

VOL. VIII. NO. 232

Tuesday, September 16, 1941

LEADERS OF ALL RELIGIONS SHARPLY CONDEMN LINDBERGH'S ANTI-JEWISH ADDRESS

NEW YORK, Sept. 15. (JTA)-- Americans in all walks of life and of all religions today continued to voice their protests against Charles A. Lindbergh's effort to inject the Jewish issue into his campaign for isolationism. Catholics and Protestants alike felt that the flier's reflection on the Jews in his speech in Des Moines was unworthy and un-American.

Members of the clergy throughout the country sharply condemned Lindbergh for his slur on the Jews, and the press outspokenly accused the flier of inciting racial hatred. General Robert E. Wood, head of the America First Committee which sponsored the Des Moines meeting at which Lindbergh delivered his address, was asked to disavow, personally or in behalf of the America First Committee, the anti-Semitic attack made by the flier so as to clear himself of the responsibility for Lindbergh's outpourings against the Jews.

Leading in the clergy's fight against Lindbergh's anti-Jewish assertions were the churchmen of the nation's capital. Pastors of every church in Washington deplored the fact that the flier raised a racial issue in the discussion of America's national problems. The same sentiments were expressed by Church leaders in almost every large city from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Rev. Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, of the Union Theological Seminary, sent telegrams to twenty members of the America First Committee urging them to disassociate themselves from any action to incite racial and religious strife in this country.

America First Committee to Meet

Gen. Robert E. Wood, chairman of the America First Committee, stated that he will issue no statement for himself or the Committee "until after the Committee meets and takes up the matter." "We are trying to get the National Committee ready for a meeting today, if possible," he said.

Dorothy Thompson, famous columnist, charged Lindbergh with "playing the game of America's enemies in typical Nazi fashion by making the Jews the scapegoats." Francis E. McManon, vice-president of the Catholic Association for International Peace, assailing Lindbergh's attack on the Jews challenged the flier to a debate. Lewis W. Douglas, chairman of the policy group of the Committee to Defend America linked Lindbergh's anti-Jewish allegations with the "characteristics of Nazism."

Dr. Frank Kingdon, chairman of the New York Fight for Freedom Committee, addressing a gathering, denounced Lindbergh's "voice of prejudice, intolerance and hatred." District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey of New York, speaking before an audience of 2,500 at a picnic of the Republican party sharply challenged Lindbergh's attack on Jews as "an inexcusable abuse of the right of freedom of speech which every American, regardless of his views, will wholly reject."

(Continued on reverse side)

Press Continues to Attack Lindbergh

W.W. Waymack, editorial director of the Des Moines Register and Tribune, speaking on the radio over the Mutual Broadcasting System said: "Anti-Semitism has been fomented as a weapon of Nazi conquest, or of just dividing a potential resisting nation. This policy shows appalling irresponsibility on the part of the men who would lead in the determining of national policies. I repudiate it. I think America does. But it is to be noted that no repudiation of this whole line has as yet come from the top isolationists. Until repudiated this stands as more than the special responsibility of a single isolationist leader and is far more ominous therefore."

The New York Journal-American, a Hearst paper, wrote: "The raising of the racial issue by Charles A. Lindbergh in his Des Moines, Iowa, speech is the most unfortunate happening that has occurred in the United States since the present tense international situation developed. The assertion that the Jews are pressing this country into war is unwise, unpatriotic, and un-American. This astonishing statement, at total variance with the facts, is in nowise softened by Mr. Lindbergh's condemnation further on in his speech of the atrocities committed against the Jews by the Nazis in Germany."

The St. Louis Post Dispatch commented: "There is no place now, any more than ever before, for fomenting religious feeling in the United States. When freedom of religion - and therefore freedom from abuse because of one's religious beliefs - is no longer a cardinal American tenet, our democracy will be gone."

The Rochester Times-Union stated: "Every influence for tolerance and better understanding in these United States should resent Mr. Lindbergh's attack on the Jews and condemn him for making it. We want nothing of Nazism in America. We want nothing of the anti-Semitism which can now number Mr. Lindbergh as its most distinguished American convert."

The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, commenting on Lindbergh said: "His charge that Jews as such, any more than Presbyterians, Methodists, Catholics or Unitarians, were a definite factor in American policy was an acceptance of a category that only Nazi propaganda accepts."

The Newark Star-Ledger in an editorial declared: "Lindbergh's comment on the Jews in his Des Moines speech was unworthy of a hero. Lindbergh said that the Jews of America were seeking to plunge America into war in order to avenge themselves on Hitler. He offered no evidence. He merely deduced and inferred. He reasoned that since Hitler's treatment of the Jews has been savage, they are necessarily desirous of revenge."

Other newspapers from all parts of the country commented in similar vein.

HUNGARIAN AUTHORITIES ORDER DEMOLITION OF JEWISH QUARTER IN SZATMAR

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 15. (JTA)-- The Hungarian authorities have ordered the demolition of the Jewish quarter in the Hungarian town of Szatmar in Transylvania for "reasons of public security," it is disclosed in the Pommersche Zeitung, reaching here today.

MOSCOW SUSPENDS LEADING ANTI-RELIGIOUS PUBLICATION

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 15. (JTA)-- The militant atheist weekly "Bezbozhnik" which has been in existence in Soviet Russia for many years as the principal publication fighting religion, has been suspended by the Soviet authorities in Moscow, it was reported here today.

AMERICAN JEWISH PROBLEMS DISCUSSED AT UTICA CONFERENCE

UTICA, N. Y., Sept. 15. (JTA)-- The attempt to inject anti-Semitism into the war issue was condemned by Isaiah Minkoff, executive secretary of the General Jewish Council, addressing the eighth annual session of the New York and Ontario Regional Conference of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds which concluded here yesterday.

"The isolationists have dragged anti-Semitism into the war issue, despite the fact that up to now anti-Semitism was used as a bait only by hoodlums and Nazis," Mr. Minkoff said.

The two-day session was devoted to a round-table discussion of the problems, both local and national, confronting American Jewish communities at the present time. The delegates, representing 22 upstate communities, heard 16 speakers present the viewpoints of national agencies dealing with education, relief and community problems here and overseas.

The conference adopted a resolution approving "the continuance and expansion of the fact-finding facilities of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds with respect to all organizations seeking funds from the Jewish communities of America." In order to gain the effective cooperation of all sections of American Jewry in this program, the resolution urged the Council "to avoid any activity involving evaluation of causes, interpretation of ideologies or definition of ratios as between organizations applying for funds."

Expressing confidence that "Jewish solidarity is capable of attainment," the conference voiced regret that the American Jewish Congress "felt impelled" to withdraw from the General Jewish Council.

Continuation of UJA is Urged

Another resolution, urging the continuation of the United Jewish Appeal, warned that "the heavier tax programs must not be made a pretext for less substantial support of our local welfare and character building organizations."

Benjamin Eisenstein, of Schenectady, was re-elected president of the Conference and Edward H. Kavinoky, of Buffalo, was re-elected 1st vice-president. Charles T. Sitrim, of Utica, was named 2nd vice-president, while Dr. Sol Bloom, of Binghamton, and Jacob M. Kammen, of Rochester, were elected treasurer and secretary, respectively. A panel discussion on overseas agencies and their operation under war-time conditions, presided over by Joseph Goldstein, chairman of the Program Committee, was one of the highlights of the conference.

Mark Eisner, president of the American Association for Jewish Education and former chairman of the Board of Higher Education of the City of New York, stressed that "Jewish education must take on its new responsibilities with an eye on the current scene." Dr. Salo Baron, president of the Conference of Jewish Relations, discussing "The American Jewish Community Faces the Future," made a plea for the rejuvenation of cultural life as the basis for the survival of Judaism.

Elected to the Executive Committee were: Hon. David Diamond, Max Yellen and Stanley G. Falk, Buffalo; Joseph E. Silverstein, Jack Rubens and Joseph Goldstein, Rochester; Max L. Stolz, Bernard G. Rudolph and David Lerman, Syracuse; Hon. Sol Rubenstein, Mrs. E. Martin Freund and Robert C. Poskanzer, Albany; Harry Markson and Martin Abelow, Utica; Ben Sedowski, Toronto; Franklin C. Wisbaum and William Nimelman, Niagara Falls; Samuel L. Pollack, Hamilton; Maurice Pollets, Middletown; M.J. Rider, Newburgh; Joseph Goodman, Troy; Lewis Lurie, Schenectady; David Levene, Binghamton, Joseph Levine, Kingston; Benjamin F. Levy, Elmira; Samuel Pressman, Poughkeepsie.

P.E.N. CONGRESS ASKED TO CONDEMN ANTI-SEMITISM IN LITERATURE

LONDON, Sept. 15. (JTA)-- Yiddish and Hebrew writers participating as delegates at the 17th International P.E.N. Congress held here, today introduced a joint resolution asking the Congress "to condemn all forms of anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic propaganda in literature."

Another resolution urges the representatives of all world literature assembled at the P.E.N. Congress "to fight against the forces of tyranny and for the restoration of the rights of Jewish communities throughout Europe and the rest of the world." The resolution also expresses the hope that "Jewry will be given the widest possibilities for continuing its constructive work in Palestine."

The Congress was addressed by Leo Koenig in behalf of the Yiddish P.E.N. club and by Dr. S. Rawidowicz in behalf of Hebrew writers. Thirty nations are represented at the Congress by their playwrights, poets, novelists, editors and essayists.

PAN-AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE TO OPEN IN BALTIMORE

NEW YORK, Sept. 15. (JTA)-- The Inter-American Jewish Conference, convoked by the World Jewish Congress, of delegates from all Latin-American countries and from the United States will open in Baltimore, on October 26th and will last three days, it was announced today by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress.

The conference was originally scheduled to be held in Washington, but was transferred to Baltimore owing to the lack of facilities in Washington, the announcement said.

PIONEER WOMEN WILL RAISE \$50,000 IN AMERICA FOR SCHOOL IN TEL AVIV

NEW YORK, Sept. 15. (JTA)-- A resolution to raise \$50,000 in America for the establishment of an artisan school in Tel Aviv was adopted last night at the concluding session of the two-days conference of the Pioneer Women's Organization held here.

The conference also decided to raise \$125,000 as its yearly quota for the Council of Working Women in Palestine. Yehudith Simchonit, delegate of the Council who arrived from Palestine, reported on two years of war life in Palestine. A gift of \$1,500 for the Jewish section of the British War Relief was presented by the conference to the Earl of Godsford.

BALTIMORE COMMUNITY TENDERS FAREWELL BANQUET TO RABBI ISRAEL

BALTIMORE, Sept. 15. (JTA)-- More than 500 leading figures in Baltimore Jewish life gathered here last night at a banquet given to Rabbi Edward L. Israel upon his retirement from Har Sinai Temple, after 18 years of service, to become executive director of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Simon E. Sobeloff, Dr. Harry Friedenwald and Rabbi James G. Heller of Cincinnati, were the principal speakers.

Rabbi Israel was presented with a miniature of the prophet Isaiah made by Louis Rosenthal, well-known sculptor. The Zionist groups of Baltimore decided to plant 100 trees in Palestine in honor of Dr. Israel. He begins his new duties on October 1st. The banquet was sponsored by the Baltimore Zionist groups, the B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Congress.

Rabbi Israel replying to the addresses said: "During my life in Baltimore I always aimed toward unity of Jewish consciousness."