

Jews, Ukrainians Here Elated Over Red Army's Drive Bringing Freedom

By Angelo Herndon

With the occupation by the Red Army of Bessarabia and northern Bukovina complete, scores of Ukrainian and Jewish workers of New York were jubilant and over-joyed yesterday at the freedom brought to more than 450,000 Jews and some three million other inhabitants who formerly were ruthlessly exploited and persecuted under the fascist regime of King Carol.

The news editor of the Ukrainian Daily News, 85 E. Fourth St., said the happiness and joy of immigrants from Bukovina and Bessarabia has been indescribable. "The workers are so elated that many of them are making requests to return to Bessarabia and Bukovina, where their friends and relatives are at last free from the old life which they hated so much."

A special meeting to celebrate this great victory for freedom is being called by a group of Ukrainians and other former residents of the area occupied by the Red Army at Manhattan Plaza Friday, July 5.

Jewish workers in the fur area are unanimous in greeting the newly won liberation of their persecuted brothers as the realization of a long burning desire which the terror and barbarous pogroms of Russian czars, Rumanian capitalists, landlords and kings failed to crush in the ruthless murder crusades which were daily visited upon the Jews before the mighty arm of the Red Army reached across the Dniester and brought liberty and freedom to millions.

Mary Fleischman, a worker in the fur district, in an excited tone of voice and a beaming, joyful look on her face, declared that "is the happiest day in my life! I am happy for my brother and all the other millions who are now free. He wrote me a letter recently saying that it was against the law for him to write me in Yiddish."

Scores of other Jewish workers

expressed the same feelings as Mary. Maurice Raines told how his sister had been robbed of her belongings by police officials. He had to pay 4,000 Rumanian leys of his earnings to recover them for her.

TELLS OF IRON GUARDS

Max Zitzer told how his brother had to suffer for six months in jail because he protested against the terror of the fascist Iron Guards. But Max is confident that this is all over now.

Phillipe Brown used to send money to his relatives in Bessarabia—but they never got it. It was confiscated by the fascists.

Sam Peck, a veteran of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in Spain, knows from first-hand experience how bestial fascism is. "My mother and father live in Kishinev and I am the happiest man in the world today."

A group of Jewish workers, all members of a Jewish fraternal organization, the other day unanimously adopted a resolution to send a cable to Joseph Stalin urging him to free the Jews.

This real and genuine expression of the profound joy of Jewish workers, many of whom were victims of the terror and exploitation of the Rumanian bankers and landlords, is certainly in striking contrast to the contemptible role of certain reactionary Jewish newspapers.

The Jewish Morning Journal, in an editorial the other day, argues that "whether or not Jews are happy because of the Soviet Union's grab . . . is only a side result. The question with the Jews is not whether

the coming of the Red Army is good or bad. . . . The question is what price the world will pay for the march of the Red Army across the Dniester. . . . Too big a price is being paid for something good that a normal person would not want to pay."

The most venomous of all the reactionary newspapers is the Forward. Its recent editorial is captioned "Stalin's Part in Hitler's Robberies" and a violent condemnation of the Soviet Union for its actions in Bessarabia and Bukovina.

But in spite of all the condemnation, they are compelled to admit grudgingly that hundreds and thousands of Jews are fleeing from the terror of King Carol to Bessarabia and Bukovina, where they know pogroms and other repressive measures against Jews will be a thing of the dim and hated past.

Paul Novick, editor of the Jewish Morning Freiheit, declared yesterday that "the offices of the Freiheit have been swamped with letters and telephone calls of relatives of Jews living in Bessarabia expressing their joy at the liberation of their kinsmen. These relatives were worried and harassed because of the anti-Semitic policies of the Rumanian government."

"Half a million of these Jews have gained equal and civil rights with all opportunities accorded all other citizens. No wonder their relatives here are rejoicing."

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