

New Refugee Project.

The Council has started a new project which promises to be one of the most important and serious undertakings it has ever attempted. It is a plan to assist refugee women by training them in sewing and handicrafts; and ultimately to sell these products for them in our own shop. This is not an original idea of ours, but one that is being done in many cities, both large and small.

The reasons for trying it here are threefold. First, because practically none of the incomes of the refugees are sufficient to cover their living expenses and these must be supplemented by the N.O. Refugee Service Committee. Second; the women have the time and desire to work at gainful occupations. Third (and probably the most important factor) is the therapeutic value of making these women self-supporting and providing occupation for them.

The New Orleans Refugee Service Committee is providing the financial backing for this work and the Council of Jewish Women has the responsibility of administering it. Preliminary work has already begun and the following chairmen appointed:

Manufacturing---Mrs. Michael Greenwald

Retailing---Mrs. Freyhan Odenheimer

Treasurer---Mrs. Hy. Mayerson

Personnel---Mrs. Simon Marx

The Executive Committee consists of the above chairmen and Mrs. Moise Cahn, Mrs. T. Jeff Feibleman and Mrs. Paul Godchaux Jr.

The Jewish Children's Home has allowed us to use a room there for our workshop where the women will come for instructions and work twice a week, and volunteers who are expert at sewing have already met there with the refugee women in order to instruct them.

The Y.W.*Y.M.H.A. has offered the services of their Arts and Crafts director, Mrs. Sid. Liswood, who has already given us excellent

advice and help.

This project entails constant earnest endeavor on our part, with many difficulties and obstacles to be overcome, but the ultimate results should be worth any amount of trouble and labor to which we might be put. Any Council member who is interested in helping us is urged to come forward and offer their services, and we hope that many of you will do so. This project cannot succeed unless it is a co-operative effort on the part of all of us and since the men of the community have showed their confidence in us by their financial backing, we must prove to them, to the refugees and to ourselves that we are worthy of that confidence.

Helene G. Godchaux. President/