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JEWISH YOUTH IN PALESTINE WARNED TO PREPARE FOR "FATEFUL DAYS" AHEAD

JERUSALEM, April 4. (JTA)-- Jewish youth in Palestine was called upon today "to prepare for the greatest sacrifices for the fateful days of decision which will come soon, when all Jewish rights and all Jewish might will be needed to defend our very existence."

The call was issued by David Ben-Gurion, chairman of the executive committee of the Jewish Agency, addressing a convention of the Jewish sport organization Maccabi, attended by 146 delegates representing 10,000 members of the Maccabi in Palestine.

"Our existence is threatened as never before," Mr. Ben-Gurion said. "We, here, are now facing the most hostile regime which Palestine Jewry ever faced. All that is left for us is physical power."

Mr. Ben-Gurion appealed to the Jews of Palestine to abandon their internal party differences and to adhere to the general Jewish interests in the country. The conference adopted a resolution against the Ichud party which advocates a bi-national state in Palestine. In another resolution, the conference expressed its support for the declaration adopted in New York at the Biltmore Conference advocating the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth after the war.

Palestine Jews Present Proposals to the Bermuda Conference

A number of proposals for consideration by the forthcoming Anglo-American conference on refugees which is scheduled to be held in Bermuda, were advanced here today, in behalf of the Jews of Palestine, by Isaac Ben-Zvi, president of the Jewish National Council.

Addressing a press conference, Mr. Ben-Zvi stated that the Allied governments will not be able to state that they did everything possible to save Jews in Nazi lands if they continue to close their eyes to the fact that Palestine can absorb tens of thousands of Jewish victims from Nazi countries. Palestine Jews, he said, demand that the Bermuda Conference take the following steps:

1. The conference should unequivocally declare itself in favor of opening the gates of Palestine to shelter Jews escaping from Nazi-held territories and Nazi-dominated countries.
2. The conference should find a way to address the German government and the pro-Nazi governments of European countries for the purpose of securing from them exit permits for Jews.
3. The conference should secure a guarantee for neutral countries that the Jewish refugees who will be admitted will be maintained until the end of the war.
4. The conference should provide an effective plan for transportation of Jewish refugees from Nazi Europe to overseas countries.

"If these demands are not heeded by the Bermuda Conference, then all declarations of sympathy for Jews issued by the Allied Governments are worthless," Mr. Ben-Zvi said.

JEWISH REPRESENTATION AT BERMUDA REFUGEE CONFERENCE DEMANDED BY BRITISH JEWS

LONDON, April 4.(JTA)-- The hope that the forthcoming Bermuda Conference on refugee problems "will not be a repetition of the Evian conference" and that Jews will be represented there and Jewish views heard, was voiced today by Prof. Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, addressing a conference called by British Jewish organizations to demand action to rescue European Jews.

Referring to the United States State Department's note proposing the parley, in which it was declared that action is not intended to aid "any particular race or faith" and a similar statement in the House of Lords by Viscount Cranborne, Prof. Brodetsky emphasized that "on no other people has a declaration of death been pronounced."

The meeting today urged that the Bermuda Conference decide on the following twelve practical measures to aid the Jews in Europe:

1. Announcement by the Allied Governments that asylum will be found for all refugees who are able to flee Nazi-held territory.
2. Visas for Allied countries should be placed at the disposal of the consulates of neutral countries. The United States should consider filling its still unexhausted quotas for refugees.
3. Establishment of refugee camps in the territory controlled by the Allies
4. Full use of the especially favorable facilities for immigration offered by Palestine.
5. Transport and transit arrangements should be made as quickly as possible in order to utilize the 34,000 Palestine immigration certificates still available for Jews.
6. The emigration of Jews in the Balkan countries to Palestine should be facilitated by extending the transportation facilities from Turkey and Bulgaria.
7. Provision should be made for Allied and neutral shipping to transfer the refugees from Spain and Portugal to refugee camps in Palestine.
8. Assurances must be given to neutral countries concerning the maintenance of any refugees they admit.
9. International machinery should be set up to speed the rescue of the Jews
10. Nationals of the United Nations should be exchanged for nationals of the Axis powers.
11. Approach the British Dominions and Latin America for assistance in sheltering the refugees.
12. Approach Germany and her satellite states with the proposal that they allow the Jews, particularly children, to leave.

Speakers at the conference, in addition to Prof. Brodetsky, included M. Easternman, representing the World Jewish Congress, who stressed the fact that first reports of the atrocities against Jews began to leak out eighteen months ago and that two to three million have been killed since; Berl Locker, speaking for the Jewish Agency, who denounced the White Paper of 1939 and demanded its abolition; H. A. Goodman of the Agudas Israel; Dr. Ignacy Schwartzbart and others.

BRITAIN URGED TO STATE CLEARLY WHETHER PALESTINE WILL BE CLOSED TO JEWS NEXT YEAR

LONDON, April 4.(JTA)-- Declaring that "even moderate Jews are not ready to accept complete prohibition of further immigration to Palestine" in the spring of 1944, as provided by the British White Paper, the Economist, leading British financial newspaper, today published an article suggesting that Palestine, Syria and Transjordan be merged into a federation to which Jews could immigrate without affecting the present Arab majority.

The paper demands that the Government issue a statement regarding its Palestine immigration policy since "the present uncertainty has given rise to extravagant hopes and extravagant fears both to Jews and Arabs."

BARON ROTHSCHILD REPLIES TO "UNBIASED SPECIALIST" ON POSITION OF ALGERIAN JEWS

NEW YORK, April 4.(JTA)-- Baron Edouard de Rothschild, president of the Consistoire Central des Israelites de France et d'Algerie, today issued the following statement:

"Notwithstanding my desire to avoid polemics, it is impossible to leave unanswered the comment of the "unbiased specialist" published in your paper of March 28, in which he denies as untrue the affirmations in my statement of March 18, with regard to the Jewish question in Algeria.

"The specialist's strongly worded declarations are erroneous and inaccurate.

"I never spoke of European Jews born in Metropolitan France and their descendants.

"The abrogation of the Cremieux Decree and its consequences for the descendants of the native Jews born on the French soil of Algeria are the only points at issue,

"The specialist is still unable to say how these Jews will be able to ask for naturalization.

"If it is going to be a real naturalization, the law of 1927 modified in 1936 prevents them from voting for parliament for five years.

"My statements, the accuracy of which I reaffirm, were obviously misread and their true import left entirely unanswered by the specialist.

"The Cremieux Decree is as much a part of the statutory fabric of France as any other law.

"The re-enactment of its cancellation, which was a part of the odious and retro-active Vichy Decrees, is a vicious discrimination made between men of European civilization, based uniquely upon their religious affiliation and constitutes a grave and permanent danger for the present and the future."

JEWISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY LAUDS REFUGEE FARMERS; 3,000 JEWISH REFUGEES ON LAND

NEW YORK, April 4.(JTA)-- Many Jewish men between the ages of forty and sixty without farm backgrounds have adjusted themselves to farm life in this country. It is revealed in the annual report of the Jewish Agricultural Society made public here today.

Over 14,000 farm loans totalling about \$9,000,000 have been made by the Society to Jewish farmers in forty states during the forty-three years of the Society's existence, Gabriel Davidson, managing director, stated. More than three hundred loans totalling about \$250,000 have been approved during 1942 for Jewish farmers in 11 states. Mr. Davidson praised the refugee farmers declaring that "they have been outstandingly successful." He estimated that more than 3,000 Jewish refugees "are now happily anchored on American soil."

NOTED RUSSIAN-JEWISH VIOLINIST TURNS OVER \$20,000 STALIN PRIZE TO RED ARMY

KUBYSHEV, April 4.(JTA)-- The noted Russian-Jewish violinist, David Oistrakh, recent winner of a Stalin prize for outstanding work in 1942, has turned over to the Red Army Fund the 100,000 rubles (about \$20,000) awarded him, it was announced today. In a letter to Premier Stalin expressing pleasure that his art was "so highly appreciated by the Government," the violinist said he was turning the prize money over to the Red Army Fund "for the speedy extermination of the Fascist hordes, the destroyers of world culture and art."

RESCUE OF JEWS, GUARANTEES OF POST-WAR JEWISH RIGHTS EVERYWHERE, URGED BY UAHQ

NEW YORK, April 4.(JTA)-- Urgent United Nations action to save the Jews in Europe now, guarantees that Jewish rights will be safeguarded in all countries after the war and the opening of Palestine to Jewish immigration, were demanded today in resolutions adopted at the closing session of the 36th biennial council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, meeting at the Hotel New Yorker here. The council also went on record opposing the abrogation of the Cremieux Law by General Giraud, pledging adherence to the American Jewish Assembly and urging its member congregations to intensify their efforts in behalf of the war effort and in maintaining religious life in America.

It was decided that the next council will be held in Toronto, Canada, in 1945 if the nation is no longer at war. Otherwise, the executive board of the UAHQ will designate a meeting place. All of the officers, including Robert P. Goldman, president, and Adolph Rosenberg, chairman of the executive board, were reelected. The National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, which also closed its biennial convention here today, reelected Mrs. Hugo Hartman as president.

The resolution on refugee aid urged that havens be found for the refugees in neutral countries; that the United States should admit as many refugees as possible; that room should be found for the European Jews in the British Empire and especially in Palestine; and that the Anglo-American conference on refugees should be held as soon as possible. Copies of the resolution were sent to President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Hull and the British Ambassador Lord Halifax. In the resolution demanding equality for Jews throughout the world after the war, the UAHQ urged that "adequate provision also be made for their rehabilitation in new homes and in Palestine. We ask that our Government use its good offices to see that Palestine is opened as quickly as possible to settle as many Jews as desire to go there and who can be taken care of."

President Roosevelt and the State Department were asked to use their good offices to secure rescindment of the order by General Giraud annulling the Cremieux Law and depriving native Algerian Jews of citizenship, in still another resolution adopted today. Endorsement of the projected American Jewish Assembly by the UAHQ contained the proviso that the Union will not consider itself bound by any of the conclusions reached by the Assembly until the executive board of the UAHQ has endorsed these proposals.

BLUM, MANDEL, REYNAUD IMPRISONED IN WESTERN PRUSSIA BY NAZIS

LONDON, April 4.(JTA)-- Former French Premiers Leon Blum and Paul Reynaud and former Minister of the Interior Georges Mandel are imprisoned in Koenigsberg, in Western Prussia, according to a broadcast on the British Broadcasting System's French language program today.

The broadcast stated that "it was learned last November that the Vichy authorities had turned Paul Reynaud and Georges Mandel over to the Germans; at that time there was no mention of Leon Blum."

PIONEER WOMEN SENT \$90,000 TO PALESTINE DURING TEN MONTHS, CONFERENCE HEARS

NEW YORK, April 4.(JTA)-- Since its last national convention in June, the Pioneer Women's Organization has forwarded the sum of \$90,000 to the Working Women's Council in Palestine, it was reported here at a special conference of Pioneer Women delegates attended by two hundred representatives of 45 cities throughout the United States and Canada.