

---10,000 Moslems

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Hook road, which Sheikh Daoud hopes will be only the beginning of the community. The Talbot holdings include 130 acres, a pond, large residence, small summer cottages and several out-buildings.

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THE PURCHASE PRICE for the Talbot place, plus the cost of improvements, will be about \$100,000, said Sheikh Daoud. He is "spiritual head and national director of the Islamic Mission of America for the propagation of Islam, the true faith." His offices are at 143 State street, Brooklyn.

However, Sheikh Daoud envisions a community of 10,000, living on a tract with assets of "upwards of \$1,000,000," in his southern Dutchess county community some day.

Sheikh Daoud confirmed yesterday that the Harry Talbot property in East Hook road had been purchased in the name of the Islamic Mission which he heads. However he said it will be paid for over a period of time through contributions of Moslems residing in the United States.

Formal acknowledgement of the purchase of the property will be made at dedication ceremonies on Memorial day. Sheikh Daoud said he wished to extend an invitation to all Dutchess county residents to attend the event. He hoped many would accept.

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PRIMARILY, THE DEDICATION will take the form of a day of prayers of thanksgiving and of feasting. It is a day of particular significance for Moslems for it falls at the end of May — recognized as the holy month, the month of fasting.

Plans already are being made to charter buses which will bring Moslems from New York City to southern Dutchess county for the Memorial day ceremonies.

Because of heavy expenses involved, Sheikh Daoud said immediate plans are to use the Talbot property as a picnic area and vacation resort. Several small buildings are being outfitted as cabins. The larger Talbot residence is to be used as a resort hotel.

The Sheikh arrived at the property yesterday with a quantity of vegetable seeds. Several tracts already had been plowed and prepared for planting by his farm manager and one or two faithful Moslems who had donated their time to furthering the project.

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AS THE COLONY GROWS, Sheikh Daoud said he expects to attract Moslems to the community as permanent residents. Through community efforts, they will build substantial brick and cement homes. His dream is that the community eventually should expand far beyond the present Talbot property.

Some of the southern Dutchess community residents would commute to jobs in New York City, others would find employment in the Beacon and Fishkill area. Some, skilled in crafts learned in Moslem countries the world over, might turn out ornamental work which would be sold on outside markets. Others, less skilled, would work at farming right in the community.

Also, the community in East Fishkill township would be a starting point for refugees who come to the United States from Moslem countries throughout the world. As Sheikh Daoud expressed it, it could become a "distribution center" for assigning Moslems to places in the United States where they could find conditions or employment to their liking.

The Moslem community in Southern Dutchess county would be the first of its kind in the United States, said Sheikh Daoud.

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"THIS COMMUNITY IS A NECESSITY," he told me. "I hope we can find good neighbors among the people of your community. I am sure Dutchess county will find our people very trustworthy—abiding fully by the Law of Islam. They have one goal, to find peace and to prosper as a part of the United States."

At present only Abdul-Rahim, who has been appointed manager of the mission in Dutchess county, resides at the former Talbot property. He is married and has five children.

However, as spring season, Sheikh Daoud said he anticipates the population of the community will grow. The extent of the growth will depend upon the popularity of his "dream" within the ranks of his followers.

In the days of chivalry, it was customary to present a red feather as a reward for a courageous or unselfish act.