NEGROES EXHORTED BY ROGERS TO VOTE

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 16—Negroes were exhorted to vote yesterday by Mr. Lewis Hull, vice-president of the American Jewish Congress, when he told a meeting of the U.S. Communist Party that the people of the United States are a 'people of Negro origin.'

Mr. Roosevelt, addressing the Communist Party's annual convention, said that the party is a 'people of Negro origin' and that the party's leadership is a 'people of Negro origin.'

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JEWS' RESETTLING BY SOVIET IS SEEN

U. S. Group Says Moscow May Develop Birobidzhan Under 7-Year Plan

By IRVING SPIEGEL

A large-scale movement of Soviet Jews to Birobidzhan in Siberia may be proposed to the Soviet Communist party congress opening Jan. 27 in Moscow, according to the American Jewish Committee.

The agency expressed concern over "the future of Soviet Jews.

The committee, which has had access to information on developments concerning Jews behind the Iron Curtain, has received information from its Paris office indicating that such a proposal will be made.

The congress in Moscow will be concerned primarily with the adoption of the Seven-Year Plan for 1959-85, which provides for further economic development of Soviet Asia.

The committee said that within this framework the congress would deliberate on a working plan for the resettlement of Jews in the so-called Jewish autonomous region of Birobidzhan.

The committee cited Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev's statement last year that Jews were excessively individualistic and unwilling to participate in collective work.

This was followed by sudden publicity in the Soviet press in praise of Birobidzhan, where Jews were said to live a normal life and to enjoy their Jewish identity.

Birobidzhan was established by the Soviet Union in 1928, primarily as a Soviet alternative to Palestine for those Jews looking to establish a Jewish homeland. However, the number of Jews who moved to Birobidzhan was never more than a small fraction of the 3,000,000 Jews in the Soviet Union.

Many of those who did migrate left, deterred by the climate and the primitive living conditions of Birobidzhan.

According to the information obtained by the American Jewish Committee, the plan for the revival of Birobidzhan could take three possible courses:

First, a larger Jewish settlement than the present one, but still only a token settlement that would enable the Soviet rulers to declare the Jewish population of the Soviet Union wherever they may reside as members of a "territorial nationality," and on that basis "to deny them cultural and other rights outside of Birobidzhan." Jews in the Soviet Union are regarded as a nationality or ethnic group rather than a "Jewish community.

Second, the forced mass resettlement of Jews to Birobidzhan.

The committee said, "Birobidzhan would be made available to the Jewish population as a Jewish territory, and various means of indirect inducement would be applied to the Jews to settle there.

According to the report, "what is involved in the situation is the reappearance in Soviet life of a Jewish pale of settlement: a vast official Soviet ghetto.


MIKOYAN DENIES EXILING OF JEWS

Talk of Soviet Plan to Send Them to Siberia Is Untrue, He Tells A.J.C. Unit Here

By IRVING SPIEGEL

Anastas I. Mikoyan told a group of the American Jewish Committee yesterday that reports of an intended large-scale movement of Russian Jews to Birobidzhan in Siberia were untrue.

This was made known by former Senator Herbert H. Lehman after he and the other Jewish leaders had held a luncheon conference with the Soviet First Deputy Premier and Soviet Ambassador Mikhail A. Menshikov.

Their meeting in the Carlyle Hotel at 33 East Sixty-sixth Street lasted one hour and forty-five minutes.

Mr. Lehman later told reporters that he was authorized to issue the following statement on behalf of Mr. Mikoyan:

"The reported plans for the re-creation of a Jewish state in Birobidzhan are the transfer of the Jewish population in Russia to that area is without foundation."

Mr. Lehman said that he was "gratified" with the statement. But Irving M. Engel, the agency's president, remarked: "We are gratified but the answer does not necessarily satisfy us; there is a difference between being satisfied and gratified."

Jacob Blau, assistant honorary president, described the session as "amiable but serious." With;


JEWS SEND MIKOYAN SUPPRESSION DATA

The American Jewish Committee released yesterday a detailed memorandum that it is forwarding to Anastas I. Mikoyan, a Soviet Deputy Premier, listing "the results of every phase of Jewish activity in the Soviet Union."

The memorandum followed a meeting on Thursday between leaders of the committee and Mr. Mikoyan on the reported large-scale movement of Soviet Jews to Birobidzhan in Siberia.

Mr. Mikoyan assured the Jewish delegation that these reports were untrue. Leaders of the committee indicated that their fears were allayed by this denial.

The committee's document charged discrimination against Soviet Jews in the economic, social, educational and religious areas.

The document called attention to the elimination of Jewish schools, language and history courses, the absence of Hebrew and Yiddish publications and the suppression of cultural institutions. It said only sixty rabbinic and sixty synagogues "serve an estimated Jewish population of 3,000,000.

The memorandum said that ten years ago Jewish students constituted 11 per cent of the student body at the University of Minsk. Today, Jewish graduates of the university constituted only 2 per cent.
The conference with Mikoyan received nationwide coverage by the Associated Press, United Press International, the New York Times syndicate and other news associations.
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combating bigotry,
protecting civil and
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