

B O O K S

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATIONS — 1945-1957¹

As is well known, the International Labour Office, an inter-governmental organization set up in 1919, has been joined to the United Nations as a specialized Agency since 1946. Amongst the recent surveys which it has published, that dealing with international migrations since the end of the last world war merits special attention. These migrations form one of the most characteristic phenomena of contemporary life, and although they often engender much suffering, experience has proved that, on the whole, they have facilitated a better distribution of the human factors of production. It is important, however, that the migratory movements are accompanied, in the greatest measure possible, by guarantees as much for the migrants as for the host country. This is the object of the work of governments as well as the voluntary organizations which are endeavouring to solve the many problems of an economic and social order which international migrations pose, without neglecting the human aspect.

The first part of this important and clearly conveyed survey discusses political migrations : national refugees in Germany, displacement of population in Europe, immigration in Israel, displacement of population in the Middle East and Asia. In the second part, the survey goes on to analyse the question of economic migrations : trends, factors and consequences. A large number of tables illustrate and summarize the ideas and facts.

The conclusion of the work is that " even if the present conditions persist which limit the volume of international migrations at the same time as their effectiveness on the economic plane, inter-

¹ Survey published by the International Labour Office (Survey and Documents, New Series, No. 54, 1960).

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national action in this sphere would continue to be justified. The experience of the last twelve years has, in effect, largely demonstrated its usefulness. It has been linked with that of the national governments and a large number of voluntary organizations to encompass the migrants with a more vigilant care and to ensure a better protection of their rights ”.

H. C.

PANAMERICANISMO DEMOCRÁTICO¹

by

DIEGO URIBE VARGAS

Some time ago, the appearance of this work by Mr. Diego Uribe Vargas, Professor at the Law Faculty of Bogotá and Doctor of the International Law Academy of The Hague, was eagerly hailed by specialists in International Law. The sub-title of the book states its purpose as aiming at laying the foundations for the transformation of the continental system for the defence of human rights.

Pan-american law is already well developed in this respect, especially since the Convention of Havana of 1928, which provided for the application of International Law in the event of civil war ; however, Mr. Diego Uribe Vargas proposes to go beyond the present stage by setting up a duly constituted Pan-american court of international justice able to ensure the respect of fundamental human rights. Private persons, as well as States, would have access to this court, which would take legal proceedings against slavery, bondage, torture, degrading sentences, cruel treatment, forced labour, arbitrary arrest or imprisonment. This plan is set forth in detail in the last chapter of the book. The enunciation of the rights to be guaranteed and the general ideas on the formation and pro-

¹ *Ediciones Nuevo Signo, Bogotá.*