

told him that I was handling Russian affairs in the Department. He led me into an adjoining room which was comparatively empty and where we sat and talked for about an hour.

The subject M. Manuisky was anxious to discuss was that of anti-Soviet Ukrainians in Canada. He began by saying many complimentary things about our country. He had been most interested in the report which Professors Bondarchuk and Pogrebniak, who had visited Ottawa, Toronto and Winnipeg after the San Francisco Conference, had made about their visit. They had been most appreciative of the way they were received in Canada and had returned full of enthusiasm for what they had seen of Canadian agricultural methods. M. Manuisky said that in planning the reconstruction of the Ukraine, the Soviet authorities would aim at creating an economic balance similar to that which Canada appeared to have, i.e. a highly modern agricultural base upon which industry could be built and developed in such a way as not to dislocate the development of agriculture.

M. Manuisky then went on to say that sentiment aside, relations with Canada were of considerable practical value to the Soviet Union since there were really only two countries which could supply the U.S.S.R. with the materials necessary for reconstruction — the United States and Canada, “perhaps also the United Kingdom, though to a lesser extent.” He felt that the question of credits would be solved in due course to the satisfaction of both countries. There was, however, one circumstance which marred Canadian-Soviet relations, and that was the anti-Soviet agitation conducted by certain groups of Ukrainians in Canada. It was difficult for Soviet-Ukrainians to reconcile, particularly after what they had gone through in the last few years, the licence allowed by the Canadian Government to anti-Soviet Ukrainians with the expressions of genuine friendship, of which there were many, and which he himself had witnessed when he passed through Edmonton last summer. M. Manuisky stated at the outset that he understood and respected our principle of freedom of speech and right of asylum, but he felt that even these principles had certain bounds which should not be transgressed.

I told M. Manuisky that Canadian officials were also seriously concerned about this problem, although from a different point of view. From the Canadian point of view it was not only a question of international relations, but a broader internal issue of Canadian nationality. The Canadian method of handling national minorities who had recently immigrated into the country differed from the nationality policies of the Soviet Union. We hoped that in due course this immigrant stock would be absorbed into one or the other of the two main ethnic groups in Canada.

This process took time. Every thoughtful Canadian understood that it was impossible for a man who came from another country to divest himself at one stroke of all the emotional associations of his early life. One could accuse him of moral dishonesty if he claimed to have done so. It was therefore perfectly natural for these immigrants to group themselves in societies which maintained the language and folk ways of their native land. Indeed, the Canadian authorities welcomed the existence of these societies since through their various