

MARY DURACK MILLER PAPERS:

JS: JEWISH SETTLEMENT SCHEME FILE

A collection of documents relating to the 1930s proposal to establish a Jewish settlement in Western Australia on lands owned by the Connor, Doherty and Durack partnership. At the end of the document also recorded Mary Durack personal notes regarding Steinberg and his scheme.

Cross-referencing, descriptions and comments by Patsy Millett (PMM)

REQUEST THIS NUMBER ↓	Date	Description	PMM index reference
ACC 7273A/box 118.1	1939	3 photos of I STEINBERG and members of the DURACK family. Also included two pages of photocopied photos, which include handwritten notes with names and descriptions.	JS1
ACC 7273A/box 118.2	1938-1944	Letters 1. 7/10/1944, from Steinberg to the Honourable George MILES. 2. 28/7/1938, from Dr Steinberg to MP DURACK, OD. Includes 'Where are Jews to go?' by JN STEINBERG, dated 5/11/1937 3. 15/7/1944, from John CURTIN, to Dr Steinberg - final refusal to change policy regarding alien settlements. 4. 7/10/1944, from Dr Steinberg to MP DURACK. [not listed] 5. 7/10/1944, from Dr Steinberg to John CURTIN	JS2
ACC 7273A/box 118.3	1937	Statement by the Minister for the Interior (McEWAN), of the government's policy regarding European refugees.	JS3
ACC 7273A/box 118.4	1983-1988	1. 'WA Almost New Israel' by Tullio RUBINICH, WAN 27/10/88 2. 'Our Jerusalem', by Leon GETTLER, Sun 31/10/87 3. 'Jews Were Set to Colonise WA's Far North' by Allan HALE, WAN 3/8/85 4. 'The Paradise Lost Down Under', Norm AISBETT x 2 copies. [photocopy is only half of the article], WAN approximately 1987 5. 'Jewish Scheme', WAN 1983 6. 'The Unpromised Land', by Leon GETTLER, 1987? (<i>see also no's 16 & 17, this file</i>).	JS4
ACC 7273A/box 118.5	1973-1974	'A New Jerusalem in Australia - The Kimberley Plan', by Wolf Simon MATSDORF. With notes attached to article. Article from Wiener Library Bulletin, Vol. XXVII (1973-1974) page 24-30.	JS5
ACC 7273A/box 118.6A	No date	'The Jewish Freeland League' - full account of the Jewish Settlement scheme, summarised by documents available, by Mary Durack.	JS6A
ACC 7273A/box 118.6B	No date	Typed transcript of 6A.	JS6B
Photocopied Newspaper cuttings concerning Jewish Settlement.			
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.1	1939	From The Argus dated 11/09/1939 'To Populate the Kimberleys'. Jewish Settlement, by John HARCOURT	JS7.1

ACC 7273A/box 118.7.2	1940	From 'The Sun' (Sydney) dated 06/02/1940 Refugees' Money, by JV GLOVER	JS7.2
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.3	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 8/03/1940 'Jewish Colony Opposed', Graziers views	JS7.3
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.4	1940	From The West Australian dated 08/03/1940 'Palestine Land Schemes. Labour Censure Motion Fails'.	JS7.4
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.5	1940	From The Australian Worker (Sydney) dated 06/03/1940 'Commendable Jewish Settlement Scheme"	JS7.5
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.6	1939	From The Daily Telegraph (Sydney) dated 17/12/1939 'Migration Plan After War'	JS7.6
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.7	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 05/02/1940 'Kimberly Settlement' by JNO. B. Cramsie	JS7.7
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.8	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 17/02/1940 'Settlement of the Kimberleys' by MP Durack <i>See no 15.1 this file for original</i>	JS7.8
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.9	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 03/02/1940 'The Importance of Decentralisation', by H. G. CARTER, D.S.O.	JS7.9
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.10	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 03/02/1940 'Kimberley Settlement', by V.R. ALLDIS	JS7.10
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.11	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 29/01/1940 'Kimberley Settlement', by C. PRICE CONIGRAVE	JS7.11
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.12	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 27/01/1940 'The Kimberley Settlement', by "Ex Master Pearler"	JS7.12
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.13	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 30/01/1940 'Kimberley Settlement', A HERBORN	JS7.13
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.14	1939	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 11/01/1939 'Jewish Colony Plan', approval by churchmen	JS7.14
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.15	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 17/01/1940 'Refugees as Pioneers, the Kimberley Scheme' by George FARWELL	JS7.15
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.16	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 21/01/1940 'To the Editor of the Herald' ; "Jews Will Drift Back to the Cities", by "A Patriot"	JS7.16

ACC 7273A/box 118.7.17	1940	From The West Australian dated 24/01/1940 'Refugees as Pioneers; Praise for Kimberleys Scheme'	JS7.17
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.18	1939	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 27/12/1939 'Kimberley Settlement; letter to the Editor of the Herald' by H. A. W. "Advantage of Steinberg Scheme"	JS7.18
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.19	1939	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 27/12/1939 'To the Editor of the Herald' by J. Thompson "Jewish Settlement and Mineral Areas"	JS7.19
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.20	1939	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 19/12/1939 'Kimberley Settlement', by "Live and let live"	JS7.20
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.21	1940	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 18/1/1940 'Proposed Jewish Settlement, No Drift to Cities.'	JS7.21
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.22	1939	From The West Australian dated 11/11/1939 'Peopling the North', support from Capt WA MANSBRIDGE	JS7.22
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.23	1940	From The West Australian dated 13/01/1940 'Federal Powers to the Editor.' By R. H. Underwood	JS7.23
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.24	1939	From The West Australian dated 14/09/1939 'Jewish Colonisation'	JS7.24
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.25	1939	From 'The Sun' (Sydney) dated 17/12/1939 'Alien in our midst'	JS7.25
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.26	1940	From 'The Daily Telegraph' (Sydney) dated 14/01/1940 'No Colonies' in 'political merry-go-round' by Cogito "Jewish Settlement Doomed to Failure', group settlement will not be permitted."	JS7.26
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.27	1939	From The West Australian dated 09/08/1939 'Settlement Of The North ; Proposal To Admit Refugees ; Support by Opposition Leader'	JS7.27
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.28	1939	From The West Australian dated 30/08/1939 'Jewish Settlement ; Government's Attitude ; A Favourable Reply to Dr. Steinberg'	JS7.28
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.29	1939	From The West Australian dated 30/08/1939 'Settlement of Refugees'	JS7.29
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.30	1939	From The Daily News [Perth] dated 27/04/1939 'Jewish Delegate To Urge Refugee Colony Here'	JS7.30

ACC 7273A/box 118.7.31	1939	From 'The Daily Telegraph' (Sydney) dated 11/09/1939 'West Australian Town For Refugees Plan'	JS7.31
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.32	1939	From The Sunday Sun and Guardian (Sydney) dated 17/12/1939 'Refugee Factories ; Probe Begins'	JS7.32
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.33	1940	1) From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 24/01/1940 'Letters, Kimberley Settlement to the Editor of the Herald.' By George Farwell 2) From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 17/01/1940 'Millions Club' "Dr Steinberg Guest of the Millions Club" 3) From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 24/01/1940 'Jewish Settlement Plan'	JS7.33
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.34	1938	From Country Life (Sydney) dated 23/09/1938 'Colonisation Schemes ; For Northern Australia ; Jews and Melville Island' "J. B. CRAMSIE comments"	JS7.34
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.35	1938	From The West Australian dated 19/03/1938 'Jewish Settlement. Plea for the Kimberley Scheme.'	JS7.35
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.36	1938	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 25/02/1938 'Jewish Colony ; Developing North Australia.' "Station Owners Views (W. N. MacDonald)"	JS7.36
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.37	1939	From The West Australian dated 22/09/1938 'Jewish Refugees ; Populating the North ; Plan to Settle 25,000 Families'	JS7.37
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.38	1938	From The West Australian dated 25/02/1938 'Jews In The Kimberleys ; Settlement Plan Impractical' "says W. N. MacDonald"	JS7.38
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.39	1939	From The Daily News [Perth] dated 21/04/1939 'Cabinet Frowns on Alien Colony Plan' "Mr. McEwen speaks problem of permits"	JS7.39
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.40	1939	From The West Australian dated 19/10/1939 'Homeless Refugees. Task of Resettlement. Mr. Roosevelt Calls for Action'	JS7.40
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.41	1939	From The West Australian dated 12/07/1939 'Jewish Settlement.' "in support of"	JS7.41
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.42	1939	From The West Australian dated 21/06/1939 'Sydney Sideflights ; Refugee Pawnbroker'	JS7.42

ACC 7273A/box 118.7.43	1939	From The West Australian dated 3/07/1939 'Jews For The North to the Editor' by Bert Rosling See no 15.1 this file for original	JS7.43
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.44	1939	From The West Australian dated 1/07/1939 'Readers Views ; Jews In The North' See no 15.1 this file for original	JS7.44
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.45	1939	From The West Australian dated 17/06/1939 'Jews in the North. Support For Settlement. A Politician's Views.' "Mr A. Thomson"	JS7.45
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.46	1938	From The West Australian dated 30/09/1938 'Jewish Refugees. Northern Settlement Plans 'Fantastic and Unreasonable.'" "North Plans unreasonable, says Prof N BENTWICK of Jerusalem"	JS7.46
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.47	1939	From The West Australian dated 01/07/1939 'Jews For The North. Dr. Steinberg's Mission. Impressed by the Kimberleys.'	JS7.47
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.48	1939	From The West Australian dated 8/07/1939 'A Happy Haven? Exiles for Our Empty North.' By H. Drake-Brockman. See: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No 15.1 this file for original • MDM/CW D(rake-Brockman) 	JS7.48
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.49	1939	From The West Australian dated 15/07/1939 'Our Opportunity ; A Home For Refugees' by Walter Murdoch (in support of) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No 15.1 this file for original • MDM/CW M(urdoch) 	JS7.49
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.50	1939	From The West Australian dated 22/07/1939 'The Undeveloped North. Is It Only Cattle Country? Prospect For Agriculture.' by George F. MELVILLE, M.Sc. "Makes particular mention of prospects for Carlton Reach" See: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No 15.1 this file for original • KMD File 	JS7.50
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.51	1939	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 14/12/1939 'Settlement Of Jews. Kimberley Plan. Suitability of Area. "Will Grow Anything"	JS7.51
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.52	1938	From The West Australian dated 09/07/1938 'Canberra's Task. Over 6,000 Jewish Applications.'	JS7.52

ACC 7273A/box 118.7.53	1938	From The Daily News [Perth] dated 14/11/1938 'Admission of Refugees Urged'	JS7.53
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.54	1938	From The West Australian dated 09/11/1938 'Jews From Germany. Migration To Australia. A Berlin Report Questioned.' "A Berlin report questioned and a warning in Sydney more rigid control (to protect Australian workers) advocated."	JS7.54
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.55	1938	From The West Australian dated 05/11/1938 'Eyes On The Dominions Refugees And Migration. Plea for Planned Settlement.'	JS7.55
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.56	1938	From The West Australian dated 22/09/1938 'Jewish Refugees. Populating The North. Plan to Settle 25,000 Families.'	JS7.56
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.57	1938	From The West Australian dated 24/09/1938 'Jews For The North. "Fantastic and Misleading" Report.' "Says Minister McEWAN" See no 15.1 this file for original	JS7.57
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.58	1938	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 25/02/1938 'New Jewish Home. Eyes On North. Nature of the Land.' By Michael Terry	JS7.58
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.59	1938	From The West Australian dated 7/11/1938 09/12/1938 'Sydney Sidelights ; Jewish Influx' "Jewish Welfare Society on Jewish influx."	JS7.59
ACC 7273A/box 118.7.60	1938	From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 09/12/1938 'European Refugees. The Editor Of The Herald.' By R. Honour [Dated Dec. 6]	JS7.60
ACC 7273A/box 118.8	1938?	Booklet for 'A Jewish Settlement in Australia', by S STEDMAN. Photocopied.	JS8
ACC 7273A/box 118.9	1939-1941	Booklet for 'Jewish Settlement in the Kimberleys - Supported by Australians'. A collection of articles and documents. OD plus Photocopied.	JS9
ACC 7273A/box 118.10	1948	Memorandum prepared by the Freeland League for Jewish Territorial Colonisation, for the International Refugees Conference at Evian, July 1948. Photocopied.	JS10
ACC 7273A/box 118.11	1939	'Our Great North-West - Opportunities Regarding a Proposed Jewish Settlement - A speech delivered by Hon EH ANGELO MLC. First few pages missing. See Battye collection for OD of report. Photocopied.	JS11
ACC 7273A/box 118.12	No date	Article of 'My Jewish Life and Associations', by Harold BOAS. X REF MDM/CG B(oas, H)	JS12

ACC 7273A/box 118.13	1937 – 1944	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of letters in loose letter files, handwritten by MDM. 2. From The Sydney Morning Herald dated 14/12/1939. 'Settlement of Jews. Kimberley Plan. Suitability of Area, Will Grow Anything', MPD, (as no. 7.51 in this file) 3. Typed transcript by Mary Durack, from MPD diaries on Jewish Settlement in Kimberley, 1937-40, 1944 (1942-3 missing). 	JS13
ACC 7273A/box 118.14	1938	Handwritten note dated 20/08/1938. From MPD to AD re Jewish Settlement - "It does not matter to us - Jews or Gentile - if they are prepared to pay our price." (copied by PM Millett from LB21).	JS14
ACC 7273A/box 118.15	1938 - 1940	<p>Articles / Newspaper clippings</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Originals of; JS7.8, JS7.15, JS7.43, JS7.47-50, and JS7.57. 2. From The West Australian, 'JEWS FOR THE NORTH. To the Editor' by Bert Rosling 3/07/1939 [JS7.43 – second copy] 3. From Daily News [Perth], 'North Suitable for Jews', "with itinerary for Steinberg and CD&D tour", 28/06/1939. 4. From The Age [Melbourne], 'Through the Empty Kimberleys Picturesque Corner of Australia', by K. McArthur, 30/09/1939. 5. Newspaper clippings and photocopied articles. 	JS15
ACC 7273A/box 118.16	1989	From The Australian Jewish News dated 12/05/1989 'The Unpromised Land' by Leon Gettler (<i>see also no 4.6 and no 17, this file</i>)	JS16
ACC 7273A/box 118.17	1993 –1998	<p>From The West Australian, Big Weekend dated 01/08/1998 'The Unpromised Land' by Mike Wakeham</p> <p>From The West Australian, Big weekend dated 06/02/1993 'An Unpromised Land' by Cyril Ayris Syndication of 16. OD (<i>see also no 4.6 and no 17, this file</i>)</p>	JS17
ACC 7273A/box 118.18	2003	Photocopied newspaper article from Good Weekend dated 06/12/2003 'The Israel that wasn't' by Mark Dapin (Australian Jews against the scheme.)	JS18
ACC 7273A/box 118.19	No dated	PMM notes on "Freeland League Scheme". Likelihood of success - or failure?	JS19

See also:

- *CD&D/LL files*
- *KMD/LET1, no 10, for ref to Dr Steinberg*
- *MDM/CG;*
 - *B(oas), for information supplied re Dr Steinberg and Jewish Settlement Scheme by Harold BOAS*
 - *G(ettler, Leon), for correspondence by to MDM*
 - *L(owenstein/Sharp, Feiglin Ades), for correspondence re Dr STEINBERG.*
- *MPD Diaries.*
- *North of the 26th Anthology for two accounts - Dr J Millington and James Anderson.*
- See end this file for MDM personal notes re Steinberg and his scheme.

Appendix - MDM Notes

THE JEWISH FREELAND LEAGUE

NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE LAND IN QUESTION:

The area to which the Freeland League hoped to bring some 75,000 Jewish people covered 7,000,000 acres - or in modern terms - two million, eight hundred thousand hectares - extending from near the port of Wyndham southwards down the Ord River and into the Northern Territory. It comprised the cattle stations of Argyle and Ivanhoe, Newry and Auvergne, that were the property of our family company. It was for the most part excellent pasture land, with deep permanent waters, not subject to drought and capable, in some opinions, of limitless development. A land of vast plains, ranges and palm fringed rivers, all very beautiful in its own wild way.

THE POPULATION OF THE AREA:

The white population of the entire Kimberley district, mostly living in the coastal ports, would then have been about 4,000 and the Aborigines about half that number. On our four properties there would then have been only about 15 white men in permanent employment as Station Managers - some with wives and families, a few white stockmen and itinerant workers. Most of our stockmen and household helpers were Aborigines - of whom there were 30 or more, men, women and children on each station property.

AN EMPTY LAND?

It never seemed to myself or other members of the family like 'an empty land'. Except for the occasional traveller, we knew most people in both East and West Kimberley and much of the Northern Territory. Even in the depression years when our cattle scarcely paid the cost of droving to market, our lives were for the most part full and happy with plenty to occupy our minds and our time.

DR. ISAAC STEINBERG TO W.A.

Our family met Dr Isaac Steinberg at the time of his arrival in Perth in May 1939, but my father had been in correspondence with him since the previous year and was well aware of the Jewish Freeland League of which Dr Steinberg was official Secretary and probably the Founder. He was a Russian Jew, then based in London, and had been put in touch with my father by Sir Hal Colebatch, then Agent General for Western Australia, from whom Steinberg had sought advice on a possible place in Australia that could be suitable for Jewish emigration.

My father, who was partner and Managing Director of his company's holdings in the North, was interested in Steinberg's cause and was backed by a number of local political figures, including the State Premier, Mr Frank Wise, and then Minister for Lands and Agriculture in W.A.

IMPRESSIONS OF STEINBERG HIMSELF:

People we knew who met him at that time, even those dubious of his cause, seemed impressed with his sincerity and vibrant personality. It was hardly possible, of course, not to have been concerned by what he had to say of the Jewish persecution then going on and likely to increase beyond our belief in the advent of war - which Steinberg said was inevitable unless Britain and Russia were to join forces against Germany.

I felt at the time that he must, in some respects, be exaggerating to further his cause but he certainly impressed me as a man of culture and erudition. He spoke fluent English and numerous other languages, and had a wide-ranging knowledge of history, literature and the Arts, as well as of world politics from the inside.

ANYTHING OF HIS AGE AND PERSONAL LIFE?

He would probably have been in his fifties. He was dark, bearded, slim and seemingly agile. He made occasional mention of his grown family and certainly related kindly to the younger generation, showing an interest in their doings, opinions and ambitions.

I can't recall his saying when he had left the Continent for England from whence he made frequent visits to Jewish contacts in the United States. He told us of the generous contributions being made to help as many Jews as possible to emigrate. What I can't recall him mentioning is that many Jewish Movements were opposed to his Freeland League since they believed the endangered Jewish people of Occupied Europe should join those already escaped to Palestine and not be seeking a haven in some alien land unrelated to their past.

Steinberg himself stressed that the Freeland League aimed to avoid conflict by helping his people migrate to an unpopulated or sparsely populated area. He saw his project not only as a means of their Sur-vival but also of their Re-vival.

STEINBERG'S INSPECTION OF THE NORTHERN PROPERTIES:

Soon after his arrival in Western Australia, Steinberg went north with my father and Mr Melville of the Lands Department. He thought our 7,000,000-acre company properties were everything he had been hoping to find. He saw in them a potential, that his own people with generous financial backing, had more hope of realising than either Australians or emigrants of any other races.

WERE YOUR FATHER'S PARTNERS WILLING TO SELL?

The Directors of the company expressed their willingness to sell at a reasonable price, but it was explained to Steinberg that such large Australian properties were not freehold, but lease-hold areas which could not be sold, certainly for purposes of mass migration, without the consent of the Commonwealth Government. It was not enough to have gained the support of the W.A. Government, so Steinberg set off in August 1939 to press his case in Canberra.

HOW WAS HE RECEIVED IN CANBERRA?

Prime Minister Menzies was in favour of the project but his Cabinet was divided on the issue and Steinberg was told that it must be shelved until after the war that had broken out about that time.

Steinberg, with typical optimism, then took a flat in Sydney keeping in touch meanwhile with as many politicians and public figures as possible.

It was not until 1944 that the then Premier, John Curtin, declared that the Government could not depart from its long established policy regarding mass migration of any one race or nationality.

HOW DID STEINBERG REACT TO THAT?

He was, of course, prepared to fight on but when advised by his supporters in the West that there was no further hope for his cause in East Kimberley, he took off for the United States.

His last letter to my father was from New York near the end of 1944 - still hoping to overcome what he described as 'this latest obstacle'.

He apparently died in the United States some ten years later.

REACTIONS TO FAILURE OF JEWISH SETTLEMENT

My father's reaction to the failure of this scheme was one of sad disappointment, not only because of his liking for Steinberg and sympathy for his cause, but because he was anxious to sell the Northern properties rather than leave to the younger generation the worries and responsibilities that burdened his life, particularly in his later years.

WHAT WERE MY OWN REACTIONS?

My reactions, and those of my sister and four brothers, were decidedly mixed. We too had admired Steinberg and were naturally deeply concerned with the shocking fate of so many of his people. But apart from this we had never wanted the company to sell out of the country that we loved and that had been so great a part of our lives. We also wondered how the Aboriginal people, who had survived and more or less adapted to one invasion, were to cope with another of much more massive proportions. Kim was against the idea for reasons of his belief the north should be developed by Australians.

We were also doubtful of how long the never-never of our beloved North would have continued to hold the interest of as enterprising a race as the Jews, or whether their plans for its major development would have materialised. We wondered how many of them, when the Holocaust in Europe was at an end, would have been prepared to remain within the limited boundaries agreed upon by their Freeland League?

TALK ABC BY PETER FERGUSON:

Script so far re Jewish Freeland League:

Christian build-up of antagonism to Jews - from New Testament. Anti-Jewish prejudice continued in early Church.

Anti-Jewish feeling continued into 3rd century as "murderers of the Lord, assassins of the prophets, demons, enemies of all that is beautiful" - (St. Gregory of Nyssa?).

Jews - "drunkards, whoremongers, criminals".

In 4th century defamation of Jews reached new stage - Christian festivals, religion of ? Constantine. Constantine's successors went further.

History of Crusades etc. - 200 years.

In 1183 - third Crusade - persecution of Jews in England (York, Norwich, London).

Jews - literally blood thirsty - sub-human - enemies of humanity.

Shakespeare - Shylock - bloodthirsty moneylender. Prejudice on and on.

Massacres and torturous executions of Jews around West and Central Europe. In 1370 Belgium all Jewish community exterminated. The Black Death 1347-1349 blamed on Jews - massacres and expulsions followed.

"The Wandering Jew".

Martin Luther tried convert Jews. When he failed he turned on them and set tone for a fiercer anti-Jewish prejudice.

French Revolution - Napoleon called summit meeting of Jewish elders. 1810 - warning to Tzar of Russia - Jews, their money, their hatred and talents are in service of great corruptors.

Disraeli - 1847 - demanded that Jews be allowed become Members of Parliament.

Karl Marx - Jewish parents - baptised Christian - thereafter he became very anti-Jewish - "Money is the jealous God of Israel - beside which no other God can exist" .. (all very significant of Jewish prejudice).

Nazi Germany - revoked all German citizenship. After 1st War - Germany's defeat blamed on cowardly Jewish spirit. Concentration camps etc.

The Churches meanwhile gave support to Hitler - especially Evangelical Lutheran Church.

GENERAL NOTES:

Harold Boas writing 1965 - says Steinberg died some years ago in U.S.A.

Dr. Isaac Steinberg, Boas says, Member of Russian Government before Revolution 1917.

First time in Durack files: letter - Steinberg to M.P.D. dated 28/7/38.

Steinberg encloses pamphlet re Jewish 'Freeland' Movement. He has met friends of MPD in London (including George Miles) who suggest the Freeland Movement might buy CD&D properties.

The League has already approached the Agent General for Western Australia and High Commissioner, London.

Steinberg says no reason to believe that Australians or people from British Isles able to populate or develop the Kimberleys.

Article in "West" 3/9/38. Professor Bentwich of Hebrew University, Jerusalem spoke of scheme to settle some 25,000 Jewish refugees on Melville Island and Kimberley. Formation of the Freeland League for Jewish Territorial Colonisation.

25/5/39:

Steinberg in Perth - meets MPD. Sees Premier Willcock who does not think Kimberley suitable closer settlement. Sir Hal Colebatch worried.

May 1939:

Steinberg wants go north with an agricultural expert to have good inspection Kimberleys. George Miles (MP?) is encouraging.

26/5/39:

Steinberg still in Perth - talks with Frank Wise (agriculturalist) later Premier.

Steinberg on world situation - war inevitable unless Britain and Russia were to shake hands. Otherwise also terrible fate awaiting European Jews. Steinberg explained that the Freeland League had replaced former Zionist Movements. Wanted to avoid conflict of coming to an unpopulated or sparsely populated area. It was the Re-vival not the Sur-vival of the Jewish people.

31/5/39:

Steinberg tells MP of encouraging reactions. Kim meets Steinberg at Adelphi. Steinberg also meets Professor Murdoch who wrote of the Freeland League for the "West".

Steinberg went North June 1939.

15/6/39:

At Ivanhoe - also there MP, Kim, Bet. Inspecting crops sown by Kim.

19/6/39:

Steinberg with Melville and Kim to Rosewood.

20/6/39:

Steinberg at Argyle with MP, Kim, Bet and Melville.

20/6/39:

Steinberg to Auvergne and Vic River Depot - meets Tas Fitzer - surprised by warm friendliness - sing songs etc.

25/6/39:

Still in north - on 25/6/39 he and MP very disturbed at European situation.

Steinberg left North for Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra about June 1939.

Still there March 1940 - discussing option of 180,000 pounds - also other issues - re Australian Land Laws - the CD&D stations leasehold, not freehold. Would have to be approved by Commonwealth Government.

5/1/41:

Steinberg has put proposal to Federal Government.

9/2/41:

Menzies in favour of - but Cabinet divided - shelved until after War.

8/4/43:

Steinberg leaves for London, thence New York. Still hopeful.

26/10/44:

Premier Curtin rejects proposal. Steinberg cables WA Government (Miles) re-open case.

G. Miles replies - 'no use' - idea finally rejected.

Curtin's letter to Steinberg 1944:

"The Government cannot depart from long established policy in regard alien settlements in Australia and cannot entertain the proposal for a group settlement of the exclusive type contemplated by the Freeland League."

Favourable response from Churches, Women Movements, Trade Unions etc. Press published appeals in support. Appeal put to Federal Government 1944 to put plan into action. Dr. Evatt, Department of Immigration opposed mass migration but many other bodies of refugees came to Australia. By 1944 no support from Federal Government but State Government approved - also Trade Union (Executive Committee). In December 1944 Trade Unions asked Australian Government to withdraw opposition to settlement of the Kimberleys to benefit of Australians and Jewish migrants.

In January 1946 Steinberg gave evidence before Anglo/American Committee on Palestine in Washington, USA. Committee agreed that Australia should accept scheme but...

'North of 26' - article by Frank Wise - Jewish Settlement, p.195.

Australia's North-West Challenge - Beattie p.139 - 142.

M.P. Diaries 1938 - 1944.

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