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BERMUDA CONFERENCE OPENED; KEYNOTERS SAY SOLUTION IS ALLIED VICTORY

HAMILTON, Bermuda, April 19.(JTA)-- The Anglo-American conference on refugee problems opened here today with speeches by Dr. Harold W. Dodds, head of the American delegation, and Richard K. Law, head of the British delegation. Both reviewed the position of Nazi victims in Europe and declared that the solution of the refugee problem lies in an Allied victory.

The keynote speeches at the opening session of the conference this morning indicated that no plan will be considered by the delegates which can be construed in any way as tending to retard the war effort. Constructive proposals for the solution of the food and transportation problems of refugees will, it was indicated, encounter at many turns the objection that a "military area" is involved. This objection is most difficult to overcome and the term "military area" can be extremely elastic, covering not only territory at present construed as a military area but also territory likely to become such in the future.

The session today lasted for one hour. Delegates adjourned to spend the rest of the day in informal talks, marking time until the arrival of Senator Scott Lucas of Illinois, whose departure from the United States had been delayed by illness. "The problem is too great for a solution by the two governments here represented," Dr. Dodds said in his address. "Our task will be to point the way and offer such definite proposals as may be possible under war conditions and in the light of what the war effort of the United Nations will permit."

United Nations May Organize Separate Committee on Refugee Problem

Richard K. Law, speaking to correspondents, declared it was possible, as result of the Bermuda parley, that a United Nations' committee would be set up to deal with refugee problems in addition to the already existing Inter-Governmental Committee for Refugees, which had been established by the Evian Conference. He observed that the refugee problem is not only a Jewish problem and pointed out that the Bermuda conference will have to submit its conclusions to the U.S. and British Governments as a basis for future action by a United Nations body.

Osbert Peake, another British delegate, said that since 1940, when the British Government had assumed maintenance of refugees in Britain because Jewish relief committees there pleaded lack of funds, his Government had spent about \$6,000,000 on refugees. He added that it was most difficult to find sanctuaries in the British empire because the entire Mediterranean is an important military zone. The West Indies, he said, are overcrowded and face an acute feeding problem, while East Africa has already admitted three times the number of its white population.

Sir Bernard Reilly of the Colonial Office, a British expert with the delegation, said that British Guiana needed two years of preparatory construction to provide havens for refugees. He ruled out Madagascar, pointing out that French authorities had adjudged it unsuitable for large-scale colonization. Madagascar is now under British control. Sir Bernard added that there were no possibilities on Mauritius, where 1,600 Jewish refugees, deported from Palestine, are living. He said that Jamaica has not only 400 refugees, but also 1,500 English evacuees from Gibraltar, and provides no further possibilities.

AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS MAKE PUBLIC THEIR APPEALS TO THE BERMUDA PARLEY

NEW YORK, April 19.(JTA)-- The Joint Emergency Committee for European Jewish Affairs; the membership of which represents the majority of the Jewish population in this country, today made public the text of the appeal it has sent to the Anglo-American conference on refugees which opened in Bermuda this morning. The text of a similar appeal sent to the Bermuda parley by Dr. Chaim Weizmann on behalf of the Jewish Agency for Palestine was also made public here today by the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs.

Parallel with publication of the text of its appeal, the Joint Emergency Committee for European Jewish Affairs also made public the full text of a letter which it had addressed several days ago to Under-Secretary Sumner Welles of the State Department. The text reads;

"In behalf of the Joint Emergency Committee for European Jewish Affairs, comprising the American Jewish Committee; the American Jewish Congress; the B'nai B'rith; the Jewish Labor Committee; the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs of the Zionist Organization of America; Hadassah; Mirachi; and the Poale Zion; the Synagogue Council of America; the Agudath Israel of America, Inc.; and the Union of Orthodox Rabbis in America, we submit through you to the Bermuda Conference, scheduled to open on April 19th, the enclosed Memorandum and appendix, setting forth a program of rescue to be undertaken for the Jews of Nazi-occupied Europe, otherwise doomed to destruction. The signatories to these Memoranda represent leading Jewish organizations in the United States with whom are affiliated a large majority of the Jewish population of this country;

"These Memoranda set forth the principle projects representing, in our considered judgment, basic action to be undertaken immediately by the United Nations if the remnants of European Jewry are to be saved from destruction. Among these are: 1. Negotiations with the Axis Powers through neutral governments to permit the exit of Jews from Axis-occupied countries; 2. The creation of temporary and permanent Sanctuaries for them by the United Nations; 3. In view of the fact that planned starvation is one of the methods of accomplishing the extermination of the Jewish populace of Europe, the feeding of those sections of the Jewish population in occupied Europe who will not be permitted to leave.

"We would be less than frank if we did not convey to you the anguish of the Jewish community of this country over the failure of the United Nations to act until now to rescue the Jews of Europe. For many months it has been authenticated that the Nazis have marked the Jewish population of Europe for total extermination and that it is estimated that almost three million Jews have been done to death, while a similar fate awaits those who remain. World civilization has been stirred to its depths by these horrors. Every section of public opinion throughout the world, and more particularly in England and in the United States, has spoken out in demand that the United Nations act before it is too late to save those who can still be saved. Six months have elapsed, however, and no action has as yet been taken. In the meantime it is reported that thousands of Jews continue to be murdered daily.

Outlines Misgivings; Asks Admittance of Jewish Delegation

"When first the conference, which is now to open in Bermuda, was announced, it was our hope that at least effective action would be immediately forthcoming on the part of the United Nations. These hopes are seriously disturbed by three developments;

- "1. Both our State Department and the Foreign Minister of Great Britain

have announced that the Bermuda Conference is to be primarily exploratory.

"2. At this writing neither the United States nor Great Britain has seen fit to call into consultation the representative organizations of the Jewish communities of their respective countries. Nor has either Government seen fit to invite delegations representing the organized Jewish communities of these two countries to participate in the deliberations to be held in Bermuda.

"3. There are the doubts aroused by the isolation of the Conference in a place completely inaccessible to the influences of public opinion or public personalities, except by Government permission.

"When millions of human beings have already been done to death, and the fact of their murder has been authenticated by the United Nations, the time for exploration has long since passed, and the time for action is long past due. Unless action is undertaken immediately, there may soon be no Jews left alive in Europe. In communicating these views to you it is our purpose at this time also formally to place before you the request that a delegation representing the Joint Emergency Committee for European Jewish Affairs be invited to the Bermuda Conference to present our views on the program of rescue to be undertaken for the Jews of Europe. It is our sincere hope that you, who have long had an intimate and, we believe, sympathetic knowledge of this problem, will lend your influence to insure that the Bermuda Conference may serve as the instrument of humanity in rescuing a defenseless people who are otherwise doomed to complete annihilation."

The letter was signed by Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress; Joseph M. Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee; Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith; Adolph Held, president of the Jewish Labor Committee; and Israel Goldstein, president of the Synagogue Council of America.

Dr. Weizmann Wants Palestine Given Major Consideration

The plea which Dr. Weizmann submitted to the Bermuda Conference in behalf of the Jewish Agency for Palestine urges that measures of rescue on the broadest possible lines be undertaken at once. While recognizing that others are suffering from Nazi brutality, the memorandum of the Jewish Agency states that "the Jews have been singled out for utter and complete destruction by the enemy."

In the search for havens of refuge for those who may be rescued from the Nazis, the Jewish Agency declares that Palestine should be given principal consideration. The Jewish community of Palestine is prepared to welcome the refugees and the latter "would feel themselves not exiled but persons returning home," the memorandum says. The priority of Palestine as a land of refuge is emphasized by the fact that it has already absorbed more immigrants from Germany and German occupied territory than any other country. Owing to the proximity of Palestine to the Balkan countries, the problem of transporting the refugees is also greatly simplified, the memorandum adds. Still another reason advanced in favor of Palestine is that the country offers immediate economic opportunities for 50,000 immigrants and ultimate opportunities for much larger numbers.

The Jewish Agency points out that its proposals can be implemented only by the abandonment of the policy contained in the British White Paper of May, 1939. That policy would permit the entry of only an additional 30,000 immigrants into Palestine and after April, 1944, would bar Jewish immigration entirely. The White Paper is denounced by the memorandum as part of "the discarded program of appeasement in international relations which characterized the period immediately prior to the War."

AMERICAN JEWISH ASSEMBLY CHANGES NAME TO "CONFERENCE"; AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE JOINS

NEW YORK, April 19.(JTA)-- Without in any way affecting the character, purpose and objectives of the American Jewish Assembly, convening of which was authorized by the Pittsburgh Conference of National Jewish Membership organizations, the executive committee of the Assembly this week voted to change the name from American Jewish Assembly to American Jewish Conference, it was announced here today.

At the same meeting, the executive committee announced that the application of the American Jewish Committee for admission to the American Jewish Conference was accepted, making a total of 43 organizations now affiliated with the Conference. Allan Strock, of the American Jewish Committee, represented that organization at the meeting of the executive committee. The National Council of Young Israel and the Rabbinical Council of America were voted places on the executive committee. Adherence to the Conference by the National Council of Jewish Women was also announced.

Issuance of the call for the American Jewish Conference to the communities in the name of the executive committee and of the 43 organizations affiliated with the Conference was authorized by the executive committee. The rules for the election of delegates to the American Jewish Conference were adopted by the executive committee after ratification of the report of the Conference's National board of elections. July 1 is the tentative date set for the convening of the American Jewish Conference, with the election of the 375 delegates to be chosen from the communities by the democratically convened conference of representatives of organizations in the communities and regions to take place no later than June 14, 1943.

DR. SCHWARTZ RETURNS TO LISBON TO DIRECT JDC RELIEF WORK IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, April 19.(JTA)-- Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, chairman of the European executive council for the Joint Distribution Committee, announced during a press conference today that his organization was fully prepared to march behind the victorious Allied armies in North Africa, to relieve want and suffering among the civilian populations.

Dr. Schwartz is returning within a few days to his post at the European headquarters of the Joint Distribution Committee in Lisbon from where he plans to go immediately to North Africa to pave the way for the arrival of two relief directors which the JDC is dispatching to that territory.

DIRECTOR OF JEWISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PUBLISHES BOOK ON JEWISH FARMERS IN U.S.

NEW YORK, April 19.(JTA)-- "Our Jewish Farmers," a book dealing with the history of the Jewish farm movement in the United States, written by Gabriel Davidson, director of the Jewish Agricultural Society, was published here yesterday. It reveals the progress of the farm movement among American Jews and the role played by the Jewish Agricultural Society in that movement.

The book contains the story of early Jewish attempts to found farm colonies in this country, which culminated in the present rising community of 100,000 Jewish farmers and agriculturists who are today contributing to the science and economy of American farming, and are producing food for an America at war.

OVER 2,000 POLISH JEWS IN BRITAIN AWAIT INDUCTION INTO POLISH FORCES

LONDON, April 19.(JTA)-- Between two and three thousand Polish Jews will be called up for service with the Polish forces in Britain by June 1, it was learned here today. This is a result of the order by the British Ministry of Labor making all Allied nationals in Britain subject to induction into the British forces if they have not joined their respective country's army by the end of May.