

10/20/00

- also important to Jews in E. Europe -

Alex II - intended to harm Jewish economic position

- By freeing serfs, he began a new kind of economy that Jews were not yet ready to participate in (they play a large role in the old economy). Industrialization hurts first artisans & craftsmen (things can be made quickly & cheaply). Jews' artisanal identity no longer useful ~~as art~~ ^{to compete with} Too many non-Jews willing to work for really low wages.

➔ Lose-lose situation in Europe - Pinskin/Smolenskin - "we have to get out."

Attracted to socialism.

• large # of skilled craftsmen who are now becoming more redundant
craftsmen fear PROLETARIANIZATION

Proletariat - no security, no means, at whim of market - feared loss of (artisan) means - condition where they have to sell themselves to factory bosses. Jews much more likely to be artisans and craftsmen - more prone to socialist ideologies - offered better deal than from capitalist alternative.