

REFUGEE FARMERS HAVE 42 ACRES TO HARVEST

Self-Contained Community at Millisle

ONE of the most thriving of small farms in Northern Ireland is that at Millisle by refugees from German oppression. About 100 people now live on the farm, a large proportion of them women and children, and only a very few knew anything about agriculture when they went to live there.

The story of the inspiration and progress of the farm is now told for the first time in a report of the settlement.

The farm was only acquired a year ago and already it shows a profit on every side. It was acquired in the first instance owing to a realization that the hostel which the Jewish Refugee Committee had acquired was not capable of housing all the refugees coming to Northern Ireland. There was also behind it the ideal of giving the refugees back some of their independence which they had lost. Clarity—food and shelter, which the community did provide—were not in themselves enough to help these victims of oppression.

TO BE LET OR SOLD

HOUSES FOR SALE

- £1,300.—Economy Park: Detached Double Villa, 2 reception, kitchenette, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, &c.; garden front and rear; garage.
- £750.—Dundonald: Attractive Bungalow, convenient to railway, and bus; contains 3 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, &c.; over 1 acre of garden, beautifully laid out.
- £650.—Neill's Hill: New Semi-Detached Villa, 3 reception, 3 bedrooms, tiled scullery, &c.; garden, space for garage.
- £450.—Westland Road, near Glenburn Park: Semi-detached Villa, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, kitchenette, &c.; front garden.

TO LET

- £100 plus rates.—Dunegall Park Avenue: Semi-detached Villa, 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, bathroom, &c.; good garden, garage; commanding splendid view of Belfast Lough.
- £75 plus rates.—Economy Park: Detached kitchenette, cloakroom, &c.; garden, garage.
- £72 plus rates.—Imideville Road: Semi-detached Villa, 2 reception, 5 bedrooms, kitchenette, scullery, &c.; garden and garage.
- £70 plus rates.—Ballinury Avenue: Corner well large detached Villa, 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, and all large attachments; garden and garage.
- £52 plus rates.—Grawera Gardens: Detached 3 reception, 3 bedrooms, kitchenette, &c.; garden, garage.
- £60 plus rates.—Enniskill Park, Andersonstown: Semi-detached Villa, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, kitchenette, &c.; garden front and rear.

Government Help

Dublin and the Agricultural Committee in London helped the local community in raising the initial capital. Since the outbreak of war the committee has also been helped by the Government of Northern Ireland under the War Scheme that gave grants towards the cultivation of hitherto unploughed land.

It was in the spring of this year that the farm got on its feet. Last summer the agricultural work could only be confined to growing late vegetables, the introduction of a dairy and poultry section and the grazing of cattle. This year 42 acres were put under cultivation and the refugees are looking forward to an excellent harvest.

The poultry section is one of the most flourishing. It started in June, 1939, with 600 laying hens, and has now grown to 1,500 laying hens and several hundred cockerels. The dairy section provides all the farm requirements in milk, butter, and cheese, and it also brings in a small profit.

Happy and Active

As for the refugees themselves, they are all leading a happy, active life. When the farm was acquired there was adequate schooling but this