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May 3, 1944

Mr. Friedman,
War Refugee Board,
Treasury Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

I just received a letter from Mr. David Zagha in which he writes as follows:

> "I sent to my chief several reports but those from Rio are most interesting. Kindly ask Mr. Friedman if you can have copies of same as they are most encouraging."

I need not tell you that I would be extremely grateful to you if you could let me have a copy of the letters in question.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki, Head
Rescue Department

ALK:fh

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SETTLEMENT OF WAR REFUGEES IN BRAZIL, IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR OF ECONOMIC MOBILIZATION AND THE CENTRAL BRAZIL FOUNDATION.

INTRODUCTION - Brazil is a sparsely settled country. Although larger in area than the continental United States, its whole population is only about 44 million inhabitants at the present moment, to the United States' 136 million. Moreover the distribution of this population is very unequal, as can be shown by the map of average population density by counties, of which a photograph accompanies this report (Map 1). As will be seen, about two thirds of Brazil's huge area contain less than six inhabitants per square mile. This very small density of population is the prime factor in hampering the development of the country's hinterland. Of course, not the whole of this area could be advantageously settled by European immigration, because of difficulties arising out of geographic, climatic and salubrity conditions; for instance, all the Amazon basin and its lowlands are much less favourable to the establishment of modern settlements than the highlands of Central Brazil, whose area is roughly limited geographically on map 2.

Speaking in very general terms, Brazil can be divided into five main climatic zones: first, the tropical forest zone

of the Amazon basin; second, the semi-arid northeastern area; third, the tropical rainy type of climate along the coast, roughly from Pernambuco to Rio Grande do Sul; fourth, the temperate forest zone of the southern States of Paraná and Santa Catarina, which may include also the temperate pampas of the Rio Grande do Sul State, and lastly the great central highlands climatic area.

These zones are shown on map 3.

Settlement of the first zone is very difficult on account of natural causes, specially the influence of the forest in all its aspects on the economic conditions of the people.

The second and third zones are fairly well settled, containing the majority of Brazil's population.

So, there remain only the fourth and fifth zones as possibilities for the settlement of war refugees. But European immigration has been considerably attracted already by the fourth zone, due to its excellent conditions of climate, soil fertility and communications, so that its complete settlement is likely to follow immediately after the war, by the normal action of free enterprise. This leaves us the fifth zone, whose study will be detailed presently.

THE CENTRAL BRAZILIAN HIGHLANDS - Although the Central Brazilian Highlands occupy the whole area encompassed by the yellow lines on map 2, the part on which settlement is intended is somewhat smaller, being roughly limited by the red dotted line on the same map, so as to include only the fifth climatic zone, comprising the greatest part of the States of Mato Grosso, Goiás, and large chunks of the southern part of the States Amazonas and Pará. Within its borders may be counted also the greatest part of the recently created territories of Guaporé and Ponta Porã.

In all this area, whose borders slope gently until the lowlands of the Amazon basin to the north and those of Paraná-Paraguay basin to the southwest are reached, the average altitude

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is about twelve hundred feet, and the average rainfall about 70 inches yearly. As a consequence, the vegetation is of the savannah type, with long rolling pasture fields interspersed here and there with shrubbery and light forest, specially where the moisture accumulates near the river valleys. The climate is of continental type, there being a definite contrast between a dry season, which lasts from May to October, and a rainy season, extending from December to April. The average temperature is 73,4º F; the days are liable to be hot at noon, specially in the dry season, while the nights can be and generally are very cool and agreeable. Geologically, this region is a peneplain, primarily composed of archeozoic strata upon which repose newer formations, palaeozoic and mesozoic in age; the decomposition of those strata and their origin ensures definite soil fertility, coupled with great possibilities of mineral exploitations of various types (Map 4). The economic mineral and ore deposits already known in this region include several strategic minerals, as quartz deposits; gold and diamonds, definite existence of coal and the possibility of oil, iron, chrome ores, manganese, nickel and the probability of many others. On map 4, the yellow circle shows the region of the Rio Fresco's coal basin; the blue circles indicate the great diamond washings, while the red circle encompasses the zone of quartz holdings.

The whole region can be favourably used for the breeding of livestock which is now its principal wealth, and can be adapted to the cultivations of cereals, oil bearing plants, sugar cane, manihot and other crops. The soil is practically virgin, the possibilities of economic development almost unlimited and the climate healthy. The greatest difficulty lies in transportation, which will be studied hereafter.

COMMUNICATIONS - The area stands in the middle point of Brazil's

three greatest basins, specially the Amazon basin to the north and the Paraná basin to the south, the communication with S. Francisco basin being more remote. The principal lines of communication are shown on map 5.

As can be seen, there are two main penetration railroads in this zone (green lines); the first connects Anapolis, in the State of Goiás, with the brazilian railway system to S. Paulo, and the second, much to the south, is part of the trunk line that in future date will cross South America from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean through Bolivia, and which already connects Santos to Porto Esperança, near Corumbá. There is only one other railway in this huge area: it is the Madeira-Mamoré Railway, also shown on the map, which connects Guajará-Mirim to Porto Velho and is completely located in the new Territory of Guaporé.

Highways exist, of course, in much larger proportion, but only in the southern part of this area, being concentrated in the region south of a line connecting Cuiabá and Goiania. North of this line, the land is practically virgin country.

The highways have not been shown on the map, except the one that has been built, and is being perfected every day from Uberlandia to Foz do Garça, this latter point being the base of the Roncador-Xingú Expedition (violet dotted line).

This highway has a total length of over 530 miles and is open to traffic all the year round.

The yellow dotted lines shown on the map are the probable routes of the Roncador-Xingú Expedition, which has been organized by the Coordinator of Economic Mobilization since June 1 943 and has already started on its long trek, having attained a point on the upper valley of Rio das Mortes approximately where the yellow shaded area finishes.

The river system shown in blue allows a very great

possibility of fluvial communication, for the whole Araguaia is navigable as far as Marabá and again from Alcobaça to Belem.

Between these 2 towns - Marabá and Alcobaça - the river is economically impassable on account of rapids and waterfalls; but there exists a railroad in traffic for about half the distance between them, and it needs only completion to allow an absolutely free route from Belem to Foz do Garça.

The other river systems provided by the Xingú and Tapajós basins could be used later on, as well the Tocantins river up to the point where it can be navigated, at least as far as Carolina in the State of Maranhão.

Obviously the easier communication now is by air; the principal airlines in this region are shown in red on the map.

The Expedition is building landing fields along its route, the first one having been built already on the bank of the Rio das Mortes.

The Expedition is also building a road along the route that will be followed. Although this road is now only a dirt road, it can and will be bettered as other expeditions follow on the wake of the present one.

The communications by air, which have been spoken of above, are an extremely important point as will be shown later, allowing, as they do, the possibility of immediate and certain interchange of some goods with settlers in the region.

THE CENTRAL BRAZIL FOUNDATION - For the purpose of developing the whole Central Brazilian area as described, the Brazilian Government created, by decree-law n. 5 878, dated 4 th. October 1 943, the Central Brazil Foundation, the statutes of which have already been prepared and submitted to the President of the Republic for approval.

A translation of the decree-law accompanies this preliminary report; copies of the statutes cannot yet be appended

as some of its provisions are still under discussion. Immediately after their approval by the President of the Republic, a translation of the statutes will be forwarded by airmail. Anyway, some of its most important provisions shall be included here.

Article 2 of the statutes states that the object of the Foundation is the clearing of the land and the colonization of the region of central and western Brazil, specially of the upper Araguaia and Xingú basins.

Article 5 provides that the areas to be cleared and colonized and their access shall be freely chosen by the Administration of the Foundation, subject to certain rules.

Article 6 states that the Foundation will have to comply in it's activities with the Constitution and laws of Brazil; and art. 7 empowers the Foundation in the areas referred and within limits of art. 6 to:

1 - promote their settlement with at least half of Brazilian elements; in the way it considers most convenient, administrating the economic and social activities and establishing the public services deemed necessary, receiving the respective payments in the terms of existing legislation;

2 - exploit natural riches of soil and subsoil and also hydraulic power, being hereby authorized to establish claims and exploit mines and mineral deposits, in acordance with the existing laws, specially those relative to waterppwer and mines.

Article 7, Paragraph first, states that the exploitation provided in this article can be carried out directly by the Foundation or by way of companies which it is empowered to organize or, with which, if already in existence, it may contract.

Article 7, Paragraph 2 refers that such contracts

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must be authorized by the Federal Government.

Article 21 provides that in case of companies organized with the assistence of the Foundation, as per paragraph first of article 7, representatives of the Foundation must be included in their administration.

Article 22 rules on the approval of plans submitted by the Foundation to the Government, according to the following instructions:

The general plans of exploration, colonization, economic exploitation and opening of communications relating to the areas referred to in article 5, accompanied by all necessary elements for their respective study, will be submitted to the previous approval of the Federal Government.

Such plans shall be carried out with the Foundation's own resources and within time limits fixed by the Government. Amongst the explanatory elements referred to, the following, at least, shall be included:

a) - Whenever possible, the indication of the areas to be cleared and colonized;

b) - the manner of processing the economic exploitation;

c) - the indication of the means of communication of those areas, their respective geographic plotting and the kind of vehicles utilized;

d) - the number of individuals of each nationallity to be introduced in said areas, as employees of the Foundation, as settlers or on any other count, including those introduced by third parties with which the Foundation may have contracted in the form of the 1st paragraph of article 7;

Paragraph 1st - Upon the matter referred to in this article and before the approval of the plans concerned, the Council

of Immigration and Colonization will be heard, in accordance with article 225 and other applicable rules of decree nº 3 010, of 20th August, 1 938.

Paragraph 2nd. - Every four month the Foundation will submit to the Federal Government the complete list of the individuals referred in letter d of this article for knowledge and approval of same Government, the individuals being grouped by families, names, places of birth, nationality, age, sex and civil status.

Article 23 - provides that 10 years after the Federal Government deems the plans referred to in article 22 fulfilled, the Foundation will transfer, without indemnity of compensation, to the public authorities indicated by the Federal Government, the administration of the areas cleared and colonized, with all the betterments and materials existing in them.

The other articles of the statutes deal only with internal matters of the organization of the Foundation and are not of interest to this preliminary report.

BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON THE PROBLEM OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION - Brazilian immigration laws provide for a more or less flexible system of immigration. The Federal Constitution, dated November loth., 1 937, treats of immigration in article 151, thus: "Art. 151 - The entrance, dispersion and establishment of immigrants in the national territory shall be subject to requirements and conditions to be determined by law, and the annual immigration quota for each country may not exceed a limit of two percent of the total numbers of the respective nationals, established in Brazil during the last fifty years". The laws mentioned were enacted on May 4th., 1 938 (Decree-law 406) and supplemented on August 20th., 1 938 (Decree-law 639 and Decree 3 010). In short, the system adopted admits the possibility of the entrance of circa

80 thousand immigrants yearly, the balance of unfilled quotas to be totalled for a period of three years and used at the discretion of the Council of Immigration and Colonization.

With the advent of war, the situation changed and Brazil suffered a dreadful setback in immigration, due to the abnormal conditions prevailing in the world, owing to the disruption of sea-borne traffic and to other as important factors. Still, during the later part of 1 939, through all of 1 940 and part of 1 941, Brazil received many thousands of war refugees, belonging especially to the wealthier urban middle classes.

The effect of all these causes taken together was the change in policy toward the immigration problem, of which the admittance of refugees is only a chapter, however painful in some of it's aspects. Although willing to accept a certain type of refugees, the Government was not overanxious to receive open-armed only city dwellers, which could prove a disturbing factor in the country's social and economic organization and created, definitely, certain problems of social maladjustment, the solution of which is very difficult, and that may, eventually, have far-reaching and disagreeable consequences.

As a result, on the 7th. April 1 941, immigration was restricted, practically suspended (Decree-law 3 175). The measure taken was perfectly justifiable in itself, being, as it was, due to the reasons outlined above. So, for all practical purposes, immigration is suspended for the duration.

But the Brazilian Government is perfectly aware of the permanently changing conditions, and the latest thinkings on this matter are clearly exposed in the recommendations of the First Brazilian Convention of Economics, that met in Rio de Janeiro from the 25th. November to the 18th. December 1 943, whose text is added to this report, indicating clearly the trend of thought

of the country's specialists on immigration problems. As can be seen, this trend is very liberal, perhaps too much so, because not even the restriction proposed by the 6th. Committee of the Convention on the immigration of coloured elements was approved by the full Convention.

Of course, these recommendations have not yet been accepted by the Government, but there is little doubt about their acceptance, sooner or later, for they represent the sum total of all the existing expert thought on the matter, with the exception stated above, that probably will be taken into consideration by the proper authorities,that cannot be swayed from their technical opinions by an occasional majority of non-technical votes, as was the case in the session where the restriction to coloured immigration was outvoted.

As can be seen from recommendation 204, the Central Brazil Foundation is considered a cornerstone in the Brazilian policy of opening up the country's hinterland. This means that it's prestige will enable it to make concrete proposals for the settlement of the Central Brazilian Highlands in which it operates, and that those proposals have a very fair chance of being accepted to the full satisfaction of all parties concerned, even if this should entail reversal of existing legislation on such matters, provided those proposals are in accordance with the definite policies of the Government on immigration, whose basic trends are clearly stated in the recommendations joined to this report.

Another point must also be taken into consideration. Just before the war broke out, the Council of Immigration and Colonization had already begun talks with the Governments of Switzerland, Holland and Finland for the immigration of Swiss, Dutch and Finnish settlers in certain parts of Brazil.

These settlers would be accompanied by a certain

amount of capital, provided by their own countries as a compensation for certain advantages guaranteed them by the Brazilian Government as, for instance, free land, agricultural implements and some other facilities.

Unluckily the war broke out before any of these schemes, that were in the tradition of the colonizatory migrations, discussed and approved in different conferences of the International Labour Office, during the late thirties, could be put into operation. These conferences recognized the need of capital advances or loans to help finance the preliminary capital investments of the immigration country, generally capital-poor.

Bearing in mind all these different aspects, and noting that Brazil is keenly interested in the development of her hinterland, it is plain that a plan for the settlement of the Central Brazilian Highlands with war refugees is perfectly feasible and can be worked out, as outlined below.

PLANS OF THE FOUNDATION FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CENTRAL BRAZILIAN HIGHLANDS OUTLINED. - The Foundation is well aware that the settlement in the Central Brazilian Highlands needs pioneering spirit, on account of the special conditions of the settlement. The colonization of the Central Brazilian Highlands can be carried out in orthodox fashion: firstly by an overall expansion of the pioneer frontier, just as what has been done by French colonization in Morocco and elsewhere, and in the U.S.A. when the settlement of the Mississipi valley was begun; and secondly by the installation of civilized nuclei of settlements, geographically scattered all over a definite area, or along a certain strip, as has been done variously in different times by different peoples, specially by the early Portuguese, Dutch and English settlers.

The Foundation desires to follow this second means of approach to its problem, on account of the large area involved,

the relative difficulty of communication and the possibility of exploitation of definite mineral riches in the area. Basically, the Foundation's plan is the following: to select and area where climatic, health and geological conditions concur to make the spot adequate for the establishment of the nuclei-of-civilization-type of settlement. These nuclei would consist of a small city, adequately planned for a community of from 2 000 to 5 000 inhabitants, located on a well-chosen spot allowing the creation of all basic housing industries in a small scale — brickmaking, a small cement factory, quarries, ceramics, glass — and where some of the industry needed for the marketing of local production as, for instance, egg drying, fruit or meat conservation, and so on could be easily established. These industrial activities would create employment and needs, whose satisfaction in turn would allow the existence of a small merchant class and determine the need for domestic activities as those of cobblers, blacksmiths, tailors and so on.

Around these nuclei, two types of exploitation would naturally occur: the first of and agricultural and livestock development, especially for the needs of town people, which would automatically create a market and attract the sparse population of the environs by the economic and cultural facilities such as schools, hospitals, movies, electric light, and so on, which exist in the town; and secondly, the working of one product typical of the region, as mica, quartz, diamonds, gold or other minerals. Provided that the beginning of such a settlement could be made, the country could develop naturally, even with difficult communication with a more distant region already settled, because it would fulfil all the conditions of a closed economy, like that of the city stage in economic development, as was usual in Europe during the late middle ages and the beginning of the modern age.

Such a closed economy stage is characterised when

the production, either agricultural or industrial, has a definite market for the utilities produced inside a restricted area, the means of obtaining what could not be produced locally being given by the export of goods of great value under small volume, in our case that of mineral ores, which could eventually be transported even by air, and whose produce would be sufficient to cover the needs of the community in "imported" materials.

This, of course, is a very rough sketch of the basic idea; but more complete studies can be submitted later.

In accordance with all that went before, we proceed to state the basic policies of the Foundation on matters pertaining to the settlement of the Central Brazilian Highlands with war refugees, and the conditions under which it would consider any proposals on the matter, and cooperate gladly with any groups desirous of promoting the opening up of Brazil's hinterland, with full exploitation of all its immense and dormant resources and riches.

BASIC POLICIES AND PROPOSALS OF THE CENTRAL BRAZIL FOUNDATION ON THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CENTRAL BRAZILIAN HIGHLANDS - The basic policies, agreed upon after careful consideration and weighing the innumerable factors sketchily outlined above, are only six in number, viz:

1st.) The Foundation wants to settle the Central Brazilian Highlands with European immigrants, it being immaterial if they are or not refugees, provided they are good immigrants.

2nd.) The Foundation desires these settlers to be of working age, say, from 18 to 50 years old, and would prefer a majority of women, so as to render more easy their miscegenation with Brazilian male settlers, that according to its statutes must constitute 50% of all settlers.

3rd.) The Foundation is not concerned with differences of races and creeds of the settlers, provided they are of white stock.

4th.) The Foundation wants to settle the areas entrusted to it with nuclei of civilization, according to the system explained above. Accordingly, it believes that any settler should be accompanied by a certain amount of capital, not necessarily in the form of money, but of capital goods represented by machineries, trucks, plants and so on, so as to enable it to fulfil its plans in a technically and economically sound way.

5th.) The Foundation, for this purpose, will make contracts, creating and/of organizing companies and societies, on the basis of a 50% plus one stock majority, the capital investment to be represented by capital goods and a little rolling capital, and on the Foundation's side by lands, rights, grants-in-aid and also a certains amount of capital in goods or money. As per statutes, there would of course be joint administration.

6th.) If these basic policies are fulfilled, the Foundation will endeavour and take all the steps, leading to the establishment and admittance of 100 000 refugees yearly for a minimum of 5 years.

Any other details pertaining to the carrying out of such plans can be discussed on a frank basis until mutual agreement is reached, and all the tremendous organizational problems involved are perfectly solved.

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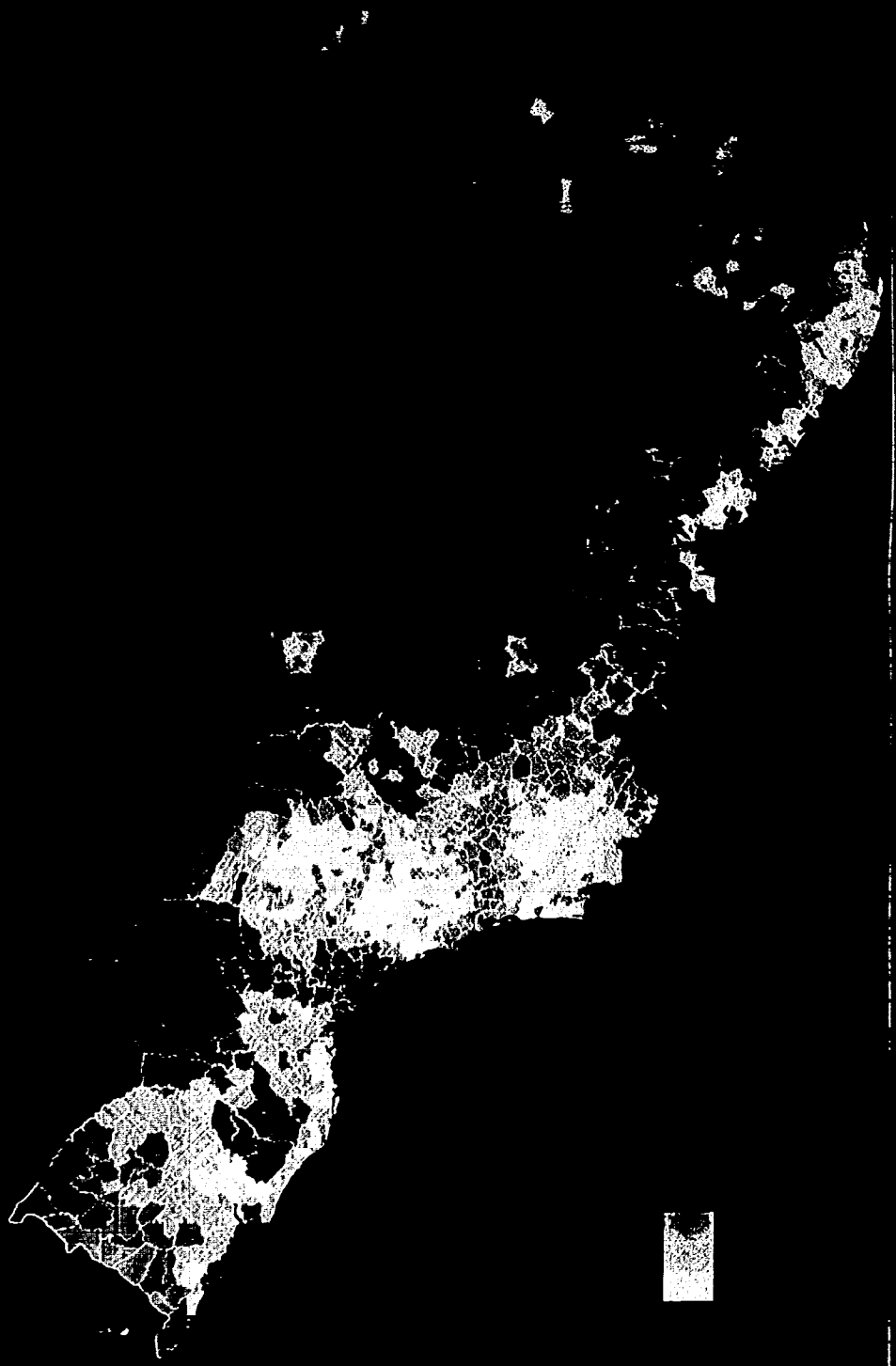
MAP I

POPULATION DENSITY BY COUNTIES

INSTITUTO BRASILEIRO DE GEOGRAFIA E ESTATISTICA

INSTITUTO BRASILEIRO DE GEOGRAFIA E ESTATISTICA



CARTOGRAMA
DA
DENSIDADE DEMOGRÁFICA
DO
BRASIL

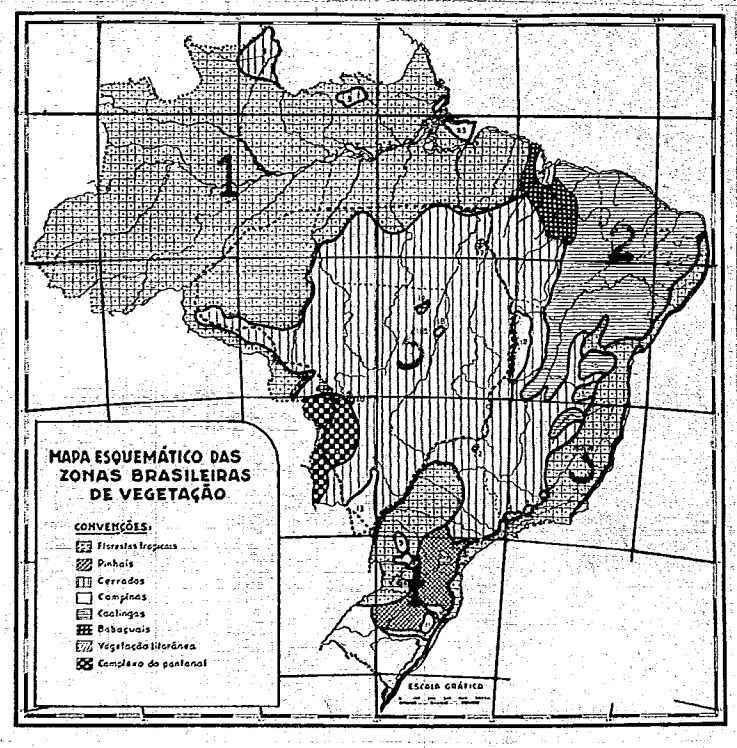
SEGUNDO A DIVISÃO MUNICIPAL
E OS
RESULTADOS PRELIMINARES
DO
RECENSEAMENTO GERAL
DE 1940

MAP 2

RELIEF LINES OF BRAZIL

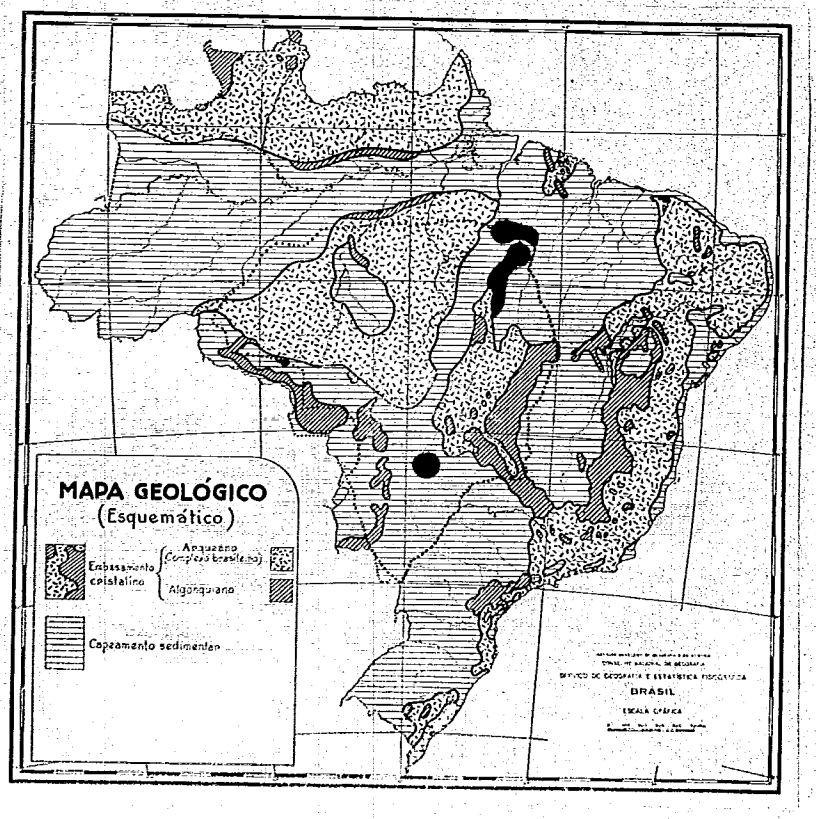
MAP 31

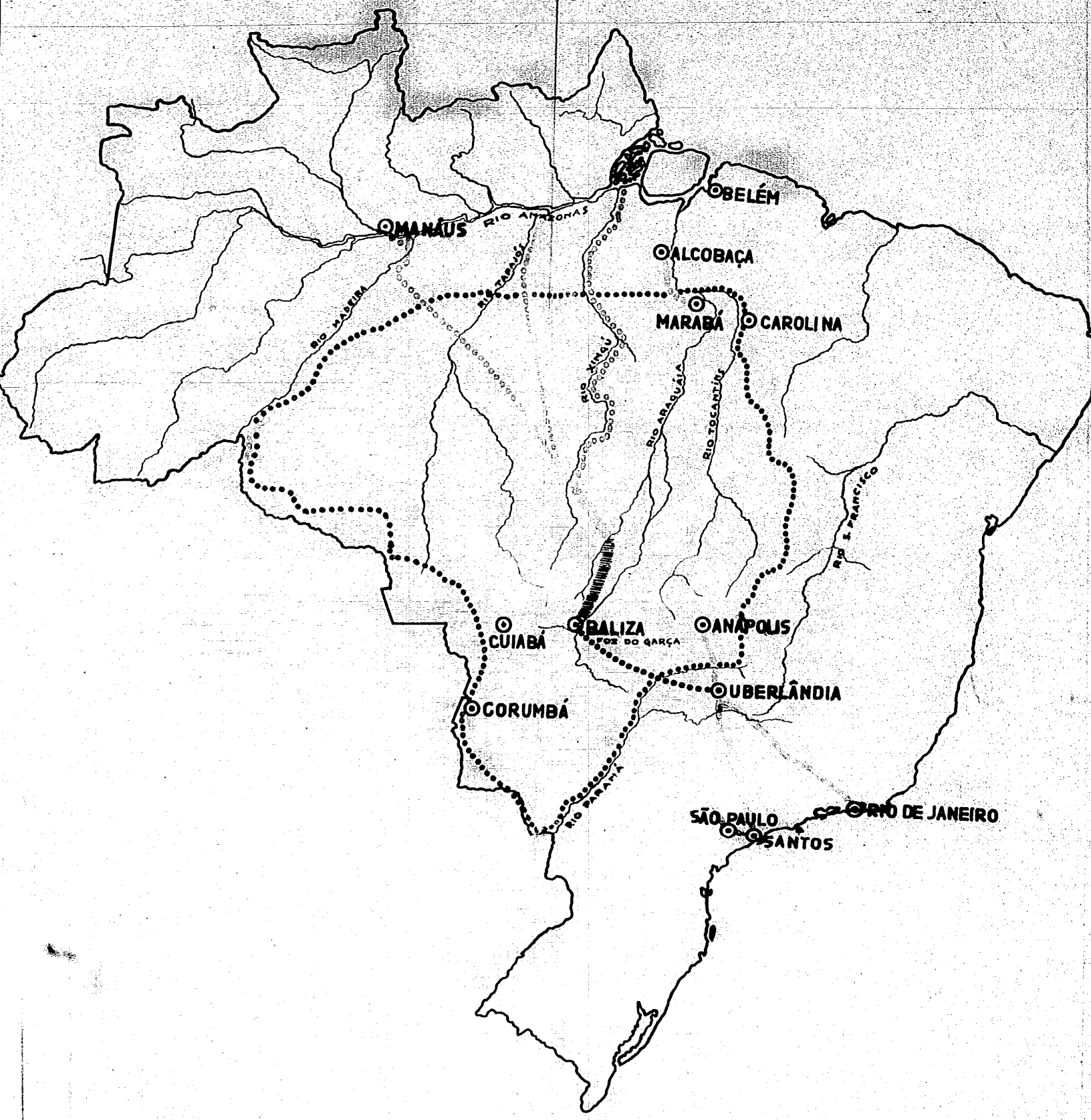
VEGETATION AND CLIMATIC ZONES OF BRAZIL



MAP 4

GEOLOGY OF BRAZIL




BELÉM
MANAUS
RIO AMAZONAS
ALCOBAÇA
RIO TAPAJÓS
RIO MADEIRA
MARABÁ
CAROLINA
RIO XINGÚ
RIO ARAGUÁIA
RIO TOCANTINS
RIO S. FRANCISCO
CUIABÁ
BALIZA
FOZ DO GARÇA
ANÁPOLIS
UBERLÂNDIA
CORUMBÁ
RIO PARANÁ
SÃO PAULO
RIO DE JANEIRO
SANTOS

GROUP III - Demographical policy and conditions of acceptance, distribution and adaptation of immigrants in Brazil.

WHEREAS:

a) - doctrinary reasons permit the conclusion that the causes of migrations are genetic and of maladjustment, predominantly, amongst these, of economic and military nature;

b) - that the internacional problem caused by migrations has become acute ever since the beginning of this century, having been further aggravated by the policy of immigratory restriction, on the part of immigrantist countries, and by the political ambitions of the totalitarian countries of emmigration, with the objective of creating minoritory cysts in the immigrantist countries;

The 1º Brazilian Convention of Economics

RECOMMENDS:

193 - That the problem of the post-war migrations be considered with a view to preserving the national unity and independence, within a program of social and economic necessities.

WHEREAS:

a) - the demographical growth of Brazil is principally vegetative; that the child is the best immigrant;

b) - that, however, as the Nation suffers the consequences of a permanent lack of manpower and, the population being badly distributed territorialy, the capacity of absorption of immigrants is far from being attained;

c) - that, taking these factors into account, as also that the commencement of Brazil's industrial cycle demands a higher demographical density;

d) - that the selection and etnical integration of the immigrant should be based on his and the nation's reciprocal in-

terest;

The 1º Brazilian Convention of Economics

RECOMMENDS:

194 - that the Government employ all possible efforts to secure the betterment of conditions of infantile health (Ref. recom. 240)

195 - that the immigratory currents to Brazil be intensified through the creation of propritious psychological, social and economic conditions so as to attract the good agricultural or industrial immigrant.

196 - that economic advantages be offered to the immigrant, equivalent to a high level of salaries; that the remittance of funds destined to the purveyance of his family be permitted within the general orientation of the nation; that technical, social and economical assistance under various aspects be assured him inclusively cultivable land, habitation, conditions of hygiene and education of offspring and the right to usus-capio whenever he be married with a Brazilian or have Brazilian children, besides the possibility of social security, always in conditions of equality with the national colonist.

WHEREAS:

a) - categorical imperatives of national security oblige Brazil to selection the immigratorial currents that seek this country from the eugenical point of view, amongst others;

b) - that it is convenient that the practice of miscegenetion followed by the nation ever since it's discovery should be maintained as also the intimate relations of culture, tradition and friendship that attach us to Portugal;

The 1º Brazilian Convention of Economics

RECOMMENDS:

197 - Preferential treatment should always be conceded to portuguese immigration.

WHEREAS:

a) - the industrialization, that is procceding at present in the nation, and the necessity of protecting good specialized immigration that is destined to industry, without damage to farming immigration;

The 1º Brazilian Convention of Economics

RECOMMENDS:

198 - Equality of treatment by Brazilian laws, of agricultural immigrants and the industrial labour, technicians, specialists or scientist who emmigrate to Brazil.

199 - The equitable distribution of the immigratorial currents destined to farming throughout the Brazilian Hinterland, in accordance with the policy of colonization adopted.

WHEREAS:

a) - the necessity of post-war intensification of colonial migrations, which necessitate meticulous planning as to their technical, economical and social aspects;

b) - that the advisability of an equitable distribution of immigrants throughout the various zones of the nation should be born in mind as also the high cost of such enterprises;

c) - that due attention should be given to the policy of correct colonization followed by the Government, and the necessity of technical, social, economical and financial assistance to the colonists;

The 1º Brazilian Convention of Economics

RECOMMENDS:

200 - The immediate and meticulous planning of future colonial migrations as from the various technical, eugenical, political and social aspects.

201 - The elaboration of bi or plurilateral treaties upon the subject, favouring the immigration of elements that dispose of a

certain amount of capital and the foundation of colonial societies of mixed capital, Brazilian and foreign, with a majority of Brazilian capital.

202 - The effort of budget allocations to intensify the policy of colonization, foreseeing the eventual creation of a colonization Fund or any equivalent means, for a period of years, destined to the creation of mixed agricultural nuclei, national and foreign, with a high proportion of nationals, to protect these and favour the assimilation of aliens.

203 - The incentivating of farming production so as to permit the adequate remuneration of capital and labour invested, under equivalent conditions to those obtained in other economic activities, and thus protecting the national colonist.

204 - The utilization of all means to colonize the hinterland, either by the oil-stain type of policy, or by the creation of nuclei of civilization in the interior, endorsing in this particular, the Governmental iniciative in creating the Central Brazil Foundation.

205 - The usage of the cooperativist system and of it's intensification in the colonial nuclei so as to render them centers of attraction and give them the possibility of offering secure bases for the prosperity of national or foreign colonists.

WHEREAS:

a) - for social and political motives the control of aliens by the State is indispensable;

b) - it is an imperious necessity that the nationalization of alien etnical cysts that exist in the country be intensified;

c) - that, despite the fact that the policy of nationalization should be put into effect through gentle means, immediate action in the principal nuclei of foreign concentration is indispensable, through denationalizing factors — the home, the

school, the church and the associations — by a coordinating organ of these activities;

d) - it is convenient that, whenever possible, internal migratory currents be made use of so as to assure the genetical and political integration of the alien as from the first generation;

The 1º Brazilian Convention of Economics

RECOMMENDS:

206 - That the isolation of the existant compact alien nuclei be destroyed, by the continuation of the Government's sage policy of nationalization by the injection of national elements in high proportion amongst them.

207 - That primary rural technical education be intensified through national teachers by the diffusion in rural localities, besides the obligatory primary education, encompassing cooperativist education, secondary and professional agricultural teaching, by means of masters with agricultural mentality that become permanently located in these areas.

The 1º Brazilian Convention of Economics

RECOMMENDS:

208 - That the Council of Immigration and Colonization study the problems relative to the selection, etnical and social antropology, racial biology and eugeny, as also the phenomena of internal migrations and colonization.

209 - That the Brazilian immigratory statistics be carefully revisèd, specially those of most remote date, by the examination and research of their original figures so as to permit, amongst other conclusions, the calculation of the percentage of fixation of immigrants in Brazil and the advantages and inconveniences of subsidized immigration.

210 - That the elements of the Census Commission be made use of for the economic demographical, biological and social research.

relative to the diverse etnical groups of population.

211 - That the indispensable industrial research be carried out so as to evaluate the shortage of specialized labour, so as to serve as basis for the planning of post-war migrations, the best possible use being made of the existant elements in various technical organs.

WHEREAS:

a) - the necessity of conveniently outfitting the administration for it's immense work in conection with migrations and correlative post-war problems, assuring it, however perfect coordination in it's multiple aspects;

The 1º Brazilian Convention of Economics

RECOMMENDS:

212 - The creation, in Foreign Countries, as soon as possible, of special services that attend to the selection of immigrants, under it's various aspects, and simultaneously should have an informative caracter as to Brazilian conditions, and identify conveniently the candidates to emmigration giving them all possible assistance.

213 - The coordination of all activities relative to migratorial and correlative problems, by the Council of Immigration and Colonization or other organ that possesses the necessary autonomy to carry out work of such importance.

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Decree-law n. 5 878 of 9th. October, 1 943.

Authorizes the constitution of the Central Brazil Foundation and establishes conditions of the work thereof.

The President of the Republic, as empowered by article n. 180 of the Constitution, decrees:

Art. 1 - The Federal Government is authorized to constitute, with resources of it's own, a foundation to be named "Central Brazil Foundation", with the purpose of clearing and colonizing the areas encompassed by the higher branches of the rivers Araguaia and Xingú, and in Central and Occidental Brazil.

§ 1. - The Federal Union will be represented, at the act of creation of the Foundation, by the Coordinator of Economic Mobilization.

§ 2. - The Foundation's headquarters and domicile will be in the Federal Capital, and the administration thereof will be in accordance with the rules laid down in the statutes that are to be approved by decree of the President of the Republic.

Art. 2 - The Foundation will be constituted with the endowments already donated to the Roncador-Xingú Expedition, and the statutes will provide for the possibility of new donations, either by public entities or by private persons, as also the constitution of the Foundation's own revenues, not only from the resources that derive from these endowmemts and their application, or from the Foundation's activities, as also from the subsidies that it receives from the Federal Government or the State or Municipal Governments.

Art. 3 - The Foundation will be directed by a President, assisted by a Council of Directors of 10 members, all

designated by the President of the Republic.

Art. 4 - The project of statutes, drawn up by the President with the assistance of the Council of Directores, will be submitted to the President of the Republic, for approval, within 60 days of publication of this law, after due consideration by the Attorney General of the Federal District, who has the powers and obligations of fiscalization as foreseen by law.

Paragraph - The statutes will contain obligatory clause allowing the Government to nominate a Board of Control, to fiscalize the administration, the powers and obligations of which will also be incorporated in the statutes, without any damage to the normal fiscalization of foundations as established in civil law.

Art. 5 - The Foundation will exercise it's activities in conformity with the stipulations of the laws, constitutional and ordinary, not only in that which refers to the organization and the powers of states and counties, as also in those matters as regard which it will intervene in consequence of it's aims; it will have all the privileges, however, conceded to institutes of public utility and those which, in matters of communication, transportation and stamps, pertain to Federal autarchies.

Art. 6 - The present law will become effective as from the date of the publication thereof, all contrary dispositions being hereby revoked.

Rio de Janeiro, 4th. of October of 1 943, 122nd. of the Independence and 59th. of the Republic.

(Signed) Getulio Vargas
Apolonio Salles
A. de Souza Costa
Alexandre Marcondes Filho

(Diario Oficial of 6.10.43 - page 14 883)

Mr J.W. Pehle
Executive Office of the
President
War Refugee Board
Washington D.C.

The attached memorandum is from the State Department Refugee File on Brazil.

I

(TRANSLATION)

PROBLEMS OF IMMIGRATION IN BRAZIL

JEWS - STATELESS PERSONS - ITALIANS

Continuing the examination of the directions of the future immigration policy of Brazil, we call attention to a resolution adopted by the Brazilian Congress of Economy "against the mass entrance of Hebrews into national territory".

The reporter was Mr. Dulphe Pinheiro Machado, who is also a member of the Council of Immigration and Colonization. Among other things, he stated:

Previous experiences in connection with the "Four Brothers Colony" and the "Rezende Colony", experiences in localization of Hebrews, show a complete lack of success. We consider, therefore, that the mass introduction of Jews into the "plantations" or the formation of nuclei of colonies is inadvisable. The Jews who have entered Brazilian territory have for reasons which I dispense with naming, settled down in the great urban centers and helped to increase civic problems still more, devoting themselves to the exercise of activities which are devoid of economic benefit for the country. Few devote themselves to industry, and none to agriculture."

The reporter finishes by stating that, considering that in Brazil there are no race or religious distinctions, the Jews must be made equal to their fellow countrymen and considered on the basis of the country from which they originated, or on their calling. Still, mass immigration is to be excluded.

(We note that for a few years the words race and religion have figured in the notes on immigration and also in numerous other civil documents, which helps in the identification and differentiation of those Jews who, officially, would have to be considered equal to their respective countrymen, that is, German, French, Italian, etc. On the other hand it is proper to stress that for some time now - especially after the influx of European refugees stopped - secondary importance has been attributed to such words. The words race and religion appeared in Brazilian notes only as a consequence of and during the period of racial persecutions in German territories or those controlled by Germans).

The Brazilian Congress of Economy also adopted a resolution: very general and with many precautions, opposing the immigration into Brazil of stateless persons

As a rule, stateless persons will be considered undesirable but the way remains open for exceptions in unusual cases.

A rather interesting article is published in the "Diario de S. Paulo" by L.V. Giovannetti in answer to a prediction of Ambassador Macedo Soares referring to the immigration to Brazil of one million Italians. L.V. Giovannetti explains first of all - and with courageously frank irony - the reasons why Brazil, or better, the Brazilian ruling class does not view favorably a very extensive immigration of workers:

"Brazil", he writes, "in the present phase of its economic life, is not desirous of a large immigration of laborers. It is not desirous of it because, good or bad, unions have been organized here of the working masses, having the customs, discipline, and resignation which are very suitable to the particular interests of the industrial and capitalist classes. This class does not wish the entrance of elements disturbing to an industrial peace based on the admirable system of low pay and enormous profits.

The European workers possess fighting temperaments and are accustomed to defend their rights by strikes; they discuss matters openly and are not moved by respect for the constituted authorities nor by love for the owner of the factory. Besides, they do not hesitate to declare the capitalistic system abominable. Here such methods of thinking and acting would immediately be condemned and branded as communism.

I do not say that the heads of factories do not have the right to think thusly. Nor do I say that the workers are not right. I only say that during the present formative period of Brazilian industry large masses of European workers would not be acclimatized well here in a social atmosphere which is still impervious to any ideas which are common patrimony in Europe and in North America: for example, to the idea of the right of the worker to participate in the surplus profit of the "plantation" where he works."

That, predicted Giovannetti, excludes mass immigration of European workers. The farmers remain. But these - according to the writer of the article - will not be ruined at the end of the war. As in 1919, the rural class will be stronger than before and will have some available funds. In Italy, which is firmly entrenched in Catholic organizations, it will not think of emigrating at all.

In conclusion Giovannetti writes:

"There will not be mass immigration into Brazil. Perhaps there will not be any emigration at all from Italy. Only a small stream of ruined bourgeois will leave their native land in search of a quiet life."

Enclosure in Yiddish.

TR:BWN:EPT

(COPY - lmb 2-17-44)