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ZOA AND HADASSAH CONVENTIONS OPEN TODAY TO DISCUSS PALESTINE PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, Oct. 13. (JTA)— The urgent need for laying the foundation for a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine after the war will be one of the major topics of discussion at the 45th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America and the 28th annual convention of the Hadassah, both of which open here tomorrow.

More than 1,000 delegates from all parts of the country will attend each of the conventions, which will run concurrently for four days. Some of the sessions dealing with important resolutions on political problems will be closed to the public.

Leaders of the Zionist movement today indicated that the ZOA convention will adopt the attitude that no plan for the future of Palestine can be acceptable unless it enables Palestine to serve as the national home of the Jewish people. No matter what measures are taken to protect the economic political and cultural rights of the Arabs, no obstacle must be placed in the way of the Jews becoming a majority in Palestine, they said.

A cabled plea from the Jews in Palestine asking for continued American support was received today by the Hadassah headquarters. Signed by Isaac Ben-Zvi, president of the Jewish National Council of Palestine, the message pleads for means "to prevent the sufferings of large sections of the population which might be brought about by the increased cost of living." The hope that the joint deliberations of America's two largest Zionist organizations might "bring comfort to our suffering brethren and clarification of Israel's problem in the diaspora and Palestine eventuating in a free Israel with independence founded on justice in the world of the four freedoms," was expressed in a cable received by the Hadassah from Miss Henrietta Szold in Jerusalem.

Mrs. Roosevelt, in a message today to Mrs. David de Sola Pool, national president of Hadassah, stated: "My greetings to all those attending the joint conventions of Hadassah and the Zionist Organization of America. The task before you is greater than ever and I know that your contribution will be greater too. You have my good will in your present efforts and my hopes for the future. May the meeting be an inspiration to all of you and may it bring forth many practical ways in which you, in your great combined strength, can work for the war effort, lend aid to the people of Palestine, and build toward lasting peace."

A special session of the Hadassah convention will be devoted to a resume of health conditions in Palestine where, "because of a thirty-year old program of public health, much of it supported by American funds, epidemic diseases which laid the country waste after the last world war, are now being kept in check," it was announced here today.

ONLY PALESTINE RESIDENTS CAN JOIN NEW REGIMENT, WAR OFFICE RULES

LONDON, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- Enlistment in the new Palestine Regiment, which is to be composed of Jewish and Arab infantry battalions, will be confined to residents of Palestine and "it is not intended to enlist in the regiment any persons not residing in Palestine itself," it was stated today by the Director of Recruitment and Mobilization of the War Office, in a letter to the Anglo-American Committee for a Jewish Army.

The committee had asked the War Office for the training and eventual transfer to Palestine of a number of Palestinians now living in Britain, who are prepared to join the new regiment.

The British Government's continued refusal to allow the formation of a separate Jewish army in Palestine was assailed today by Lord Strabolgi, Laborite peer, speaking at a meeting in Glasgow. "If the Germans reached Palestine the Britishers might retreat, but the Jews are doomed," Lord Strabolgi declared. "What sort of government have we which refuses these people the right to bear arms, and at least die fighting."

HUNGARY WILL DISTRIBUTE CONFISCATED JEWISH PROPERTY AMONG WAR HEROES

ZURICH, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- Confiscated Jewish real estate in Hungary will be distributed by the government among members of the "Hungarian Order of Heroes" it was announced today over the Budapest radio. The order consists of soldiers who distinguished themselves in the last World War or in the present war.

The announcement also stated that all of Budapest's 135 Jewish taxi-drivers will lose their licenses on January 1. There are 1,900 licensed cab drivers in Budapest.

JEWISH DEPUTY NAMED TO COMMITTEE PLANNING POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION OF POLAND

LONDON, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- Ignacy Schwartzbart, one of the two Jewish members of the Polish National Council, today was appointed to the Council's important Committee on Social and Economic Problems, which is planning the post-war reconstruction of Poland. His appointment came after protests by Schwartzbart and Samuel Zygelbaum, the other Jewish deputy, that there was no Jewish representation on the committee. Zygelbaum was appointed an alternate member.

The new appointments were made possible as a result of the enlargement of the committee following a heated debate on the question among various factions in the Council.

FIFTY REFUGEE RABBIS, YESHIVA STUDENTS REACH PALESTINE FROM RUSSIA

JERUSALEM, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- The first group of fifty refugee rabbis and yeshiva students from Poland and Lithuania to be evacuated from Russia arrived here today.

A meeting of Polish-Jewish leaders here has decided to launch a relief drive for the Jews in the ghettos of Poland. Each contributor to the relief fund will be "decorated" with a yellow badge which he will display at the entrance of his home. The yellow badges will symbolize the solidarity of Palestine Jews with those in the ghettos in Nazi-held Poland.

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ANTI-SEMITIC OUTBURST IN MEXICAN PARLIAMENT BRINGS DEMAND FOR PROBE OF FASCIST GROUPS

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- An outburst of anti-Semitism in the Mexican Chamber of Deputies has shocked this country into an awareness of the inroads being made by the propaganda of such organizations as the native fascist National Sinarchist Union and the Spanish Falange, and has brought about a demand for an investigation of the links between these organizations and certain Mexican legislators.

The outburst occurred when Mexican Liberal Deputy Felix Diaz Escobar introduced a measure intended to exempt Jews born in Axis countries from governmental restrictions against Axis nationals. Mexican Deputy Zinounegui Tercero and his rightist colleague, Marquez Ricano, took exception to the proposal with a violent attack against Jews in general.

"When I heard the proposal," Deputy Tercero declared, "I thought for the moment that I was in the obscurity of a synagogue rather than the Mexican Congress. The Jews," he went on, "have greatly harmed our people." He added that he was "horrified at the work of international Jewry."

Considerable applause greeted Tercero's attack. Mexican Labor Deputy Alejandro Carrillo, former president of the Chamber, took up the challenge and condemned Tercero's viewpoint vigorously. "Whoever accepts such theories," Carrillo said, "is dangerously close to Nazi ideology. We cannot tolerate attacks against any race."

Deputy Marquez Ricano then took the floor and began Tercero's tirade all over again, shouting that the Jews are "pitiless exploiters." Mexico's usually staid Chamber of Deputies broke into an uproar with half the members trying to attract the chairman's attention. A Liberal Deputy finally interrupted on a point of order and the debate was closed.

While this was not the first time that anti-Semitism has had the floor in the Mexican Congress, it was the first occasion since Mexico's entry into the war against Fascism that anti-Semitic spokesmen have felt bold enough to speak frankly. Observers recalled that both the Sinarchist and Falangist propaganda has recently been stressing attacks against the Jews in general and Jewish refugees in particular. Some quarters tended toward the conclusion that the outbursts were carefully calculated to start a wave of anti-Semitic agitation in Mexico.

Anti-American and Anti-Jewish Speeches Mark Pro-Axis Mass Meeting in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- Anti-American and anti-Jewish speeches were delivered here last night at a mass-meeting arranged by the pro-Axis Nationalist Youth Alliance. The meeting was attended by more than 18,000 people. General Juan Bautista Molina, an Alliance leader, was among the speakers who attacked the Jews and the United States.

CONFERENCE ON MEDICAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY TO WAR EFFORT OPENS TODAY

JERUSALEM, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- Methods of increasing the Hebrew University's contributions to the Allied war effort and expanding the Palestine pharmaceutical industry will be discussed tomorrow at a conference here called by the Hadassah and Hebrew University Pharmacological Institute.

The seminar will discuss research developments on various medicaments and their influence on living organisms as well as the preparation of new formulas. It will be held in the Ratnoff Medical School of the University.

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RECONSTITUTION OF UNITED JEWISH APPEAL FOR 1943 DISCUSSED BY WELFARE LEADERS

CLEVELAND, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- The board of directors of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds marked the tenth anniversary of the existence of the Council by holding its meeting here, where the Council was established in 1932 by representatives of 15 Jewish federations.

Sidney Hollander, president of the Council, and William J. Shroder, chairman of the Board, presented reports on recent war chest developments, progress on the Council's efforts for a unified civic-protective program and prospects for the reconstitution of the United Jewish Appeal in 1943.

A total of \$22,249,189 was expended in 1941 by 40 national and 23 overseas organizations for aid to distressed Jewry overseas and in Palestine, health and welfare programs, civic protective activities, immigration services and health and educational programs, according to a Council survey.

The bulk of the funds was spent by overseas and Palestine agencies which expended a total of \$17,650,424, of which about \$7,000,000 was spent in Palestine, \$6,000,000 in other countries abroad and \$4,000,000 for immigration services both abroad and in the United States.

Of the \$4,598,766 spent in this country by the national agencies, \$1,637,810 was used for civic protective activities and \$1,335,584 for health and welfare requirements.

SYNAGOGUE ABANDONS FRIDAY SERVICES BECAUSE OF WAR CONDITIONS

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- Because of the war emergency and in order to make adjustments to the problems of transportation, Temple Israel of St. Louis will abandon its late Friday evening services and reinstitute Sunday morning services for the congregation, it was announced here today by Rabbi F. M. Isserman. During the ministry of the late Rabbi Harrison, Temple Israel had Sunday services for more than twenty years.

Lord Halifax, the British Ambassador to the United States, while on a visit to St. Louis, addressed a meeting of the Brotherhood of the Temple Israel.

\$570,000 RAISED IN U.S. FOR HISTADRUTH PROGRAM IN 1941-42

NEW YORK, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- More than \$570,000 was raised for the Histadruth, Palestine Labor Federation, during the fiscal year 1941-42, according to the annual report submitted by Isaac Hamlin, national secretary, at the annual meeting of the National Labor Committee for Palestine held at the Hotel Pennsylvania yesterday.

This sum represented an increase of \$93,000 over that of the previous year's total. Over 2,000 Jewish organizations participated in the drive, which was conducted in 370 communities in 43 states, all of Canada, Mexico and Cuba.

AWARD TO SEAMAN WHO PARTICIPATED IN RESCUING "PATRIA" VICTIMS

LONDON, Oct. 13.(JTA)-- A Royal Humane Society parchment for bravery was presented in Glasgow to Chief Officer R.C.D. Flanston, of the Merchant Navy, in recognition of the part he played in rescuing refugees from the ill-fated S. S. Patria when the ship was blown up in Haifa harbor in November, 1940, it was announced here today.