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CHURCHILL-WEIZMANN TALK IN LONDON REPORTED IN PALESTINE; ZIONISTS HOPEFUL

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Responsible Zionist circles today revealed that Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, was received by Prime Minister Winston Churchill in London prior to the latter's departure for the Cairo and Teheran conferences.

Great importance is attached to the Churchill-Weizmann meeting since it has been known that the British Prime Minister for a long time had hesitated to meet with Dr. Weizmann. It is believed that the recent presence in London of Gen. Smuts, Premier of South Africa, who is a great supporter of Zionist claims, is responsible for the fact that Churchill agreed to discuss with Dr. Weizmann a number of problems concerning the future of Palestine.

(The Jewish Chronicle in London today reported that Gen. Smuts, while temporarily replacing Churchill as chairman of the British War Council, met in London with Dr. Weizmann. The report added that Premier Smuts sent a cable to the Board of Jewish Deputies in South Africa declaring that he is "personally in touch with Dr. Weizmann" regarding the question of rescuing Jews from occupied Europe.)

In the light of the Churchill-Weizmann talk, Zionist leaders here consider last week's articles on Palestine in the London Times as the first step in the preparation of public opinion for the necessity of a new "partition scheme" as the only solution of the Palestine problem. The Times articles, while analyzing the attitude of the Jews and the Arabs toward the White Paper, suggested that Palestine can never be an independent state unless cooperation between Jews and Arabs is achieved. Zionist leaders here and in London, however, do not consider the new partition plan a solution of the Arab-Jewish problem. They point out that under this plan, the details of which are known here, no large Jewish immigration could be absorbed.

HULDA "ARMS TRIAL" CONCLUDED; PROSECUTOR ASKS FOR MILD PUNISHMENT

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The trial of five Jewish settlers from the Hulda colony who are charged with illegal possession of arms and munitions concluded today. The prosecutor demanded that all five be convicted, but emphasized that "the tragic experiences in Hulda," which has been destroyed by Arabs twice since 1929, "may result in milder punishment for the guilty."

Two other settlers, Jacob Galata and Jacob Hass, who pleaded guilty at the opening of the trial, today read a declaration in court stating that it was they who brought the arms in question to Hulda without the knowledge of any other settlers and that they alone knew the whereabouts of the arms. They explained that they are members of Hulda's security committee and were responsible for the defense of the settlement.

The defense attorney, David Goiten, pleading for acquittal of all the colonists, argued that the arms which the police discovered in Hulda were not intended for

attack, but solely for defense. He pointed out that when people like Sir Ronald Storrs, former Jerusalem District Commissioner, publish alarming articles predicting anti-Jewish disturbances in Palestine, it is to be expected that a settlement like Hulda, which suffered so much from previous Arab disturbances, should fear forthcoming riots, especially since it is surrounded by Arab villages and cannot even communicate by telephone with other sections of the country.

U. S. GOVERNMENT READY TO BACK ELEVEN PROJECTS TO HELP REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The Government of the United States is ready to back 11 projects to help refugees, it was disclosed by Assistant Secretary of State Breckenridge Long, testifying before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives.

The testimony, made public today, was given by the Assistant Secretary of State two weeks ago at an executive session of the committee, which is hearing testimony on the Baldwin-Rogers Bill which urges the establishment by the U. S. Government of a commission to plan the rescue of European Jews. Emphasizing that this country has admitted 580,000 refugees since the beginning of the Hitler regime, and is continuing to admit them at the rate of 100 a week, Mr. Long said:

"The historic attitude of the United States as a haven for the oppressed has not been stopped. It is carefully screened, but the door is open, and the demands for a wider opening cannot be justified for the time being because there just is not any more transportation. There are vacancies on the list of quotas, and any wholesome person who appears and applies for permission to enter the United States can, under the laws, and under the direction of the department of state, enter the United States.

Peace Treaties will Provide Aid for Refugees Returning Home

Long revealed that the United States and the United Kingdom have agreed on a declaration "concerning the return of the refugees to their homes after the war," and are urging the other European governments to endorse it. "That is a very important matter which will require the cooperation of our governments in the peace treaties," he told the committee. "It is one of those things you do not want to talk about. We do not want to talk about it now. But the Axis nations from which these people have been forced to flee must be forced by the peace treaties, and by the military if necessary, to allow these peoples, if they desire to, to return home."

The Assistant Secretary of State also detailed the efforts under way to enlarge the scope of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees. "The U. S. and Great Britain each pay one-half of the cost of any project which the Intergovernmental Committee decides upon as being possible of execution," he said, "and which is recommended and acceptable to both of our governments. Nobody knows what the costs of those projects will be, or where the activity will be. The administrative expenses of the Intergovernmental Committee are to be paid by the U. S. through a regular appropriation of Congress." Other nations would be invited to participate, he added.

Long did not endorse the Baldwin-Rogers Bill or disapprove it. He pointed out that an international agency already exists to handle refugees, and that is working with the United States Government. On the other hand, he said that "a repudiation of the cause of the Jews" would be "very unfortunate."

"I think," he said, "we must treat all persons irrespective of their race, religion or political beliefs, in the same way. I do not think the situation has arrived today, as evidenced by the fact that this committee is considering this matter formally, where something definite ought to be said concerning the Jews." Further hearings on the bill are expected next week.

REFUGEES WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE BRITAIN AFTER THE WAR, PARLIAMENT IS TOLD

LONDON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- A Home Security Ministry spokesman told the House of Commons today that the British Government was undecided on the "ultimate disposal" of adult refugees in the country.

Miss Ellen Wilkinson (Laborite M.P.) Parliamentary secretary in the Security Ministry, said in reply to a question that of the total of 277,169 refugees over the age of sixteen, 124,804 had been permitted to enter on condition they left by a date set by the Home Secretary.

"Their ultimate disposal," she explained, "is a matter of grave concern to the government. We do not want them to feel they are going to be thrown out immediately after the cease-fire. But it is impossible for the Home Secretary to commit himself now, because nobody knows what the situation will be then."

Rhys Davies, the questioner, declared: "We shouldn't like the government, having given asylum to these poor people, to repatriate them immediately after the war to a country where they are likely to be put in concentration camps again."

GERMANS BUILD HUGE FUNERAL PYRE TO INCINERATE POLISH JEWS, UNDERGROUND REPORTS

LONDON, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- An indication of the scale on which the Nazi massacres of Jews are still being carried out in Poland is given in a report received from underground sources by Emanuel Szerer, a Jewish deputy in the Polish National Council.

When the incinerator at the Majdanek "death camp" broke down for several days, the report discloses, hundreds of bodies of executed Jews piled up in the fields adjoining the camp until it became necessary for sanitary reasons for the Germans to build a huge pyre on the spot where the bodies lay.

Information reaching Polish official circles today discloses that the Germans tell western European Jews who are being deported eastward that they are bound for "labor in the East." A group of French Jews, passing through Warsaw, are reported to have asked persons at the station: "Where is the town of Treblinka, to which we are being sent for work?" It is only when they arrive at their destination that the deportees discover that Treblinka is an execution center rather than a labor camp.

JEWS IN RUSSIA ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THOUSANDS OF RELIEF PACKAGES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The vast majority of the food-and-clothing packages being sent from here to Jewish refugees in Asiatic Russia are being received by the persons to whom they are addressed, it is revealed here in hundreds of cables and letters from the refugees. About 10,000 such packages have already been sent from here by the Joint Distribution Committee working in cooperation with the Jewish Agency. The parcels are shipped by way of Tehran.

The Palestine Victory League for Russia announced today that it has received a check for \$1,600 from Peruvian Jews to be applied toward purchase of ambulances for the Red Army.

INCLUSION OF JEWISH MEMBER IN AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION TO PEACE PARLEY DEMANDED

MELBOURNE, Australia, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The Australian Labor Party executive committee has received a recommendation from one of its constituent bodies urging that the labor group go on record favoring the inclusion of a Jewish representative in the Australian delegation to the peace conference, it was learned here today. The recommendation will be discussed and voted upon at the forthcoming annual conference of the Labor Party which will convene in Sydney.

SOUTH AFRICA MARKS DAY OF PROTEST AND PRAYER FOR JEWS OF EUROPE

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Despite a teeming rain, thousands of Johannesburg Jews closed their shops and crowded into synagogues and an open air stadium to pray for the salvation of European Jewry and to demand action to bring about their rescue.

Marking a nation-wide Day of Protest, called by Jewish organizations, a monster mass meeting was held in the Wanderers Stadium here with Minister of Justice Colyn Stein, the Bishop of Johannesburg and other notables, Jewish and non-Jewish, participating. Similar meetings, on a smaller scale, were held in other principal cities of the Union.

Mr. Stein told the meeting here that it is imperative that the United Nations act immediately to save the Jews of Europe. He emphasized that the persecution of Jews was not merely a "Jewish question," but one which affected the entire democratic world, "since unless Nazism is destroyed, other nations will suffer as grievously as the Jews." C. H. Clayton, Bishop of Johannesburg, said that he brought a message of sympathy and solidarity from the Christian Church "which joins with you in mourning and in your determination that the enemy's plans be foiled." Bishop Clayton stated that he felt that the South African Government was not doing all it might to aid refugees and urged an unceasing fight against anti-Semitism, now and after the war.

JEWSH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA HONORS HARRY SCHNEIDERMAN

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- The Jewish Publication Society of America today made public a resolution paying tribute to Harry Schneiderman on his 25 years of service as editor of the American Jewish Year Book.

The resolution points out that Mr. Schneiderman "has won for himself a unique place in the annals of contemporary Jewish life. During this critical quarter of a century in Jewish history, he has watched the panorama of events, sifted them, and recorded them. He has been a faithful chronicler in Israel."

"Harry Schneiderman" the resolution continues, "is an editor by inner compulsion. It is his special talent. To his editorship he brings rich gifts of character as a man. He is modest, fair-minded and gracious. He possesses a keen insight into men and events. He is wise in his humility before the struggles, sorrows and accomplishments of his generation. He is sensitively aware of the meaning of the passing scene for the destiny of the Jewish people. He works not with scissors and paste-pot but with understanding, and with the fluent pen of the creative author. Hard work and tireless foresight are his constant companions. His friends are legion.

"Because of its happy association with Harry Schneiderman during these twenty-five years, because of its conviction that the American Jewish community has been most faithfully and devotedly served by him, and because of its honor and privilege and good fortune to know him as editor and friend, it has been resolved by the Jewish Publication Society of America to cause this statement of appreciation of his labors and achievements to be inscribed upon the pages of Volume 45 of The American Jewish Year Book."

SAMUEL ROSENFELD, NOTED JEWISH PUBLICIST, DIES IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 10. (JTA) -- Samuel Rosenfeld, former editor of the first Yiddish daily newspaper in Czarist Russia, "Der Fraind," and a member of the editorial staff of the New York Jewish newspaper "Der Tog," died here today after a prolonged illness. He was 74 years old. An ardent Zionist, Rosenfeld was one of the outstanding Jewish publicists of this generation. He came to the United States twenty years ago and had since been affiliated with the "Tog." He was the author of several books in Yiddish and in Hebrew, including a volume on Jewish history.