

No. R-29

Copy No. 24 of 30

STUDIES OF MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT

Report Series

Subject: *The Jewish Colonization Association*

Date: February 3, 1944

R-29 The Jewish
Colonization Ass'n.

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February 3, 1944

THE JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION:
ITS WORK AND POLICIES

This Report has been prepared by members of
the Staff of "M" Project.

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CONFIDENTIAL

SUMMARY

This Report is based on a series of interviews between Dr. Louis Oungre, Managing Director of the Jewish Colonization Association (ICA), and members of the Staff of "M" Project. Dr. Oungre discussed his experiences in the field of organized settlement and occupational education. Dr. Oungre naturally is a partial witness; nonetheless, he willingly discussed criticism leveled against ICA by various Jewish groups and forthrightly answered all questions.

ICA, the world's oldest philanthropic association for the promotion of organized settlement overseas, began operations in 1891. Assessing its achievements, the question arises as to whether ICA has not failed in what it set out to do, and succeeded in doing what it professed to oppose.

It was the avowed purpose of Baron Hirsch, ICA's founder, to establish rural colonies in various parts of North and South America where Jews from Europe and Asia were to settle in compact communities. In the Argentine colonies the total Jewish agricultural population increased from 5,865 in 1894 to 17,742 in 1934, while in 1935 the number declined to 14,677.

It is estimated since then to have declined to approximately 12,500.

ICA was endowed by its founder with £10,000,000. According to the report for January 1, 1933, ICA owned £4,289,000 in bonds, £250,000 in cash, and other assets aggregating £3,379,000--a total of £7,918,000, or approximately \$38,000,000 at the then prevailing rate of exchange.

Critics have taken the management of ICA severely to task for what they have deemed a low number of settlers in proportion to the magnitude of ICA's financial resources. They assert that ICA's land holdings in Argentina could easily accommodate more settlers and that the organization has not used its large land reserves in Brazil.

ICA's management points out that the non-agricultural population in villages and towns must be taken into account. Basavilbaso, in the Argentine Province of Entre Rios, the largest town in the colonies, has a population of 7,000. Sixteen commercial firms, twenty-four industrial establishments, forty work shops, three libraries, and two banks are located in this town. Moisesville, in Santa Fe, Argentina, has a population of approximately 3,800.

In all there are sixteen villages and towns in ICA's Argentine territories, with a population of about 16,000. Thus the total number of inhabitants in the ICA areas exceeds 30,000.

From the social point of view the towns play an important rôle; it is here that Jews and non-Jews meet. ICA, in harmony with its primary purpose, desires to have farms occupied by Jews only. However, ICA opposes segregation. Thus the town affords the Jewish colonists the opportunity to become assimilated into Argentina's national and cultural life.

This situation raises a question of major policy for ICA. Is it to encourage craftsmen and tradesmen to enter the towns or shall only farmers be admitted? The present proportions of town and country people are about the same as in other non-Jewish colonies in Argentina. Because of the largely non-agricultural background and training of European Jews, there is some pressure on ICA to select more townspeople. For the present, however, the farm areas can hardly support a larger urban population, while the Argentine Government restricts the immigration of persons who do not intend to engage in farming.

"ICA has made a real contribution to the national life of the Argentine. The economic advantages to the country are obvious and need no elaboration. Large stretches of fertile farm lands have been wrested from the jungle and the pampas. By a process of careful selection, ICA has succeeded in bringing a high type of colonist to the Argentine, an important element among the various groups that constitute the melting pot of Argentine civilization. Many of the sons of colonists, who went to Buenos Aires and other large cities to obtain an advanced education, have made an unusual record for themselves. Among them are well-known physicians, journalists, lawyers, artists, and others. One of the foremost leaders in congress is the son of an ICA colonist. The colonies may well be proud of their place in Argentine life."¹

It is a fact that the number of ICA farmers has been declining throughout the past decade. It is also a fact that ICA settlers have filtered from the rural communities into urban centers and entered

1. See Ernst Schwarz and Johan C. Te Velde, in The Hispanic American Historical Review, 1939, Vol. XIX, p. 201.

non-agricultural professions. If ICA's achievement is to be measured in terms of agricultural settlement, this trend signifies failure. However, the trend towards urbanization and industrialization is characteristic of our age. Hence, the experiences of ICA's agricultural colonies are those of villages and country towns throughout the world.

ICA's colonies serve as catalysts of assimilation. Here immigrant Jews not only are trained in modern agricultural techniques, coöperative practices, and farm industries; they are also taught the mores of their new homeland. They and their children may choose to abandon their farms for Argentina's industrial and urban centers.

Nonetheless, ICA has fulfilled an important function. The Jewish immigrants could have entered Argentina only as agricultural workers and ICA has afforded them the opportunity to do so. That these immigrants in due course conform to the dominant economic trends of their new homeland and are able to establish themselves in other trades should be put to ICA's credit.

The showing of the rural colonies does not reflect the full measure of ICA's achievements. These

must be judged by the successful integration of Jewish immigrants into the development of Argentina.

The management of ICA has evolved from fifty years of trial and error certain precepts which should be of interest to all organizations engaged in settlement activities. ICA's experiences have confirmed the need for painstaking area studies and for the careful selection, thorough training, and expert supervision of settlers.

Dr. Oungre holds that the supervision and management of organized settlement should be entrusted to trained experts. These should possess a working knowledge of economics, personnel management, coöperative techniques, languages, and geography. Such training cannot be obtained by improvisation. Hence Dr. Oungre proposes the establishment of a school to train professionals capable of discharging the complex duties of settlement management.

HISTORY¹

The wave of anti-Semitism which swept Eastern Europe during the last decade of the nineteenth century convinced Baron Maurice de Hirsch, Jewish financier and philanthropist, that some measure more radical than charity was necessary for the relief of the Jew. Hirsch was a social leader of great vision who thought constructively and in terms of his business experience. If the poverty-stricken and humiliated Jews were to be helped, they should be given the opportunity to rehabilitate their own lives.

It was his dream that the Eastern European Jews, who for centuries had been isolated in the urban ghettos, should return to the soil and some day form a well-to-do agricultural middle class. He declared "that the Jews should not huddle in ghettos, but should . . . mix with various peoples in various lands, remaining Jews in religion, but in all other respects assimilating with the people among whom they cast their lot."

1. This chapter is based on an article by Ernst Schwarz and Johan C. Te Velde, "Jewish Agricultural Settlement in Argentina: The ICA Experiment," Hispanic American Historical Review, 1939, Vol. XIX, pp. 185-203.

In 1891, Hirsch founded the Jewish Colonization Association, known as "ICA" for convenience. The charter of the Association states its purpose:

"To assist and promote the emigration of Jews from any part of Europe or Asia and principally from countries in which they may for the time being be subjected to any special taxes or political or other disabilities to any other part of the world and to form and establish colonies in various parts of North and South America and other countries for agricultural, commercial, and other purposes."

Since 1900, ICA has established a few agricultural colonies in Brazil, Canada, and Palestine. The Jewish Agricultural Society, also founded by Hirsch, maintains Jewish farm settlements in the United States. In practice the company has confined its activity chiefly to Argentina.

ICA is organized along the lines of a stock company and is controlled by an executive committee of eleven members. New committee members are admitted by vote of the committee itself. At first ICA's capital amounted to 2 million pounds, but in

the course of its existence it has obtained funds totalling 11 million pounds. Hirsch devoted nearly his entire fortune to it.

ICA's strong financial position gave it a decided advantage. Moreover, it did not have to contend with the many problems affecting a private land company operating for profit. The charter forbade any financial return to the stockholders and the capital could not be touched. The company was thus able to operate on a large scale, and was powerful enough to overcome local set-backs in Argentina as well as the effects of world-wide depressions and the depreciation of various national currencies. The huge but well-managed fund backed both the colonies and the individual settlers, on more than one occasion preventing their collapse.

Baron de Hirsch became interested in colonization in Argentina at a most opportune time. In 1890 that country was suffering a depression; many immigrants were leaving because of failure to establish themselves and land prices were falling rapidly. The country was thus badly in need of foreign capital. Nevertheless, the Argentine Government at first opposed a large influx of eastern Jews, fearing that

such a group would be difficult to assimilate or ill adapted to agricultural work.

But soon the Government changed its attitude and the first land purchases began. In 1891, Hirsch bought 95 square leagues near Nueve de Julio in the Province of Buenos Aires and $4\frac{1}{2}$ square leagues in Santa Fe. The next year more land was obtained in Entre Rios and Buenos Aires. In October, 1893, ICA's possessions covered a total of 635 square leagues, purchased for the small sum of 2,500-3,500 pesos per square league. After colonization began this land rapidly increased in value. Today the company owns about 1,519,000 acres in Argentina, but much of this land is kept in reserve for future settlers.

Hirsch's original colonization plans were gigantic and almost Utopian in design. In the first year, 25,000 Jews were to be brought to Argentina, and this number was to be increased each year until several millions had been settled in the country. Hirsch, a successful businessman, desired that a policy of laissez-faire should be adopted in regard to the colonists. Settlers were to be given land and money for equipment, and were thereupon to work out their own future, gradually repaying the funds advanced to them.

This latter idea had to be dropped even before colonization began. It was found to be impossible to leave inexperienced immigrants in a strange country to their own devices. Instead, a sort of planned economy was adopted. The colonist was to obtain land, buildings, livestock, and implements, and even cash subsidies until the first harvest. Each settler was to be given a piece of land of a size which made it readily workable by himself and his family--usually a farm of about 123 acres. He was expected to pay back his debt within twenty years.

Large families desiring to emigrate were to be selected in Russia, and only those qualified for agricultural work were to be chosen. But unforeseen circumstances led for a time to a waiving of these rigid qualifications; for owing to renewed persecutions in Russia the selecting committees were flooded with applications. Persons were consequently accepted indiscriminately and in large numbers. Nearly all of these were without agricultural experience. Many were small tradespeople--tailors, shoemakers, peddlers, seamstresses, smiths, etc. Many were worthless loafers of the lowest class, who managed to be included in the first batches of emigrants.

The first prospective settlers, about 2,850 in number, arrived in Argentina in June, 1891, and others soon followed. They were sent to the first colonies, Mauricio, Buenos Aires, and Moisesville, Santa Fe. By 1893, two more colonies had been formed at Clara and San Antonio, in northern Entre Rios. Still later, Lucienville in the southern part of Entre Rios was settled. Before the death of Baron Hirsch, he suggested that immigration be temporarily halted until the old colonists were fully established and had adapted themselves to the new environment.

During the first years the colonists were not required to sign a written contract. When such a contract was finally presented to them, in 1895, much dissatisfaction arose. True, the terms of the contract were rather harsh. Annual payments, which ordinarily were stretched to cover a period of twenty years, were increased and the period of reimbursement reduced to twelve years. The colonist did not obtain title to his farm and could not sell it until the last payment was made; if he left his land before this the payments made were lost. The settler was forbidden to carry on any business except farming, and was not permitted to rent his farm to another

person. The contract, however, proved of great educational value to the settler, and is still in use today, with minor changes.

Since 1900, ICA has methodically enlarged its possessions by purchasing additional lands. The following colonies have been added: Baron Hirsch, Buenos Aires, in 1904; Narcisse Leven, Pampa Central, in 1908; Dora, Santiago del Estero, in 1910; Montefiore, Santa Fe, in 1912; Louis Oungre and Leonard Cohen, Entre Rios, in 1930; and quite recently Avigdor, Entre Rios. Today there are seventeen colonies.

From the first, ICA carried on a great deal of construction work. As early as 1895 it had constructed 1,361 houses, 958 wells, 42 dykes, 14 synagogues, 12 schools, 2 hospitals, and 14 baths.

The ICA administration constantly planned for and supervised the settlers in order that they might better adapt themselves to their environment. For instance, how large should the individual farms be for maximum efficiency? What kind of contract should the colonist be given? The early contracts did not give the colonists any rights to their lands until all payments had been made, but in 1924 this provision was modified so that after three years of annual

payments and good behavior the farmer received a promesa de venta, or a promise of sale to no one but himself. After five more years he obtained conditional title to this land while the balance of his debt was converted into a regular mortgage.

When immigration was resumed after World War I, ICA established an apprenticeship period for prospective colonists. This was called the quinta system; by its terms the newly arrived family received merely a quinta, one-fifth the size of the ordinary farm. Here the family obtained experience during the first year in dairying, poultry-raising, and vegetable-growing. The candidate himself, during this period, was assigned to the farm of one of the older settlers. If he and his family proved capable, they were assigned a farm.

When some German Jews were chosen for colonization in 1936, the plan was slightly modified. The families were selected in Germany and had to consist of at least two adult males and two adult females, able and willing to perform agricultural work. In exceptional cases, smaller families were admitted when some outsider promised to make up the deficiency. The younger male adult was obliged to spend a month

on a Jewish experimental farm near Berlin. If the Director of this farm thought him suited for the work, he was then sent to ICA's Argentine colonies to serve one year's apprenticeship as the farm-hand of an experienced colonist. If he was regarded as adapted to farm work, his family joined him on a farm of their own. Only small groups of families came over at one time. Thus the first group of Germans consisted of twenty-six families, who were sent to Avigdor Colony in the Province of Entre Rios, where the climate is healthful and the entire region is served by railroads.

Since 1929, world market conditions for agricultural products have been greatly modified. It is probable that because of the drive for economic self-sufficiency by Germany, Italy, the British Empire, and other countries, the demand from these quarters for Argentine grain and meat may never be as great as was previously the case. Intensified mechanization and improved farming methods may also increase agricultural production all over the world.

At the same time, the growth of Argentina's cities and the progress of her industrialization will create a domestic market for a greater variety of farm products. This factor already has acted as

a powerful stimulus on the colonists to practise diversified farming to a greater extent.

The stabilizing influence of this new policy has made itself felt; during the recent depression the colonists suffered a drop in their cash income but raised enough vegetables and fruit for their own consumption, while surplus dairy and poultry produce found a local market. Moreover, the Argentine Government for a time attempted to support farm prices by means of subsidies. New colonists established themselves on the land even during the worst years of the crisis. The general improvement in world prices since 1936 has greatly benefited the farmers of the various colonies.

On the whole the colonists have never been wealthy. "The great majority does not yet live too well and only a few well-to-do" can be found. Most of them are heavily mortgaged and in debt, so that interest payments swallow up their cash incomes. Failures and bankruptcies take place at all times and are particularly common during drought and depression years. In spite of this, half the colonists were independent of ICA by 1935, and some farmers who owned 350-1,100 acres of land were relatively wealthy.

PURPOSE

Philanthropy motivated the creation of the Jewish Colonization Association (ICA). Yet it is not a charitable undertaking. The standards to which it adheres are those of any well-run business enterprise. The settler is the beneficiary of loans, not gifts. Thus ICA's funds circulate as do those of any other long-term lending agency; the fund is maintained intact, its liquid reserves guaranteeing the continued initiative of ICA management.

The purpose of ICA is patently that of aiding the Jewish people. Nonetheless, its work has been of substantial benefit to non-Jewish elements, and the standards of communities founded by ICA in the USSR, Argentina, and Brazil compare favorably with the prevailing standards of the corresponding national economies.

It was one of ICA's avowed aims to settle Jews on the land, and to this end facilities were created to teach agricultural skills to Jews possessing some knowledge of farming and later to Jews drawn from urban environments. ICA, however, complemented its agricultural settlements with farm industries such as dairying, cheese-making, vine-growing, etc.

ICA seeks to integrate its settlers into the life of the country of immigration. The ICA settlement thus becomes an integral part of the region and of the State; the ICA settler becomes a citizen. In its approach to this problem ICA is animated by the philosophy of regionalism--the ICA settlement blends into the landscape and the settler is taught not only the letter-perfect use of the language of the country but also the dialect of his region.

ICA pursues a policy which balances the necessity for strict supervision against the ideal of the settler's independence, attained when he has met the obligations incurred by virtue of his contract with ICA. The ultimate aim is the complete financial independence of the settler. Yet ICA's long-range planning and past work would not have been possible if the organization itself had not been completely independent, thanks to the munificence of its founder.

The ultimate success of a settlement depends on collaboration; plans and funds alone do not suffice. To obtain such collaboration and to encourage

the necessary spirit of mutual helpfulness, ICA developed coöperative techniques which are being applied in various forms in all its colonies.

ICA is animated by a spirit of rugged individualism; the colonist is to become master of his own land. The only exception has been the Soviet Union, where socio-economic policies forced ICA to adopt for its settlement activities the prevailing system of the Collective Farm.

Outside the USSR, ICA has organized coöperative societies in the interest of the colonists, and the purchase of grain, agricultural implements, etc., as well as the marketing of the colonists' products is handled by coöperatives. Such industries as cheese-making, vine-growing, canning, etc., are also run by coöperatives in the interest of the colonists.

SCOPE

The work of ICA is international in scope. Colonies were organized on three continents--in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Palestine, Czechoslovakia, Bessarabia, Turkey, and the USSR.

ICA's most important colonies in the Americas are those established in Argentina. These cover an area of 1,525,000 acres. They constitute, with 3,946 families, the largest concentration of ICA settlers and represent the largest capital outlay expended by ICA upon such ventures.

ICA has played a leading rôle in Jewish immigration. Several hundred thousand persons were helped before World War I through ICA's Central Committee at St. Petersburg, its 507 branch offices in various parts of the Russian Empire, its offices in Romania, and through committees in Austria, Germany, Holland, Belgium, the United States, and Canada, and immigration offices in Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil.

From 1920 to 1927, 550,000 Jewish immigrants left Europe. Many of these were helped by ICA in their countries of origin, in transit, and upon their arrival in the countries of immigration. Among those assisted were 35,000 Jewish emigrants from the Soviet Union. In this period also new committees were set up in several Latin American countries.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

The Association has founded or assisted the following colonies:

Argentina:

Province of Entre Rios
Province of Santa Fe
Province of Santiago del Estero
Province of Buenos Aires
Territory of La Pampa

Brazil:

State of Rio Grande do Sul
State of Rio de Janeiro

Canada:

Province of Saskatchewan (3 settlements)
Province of Alberta (2 settlements)
Province of Manitoba (Several small settlements)
Province of Ontario (Several small settlements)

Palestine:

Near Gaza (1 settlement)
Near Haifa (Few settlements)
Huleh Project (Under consideration and study)

Poland:

District of Vilno

District of Warsaw

Eastern Galicia

Western Galicia

Slobotkaleszna near Stanislawo

Bielostok

Baranovichi

Czechoslovakia:

Sub-Carpathian Region (Slopes of Tatra Mountains)

Košice (North of Hungarian border)

Romania:

Near Maramuros

Near Vijnica

Between Bielce and Benderi

Near Chisinau extending eastward to
Soroca and Rezina

Turkey:

Estate of Messila Hadasseh, near Istanbul

Regions round Eshisheir, Tikfur, Tschiflik
and Panderma

U.S.S.R.:

Regions round Zaporozhe, Nikopol, Mariupol,
and Sedemenuhe

AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENTS

ARGENTINA

<u>Principal Centers</u>			<u>Principal Products</u>	
Moisesville, Montefiore, Avigdor, Clara, Cohen, Oungre, Baron Hirsch, Narcisse Leven, Lucien-ville, Santa Isabel, San Antonio, Mauricio, etc.			Cereals, fodder, cattle, vegetables, poultry, milk	
<u>Groups</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Coöperatives</u>	<u>Factories</u>
17	1,525,000	3,946	12	11

BRAZIL

<u>Principal Centers</u>		<u>Principal Products</u>	
Quatro Irmãos, Resende		Cereals, milk, poultry, vegetables	
<u>Groups</u>		<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
7		138	17,717

CANADA

<u>Principal Centers</u>	<u>Principal Products</u>
Sonnenfeld, Hirsch, Edenbridge, Rumsey, Lipton	Cereals, cattle, poultry

PALESTINE

<u>Principal Centers</u>	<u>Principal Products</u>
Ness Ziona, Rehovoth, Guedara, Hedera, Sedjera, Mishmar-Hayarden, Beer- Tuvia, Kfar Warburg	Citrus fruit, milk, poultry, cereals, wine- grapes

Colonies of ICA:

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
6	14,700	27,000

Colonies of EMICA:

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
2	1,060	1,400

POLAND

Eastern Sections:

<u>Principal Centers</u>	<u>Principal Products</u>
Isakovo, Terespol, Volkovisk, Niesviesz, Druja, Antopol, etc.	Cereals, vegetables, fruit, honey, cattle, milk, etc.

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Farm Cooperatives</u>
178	3,238	56,250	8

Galicia (Provinces of Lwow, Stanislavov, Tarnopol):

<u>Principal Centers</u>	<u>Principal Products</u>
Turka, Zabia, Zablotov, Czerniejero, etc.	Cattle, milk, fodder, fruit, honey

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Farm Cooperatives</u>
242	3,526	55,250	10

ROMANIA

<u>Principal Centers</u>	<u>Principal Products</u>
Dombroveni, Vertujeni, Petrovka, Romanovka, Rezina, Serbeshti, Oungre, etc.	Cereals, wine-grapes, tobacco, sheep (caracul)

Bessarabia (Regions of Sorica and Bielce):

<u>Families</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
3,800	87,500

New Colony Oungre (Near Benderi):

<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
52	2,000

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

<u>Principal Centers</u>	<u>Principal Products</u>	
Jasina, Brod, Tisuvec	Milk, cattle, honey, fruit	
<u>Families</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Coöperatives</u>
800	8,700	8

TURKEY

<u>Principal Centers</u>	<u>Principal Products</u>	
Or-Yehouda, Messila Hadasseh, Tikfour-Tchiflik	Cereals, milk, wine- grapes, tobacco	
<u>Groups</u>	<u>Families</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
4	70	25,000

U.S.S.R.

Before World War I:

ICA operated in:

Kherson	Mogilev
Ekaterinoslav	Vitebsk
Bessarabia	Vilno
Podolie	Grodno
Minsk	Kovno

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
296	10,550	250,000

After World War I:

ICA concentrated on the reconstruction and consolidation of the old colonies and helped to establish new settlements in the regions of Kherson and Ekaterinoslav.

The principal products were cereals, vegetables, fruit, wine-grapes, and milk.

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Coöperatives</u>
43	6,342	241,500	31

Regions of Mariupol and Nikopol (Southern Ukraine):

The principal products were cereals, wine-grapes, vegetables, cattle, and milk.

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Coöperatives</u>
51	2,500	126,695	9

OCCUPATIONAL SCHOOLS

<u>Country</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Pupils</u>	<u>Workshops</u>	<u>Apprentices</u>
Poland ¹	17	2,800	11	1,800
Czechoslovakia..	0	0	4	200
Romania.....	1	200	0	0
U.S.S.R. ²	26	2,861	0	0
Lithuania	2	300	0	0

ICA CREDIT COOPERATIVES

<u>Country</u>	<u>Banks</u>	<u>Members</u>
U.S.S.R.	348	100,000

AMERICAN JOINT RELIEF FOUNDATION COOPERATIVES

<u>Country</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Members</u>
Poland	541	
Romania	81	
Lithuania	86	
Germany	68	
Czechoslovakia	19	
Esthonia	2	
Latvia	26	
Greece	1	
Bulgaria	2	
Turkey	1	
Yugoslavia	1	
France	1	
England	1	
Totals	830	200,000

1. Forty-five short courses with an attendance of 600.

2. In 1930.

STRUCTURE

The parent organization of ICA is set up as a British Limited Liability Company, registered as Jewish Colonization Association, Ltd. Until 1940, ICA's headquarters were in Paris. It is the policy of ICA to carry out its activities abroad under its British charter.

In Argentina, ICA obtained recognition as a Society for the Public Benefit. In Brazil, the organization is at present considering incorporation of its activities into a Brazilian company.

In Canada, ICA set up the Jewish Colonization Association (JCA), incorporated under Canadian law.

In Poland, a Polish-Jewish colonization society was organized by ICA; in Czechoslovakia and in Bessarabia, however, the British company functioned directly.

A special British company was formed in Palestine, known as EMICA. Although largely financed by ICA, EMICA has direct control of its funds and its management is not controlled by ICA.

ICA's activities in the United States are limited to financial contributions. When the organization was created, separate funds were established in the United

States and Canada which are not administered by ICA. Together with the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, ICA participated in the financing of the American Joint Reconstruction Foundation. The sum of \$1,200,000 was contributed by ICA towards establishing the Jewish Agricultural and Industrial Aid Society--an organization in the United States which promotes individual, not group settlement. Funds advanced by ICA helped to finance the Industrial Removal Office. The task of the latter was to channel the stream of Jewish immigration from New York into the country, preventing immigrants from lingering in the overcrowded city.

The Baron de Hirsch Trade School in New York City was an independent ICA affiliate. Other affiliates of ICA are HIAS and HICEM--Hebrew Shelter and Immigrant Aid Society of America and HIAS-ICA Immigration Association. The purpose of the former is to facilitate the lawful entry of Jewish immigrants into the United States and to provide them temporary assistance, whereas the latter organization is sponsored by HIAS and ICA to aid immigrants in obtaining passports, visas, railroad and steamship tickets, etc. HICEM has assisted 350,000 immigrants and refugees between 1927 and 1943.

METHODS

Selection of Colonists.- In selecting immigrants, ICA adheres to rigorous standards. On an average, less than 5 per cent of applicants for admission to ICA settlements was accepted.

ICA's representatives took special care to obtain a complete picture of the applicant's antecedents. The prospective settler was interviewed in his own home, and as it was ICA's policy to accept only applicants with families, the wife was examined no less thoroughly than her husband. It was the suitability of the family unit rather than of its individual members which was made the criterion of acceptance.

The applicant's statements were thoroughly checked, particularly as regards his qualifications for agricultural work. These qualifications were decisive, as only persons with bona fide agricultural experience were accepted by ICA. Thus, for example, every effort was made to ascertain whether an individual laying claim to a knowledge of animal husbandry was not in fact a mere cattle dealer. However, if an applicant's record showed him to be a hard and diligent worker he was given preference over

white-collar workers. An applicant who had employed domestic servants was deemed a poor risk, even though he had lived on the land. ICA representatives had no qualms about close inspection of the applicants' hands, a horny hand being accepted as prima facie evidence of settled working habits.

ICA's representatives were instructed to give the applicant all details concerning his future residence and tasks. He was given a sober preview of the difficulties and hazards a colonist must face. The representatives called meetings of the prospective colonists and sponsored free discussions of the rewards and disappointments the future might hold.

ICA's ideal colonist's family consisted of two able-bodied men and at least two able-bodied women of child-bearing age. If a family was short-handed but otherwise met ICA's requirements, distant relatives or friends were permitted to join it. When the family's own children reached the working age, the "substitute," if married, was provided by ICA with his own land.

Training of the Colonist.- Until the events of 1933 necessitated a revision of ICA's standards of admission, prospective settlers were placed on ICA's

European farms, where they not only received instruction but also were subjected to observation as regards their aptitudes and willingness.

Pioneer System.- It was ICA's policy after 1933 to send the applicant six months ahead of his family to the country of destination. Previously the rural background of the colonists made this precaution unnecessary.

Selection of the Land.- Long experience has led ICA to establish the following criteria for selecting the land upon which the future agricultural colony is to be established:

- a. Temperate climate.
- b. Regular rainfall.
- c. Fertile soil.
- d. Favorable marketing conditions.
- e. Adequate communications.
- f. Security against disease for man and beast.

In the light of these criteria, ICA tended to seek out temperate rather than tropical regions where population density was not too high and where industrial as well as agricultural opportunities

beckoned. Certain parts of Brazil and Argentina appeared to fulfill these conditions.

Preparation of the Land.- ICA attempted to ensure the settler's introduction into the new environment under the most favorable auspices. For this purpose special emphasis was placed on preparatory work. The surveying and layout of the new colony were entrusted to local experts. Local contractors built the roads, bridges, sewers, dwellings, and outbuildings. Local labor cleared and planted the fields.

The new settlers were installed in their new homes during the harvest period. Thus the colonists started life with a psychological lift; they reaped the harvest and profited by the comparative leisure of the winter period to adapt themselves and to prepare themselves for the test of the coming planting season.

Typical ICA Farm.- While ICA sets no rigid standards as regards the size and equipment of its farms, they are distinguished throughout the world by common characteristics. They are so designed as to lend themselves to operation by the family unit

and to form an integral part of a cohesive rural community.

In Argentina the size of the average ICA farm is 175-300 acres. The house consists of at least two rooms and a kitchen. There is a cattle barn, a poultry run, stables, and a bull-pen. Some farms have their own well; in some cases two families share a well.

The stock consists of the following breeding and draft animals: 10-20 cows, 8-10 horses, and 25-50 fowl. A bull is owned jointly by two colonists.

Equipment includes the following: Plough, harrow, wagon, harness, and miscellaneous items such as hayforks, pitchforks, spades, axes, saws, hand mills, nails, sacking, grinders, and sprayers.

Seed drills and harvester combines are owned jointly by several colonists; in some settlements these expensive units are rented by ICA or the local coöperative. The value of the agricultural equipment is estimated at from \$35 to \$50 per acre of ICA farm.

In Eastern Europe (Russia and Bessarabia) the size of the average ICA farm was 40-50 acres. The house consisted of two rooms and a kitchen; the out-buildings included barns, stables, a poultry run, etc. The well was owned jointly by two families.

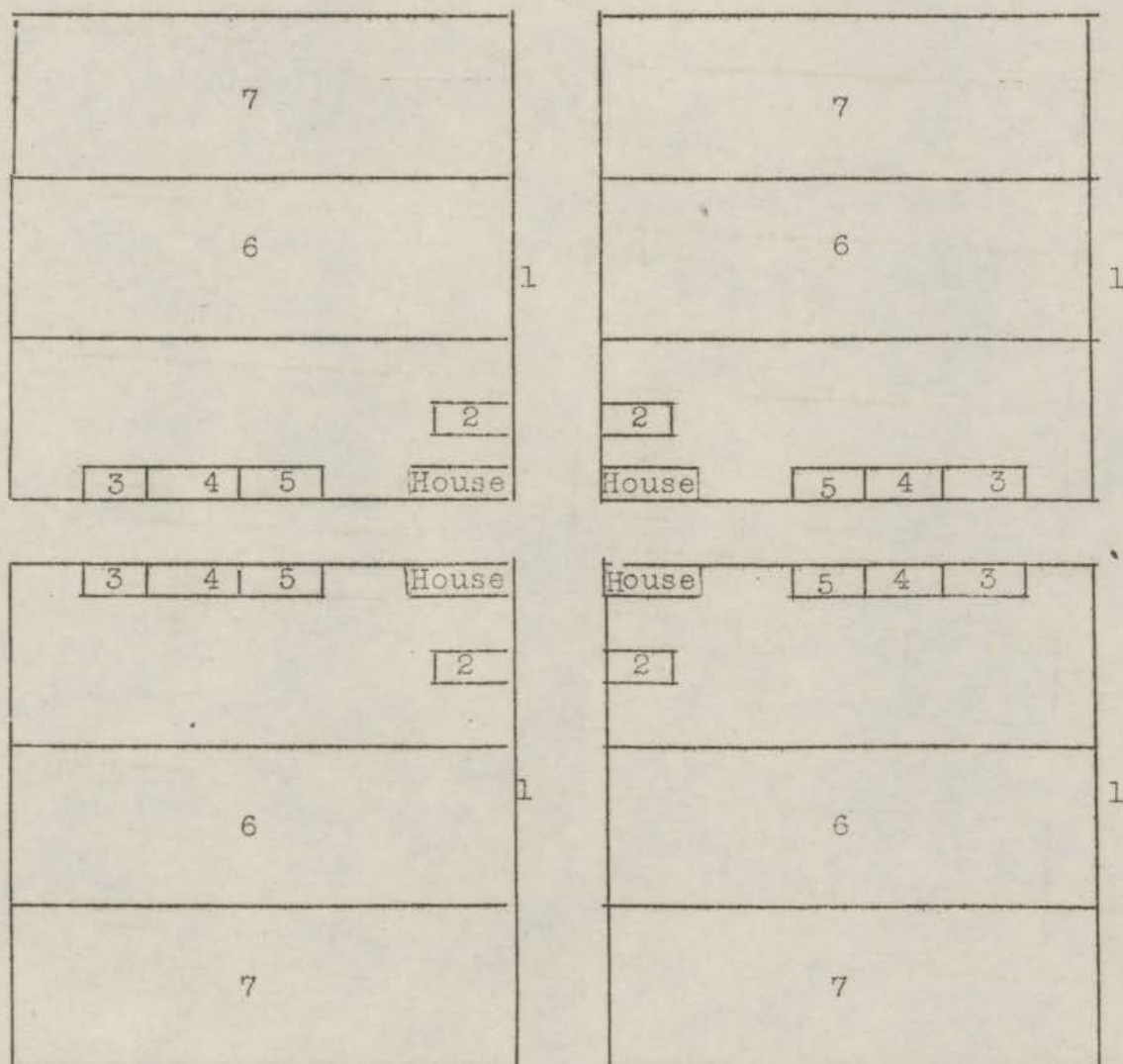
The stock consisted of the following breeding and draft animals: 2-5 cows, 2-3 horses, 6-10 sheep, and 20-50 chickens. Each Coöperative owned a bull.

The agricultural equipment included a plough, harrow, harness, wagon, and various other implements. The tractors, harvesters, seed drills, etc., were rented from Collective Tractor Stations or Coöperatives.

In Palestine the average investment was 152 pounds sterling per acre of ICA farm, of which 32 pounds sterling was contributed by the settler. The size of the average ICA farm was 6.25 acres of irrigated land.

Fencing.-- Fencing is the settler's first task. ICA requires him to begin with the boundary fence. The attached diagram represents the fencing scheme of an ICA farm without taking into consideration size or topographic features.

Plan and Order of Fencing Arrangements in
an ICA Settlement



1. Boundary Fence
2. Poultry Run
3. Bull Pen
4. Cows
5. Calves
6. Pasturage
7. Cultivation

Financing.- Most of the applicants for ICA farms lack funds. ICA must advance not only the cost of the land and equipment but also traveling expenses. However, the financial relationship between ICA and the settler is governed by strict business principles: ICA's advances must be repaid within a certain number of years. Land, equipment, house, and livestock, are subject to a mortgage in ICA's favor until the settler's debt is repaid. A mortgagee's cattle bear ICA's brand.

The applicant, upon his acceptance, is called upon to sign a provisional agreement whereby he agrees to repay with interest all sums advanced by ICA. Upon his installation he signs a contract which obligates him to repay with interest the amount of his indebtedness to ICA. He then receives a current account book and may dispose of certain sums placed to his credit.

ICA makes it a practice to grant a reasonable period of grace to a settler unable to meet his obligations in time. This applies particularly to cases in which forces beyond the settler's control--drought, locusts, etc.--impair his earning power.

The settler is free to make payments before the due dates and ICA allows 5 per cent interest on such

advance payments. If the settler desires to meet payments by borrowing, he may do so by obligating himself to a bank. This practice is not encouraged by ICA.

The coöperatives maintain the colony's hospitals, veterinarians, etc. Taxes are paid by ICA but are charged against the individual settler and form part of his total indebtedness. Each settler must pay his share for the upkeep of the coöperatives. Each settler must carry the requisite insurance covering farm buildings, crops, and livestock.

The settler is enjoined from placing a second mortgage on his land and cattle and from selling cattle without a permit from ICA as long as ICA holds the prior lien. The contractual arrangements between ICA and the settler are contrived so as to obligate the latter to reside on the land and cultivate it himself. On irrigated land the settler must himself maintain the ditches and pumps. The settler must himself combat pests such as locusts, ants, beetles, lice, parrots, sparrows, rats, etc.

Community Life.- ICA places special emphasis on communal cohesion, animated by a spirit of mutual

helpfulness, in order to weld together settlers drawn from different lands. The Association has endowed its colonies with a variety of institutions catering to the settlers' health as well as to their spiritual requirements.

ICA colonies have their own hospitals and dispensaries, staffed by competent physicians and nurses. There are libraries containing a diversified collection of books on general and technical subjects. Amateur theatrical and musical societies are encouraged. There are moving picture houses and stadiums. Each village takes pride in its assembly hall and religious center. ICA especially encourages the construction of the two latter types of buildings by the colonists themselves and gladly provides credits.

Economic Integration.- ICA is well aware that immigration countries only welcome an immigrant who will add by his labor to their economic wealth, and that they do not relish admitting persons who will ultimately become public charges. It is for this very reason that ICA operates with extreme caution, setting aside ample reserves which guarantee not only

the individual settler but the colony as a whole against such misadventures as bad crops and animal diseases. Thus the settlers are tided over periods of economic stress without having to draw on the bounty of the immigration country.

ICA does not deem its work a success merely because a settler has become self-supporting. It desires that a settler not only repay his debt but attain a living standard as high as that which prevails in the immigration country. If ICA's work is to be truly successful, then the settler's living standard must be even higher than that of the average inhabitant of his new home. For a settler will only be welcome if his productivity contributes to the general economic development of the country.

In countries such as Argentina, which export large quantities of agricultural products, the settler must not merely raise enough to meet his own requirements but must also produce a surplus for export.

ICA has introduced new forms of agriculture into many countries. In particular its new industries based on agriculture have been highly commended

by several governments. The introduction of Karakul sheep-raising in Bessarabia, the establishment of a European-type cheese industry in Argentina, and the creation of model dairies in Czechoslovakia and Argentina are examples of ICA's contribution to the national economies of these countries.

Precisely because ICA desires to fuse its colonies into the life of the immigrant country it aims to imbue the settlers with a sense of responsibility and independence. Thus ICA's representatives exercise a measure of control over the settler's economic activities, but do not intervene in the civil administration of the settlement.

The settlement is administered in accordance with the laws of the country of immigration. This policy yielded good results in Argentina, where the Jewish villages attracted Gentile settlers whose farms, stores, and churches now form part of the ICA colonies.

SUCSESSES AND FAILURES

ICA's sixty years of colonization history provide an interesting record of the successful settlement of select groups of Jewish settlers. The Association's accomplishments cannot be measured by figures alone. The fact that fewer than 4,000 Jewish families are now living on ICA's Argentine farms is in itself not impressive. However, this figure is not indicative of the indirect benefits conferred upon thousands of Jewish immigrants and members of the non-Jewish population.

ICA has settled 29,000 families--approximately 150,000 people--on its 2,380,000 acres in Europe and America. It believes that the settlement of one family brings about the settlement of others: Each settler successfully established on the land with his family communicates his drive to four others, who in turn--as farmers or artisans--will join the successful family.

This "snowballing" effect of migration is well exemplified by the townships and villages of Argentina and Brazil which have sprung up around the Jewish colonies--a development well described

in a pamphlet entitled Jewish Colonization Society,
Its Work in the Argentine Republic, Buenos Aires,
1942.

ICA claims to have been largely instrumental in bringing about the growth of Argentina's Jewish population within fifty years from 5,000 to 300,000, and of Brazil's Jewish population between 1918 and 1943 from 4,000 to 70,000, who work on the land, in coöperative organizations, and in trade and industry.

In Bessarabia, before World War I, ICA's settlements attained a high degree not only of prosperity but also of stability. The settlers were farmers by tradition who merely continued their normal way of life under better conditions.

After World War I the stable conditions prevailing heretofore in Russia were unfavorably affected by the industrialization of the Soviet Union and the concomitant attraction exerted by industrial wages upon the farming population.

In Latin America conditions were more difficult. A long voyage, a different language, and strange customs were obstacles which some settlers could not hurdle. However, the resulting failures were no

more numerous than in other colonization schemes. If there were failures, there were also the less spectacular case histories of gradual adjustment. It was not only that many settlers took root. Their sons are now asking ICA to set land aside for their sons in turn.

ICA does not care to assist more than the first two generations of settlers; the third generation could only be helped at the expense of needy people of Europe. However, the members of this third generation are helped by marriage loans and are lent a helping hand in setting themselves up as independent farmers.

This is done, however, with the strict understanding that at least one married son shall stay with his father and that a distance of at least 5 miles is to separate the other son's farm from that of his parents. This important rule is to prevent the acquisition of several adjoining lots by one large family. If such a concentration of holdings were tolerated, one or two members of the family could run the farm while the rest lived idly in town.

Some exceptions to this rule occur. There is, for example, the son who had saved enough money to

pay for his installation on the land but not for the land itself. Yet he was permitted to take up a farm only 2 miles distant from that of his father. However, father and son had been highly commended for their good standing and thus represented not only a good financial but also a good communal risk.

The most solid proof of success adduced by ICA is the progressive emancipation of its settlers. In Latin America, half of ICA's settlers came to own their land outright. Many of them invested their savings in land purchased for their children. The best gauge of the prosperity of ICA's Argentine colonies is the sums, amounting to 35 million pesos, repaid by the settlers to ICA. This leaves a balance of only 10 million pesos.

The sums which individual settlers in the Argentine ICA settlements had to repay in the course of the last fifty years varied between 7,500 and 15,000 pesos, plus interest and taxes. The great majority of the settlers installed has either repaid a large part or all of the advances.

As regards repayments, results in the USSR were equally satisfactory except that ICA had great difficulty in exporting funds. The best results

were also obtained in Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia, and Palestine.

The high rate of repayments in Central and Eastern Europe made it possible for ICA to extend its operations in other parts of the globe.

The assimilation of the settlers in the immigration countries attests the soundness of ICA policies. True, the contributions of settlers to the economies of their new homelands cannot be directly measured. However, favorable reports by various Government authorities testify to the very real contribution ICA settlers have made, not only to the success of ICA, but also to the economic advancement of the country of immigration.

Thus, for example, in October, 1943, the Argentine Minister of Agriculture, on a visit to ICA's colonies at Entre Rios where many German Jewish refugees are settled, praised the work of ICA and the proficiency of the ICA farmers.

ICA farmers take many prizes at local agricultural shows--an achievement all the more remarkable because many of the successful ICA farmers were ordinary city dwellers only a few years ago. This good

showing was made possible by ICA's readiness to study and adopt new agricultural techniques.

ICA attributes its success in dealing with settlers recruited from urban populations to:

1. Careful selection of the family.
2. Psychological and technical indoctrination of the prospective settler before his departure for the country of immigration.
3. Careful preparation of the settlement, based on a thorough study of the conditions which greet the prospective settler upon his arrival.
4. The large number of competent instructors living among the settlers--one instructor to each four families during the first six months and later one instructor to eight families.
5. The spirit of initiative of the settlers themselves.
6. The fear of the settler that he would risk deportation were he to abandon his land before the end of the second year. His permit to enter the country of immigration as an agricultural worker is obtained only through ICA's good offices, and desertions from agricultural work are reported by ICA to the immigration authorities.

Decisions reached independently by the authorities of the country of immigration are sometimes the cause of failures on the part of ICA. Thus, for example, ICA had prepared a suburban colony in the State of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, and had accepted applicants for this venture with the express consent of the Brazilian Government.

Suddenly the Brazilian Government decided to halt immigration completely. In order to operate the development ICA was obliged to draw settlers from among Jewish immigrants who had come to Brazil independently. The settlers did not measure up to ICA requirements. The result was empty lots and empty houses.

It is natural that among the numerous applicants with whom ICA has dealt for so many years there should have been physically and morally deficient persons. Among these undesirables were speculators, idlers, and spendthrifts. There were those who after a fine harvest went heavily into debt to increase the plantings for the year after and thus risked ruin in bad seasons.

ICA had to learn by experience. At first the settler was given too much land. Once the colony prospered the lands increased enormously in value. The settlers were tempted to sublet first a part and then the whole of their land and to live as rentiers. ICA succeeded, some thirty years ago, in halting these abuses and preventing colonists from turning into land speculators.

Isolation and disease have been the main causes of ICA's failure in Cyprus. This settlement, started by another society, was taken over by ICA as an emergency measure.

The great distance separating the domain of Quatro Irmãos in the Brazilian State of Rio Grande do Sul from the markets of the eastern seaboard proved a great obstacle to colonization. ICA achieved a measure of success by mixed industrial and agricultural colonization.

Remoteness from markets and general economic conditions were the bane of ICA settlement in Saskatchewan. This handicap was exacerbated by the peculiar farming habits of the region, involving over-emphasis on one cash crop and lack of diversification.¹

1. See Jewish Colonies in Saskatchewan, R-26 in our Series, November 12, 1943.

CONCLUSIONS

The human reservoir upon which mass settlement should draw consists of all those physically and psychologically fit who either cannot or do not wish to return to their old homes.

The Jewish population of Germany, which before World War II amounted to 650,000, will probably be reduced to 50,000-100,000. It is doubtful if those who remained in Germany will be anxious to move after the fall of the Nazi régime.

There are various estimates of the number of Jews surviving in Poland. Many Jewish families who fled to the Soviet Union in 1939 may wish to remain there, having become ideologically and economically assimilated into their new environment.

The volume of European emigration will be largely determined by the amount of labor required for the immense task of reconstruction. It is likely, however, that new homes will have to be found for many thousands if not hundreds of thousands of persons. What are the criteria which must be followed in selecting settlers?

The family will serve as a much better basis for settlement than the individual. Of prime importance is the numerical parity of the sexes. The settler must blend into the country of settlement. He must become imbued with the habits of thought, the customs, and the dominant political ideology of the people in order to qualify for naturalization and full citizenship.

The settler cannot be expected to accomplish all this entirely by himself. He needs the assistance of a competent technical organization. Therefore, it is necessary to create a corps of instructors, agronomists, physicians, veterinarians, engineers, and social workers. A general staff corps of trained and experienced organizers--settlement specialists--must take charge of the grand strategy of settlement.

The training of instructors who will be directly charged with the settlers' welfare is an urgent requirement of large-scale settlement activities. The instructors must know how to set up and run coöperatives. There must be skilled accountants capable of controlling the financial affairs of the colony. Specially trained personnel should be in charge of selecting the colonists.

Some of the notable failures in mass settlement must be ascribed to inadequate planning and shortcomings in managerial personnel. A good example is the failure of the repatriation of the Greeks from Asia Minor after World War I and their resettlement in Macedonia.¹ The climate and working conditions in Macedonia were approximately the same as those the Greeks had left behind in Turkey.

An enormous amount of money was spent to develop the new settlements and the colonists were accorded special privileges as regards taxes and credits. Moreover, the work was carried on with the enthusiastic support of the Greek people, who welcomed their blood brothers with open arms. The political and social resistances which usually dog the settler's first steps were inoperative in this large-scale settlement scheme supported by Greeks for the benefit of Greeks.

Nonetheless, the scheme failed. Many of the settlement villages now stand empty. Few settlers repaid the loans extended to them by the State credit organizations, and even in the first years when enthusiasm was running high many settlers deserted.

1. A report on this mass migration will appear in our Series.

The over-all policy as well as the minutiae of settlement requires high skill and careful preparation. The settler needs constant supervision. He must be put on his mettle. He must execute a sales contract providing for outright transfer of the land which he is to cultivate. This contract must contain a list of conditions which the settler must fulfill.

In case of default the contract should be cancellable. Once the settler has complied with all the provisions of the contract and has paid for his land in full, he should become the outright owner, and no limitations should be imposed upon the conduct of his affairs other than those prescribed by the laws of the country and the moral persuasion of his neighbors and fellow-settlers.

The case history of the average ICA settler is one of gradual emancipation. Thus, for example, ICA colonies observe certain zoning laws of their own. Certain lands are reserved for communal use and others for intensive farming or part-time farming. However, as soon as the settler is no longer under ICA's control he is subject only to the zoning laws which are binding upon any other citizen of the country.

Sosua, in the Dominican Republic, is a good example of how not to organize mass settlement. It violated virtually all the precepts of "good" settlement enumerated above:

1. Selection of the settlers was haphazard.

There were not enough women and insufficient attention was given to the settler's physical, moral, and technical aptitudes. In justice to the managers of this enterprise it must be stated that they were subject to extraordinary pressure exerted by those who wished to escape the Hitler terror at any price.

2. Land was badly chosen; the promoters allowed themselves to be seduced by an offer of free land. It appears that the grant of this land put at the disposal of Sosua by the President of the Dominican Republic (whose generosity shall not be questioned here) handicapped rather than furthered the venture, for the saving in original investment was offset by poor communications and inferior soil. From a settler's point of view, the most expensive land often proves cheapest in the end.

3. No scientific detailed survey was made of the colony's agricultural and financial potentialities. This statement is borne out by the fact that even after several years of experiments no definite decision has been made as regards the selection of a cash crop.
4. Too much money had been spent and the settlers were financially pampered.

As a result of the long experience of ICA management, a doctrine of settlement has crystallized. Although a problem as complex as that of mass settlement does not yield itself to many generalizations, ICA's day-to-day dealings with thousands of colonists in a score of far-flung colonies were guided by certain universally valid precepts.

Any region chosen for settlement should possess the following assets:

1. Favorable climate.
2. Regular rainfall.
3. Fertile soil.
4. Proximity to markets.
5. Good communications.
6. Adequate social services.

The continued success of a colonization venture requires the following political guaranties:

1. Exemption from import duties on agricultural implements.
2. Exemption from taxation until the colony has become self-sustaining.
3. Freedom of worship.
4. Liberal provisions for the granting of citizenship rights.

Mass settlement ventures should seek out temperate rather than tropical regions. Countries which are not too densely settled afford opportunities for agricultural colonization, particularly when agricultural expansion is stimulated by industrial growth. Opportunities must also exist for the establishment of industries beyond the development of the so-called farm industries.

The following countries seem to hold out possibilities for mass immigration and settlement:

1. Europe
 - a. France.
 - b. The Hungarian Plain.
 - c. Poland.
 - d. Romania.

2. Asia

- a. Mongolia.
- b. Southern China.¹

3. Southwestern Asia

- a. Palestine.
- b. The Negeb.²
- c. Turkey.
- d. Trans-Jordan.
- e. Iraq.³

4. Africa

- a. Algeria and Morocco.
- b. Libya.
- c. Angola.
- d. Kenya.
- e. Cameroons.
- f. Southern Rhodesia.

1. Studies have already been made on the post-war industrialization of southern China.

2. A study of this is under consideration by ICA.

3. By realizing the Sir William Wilcox Irrigation Plan or similar schemes.

5. North America

- a. Canada.
- b. U. S. A.¹

6. South America

- a. Brazil
- b. Paraguay.
- c. Uruguay.
- d. Argentina.
- c. Chile.

7. Australia

- a. New South Wales.
- b. South Australia.
- c. Western Australia.

Post-War Outlook.- ICA recognizes the difficulty of formulating a post-War program as long as the shape of the future international order remains vague. The views of ICA are therefore purely hypothetical. No one can say today what the policies of individual nations will be, either

1. Parts of California are still desirable and unoccupied.

as regards immigration or emigration. Many European countries engaged in the reconstruction of their war-torn economies may seek to preserve their manpower and forbid emigration.

ICA hopes to continue its work of colonization in those countries in which it operated before the war. The organization still owns 500,000 acres in Argentina, located near existing colonies and still available for settlement.

ICA also owns 100,000 acres of land in Brazil. ICA would like to continue its work in Canada but realizes that its scope will depend on general economic conditions and on Canadian immigration legislation. In Palestine ICA plans to develop its Huleh project, which will require an investment of \$5,000,000.

Opportunities in Europe are examined with growing interest by ICA. There are the sparsely populated parts of France--the Departments of Charente, Tarn-et-Garonne, Lot-et-Garonne, Gironde, and Vaucluse--which may lend themselves well to colonization by infiltration methods.

ICA experts have already inquired into settlement possibilities in Algeria and Morocco. The question

arises whether North Africa is not better suited to settlement by Polish and German Jewish elements than the depopulated areas of France. In the latter, Spanish and Italian refugees may prove the most suitable type of settler.

Careful preparation is required to effect such transfers. The aftermath of this war will make it doubly necessary to exercise special care as regards selection of the settlers and psychological problems of assimilation.

No one can gauge today the future trends of world migration. It is possible that European governments will seek to inhibit emigration; it is possible also that historic migration trends will be reversed and that countries which formerly produced emigrants will in future attract immigrants.

Plan for Training School.- The management of mass settlement requires a combination of highly specialized skills with the organizational talents of the social engineer. Obviously, the necessary personnel must undergo a thorough indoctrination process before assuming their duties. It is proposed to organize a school to train managers, instructors,

technicians, and social workers, who will make settlement work their life career.

The school should limit its courses to the various aspects of settlement as such; it should not engage in the training of agricultural and industrial experts. Evidence of completed training in scientific agriculture, sanitation, and civil engineering might be accepted as a required qualification for admission to the settlement training school. The training program, however, should provide for visits to farm schools, experimental stations, and farm industries.

The settlement training school should seek to enroll students from the various countries offering settlement opportunities. Some of the women students should be drawn from the refugee groups which will furnish the bulk of the future settlers. The courses should be short, not exceeding two years.

The best location for the school is a metropolitan center like New York because it offers the most diversified academic facilities, as regards both the teaching staff and technical equipment such as laboratories, libraries, etc.

A tentative outline of courses to be taught in such a training school is provided below:

A. General and Obligatory

1. General Theory of Colonization.

- a. Critical history of grouped and planned colonization.
- b. General methodology: Geographical location, climatology, geology, hydrology, agriculture, economics, recruiting, preparation, travel, reception and installation, systems of grouping and exploitation, roads and bridges, construction work, etc.
- c. Judicial and Contractual systems: Location, promise of sale, repayments, emancipation, fiscal questions, etc.
- d. Questions of international law: Civil integration and assimilation, etc.

2. Cooperation in all its Forms.

- a. General theory and critical history.
- b. Legal and practical organization: Regulations, function, adaptation to local legislation.

- c. Practical application: Buying and selling of materials and products, agricultural credits, common use of various materials, specialized coöperatives for agricultural and industrial exploitation (cattle-breeding, cheese-making, tanning, canning, wine-making, dairying, wood-working, and trade schools.

3. Languages:

English (obligatory), then (in groups)
Spanish-Italian-Portuguese, Slavic
languages, German-French.

B. Specialized Courses

- 1. Colonial administration and instruction in agricultural accountancy, agricultural economics, anthropology, agricultural machinery, physical geography, surveying, veterinary surgery, chemistry, botany, drainage and irrigation, etc.
- 2. Social services: how to run schools, libraries, newspapers; hygiene, hospital work, tropical medicine, physical culture, mental and child care, kindergarten and nursery work; how to run

and organize cinemas, theaters, concerts, orchestras; encouragement of religious and church life, and of communal organizations.

3. Agricultural industries: cheese-making, tanning, canning, wine-making, dairying, creameries and butter-making, wood-working, weaving, rope-making, oil-pressing, etc.

PLAN FOR TRAINING SCHOOL

