

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

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

XI. NO. 23 (26th year)

Friday, January 28, 1944

RESOLUTION ASKING JEWISH COMMONWEALTH INTRODUCED IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- A resolution urging the United States to take "appropriate measures" leading to the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine was introduced in the House of Representatives today with the support of leaders of both political parties.

The resolution, which was referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, does not specify what measures should be taken, but favors "free entry of Jews" into Palestine and advocates "full opportunity for colonization" by Jews in Palestine. Sponsored by the American Zionist Emergency Council and by the American Jewish Conference, the resolution was introduced by Representative James A. Wright (Penn. Dem.) and Ramulf W. Burton (Conn. Rep.)

Full Text of The Resolution

The full text of the resolution reads:

"Whereas the Congress of the United States on June 20, 1922, unanimously resolved, 'that the United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of Christian and all other non-Jewish communities in Palestine, and that the holy places and religious buildings and sites in Palestine shall be adequately protected,' and

"Whereas, the ruthless persecution of the Jewish people in Europe has clearly demonstrated the need for a Jewish homeland as a haven for the large numbers who have become homeless as a result of this persecution.

"Therefore be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the United States of America that the United States shall use its good offices and take appropriate measures to the end that the doors of Palestine shall be opened for free entry of Jews into that country, and that there shall be full opportunity for colonization, so that the Jewish people may ultimately reconstitute Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

Congress Leaders Support Proposal

Rep. John W. McCormack, majority leader, in a statement to the press declared: "This resolution expresses the policy of our country in the light of the stern realities of the present hour, and voices the desire of the American people that the Jews who were the first victims of Nazi terror shall be given the chance to enter their national homeland, to settle and work there in farm and in factory and to join with those Jews who have preceded them to continue to build a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

Rep. Joseph W. Martin, Republican floor leader from Massachusetts, in a statement also given to the press, stated: "The Palestine resolution meets with my hearty approval. This resolution is a reaffirmation of the established policy of the United States in favor of a Jewish National Home in harmony with the new and terrible realities with which the Jews of Europe are faced today."

SUPPORTS OF WAR REFUGEE BOARD DEFENDS ON PALESTINE IMMIGRATION, DR. SILVER SAYS

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- A statement lauding the resolution which was introduced today in the House of Representatives, urging the United States to take measures which would aid in the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine, was issued here by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

"The Palestine Resolution introduced in Congress is a great act in behalf of a great cause in a great and historic hour," the statement read. "All men of good will everywhere -- Jews and non-Jews alike -- will applaud and endorse the spirit of statesmanship and noble humanity which motivated the introduction of this Resolution."

Dr. Silver emphasized that the British White Paper which would close the doors of Palestine to future Jewish immigration "is not only a repudiation of an international obligation to which the United States subscribed, but it will interfere in a most outrageous manner with the rescue program of the War Refugee Board which the President of the United States has recently established. Palestine is the most likely and readily-available haven and shelter for these millions whom it is hoped to save from extermination," he added. "The work of the War Refugee Board will be doomed to failure were all previous efforts on the part of intergovernmental agencies if Palestine is again excluded from consideration as the major place for large-scale Jewish immigration."

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT ISSUES LAST IMMIGRATION SCHEDULE BEFORE WHITE PAPER GOES INTO EFFECT

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- The last immigration schedule to be issued by the Palestine Government before the terms of the MacDonald White Paper of 1939 go into effect was made public here today. It will permit the entry of 900 Jewish "principal grants" and their wives and children under eighteen in the three-month period ending March 31, 1944, the date from which Jewish immigration into Palestine will be barred under the White Paper.

The schedule issued today calls for the admission of a total of 2,900 principal grants, 100 of whom will be non-Jews. However, from the 2,800 Jewish total the Government has subtracted 1,900 visas for Jews who have entered the country illegally since April, 1939, and who were never charged against the 75,000 total allowed by the White Paper.

Although, about 30,000 of these 75,000 visas still have not been issued owing to war-time difficulties, the British Government announced last year that they would be made available at any time after March 31, 1944 when it is possible for Jewish immigrants to leave Europe for Palestine. It is not expected, however, that these unexpended visas will be issued at three-month intervals as has been the procedure up to now.

The present system was based upon the absorptive capacity of the country, and the three-month allotment of visas was termed the "Labor Immigration Schedule." In the future, however, all visas will come from the unexpended 30,000, and will be issued when Jews are released from occupied territory to come to Palestine, rather than on the basis of the need for labor within the country.

The term of office of Sir Harold MacMichael, Palestine High Commissioner, has been extended for six months, it was officially announced today. Sir Harold's term originally expired in March, 1943, and was extended at that time for one year. He has been in office since 1937.

HUNGARY CHARGE HUNGARY WITH DEPORTING 65,000 JEWS TO GERMAN-OCCUPIED POLAND

LONDON, Jan. 27. (JTA) — Czechoslovak official circles have today charged Hungary with deporting 65,000 Jews to occupied Poland, including 40,000 Jews from Carpatho-Russia, the part of Czechoslovakia now occupied by Hungary.

The charge was made to counteract the reports being disseminated from Budapest through neutral countries to the effect that Hungary is defying Nazi demands for a stricter anti-Jewish policy. The Czechoslovak Press Service emphasized that the 65,000 Carpatho-Russian Jews were deported from Hungary to Poland only recently. The other 25,000 Jews delivered to the Germans for deportation were Hungarian, it stated.

Officially the mass-deportation of the 65,000 Jews was called "a measure against undesirable foreigners," the Czechoslovak Press Service explained. This is because it did not include Jews whose ancestors have lived in Hungary since 1852 and who taxes there since 1872. "The Jews who are still living in Carpatho-Russia under German occupation are subjected to ill-treatment and are refused clothing and food which is the only domestic fuel obtainable," the Czechoslovak news agency emphasized. It added that all Carpatho-Russian Jews between 17 and 50 years of age are still being conscripted for labor service and sent to the Russian front. Many of these Jews have perished at the front, but others managed to cross to the Russian lines, the Czechoslovak statement said.

FRANCE UNDERGROUND WARMS "ARYANIZERS" THEY WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE AFTER THE WAR

LONDON, Jan. 27. (JTA) — The French underground has sent a letter to Vichy officials in charge of "aryanized" Jewish property warning them to advise persons wishing to buy such property that the transfers will be declared null and void after France is liberated. The letter, a copy of which was received here, points out that the officials fail to do so, they will be held responsible after the Germans are driven from the country.

The underground communication points out that the French Committee for National Liberation has voted to restore all possessions taken from Jews to their lawful owners as soon as hostilities have ceased. "In order to free yourself of financial responsibility," the letter continues, "you should furnish prospective purchasers with a document warning them of this risk incurred. Such documents will be demanded when the question of confiscated Jewish property is discussed after the war."

THE NATIONAL FUND ESTABLISHED IN PALESTINE TO ACQUIRE LAND; LAUNCHES \$400,000 CAMPAIGN

HAIFA, Jan. 27. (JTA) — An Arab National Fund which will serve Arabs as the Jewish National Fund serves Jews was established here today at a conference of Palestinian Arab Leaders.

The conference decided to raise \$400,000 for the acquisition of Arab land which may otherwise be purchased by Jews. The money will be raised by issuing a ten-year loan. The sum of \$50,000 was subscribed by participants at the conference. It was also decided that a levy of five cents be imposed upon every Arab in the Palestine villages as a contribution to the Arab National Fund. This special "voluntary" tax will be raised by the village leaders during the distribution of rationed sugar and flour.

As could be expected, the conference adopted a resolution demanding that the Palestine Government prohibit Jews from acquiring land anywhere in Palestine. The conference was under the chairmanship of the director of the Arab Bank, Akbar Hilal, who is a financial expert for the Arabs in Palestine and in the neighboring Arab countries.

CHURCH PEACE UNION CONDEMNS ANTI-SEMITISM; ASKS FOR LARGER REFUGEE IMMIGRATION TO U.S.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Resolutions favoring "a large increase" in refugee immigration to the United States within the present quota law and calling for the withdrawal of the British White Paper were unanimously adopted by the Church Peace Union at the annual meeting of its Board of Trustees this week, it was announced today.

A resolution condemning anti-Semitism in the United States was also adopted at the meeting. "The Church Peace Union," the resolution reads "again express its deep concern because of the growth of anti-Semitism in the United States, not only because it is anti-Christian and inhuman, but also because it has become and is the entering wedge of fascism, reactionism, and other subversive movements. It is used as a weapon to overthrow the civilization based upon the Bible and substitute for it a brutal hegemony."

The resolution opposing the British White Paper reads: "The Church Peace Union calls for the withdrawal of the White Paper denying immigration into Palestine after March 31, 1944. It ardently requests all humanity-loving people to demand liberal immigration into Palestine according to its absorptive capacity within the intent of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate of the League of Nations, and urges our Government to use its good offices to this end."

INSTITUTE FOR PALESTINE RESEARCH ESTABLISHED BY ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- An Institute for Palestine Research, headed by Dr. I. B. Berkson, noted educator and author, has been established by the American Zionist Emergency Council, it was announced today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the executive committee of the Council. The Institute has been created to collect and organize data relative to the establishment of the Jewish National Home in Palestine and to Zionist matters generally.

Dr. Berkson, who will direct this activity, has made notable contributions to education both here and in the Middle East for many years. From 1931 to 1935 he was a member of the executive of the Jewish Agency in Palestine. He is the author of many books. Assisting Dr. Berkson in this work is Dr. Benjamin Shwadran, who will specialize on matters involving the policy of the League of Nations and Great Britain. Dr. E. Weinryb, formerly Director of the Economic Research Institute of the Jewish Agency in Palestine, will concentrate on material relating to the development of the Jewish National Home.

FREIMAN RELINQUISHES PRESIDENCY OF ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF CANADA; SERVED FOR 25 YEARS

MONTREAL, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- After having served the Zionist Organization of Canada as president for the last twenty-five years, Mr. A. J. Freiman, of Ottawa, has been forced, on the orders of his doctor, to relinquish the leadership and the election of a new president will be one of the most important items of the agenda at the 27th National convention of the organization which will open here on Sunday and continue for two days, it was learned today.

FUNERAL SERVICES IN JERUSALEM FOR DAVID CORALNIK, ZIONIST PIONEER

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here yesterday for David Coralnik, 80, veteran Zionist. Representatives of Jewish institutions and prominent writers and journalists attended. Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog spoke.