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Ottawa, Ont., January 31st, 1924.

MEMORANDUM

To The Deputy Minister,  
of Immigration and Colonization,  
Ottawa, Canada

From Prince Alexander V. Golitsin,  
Commissioner,  
Russian Red Cross,  
Harbin, Manchuria.

and

Robert F. MacGrath,  
Executive Secretary,  
Russian Refugee Relief Society, of America Inc.,  
New York City.

Re a matter to be submitted to Canadian  
Immigration authorities in regard to  
possible absorption by Canada of part  
of Russian refugees from Manchuria.

There are at present roughly about thirty thousand Russian refugees in Manchuria. Of these some sixteen thousand have specially registered themselves with the Russian Red Cross in Harbin as willing and anxious to immigrate to the United States and Canada. All these latter are located in Northern Manchuria and are distinct from any other groups of Russian refugees who at present may be distributed in China generally. These sixteen thousand come from Western Siberia and the Volga Provinces - known as the wheat region of Russia, and are mostly, as will be seen from figures mentioned below, land owners and farmers entirely accustomed to climatic conditions similar to those prevailing in the Western Provinces of Canada. They are country-bred people, unspoiled by associations with or experience of the restless life of big cities. The good health of each individual is vouched for by fully qualified medical examiners, prior even to their admission to any of the groups registered by the Red Cross.

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This group of sixteen thousand is sub-divided by the Russian Red Cross at Harbin into groups or "teams" of ten to twenty families and more, members of which are interlocked by mutual pledge and guarantee from financial, moral and every other point of view, therefore, being responsible one for all and all for one.

Divided according to sex they are as follows:-

<u>Male</u>	Under 15 years	1589	
	Over 15 & under 50 years	8054	
	Over 50 years	302	9945
<u>Female</u>	Under 15 years	1295	
	Over 15 & under 50 years	5008	
	Over 50 years	208	<u>6511</u>
	Total		<u>16456</u>

PROFESSIONS AND TRADES

Those capable of working are divided into the following groups.-

(a) Land owners and rural workmen	9989
(b) Skilled workmen (blacksmiths, Carpenters, railroad men etc.)	2234
(c) Engineers	244
(d) Physicians & Veterinary Surgeons	64
(e) Other different professions and trades (Topographers, painters, telegraphists, bakers, teachers etc.)	1118

Out of 8000 men 4300 are single.

2500 have small families with one member unable to work

1400 have larger families with more than one member unable to work.

It will be seen that in all 13,062 persons are adults and capable of work, while only 3396 are children and old people -

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FINANCIAL ABILITY.

Financially these Russian refugees in Manchuria can be properly divided into two principal groups.

1. Refugees possessing some means of their own who can pay for transportation and have small amount of funds left on landing at final destination in Canada, and who wish to become land owners in Canada.
2. Refugees without funds desiring to come to Canada as farm hands, qualified workers or as common labourers, but whose final ambition is also to become land owners.

GROUP 1 consists of four hundred families - a total of some 1500 individuals. This group has funds for transportation to Canadian destination and would have approximately \$200.00 per family on arrival at destination. Of this group of 1500 there are approximately 1050 adults capable of work, the balance being children under fifteen years and aged people - the latter not being in excess of 100.

This entire group will go to Canada with the firm purpose of becoming land owners at the earliest possible moment, but they have already expressed their absolute willingness that, where each and all of the adult members of the family are not essential to the working of their own particular farm in its initial stages, such surplus individuals (male and female) will accept work on other farms or in any capacity where their earnings will add to the family exchequer and so complete outright the purchase of their own particular property.

GROUP 2 . In regard to the Russian refugees without sufficient funds to pay their own way to points in Canada, this group naturally consists of the balance left after the 1500 in

Group 1 have been deducted from the total sixteen thousand, whose professions and trades have already been categorically set down previously in this memorandum.

In connection with the general financing of this proposition, we have, in addition to the private funds known to be possessed by Group 1, the assurance of the Chinese authorities, who are naturally anxious to relieve the congestion in Manchuria, that, provided the Canadian Government grants authorization for the admission to Canada of Russian refugees from Manchuria, they will undertake there to secure a fund of approximately 200,000 gold rubles (about \$100,000.00) to pay for transportation of as large a number of refugees as possible.

We very earnestly ask your favourable consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

*Prince A. V. Golitsyn*  
Commissioner Russian Red Cross, Harbin,  
Manchuria

*Robert P. Macgath*  
Executive Secretary, Russian Refugee  
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