(Londres)
Bureau central pour l'établissement des Juifs allemands Central Bureau for the Settlement of German Jews	(Londres)
Association de colonisation juive Jewish Colonization Association	(Paris)
German Jewish Aid Committee Comité d'aide aux Juifs allemands	(Londres)
Société pour la protection des sciences et des études Society for the protection of Science and Learning	(Londres)
Comité d'aide et d'assistance aux victimes de l'anti-sémitisme en Allemagne	(Bruxelles)
Comité d'assistance aux réfugiés	(Paris)
Comite voor Bijzondere Joodsche Belangen	(Amsterdam)
Centre suisse pour l'aide aux réfugiés	(Bâle)
Comité central tchécoslovaque pour les réfugiés provenant d'Allemagne	(Prague)
Fédération internationale des émigrés d'Allemagne	(Paris)
Service international de Migration International Migration Service	(Genève)
Service universitaire international International Student Service	(Genève)
Comité international pour le placement des intellectuels réfugiés	(Genève)
The Joint Foreign Committee of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Anglo-Jewish Association	(Londres)
Agudas Israël World Organisation	(Londres)
American Joint Distribution Committee	(Paris)
Council for German Jewry	(Londres)
Hicem (Association des Emigrés Hias Ica)	(Paris)
Association des savants allemands en détresse à l'étranger Notgemeinschaft Deutscher Wissenschaftler im Ausland	(Londres)
Comité allemand de la société des amis "Quakers" The Society of Friends (German Emergency Committee)	(Londres)
Bureau international pour le respect du droit d'asile et l'aide aux réfugiés politiques	(Paris)

Congrès juif mondial World Jewish Congress	(Paris)
Nouvelle organisation sioniste New Zionist Organisation	(London)
Emigration Advisory Committee	(London)
Alliance israelite universelle	(Paris)
Comité pour le développement de la grande colonisation juive	(Zurich)
Internationale ouvrière et socialiste	(Paris - Bruxelles)
Comités catholiques américains, anglais, belge, français, néerlandais et suisse pour l'aide aux émigrés.	
"Freeland" Association	(Londres)
"Ort"	(Paris)
Centre de recherches de solutions au problème juif	(Paris)
League of Nations Union	(Londres)
Agence juive pour la Palestine Jewish Agency for Palestine	(Londres)
Comité pour la défense des droits des Israélites en Europe centrale et orientale	(Paris)
Union des Sociétés "Osé"	(Paris)
Royal Institute of International Affairs	(Londres)
Fédération des émigrés d'Autriche	(Paris)
Société d'émigration et de colonisation juive "Emcol"	(Paris)

The Sub-Committee entrusted the Secretariat with the task of drawing up a short analysis of the suggestions or observations made in the oral statements of the persons heard or in the memoranda which the associations represented by them have handed or will continue to hand in. This synopsis will be communicated to the Intergovernmental Committee as soon as it is ready.

In the event of some organisations not having been able to take advantage of yesterday's hearings to lay their views before the Sub-Committee, they can still do so by sending a written statement urgently to the Secretariat of the Conference.

The moving stories told disclose a great human tragedy which calls for early amelioration, and challenges the Conference to early co-operative action to that end.

ANNEX TO THE REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE RECEPTION OF ORGANISATIONS CONCERNED WITH THE RELIEF OF POLITICAL REFUGEES COMING FROM GERMANY, INCLUDING AUSTRIA.

The Sub-Committee for the Reception of organisations concerned with the relief of political refugees coming from Germany including Austria heard, on Friday July 8th, the representatives of these Associations.

Corrigendum to Document C.I.E./5(1)

Evian, July 14th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE RECEPTION OF ORGANISATIONS CONCERNED WITH THE RELIEF OF POLITICAL REFUGEES COMING FROM GERMANY INCLUDING AUSTRIA.

Page 5, last line: Delete "It was".
Page 6: Replace lines 1, 2 and 3 by the following text:

"It was, for instance, pointed out that it would be desirable for States to consider the provision of the Convention of February 10th, 1938, whereby the contracting parties undertake to afford refugees, where . . . . . "

Page 7: Replace the last four lines by the following text:

". . . should be extended to Austrians and applied in a more liberal way. In this connection the question of identity documents seems to be one of the problems which should be solved at the earliest possible moment."

tion it was pointed out that since 1933 45,000 German Jews have been admitted to that country.

In the view of others, assistance to refugees should primarily enable the latter to be assimilated into the new national environment into which they are transplanted. This view would cover the statements which described the efforts made to re-adapt emigrants and to arrange for their vocational guidance. It was,

ANNEX TO THE REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE RECEPTION OF ORGANISATIONS CONCERNED WITH THE RELIEF OF POLITICAL REFUGEES COMING FROM GERMANY, INCLUDING AUSTRIA.

The Sub-Committee for the Reception of organisations concerned with the relief of political refugees coming from Germany including Austria heard, on Friday July 8th, the representatives of these Associations.

Most of the representatives of associations spoke on behalf of Jewish bodies, but the Committee also heard members of associations for assisting Catholic emigrants and non-Aryan Christians.

The following may be taken as the main features of the declarations made at this meeting, and the main ideas contained in the memoranda submitted to the Sub-Committee.

In several statements and documents the history of the Jewish people is recounted; many delegates also made a point of describing the work done by their associations on behalf of refugees both from the humanitarian and the settlement standpoints.

Four main trends of thought may be distinguished. Some of these in practice vary very widely in significance, depending on the importance of the associations which advance them.

According to the first school of thought, it would be advisable to encourage the return of the Jews to Palestine by substantially increasing the quota which at present limits the number of Jews allowed to return to their ancient home. In this connection it was pointed out that since 1933 45,000 German Jews have been admitted to that country.

In the view of others, assistance to refugees should primarily enable the latter to be assimilated into the new national environment into which they are transplanted. This view would cover the statements which described the efforts made to re-adapt emigrants and to arrange for their vocational guidance. It was,

for instance, pointed out that the States signatories to the 1933 Convention were not observing one of its provisions, to the effect that the contracting parties undertook to afford refugees, where necessary, facilities for learning a new occupation by all appropriate means, more particularly by the opening of trade schools. In this connection the Committee's attention was also directed to the importance of decentralising emigrants by distributing them throughout the country of settlement in order to obviate hostility on the part of the population among which they are trying to settle.

Another point of view still was laid before the Committee. According to its advocates, emigrants should have placed at their disposal an area not inhabited by any other population, so that the refugees could settle without mingling with indigenous ethnical elements.

Finally, according to the last conception advanced, Jews should be guaranteed in their present country of residence all necessary protection, so that they can enjoy the rights granted to the minorities of the country on whose soil they are settled.

Apart from these main trends of ideas, the Committee noted the existence of a political view which maintained that the powers should urge the nations concerned to guarantee Jews the free enjoyment of their rights as citizens pending emigration. A view of a political and social character was similarly advanced to the effect that no discrimination should be made among exiles because of their wealth or social status, and that priority of departure should only be granted in the case of political prisoners or individuals who had suffered because of their opinions.

To carry out the programmes thus summarised would imply in most cases removing whole populations and putting large sums of money at the disposal of the organisations. Various schemes have been outlined for the collection of such sums. Most of these stress the necessity, both in equity and for practical reasons, of asking the country of origin to make its contribution by relax-

ing its regulations concerning the conditions attaching to the departure of refugees and the property which they are allowed to transfer; suggestions were also made with regard to the system of deposit adopted by countries of immigration.

On the final point of the status of refugees, several associations expressed the wish that the 1938 Convention should be immediately ratified by the signatory States, that the largest possible number of countries should endeavour to accede to it, and lastly that its provisions, or the provisions of the 1936 Arrangement, should be extended both to Austrians and to cases not covered by these international instruments. In this connection the question of identity documents seems to be one of the problems which should be solved at the earliest possible moment.

21.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE C.I.E./C.R.4.

Evian - July 1938.

VERBATIM REPORT

of the

Fourth Meeting (Public) held on Monday, July 11th, 1938,

at 11 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Myron C. TAYLOR.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE CHAIRMAN.

The CHAIRMAN: For the information of the delegates and all who are attending these meetings, I have to announce that this morning's session will conclude the addresses by delegates.

It is hoped that the final Plenary Session will take place on Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, but further notice will be given. In the meantime, the members will resolve themselves into executive session.

A number of Delegations have not yet submitted to the Technical Sub-Committee the confidential statements which have been requested regarding the immigration laws and practices of their respective countries, and the number and types of immigrants which each country is prepared to receive. It is requested that the statements should be submitted immediately so that the Technical Sub-Committee may complete its work and promptly present its report. This Sub-Committee will meet at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Delegations having corrections which they wish made in the present Minutes, or in the Minutes of previous meetings, are asked to send them to Mlle. Boisseau as soon as possible, and in any case before the end of the Committee's present session.

COMMUNICATION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

M. Michael HANSSON (Norway):

Interpretation: The Technical Sub-Committee has received written statements from a certain number of Delegations. Other Delegations have not sent in written statements, but have made statements in the Plenary Meetings in which they have referred to the various questions that come within the purview of the Sub-Committee. It would, however, be very helpful and desirable if we could have statements on the three points on the agenda of the Technical Sub-Committee from all Delegations, and I would therefore invite the following Delegations to be good enough to attend the meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee this afternoon and be prepared either to make statements or to inform the Sub-Committee that such material as they have to lay before it has already been embodied in their statements given in the Plenary Meeting: Argentine, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ireland, France, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Switzerland, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The Committee would like to know whether it will be in a position to conclude its work this afternoon so that it may begin to prepare its report tomorrow, or whether it must contemplate a continuation of its work.

GENERAL STATEMENTS (Conclusion).

M. ENGZELL (Sweden):

Interpretation: The Government of Sweden is fully aware of the necessity for seeking a solution of the present refugee problem by means of wide international collaboration between

the various persons concerned. It is therefore with great satisfaction that my Government accepted the invitation issued by the President of the United States to be represented on the Intergovernmental Committee.

For a long time past Sweden has been following a very liberal policy with regard to refugees properly called political refugees. As to other refugees, Sweden in their case also follows a generous policy as far as economic and social conditions permit. I must point out that Sweden has not so far acceded to the Geneva agreements concerning the status of refugees. This abstention is, however, chiefly due to reasons of a technical character, since accession would in many points necessitate modification of Swedish legislation. So far as the essential features are concerned, these agreements are in fact applied in Sweden. It might even be said that the refugees who are given the right to remain in Sweden in certain respects receive a treatment that is even more generous than that which is provided for in the Geneva agreements.

Sweden is not a country of immigration; nevertheless, we have during recent years received a number of refugees that is by no means small. The Swedish law relating to foreigners does not provide for any quotas, any fixed numbers, and therefore each case has been considered according to its own particular circumstances. In the admission of refugees, account has been taken to a large extent of considerations of a personal and humanitarian character. Authorisations to work have been given to persons who have been capable of, and have desired to, take up employment. In general, a sympathetic attitude has been adopted.

But at the same time it has been necessary to take account of the economic conditions of the country, and also of the particular circumstances and qualifications of each foreigner who desires to remain within the country. This selective and sympathetic policy has yielded good results. There is at present no intention of changing it. It is, therefore, not possible to state any definite number of immigrants which can be admitted to Sweden.

I desire to say, however, that if an international organ is created for the purpose of assisting refugees to establish themselves in any particular country, Sweden would always be prepared to afford a sympathetic welcome to requests put forward by such an organisation. Sweden would not refuse, following upon an examination of the particular circumstances of each individual case, to admit a certain number of immigrants who possess the necessary qualifications to enable them to adapt themselves to existing conditions in Sweden.

As for the general problem of how the emigration of political refugees from Germany and Austria may be facilitated, the Swedish Government is of opinion that if tangible and satisfactory results are to be obtained, this emigration must be so arranged that it is directed to countries outside Europe. The circumstances in which such emigration might be effected obviously call for thorough examination. My Government is fully aware of the greatness of the difficulties that will have to be overcome. It nevertheless hopes that the work of the Inter-governmental Committee may result in a practical plan which will make it possible to undertake this task and bring it to a successful conclusion.

The expenditure involved in carrying out any such plan

would necessarily be very considerable; probably the private organisations for refugees will be prepared to take upon themselves a considerable part of this expenditure. But it is obviously essential that the Governments of the various countries, taking account of their respective resources and of the extent of their interest in the solution of the problem, should contribute financial assistance to this work. I desire to emphasise what has been said by previous speakers regarding the necessity of maintaining close contact, in connection with any plan that may be drawn up, with the organisation working for the benefit of refugees under the auspices of the League of Nations, and also the importance of taking into account any decisions relating to this question that may be taken by the Assembly of the League of Nations at its next meeting. I also wish to emphasise the necessity of avoiding, if possible, the duplication of effort and the multiplication of international organisations.

It is obviously impossible to deal to any great extent with the question of refugees from Germany and Austria without approaching very closely to another problem that is still greater in its scope. I refer to the problem of European Jewish migration as a whole. I am fully aware of the reasons for which the Intergovernmental Committee does not think that it should, at the present meeting, discuss this serious problem. My Government would, however, have been very glad if it had been possible to deal with it. In Sweden we take the view that this problem, very far-reaching as it is and extending far beyond that of refugees from Germany and Austria, will not fail sooner or later to call for the attention of Europe, and that in a most urgent way. Accordingly, we think that it ought not to be lost sight of in dealing with the

question of German refugees. The procedure to be adopted with regard to the latter may perhaps affect the general problem. Nevertheless, taking into account what the Chairman has said with regard to the subjects on which we are to deliberate, I have no intention of suggesting that we should extend the field of our discussion so that it would include the general problem of European migration. I did wish, however, to emphasise the existence of this problem and its great importance.

Finally, I should like to associate myself with what several speakers have said as regards their attitude and their sympathetic feelings towards those refugees who are so unhappy, and whose fate is frequently so tragic. Those feelings are fully shared by all in Sweden. I would like to express the hope that this first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee may mark the beginning of a useful piece of work that may lead to positive and lasting results for the benefit of refugees.

JOINT DECLARATION MADE BY Dr. CONSTANTINO HERDOCIA, DELEGATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA, PROFESSOR LUIS DOBLES SEGREDA, DELEGATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA, Dr. MAURICIO ROSAL, DELEGATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS, AND Dr. E. HOFFMANN, DELEGATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, ON BEHALF OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE, EVIAN.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.

As representatives of the four Governments of Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama accredited to the Intergovernmental Committee meeting at Evian to study the problem of political refugees who have left their country for various reasons, we have agreed to make the following declaration:

(1) We are in full agreement in offering the fullest moral support to the generous proposal made by His Excellency the President of the United States of America, and we are prepared to co-operate in the mighty task entrusted to the Intergovernmental Committee, a task which we consider to be highly humanitarian.

(2) We agree to the setting up of a Permanent Committee which will work in a European capital and which will be responsible for watching over the interest of political refugees to whatever nationality they belong, always provided, however, that such persons are not included among the immigrants whose admission is prohibited under the laws of our respective countries.

(3) We agree that the Permanent Committee should be empowered to issue the documents necessary for regularising the political situation of these refugees whenever a study of their

antecedents shows that it is impossible to obtain such documents in their countries of origin.

(4) The views expressed by several eminent colleagues reveal the unanimous desire of the Governments here represented to find practical solutions for this difficult problem.

To that end, we will consult our respective Governments regarding the manner and the conditions under which they might accept the refugees assigned to them, provided that all the Governments here represented also undertake to accept a similar percentage strictly computed so as to correspond exactly with the territorial extent of each country and irrespective of any immigrants who have been admitted prior to this Congress.

Though new countries like our own are saturated with foreign elements we cannot deny that the arrival of the latter has contributed to raising the level of our wealth and civilisation. We are, however, limited by the scantiness of our resources and our small powers of assimilation, and, while we cannot refuse, we can equally not exceed the quota which, territorially speaking, would be in proportion to that of other nations here represented.

We must also declare that our Governments cannot undertake to bring in or settle at their own expense any refugee. Consequently, any immigrant who wishes to settle must do so at his own expense and risk.

Further, we declare that no traders or intellectuals can be accepted as immigrants by our countries which already have a glut of these elements.

M. Gustavo A. WIENGREEN (Paraguay) spoke as follows:

It is with great pleasure and the keenest sympathy that the Government of Paraguay has accepted the invitation of the United States Government to be represented at this Conference at Evian, and thus to collaborate in studying and finding a solution for the serious problem which led to this Intergovernmental Meeting being convened.

Paraguay which possesses an immense territory of extraordinary fertility - the first President Roosevelt of the United States when he travelled through it described it as the garden of South America - is much too thinly populated to make use of all the advantages bestowed upon it by Providence.

This explains why Paraguay takes a highly favourable view of the immigration of industrious individuals capable of developing her great natural wealth.

Nevertheless, the experience gained throughout many years proves that it is expedient, if not even essential, to insist on a selection being made of the immigrants who wish to settle in our territory; consequently, our legislation and, in particular, the Decree Law of March 20th, 1937, stipulate that immigration into Paraguay must be confined to agriculturists or certain classes of craftsmen connected with agriculture.

If, within the limits of these necessary provisions, Paraguay can procure the elements of a happy existence for a large number of farming families she will be gratified to have made this contribution to the noble and humanitarian work of this Conference.

Mr. CREMINS (Ireland) spoke as follows:

"The Irish Government are deeply grateful to the Government of the United States and France for the opportunity which this meeting affords of expressing their sincere sympathy with the objects for which the Committee has been convened, and their hope that substantial results will follow from consideration of the problems before the delegates. They have been happy to accept the invitation extended to them in order to demonstrate their sympathy, even though, for reasons which I shall briefly set out, they are not, to their great regret, in a position to make any substantial contribution to the solution.

Ireland is a small country with jurisdiction over a population of something less than three million people. Notwithstanding the steady progress which has been made in recent years in regard to the creation of new industries, by far the greater part of our people still derive, and will continue to derive, their living from the land. I need not attempt to explain the land problems which have arisen in Ireland; it is sufficient to say that there is not enough land available to satisfy the needs of our own people.

Although every effort is being made by the Government to expedite industrialisation in a country which had been greatly under-industrialised, the new industries are not yet capable of absorbing the regular increase in our population, so that each year numbers of young people are forced by circumstances to emigrate. While such emigration remains imposed upon our national economy, it is obvious that we can make no real contribution to the re-settlement of refugees.

So much for the agricultural and the industrial sides. On the professional side, it will suffice to say that, in our

medical schools, are qualified every year more doctors than are required to care for the health of our people. And similar conditions of over-crowding apply to the other professions. It is for these various reasons that we are not in a position to contribute in any appreciable degree to the solution of this urgent problem, and we are naturally anxious not to promise more than we could hope to perform.

It has, I think, emerged from the speeches already made that there is little livelihood that the fully-settled countries will be able to provide homes for more than a fraction of the unhappy persons with whom we are now concerned. The only alternative solution which has been suggested is the opening up of new or under-developed territory. The Irish Government have no such territory under their control, and they are accordingly reluctant to urge the taking by other Governments of measures in which they themselves could not participate. The Irish Delegation, however, ventures to express the earnest hope that, notwithstanding the difficulties, the mass of human suffering involved in the Refugee problem may, by some such means, be substantially alleviated."

M. ROTHMUND (Switzerland):

Interpretation: It is with the greatest sympathy that the Swiss Government has accepted the invitation to take part in this Conference. The great problem of emigration from Austria and Germany is one which particularly affects Switzerland, which is a neighbouring country to those two countries. I therefore wish to state the attitude of Switzerland towards this problem.

In view of the great number of foreigners in Switzerland, we were compelled, at the end of the War in 1919, to introduce a control over the admission of foreigners into the country. The census of 1930 showed that in the population of Switzerland 9 per cent of foreigners were included, that is to say, out of a total population of four millions, 355,000 were foreigners. Of those about 300,000 were in possession of residence permits. They therefore enjoyed full liberty of work, full liberty to change their occupation or place of residence. In short, they were in a privileged situation.

The situation of foreigners in Switzerland was maintained unchanged during the great crisis of 1921, which severely affected Switzerland, and has also been maintained during the present crisis. On the other hand, Switzerland finds that it is essential to exercise severe control over the admission of any further foreigners into the country. It was in such circumstances as these that we were taken by surprise by the events of 1933, when many emigrants were compelled to leave their own countries of origin.

In April 1933 the Federal Council spontaneously decided to leave its frontier open and to give temporary refuge to all refugees. At the single frontier post of Basle station between April and September 1933, 10,000 German Jews entered Swizerland.

In 1933, 1934 and 1935 it was still comparatively easy to secure authorisations for those foreigners to leave Switzerland and enter some other country, a country of immigration. Switzerland is, in fact, merely a country of transit. Nevertheless, we have endeavoured to give all possible assistance to those unfortunate people during their stay in Switzerland. We have given them residence permits valid for a certain length of time, sufficient to enable them to make preparation for emigration to their final country of refuge.

The Swiss people are always moved by the sufferings of others, and despite our own difficulties we have done everything in our power to help the unfortunate emigrants. Several new organisations have been created for this purpose in the course of recent years. There is, for example, the Central Office for Assistance to Refugees, a neutral organisation which groups together all organisations working on behalf of refugees. There is also the Swiss Committee for dealing with the children of emigrants, and some 3,000 children have had holidays arranged for them in Switzerland during the past three years. There is further a neutral committee the duty of which is to afford assistance to Spanish children. Some 150,000 children have thus received hospitality during the past five years. Switzerland never allows anyone to die of hunger within her territory, and anyone who falls ill always finds hospital treatment available regardless of his nationality or financial position.

The country is, indeed, proud of the part it had thus played, but it is nevertheless compelled to act within the limits of its own possibilities, and it must always be borne in mind that Switzerland is a small country. We regard it as our duty to centralise and direct all goodwill into channels in which it might find expression for the benefit of refugees, but we are always

bound to remember the limits imposed upon us by our own possibilities. Moreover, during the winter months we have in Switzerland about 100,000 unemployed. This involves the country in heavy expenditure on unemployment relief, and unemployment relief and relief due to the world depression amounted respectively to 80 million and 85 million Swiss francs in the course of the past year. That is over 160 million francs per year, or some 40 francs per head of the population. In addition to that, there are between 2,000 and 3,000 Swiss nationals who have returned from Spain and who need to find new occupations in Switzerland and frequently also need assistance.

The fact is that many Swiss are themselves compelled to emigrate. Our societies working for refugees have done their duty in the fullest possible measure. They have collected and distributed large sums for the purpose of feeding the immigrants and assisting them in their preparation for final re-emigration. We feel that the constructive solution is always the one that should be sought, and we regard as the best solution the preparation of such immigrants as enter our country for their eventual emigration to countries of final settlement. The closest collaboration is maintained between those responsible for dealing with foreigners in the country and the private organisations. We feel such co-operation is indeed essential, and we have found that it is very useful to both parties concerned. We have secured excellent results in this way.

We cannot, of course, contemplate allowing immigrants to remain permanently within our country, but while they are on our territory we treat them with the greatest consideration; we give them such permits of temporary residence as are necessary to enable them to prepare for their final emigration. Moreover, under our

laws every foreigner within the country has the right of appeal against any decision taken with regard to him by the police authorities, and it is the duty of the first Court concerned in such matters to inform the person interested of that fact.

To sum up, therefore, Switzerland is only a small country and must be regarded as a transit country. Nevertheless, it is a country that has made the greatest possible effort.

After the Anschluss, some 3,000 or 4,000 refugees from Austria entered Switzerland. All the other countries that were neighbours of Austria had closed their frontiers, and Switzerland was therefore compelled to reintroduce the visa on Austrian passports in order to secure some control over emigrants from Austria. The private organisations made every possible effort to assist the Austrians who arrived in Switzerland, and we are doing our best to ensure that they have the possibility of emigration. The private organisations are seeking such possibilities, and the Austrian refugees receive residence permits provided their papers are in order. Our private organisations find that the great call upon their services has exhausted their own resources, and they have therefore been given subsidies. Obviously, the problem of immigration is one that has become increasingly difficult during recent years. We are glad indeed to note that several great overseas countries have expressed themselves as being prepared to facilitate immigration into their territories, and I am sure that all European States will welcome the hopes that are thus held out. It seems to me that that is the line along which action should be taken.

The Committee whose constitution has been proposed by the United States should, in our view, deal with the whole question of emigration in the various countries from the widest possible

standpoint. We all know and approve of the work done in the past by the League of Nations, and indeed we regard the work it has done for refugees as probably the most noble of its activities. The League of Nations must obviously continue to deal with this problem, which is one which affects all European countries that admit refugees, more particularly in transit. If it were found that emigration to another country was possible, greater facilities might be offered to refugees seeking to enter European countries on a temporary basis. Obviously, the League of Nations and its competent organs should be in the closest possible touch with the International Committee the constitution of which is proposed. It should be the duty of that Committee, as we view it, to determine the conditions with which emigrants in the various countries must comply, for example, conditions relating to preparation for various occupations or c hange of occupation, and in that work of preparation the European countries will be able to play their part by offering special facilities. The Committee to be constituted should also pay particular regard to the question of the children of refugees, and might do a great deal by arranging appropriate holidays for them when necessary.

We all feel that this question of emigration to overseas countries is one that will call for the greatest possible consideration, and when the European countries are aware of the conditions attaching to such emigration they will be able to take direct action to facilitate it. In conclusion, I hope the results of this Conference may prove of great assistance to those who are putting forth their efforts towards securing a solution of this very serious problem.

SPEECH BY M. LEON R. THÉBAUD, DELEGATE OF HAITI.

Haiti, which, even before her emancipation and since then without a break, chivalrously fought for the independence of countries in the three Americas and can even claim to be jointly responsible for the independence of several of those countries, has always shared in all international movements to promote the freedom and well-being of humanity.

In Geneva also, at the Fourteenth Assembly of the League of Nations, the Haitian Delegation had the honour to submit and, with the support of the French Delegation, to secure the extension to other nations of the resolution adopted regarding international protection of the rights of man and of citizens.

It was with spontaneous alacrity, therefore, that the Government of the Republic of Haiti responded to the noble appeal made by that eminent statesman, President Roosevelt, realising the purpose to be served by this meeting and the distinguished personalities who would attend it on behalf of the various Governments.

The Government of Haiti has been so preoccupied with the current development of the financial crisis which for some months past has affected Haiti more severely than ever, that it has had no time to consider the possibility of offering fresh facilities to the categories of political refugees in which it might be

interested. This is all the more to be regretted since the present financial crisis is solely the result of the various customs restrictions such as embargoes, quotas, higher rates of duty, etc..

In view of the importance of this Intergovernmental Congress held on the initiative of the United States of America, which will certainly be followed by other similar conferences and congresses, the Government of Haiti thinks it preferable for its part to take cognisance of the various forms of action and decisions which will be adopted by the Governments here represented, so that it can study how it can best facilitate the admission of political refugees from Germany and Austria.

You are, of course, aware of the hospitable character of the people of Haiti, who have already welcomes what I would describe as a very large number of immigrants in comparison with the population of the country (about 3,200,000). I feel already certain, therefore, that the facilities which my Government will extend to immigrants of the categories which the country wishes to admit will be highly advantageous to them.

In view of the country's economic structure(essentially agricultural), its social situation and the financial crisis at present prevailing, Haiti must insist on the foreigners who ask for her hospitality being thoroughly healthy stock ,capable of being rapidly absorbed into the community and possessing sufficient capital and resources to create permanent employment. In the time being, preference will be given among such persons to agriculturists and agricultural experts and to persons with technical qualifications in small industries who bring with them working capital and are likely to settle in the country definitely.

I was therefore very interested to note from the statement made by M. Beucker-Andreae, representative of the Netherlands, the policy adopted in his country which might

eventually fit in usefully with the principles of the Haitian Government , seeing that the Netherlands furnish education in agriculture and training for industrial occupations to refugees so that they may be equipped for emigrating to countries where they can settle definitely. The Government of Haiti would be glad to keep in constant touch on this question with the Netherlands and all other countries which maintain this practice.

To help those with whose fate this congress is concerned, I suggest setting up a committee to summarise in one volume the immigration laws and regulations of the various countries and all practical information of any kind on such countries. This would enable the unhappy exiles to ascertain as speedily and as thoroughly as possible which country suited them best from the standpoint of their physical, intellectual and moral attainments, i.e. their actual personality.

The delegation of Haiti will communicate later to the Sub-Committee the laws which govern emigration to Haiti.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure it is most gratifying that such profound views have been presented by the various delegates who have spoken. This free exchange of opinion cannot fail to have a very helpful influence in contributing not only to a more general understanding of these great problems, but towards the development of policies designed for their amelioration.

M. YEPES (Colombia):

Interpretation: The Colombian Delegation would be grateful for information on the following point: will the question of the creation of a Permanent Intergovernmental Committee be discussed in plenary meetings here, or in one of the executive committees?

The CHAIRMAN: It will be discussed in an executive session, when we approach the concluding stage of our Conference and undertake to set down our judgment in the form of a resolution.

The meeting rose.

22.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.R./C.T./14

Evian, July 11th 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE.

Evian, July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Letter from Dr. E. HOFFMANN (Panama) to the SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE.

In response to your appeal of July 8th, asking delegations not Members of the Technical Sub-Committee to send to the Secretariat written statements on the questions referred to in the Sub-Committee's terms of reference, I have the honour to make the following communication:

The Government of Panama has already admitted certain Jewish refugees from Germany; some professors have even found chairs at the University and positions in the national education system. As regards the immigration laws, there are restrictions on certain oriental races but these do not apply to Jews. Jews usually enter our country as American, British, French or other citizens as freely as any one else; no discriminations or privileges have so far existed. On other points, the Delegation of Panama approves and accepts the declaration submitted by the distinguished representatives of Costa Rica, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

23.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./15.
Evian, July 11th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

CONTRIBUTION WHICH HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IS ABLE TO MAKE TO THE PROBLEM OF EMIGRATION FROM GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.

United Kingdom. It has been the traditional policy of successive British Governments to give shelter to persons who are compelled to leave their own countries by reason of persecution for their political and religious belief or of their racial origin, but His Majesty's Government are bound to have regard to their domestic situation and to the fact that the United Kingdom is not a country of immigration and to recognise that for demographic and economic reasons this policy can only be applied within narrow limits.

His Majesty's Government have already admitted to the United Kingdom a number of refugees from Germany and within the limits specified they are prepared on the ground of humanity to adopt an even more liberal policy in the matter of admission and employment so as to make the greatest contribution within their power to the solution of the problem before the Evian meeting.

It is the practice of the United Kingdom authorities to work closely with the voluntary societies in the United Kingdom which interest themselves in assistance to refugees. These societies have recently formed a co-ordinating committee which concerns itself with finding places for refugees in the United Kingdom, and the attitude of His Majesty's Government is to some extent

affected by the success attending the work of this Committee.

In all the circumstances His Majesty's Government are prepared to consider applications for admission to the United Kingdom in respect of the following categories of persons desiring to emigrate from Germany and Austria:-

(1) Persons who have no resources and can only take employment. In view of the unemployment situation in the United Kingdom, only a limited number of such persons can be admitted. The selection of individuals is in the first instance a matter for the Co-ordinating Committee. If this Committee can hold out hope of being able to find methods of livelihood for a certain number, His Majesty's Government will be willing to admit them. A precise figure cannot be given in advance. Much depends on the success of the Co-ordinating Committee in finding places, and something also depends on the method of selection. So far as possible persons are likely to be selected with special qualifications who can find employment in jobs which are not already overcrowded and competitive.

(2) Persons who have some capital and are prepared to start, with or without assistance, business in the United Kingdom. A limited number of such persons can be admitted. If they had capital and were starting a business a certain number of their employees are also admitted.

(3) Persons desiring to enter the United Kingdom as students for educational and technical courses. Such persons can be admitted on the understanding that they come to the United Kingdom for education and training, and that they will eventually emigrate. His Majesty's Government

recognise that a certain proportion of such persons, especially the younger elements, may ultimately have to be absorbed in the United Kingdom, but they are not prepared to give prior undertaking in this respect.

(4) Persons with academic qualifications. His Majesty's Government are prepared to admit such persons for whom the Society for the Protection of Science and Learning can find places.

(5) Professional persons. His Majesty's Government are prepared to adopt a reasonably liberal policy in regard to admission and permission to practise. The number of such persons as doctors and dentists must necessarily be limited.

(6) His Majesty's Government are prepared to extend an arrangement which is already in existence with the voluntary organisations, for the admission to the United Kingdom of a pool of persons, who are trained in this country with a view to emigration.

His Majesty's Government are unable to specify in advance any figure for the total number of persons whom they can admit annually or for the number within a particular category. The numbers admitted will depend on circumstances which cannot be forecast. Within the limits which they have to recognise, His Majesty's Government are, however, prepared to adopt a liberal attitude in the matter of admissions.

24.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T.16.
Evian, July 11th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE
Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF BRAZIL.

A country of liberal traditions, free from racial or religious discrimination for those who seek it, Brazil has not failed in these troublous times in her duty of hospitality.

It is only necessary to observe, as regards the Jewish nation, on the basis of the statistics submitted to the Intergovernmental Committee that, whereas in 1920 her population contained 17,000 Jews, in 1930 Brazil had 40,000, and in 1937 the figure rose to 55,000.

Brazil regards the Evian Meeting as designed to make a preliminary general study of the problem. Only after she has taken cognisance of the documentation collected here will Brazil be able, in the Permanent Committee, to consider what solution will best suit her immigration policy, a policy which was described at the second Plenary Meeting and which aims always at the lofty humanitarian ideals which inspired the American Government, and which, with the generous assistance of the French Government, it has been possible to put into execution.

25.

CIE./C.T./ 17

Evian, le 11 juillet 1938.

COMITE INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL.

Evian - Juillet 1938.

~~Confidentiel~~.

SOUS-COMITE TECHNIQUE.

LETTRE DE M.F. Garcia CALDERON, DELEGUE DU PEROU.
AU PRESIDENT DU SOUS-COMITE TECHNIQUE.

J'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance, à titre confidentiel, que mon Gouvernement recevrait volontiers, parmi les réfugiés allemands, des travailleurs agricoles expérimentés, dont le nombre n'est pas encore fixé. Il examinera avec la plus grande bienveillance toute demande qui lui sera présentée, et se mettra en rapport, le cas échéant, avec les Associations israélites ou avec le Bureau qui pourrait être constitué prochainement.

Confidential.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

LETTER TO THE CHAIRMAN FROM M. F. GARCIA CALDERON,
DELEGATE OF PERU.

I have the honour to notify you, for your confidential information, that my Government would be glad to receive among the German refugees experienced agricultural labourers to a number which is not yet fixed. It will give the most favourable consideration to any application submitted to it, and would if necessary get into touch with the Jewish Associations or with the Office which may shortly be set up.

COMITE INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL

Evian - Juillet 1938

~~Confidentiel~~

CIE./C.T./18

Evian, le 11 juillet.

COMITE TECHNIQUE

EXPOSE DE LA DELEGATION DE LA REPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE.

Le Gouvernement Dominicain est prêt à accueillir un nombre de refugiés, même non agriculteurs, à la condition que ceux-ci soient porteurs de fonds suffisants pour s'établir dans le pays à leur compte et y exercer le commerce, une profession, ou créer des industries, contribuant de cette façon à l'enrichissement de la Nation.

Dans ces conditions, le Gouvernement de la République Dominicaine accueillerait jusqu'à dix mille réfugiés.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE.

Evian, July, 1938 .

CIE./C/T/18

Evian, July 11th, 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

The Dominican Government is prepared to accept a number of refugees, even if they are not agriculturists, provided they are supplied with sufficient funds to settle in the country at their own expense and engage in trade, practise a profession or start industries and thus contribute to the country's enrichment.

On these terms, the Government of the Dominican Republic would admit up to ten thousand refugees.

COMITE INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL

Evian - Juillet 1938

~~Confidentiel~~

CIE/C.T./I9

Evian le 11 juillet.

COMITE TECHNIQUE

DECLARATION DU DELEGUE DU GUATEMALA

Je me permets de vous informer que je ne suis pas dans la possibilité de vous adresser toute la documentation relative à la réglementation de l'immigration dans mon pays, mais je l'ai déjà demandée et je l'enverrai au Comité permanent aussitôt que possible.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE.

Evian, July, 1938.

CIE./C.T./I9

Evian, July 11th, 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATE OF GUATEMALA.

I beg to inform you that I am unable to send you all the documentation regarding regulations for immigration into my country; but I have already applied for these and will forward them to the Permanent Committee as soon as possible.

~~Confidential.~~

C.I.E./C.T./20.
Evian, July 12th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

DECLARATION BY THE DELEGATE OF PARAGUAY MADE AT THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 11TH, 1938, at 10 a.m.

The delegate of Paraguay refers to the annexed statement made at the Plenary Meeting, and communicates a copy of the Decree Law of March 20th, 1937, governing immigration into the territory of Paraguay.

This document is kept in the archives of the Secretariat at the disposal of Delegations.

M. Gustavo A. WIENGREEN (Paraguay) spoke as follows:

It is with great pleasure and the keenest sympathy that the Government of Paraguay has accepted the invitation of the United States Government to be represented at this Conference at Evian, and thus to collaborate in studying and finding a solution for the serious problem which led to this Intergovernmental Meeting being convened.

Paraguay which possesses an immense territory of extraordinary fertility - the first President Roosevelt of the United States when he travelled through it described it as the garden of South America - is much too thinly populated to make use of all the advantages bestowed upon it by Providence.

This explains why Paraguay takes a highly favourable view of the immigration of industrious individuals capable of developing her great natural wealth.

Nevertheless, the experience gained throughout many years proves that it is expedient, if not even essential, to insist on a selection being made of the immigrants who wish to settle in our territory; consequently, our legislation and, in particular, the Decree Law of March 20th, 1937, stipulate that immigration into Paraguay must be confined to agriculturists or certain classes of craftsmen connected with agriculture.

If, within the limits of these necessary provisions, Paraguay can procure the elements of a happy existence for a large number of farming families she will be gratified to have made this contribution to the noble and humanitarian work of this Conference.

~~Confidential~~

CIE./C.T./ 21

Evian, July 11th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE.

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT BY THE IRISH DELEGATION.

Law and Practice.

The law relating to the admission and regulations of aliens is contained in the Aliens Act, 1935, and the orders made thereunder. The most important Order is the Aliens Order, 1935, by which it is provided that an alien, other than an alien coming from the United Kingdom, may not land in Ireland except with the permission of an Immigration Officer. An alien coming to Ireland for the purpose of employment must have in his possession a permit issued by the Department of Industry and Commerce to his prospective employer, such permits being issued only when that Department is satisfied that no suitable Irish citizen is available. Aliens not in possession of an employment permit must satisfy the Immigration Officer that they are in a position to support themselves and their dependents and must of course have proper papers of identity duly visaed where necessary. No quota system is in force in Ireland, and a wide discretion is vested in Immigration Officers who may attach to leave to land such conditions as to duration of stay, not taking up employment, etc.. as may be thought necessary. In the cases of German and Austrian nationals, visas are now required and while such visas, which are granted after due inquiry, do not confer any legal right to land in Ireland, the holders of passports properly visaed do not experience any difficulty.

As mentioned above, aliens coming to Ireland from the United Kingdom do not require leave to land, nor, indeed, is there

any immigration inspection of the passenger traffic between the United Kingdom and Ireland. Nevertheless, aliens having so entered Ireland are subject to the provisions of the Aliens Order and may remain in Ireland for employment, industry, or the purpose of practising a profession only with the permission of the Minister for Justice. The cases of all aliens who have entered Ireland for such purposes, whether they were allowed to land in Ireland or in the United Kingdom, are considered on the merits by that Minister, in appropriate cases in consultation with the Minister for Industry and Commerce, and the final decision as to whether an alien may remain in Ireland rests with the Minister for Justice. In the matter of industrial proposals in which aliens are concerned, it is the practice of the Department of Industry and Commerce to examine the proposals and when satisfied that the cooperation of an alien or aliens is essential to the successful conduct of an enterprise of value to the country, to recommend the granting or extension of residence permits for specified periods.

Briefly, the Minister for Justice has ample powers in such matters, and, in general, he and the Minister for Industry and Commerce regard the interests of Irish nationals as the supreme consideration, except in cases of aliens who have been established for lengthy periods in Ireland.

It may be mentioned that the word "alien" means any person who is not an Irish citizen, but under the Alien (Exemption) Order, 1935, all British subjects are exempted from the restrictive provisions of the Aliens Act, 1935, and from the Aliens Order, 1935.

Number and types of Immigrants which Ireland is prepared to receive.

This question is largely answered by the foregoing and by the general statement made by the Irish Delegation at the plenary

session held on the 11th July , 1938. Ireland is prepared to receive only those aliens whose training and experience may be of special value, e.g. in new industries , and even in such cases the Government is not prepared to give any guarantee that the aliens will be allowed to remain permanently. There is no scope in Ireland for alien agricultural or other manual workers. The liberal professions are already overcrowded. For these reasons, the Irish Government cannot make any promises or give any undertaking. Apart from the disappointment to which unfulfilled promises would give rise, the Government feel that there is grave danger that ill-considered promises or promises hedged round with conditions the full implication of which may be realised only too late, may actually result in an increase in the hardships inflicted on what we may call "prospective refugees". The greater the hopes held out by potential countries of refuge , the greater may be the pressure brought to bear on these unfortunate creatures.

~~Confidential~~.

C.I.E./C.T.22
Evian, July 11th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT BY THE DANISH DELEGATE MADE TO THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON JULY 11th.

1. There are no special provisions in Danish legislation regarding residence or labour permits for refugees. Such persons are subject to the general regulations in force on the subject.

Under Article 6 of the Law of March 31st, 1938, amending the Law of May 15th, 1875, on the control of aliens and travellers, special permission is necessary for any alien who wishes to remain in Denmark more than three months reckoning from the day of his entering the country, or to take up work, or hold a situation or any other kind of post in Denmark.

2. "Quota" systems are unknown in Danish law. Denmark not being a country of immigration, such systems are not required. Permission to settle in Denmark is only granted to an alien if close study of his case shows that it should be granted. Among the factors taken into consideration in this connection are: a knowledge of Danish, the fact of having been born in Denmark, or lived there for several years, of having Danish relatives or having married a Danish national etc.

In the case of political refugees, the above regulations have not been strictly applied. Though Denmark has admitted a relatively very large number of these, the Danish authorities have not so far refused permits of residence to aliens who can be regarded as refugees properly so-called.

3. Owing to the difficult economic conditions in Denmark a labour permit is less easily granted than a permit of residence. This rule was applied to refugees also up to the beginning of 1937. During last year, however, labour permits began to be granted more freely to refugees. This applies, however, only to refugees who have given no grounds for complaint during their stay in Denmark, and who have lived there for at least two years. Further, it is usually stipulated that the trade union or professional organisation concerned should raise no objections to the issue of the labour permit and that it is not a case of occupations where the percentage of unemployment is exceptionally high, or of trades which are in a particularly difficult condition.

4. Denmark applies a system of s pecial certificates issued to refugees of Russian origin under the 1933 Convention, and to refugees from Germany under the Provisional Arrangement of 1936. These certificates are issued only to refugees wishing to travel outside Germany, but not as an identity document for refugees during their stay in Denmark.

The certificates, specimens of which I have the honour to hand to the Chairman of the Technical Sub-Committee, are usually made out so as to be valid for one or two years in the case of Russian and from 6 to 12 months in the case of German refugees.

5. Lacking exact particulars as to the category and character of the refugees who would have eventually to be admitted to Denmark, it is difficult to say anything about the number who could, if necessary, be received over and above the relatively very large number already admitted. This applies whether the number is proportioned to the population or computed on another basis.

His Majesty's Government is nevertheless prepared to give favourable consideration to any proposal laid before it by the competent international organ. In such event it reserves the right

to take into account the number of refugees already in Denmark. In no case is it to be expected that the Danish Government would be able to admit a larger number than that which would be received by other countries in a similar situation where the conditions resemble those obtaining in Denmark.

31.

COMITE INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - Juillet
1938.

~~Confidentiel~~

C.I.E./C.T.23
Evian, le 11 juillet.

SOUS-COMITE TECHNIQUE
TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

EXPOSES DES DELEGATIONS DE NICARAGUA, GUATEMALA, COSTA RICA ET HONDURAS.
STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATIONS OF NICARAGUA, GUATEMALA, COSTA RICA AND HONDURAS.

En ce qui concerne le nombre et la qualité d'immigrants que nos Gouvernements respectifs seraient disposés à admettre, nous devons déclarer que nous ne possédons pas d'instructions nous permettant de donner des précisions sur ce point.

Nous devons ajouter que nos Gouvernements ne pourraient envisager l'établissement de colonies d'immigrants sans avoir, au préalable, étudié la solution des problèmes d'ordre économique qui nécessairement se poseraient à leur attention de ce fait.

Pour ce qui est des lois et réglements concernant l'immigration, chacun des délégués fera parvenir au Secrétariat du Comité les documents correspondants.

Constantino HERDOCIA
Jose Gregorio DIAZ
Luis DOBLES SEGREDA
Mauricio ROSAL.

As regards the number and kind of immigrants whom our respective Governments would be prepared to admit, we must state that we have no instructions allowing us to give fuller information on this point.

We must add that our Governments could not consider the establishment of colonies of immigrants without having first studied the solution of the economic problems which would necessarily call for their attention.

As regards laws and regulations on immigration, each representative will send to the Secretariat of the Committee the relevant documents.

(Signatures as above)

32

~~Confidential~~

C.I.R./C.T./24

Evian, July 11th 1938

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian, July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT BY THE FRENCH DELEGATION.

France has always been a favourite country of welcome for foreigners from all points of the globe, but it would really seem that her possibilities of absorption are now exhausted, if not even exceeded. France, moreover, has been deeply concerned to find her obligations to give assistance increasing in the cases of force majeure produced by events in Spain. France has been discharging these essentially humanitarian obligations since the mass evacuations of Bilbao, Santander, and Gijon, and it is not too much to say that the cost of assisting 50,000 refugees (women, aged persons and children) has, at certain moments, amounted to as much as 5,000,000 francs a week.

These preliminary explanations are given to make it perfectly clear that, while France has approved in principle of the noble initiative taken by President Roosevelt, it is of primary importance to bear in mind the exceptional effort which she has already made under the most difficult circumstances.

As regards the regulations governing aliens in France, these have been framed on exceptionally liberal lines which give every security to bona-fide aliens.

Without going into the details of the operation of the new legislation based on the Decree-Law of May 2nd 1938,

the French Delegation would like nevertheless to mention the provisions of Article 10 and of Article 11 of the said Decree-Law, which constitute a departure of great moral import.

Article 10 grants to any alien authorised to reside in France the right, when it is proposed to deport him, to request that he may be heard in his defence by a representative of the authorities.

Under the other Article, stateless aliens or political refugees who have received an expulsion order are not obliged to comply with it so long as they are unable to do so because of inability to obtain a travel document or to find a country of refuge. In such case, a place of residence is assigned to them, selected in such a manner that they can earn a livelihood there by their work.

In recalling the uniform consideration shown in all circumstances by the French authorities to foreigners enjoying French hospitality, the French delegation feels bound to communicate the following statistics showing the very large number of political refugees settled on French territory:

	NUMBER	OBSERVATIONS.
1. Russian refugees	71,500	
2. Armenian refugees	63,000	In addition, several thousand Armenians have been settled in Syria where, with the assistance of the French authorities, entirely new settlements have been built.
3. Assyrian refugees	435	
4. Saar refugees	3,300	France, in her capacity as trustee of the League of Nations, has been practically the only country to welcome Saar refugees, and has spent 15 million francs on sheltering them.

5. Refugees from Germany	10,000	In addition, France has admitted nearly 26,000 refugees coming from Germany in transit
6. Spanish refugees	21,000	France has up to the present admitted 60,000 refugees from Spain, and has spent in this connection nearly 100 million francs up to the present.
7. Italian refugees	3,000 approximately	
8. Roumanian refugees 9. Yugoslav refugees 10. Greek refugees 11. Turkish refugees	10,000 approximately	
12. Number of ex-Austrian refugees already admitted	2,000	

making nearly 200,000 political refugees in addition to those who have not yet been registered, or nearly 10 per cent of the foreign population settled in France.

The following particulars also give an idea of what France has done in the field of assistance to refugees:

1. Ratification by France of International Conventions.

a) Intergovernmental Arrangements of July 5th, 1922, May 31st, 1924, May 12th, 1926, and June 30th, 1928.

b) Adoption by France of the Nansen stamp, the proceeds of the sale of which are intended to be used for assisting refugees; only Norway has followed this example.

c) Ratification by France of the Franco-Belgian Agreement of June 30th, 1928, for the issue of certificates attesting the juridical status of refugees. After France, Belgium is the only country to have adopted such an Agreement.

d) Ratification of the 1933 Convention relating to the international status of refugees, and the Intergovernmental

Arrangement of July 4th, 1936, and signature of the Agreement of February 10th, 1938, concerning refugees coming from Germany.

Under these texts:

The right of the authorities in the matter of deportation and refusal has been restricted, and this restriction has actually been sanctioned by Article 11 of the Decree Law of May 2nd, 1938.

The legal status of refugees has been defined, and the latter are entitled to appear in court without any restrictions.

Refugees from Germany recognised as such by the Advisory Committee, provided they comply with certain conditions, are entitled to reside in France.

Such refugees and also most refugees from other countries are issued travel documents (Nansen Passport - travel identity document) which enable them to travel.

In addition, refugees enjoy de facto more favourable treatment than other aliens as regards the right to work.

Finally, in the matter of labour accidents, relief and social welfare benefits, refugees enjoy the most favourable treatment granted to nationals of a foreign country.

In a word, political refugees who are allowed to reside in France are practically entitled to most of the privileges granted to nationals, with the exception, however, of civic rights.

33.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./25.
Evian, July 11th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT MADE BY THE SWISS DELEGATION TO THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON JULY 11th, 1938.

I. Aliens' control in Switzerland is governed by the Federal Law of March 26th, 1931, on the residence and settlement of aliens, which came into force on January 1st, 1934, and by the Administrative Order of May 5th, 1933. Under this Law all aliens, irrespective of their nationality, who wish to live in Switzerland or to engage therein in a gainful occupation, must, whatever the purpose of their stay, regularise their residential situation and apply for a permit of residence from the competent authorities within eight days of entering Switzerland.

This regulation is applicable to refugees and emigrés, as they are considered as desiring to make a prolonged stay in Switzerland.

Political refugees are given 48 hours from their arrival in Switzerland to prove to the local police authorities that they can be described as such. The term "political refugee" is interpreted in its strictest sense, and can therefore only refer to persons whose lives and property are exposed to persecution, and who enter Switzerland directly on leaving the country from which they seek to escape.

I would refer to Article 4 of the Law, and to Article 16, paragraph 1, on the powers of the authorities to give decisions on applications for permits of residence, and to Articles 19 and 20, paragraph 1, on the right of appeal.

II. The Swiss Delegation refers the Sub-Committee to the statement made at the plenary meeting this morning, at which a very detailed statement was made of the reasons why Switzerland can only be a country of transit for refugees.

III. There are three kinds of identity and travel documents for aliens possessing no nationality papers:

A. The alien's passport, issued to Stateless foreigners residing permanently in Switzerland and favourably known to the authorities.

B. The Nansen certificate (passport) issued to Russian refugees. A similar document is issued to Turkish refugees.

These documents are issued in accordance with the Geneva Arrangements.

C. The identity certificate issued under the Provisional Arrangement of July 4th, 1936, to refugees from Germany and to all other persons possessing no papers who cannot be given the documents referred to under A. and B.

Annexes:(1) Text of the Law of March 26th, 1931, and of the Order of May 5th, 1933; specimen form of ruling with statement regarding right of appeal on the back.

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(1) Note by the Secretariat. These documents are kept in the archives of the Secretariat at the disposal of Delegations.

~~Confidential~~.

C.I.E./C.T./26.
Evian, July 11th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF COSTA RICA.

To give a concrete reply to the Technical Sub-Committee's enquiry, the representative of the Government of Costa Rica declares:

(1) that he is not empowered to state how many immigrants could be admitted and, even if he was, he could not give this figure seeing that it will always depend on the character of the said immigrants.

(2) as regards immigration laws, under the Law of November 24th, 1905, destitute persons may not be admitted as immigrants, the term "destitute" being taken to mean persons who have no means of livelihood enabling them to settle at their own expense.

The Legislative Decree of September 3rd, 1930, enacts that the Commandant of Police will require an immigrant to declare and prove the means of livelihood which he possesses to cover his requirements during his stay in Costa Rica.

Law 39 of May 5th, 1931, enacts that on disembarking every immigrant must produce to the harbour or frontier authorities a cash amount of not less than 1,000 colons or the equivalent thereof. Law 61 of March 18th, 1933, provides that the Executive is empowered, when it thinks fit, to require the deposit of this sum instead of its mere production.

Under our present legislation entrance into Costa Rica is forbidden:

a) to persons affiliated to organisations disseminating ideas subversive of the family, private property or the established system of society;

b) to persons belonging to political parties propagating methods of labour obstruction in the form of strikes, class conflicts or communist tendencies.

Under our legislation, immigration is also not allowed in the case of office employees and business or professional men whose activities might create competition for Costa Rican nationals.

In order to secure permanent admission to Cosa Rica, i.e. settle in the country, it is necessary to have special permission from the Ministry of the Interior, to which all the necessary documents must be sent.

Without such permission permanent residence in Costa Rica is not allowed.

The above are the essential features of Costa Rican legislation on the subject of immigration which might be of interest to the Technical Sub-Committee.

The representative of Costa Rica will give the Sub-Committee orally any other particulars that it deems necessary.

35.

~~Confidential~~.

C.I.E./C.T./27.
Evian, July 11th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT MADE BY THE DELEGATION OF ECUADOR AT THE MEETING ON JULY 11TH OF THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

Though I have already had the honour in my speech to give the Committee my Government's point of view regarding the categories and the laws concerning the immigration and settlement of, foreigners in Ecuador, I hasten to supply you with the following particulars:

1) For the reasons already stated agriculturists are the class which would mainly come into consideration,

2) Regarding the various laws on the subject, I have the honour to communicate to you herewith the official text of the special laws: "Ley de Extranjeria, Extradición y Naturalizacion".(1)

I cannot yet give you any particulars regarding the number of immigrants, as this depends on circumstances and several other factors. I would, however, add that my Government is prepared to grant the greatest facilities to immigrants within the limits of national possibilities and within the framework of immigration laws.

(1) Note by the Secretariat. These documents are kept in the archives of the Secretariat at the disposal of Delegations.

GR

C.I.R/C.T./28

~~Confidential.~~

Evian, July 11th 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian, July 1938

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

STATEMENT BY SIR JOHN SHUCKBURGH ON BEHALF OF THE BRITISH COLONIES.

Perhaps I might say a few words in amplification of the second paragraph of the statement dealing with the British Colonies which has been circulated to the Sub-Committee as Document No. 5.

In dealing with the matter from the point of view of the British Colonial Empire, there is one paramount consideration that must always be taken into account. The large majority of Jews in Germany and Austria are engaged in business and industry in the towns. It must be evident from the nature of the case, seeing that the primary industry of the British Colonies is agriculture, that there could be few openings there for persons of this category. The United Kingdom Government accordingly decided to examine first whether there might be any areas in any of the colonial dependencies where large-scale settlement of refugees trained in agriculture might be feasible, and secondly whether there were likely to be openings of any kind for individual refugees with professional or business qualifications or possessing a moderate amount of capital.

As regards agricultural settlement, the possibilities offered by the Colonial Empire for the large scale settlement

of emigrants have been exhaustively examined. As was indicated in the British House of Commons in March last by the then Minister for Colonies, Lord Harlech, the conclusion was reached that, owing to climatic and economic considerations and to the existence of large native populations, there is no territory in the Colonial Empire where any large scale settlement of Jewish or other refugees is practicable. In view, however, of the critical position of the German and Austrian Jews it was decided to make further inquiries into the possibility of small-scale settlement in certain East African territories in which there appeared a reasonable hope of finding areas suitable for the purpose.

Lord Winterton, in his address at the opening meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee, made some general observations on this branch of the subject and explained that, while the matter was under active investigation and while there was every desire on the part of the United Kingdom Government and the Colonial Governments concerned to afford any assistance that might be practicable, the necessary material was not yet available for making any detailed or positive statement. I can at present add nothing on this point. I certainly do notwish to enlarge upon the difficulties that must inevitably arise here as elsewhere. We are all only too well aware of them. What I would like to emphasise is that, as Lord Winterton has already said, we are doing our utmost and shall continue to do our utmost to give what assistanceWe can by endeavouring to find openings for small-scale settlement of agriculturists. The good will is there, and the Committee may rest assured that whatever may be found possible will certainly be done.

37.

~~Confidential~~.

C.I.E./C.T. 29
Evian, July 11th.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT BY Mr. G.L. BRANDT,
DELEGATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA.

It appears to me that this question of documentation may take two forms, first of all, as to the travel document which may be issued by the country of the refugee's temporary sojourn before he departs for the country of settlement and, secondly, as to the documents required by the country of final settlement as a condition of admission.

With respect to the first question in the form in which I put it, the United States, as you no doubt know, is not a party to the Conventions that have been signed and entered into by various Governments relating to the issue of travel documents to Stateless persons. As a matter of fact, the Federal Government of the United States only has authority to issue permits to American citizens, and cannot issue official travel documents to aliens. To those aliens in the United States who want to travel abroad, we suggest that they make a form of affidavit and present that affidavit to the appropriate foreign Consul in our country so that it may be visa'd. In that way we attempt to solve - and I think we generally do solve - this question of what can be given in our country to an alien as a travel document.

The second question is the one which most interests the United States, because we demand a considerable number of documents from an immigrant. We ask, first of all, that he should have a passport or some form of travel document. We require also

documents from the country of his allegiance, such as a birth certificate, a penal certificate and a military record, together with copies of any other documents concerning him personally which might be kept by his Government. Then we require the immigration visa, which of course can only be issued by an American consular office, and while documents are not required by law to establish the admissibility of immigrants under our laws, they have of course to be presented to satisfy the consular officers that the aliens requesting visas are admissible.

Those documents which are required by law may be disregarded if they are not available, so we have a considerable latitude in taking substitute documents from aliens who are unable to obtain those documents from their Governments. The United States Delegation has a suggestion to make which I think it is proper for me to submit now as to the language which might be adopted for recommendation to the general Committee concerning aliens who find it impossible to obtain the required documents. We propose that a recommendation be adopted in the following terms:

> "In those individual immigration cases in which the usually-required documents emanating from foreign official sources are found not to be available, there should be accepted such other documents serving the purpose of the requirements as may be available to the immigrant."

38.

COMITE INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL.

Evian - Juillet 1938.

C.I.E./C.T./30.

Evian, le 12 juillet 1938.

~~Confidentiel.~~

SOUS-COMITE TECHNIQUE.

DECLARATION DE LA DELEGATION CHILIENNE CONCERNANT LES PIECES D'IDENTITE.

En ce qui concerne les pièces d'identité, mon Gouvernement, d'accord avec les dispositions légales en vigueur, ne peut pas accepter d'autres passeports que ceux établis régulièrement par les Gouvernements respectifs.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE.

Evian - July 1938.

C.I.E./C.T./30

Evian , July 12th, 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

DECLARATION BY THE DELEGATION OF CHILI REGARDING IDENTITY DOCUMENTS.

As regards identity documents, in view of the legislation in force, my Government is unable to accept other passports than those regularly issued by the respective Governments.

39.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./31.
Evian, July 12th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF URUGUAY.

The general views of the Uruguayan Government have already been expressed in plenary session. For the Technical Sub-Committee it is of interest to know the texts of the most important laws and decrees on the subject. As it is impossible to summarise these very complicated texts, I think that the best way for the Uruguayan Delegation to collaborate in the work of the Conference is to table the said texts themselves.

In the same spirit and for the confidential information of the Sub-Committee, I wish to amplify what has been said regarding the definition of the term "refugees". From the standpoint of Uruguay this term should not cover persons who leave their country on grounds of personal convenience or interest. It should, on the other hand, cover not only all persons wishing to leave their country but also those who have already left it (Convention of February 10th, 1938).

Furthermore, my Government wishes that collaboration at this gathering should always be in accordance with the work of the League of Nations, more particularly with the Agreement of July 4th, 1936, and the Convention of February 10th, 1938.

On the subject of travel and identity documents, this is a question which is governed by existing decrees in Uruguay. Our country could consider accepting travel papers or certificates conforming to the model accepted by the 1938

Conference. On the other hand, the Nansen certificate system has given good results in Uruguay. That is why I have already mentioned the Decrees of 1924, 1925, 1930 and 1931 concerning Russian, Armenian and Assyrian refugees with no nationality or of doubtful nationality, or persons having no diplomatic or consular representation in the country.

Finally, since Uruguay has no need at the moment for labout supplies apart from agricultural workers, it is impossible for her to admit itinerant traders in general, day labourers or labourers generally, as their presence would only further complicate the situation on the labour market in present circumstances.

As regards consular regulations, our legislation is very favourable and, in the case of persons without money, no charge is made for the formalities accomplished (See annexed Decrees).[1]

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(1) The delegate of Uruguay has deposited with the Secretariat the text of the most important laws and decrees in force in Uruguay on the question of immigration; these documents are kept in the archives of the Secretariat at the disposal of any Delegations wishing to take cognisance thereof.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./32.
Evian, July 12th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

DECLARATION BY THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION.

In his speech at the plenary meeting, H.E. M. Le Breton has already stated the Argentine Delegation's view on the problem before the Conference. He said in particular that this Delegation saw no necessity or even possibility at the present time of defining in advance the extent of the effort to be made in future on this matter by the Argentine. The latter country's attitude in the past, however, is sufficient indication of the liberal attitude which it will take in future. The consular and emigration authorities will supply regular information on the possible openings and, within the limits fixed by circumstances, we will energetically collaborate in the work of the Committee.

On the subject of the immigration laws and regulations at present in force in the Argentine, I do not propose to quote the text of our Immigration Law which dates from 1876 and which is still in force. Its rather lengthy text is at the disposal of the Bureau should the latter deem it advisable to have it translated. At the same time I will give you confidential particulars of the main lines of a draft decree which we have received, and which will come into force on August 1st this year.

This decree regulates the Law of 1876 and of course replaces previous texts. In view of the country's present economic situation the Argentine Government decides that all

non-resident aliens wishing to enter the country must in future have a special landing permit issued by the Central Immigration Department at Buenos Aires; in other words, consuls accredited abroad must apply for and supply to this Department all particulars regarding persons who wish to immigrate into the Argentine.

This landing permit will be issued after the case has been considered by a special Committee consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of the Interior respectively.

As regards the categories of emigrants which the Argentine could receive, our first delegate has already explained in the plenary meeting that Argentina, being an agricultural country, held out great possibilities still for agricultural immigration irrespective of religious or racial creeds.

We have already admitted quite a large number of refugees - I think about 8,000 - from Germany.

May I add that, as in the past, we shall follow with great interest the question of placing families of farmers in the Argentine. In conclusion, if the Sub-Committee thinks it expedient, I shall hold at the disposal of the Bureau the text of the draft Decree and of the Law of 1876.

41.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./33
Evian, July 12th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

LETTERS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE BY M. Constantino HERDOCIA, DELEGATE OF NICARAGUA AND M. Maurice ROSAL, DELEGATE OF HONDURAS, ON JULY 11th, 1938.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith:

1) The laws and regulations on immigration of the Republic of Nicaragua at present in force in my country, and

2) The law on aliens promulgated on October 3rd, 1894.

I have the honour etc.

(Signed) Constantino HERDOCIA,
Delegate of Nicaragua.

I have the honour to send you herewith the text of the Immigration Law for the Republic of Honduras, promulgated on March 20th, 1934, at present in force, a translation of which for the use of the Intergovernmental Committee I have made myself.

I have the honour etc.

(Signed) Maurice ROSAL,
Delegate of Honduras.

Note by the Secretariat: These documents are kept in the archives of the Secretariat at the disposal of any Delegations wishing to take cognisance thereof.

42.

~~Confidential~~.

C.I.E./C.T./34.
Evian, July 12th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE COLOMBIAN DELEGATION.

In our statement made in plenary session on July 9th, 1938, we announced that we would have occasion to give the Technical Sub-Committee of the Conference additional information of a confidential character needed to define clearly the Colombian Government's position on the question under examination by the Committee. This information will enable the Committee to appreciate more exactly the reasons of a legal, public nature which necessarily limit our desire to collaborate on even more generous lines in the aims which the Conference is trying to achieve. These aims derive from the sentiments of human solidarity which have always guided our conduct in international affairs. We are not indifferent, and we could not be indifferent, to the necessity of offering generous asylum to political refugees who, on racial or religious grounds, have been expelled from their own country. We would merely define here the circumstances under which we would be able to fulfil this obligation which is common to all civilised Christian nations.

When the Colombian Government accepted the invitation to take part in this Conference it did so in the belief that the action to be taken on behalf of political refugees would be carried out in accordance with each country's national legislation, and also in agreement with the other States consulted, more particularly with the American Republics. It expressed the view

that this action should be none other than a humanitarian effort inspired by considerations of real world brotherhood.

This consideration naturally excludes any reference to the legal, economic or racial questions which would be at variance with the universal principle that international peace must be based on a recognition of the different political régimes obtaining in each country and on the non-interference of one State in the domestic affairs of others.

For reasons of public security and order, and in the light of the experience of other American States which have sustained serious injury because they have tolerated the dominating influence of racial and political groups not connected with the national population, the Colombian Government wishes to draw a clear and essential distinction between the protection granted to refugees in virtue of humanitarian considerations and the impossibility of introducing into American law the idea of racial minorities which is as opposed to our historical tradition as it is to our juridical structure; it would refuse to accept anything which might be taken as establishing a precedent favourable to the introduction into America of the minorities system which is and must remain the exclusive property of the Old Continent.

Our Government, nevertheless, has no desire to take part in any multilateral agreement which would impose onerous or impossible obligations on Colombia, and would reiterate its intention not to interfere in questions likely to affect the domestic affairs of other countries.

Colombia has never encouraged immigration, yet in spite of this circumstance a large volume of spontaneous and inadequately controlled immigration has occurred of recent years which is

beginning to create serious social problems for us because most of the immigrants engage mainly in trade and thus do prejudice to Colombian nationals. What we need, however, is chiefly agricultural immigrants, and we would be prepared to consider favourably in particular urgent cases the admission of suitable individuals with an unimpeachable reputation who refrain from all political and religious activities, provided they are prepared to contribute to the country's industrial progress and to observe its laws and customs.

By issuing special immigration permits to peasant families who, for reasons beyond their control, have been compelled to leave their country of origin, we would make an exception to the existing restrictions on immigration - restrictions which we have had to impose because of the circumstances above described.

The following is a description of our legislation on this subject:

Law 48 of 1920 opened Colombian territory to all foreigners with a few exceptions specified in the Law. This generosity brought all kinds of troubles upon us, and we were forced to impose restrictions on immigration. Decree 2232 of 1931 introduced the quota system in Colombia. Then came Decrees 2247 of 1932, 25 of 1934 and 148 of 1935, fixing the number of aliens of various nationalities who may enter Colombia.

The quota system was not successful because various persons managed to enter the country contrary to the actual spirit of the Decree which had introduced this system, more particularly in virtue of the privilege granted to bring into the country relatives of immigrants already settled in Colombia.

Lastly, Decrees 1194 of 1936 and 397 of 1937, both of which are still in force introduced a system of a guarantee deposit for

Bulgarian, Chinese, Egyptian, Estonian, Greek, Hindu, Latvian, Lithuanian, Palestinian, Polish, Rumanian, Syrian, Turkish, and Yugoslav immigrants. The amount of this deposit, which must be lodged with the Customs Offices of the Republic, varies as follows:

Father or husband.....	1000	Colombian	pesos.	
Children above 20: (youths or girls).....	1000	"	"	
Mother or wife	500	"	"	
Children between 10 and 20.....	150	"	"	each.
Children under 10	100	"	"	"
Near relatives by blood (uncles, brothers, etc.) of persons already settled in the country for at least three years must lodge a deposit of	250	"	"	"

This is the system which obtains today in Colombia in the case of immigrants who are of certain Eastern races. Though very recent, it has so far produced better results than the systems previously adopted.

We give below a table showing the number of foreigners of various nationalities who entered Colombia between May 1st 1937 and May 31st 1938. It is clear from this table that, in spite of the restrictions imposed by Colombian legislation, a large number of aliens managed to enter Colombia legally.

Austria	78
Great Britain.....	667
China.....	7
Czechoslovakia.....	76
Ecuador.....	498
France.....	368
Germany.....	1,299
Italy.....	251
Japan.....	30
Lebanon.....	36
Netherlands.....	1,131
Palestine.....	24
Poland.....	128
Portugal.....	3

Rumania.....	60
Spain.....	368
Syria.....	16
Switzerland.....	138
United States of America.....	2,055

The fact that most of these immigrants are of the Semitic race, and in particular the fact that more than 95% of those who recently entered Colombia are competing in a ruinous and not always honest manner with national traders, has evoked very widespread and deeply-felt opposition to this current of immigration. The Government and Parliament are being constantly asked by public opinion to impose fresh restrictions on immigration. In these circumstances it would be impossible to secure the necessary ratification by the Legislature of an international agreement implying an undertaking to facilitate explicitly Jewish immigration, even in small proportions. Fortunately, in Colombia there are no racial or religious prejudices which would make it impossible in this concrete case to adopt a policy of humanitarian protection of refugees, within the framework of the limitations inevitably imposed by the duty of preventing the admission to the country of elements justly regarded as undesirable.

In conclusion, the Colombian Government considers that there is a direct connection between a system of providing documents for refugees and the creation of a permanent Committee to carry out the scheme of granting a subsidy to the said refugees. In principle, we are not in favour of the creation of the said Committee, for, as stated above, we are not prepared to be a party to a general convention on minorities. This would imply an agreement between the countries represented at this Conference to the exclusion of the nations absent.

Our Government fears that the body proposed might one day be influenced by associations or political or racial elements alien in tendency to the Colombian nation. The competent organisations created for this same purpose by the

League of Nations might achieve the same humanitarian objectives. This would furthermore permit of the adoption, as stated in point 3 of this Conference's agenda, of a really universal system of documents for refugees. To this end it would suffice to extend to refugees coming from other countries the identity document known as the Nansen passport.

We would also point out that since 1932 Colombia has adopted a system of emergency passports consisting of an identity document drawn up by the doyen of the foreign consular corps at Bogota, which is recognised by the Colombian Government as a valid identity document for travelling abroad. It would be interesting to consider these emergency passports with a view to their more general adoption, if possible.

Without further express instructions from the Colombian Government we cannot agree to the proposal to set up the Permanent Committee in question. In order to seek such instructions we would have to be informed beforehand both as regards the powers of the said Committee and the way in which it would be appointed.

43.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./35
Evian, July 12th 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian, July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

DECLARATION BY THE DELEGATION OF VENEZUELA.

I have little to add to my declaration made at the plenary meeting on Saturday July 9th, when I outlined the possibilities open to the Government of Venezuela for the admission of political refugees from Germany, including Austria. I drew the attention of the Conference to the existence of certain restrictions. In view of existing legal provisions, the requirements or the necessities of demographic equilibrium, and the preservation of social security, the Government of Venezuela must observe the said limitations in the choice of aliens who may be admitted as immigrants.

Venezuela, of course, is a country of immigration, as it is very vast and thinly populated. The present Government is making a thorough and complete study of the problem of immigration into Venezuela. This will call for a sustained effort extending over several years and implying considerable pecuniary sacrifices. Immigration into Venezuela is even envisaged by our present Constitution, for the country is under an obligation to encourage European immigration and, in collaboration with the federated States and municipalities, to promote the organisation of agricultural settlements.

Granting, therefore, that Venezuela is an immense field for immigration, it must not be forgotten that the

problem is extremely complicated. There are huge areas suitable for agriculture and stock-breeding; the country has the most varied climate from the extremes of heat to the extremes of cold, there being mountains of as much as 4,000 metres high. It is therefore essential to make very detailed and minute surveys before deciding what nationalities, what categories and what number of people we can admit to increase our population and stimulate our economic development without injuring our national interests. I can only say that Venezuela is prepared to accept persons arriving to engage in agricultural occupations, but in present circumstances I cannot define exactly the number and the quota of refugees from abroad whom we can admit.

I hold at the Technical Sub-Committee's disposal our new Law on immigration and colonisation, and our Law on aliens, the latter of which defines the conditions for the admission of foreigners into Venezuela.

44.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./36

Evian, July 12th 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE.

Evian - July 1938

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT BY THE FRENCH DELEGATION ON THE POSSIBILITIES OPEN TO FRANCE IN THE MATTER OF FUTURE IMMIGRATION.

After describing the position of aliens in France since the Decree-Law of May 2nd 1938, the French Delegation communicated statistics to show that since 1918 France has admitted to her territory 200,000 political refugees not counting the undoubtedly very large number of those who, for various reasons, could not be registered. It is clear that France has thus reached saturation point.

France must, therefore, put a limit to the effort which she will be asked to make on behalf of emigrés from Austria, and she cannot in particular agree to accept a quota.

The French Authorities will give their customary favourable consideration to the individual applications made to them, and France will admit as many refugees as she can without endangering the country's economic and social equilibrium or its public order. Moreover, France has already given shelter to many immigrants from Austria; in the last three months 3,000 such immigrants have been given permission to reside in France, and this number is increasing daily.

45.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~.

C.I.E./C.T./38.(1)
Evian, July 13th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

REPORT BY M. M. HANSSON (NORWAY), CHAIRMAN OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Technical Sub-Committee was appointed:

(1) to hear in confidence the statements of laws and practices of the participating Governments and the statements of the number and types of immigrants each is prepared to receive, and

(2) to consider the question of "documentation" for refugees.

The Technical Sub-Committee was composed as follows:

Chairman : Judge Michael Hansson, Norway.

Members : Brazil, Canada, Chile, United Kingdom, United States of America, France, Haiti, the Netherlands, and Switzerland.

Sir Neill Malcolm, High Commissioner for refugees from Germany, was invited to participate in the work of the Sub-Committee, and attended the sessions.

The Sub-Committee met on July 8, 11 and 13, 1938.

The written statements received by the Sub-Committee from the Delegations represented at the Intergovernmental Committee are attached hereto and submitted to the Chairman of the Committee in strict confidence for the information of the Delegations, and for reference to such continuing body as may be set up by the Committee. The written statements together

with the oral statements made and the speeches of the delegates before the Intergovernmental Committee indicate, without exception, that the Governments represented appreciate the serious nature of the refugee problem and the urgent necessity for the finding of a solution therefor, and that all Governments are prepared to co-operate to the extent permitted by their laws and individual situation. There appear to be no legal restrictions in the countries represented, upon the admission of refugees as such. Since 1933 a large number of refugees have been admitted into the territories of the various countries and large numbers are still being admitted.

The Sub-Committee is pleased to report that the statements in general hold out prospects for increased reception of refugees qualifying for admission under the receiving country's immigration laws. Certain countries have expressed a willingness to receive experienced agriculturalists. Others have stated their willingness to accept selected classes of workers for whom suitable employment is available. Still others allow immigrants to enter without occupational restriction, and permit those lawfully admitted to choose their employment. The quota system numerically limiting the admission of immigrants, which is in effect in certain countries, will permit the reception of an appreciable number of refugees. Some countries having no numerical limitations are prepared to adopt a liberal attitude in admitting refugees under their methods of control.

Finally, certain countries have indicated their desire to consider plans of settlement of refugees in their territories when such plans are presented by official or private organisations.

A further study of the problem may therefore be hopefully undertaken. As has been stated, the problem is vast and complex and it is evident that it will require a long-range programme for its solution, carefully conceived and carried out. The countries represented on the Committee which border Germany including Austria have generously received large numbers of refugees and cannot at present be expected to add considerably to those numbers until there has been a reduction in their refugee population by absorption and by emigration of refugees to other countries. In the meantime, they may continue to make an important contribution to the solution of the problem by affording facilities for the education, technical or agricultural training and re-adaptation for life in another country of refugees given temporary asylum while continuing to grant special consideration, to the extent which they have indicated, to individual cases. Many countries are faced with a serious economic and unemployment situation which does not permit of any large and sudden influx of foreigners into their territories. Moreover, the impoverished condition in which a great number of refugees are obliged to seek settlement outside Germany including Austria constitutes a major obstacle to their transference to another country.

The question of documentation has also been considered. The types of documents fall into two classes. First, documents required by the country to which the refugee desires to emigrate. Second, the document which may be issued to a refugee by the country of his foreign residence to serve the purpose of a passport.

With respect to the first category, the Sub-Committee

suggests that the countries represented on the Committee might be invited to consider the adoption of the following provision:

> In those individual immigration cases in which the usually-required documents emanating from foreign official sources are found not to be available, there should be accepted such other documents serving the purpose of the requirements of law, as may be available to the immigrant.

With respect to the second category, the Sub-Committee has taken note of the various methods employed by the countries represented to meet the question in a manner permitted by existing law and finds it unnecessary therefore to make any recommendation on this matter. Attention may, however, be invited in this connection to the several international agreements providing for the issue of a travel document which serves the purpose of a passport, and to the advantage of their wide application.

46.

C.I.E./6.
Evian, July 13th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

PROPOSALS BY THE BUREAU

regarding the Expenses of the Intergovernmental Committee

and their Allocation.

If, as at present anticipated, the Evian session of the Intergovernmental Committee closes this week, the costs incurred which have been advanced by the French Government can now be estimated to amount altogether to 16,000 (sixteen thousand) Swiss francs. In detail this amount can be roughly subdivided as follows:

Allowances paid to the League of Nations Secretariat for the staff put at the disposal of the Intergovernmental Committee	12,000
Paper, stencils and roneo ink	1,500
Miscellaneous expenses (telephone and telegraph communications, liaison by motor-car between Evian and Geneva, etc.)	500
Minutes of plenary meetings and reports of the two Sub-Committees	2,000
	16,000

In the invitation sent by the United States Government to the States attending the Intergovernmental Committee at Evian, it was suggested that these costs should be equitably apportioned. The Secretary-General accordingly suggests the application of the League of Nations scale of allocation of expenditure; thus, each country on the Intergovernmental Committee would assume responsibility for the same number of units of expenditure as allotted to it at the present time by the League Secretariat at Geneva.

The following table shows in Swiss francs the contribution which each member of the Intergovernmental Committee would thus be asked to make.

	Unités.			
Etats-Unis d'Amérique	108	....	3.024	Francs suisses
République Argentine	23	....	644	....
Australie	23	....	644	....
Belgique	19	....	532	....
Bolivie	2	....	56	....
Royaume-Uni de Grande Bretagne	108	....	3.024	....
Brésil	23	....	644	....
Canada	35	....	980	....
Chili	8	....	224	....
Colombie	5	....	140	....
Costa-Rica	1	....	28	....
Cuba	5	....	140	....
Danemark	12	....	336	....
République Dominicaine	1	....	28	....
Equateur	1	....	28	....
France	80	....	2.240	....
Guatémala	0,5	....	14	....
Haiti	1	....	28	....
Honduras	0,5	....	14	....
Irlande	10	....	280	....
Mexique	13	....	364	....
Nicaragua	0,5	....	14	....
Norvège	9	....	252	....
Nouvelle-Zélande	8	....	224	....
Panama	1	....	28	....
Paraguay	0,5	....	14	....
Pays-Bas	24	....	672	....
Pérou	5	....	140	....
Suède	19	....	532	....
Suisse	17	....	476	....
[illegible]	4	....	112	....

47.

~~Confidential~~

C.I.E./C.T./3[illegible].
Evian, July 12th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

DECLARATION BY THE DELEGATE OF CUBA.

The Government of the Republic of Cuba will be very glad to support President Roosevelt's proposal for the constitution of a special Committee to facilitate the emigration of political refugees from Germany and Austria.

The eminent President of the United States of America merits the congratulations of all countries who wish to find a solution for such an important problem. We are prepared to co-operate in this initiative with the greatest pleasure and to the extent of our possibilities.

Many Cubans who, some years ago, when we were fighting for independence, had to leave their country as the result of official persecution, have not forgotten the hospitable welcome which they received in very difficult circumstances from other Governments including several countries of America and Europe. This is why they realise to-day the terrible situation of political refugees from Germany and Austria, and are keenly desirous of doing everything possible for them. As a profoundly liberal and democratic country, Cuba makes no distinctions in this connection.

As a result of the War our national economic system is undergoing very serious depression, and at the present time Cuba has thousands of workmen and intellectuals who are

suffering from poverty and unemployment.

As an essentially agricultural nation, dependent almost exclusively on one single product - sugar - the world price of which is barely sufficient to cover the cost of production, Cuba is forced to restrict the latter, and to maintain at Government expense on national territory more than 50,000 foreign workmen who are at present without employment and without resources. In such conditions, and in spite of our great desire to help in the solution of this question, the Government of Cuba is in a very difficult situation for receiving fresh immigrants - a difficulty which is further accentuated by the restrictions imposed by our legislation on foreigners wishing to settle in Cuba. (A summary of existing Cuban legislation on immigration is appended.)(1)

Nevertheless, in view of the profoundly humanitarian nature of the work which the Intergovernmental Committee proposes to accomplish, and the responsibilities which no civilised nation can refuse when the necessity for defending and giving practical effect to the principle of international solidarity arises, the Government of Cuba feels that it must in honour approve of any measure which might alleviate the hardships of these various refugees. We have therefore decided to share in these obligations within the framework of our legislation, and subject to a reservation as regards the number and haracter of the refugees, workers, traders, small manufacturers or agriculturists, but giving every particular case a most favourable consideration.

On the other hand, we are always prepared to admit immigrants anxious to settle in Cuba at their own expense.

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(1) Note by the Secretariat. This document in Spanish is kept in the archives of the Secretariat t the disposal of Delegations.

We would grant them every possible facility and protection compatible with national interests. In principle, the Government of Cuba could not authorise the mass immigration of workers who would tend to aggravate still further the existing depression.

On the subject of the documents which should be held by refugees, the Cuban Government sees no objection to a system similar to the Nansen Passport arrangement.

The Government of Cuba is also prepared to become a member of the Permanent Committee subject, however, to reservations as regards co-operation with the bodies already in existence which deal with this question if such bodies are private organisations.

~~Confidential~~.

C.I.E./C.T./39.

Evian, July 13th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

DECLARATION BY THE DELEGATION OF MEXICO.

The Mexican Delegation on the Intergovernmental Committee has the honour to inform the Technical Sub-Committee appointed to hear statements regarding the laws and procedure of Governments in respect to the admission of political refugees from Germany and Austria as follows:

The Government of the United States of Mexico, being occupied with the application and development of an immense scheme of social and economic reforms, has, for several years past, had to restrict immigration in general and that of workers in particular.

These restrictions, as the representative of Mexico had occasion to point out at the meeting of July 9th, are fully maintained, having been embodied in certain existing regulations.

On the particular questions to be considered by the Technical Sub-Committee, the Mexican Delegation has the honour to declare:

I.

1) In Mexico, migration questions are regulated by the "Ley General de Poblacion" (General Population Law) of August 24th, 1936. This Law, pending the issue of administrative regulations, has been interpreted by various texts and should be examined in the light of certain provisions of the old Migration Regulations.

The Mexican Delegation has the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the Law in question (g).

2) All migration questions come under the sole purview of the Ministry of the Interior (Secretaria de Governacion) which is the only authority with power to authorise immigration in a particular case.

In foreign countries, Consuls can be regarded from this point of view as representatives of the Ministry of the Interior. It is their duty to explain the law on the subject and give information to foreigners applying therefor. They are in particular responsible, once the Ministry has granted a permit, for examining the papers of the future immigrants, such as passports, certificates of character and health, marriage papers, parents' authorisation in the case of minors, etc.., and for issuing the documents necessary for their admission into Mexico. These papers must be produced to the Migration Officers at the port of arrival.

As soon as an immigrant has settled on the part of the country assigned to him as a place of residence, he must register at the Aliens Office.

II.

As the Mexican representative stated in the general discussion, the competent Mexican authorities are considering the possibility of granting maximum admission facilities to political refugees from Germany and Austria, more especially in the case of agriculturalists, highly qualified technical workers, specialists and scientists.

In pursuance of Article 7, para. III, of the General Population Law, the Ministry of the Interior has to draw up and issue every October schedules showing the maximum number of aliens

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(g) Note by the Secretariat. This document is kept in the archives of the Secretariat where it may be consulted by delegations.

of the various nationalities who may be admitted during the next twelve months. These schedules also specify the conditions under which such immigration is to be conducted.

The authorities of the Ministry of the Interior who are at present enga ed in drawing up the schedule above referred to, will certainly take into consideration the results and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee in the spirit described by the representative of Mexico in his speech.

III.

The Mexican Delegation believes that its Government would be prepared to consider the possibility of recognising as an identity document any document which the Intergovernmental Committee thinks might be approved as such.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938. C.I.E./7(1)

Evian, July 14th, 1938.

RESOLUTION

adopted by the Committee on July 14th, 1938.

THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE: Having met at Evian, France, from July 6 to July 15, 1938;

1. Considering that the question of involuntary emigration has assumed major proportions and that the fate of the unfortunate people affected has become a problem for intergovernmental deliberation;

2. Aware that the involuntary emigration of large numbers of people, of different creeds, economic conditions, professions and trades, from the country or countries where they have been established is disturbing to the general economy, since these persons are obliged to seek refuge, either temporarily or permanently, in other countries at a time when there is serious unemployment; that in consequence countries of refuge and settlement are faced with problems not only of an economic and social nature but also of public order, and that there is a severe strain on the administrative facilities and absorptive capacities of the receiving countries;

3. Aware, moreover, that the involuntary emigration of people in large numbers has become so great that it renders racial and religious problems more acute; increases international unrest; and may hinder seriously the processes of appeasement in international relations;

4. Believing that it is essential that a long-range programme should be envisaged, whereby assistance to involuntary emigrants, actual and potential, may be coordinated within the framework of existing migration laws and practices of governments;

5. Considering that if countries of refuge or settlement are to cooperate in finding an orderly solution of the problem before the Committee they should have the collaboration of the country of origin and are therefore persuaded that it will make its contribution by enabling involuntary emigrants to take with them their property and possessions and emigrate in an orderly manner;

6. Welcoming heartily the initiative taken by the President of the United States of America in calling the Intergovernmental Meeting at Evian for the primary purpose of facilitating involuntary emigration from Germany (including Austria) and expressing profound appreciation to the French Government for its courtesy in receiving the Intergovernmental Meeting at Evian;

7. Bearing in mind the resolution adopted by the Council of the League of Nations on May 14, 1938, concerning international assistance to refugees;

RECOMMENDS:

8. (a) that the persons coming within the scope of the activity of the Intergovernmental Committee shall be 1) persons who have not already left their country of origin (Germany including Austria), but who must emigrate on account of their political opinions, religious beliefs, or racial origin and 2) persons as defined in 1) who have already left their country of origin and who have not yet established themselves permanently elsewhere;

(b) that the Governments participating in the Intergovernmental Committee shall continue to furnish the Committee, for its strictly confidential information, with 1) details regarding such immigrants as each Government may be prepared to receive under its existing laws and practices and 2) details of

these laws and practices;

(c) that in view of the fact that the countries of refuge and settlement are entitled to take into account the economic and social adaptability of immigrants, these should in many cases be required to accept, at least for a time, changed conditions of living in the countries of settlement;

(d) that the Governments of the countries of refuge and settlement should not assume any obligations for the financing of involuntary emigration;

(e) that, with regard to the documents required by the countries of refuge and settlement, the Governments represented on the Intergovernmental Committee should consider the adoption of the following provision:

> In those individual immigration cases in which the usually required documents emanating from foreign official sources are found not to be available, there should be accepted such other documents serving the purpose of the requirements of law, as may be available to the immigrant.

and that, as regards the document which may be issued to an involuntary emigrant by the country of his foreign residence to serve the purpose of a passport, note be taken of the several international agreements providing for the issue of a travel document serving the purpose of a passport, and of the advantage of their wide application.

(f) that there should meet at London an Intergovernmental Committee consisting of such representatives as the Governments participating in the Evian Meeting may desire to designate.

This Committee shall continue and develop the work of the Intergovernmental Meeting at Evian and shall be constituted and shall function in the following manner:

There shall be a Chairman of this Committee and four Vice-Chairmen.

There shall be a Director of authority, appointed by the

Intergovernmental Committee, who shall be guided by it in his actions. He shall undertake negotiations to improve the present conditions of exodus and to replace them by conditions of orderly emigration. He shall approach the Governments of the countries of refuge and settlement with a view to developing opportunities for permanent settlement.

The Intergovernmental Committee, recognising the value of the work of the existing refugee services of the League of Nations and of the studies of migration made by the International Labour Office, shall co-operate fully with these services, and the Intergovernmental Committee at London shall consider the means by which the co-operation of the Committee and the Director with these services shall be established.

The Intergovernmental Committee at its forthcoming meeting at London will consider the scale on which its expenses shall be apportioned among the participating Governments.

9. That the Intergovernmental Committee in its continued form shall hold a first meeting at London on August 3, 1938.

50.

C.I.E./8.(1)
Evian, July 14th, 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

RESOLUTION RECARDING
THE REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.
adopted by the Committee on July 14, 1938.

The Intergovernmental Committee having received the report of its Technical Sub-Committee,

Notes with satisfaction that this report holds out prospects for increased reception of refugees qualifying for admission under the immigration laws and practices of receiving countries;

Notes further that certain countries have indicated their desire to consider plans for settlement of refugees in their territories when such plans are presented by official or private organisations;

Observes that countries bordering on Germany (including Austria), while unable in existing circumstances to make any substantial addition to their present efforts, may continue to make an important contribution to the solution of the problem by affording facilities for educational - technical or agricultural - training of refugees to whom temporary asylum has been given.

Recommends that the Governments represented on the Committee should continue to study, in a generous spirit, the problems raised in the Sub-Committee's report.

COMITE INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL

Evian- Juillet 1938

C.I.E./9
Evian, le 14 juillet 1938.

RESOLUTION ADOPTEE PAR LE COMITE LE I4 JUILLET 1938

Le COMITE INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL charge son Président en exercice, Son Excellence Monsieur Myron C. Taylor, et son Président d'honneur, S.E. M. Henri Berenger, d'assurer, jusqu'à sa prochaine session à Londres, la continuité de son action et notamment de centraliser, à cet effet, toutes communications que les gouvernements représentés au Comité souhaiteraient lui faire tenir.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

C.I.E./9.
Evian, July 14th, 1938.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON JULY 14th, 1938.

The Intergovernmental Committee instructs its Acting Chairman, His Excellency Mr. Myron C. Taylor, and its Honorary Chairman, H.E. M. Henri Bérenger, to continue to act on its behalf until the next meeting in London, and in particular to serve as a centre for the receipt of any communications which the Governments represented on the Committee may wish to send it.

C.I.E./ IC
Evian, July 14th 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE, ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE, on JULY 14th, 1938.

Rapporteur: M. M. HANSSON (NORWAY), CHAIRMAN OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Technical Sub-Committee was appointed:

(1) to hear in confidence the statements of laws and practices of the participating Governments and the statements of the number and types of immigrants each is prepared to receive, and

(2) to consider the question of "documentation" for refugees.

The Technical Sub-Committee was composed as follows:

Chairman : Judge Michael Hansson, Norway.

Members : Brazil, Canada, Chile, United Kingdom, United States of America, France, Haiti, the Netherlands, and Switzerland.

Sir Neill Malcolm, High Commissioner for refugees from Germany, was invited to participate in the work of the Sub-Committee, and attended the sessions.

The Sub-Committee met on July 8, 11 and 13, 1938.

The written statements received by the Sub-Committee from the Delegations represented at the Intergovernmental Committee have been submitted to the Chairman of the Committee in strict confidence for the information of the Delegations, and for reference to such continuing body as may be set up by the Committee. The written statements together

with the oral statements made and the speeches of the delegates before the Intergovernmental Committee indicate, without exception, that the Governments represented appreciate the serious nature of the refugee problem and the urgent necessity for the finding of a solution therefor, and that all Governments are prepared to co-operate to the extent permitted by their laws and individual situation. There appear to be no legal restrictions in the countries represented, upon the admission of refugees as such. Since 1933 a large number of refugees have been admitted into the territories of the various countries and large numbers are still being admitted.

The Sub-Committee is pleased to report that the statements in general hold out prospects for increased reception of refugees qualifying for admission under the receiving country's immigration laws. Certain countries have expressed a willingness to receive experienced agriculturalists. Others have stated their willingness to accept selected classes of workers for whom suitable employment is available. Still others allow immigrants to enter without occupational restriction, and permit those lawfully admitted to choose their employment. The quota system numerically limiting the admission of immigrants, which is in effect in certain countries, will permit the reception of an appreciable number of refugees. Some countries having no numerical limitations are prepared to adopt a liberal attitude in admitting refugees under their methods of control.

Finally, certain countries have indicated their desire to consider plans of settlement of refugees in their territories when such plans are presented by official or private organisations.

A further study of the problem may therefore be hopefully undertaken. As has been stated, the problem is vast and complex and it is evident that it will require a long-range program for its solution, carefully conceived and carried out. The countries represented on the Committee which border Germany and Austria have generously received large numbers of refugees and cannot at present be expected to add considerably to those numbers until there has been a reduction in their refugee population by absorption and by emigration of refugees to other countries. In the meantime, they may continue to make a important contribution to the solution of the problem by affording facilities for the education, technical or agricultural training and re-adaptation for life in another country of refugees given temporary asylum while continuing to grant special consideration, to the extent which they have indicated, to individual cases. Many countries are faced with a rious economic and unemployment situation which does not permit of any large and sudden influx of foreigners into their territories. Moreover, the impoverished condition in which a great number of refugees are obliged to seek settlement outside Germany and Austria constitutes a major obstacle to their transference to another country.

The question of documentation has also been considered. The types of documents fall into two classes. First, documents required by the country to which the refugee desires to emigrate. Second, the document which may be issued to a refugee by the country of his foreign residence to serve the purpose of a passport.

With respect to the first category, the Sub-Committee

suggests that the countries represented on the Committee might be invited to consider the adoption of the following provision:

> In those individual immigration cases in which the usually-required documents emanating from foreign official sources are found not to be available, there should be accepted such other documents serving the purpose of the requirements of law, as may be available to the immigrant.

With respect to the second category, the Sub-Committee has taken note of the various methods employed by the countries represented to meet the question in a manner permitted by existing law and finds it unnecessary therefore to make any recommendation on this matter. Attention may, however, be invited in this connection to the several international agreements providing for the issue of a travel document which serves the purpose of a passport, and to the advantage of their wide application.

53.

Delegations having corrections which they wish made in the present Minutes, or in the minutes of previous sessions, are asked to send them to Mlle. Boisseau as soon as possible, and in any case before the end of the Committee's present session.

C.I.E./C.R./ 5
Evian, July 14th 1938.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July, 1938

VERBATIM REPORT

of the

Fifth Meeting (Private) held on Thursday, July 14th, 1938,

at 5 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Myron C. TAYLOR.

REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE (Document C.I.E./C.T./38(1))

M. GARCIA OLDINI (Chile):

Interpretation: Now that the report of the Technical Sub-Committee is submitted for adoption, I would venture to recall the reservation that I made during the meetings of the Sub-Committee itself, according to the terms of which my Government, in accordance with the legal provisions in force, is unable to accept any passport other than a passport regularly issued by a Government.

The report was adopted.

DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT WITH REFERENCE TO THE REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE (Document C.I.E./8)

The draft resolution was adopted.

DRAFT OF THE RESOLUTION WITH WHICH IT IS PROPOSED TO CONCLUDE THE PRESENT SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE AT EVIAN.
(Document C.I.E./7)

The CHAIRMAN: In submitting this Resolution to the Committee, I wish to point out that it contains a recommendation to the Governments participating in this intergovernmental meeting and that, in consequence, our action binds the Governments only to the extent that they, in their sovereign right, decide.

M. Michael HANSSON (Norway):

Interpretation: When I spoke in an earlier plenary session I said, in accordance with the instructions I had received, that the Norwegian Government felt a certain hesitation - a hesitation which had, in fact, already been expressed by Lord Winterton - at the possibility of the creation of a new organisation dealing with refugees apart from and beside the League of Nations organisation. Nevertheless, I am prepared gladly to support the resolution which is now proposed, because it would appear that the form that has been devised for the new organisation is indeed a very happy one, such that there will be no kind of competition with the organs of the League of Nations. Indeed, one might expect that the work of the League of Nations organs may rather be reinforced by the new organ and - this is an essential point - that it will at once be possible to open negotiations with the Government of the Reich. In this very important work, and in these negotiations, we shall benefit by the active participation of the Government of the United States of America and the Governments of other countries which are not members of the League of Nations.

M. RASMUSSEN (Denmark): I wish to draw attention to a phrase in paragraph 8(f): "He shall undertake negotiations to improve the present conditions of exodus..." etc., and to point out a difference between the English and the French texts. The latter contains the word "chaotique", and I suggest that it be altered to correspond with the English.

M. BERENGER (France):

Interpretation: I entirely agree with the suggestion made by the delegate of Denmark. Furthermore, the whole of the French text still requires further revision from the point of view of style.

M. BEUCKER (Netherlands): In the same paragraph, the French text contains the expression "des pays d'asile". I suggest that this text also should be brought into conformity with the English by the use of the words "des pays de refuge et d'établissement".

M. BERENGER (France):

Interpretation: M. Beuker's suggestion will be noted, and the Secretariat will see to it that the two texts are in complete conformity.

The Draft Resolution was adopted unanimously.

SCHEME FOR ALLOCATING THE COST OF THE PRESENT SESSION.
(Document C.I.E./6)

Mr. BURDEKIN (New Zealand): To whom should the amounts suggested be paid?

The CHAIRMAN: To the Secretary-General.

The scheme was adopted.

DRAFT RESOLUTION TO ASSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE UNTIL THE CONSTITUTION OF THE LONDON COMMITTEE.

M. BERENGER (France):

Interpretation: There is one point which remains to be settled after the adoption of the draft Resolution. That Resolution has been adopted unanimously, which in itself constitutes a very rare success in an Intergovernmental meeting and on which I am sure we may all congratulate ourselves. The point to which I refer is not of great moment, but it nevertheless calls for settlement. Between the present Committee, which one may compare to a constituent Assembly, and the Committee to meet in August, which will be more in the nature of a legislative Assembly, there remains a gap which has to be filled up. The question to be settled is to whom shall all communications received from Governments in preparation for the London meeting, as well as communications from the various organisations and individuals concerned, be addressed?

It might, indeed, be appropriate to address them to the future Chairman of the Committee, or on the other hand we could arrange that they should be communicated to the present Chairman of the Committee. Many of us, despite the distinguished qualities which we know in advance will be possessed by the future Chairman of the Committee, would think it appropriate for these communications to be addressed to H.E. Mr. Myron C. Taylor, to whom in so doing we should be paying a humble tribute. I therefore suggest that until further arrangements are made all communications in preparation for the London meeting should be addressed to H.E. Mr. Taylor. This will be a very simple act on our part, but I think we all

desire that it should be done as a symbol of the gratitude we feel towards our Chairman for the wise, cordial and ever-courteous guidance he has given us, and for the way in which he has discharged a very difficult task in connection with a subject in itself of very great difficulty. I therefore hope the Committee will approve the following draft Resolution:

> "The Intergovernmental Committee requests its Chairman in office, H.E. Mr. Myron C. Taylor, to ensure until the forthcoming meeting in London the continuity of its action, and, in particular, to centralise with this object all communications that the Governments represented in the Committee may desire to transmit."

I would add for the information of my colleagues that such communications could be addressed to H.E. Mr. Myron C. Taylor, c/o Mr. William Bullitt, United States Ambassador in Paris.

The CHAIRMAN: Before I put that Resolution to the vote, I would like to suggest that it would be a very great honour and privilege, as well as a great assistance to me, if I might have associated with me in that Resolution the Honorary Chairman, the distinguished Ambassador, M.Bérenger.

Lord WINTERTON (United Kingdom): I have great pleasure in asking the meeting to add the name of M. Bérenger to the Resolution, in order that he may be associated with the Chairman in this task.

The Resolution was adopted.

PUBLICATION OF THE REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

M. Michael HANSSON (Norway):

Interpretation: The report of the Technical Sub-Committee has so far, in accordance with the terms of

reference of that body, been regarded as confidential. At its final meeting yesterday the Sub-Committee expressed the wish that the plenary meeting should be asked to decide that the report should be made public. There is in fact nothing in that report of which the publication could be in any way disadvantageous; indeed, the reports of our two Sub-Committees may be regarded as supplementing each other. I therefore propose that the report of the Technical Sub-Committee be published.

The proposal was adopted.

COMMUNICATION OF THE COMMITTEE'S DOCUMENTATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Lord WINTERTON (United Kingdom): May I suggest that as a matter of courtesy the proceedings of this Committee should be communicated to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations for his information?

The suggestion was adopted.

THE COMMITTEE'S PROGRAMME OF WORK.

The CHAIRMAN: The concluding open session will be held at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning. The procedure contemplated will not require a great length of time, and it is hoped that one hour will suffice.

In conclusion, I wish to express gratitude to all concerned for the assistance they have given in the great effort that has been made to harmonise our views. My own personal gratitude is due to all the Members of the Committee, and to the Honorary Chairman, without whom we could have done nothing, for having made my task so light and pleasant.

The meeting rose.

Delegations having corrections which they wish made in the present Minutes, or in the Minutes of previous Meetings, are asked to send them to Mlle. Boisseau as soon as possible at the Secretariat of the League of Nations, Geneva.

C.I.E./C.R./6.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

Evian - July 1938.

VERBATIM REPORT

of the

Sixth Meeting (Public) held on Friday, July 15th, 1938,

at 11 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Myron C. TAYLOR,
later M. Henri BERENGER.

CLOSING OF THE SESSION.

The CHAIRMAN: Copies of the Resolution which has been under consideration and which was unanimously adopted yesterday have been placed in the hands of all present, and are also available to the public. In view of this fact, I assume that it is not necessary to read the Resolution in either English or French.

The CHAIRMAN spoke as follows :

" In my opening statement I stressed the fact that the problem of refugees was so complex, was so vast, that we probably could do no more at this initial session than put in motion the machinery, and correlate it with existing machinery, that would in the long run contribute to an amelioration of the condition of the unfortunate people with whom we are concerned.

I am happy to report that, due to the serious spirit of cooperation which has animated this first Intergovernmental Meeting, due to the deep-rooted conviction that we were dealing with a harrowing human problem, we have been able to recommend to our respective governments the establishment of machinery that should, if we keep the wheels turning, bring about a real improvement in the lives and prospects of many millions of our fellow men.

We have done more. We have heard from the governments of refuge and settlement confidential statements which hold our prospects for an increased reception of refugees within the frame-work of existing immigration laws and practices. We have had from the private organizations estimates of the extent of the problem with which we are faced together with proposals for a solution which we shall take into account in formulating concrete plans for the continuation of our work.

Our work must, and it will, continue, tirelessly, without interruption, in order that the hopes of the men, women and children who have placed their faith in our efforts may not be dispelled and their suffering embittered.

...

This Meeting is merely a beginning. From this time forward the Intergovernmental Committee is in permanent session. I shall expect the participating governments to remain in close contact with the Chairman in the interim between the adjournment today and the reconvening at London. Moreover, I sincerely hope that the representatives of the other participating governments will come to London prepared to give a further, and vigorous, impetus to the movement which was initiated by President Roosevelt and has been given strength by the hospitable reception at Evian assured by the Government of France, the friendly invitation to London proferred by the Government of the United Kingdom, and by the loyal support of the other participating governments.

To refer once again to my opening statement, I remarked then that unless steps were taken forthwith to remedy the present disorderly exodus of people from their country of origin there was catastrophic human suffering ahead which might have far reaching consequences in international unrest and strain. I wish to emphasize this statement once more. It is substantiated by the information which has reached us day by day as we have been in session here. It is vital that orderly emigration should replace disorderly exodus. It is essential that the emigrants should leave their country of origin with their property and possessions if they are to take root and sustain themselves in countries of settlement. It is imperative, in consequence, that the countries which are willing to receive emigrants in refuge or in permanent settlement should have the collaboration in these respects of the country of origin.

In closing, I am anxious to emphasize that we are seeking to approach this human problem with which we must deal

in an objective manner, and we seek a solution promptly that will lighten the burden of many who are suffering and are in sorrow, in sickness and in want. "

Lord WINTERTON (United Kingdom) spoke as follows:

"On behalf of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom I have gladly accepted both resolutions which represent in my opinion a very encouraging outcome of our work.

In the first place the resolutions record positive progress in the direction of enlarging the opportunities for the emigration of refugees from Germany including Austria. In the second place it opens up important prospects of carrying the question further through the Committee which is to meet shortly in London.

We consider these results most satisfactory as the first fruits of the wise and courageous initiative of the President of the United States of America.

The Intergovernmental Committee which we propose to set up in London will begin its work there soon. I need hardly say how warmly H.M. Government in the United Kingdom will welcome in London the representatives of the countries meeting here today.

The Committee will perhaps expect me, as representing the Power that holds the mandate for Palestine, to offer some observations. It has been represented in some quarters that the whole question, at least of the Jewish refugees, could be solved if only the gates of Palestine were thrown open to Jewish immigrants without restriction of any kind. I should like to say, as emphatically as I can, that I regard any such proposition as wholly untenable. Firstly Palestine is not a large country, and apart from that there are special considerations arising out of the terms of the Mandate and out of the local situation which it is impossible to ignore.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, as mandatory Power, has a direct obligation under the terms of the

mandate to facilitate Jewish immigration into Palestine under suitable conditions. This responsibility it has discharged and will continue to discharge in the light of the conditions actually prevailing from time to time. The record that has been achieved in this respect is one which calls for no apology. Some 300,000 Jews have entered the country since 1920. The number of German Jews admitted during the last few years is, I believe, over 40,000.

I have referred to prevailing conditions. I need not enlarge on the conditions prevailing at the present time. The acute problems that have arisen and the special difficulties with which the mandatory Government is confronted are a matter of general knowledge. They have led, as you all know, to proposals for drastic changes in the political structure of the country, the practical aspects of which are still under active consideration. Pending the completion of these investigations it has been found necessary not indeed to discontinue Jewish immigration - that has never been contemplated - but to subject it to certain restrictions of a purely temporary and exceptional character, the object of which is to maintain within reasonable limits the existing balance of population, pending a final decision - which we all hope may be reached at as early a date as possible - on the political future of the country,

That is the situation as it stands today. I would repeat that the arrangements now in force are purely temporary in character and are designed to cover what may be described as a period of transition. They will be subject to revision when the investigations to which I have referred have been completed and the mandatory Power is in a position to review the whole question in the light of their results. But for the moment the position is as I have described, and no immediate change is to be anticipated. In all the circumstances our view is that the question of Palestine stands upon a footing of its own and cannot usefully be taken into

account at the present stage in connexion with the general problems that are under consideration at this meeting.

I am glad to say that I am now in a position to speak with somewhat greater precision in regard to settlement in one of the East African territories. What I have to say relates to the colony of Kenya. The possibilities offered by Kenya for the small scale settlement of Jewish refugees have been under consideration for some time. After preliminary discussion with the local authorities the private organisation concerned sent out an expert adviser to investigate the question on the spot. It is understood that his report is favourable and that a scheme has been evolved and is now under active consideration for the acquisition of private land in the colony.

What precise form this plan may ultimately take I am not now in a position to say, but in any case it is quite clear that the process of settlement must be a gradual one. There can be no question of mass immigration, or of disturbing land allotted for native occupation.

As regards possibilities elsewhere in East Africa, I have not yet the material to enable me to add to what I said last week, but I should like to repeat that enquiries are being actively pursued and that there is every desire, both on the part of H.M. Government in the United Kingdom and of the colonial authorities, to render any assistance that may be found practicable.

We have met here at Evian for a humanitarian purpose, and we have all had very much in mind the hardships and difficulties of the people who, by reason of the pressure to which they are subjected, feel compelled to leave their homes. I hope that their

sufferings may be alleviated in consequence of the present meeting and of the further discussions of the Committee to be set up in London. My colleague and I have been much impressed by the willingness of all countries represented at this meeting to contribute, as far as their circumstances permit, to this result.

In conclusion, Sir, I wish, as warmly as I can, to thank you, our President, for the able, charming and dignified manner in which you have followed up the initiative of President Roosevelt. I should also like to thank our honorary President, M. Henry Bérenger, whose experience and sagacity have been of such assistance to us all. It must be a source of satisfaction to them both to see that their guidance of our proceedings has resulted in so harmonious a conclusion."

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure I shall be expressing the feelings of all the delegates here in saying how cordially we welcome at this meeting the distinguished Ambassador of Bolivia, M. Costa du Rels, who was unfortunately unable to be present at the earlier sessions.

I have now the honour to propose that this meeting shall send the following telegram to the President of the French Republic:

> "The Intergovernmental Meeting at Evian, upon concluding its sessions, desires to thank Your Excellency and through you the French people for the friendly reception which has been accorded the representatives of thirty-two nations on French soil. It is good augury for the great humanitarian work which has been undertaken that we should have your support and that we should have been able to begin our work on the traditionally hospitable territory of France."

The proposal was adopted with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN: It is now my pleasure to ask the Committee to vote a Resolution of appreciation and thanks to our Secretary-General, M. Jean Paul-Boncour. M. Paul-Boncour is responsible in great part for the smooth functioning of our meeting. As Chairman I have learned to appreciate his great qualities of diplomatic tact and administrative efficiency. He has been indefatigable in easing my task and, were he not in the service of his own country, I should like to enrol him in our service and take him back to Washington.

The Resolution was adopted with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN: I have no doubt that there will be enthusiastic support of the next Resolution which I propose to introduce. I ask for unanimous approval of a Resolution of appreciation to Mademoiselle Boisseau and her staff, who have worked efficiently and quietly and virtually without interruption

since the opening of this meeting and have contributed so materially to its success.

The Resolution was adopted with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN: The last duty which I have to perform as your Chairman is an exceptionally pleasant one. I can hardly find words to express my own profound respect and gratitude - and I am sure you are with me in that - to our Honorary Chairman, M. Bérenger, Ambassador of France. His wise counsel, his brilliant finesse, have largely contributed to the success of this meeting. We count upon his continued participation in our work, even though we may be leaving the fair and hospitable land of France for the equally fair and hospitable shores of Britain.

Applause.

M. COSTA DU RELS (Bolivia):

Interpretation: I deeply appreciate the kind words in which you referred to my Government, and I can assure you that it was only the force of circumstances that prevented me from attending throughout the whole of the meetings of this Committee.

The fact that I was absent from some of the meetings must not be taken as indicating any lack of support on our part for the generous initiative of President Roosevelt, an initiative taken by a great man to whom nothing that is human is indifferent. Indeed, how could our attitude be otherwise, since my country had the honour of presiding in Paris recently over the Committee set up by the Council of the League of Nations to draw up a statute for refugees throughout the world, including

refugees from Germany and Austria. There, we benefited from the invaluable co-operation of the United Kingdom and France, two countries that are always associated in work for peace and good international understanding. We were able to complete there a work the value of which has long been evident, and in that connection I should like to draw attention to the assistance that the League of Nations has given in work for refugees over a period of fifteen years. It has been a very great piece of work indeed, and one the value of which one is sometimes tempted to underestimate. The League of Nations and its organisations have helped thousands upon thousands of unhappy people, have succoured them and have given them strength, courage and confidence. I should therefore like at this moment to take the opportunity of addressing a particular tribute of admiration to M. Hansson, President of the Nansen Office, and Sir Neill Malcolm, High Commissioner in London for Refugees from Germany. On behalf of my country, I should like to pay them a well-merited tribute of admiration and appreciation.

It is hardly necessary for me to say that my country fully and warmly supports the resolution that this Intergovernmental Committee has had under consideration. We shall be glad indeed to collaborate in the work in London, and we shall look forward to the establishment of collaboration between the League of Nations organs dealing with refugees and the new Intergovernmental Committee, for the former represent the past - that is to say, experience - whereas the latter stands for the future - and therefore for a new dynamic force for the welfare of humanity. My Government will consider

all proposals made by the new body in the greatest spirit of co-operation and sympathy, and we shall be glad to contribute, within the limits of material possibilities and existing laws, to the successful accomplishment of that work.

I feel indeed that this problem is one that should be placed upon a high plane, far removed from political and ideological considerations. I do not agree with the adage that politics and policy must come first. I think humanity must take the first place, and therefore I am glad to support, on behalf of my Government, the resolution that has been laid before this Committee. I would venture to express the hope that the streams of Jewish emigration towards our countries may lead to the emergence of new forms of civilisation and the development of progress in South American countries. I shall be glad indeed to transmit the text that has been adopted to my Government, which I sincerely hope will be able to accept it.

The CHAIRMAN: I would like to recall what was said yesterday with reference to the period between the present meeting and the meeting to be held on August 3rd. It would be a very great convenience to those who are going to be actively engaged on the continuation of the work in the interim if you would communicate to me, c/o the Honourable William C. Bullitt, American Ambassador to France, at the American Embassy in Paris, any documentation it may be desired to submit, in order that the representatives to be chosen by the several Governments may have in hand any preparatory suggestions before the London meeting. It would help our work very much if any such documentation were forwarded as expeditiously as possible.

I have now very great pleasure in calling upon the Honorary Chairman, M. Henri Bérenger, to take over once more the conduct of the business of this meeting.

Lord WINTERTON (United Kingdom): Before you leave the Chair, Sir, I would like to recall what I said at the executive meeting yesterday, namely, that I hope all the Delegations will agree that the text of our Resolution should be communicated to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations for his information.

The CHAIRMAN: The meeting agreed to that course being taken.

M. Bérenger took the Chair.

M. BERENGER (France):

Interpretation: I should be failing in my duty of gratitude to our Chairman, Mr. Myron C. Taylor, and to you all if I did not express my feelings of profound emotion at listening to what was said just now firstly by Lord Winterton, and secondly by our distinguished Chairman himself. However much my own personal modesty may suffer, I am bound to recognise that I have the honour to represent here a great country with a great history, and that it is to France therefore that the words we have just heard are directed. Quite simply and quite sincerely I should like to say that in my long political career, both national and international, no tribute that has been paid has ever moved me more deeply, because I realise that we are engaged here upon a great work of mercy, a work in which France is proud to play her part. I would therefore ask you all to accept my very sincere thanks.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing as briefly as possible the views of my Government. On behalf

of the Government of France, which appointed me specially as Ambassador to preside over the French Delegation, I have unreservedly accepted the Resolution that was put forward in support of the effective and continuous work for refugees from Germany including Austria. France will collaborate fully in the future as she has collaborated fully in the past with the League of Nations organs since 1933. In regard to refugees, therefore, France remains faithful to her historic traditions of hospitality extended to exiles and of international sympathy. We agree with what was said by Mr. Myron C. Taylor when he expressed the view that we are here witnessing the beginning of a great collective effort which will be continued almost forthwith in a more practical form at the meeting to be held in London on August 3rd next under the auspices of His Britannic Majesty's Government and, indeed, of the whole British people. France therefore returns thanks to Mr. Myron C. Taylor, to Lord Winterton and to M. Costa du Rels for what they have been good enough to say this morning with regard to her and to her Government. I shall regard it as a duty to report immediately on my return to the President of the Republic and to the Minister for Foreign Affairs what has passed at to-day's meeting. Indeed, it was only this morning that our Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me that the French Government expressed its full approval of the work that has been done in this session of the Intergovernmental Committee.

France is indeed proud to have been chosen by the United States Government as the means, through welcoming the Conference here, of rendering possible the practical expression of the initiative taken by the President of the United States.

We are truly glad that in this beautiful setting of mountain and lake we are able - as France is always able through the vitality of her republican institutions and of the strength of her democracy - to receive all the countries of the world, and to assure them a refuge in a haven of peace in which they may conduct their international deliberations for the peace of the whole world, for the independence of all countries, and for the freedom of man throughout the globe.

I am sure all Delegations would desire to offer grateful and sympathetic appreciation of the services rendered to the Intergovernmental Committee at this meeting, which had to be rather hastily improvied, but which nevertheless has proved to be eminently successful, to the services rendered by the members of the United States Delegation, Mr. Pell, Mr. Brandt, and Mr. McDonald. With regard to Mr. McDonald I would say how deeply we all appreciate the very great services he has rendered for several years past in the work which has now been raised to a place of honour by the initiative taken by the President of the United States.

If I am to discharge the duty that has been entrusted to me as your Honorary Chairman, I must not fail to recall the very valuable work done by the Chairmen of our two Sub-Committees, M. Hansson and Lt.Col. White. Under their guidance the two Sub-Committees accomplished a very difficult task in a very short space of time, and we are glad to have had the co-operation of the distinguished Head of the Nansen Office. I wish to associate myself therefore with what was said just now by M. Costa du Rels, and propose that the Committee should express its feeling of solidarity and collaboration towards M. Hansson.

I am confident that the Committee will desire to ask Mr. Stirling to transmit to Lt.Col. White, whose absence we must regret, our appreciation of the work he did in so short a space of time. We are glad to have seen Australia taking so important a part in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee; we feel that this is a good augury and a promise for the future of the work set on foot by the United States Government. We welcome this demonstration of international collaboration.

I also wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to Sir Neill Malcolm for his invaluable co-operation.

Last but not least, in order that I may conclude the brief duties that have been entrusted to me in closing this session, I should like to propose that all Members of the Intergovernmental Committee should rise to express to His Excellency Mr. Myron C. Taylor our feeling of gratitude and admiration for the wisdom, courage and strength he has shown in discharging the great task entrusted to him by the President of the United States. He has carried out these duties in the distinguished manner we might have expected from his past achievements, and I am sure we shall be glad to express our feelings of friendship and gratitude.

M. Bérenger's remarks were received with acclamation.

M. BERENGER (Honorary Chairman):

Interpretation: The Members of the Intergovernmental Committee will still have present in their minds the terms of the telegram which we addressed to President Roosevelt at the opening of our session. They will also recall the terms of the reply that was received. It is not necessary, therefore, to repeat that manifestation, but it remains in our hearts and indeed constitutes, in a sense, the charter of the

institution which is being founded to-day. I am sure, however, that we should all desire to emphasise the novelty and originality of what has taken place here. This is the first time - although perhaps we ought to mention it in a whisper - that the United States has accepted or proposed to take part in intergovernmental action going beyond the limits of the United States itself. This very fact constitutes a great promise for the future. It is true that this is a work of philanthropy, but it goes far beyond the mere bounds of generosity. We therefore all the more gladly welcome the collaboration of the United States of America with the countries of Europe and the other countries of America on the human plane, and I would like to ask His Excellency Mr. Myron C. Taylor to be good enough to convey to President Roosevelt an assurance of our collaboration and our desire to see the work which arose from his idealistic conception assume the form of actual reality.

Before closing this meeting, I am sure I shall have the support of all members of the Committee in informing the representatives of the Press how much we have appreciated the manner - discreet and yet far-reaching, if one may combine those two adjectives - in which they have presented our work to the different countries of the world. The task of the representatives of the Press was a delicate one. We desired to offer offence to none but to help all, and the Press had therefore to play its part in the carrying out of a piece of work of which the object was to bring about unity and not disunity. We appreciate the way in which the Press of all countries has assisted the work of the Committee in its efforts to bring about rapprochement and not dislocation.

On behalf of the Intergovernmental Committee, therefore, we offer our thanks to the representatives of the Press, the kings and creators of public opinion.

The meeting rose.

The session was concluded.