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ZIONIST CONGRESS HALTS HALF DAY IN PROTEST AGAINST NAZIS

LUCERNE, August 27. (JTA) -- The World Zionist Congress today ceased all activity for a half day in protest against recent persecutions of Jews in Germany.

The Congress and Arts Palace, where the sessions are being held, was closed all morning. The front of the building was draped in black. The blue-white Zionist and the Lucerne Municipality flags drooped at half-staff over the building.

Special services were held in the Lucerne Synagogue for the German Jews. Scores of delegates joined the Mizrachi, orthodox Zionist group, in observing a day of fast.

Committee meetings, suspended during the period of mourning, resumed in the afternoon. Inter-factional committees conferred to negotiate the selection of a World Zionist Executive. Committee meetings were to last all day and the next plenary session will be held tomorrow evening.

I. M. Sieff, London economist and banker, appeared before the Budget Committee today to explain his plan for a £5,000,000 Jewish national loan for colonization work.

DR. WEIZMANN UPHOLDS PALESTINE AS ANSWER TO NAZIS

The only dignified answer the Jews can give to the Nazis is to develop the Jewish homeland in Palestine, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the congress, said yesterday in his first extended address since the sessions began.

Referring to Zionist relations with Britain, Dr. Weizmann said the Mandatory Power could greatly assist the Jews in Palestine work, but it has entered a path of neutrality within the frame

of the mandate. The British policy of dualistic methods, he pointed out, are being used not only in Palestine, but also in Kenya, East Africa, in dealings between native and white population. These methods, he said, are responsible for the planned establishment of a representative legislative council in Palestine.

It is to be regretted, Dr. Weizmann declared, that the present equilibrium in Palestine will be upset by the introduction of the council. He pointed out, however, that despite criticism that may be levelled at the British government, the Mandatory Power made it possible for the Jews to rebuild Palestine. He warned against non-cooperation with Britain as a measure arising from conflict over the council.

The Jewish policy regarding Palestine should be acquisition of land and intensification of building operations, Dr. Weizmann asserted. He said that despite lack of government aid, the Jews may be proud of the work already accomplished in Palestine, compared with colonization work in other countries such as Canada.

He denied that Arabs have been dispossessed and declared that the Jews have shown the Arabs the way to culture and civilization.

Dr. Weizmann lauded the Histadruth, Palestine labor federation and denounced the "reactionary" fight against the labor organization.

SHERTOK ANSWERS CRITICISM OF EXECUTIVE

Last night, Moshe Shertok, member of the World Zionist Executive, replied to criticism levelled against the executive during the general debate. He emphasized immigration gains in the past two years as an achievement of the executive.

Shertok stressed the necessity of a united political front in Palestine. Discussing security, he announced the executive has taken steps to increase the number of Jewish policemen and that the Jerusalem police force will be predominantly Jewish as soon as Jewish recruits now in training join the force.

He defended the Palestine-German transfer agreement as a method for Jews emigrating from Germany to Palestine to take their capital with them.

He admonished those who demand a Jewish State in Palestine not to forget that there is another nationality in the country to be considered.

MIZRACHI DELEGATES TAKE SEATS

The agreement with the Laborites brought to a close a deadlock which had temporarily halted congress sessions. The orthodox delegates resumed their seats in the congress hall and took their places in congress committees.

There was general rejoicing as the congress adopted the text of the agreement which provides for Sabbath observance in farms, factories and buildings in colonies supported by Jewish national funds and in public places; and observance of kashruth in public restaurants maintained by the Histadruth, general federation of labor.

The agreement was adopted as a special decision of the congress and infractions of it will be regarded as breaches of Zionist discipline. The Zionist Executive will enforce the pact.

The text was read from the rostrum by Dr. Nahum Goldmann congress vice-president, and was accepted by unanimous vote. Immediately, Rabbi Myer Berlin of Jerusalem, former Mizrachi president, was named to the congress praesidium.

Expressions of amity were voiced by Rabbi Hoffman of Frankfurt-am-Main for Mizrachi and David Remez for the Laborites.

ARAB CLAIMS HALT HULEH OPERATIONS

JERUSALEM, August 28. (JTA) -- Arab claims for several thousand dunams of land of the Huleh tract recently acquired by the Jewish National Fund have caused the Palestine Government to halt work in the entire area for three months, the Hebrew daily, Davar, reported from Adifa today.

WEIZMANN REFUSES PRESIDENCY OF W.Z.O.

LUCERNE, August 28. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann has declined to accept the presidency of the World Zionist Organization, it became known today after the first attempts to compose the new Zionist Executive had been made. Dr. Weizmann, a former president of the organization, is presiding officer at the World Zionist Congress, now in the closing days of its nineteenth biennial session here.

David Ben-Gurion, Palestine labor leader, is also hesitant about entering the new Zionist Executive, it is understood, since he prefers to devote all his efforts to organizational activities of the Histadruth.

The composition of the Executive became an increasingly difficult problem for the nominating committee when the Mizrachi (orthodox Zionist group) also gave notice that it will not enter the new executive unless it is given a just proportion of the immigration certificates to Palestine.

Dr. Weizmann's refusal to stand for the presidency is believed to be the result of influence brought to bear upon him by a group of his intimate friends who came to Lucerne specially for the purpose of inducing him not to accept the presidency because they would not wish to see him further involved in political activities for personal reasons and on account of his health.

Since the Congress will not conclude its sessions before Sunday, although it was originally announced that it would end them by Saturday at the latest, the hope is being entertained here that Dr. Weizmann may still be induced to accept the presidency.

The next or twentieth World Zionist Congress will be held in Tel Aviv, all-Jewish city in Palestine and the only all-Jewish city in the world, if a proposal submitted today to the organization committee is accepted. The proposal provides for the erection of a special building in Tel Aviv for the Congress sessions. It is understood that the chances are excellent that the committee will accept.

RUBINOW HOLDS INSECURITY, IGNORANCE BASIS OF NAZISM

WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass., August 28. (JTA) --Economic insecurity and ignorance are the basis of Hitlerism, declared Dr. I.M. Rubinow, secretary of B'nai B'rith, in an address tonight at the Williamstown Institute of Human Relations.

In an address on "Social Insecurity and Intergroup Relations," Mr. Rubinow pointed out, "Back of the paranoic, religious, biologic and historic vagaries of the National Socialist political philosophy there lie obvious economic causes.

"It is significant that the real origin and strength of the Nazi movement was not in the working masses," he said, "but in the combination of the lower middle classes with the Lumpenproletariat. There was a very stupid but unmistakeable aggravation of group antagonism as the result of some unconscious longing for social and economic security which first the Versailles treaty and then the world crisis had destroyed."

He urged a "foundation of fact and economic security" to build a peaceful society.

BAPTIZED 'NON-ARYANS' WARNED BY BUSINESS GROUP

BERLIN, August 28. (JTA) -- A warning not to display signs reading "This is a German Business" was issued today by the Chamber of Commerce in South Hanover to all baptized "non-Aryans" in the community.

The warning declares that even baptized "non-Aryans" have no right to consider themselves Germans, and that by displaying such signs, they are misleading the true "Aryans" of South Hanover.

FIRE DESTROYS 30 HOUSES IN POLISH TOWN

WARSAW, August 28. (JTA) -- Fifty Jewish families were made homeless by a fire which today destroyed 30 houses in Chenzyn near Kielce.

The origin of the fire and the exact amount of the damages are not known as yet.