CROSS-REFERENCE

(Name of Applicant)

(Application Number)

For material on Tripolitania and Cyrenaica -

SEE: PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF & RESCUE OF REFUGEES: TEMPORARY HAVENS IN NORTH AFRICA: (TRIPOLITANIA & CYRENAICA)
Dear Mr. Liebman:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 14, 1944, enclosing a copy of your report for April 15, 1942.

The material which you have submitted will be carefully studied. As I have previously stated to you, we are always available for discussions with your representatives and the consideration of specific proposals and suggestions. I suggest that the next time you are in Washington you arrange to stop in to see us.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Charles J. Liebman,
President,
Refugee Economic Corporation,
570 Lexington Avenue,
New York, N. Y.
Mr. J. W. Pehle, Acting Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

In reply to your communication of February 8 regarding the activities of the War Refugee Board, we submit the following.

In our opinion, what is needed most in the first instance, as indicated in Paragraph 2 of the Executive Order, is the establishment of havens of temporary refuge. The pronouncement of the existence of such havens would bolster the spirits of the oppressed.

This corporation has concerned itself with the economic rehabilitation of refugees, and in fulfilling this purpose has made geographical and economic studies of possible localities of settlement and negotiated with some of the governments of such possible receiving countries. The war interfered with the development of the projects, but we have continued further studies and the material is available.

We are in a position to help you in your search for havens - either for temporary stay or permanent settlement - for we can designate the desirable localities where westernized peoples could live in reasonable comfort with a not too remote probability of a self subsistence existence. We had several projects which might even now in time of war be pushed through to completion with the aid of our Government. The political, geographic, and transportation difficulties involved vary with each case, and it is quite impossible to communicate much of this in writing.
The general nature of our work is set forth in the accompanying report. If you should at any time wish to discuss its possible relationship to the task you have undertaken, I shall always be available and would very much like to come to Washington for a conference with you at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

REFUGEE ECONOMIC CORPORATION

[Signature]

President
REFUGEE ECONOMIC CORPORATION

Report: April 15th, 1942
Report: April 15th, 1942

REFUGEE ECONOMIC CORPORATION

570 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y.

INCLUDING REPORT OF THE EMIGRE CHARITABLE FUND, INC.
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

IL 15th, 1942

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS:

With our country at war there is no act or thought except that which contributes to a sure and hastened victory. Even such work as ours must be subordinated, although it lies directly in that same course of freedom and justice which is occupying our country. We will continue to carry on as best we can, encouraged by the certainty that the day will come when we can perform our task in a sane, normal world.

This report was prepared prior to the American declaration of war. Since expenses of its publication had already been incurred, we decided to make the necessary revisions and issue it, so that our friends and those interested might have a full account of the Corporation's work and its plans for the future.

Almost every week since the war in Europe began, new obstacles have been placed in the path of a solution of the refugee problem. The number of refugees, present and potential, is increased; their immediate plight aggravated; transportation facilities curtailed; and governments preoccupied with urgent questions of national security. Beyond the exigencies of the present situation there is the problem of post-war rehabilitation of refugees. Experience underscores the necessity of laying strong foundations now for that reconstruction. Notwithstanding the war, the democratic governments of the world maintain their interest in this phase of the problem. The major activities of the Refugee Economic Corporation are directed towards its solution.

Since its inception under the leadership of the late Felix M. Warburg the program of the Corporation has been long-range and constructive. It lies outside the field of emergency relief and within that of financial and technical aid to refugees on a sound economic basis. It proceeds upon the theory that refugees, given proper guidance, can bring new skills, fresh capital and vitality to the countries of their reception. Planned settlement and selective immigration are instruments in the successful execution of this program, ultimate economic independence for the refugee participants its principal objective.

To find suitable areas for settlement, develop feasible economic projects, select qualified refugees and assist them, as newcomers in strange lands, to reconstruct their lives on a socially useful and economically secure basis are endeavors which give rise to numerous problems. As the path to be followed is by and large uncharted, we have looked skeptically upon panaceas and overly-ambitious proposals. We have refrained from placing all our investments in one locality or relying too heavily on one type of project. We have tested our plans, no matter how well they may have appeared in concept, by a method of trial and error. Where results were not promising, we withdrew as rapidly as possible. Where results were encouraging, we invested larger sums and pushed forward with the settlement of more refugees. Thus, we have developed an organization of trained personnel and accumulated a fund of experience with which to direct, in a humanitarian yet business-like manner, this work of adjustment and rehabilitation.

Significant advances have been made during the period under review, 1939-1941. Throughout this booklet the story is told in words and pictures. The highlights of our activities may be mentioned here.

The work of the Refugee Economic Corporation's two Australian companies, Mutual Farms Proprietary Ltd., a land settlement corporation, and Mutual Enterprises Proprietary Ltd., an industrial financing company, has been expanded. Mutual Farms' activities fall into three categories: it finances, in whole or in part, and supervises the settlement of refugees on the land; it manages the Chelsea Park Training Farm established by the Australian Jewish Welfare Society of Sydney, which has an interest in the Company; and it finds suitable farms or positions as farm workers for graduates of the school and for other refugees. 350 refugees, all but 35 of whom were trained at Chelsea Park, have been placed as farm laborers. Fifty-seven families (200 refugees) were settled in individual farm holdings with the financial backing of the Company; in cooperation with local committees throughout Australia, an additional group of approximately 500 refugees have also been placed. The industrial financing company, Mutual Enterprises, established 23 small industries, providing employment for native Australians and refugees. The investments appear to be sound and all but two of the firms are making very good progress.

This economic approach to the solution of the refugee problem made a favorable impression upon the Australian Government and was
largely responsible for the liberalization of the Australian refugee quota. From 600 per year in 1938 it was increased to 5,000 per year in 1939, 1940 and 1941.

In the early days of the Corporation, a survey of settlement possibilities in Latin America was made, and the Republic of Costa Rica selected as suitable for settlement. This led to the development of a plan for colonization in the western provinces where a tract was acquired in the summer of 1937. Regrettably, legal and other difficulties made it impossible to proceed with the project. The property is being operated as a cattle ranch until such time as conditions permit a final disposition of it to be made. Various possibilities are under consideration.

In the spring of 1940 the Refugee Economic Corporation and the American Jewish Joint Agricultural Corporation established an agricultural colony in the fertile Yungas district of Bolivia, 60 miles east of La Paz. Since Bolivia imports the bulk of its foodstuffs, new domestic production will greatly benefit the national economy. Our colony, Buena Tierra, situated on the eastern slopes of the Andes, produces vegetables, coffee, fruits and other crops, which it will supply to the Bolivian city markets in increasing quantities as the settlement expands. There are now 145 refugee colonists at Buena Tierra.

Our advances for the purpose of economic aid to refugees in Palestine were increased during 1939 and 1940. The funds provide for agricultural credits to cooperatives of refugee farmers, for the establishment of a new water company to service their colonies, and for industrial and residential construction. These investments are administered by the Palestine Economic Corporation. Repayments of principal and interest on the mortgage and working capital loans are current.

The advent of war in the Far East halted the activities of the Corporation and its associates in the Philippine Islands. One phase of that work represents a unique and extremely important method of rehabilitating refugees, which will serve as a pattern for similar endeavors in other areas when peace is restored. Finding a need for trained persons in a wide variety of fields, the Refugee Economic Corporation, with the generous cooperation of the American High Commissioner, the Philippine Government and a local group of American businessmen, inaugurated a program of selective refugee immigration in the fall of 1938. As President Quezon stated, this type of immigration was a valuable contribution to the Philippine economy and culture. In addition, Manila became an important temporary haven for refugees. A number who did not qualify for the selective immigration were admitted on a temporary basis without permission to work. They constituted an appreciable consumer group. About 1,000 refugees entered the Philippines under these programs.

Following the development of the selective immigration program the Philippine Government invited the Refugee Economic Corporation to send a commission of experts to study settlement possibilities in the Philippines. This commission reported favorably on an area in Mindanao, second largest of the islands, and outlined a plan for the colonization of 10,000 refugees. An understanding with the Government regarding the terms of entry and the conditions of settlement had been reached when war broke out. We hope to undertake the actual colonization when the war is over.

A small experimental farm colony was established in 1939 at Van Eden (near Wilmington), North Carolina. The Refugee Economic Corporation and the Emigre Charitable Fund together hold a one-half interest in the enterprise. The first two years have presented problems and some of the original settlers have left the colony. The families remaining at Van Eden have expanded their dairy herds and are already making a living from the sale of milk under contract with one of the largest Wilmington distributors. They have established an enviable reputation with the local Government inspectors for the sanitary conditions of their barns. In cooperation with the Jewish Agricultural Society we will now settle additional refugee farmers at Van Eden.

The British Colonial Office and the British Honduras Government granted permission for the settlement of 80 refugee families in a trial industrial community in British Honduras. We were working with a European manufacturer to whom the permit had been issued. When he could not consummate his arrangements, however, we continued the negotiations on our own behalf, the British Honduras Government having indicated its willingness to consider a new plan. The British Colonial Office recently informed us that further consideration of refugee settlement in British Honduras must await the conclusion of the war.

We have established 18 loan funds throughout the world to assist refugees in the financing of small industrial, commercial and farming enterprises. Our loan funds in the United States are well adm-
interested for us by the National Refugee Service and the Jewish Agricultural Society. Results in Latin America have been varied. The Corporation's Dutch and Danish funds must be considered lost because of Nazi occupation. Both of these previously had excellent records of principal and interest repayments. In all cases ample reserves have been set up on the books.

Well conceived plans for settlement require reliable scientific data obtained through research and field studies. The Corporation sent commissions of experts to Santo Domingo and the Philippines for investigations of settlement possibilities in these countries and also participated in a commission to British Guiana. The personnel of the commissions was selected by the distinguished American geographer and settlement authority, Dr. Isaiah Bowman, President of The Johns Hopkins University, under the terms of a grant of $25,000 which we made in 1939 to the Walter Hines Page School of International Relations for settlement studies. Both research and field investigations were conducted under the auspices of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees. The first program of research was recently completed and the grant renewed in order that these valuable studies might continue. Notable among the research projects undertaken were field studies in Australia, New Zealand and the Yunnan district of China, a study of Madagascar, and a thorough analysis of colonization in former German colonial areas in Africa.

* * * *

In the light of its experience, the Refugee Economic Corporation wishes to emphasize the advantages of the economic approach to the refugee problem. New and greater settlement possibilities will continue to develop as governments are convinced that intelligently planned refugee immigration enriches the national economy and culture of the receiving countries. Because tremendous sums and an international program under the direction of governments will eventually be needed, the importance of carefully planned and adequately financed beginnings cannot be overstated. Ultimately the greatest numbers will be helped and the most permanent benefits will accrue where there have been reasoned planning and proved results. History supports this conviction. Our own brief record is fully in accord with it.

The Refugee Economic Corporation has played a major role in the opening of new lands for settlement through the economic approach. The overseas group settlement projects are yet neither large enough nor numerous enough to absorb more than a small number of the

refugees who seek, and deserve, our aid. The projects now in being, practically all of which were actually undertaken or initially negotiated by the Refugee Economic Corporation, constitute, by virtue of their possibilities of growth and expansion, the hope and the promise of the future.

The financial statements of the two corporations are submitted here with on pages 30 through 35. Securities presently held are carried at cost with market value shown as of December 31, 1941. Investments in projects are carried at cost.

We wish to express our heartfelt appreciation for the efficient cooperation received from the committees and managers of the various enterprises, with whom it has been a pleasure to work. Their splendid devotion to the task has made possible the results achieved. We are particularly appreciative of the cooperation received from the Palestine Economic Corporation, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the National Refugee Service and the Jewish Agricultural Society. Our warm thanks are also extended to the members of our staff for their loyal and valued services. Both at home and in the field they have engaged in their difficult tasks with a high sense of the social nature of the Corporation's activities.

By Direction of the Board,

CHARLES J. LIEBMAN
President
Summary: During the period under review, the Refugee Economic Corporation's activities in Australia and the major developments in the refugee situation within that country were:

Formation of Mutual Farms Proprietary Ltd., a company to finance and manage the settlement of refugees on the land;

Establishment of the Chelsea Park Training Farm for refugees near Sydney by the Australian Jewish Welfare Society;

Placement of 1,050 refugees as individual farm proprietors or rural workers;

Development of a plan for refugee settlement on dairy farms owned by the Australian Government in Western Australia;

Formation of Mutual Enterprises Proprietary Ltd., a company to engage in industrial financing for refugees;

Establishment of 23 small industries by Mutual Enterprises;

Liberalization of Australia's immigration quotas and creation of a widespread public interest in large-scale settlement possibilities.

Land Settlement: In September 1938 Mutual Farms Proprietary Ltd., a stock company, was organized by the Refugee Economic Corporation and a group of prominent Australians. Mr. Gerald de Vahl Davis, an Australian businessman and a trained agriculturist as well, undertook the active management of the company. During the first year of its existence Mutual Farms fully financed and supervised the settlement of 13 refugee families on individual holdings; during the second year this number was increased to 57 families (200 persons). 350 refugees, graduates of the Chelsea Park Training Farm and others, were placed in rural occupations. An additional group of approximately 500 refugees received partial assistance or guidance from the company, generally through the agency of local cooperating committees.
Chemical Products Co. (Napro) of Sydney, of the 23 small industries financed by Mutual Enterprises Proprietary wholly-owned subsidiary of the Emigre Charitable Fund, Inc. Napro oys Australians and refugees and manufactures chemical, phar­wtical and cosmetic products formerly imported from overseas.

Western Australia: In January 1939 a plan was submitted for the settlement of refugees on dairy farms owned by the Government in Western Australia. Generous terms of purchase—thirty-five year mortgages—were offered. Following an investigation of the plan by the Corporation’s scientific advisers, an appropriation of $75,000 was made for this project, which contemplated the settlement of 50 families. The plan is being developed carefully, though on a reduced scale since some of the funds have been temporarily diverted for settlement on even more desirable lands in the State of New South Wales.

Industrial Financing: At the suggestion of the Refugee Economic Corporation, our Australian associates subsequently organized a sister corporation to Mutual Farms to engage in industrial financing. By the end of 1940 this company, known as Mutual Enterprises Proprietary Ltd., 100% of the stock of which is held by the Emigre Charitable Fund, Inc., has financed 23 small industries. They include plants for the manufacture of cosmetics and other chemical lines previously imported; leather novelties; brine for refrigeration; putty and similar materials; electric light fittings (a new type); chocolates for diabetics; and scissors. A number of the industries established are new to Australia, and are providing employment for native Australians as well as for refugees.

Conclusion: Mutual Farms and Mutual Enterprises have earned the reputation of soundly conceived and well managed organizations, capable of helping refugees contribute successfully to the Australian economy. Their record of accomplishment has had a gratifying effect upon the Australian Government, press and public. Their activities, as well as those of local refugee committees throughout Australia which followed their example, have been responsible for the notable increase in the Australian refugee quotas—from 600 per year in 1938 to 5,000 per year for 1939, 1940 and 1941.
Colonists making bricks for the construction of their homes in "Buena Tierra", the agricultural settlement established by the Refugee economic Corporation and the American Jewish Joint Agricultural Corporation on the fertile eastern slopes of the Bolivian Andes.

Farm house and courtyard at "Buena Tierra". The colonists are growing many crops, including coffee, cocoa, sugar, bananas, yucca and other fruits. They also engage in the production of lumber and native liquors for the domestic market.

BOLIVIA

Summary: During 1940, a refugee agricultural settlement was established in Bolivia with funds supplied by the Refugee Economic Corporation and the American Jewish Joint Agricultural Corporation. There are today 145 settlers on this colony. An American agronomist on the staff of the Refugee Economic Corporation recently visited Bolivia to assist in working out plans for the development of the settlement.

Since 1933 some 10,000 European refugees emigrated to Bolivia. Most of them settled in La Paz, where their situation soon became difficult because opportunities for work were limited. In April 1940, following a study of settlement possibilities and an investigation in the field, the Refugee Economic Corporation invested $50,000 in an agricultural development as a first step towards the solution of this problem. The American Jewish Joint Agricultural Corporation supplied a like amount and has since doubled its investment. Dr. Mauricio Hochschild, one of the leading metal producers of Bolivia, has taken a deep interest in this colonization project.

Land was purchased in the fertile Yungas District, about 60 miles east of La Paz. The chief basis for Bolivia's economy is the export of tin. Since most of her food is imported from surrounding countries, agricultural production for the domestic market is a commercially attractive proposition. The settlement also affords the refugees a more healthful part of the country in which to live than La Paz. That city, the highest in the world, lies at an altitude of over 13,000 feet.

The colony, Buena Tierra, is situated on the sloping sides of a valley ranging from 2,000 to 5,000 feet. The colonists have planted a large variety of crops, including coffee, cocoa, sugar, bananas, and other fruits. A representative of the Refugee Economic Corporation, visiting the colony, reported that the settlers (there are now 145) are enthusiastic and that the prospect for successful development is promising. In this connection, it is evident that the hope of future immigration into Bolivia, which at the present point has been completely halted, will depend largely on the fostering of economic settlement projects for refugees, such as the one herein described.
Hundreds of refugees have settled on the land in the United States with the aid of the Jewish Agricultural Society. The Refugee Economic Corporation supplies first mortgage funds for refugee farmers recommended by the Society. The owner of this thriving poultry farm was one of Germany's largest cigar manufacturers, employing over 300 men in his factories. His wife was an attorney.

Coffee shop of a refugee, established with a small loan from the Refugee Economic Corporation's fund for New York City. The proprietor formerly owned several large restaurants abroad. The income from his business is sufficient to support his family and amortize his loan. A general fund for the United States at large, as well as this one for New York City, is administered by the National Refugee Service. The capital is revolved.

LOAN FUNDS

At the time of incorporation, the purpose of the Refugee Economic Corporation was stated as follows: "to promote and assist the economic reconstruction of emigres from Germany and other countries and, to this end, to undertake and assist in the financing and management of enterprises of a banking, credit, industrial, or utility nature." Pursuant to this program of constructive activities the Refugee Economic Corporation and its affiliate, the Emigre Charitable Fund, Inc., have set up a number of loan funds to aid refugees in the establishment of independent small enterprises. The two corporations operate loan funds in the following cities: Amsterdam, Bogota, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Ciudad Trujillo, Copenhagen, Geneva, Havana, Jerusalem, Johannesburg, Manila, New York, Porto Alegre, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. Isolated loans have been made in countries where the demand does not warrant the establishment of a lending organization.

The capital of these funds, which are generally revolving, ranges from $2,000 to $40,000. The total invested is approximately $185,000. The burden which relief organizations have to carry is eased to the extent that these grants help refugees along the road to economic independence.

Recently, the business loan funds for New York City and for the country at large were consolidated to facilitate administration by the Capital Loan Committee of the National Refugee Service, Inc. About 175 small loans have been granted from this fund and refugees established in a broad variety of fields, frequently creating new opportunities for American workmen and manufacturers. The loan fund for farm settlement in the United States is administered by the Jewish Agricultural Society, which also takes a one-third interest in the first mortgage loans granted.

A census of the vocations engaged in by borrowers from the Bogota, Colombia, fund presents a representative pattern. Of forty-eight loans granted: 9 were to small industrialists; 7 to farmers; 5 to shopkeepers; 4 to bakers; 3 each to butchers and restaurateurs; 2 each to photographers, hotel-keepers, laboratory technicians, travel agents, and sales representatives; 1 each to a cabinetmaker, a hairdresser, a glazier, a florist, a shoemaker, a leather-dresser, and a coal merchant.

Perhaps the most valuable assistance given by the loan committees throughout the world which administer these funds is that of supplying the refugee applicants with business advice based on a sound knowledge of local conditions. It is as great a service to counsel a refugee against the investment of his own small capital in some business of doubtful prospect as it is to lend him a few hundred dollars to execute a feasible plan. In a number of instances, the actual loans are made through commercial banks.
Returning home from the school bus line to Van Eden Farms, the refugee agricultural settlement near Wilmington, North Carolina. This colony is operated by the Alvin Corporation, in which the Refugee Economic Corporation and the Emigré Charitable Fund, Inc., have a one-half interest. Dr. Alvin S. Johnson, Director of the New School for Social Research, is President of the company.

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**Summary:** The Alvin Corporation, whose President is Dr. Alvin S. Johnson, Director of the New School for Social Research, has established a small refugee farm settlement near Wilmington, North Carolina. The Refugee Economic Corporation and the Emigré Charitable Fund have a one-half interest in the company and participate in its management.

During the fall of 1939 the Alvin Corporation was organized for the purpose of establishing a small non-sectarian refugee colony specifically designed for the settlement of families who lack capital of their own. A tract of 150 acres of arable land and 100 acres of woodland was purchased, and the company's first settlement, Von Eden Farms, established. The basic unit at Von Eden is the individual ten-acre farm, with bungalow, barn, chicken house and kitchen garden. The President of the Corporation is Dr. Alvin S. Johnson, a man distinguished for his wide interests in many humanitarian and democratic endeavors.

A majority of the original families, discouraged by the fact that no profits were realized on truck farm operations, left the colony. We are now going forward with the settlement of additional families, in cooperation with the Jewish Agricultural Society.

Dairying has now been emphasized by the refugee families remaining at Van Eden, and their returns are most encouraging. They have contracted with a Wilmington ice cream company which is the principal purchaser of milk in that area, and are already deriving sufficient income from their milk checks to maintain themselves and show a profit on their dairy operations. They will continue to expand their herds until each man has fifteen to twenty milking cows. The Government milk inspectors have praised them for their sanitary and efficient barns.
The Economic Corporation provided funds to house refugee children brought through the Youth Immigration movement. The Palestine Economic Corporation supervised construction of these sites. Two of these are near the Lake of Galilee.

PALESTINE

Summary: During the period under review the Refugee Economic Corporation extended further aid to refugees in Palestine. The specific projects, which are all administered through subsidiaries of the Palestine Economic Corporation, are:

- Loan fund for housing of refugee children;
- Loan fund for intermediate credits to agricultural cooperatives of refugee farmers;
- Mortgage funds for the erection of residential and industrial buildings in Haifa;
- Formation of the Sharon Water Company, in cooperation with the Palestine Economic Corporation.

The economic assistance afforded by the Refugee Economic Corporation is available to all European refugees, irrespective of the countries of their origin or settlement. Since there are so many organizations interested in the upbuilding of Palestine, the Corporation has from the outset placed its emphasis upon resettlement in other countries. Nevertheless, the Corporation's activities have included considerable aid to victims of Nazi persecution who have taken refuge in Palestine.

Housing for Refugee Children: 7,100 children have been brought to Palestine in the course of the last seven years through the Youth Aliyah (youth immigration) movement. These young people, who are all between 13 and 17 years of age, join the ranks of the workers in Palestinian agriculture and industry after a two-year period of vocational training. 76% of the Youth Aliyah graduates find their place in agriculture. Buildings adequate for the housing of over 600 of these children have been constructed with funds supplied by the Refugee Economic Corporation. Some are schoolhouses, convertible into dwellings for adults after the Youth Aliyah program is completed. The various agricultural settlements which have undertaken to maintain and support these children are responsible for the repayment of the Refugee Economic Corporation's mortgage loans over a 15-year period. The fund is administered by the Central Bank of Cooperative Institutions, a subsidiary of the Palestine Economic Corporation, which also selected the sites and supervised the construction.
Credits to Cooperative Societies: To assist new refugee farm colonies in Palestine, the Refugee Economic Corporation recently made available to the Central Bank a fund for agricultural loans. These intermediate credits are used for the purchase of needed farm machinery and livestock, the development of fields and orchards, the installation of capital improvements on the colonies, and for crop financing.

Residential and Industrial Construction: In response to a vital need in Palestine for living quarters, warehouse facilities and factory space, the Refugee Economic Corporation appropriated funds for new construction. Through the Palestine Economic Corporation, apartment houses, low-cost homes and factory buildings have been constructed in Haifa. Careful planning, standardization where feasible, and competitive bidding have made possible small but comfortable homes, well within the means of working class families. Some of the new residential buildings have been rented or sold to refugee workers in the oil refineries. The fact that there is no public housing authority receiving Government support in Palestine underscores the importance of this private work.

Sharon Water Company: Through irrigation, Palestine has been transformed from a semi-arid to a highly productive land. The Refugee Economic Corporation and the Palestine Economic Corporation have organized a new water company to service recently established farm colonies of European refugees. The company is now engaged in drilling its wells and laying its pipe lines on the Sharon plain, midway between Haifa and Tel-Aviv. By planning water development regionally, irrigation costs are greatly reduced and better facilities created.
Maraquina Hall, refugee community home near Manila, on property donated to the Jewish Refugee Committee of Manila by Manuel L. Quezon, President of the Philippine Commonwealth. Maraquina was dedicated to the President on April 23rd, 1940.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Summary: The outbreak of war in the Far East has disrupted refugee work in the Philippines. Nevertheless the accomplishments of the last few years merit recounting, for they have important bearing on the future, when work will be resumed there and the method of selective immigration which has been employed in the Philippines will be adopted in other areas. During the period under review, the Refugee Economic Corporation's activities in the Philippines, and the major developments in the refugee situation within that country, were:

Establishment of a program of selective immigration in cooperation with the Department of State, the United States High Commissioner, the Philippine Government, and the Jewish Refugee Committee of Manila;

Entry into the Philippines of about 1,000 refugees under this program and the more recently created system of temporary immigration;

Formation of a loan fund by the Refugee Economic Corporation to finance refugee businesses;

Development of a complete program of refugee aid, including housing, maintenance and education, with the bulk of the funds supplied by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee;

Gift by President Manuel L. Quezon of a farm property near Manila for a refugee center;

Field study of large-scale settlement possibilities in the island of Mindanao and development of plans for the settlement of 10,000 refugees there.

Selective Immigration: Prior to 1938 there were but a handful of refugees in the Philippines; there are now about 1,300. The majority entered the Islands as participants in a program of selective immigration started in the fall of 1938. Others were admitted under a system of temporary immigration established during 1940. In the summer of 1938 Mr. Paul V. McNutt, then United States High Commissioner to the Philippines, discussed with us the possibility of refugee immigration into that country. He thereupon caused the
Jewish Refugee Committee of Manila to be formed and with them conducted a brief economic survey in Manila to determine what vocations and professions were insufficiently represented, and what types of persons were actually needed in the Islands. It was found that there were immediate openings for a variety of trained individuals, including medical specialists, chemical engineers, automobile mechanics, barbers, accountants, photographers and so on—150 in all. Accordingly, a list of these was sent to the Refugee Economic Corporation in New York. The Corporation arranged for the leading social work agencies in Germany and Central Europe to interview refugees in these categories whose emigration was imperative. Complete dossiers on each applicant were carefully reviewed by the Jewish Refugee Committee of Manila, which selected those applicants whom it considered qualified. The fact that the Philippine Government authorized visas in every case approved by the Committee is indeed a tribute to the conscientiousness and efficiency of its work.

The Refugee Economic Corporation established a fund with the Manila Committee for the purpose of making loans to refugees. A number of new businesses were started, or new departments established in existing concerns. Certain highly trained specialists joined the staffs of colleges at the University of the Philippines.

Temporary Immigration: During the early part of 1940 arrangements were made to obtain temporary—two-year residence—visas for refugees who did not fall into the selected categories. Hundreds of refugees proceeded to the Philippines under this plan. Local businessmen benefited by their presence since they are consumers only. Each refugee who obtained a temporary visa was required to deposit a sum sufficient to support himself for a period of two years. These funds were placed in trust, and managed jointly by the individuals and the Committee. The opportunity to bring persons to the Philippines for temporary stays was of invaluable assistance in those cases where departure from Europe was a matter of extreme urgency and the refugees involved could not wait for permanent overseas visas.

Marquina Hall: A debt of gratitude is owed to Manuel L. Quezon, President of the Philippine Commonwealth, whose generous cooperation in the development of the refugee program created the atmosphere of sympathy and understanding essential to its execution. Apart from the official good will which the President and his administration demonstrated, the President expressed his personal interest in refugee work by turning over to the Jewish Refugee Committee a
A large farm property near Manila. A large home for refugees, known as Maroquina Hall, was erected on this property. On the occasion of the dedication, the President, speaking of his Government's policy in admitting refugees, said: "It is my hope, and indeed my expectation, that the people of the Philippines will have in the future every reason to be glad that when the time of need came, their country was happy to extend to a persecuted people a hand of welcome."

**Conclusion:** The fine record of achievement in refugee work in the Philippines is a source of great gratification to all who have participated in this work. It has been made possible by the generous devotion of the Messrs. Frieder, of Cincinnati and Manila. They have directed, from its inception, the diligent and able Jewish Refugee Committee of Manila which maintained this broad program of refugee aid and won the admiration and thanks of the Government, the refugees, and the organizations that collaborated with them.
RESEARCH AND FIELD STUDIES

Summary: In recognition of the need for thoroughly reliable and adequate scientific information on the technical aspects of settlement, the Emigre Charitable Fund, Inc., granted $25,000 for settlement studies to the Walter Hines Page School of International Relations at Johns Hopkins University. A comprehensive program of research, conducted under the direction of Dr. Isaiah Bowman, President of the University, was recently completed and the grant renewed. Investigating commissions were sent to British Guiana, the Dominican Republic and the Philippines, and a very extensive file gathered during the course of the last few years on numerous aspects of settlement and specific areas. All the commissions were sent under the auspices of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees.

The economic approach to the refugee problem which the Refugee Economic Corporation has adopted necessitates full and continuous use of technical knowledge and historical experience. Accordingly, under the auspices of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees, the Emigre Charitable Fund, Inc., granted the sum of $25,000 to the Walter Hines Page School of International Relations at Johns Hopkins University for intensive study of settlement possibilities throughout the world. The first program of research has been completed.

Numerous consultations were held with outstanding authorities and leading government officials on various phases of the problem. A field study was conducted in southeastern Asia in cooperation with the Institute of Pacific Relations, and a similar detailed study made in New Zealand and Australia. The experience of German colonizers in Africa and settlement possibilities in Madagascar were analyzed by Germany's foremost geographer, now resident in the United States. Reports on internal migration in China and settlement conditions in Costa Rica and Lower California were submitted. A file of settlement materials dealing with the larger scientific questions of settlement—temperatures, dietary problems, adaptability of whites to tropical areas, and so forth—as well as with specific areas of possible settlement, has been accumulated and kept up to date.

This file, which represents the growing edge of current information, enables the Walter Hines Page School to give a ready reply to questions of settlement possibilities in any part of the world. The advice and guidance of the officials of the School have been of invaluable assistance to the Refugee Economic Corporation and in all refugee settlement activities. The grant was recently renewed so that these important studies might continue without interruption.

General scientific information regarding large areas cannot answer the question of whether or not settlement is feasible at this or that point within the areas. Agricultural colonization may be extremely difficult in a valley on one side of a mountain and yet entirely practical on the other side. The suitability of a specific locale can be determined only by a competent investigation in the field.

In the spring of 1939 the Refugee Economic Corporation participated in an Anglo-American commission investigating settlement possibilities in British Guiana, particularly in the Rupununi Savannah district. Although the inaccessibility of this area presented a serious if not insurmountable difficulty, the commission recommended a small trial settlement. British leaders in refugee affairs organized a company to develop this work, but the project was abandoned at the outbreak of the war before any actual settlement had taken place.

In the spring of 1939 the Refugee Economic Corporation sent a scientific commission to the Dominican Republic. Members of the commission were scientists of the United States Department of Agriculture, granted temporary leave for the purpose of this study. Seventeen tracts of government and private lands were carefully surveyed and classified. The Refugee Economic Corporation, however, did not proceed with settlement in that country. An independent corporation, known as the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, Inc., was organized by others and financed principally by the American Jewish Joint Agricultural Corporation.

In the summer of 1939 the Government of the Philippine Commonwealth, pleased with the success of refugee work in the Philippines, invited the Refugee Economic Corporation to send a commission of experts to the islands of Polillo and Mindanao to investigate large-scale settlement possibilities. The plateau province of Bukidnon, on Mindanao, was selected by the commission as the most promising area for colonization. The personnel of the commission and more of their activities are described in the section of this report concerning the Philippines and in the captions to the pictures on page 25.

Other detailed studies are on hand, some of which were prepared
in the temporary employ of the corporation. The files of the corporation include reports on specific districts and settlement in: Alaska, Angola, Australia, Brazil, British Honduras, Chile, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, and a number of other localities. The Economic Corporation has made valuable associations with officials and businessmen throughout the world. When political conditions for settlement appear in some of these mentioned above, the Corporation hopes to develop preliminary plans and contacts it has made.

The Corporation is presently conducting a survey of industrial development in Latin America by refugees. Noteworthy achievements in this work are now being made in Chile, for which full data is now available. The work was initiated and undertaken entirely by the Jewish community. 659 persons have been set up as proprietors of new industries. These manufacturers, who arrived since July 1941, now employ more than 4,300 Chilean workers. About 30-35% of these refugees in Chile derive their support from these enterprises, as owners, employees, or members of their families. These businesses include factories for the production of aluminum, rubber goods, wearing apparel, furniture, chemicals, plastics, steel skillets, ceramics, printed silks, cabinets, and numerous others. The experience of the Chilean Jewish refugees in utilizing skills of refugees in new industries is added to the validity of our own program, as further exemplified by the work with which we are engaged.

The Economic Corporation was not called upon to assist in the Chilean enterprises. However, we have now been given grants-in-aid and for supervisory direction in the field of industrial development. An important beginning has been made by the Chilean refugees in establishing industries on the land, and they are most successful in their efforts to match the successful industrial work with comparable expansion. The Corporation has found, through an agricultural staff who recently visited Chile, that there are opportunities for the establishment of agricultural colonies. The intended farmers require not only agricultural loans but also knowledge of farming methods and crops. Initial plans for an agricultural loan fund have been made, with the local refugee agencies vitally interested, and a practical plan for settlement is now under consideration.

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### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**LOEB & TROPER**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
FIVE TWENTY ONE FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY.

SIMON LOEB, C.P.A. (N.Y.)  
MORRIS C. TROPER, C.P.A. (N.Y.)

February 28, 1942

Refugee Economic Corporation  
570 Lexington Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sirs—

We have examined the accompanying Statement of Financial Condition with supporting Schedules of the Refugee Economic Corporation as at December 31, 1941 and the Statement of Income and Expenses for the year ended December 31, 1941.

We have examined or tested the accounting records and other supporting evidence by methods and to the extent we deemed appropriate, without necessarily making a complete detailed audit of the transactions. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards applicable in the circumstances and included all procedures which we deemed necessary.

The Board of Directors have officially voted to expend certain sums of money, of which, at December 31, 1941, there remained unexpended the amount of $85,440.74.

In our opinion, the accompanying Exhibits together with our comments present fairly the financial position of the Refugee Economic Corporation as at December 31, 1941 and the results of operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles on a basis consistent with that of the previous year.

Respectfully submitted,  
LOEB & TROPER  
Certified Public Accountants
EXHIBIT "A"

REFUGEE ECONOMIC CORPORATION

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES

January 1, 1941 to December 31, 1941

Compared with period January 1, 1940 to December 31, 1940

INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>January 1, 1941 to December 31, 1941</th>
<th>January 1, 1940 to December 31, 1940</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dividends</td>
<td>$13,070.09</td>
<td>$12,494.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned on Exempt Securities</td>
<td>297.32</td>
<td>1,657.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned on Other Securities</td>
<td>3,765.55</td>
<td>4,493.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Received on Loans</td>
<td>7,134.04</td>
<td>$2,129.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,256.60</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,639.85</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND OFFICE EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>1941</th>
<th>1940</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary—Executive</td>
<td>$1,850.00</td>
<td>$1,675.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salary—Office</td>
<td>4,408.86</td>
<td>4,804.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>1,250.04</td>
<td>1,250.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>35.11</td>
<td>32.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone, Telegraph and Cables</td>
<td>425.59</td>
<td>1,000.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery and Office Supplies</td>
<td>230.00</td>
<td>110.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>85.85</td>
<td>136.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditing (includes Field Audit of South American Funds)</td>
<td>926.77</td>
<td>573.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Fees</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Expenses</td>
<td>212.79</td>
<td>168.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>45.56</td>
<td>41.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Agents Fee</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling Expense</td>
<td>130.68</td>
<td>195.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and Periodicals</td>
<td>45.54</td>
<td>47.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Report</td>
<td>321.00</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation Furniture and Fixtures</td>
<td>75.54</td>
<td>70.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Service and Subscriptions</td>
<td>67.49</td>
<td>103.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND OFFICE EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,643.71</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,827.58</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER DEDUCTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>1941</th>
<th>1940</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provision for Doubtful Loans</td>
<td>2,505.73</td>
<td>$10,913.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on Sales and Redemption of Securities</td>
<td>1,560.75</td>
<td>2,279.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization Expenses Written Off</td>
<td>67.09</td>
<td>771.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on Foreign Exchange</td>
<td>129.00</td>
<td>5,113.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES AND OTHER DEDUCTIONS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,857.20</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,250.51</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCESS OF EXPENSES AND OTHER DEDUCTIONS OVER INCOME—BEFORE TAXES</td>
<td>$5,520.78</td>
<td>$11,620.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add.—Taxes</td>
<td>1,355.99</td>
<td>1,448.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS OF EXPENSES AND OTHER DEDUCTIONS OVER INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,876.77</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,070.09</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
February 28, 1942

EMIGRE CHARITABLE FUND, INC.
BALANCE SHEET—DECEMBER 31, 1941

RESOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash in Bank</td>
<td>$41,466.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in Bank—Collateral Account</td>
<td>1,914.19(A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securities—At Cost (Market Value $122,577)</td>
<td>132,220.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securities Pledged—At Cost (Market Value $2,083)</td>
<td>2,013.74(A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Interest on Securities</td>
<td>1,531.71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOAN FUNDS:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denmark, Switzerland, and Philippines</td>
<td>29,906.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>9,620.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LOAN FUNDS</td>
<td>39,527.57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INVESTMENTS IN PROJECTS—AT BOOK VALUE</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia Project</td>
<td>$47,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alvin Corporation (414 shares at $100 per share)</td>
<td>41,400.00(B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mutual Enterprises Pty. Ltd. (7720 shares at £1 per share)</td>
<td>25,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Honduras Project</td>
<td>20,286.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN PROJECTS—AT BOOK VALUE</td>
<td>119,413.76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Furniture and Fixtures               | 735.45     |
| Reserve for Depreciation             | 292.66     |
| TOTAL RESOURCES                      |            |

| LOEB & TROPER                        |            |
| Certified Public Accountants         |            |

LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND SURPLUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advances Payable</td>
<td>3,043.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Expenses Payable</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve for Possible Losses on Collateral Loans</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve for Enmarked Fund—Alvin Corporation</td>
<td>2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</td>
<td>3,744.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXCESS OF RESOURCES OVER LIABILITIES AND RESERVES—SURPLUS—DECE. 31, 1941

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(A) The corporation has these funds on deposit, and also U. S. Treasury Bonds 9% 1952/54, Par $2,000, as the corporation's share of collateral to indemnify the Buenos Aires Bank, for any possible future losses resulting from loans to refugees in Argentina.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) Includes 17 shares to be issued.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Subject to possible future payments on balances of unpaid appropriations, which on December 31, 1941, amounted to $104,240.87.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully submitted,

LOEB & TROPER
Certified Public Accountants
EMIGRE CHARITABLE FUND, INC.
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES
January 1, 1941 to December 31, 1941

### INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contribution</td>
<td>$ 25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Received on Loans</td>
<td>202.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Earned on Securities</td>
<td>4,294.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 4,522.10</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXPENDITURES

#### FUNCTIONAL
- Great-Walter Hines Page School: $12,000.00
- New Zealand and Australian Investigation Expenses: 2,189.48
- British Honduras Project Expenses: 520.64
- Investigation Traveling Expenses—Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador: 4,121.18
- **TOTAL FUNCTIONAL** = $19,331.30

#### ADMINISTRATION
- Salaries-Executive: 8,500.00
- Salaries-Office: 4,408.05
- Rent: 1,250.04
- Electricity: 55.16
- Telephone, Telegraph and Cables: 382.02
- Stationery and Office Supplies: 207.99
- Postage: 101.05
- Auditing (includes Field Audit of South American Funds): 684.27
- Miscellaneous Expenses: 159.90
- Towel Service: 17.25
- News Service and Subscriptions: 67.49
- Traveling Expenses: 130.40
- Books and Periodicals: 45.47
- Insurance: 49.75
- Legal Fees: 350.00
- Translations: 49.75
- Annual Report: 381.00
- Custodian Fees: 87.00
- **Depreciation** = 75.55
- **TOTAL ADMINISTRATION** = 10,451.04

#### Losses
- Loss on Sale of Securities: 1,906.25
- Loss on Foreign Exchange: 7.90
- **TOTAL EXPENDITURES** = 12,909.55

#### EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES OVER INCOME FOR YEAR 1941
- **$59,679.25**