

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y.

VOL. X. NO. 204

Wednesday, September 1, 1943

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE CONCLUDES DEBATE ON PALESTINE; DISCUSSES JEWS IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, Aug. 31(JTA)-- Following conclusion of a full-dress debate on Palestine, which was marked by a powerful plea by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver for an unequivocal declaration by the gathering favoring the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth, the Conference entered its second phase today, devoting the entire afternoon session to discussing the fate of the Jews in Europe.

Depicting the tragedy of European Jewry were two rabbis from Germany who now live in this country. One of them, Rabbi Max Nussbaum from Berlin, related his experiences under the Nazis, while the other, Rabbi Jacob Hoffman from Frankfurt-on-the-Main, expressed the hope that the United Nations will establish a post-war order in Europe which will make anti-Jewish activities impossible. The session was also addressed by Rabbi Irving Miller of the World Jewish Congress, by Louis Siegel of the National Jewish Workers' Alliance, and by Dr. Joseph Tennenbaum, vice president of the American Federation of Polish Jews.

The delegates also heard an appeal from the Representation of Polish Jewry reviewing in details the sufferings of the Jews in Poland and asking the Conference to heed the call of the surviving "desperate souls" and secure for them immediate help and rescue. The appeal urged the Conference to undertake the following steps immediately:

1. Impel the Allied Nations to issue an immediate categorical warning to the German people that they will be held to strict accountability unless the slaughter of the Jews in Poland is brought to an end.
2. Appeal to the Allied Nations to obtain the release of all Jewish women and children from Poland, this to be done with the cooperation of the neutral governments.
3. Undertake all the necessary steps to secure and assure immediate shipments of food and clothing to the ghettos of Poland.
4. Intercede with the Allied Nations for the recognition of Jews in the ghettos, the concentration and labor camps as civilian internees, entitled to regular help from the International Red Cross which is granted to all other civilian internees.
5. Appeal to American Jewry to send funds to the Jewish Underground movement in Poland, for immediate rescue work among the Jews in the ghettos.

"The fate of our brothers and sisters lies in your hands," the appeal said. "You are in a position to save them from brutal destruction. Destiny so willed it that you, breathing the air of freedom in the United States, may become immortalized as the saviors of your people in the darkest hour of their history."

Dr. Silver Is Chairman Of Palestine Committee; Presidium Elected

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, co-chairman of the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs, who last night emphasized that there can be no compromise on the Zionist demand for a Jewish Commonwealth, was today elected chairman of the Palestine

Committee of the Conference. Robert P. Goldman, of Cincinnati, former president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, was elected vice-chairman. Meyer Weisgal of the Jewish National Workers Alliance, was elected secretary.

The Conference today also elected a presidium of fourteen. Stephen S. Wise, Henry Monsky, Joseph Proskauer and Adolph Held were designated as members at large. The other ten members are: Judge Louis Levinthal, Rabbi Israel Goldstein, Hon. Carl Sherman, Herman Hoffman, Mrs. David deSola Pool, Edgar Kaufmann, Leon Gelman, Chaim Greenberg, Adolph Rosenberg. The tenth seat is reserved for the nominee of the Conservative Religious Bloc.

With the Palestine issue constituting the major point of disagreement between the various groups at the Conference, the Committee on Palestine lost no time today in drafting a declaration to be submitted to the general session as soon as negotiations over the final text are concluded within the committee. The groups taking exception to the text of the declaration in its present form, which includes a demand for the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth, are the American Jewish Committee and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. The Jewish Labor Committee announced that it is taking no stand on the issue of the Jewish Commonwealth since its members are divided in their attitude on this question.

#### Conference Hears Impressive Pleas for Jewish Commonwealth

In the course of the debate on Palestine last night, the Conference heard a number of prominent Zionist leaders appeal for adoption of a resolution supporting the demand for the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, whose address was often interrupted by stormy applause, moved many of the audience of 3,000 to tears. He declared that "there is but one solution for our national homelessness which is the source of our millennial tragedy, and that solution is - a national home."

Dr. Silver cited statements by Lloyd George, British Prime Minister at the time of the issuance of the Balfour Declaration, and by the late President Woodrow Wilson to prove that they had in mind the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine when the Palestine mandate was entrusted to England. He also quoted one of Winston Churchill's pre-war speeches in which the British prime minister definitely expressed himself in favour of settling millions of Jews in Palestine.

"If the overwhelming majority of the American Jewish people favor the up-building of Palestine as a Jewish homeland, they should have the right to express their belief through this conference, Dr. Silver said. He appealed to the "non-Zionist, anti-Zionist and neutral" delegates to submit to the majority even if they disagree with some of the decisions which the American Jewish Conference may take. "In a democratic situation," he said, "unity depends not on unanimity, but on the willingness of the minority to submit to the decisions of the majority."

#### Jewish Labor Committee Declaration on Palestine

Speaking for the Jewish Labor Committee, Israel H. Goldberg emphasized that whatever differences of opinion there may be in the Jewish Labor Committee with respect to Palestine as a national Jewish objective, all agree that Palestine is able to admit large numbers of homeless Jews. All members of the Jewish Labor Committee also agree that Palestine must occupy an important place in any program

concerned with immediate help for Jewish victims of Nazism and with Jewish post-war reconstruction. In behalf of the Jewish Labor Committee he submitted the following program:

"1. We declare our solidarity with organized Jewish labor in Palestine and its demands regarding Jewish immigration and colonization of Palestine.

"2. We demand the immediate annulment of the White Paper, and the guarantee of free Jewish immigration, land purchase and colonization of Palestine.

"3. In regard to the ultimate constitutional status of Palestine, the Jewish Labor Committee takes no stand, because there is no unanimity among its membership on this question."

Rabbi Solomon Goldman, former president of the Zionist Organization of America, said that private expressions by the delegates to the Conference and the speeches at the opening sessions indicated complete agreement that the Jews were a people, that the White Paper should be condemned as an abrogation of the Balfour Declaration, that the upbuilding of Palestine during the past twenty-five years had been an achievement of the Jewish people and that there should be unlimited Jewish immigration to Palestine.

On these bases, he urged the Jews of the United States to defend the rights of the Jews in Palestine "as unequivocally as the Arabs of Egypt and other Arab countries speak for the Arabs of Palestine." Pointing out that in the 1873 years since the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D. there had only been the seven years between 1260 and 1267 when there had been no Jews in Palestine, he said "justice demands the return of Palestine to the Jew."

#### Delegates Urged to Avoid "Insensate Partisanship"

Rabbi James G. Heller, former president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, expressed the hope that "the Conference will not break on the rock of an insensate partisanship. "The decisions of this Conference," he said, "will test and reveal the character of the American Jewish Community." The reopening of Palestine to Jewish immigration he declared was a minimum symbol that justice will come to the world after the war. He called upon the United Nations to treat the Jewish problem in the same spirit displayed toward the Greeks after the burning of Smyrna in 1922 when Fridtjof Nansen repatriated large numbers of Greeks on behalf of the League of Nations.

Judge Louis E. Levinthal, president of the Zionist Organization of America, praising the speech of Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee, delivered at the Sunday evening session, for its emphasis on "the opportunities which exist for joint action," recalled the reversal of opinion by the late Louis Marshall in 1918 when the latter occupied the post that Judge Proskauer now holds.

He expressed the hope that discussions might lead again to the result that "those who thought they were poles apart" would discover "that the only thing dividing them is words and phrases."

#### SAMUEL ZEMURRAY NAMED CONSULTANT TO OEW; WILL KEEP POST ON FEPC

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31. (JTA)-- Samuel Zemurray, noted Jewish philanthropist and head of the United Fruit Company, has been appointed consultant to the Office of Economic Warfare to serve in an advisory capacity on export and import matters, Leo T. Crowley, Director of OEW, announced today. Mr. Zemurray has denied that he will resign from the Fair Employment Committee on which he represents Jewish interests along with Boris Shiskin, labor representative. He said that he would continue with the FEPC as long as he was physically able.

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FAIL TO CLOSE SPLIT IN BRITISH JEWRY; ASSOCIATION FORMS OWN FOREIGN COMMITTEE

LONDON, Aug. 31.(JTA)-- Last-minute efforts to close the split in the ranks of British Jewry have failed it was indicated today with the announcement by the council of the Anglo-Jewish Association that it will recommend to that body's general meeting, which is to be held Sept. 16, that the Association establish its own foreign committee.

Although the council urges that the new committee should cooperate with the foreign committee of the Board of Deputies, it, nevertheless, makes permanent the break between the Association and Deputies. For 65 years, until last month, the Board of Deputies and the Association had been represented on a joint foreign committee. The recently-elected Board, which is dominated by Zionists, voted to dissolve the joint foreign committee. Since then efforts have been made to reconcile the differences between the two groups, but they have apparently been unsuccessful.

Simultaneously, Lord Nathan, who has been a leading member of the Association, sent his resignation to the council, stating that although he favored continuation of the joint foreign committee, he would abide by the decision of the majority of the Board of Deputies. A statement by Leonard Stein, president of the Association, explaining the organization's stand on Palestine will be issued shortly, it was also announced today.

PALESTINE WILL SURPASS PRESENT ACHIEVEMENTS AFTER THE WAR, SAYS WEIZMANN

LONDON, Aug. 31.(JTA)-- When the war is over a new phase of Jewish reconstruction will be inaugurated in Palestine which will surpass the achievements of the past 25 years, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, declared last night addressing a dinner at the Dorchester Hotel in honor of Mrs. Irms Lindheim, American Zionist representative who came to England several weeks ago to aid in the Jewish National Fund campaign here.

Addressing an audience of 800 persons, representing all branches of the Zionist movement, Dr. Weizmann commenting on the American Jewish Conference, declared that "a gigantic effort has been started in America to achieve unity, and we may look forward to a concentrated effort both in Britain and America." Pointing out that "we are going through difficult days, not only as citizens of Great Britain, but as Zionists," Dr. Weizmann said "we are being assailed by many quarters, but despite the atmosphere created around Palestine, despite the threats in the press warning of armed conflict, we will go forward in our work and we will see the triumph, although perhaps not the final triumph, of our cause."

Prof. Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, asserted that the American Jewish Conference will not be a factor in Jewish life if it does not give a definite answer to the problem of Jewish homelessness. He warned against any lessening of Zionist demands.

SLOVAKIAN JEWS FORBIDDEN TO APPEAR IN STREETS; VIOLATORS WILL BE JAILED

ZURICH, Aug. 31.(JTA)-- All Jews living in Slovakia have been forbidden to appear in the streets in an order issued by the Minister of the Interior, it was announced today over the Bratislava radio. Persons violating this decree will be sent to concentration camps, the broadcaster said.

Meanwhile, the "Gardista," organ of the storm-troop organization, the Hlinka Guard, continues to complain that Slovakian Jews are being treated too mildly. An issue of the paper reaching here today carries an article charging that no action has been taken to halt the increased employment of Jews on Slovakian estates.