Tells of Horrors He Saw in Making Way to U.S. Freedom. The Washington Post (1877-1954); Jan 28, 1936; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The Washington Post pg. 13

Tells of Horrors He Saw in Making Way to U. S. Freedom.

Paul Voronaeff, young Russian evangelist, came to Washington yes-terday to paint a dark word-picture of the persecution to which his father ad other clergymen have been subjected in the Soviet Russia. been subjected in the Soviet Russia. The purpose of his visit here, Voronaeff said, is to lecture and eto appeal to members of Congress to help him rescue his parents, who now are exiled in a Siberian con-centration camp because they preached the Word of God. He will describe their plight tonight at 8 o'clock at the Foundry M. E. o'clock Church.

Church. The Voronaeff family, parents and five children, is pathetically scat-tered. That this is so is due to the evangelical zeal of the father, the Rev. John E. Voronaueff, once pres-ident of a union known as the "Christians of the Evangelical Faith.

Came to U. S. in 1911.

The Rev. Voronaeff, his wife and Paul came to the United States from Russia in 1911. At that time Paul was 6 months old. In this country, two other children were born-

Russia in 1911, At that Russia in 1911, At that two other children were born-Alexander and John, jr. In 1921 the clergyman-father went back to Russia with his fam-ily to try to stem the atheistic tide in the new republic. He carried on his missionary work for nine years, according to Paul, but in 1930 he and 10,000 of his fellow evangelists were arrested and exiled to Siberia. Three years later Mrs. Voronaeff also was banished from Odessa. Two other children had been born, Timothy and Hope, but ac-cording to Paul, the mother was

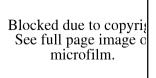
born, Timothy and Hope, but ac-cording to Paul, the mother was torn from them by the Soviet police

lice. The American Red Cross, work-ing through the Russian agents at Geneva, managed to send Alexan-der and John, jr., the American-born children, to the United States. They raised \$1,500 through relig-ious organizations to bring Paul and Timothy and Hope to this country. country.

Tells of Mass Deaths.

Paul said yesterday that the money was, in effect a "ransom." "I was arrested several times." Paul said, "because I was the son of a Christian minister, and forced to work in Siberia. In January, 1933, I was forced to work 14 hours day buyung the correct of users 1933, I was forced to work 14 hours a day burying the corpses of women and children who perished from starvation. With three other fellow Christians, I dug a common grave for 388 bodies." At times, he said; he was on the verge of starvation. "I was chewing my leather belt," he said. 'having no bread, and dig-ging up roots and weeds in the fields, boiling them into a mash to eat. Sometimes I used the bark of trees for food." His only thought now. Paul said

of trees for food." His only thought now, Paul said, is to raise enough money and ob-tailn sufficient influence to "ran-som" his parents and reunite them with the children in this country. And some day, he said, he hopes Russia will be made safe for minis-ters of the Gospel. When that day arrives, he said, he plans to go back to Russia and carry on the work which his father started.



Post Staff Photo. PAUL VORONAEFF.