

RECONSTRUCTION OF PALESTINE AS JEWISH COMMONWEALTH DEMANDED BY ZOA CONVENTION

CINCINNATI, Sept. 7. (JTA)-- Reconstruction of Palestine within its "historic boundaries" as a Jewish Commonwealth was demanded today in a resolution adopted unanimously at the afternoon session of the 44th annual Zionist convention here.

Declaring that the solution of the problem should be achieved after the war under inter-governmental auspices and with inter-governmental assistance, the resolution, which was read by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, states that, "there can be no substitute for Palestine as a Jewish National Home."

It makes a direct appeal to Prime Minister Winston Churchill on behalf of American Jewry, asking:

"1 - A speedy rectification of British policy with respect to the Jewish National Home and, particularly, desisting from implementing the provisions of the White Paper, which was conceived in a spirit of appeasement in violation of the Mandate.

2 - The British Government should permit the return to Palestine of refugees who, contrary to the intent of the mandate, have been deported from Palestine where they sought sanctuary.

3 - That the British government take immediate advantage of the expressed desire of Palestine Jews to make the maximum contribution in the common war effort by establishing a Jewish army under Jewish command."

The resolution emphasizes that any changes in the political structure of the Near East which may involve or affect the status of Palestine will be combatted. It reaffirms the continued validity of the Palestine Mandate as the organic law of the land. "The status of Palestine under international law can be altered only as a result of a general post-war settlement in which the Jewish people shall have a part," the declaration concludes.

Convention to ask U. S. to Reaffirm Stand on Jewish National Home

The convention is expected at later sessions to call upon the United States Government to reaffirm its position on the future of the Jewish National Home in Palestine in definite and unequivocal terms inasmuch as the United States endorsed the Balfour Declaration by joint resolution of Congress and has always maintained the binding force of those clauses of the mandate which accord international recognition to the Jewish National Home.

With America's assumption of increased responsibility for helping to maintain the peace of the world it is felt here among the leading delegates at the convention that "the right of every nation to its nationhood," affirmed by President Roosevelt,

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should be given concrete and specific application to the Jewish people. It is pointed out that such an official endorsement of Jewish rights in Palestine would wield tremendous influence.

Considering the political issue as its main task the convention is determined to relegate its organizational problems to a secondary position even though there is a strong desire on the part of the present Zionist Administration to have the United Palestine Appeal and the Zionist Emergency Committee function under the specific control of the ZOA and not as independent agencies.

The general opinion which finds official expression at the convention is that while the first world war brought the Balfour Declaration there is danger that the present war may bring British appeasement to the Arabs. Tendencies toward such appeasement are already noticeable. And leading American Zionists at the convention are frank in stating "the political omens are none too favorable." They point to the fact that while the rights of small nations to political and cultural self determination have been accorded recognition in public addresses of Churchill and Roosevelt nothing was mentioned about Jews though specific references were made to Arabs, Poles, Czechs, Free French and others. The reported return of the Grand Mufti to Palestine, with British consent, was taken to mean a further step in British appeasement in Palestine which is now being developed there by Capt. Oliver Lytton's quiet negotiations with the Arabs.

Messages From Weizmann, Ben Gurion and Ussishkin Read

Messages from Dr. Chaim Weizmann, David Ben Gurion and M. M. Ussishkin were read to the convention: Weizmann emphasized that American Jews are today the only Jewish community in the world which can effectively raise its voice for safeguarding Palestine's post-war status. "You must take the lead in the coming struggle to assure Jewish rights everywhere and to provide definite safeguards for a free Jewish homeland in Palestine," Weizmann said. Ben Gurion in his message stated "more than ever our eyes turn to you. American Jewry must henceforth bear the heaviest responsibility for the fate of our people and the Jewish homeland." Ussishkin cabled "your responsibility is now exceedingly great towards the whole Jewish people."

Today's first business session, opened and presided over by Rabbi James G. Heller of Cincinnati, heard reports of the ZOA, UPA and JNF. Addressing the convention Mendel N. Fisher, JNF Executive Director, announced that the Keyemeth will this year celebrate its fortieth anniversary in America by raising a fund sufficient to acquire forty thousand acres of land in Palestine to settle thousands of newcomers. Fisher reported that for the ten months ending July the JNF income in America was about one and a half million dollars. Rabbi Isadore Breslau, ZOA Executive Director, reported that the ZOA direct membership today exceeds 55,000. The ZOA deficit at the end of July amounted to over \$58,000 of which \$38,000 was carried over from last year. Henry Montor, UPA Executive Director, said that the UPA income in the last twenty months was close to four million dollars. He spoke against those demanding that the UPA be put under the direct control of the ZOA and stated that there is no justification to the criticism that the UPA indulges in "excessive expenditures."

The morning session heard greetings from Adolph Rosenberg, Chairman of the Cincinnati Jewish Community Council, Mrs. de Sole Pool of the Hadassah, Leon Gellman of the Mizrahi, David Wertheim of the Poale Zion, Dr. Kurt Blumenfeld of the Keren Yesod and Lavy Bakstansky of the Federation of English Zionists.

The afternoon session heard, in addition to Rabbi Wise, Louis Lipsky, prominent Zionist leader, and the presidential address of Edmund I. Kaufmann, the retiring president of the ZOA.

It is taken for granted that Judge Louis E. Levinthal of Philadelphia will be elected ZOA president with practically no opposition.

WEIZMANN STATES TIME IS RIPE FOR DISCUSSIONS ON JEWISH STATE IN PALESTINE

LONDON, Sept. 8. (JTA)-- The time is now ripe for insisting that discussions be initiated concerning the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine Dr. Chaim Weizmann declared in reviewing the world situation at a private conference last week of British Zionists, it was disclosed today when the Jewish Agency office released the text of Dr. Weizmann's address.

Even after an Allied victory, stated Dr. Weizmann, more than 3,000,000 impoverished, homeless Jews will have to be absorbed quickly. Palestine can absorb these millions under only one condition - creation of a Jewish state there, he added.

Declaring that another trip to the United States in the near future will be necessary in connection with rebuilding the Jewish Agency on a different basis, Dr. Weizmann stated that "the first mixed Agency was built upon personalities like Werburg, Marshall, Cyrus Adler who are gone and whose generation no longer exists. He expressed confidence that such rebuilding could be accomplished.

It is necessary to talk about the creation of a Jewish state now, Dr. Weizmann said, because territorial problems face the Jews to a greater degree than any other people.

Dr. Weizmann revealed that the hostile attitude of some members of the Palestine administration is reflected in the Colonial Office. The Administration, he charged, is not prepared to make any change in the status of Palestine or even extend mild concessions to the Jews during the war.

GESTAPO ORDERS ALL JEWS IN GERMANY TO WEAR YELLOW MOGENDOVIDS

ZURICH, Sept. 7. (JTA)-- All Jews in Germany over six years of age have been ordered to wear a yellow Mogendovid on their coats together with the inscription "Jew" in black, in an order issued by Reinhard Heydrich, head of the Berlin Gestapo, it was learned here today. Failure to observe these regulations will result in six weeks imprisonment, the report states.

Jews are also forbidden to leave the areas in which they reside without police permission and are forbidden to wear any decorations or orders.

The German radio in commenting on the decree states that it was ordered for "administrative reasons" as "experience has shown that Jews must be recognizable beyond a doubt in public traffic."

NAZIS PROHIBIT DUTCH PAPERS FROM PRINTING REPORTS OF JEWISH DEATHS IN GERMAN CAMPS

LONDON, Sept. 7. (JTA)-- Dutch papers are now forbidden to print any news concerning the death in Nazi concentration camps of Dutch Jews confined there, according to information reaching Dutch circles here today.

Up until now Dutch papers have been allowed to publish news of the deaths without mentioning the place where the victims died. Recently, however, the reports have been so frequent that the Nazi authorities clamped down a complete censorship on such news.

It was disclosed earlier in the week that some 300 Dutch Jews in the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany, rounded up after the disturbances in Amsterdam last February, have died.

Another order by the Nazi authorities in Holland, reported today from Stockholm, makes it compulsory for all motion picture theatres in the Netherlands to show the anti-Semitic film, "The Eternal Jew."

REFUGEE SHIP NAVEMAR DISEMBARKS 360 REFUGEES AT HAVANA

HAVANA, Sept. 7. (JTA)-- Quashing rumors of epidemics raging aboard the refugee liner Navemar, now anchored in Havana harbor, the Cuban medical authorities today gave the ship a clean bill of health and permitted the landing of 360 Jewish refugees who hold Cuban visas.

These 360 will be held in an immigration center for a short time until they complete various legal formalities.

The Navemar, which sailed from Lisbon on August 17, carried nearly 1,200 passengers in a freighter built to accommodate only fifteen. Before it left Lisbon the vessel was described as a floating concentration camp. The Cuban doctors, however, expressed surprise at the small amount of illness on board under the crowded, unsanitary circumstances. En route to Cuba four passengers died.

Although the passengers described the trip from Lisbon as "awful" they were all glad to have finally reached American shores after the severe hardships they have gone through not only on the voyage, but before.

The Navemar is due in New York some time this week bringing the remaining 800 passengers who hold United States visas.

LONDON JEWS MARK NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN RUINS OF GREAT SYNAGOGUE

LONDON, Sept. 7. (JTA)-- Standing under the open sky, amid the ruins of what for 250 years was their most venerated place of worship, London Jews today heard Chief Rabbi Joseph Hertz lash out at the "relentless enemy of Israel" during services marking British Jewry's participation in the National Day of Prayer on the second anniversary of the outbreak of the war.

The demolished walls of the Great Synagogue destroyed by Nazi bombs last year could not hold all the people who responded to the chief rabbi's call to pray for victory, and amplifiers were set up to bring his message to the crowds of worshippers that thronged the streets outside the ruins of the synagogue.

Speaking from an improvised platform erected where the "balemer," the pulpit, used to stand in the Great Synagogue, as an airplane circled overhead, Rabbi Hertz assured his congregation that "the God of righteousness will destroy every social and political structure built on tyranny, race hatred, lies and the deification of force. But God works through human agents and happy is the nation that has been chosen to be in the forefront of this battle for freedom of man. Britain's Jewish children will bear in gladness their share of service and sacrifice called for in this world conflict. Unshakeable is our conviction that victory will crown the righteous cause of Britain and that the Great Synagogue will rise again."

The services opened with a psalm sung by the choir and then an arch, behind which hung the Union Jack, was uncovered. Following the sermon by Rabbi Hertz a prayer was offered up for the royal family; "El Male Rachmim" was recited for those fallen during the war and for the victims of the pogroms all over Europe, and the services closed with the blowing of the shofar.

ROMANIAN WAR-WOUNDED TO GET CONFISCATED JEWISH PROPERTY

LISEON, Sept. 7. (JTA)-- Rumanian war-wounded will get first claim at property confiscated from the Jews in accordance with a decision of the Cabinet, it is learned here today. At the same time all Jewish reserve officers were stricken off the Rumanian army list, the German press reaching here reports.