

BRITISH JEWS WILL INTERVENE WITH THEIR GOVERNMENT ON STATUS OF JEWS IN NORTH AFRICA

LONDON, Dec. 21.(JTA)-- The Board of Deputies of British Jews today announced that it will make representations to the British Government with a view to establishing the exact status of the Jews in North Africa since it is not clear to what extent the Jewish population there has had its rights restored by the Darlan administration.

Lord Nathan, addressing a meeting of the Board of Deputies, urged that the atmosphere of world sympathy for the Jews in Europe which has been created by the joint declaration of the Allied Nations against the Nazi massacres of Jews, should be utilized for practical steps. He expressed the opinion that the labor schedule system which the Palestine Government applies in admitting Jewish immigrants should be abolished in the case of Jews who succeed in escaping from the Nazis and Nazi-dominated countries. As to the restoration of the Jews in North Africa to their former positions, he emphasized that "the United Nations have the power to do something there, therefore they must do it."

NAZI PRESS REPORTS SOSNOWIEC IS "JUDENREIN"; JEWS SLAUGHTERED IN ROWNO

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 21.(JTA)-- German newspapers reaching here today reported that not a single Jew has been left in the city of Sosnowiec, Poland, and that mass-executions of Jews are being carried out in the city of Rowno. They also revealed that a number of towns in the Czech Protectorate "have been cleared of Jews" during the last two weeks, including the town of Tabor.

Quoting the Berliner Boersen Zeitung which carries a report on the executions of Jews in Rowno, the Swedish newspaper Svenska Dagbladet says that many Jews from Nazi-occupied countries of Central and Western Europe are now being transported to the Rowno district which constituted the Polish-Russian border before the war and are undergoing there "a biological extermination."

AGREEMENT BETWEEN ZIONISTS AND NON-ZIONISTS IN AMERICA LIKELY, SHERTOK REPORTS

LONDON, Dec. 21.(JTA)-- The present negotiations between Zionist and non-Zionist leaders in America with regard to the presentation of joint demands to the peace conference have produced some results and have shown that an agreement on fundamental questions between the two groups is possible, Moshe Shertok, head of the political department of the Jewish Agency, declared here today at a press conference.

Should no final agreement be reached, the Jewish Agency is determined to present its demands to the peace conference independently, Shertok added. He stated that he does not intend to proceed to the United States and hopes to return to Palestine soon. He revealed that the prospects of the 1,600 Jews interned on the island of Mauritius being returned to Palestine "are now slightly better."

RABBIS, LAYMEN OPEN FOUR-DAY CONFERENCE TO DRAW UP BASIC PEACE PRINCIPLES

CINCINNATI, Dec. 21.(JTA)-- Leading rabbis and laymen from every section of the United States today participated in the opening session here of a four-day round table which, under the title "American Institute on Judaism and a Just and Enduring Peace," will formulate a statement dealing with the basic principles of a just and enduring peace in the light of the teachings of Judaism.

In opening the first session of the Institute today at the Hebrew Union College, Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman of St. Louis, chairman of the Commission on Justice and Peace of the Central Conference of the American Rabbis, emphasized that the Institute has been called in accordance with the decision of the last convention of the Central Conference to "invite our brethren of the Household of Israel to aid in the planning of a peace based on the principles of the Hebrew prophets."

"I am not pleading for an Anglo-Saxon dominated peace, any more than I plead for a Russian or a Chinese-dominated peace," Rabbi Isserman said. The peace must have no national tinge, unless the national aims coincide with the universal teachings of God as expressed through the prophets of Israel. It must be super-national and super-racial." Pointing out that the forthcoming peace "must be a peace in which all men of all races, of all nations, of all faiths shall have an equal part," and lauding the appointment of Herbert H. Lehman by the U.S. Government to feed and clothe the people of the liberated countries, Rabbi Isserman declared:

"We have gathered to interpret the message of Judaism for the aid of all mankind. Yet we cannot at this tragic hour of Jewish history be silent over the unutterable woes of decent Jewish men and women in conquered lands, innocent of wrong, whose martyred deaths reveal their moral courage and at the same time the moral disintegration of their murderers. Their plight is not unrelated to the world's woes. It was its forerunner and its warning, which, alas, went unheeded. The law of history is that there can be no peace for mankind until there is peace for Israel, and there can be no peace for Israel until there is peace for all mankind. In seeking a solution to Israel's post-war problems, we shall be truly tested to see if we shall apply prophetic teachings as rigorously to our own brethren and their plight as we shall demand their application to all human situations. In our final statement, we hope to include suggestions for the treatment of oppressed Jewish minorities, as we shall demand their application to all human situations."

Rosenberg Calls for Unity in American-Jewish Life

Adolph Rosenberg, chairman of the executive board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, addressing the opening session said that Judaism today faces its greatest challenge. "All of our strength must be thrown against him," he stated. "We cannot, we dare not diminish our power by internal dissension. Let us be patient and understanding, so that we may here build a platform upon which we can all stand. Let us submerge our differences for the duration and move forward together through victory to a just and enduring peace."

Dr. Julian Morgenstern, speaking in behalf of the Hebrew Union College, stated that through bitter experience following the last war, mankind has learned the sad lesson that the planning and preparation for peace can not be deferred until the war is finished. "Our brethren of the Anglican, Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches have spoken already and spoken well, now it is indeed the time for Judaism to speak and to voice its own distinctive message of peace and hope for mankind," he said.

ZIONIST EMERGENCY COMMITTEE WARNS COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM ON IMPENDING CONFLICT

NEW YORK, Dec. 21. (JTA)-- The American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs today released a statement taking issue with the recently formed American Council for Judaism on its attitude towards Zionist aspirations in Palestine.

"The formation by a small group of rabbis of the so-called 'American Council for Judaism' whose avowed object it is to fight the restoration of the Jews as a nation in their own homeland, has come as a painful shock to the vast majority of Jews throughout the country," the statement said. Signed by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the Committee, the statement denounced the American Council for Judaism as being against the policy of the Balfour Declaration which "was endorsed by the nations of the world" and warned that "the responsibility for the conflict which impends within American Jewry, if the sponsors of this body proceed with their proposals, is their own. We can only deplore their misguided activities, the sole result of which will be to sow confusion."

NATION'S LEADING JURISTS HONOR BRANDEIS AT SUPREME COURT MEMORIAL MEETING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21. (JTA)-- The nation's foremost jurists joined today in a memorial service for the late Justice Louis D. Brandeis of the Supreme Court. Sen. George W. Norris, Nebraska Independent who formulated many of Brandeis' ideas into legislation, delivered the key speech at the ceremony. Attorney General Francis Biddle also spoke, hailing the late Justice as a "great American" who "believed, never doubting, in Democracy."

"The life of Justice Louis D. Brandeis will always be a shining star in the broad firmament of American jurisprudence," Senator Norris said. "He left his mark upon the history of our country. The work he did, and the life he lived, will be an inspiration to those who have never seen his face nor heard his voice. His dissenting opinions have become the law of the land."

Mr. Biddle stressed the fact that Brandeis early saw "the threat to this way of life (Democracy) from the opposing view that one race was superior to another," citing an address by the Justice delivered in Boston 27 years ago, less than a year after the first World War had begun. "Today," Mr. Biddle concluded, "Brandeis takes his place in the moving stream of history as a great American whose life work brought nearer to fulfillment the essentially American belief in equality of opportunity and individual freedom."

Dean Lloyd Garrison, dean of the Wisconsin University Law School, praised Brandeis' devotion to his work as chairman of the Provisional Committee for General Zionist Affairs during the critical years 1914-16. Dean Garrison presented resolutions to the meeting testifying to the regret of the bar at the loss of Justice Brandeis, acknowledging its debt to his wisdom and recognizing his outstanding qualities of leadership. These resolutions were presented later in the day to the Supreme Court by Mr. Biddle and accepted by Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone as a part of the court's permanent record.

THIRTY NEW PLAYS DEPICT JEWISH PARTICIPATION IN RUSSIAN WAR EFFORT

KUIBYSHEV, Dec. 21. (JTA)-- About thirty new plays by Jewish writers, most of them dealing with the participation of the Jews in the Russian war effort, have been written this year and many of them are slated for immediate production, the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee reported today.

CONFERENCE OF JEWISH CONGREGATIONS PLEDGES MAXIMUM AID TO RED CROSS AND U.S.O.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.(JTA)-- A resolution expressing gratitude to the United Nations for their joint declaration on the Nazi massacres of Jews in Europe was adopted here last night at a conference of delegates from 250 Jewish congregations, sisterhoods, men's clubs and youth groups affiliated with the United Synagogue of America.

The conference was called in response to an appeal to religious bodies throughout the country by the U.S. Office of Civilian Mobilization asking them to intensify awareness among their members of the spiritual significance of the war. The delegates adopted a program pledging maximum aid in the work of the U.S.O., Red Cross and other welfare agencies. They also approved a program under which special attention will be given to children and adolescents to counteract emotional and intellectual disturbances created by the war. Prof. F. Ernest Johnson, executive secretary of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ, was one of the principal speakers. Other speakers included Rabbi Louis J. Moss, president of the United Synagogue of America, and Dr. Robert J. Gordis of the Jewish Theological Seminary.

HIAS DELEGATION DISCUSSES REFUGEE IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS WITH SUMNER WELLES

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.(JTA)-- Sumner Welles, Under-Secretary of State, has received a Hias delegation consisting of Abraham Herman, president; Isaac L. Asofsky, executive director and Louis E. Spiegler, counsel of the Hias bureau in Washington, it was announced here today.

No official statement was issued but it is understood that the Department of State has taken under advisement a series of recommendations which has been formulated by the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society on the basis of information received from its European representative, Dr. James Bernstein, in Lisbon. If adopted, these measures would greatly help to expedite the rescue of those who could be saved through emigration. The program has particular reference to such refugees who were fortunate in escaping into Spain, Portugal and Switzerland from Southern France, who either have immigration visas or for whom "advisory approval" was granted.

DEMOCRACIES WILL ESTABLISH A JEWISH STATE IN PALESTINE, SEN. PEPPER PREDICTS

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.(JTA)-- The prediction that when the war is over Palestine will be established by the democracies as "a free Jewish State" was made by Senator Claude Pepper of Florida last night, addressing the First Victory Drive Dinner of the United Jewish War Effort which is collecting funds to be sent to the Allied Nations.

More than 1,000 guests, who had paid \$50 each, heard Senator Pepper condemn the Nazi slaughter of Jews in Europe and his declaration that "the people of the United States and of the Allied Nations will not fail to avenge these wrongs." Dr. Stephen Wise, who presided, announced that the immediate objective of the United Jewish War Effort is the sending of 1,000 completely equipped medical field units to Russia at a total cost of two million dollars; the establishment and maintenance of 100 nurseries in China for stranded children and the maintenance of seven nursing homes in England for orphaned youngsters. Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, chairman, formulated the aims of the organization.

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