
15,000 Russians Plan Return to First Workers' Republic to Give Aid to the Revival and Development of Agriculture

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The Soviet Government has recently informed Comrade A.A. Heller, representative in this country of the Department of Re-immigration of the Supreme Council of National Economy], that Russia is ready to receive 15,000 returning Russians from America and allocate them on large farms and agricultural estates.

The condition for their admission into Soviet Russia is that they come organized into agricultural groups, communes, or collectives; that they come equipped, at their own expense, with tractors and modern agricultural machinery and implements, and that they be self-supporting for at least one year.

The Soviet Government has set aside over 8 million acres of rich, arable land — large farms and agricultural estates — for the cultivation by the 15,000 re-immigrated Russians.

This land is situated in desirable sections of Soviet Russia and is near by good water supplies, transportation facilities, and industrial localities.

Immediately upon the receipt of these instructions, Comrade Heller, who conducts his work through the Central Bureau of the Society for Technical Aid to Soviet Russia, worked out a plan in cooperation with the latter organization whereby 15,000 Russians will be sent to their native land between now and the spring of 1923.

The Society for Technical Aid to Soviet Russia has, therefore, launched a campaign throughout the country in all its branches for the organization of Russians desiring to return to aid Soviet Russia in her economic and agricultural revival and development.

Admission to Industrial Groups Only.

Soviet Russia is not open to general immigration, even to the natives who wish to return, on account of the unfavorable economic conditions prevailing there at the present time.

With this policy of the Soviet Government, the Russian colony has been in entire accord. Re-immigration has, however, been restricted and so modified that only organized productive industrial and agricultural groups are admitted into the country, because the Soviet Government has recognized the distinctive technical aid that they can bring with them and the extent to which they can be instrumental in raising production of necessities.

The Russian colony in America, fugitives from the political and economic injustices of the Tsarist regime, welcomed the Russian Revolution and the Soviet system of government instituted by the Bolsheviki.

Like the peasants of Russia, they have realized the present Communist Government in Soviet Russia is synonymous with the equitable distribution of land to and its possession by the peasants.

The Russians in this country, able-bodied men and women, steeled in the industrial struggles of the workers of America, almost like one were bent on returning to their native land to partake in gains of the Revolution.

The war, the blockade, and finally the horrible famine interfered with and prevented this mass movement of "back to their revolutionary Russia."

As a result many of them lost hope of their immediate return and have been waiting for a favorable change in Russia's economic situation.

Now that the ban against admission to soviet Russia is gradually being lifted and the Soviet Government issues the invitation for organized industrial and agricultural groups to settle there, the Russians in America have again renewed their interests, reviving their hopes and are once more flocking to return if the necessary permission is granted.

Additional articles on this plan for the rehabilitation of Soviet Russia's agriculture will appear in future issues of *The Worker*. All inquiries and arrangements may be made at the Central Bureau of the Society for Technical Aid to Soviet Russia, 110 W 40th Street, New York City, Room 603.

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