

To Estonians overseas!

As you will already have read the repatriation of Estonians now in Germany has turned hopeless for years to come. For future existence we have but one chance: emigration. And this in biggest possible groups. Yet the Military Authorities seem to be not at all interested in this, so that this must be organized by ourselves.

In the British Zone already steps have been taken in this direction and already many months thousands of Baltic women are pouring into England, where they are being employed, thanks to obligingness of the Government, mostly in hospitals over there.

Our fellow-countrymen living in the US Zone have now waited already for over one year, yet nowhere there seems to be anybody interested in their fate. I have in view such circles which certainly would be able to do something in this line if they only really wished to do so.

But how are other national groups able to do this? They have all solved the emigration question in some manner. If there is no sufficient number of affidavits, they have at once some other means through missions and thousands of their countrymen emigrate to their new homelands.

Why are there no religious missions organized at recommendation of our churches? Experience has proved that just such missions have a much wider radius of action than any other organizations.

Where is there now the Church Care of the Estonians abroad, when they do not care for members of their parishes now in the unhappy Europe? Why are we forgotten when we are doing most badly?

Of course we understand that it is a bit difficult in warm rooms and with filled stomachs to understand the position we are now placed in here,

This request is not being made inconsiderately.

The life of a D.P. in Germany has turned unendurable. The "damned foreigners", if not occasionally working for Army or UNRRA, are being used for hardest work, notwithstanding their educational level. We are prepared to do it anywhere else but not here. There does not exist any better outlook for us. I have in view just such people as live privately and are not depending on camps. Much could still be added here, but this is not the proper time for doing so. Sometime we shall speak about such things that we can not mention now.

I do not request anything for myself or for people in my position. I submit this request on account of Estonian students in US Zone who suffer silently. These young people are too proud to beg, and they can not be blamed for this. Once you yourself were like them.

They are not very numerous, yet, amongst other national groups, they are distinguished students. They have also succeeded in repeatedly proving

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this publicly and have with their achievements gained great attention.

Not to help them now would be an intolerable injustice towards all these young people. They have already, without exemptions, lost everything: homes, relatives and what is the dearest to them - their home country. Behind them they have a hard life, much harder than you can imagine, but nevertheless they did not want to stay at camps and to await better times, but enlisted in universities to perfect their education.

Thereby just the Estonian student is the most badly cared for among the whole of the international students' family. The majority of others are being cared for by their national groups abroad and they receive their monthly fixum, clothing etc. Up to present the food has been supplied by the UNRRA.

Our students have to take full care of themselves as there is nobody else to care for them. Yet they are young and they have the same needs as their contemporaries. This deepens their bitterness and homeless feeling in their souls.

Yet they do not complain, do not grumble, but continue to learn heroically.

When the UNRRA will terminate its activities, their study will be terminated too. None of them will be able to pay the expensive premium to German universities and for scholarship a foreigner can wait for decades. They will be relentlessly forced to find jobs and to discontinue learning.

This would be a pity and a loss to all Estonians wherever^{he} they are. Would it not be possible there, overseas, to provide them collectively with visas and so enable them to continue their studies, as this is being accomplished by other nations?

Do not forget that if ever anybody will rebuild a free Estonian this can be accomplished but by the learning youth wherever they are now - in Sweden, in the British Zone or here. Therefore our primary duty is to support them, notwithstanding whether they are relatives of us or not.

We are relatives by blood, all of us, if only we wish to be Estonians.

Officials in emigration offices keep asking: where are your fellow-countrymen in foreign countries? Why do not they help you? You have had plenty of time to write them. As a reply we can but shrug our shoulders.

I even do not know, why they hesitate. Certainly there are enough wealthy among Estonians abroad who could easily afford to guarantee immigration possibility for a number of students. Why do they not do so? If nevertheless anybody of the people here gets an affidavit, it has been signed by some American.

But this is not the time for hesitation. It must be acted and this quickly. Still there is time to save what has been left over by the last storm. But some day even this help will come too late.

And if sometime this really will happen, then the Estonians themselves will be guilty of there being no more Estonianship. They even did not want it.

Do not remain deaf wherever you are!

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You are their only hope.

We read in some paper that "Eesti Kodu" at Melbourne has taken a nice initiative for relief of their suffering countrymen in Europe. They organized a fancy-fair and its income was phantastic to our minds. If of this income but a part would be put to the disposal of the Munich Estonian Students Relief Fond, - you would relieve them temporarily of a heavy burden.

Do so, because they cannot be helped by words on paper but deeds.

Trust these young people! Trust creates sense of duty. And Estonian sense of duty has been appreciated and set for model by all nations we have got to know in this modern Babylon.

It would be tragical, if our own people proved unable to appreciate it.

If this my request will not remain a "voice calling in desert", lists and detailed information can be obtained from E. U. K., Estonian Committee, Munich, Bavaria, Germany.