

JEWISH FEDERATIONS ASSEMBLY OPENS WITH DISCUSSIONS ON WAR-TIME AND POST-WAR ACTION

PITTSBURGH, Pa. Feb. 4. (JTA) -- The General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds opened here today with group discussions on War and Post-War Planning and on other important problems concerning Jewish community life in the United States, including fund-raising, the fight against anti-Semitism and community organization.

Reports and recommendations of the group discussions will be presented to the General Session which starts tomorrow with an important report by Sidney Hollander, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, and with an address on post-war perspectives for overseas reconstruction and relief by Francis B. Sayre, political advisor to the Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Post-war plans for the American scene will be outlined by William Haber, assistant executive director of the War Manpower Commission.

Today's group sessions dealt with post-war planning by Jewish agencies in the fields of family welfare, child care, vocational training, care of the aged, health, educational, cultural and recreational needs. The group meeting dealing with Jewish community organization examined the question of relationships among local Jewish groups and community agencies. It also considered the development of sound co-operative relationships between local and national Jewish agencies.

The experience of Jewish welfare fund participation in local war chests and in independent campaigns during 1943 was reviewed at the panel dealing with fund-raising and budgeting problems. Fund-raising prospects for 1944 were surveyed and budgeting processes were explored in an attempt to outline ways of developing greater community understanding of the programs supported by the Jewish welfare funds.

The fact that the post-war period of readjustment may intensify racial antagonism in the United States was taken into consideration during discussions which dealt with civic-protective problems. The activities of Jewish organizations engaged in civic-protective work were analyzed.

POLISH GOVERNMENT APPOINTS MILITARY COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE ANTI-SEMITISM IN ARMY

LONDON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- The Polish Government today announced that a commission of three generals has been appointed by the Minister of National Defense to investigate the charges of anti-Semitism in the Polish armed forces. The commission will leave shortly for Scotland and other places where Polish forces are stationed.

The suggestion that Polish-Jewish leaders be included among the officials who will accompany Polish Premier Mikolajczyk to the United States is made in the "Polish Jewish Observer" published here. It is pointed out that Jewish representation in Premier Mikolajczyk's mission might be valuable for the Polish cause.

RUSSIAN PARTICIPATION IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES ANNOUNCED IN LONDON

LONDON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- The Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees today announced officially that the Russian Government has accepted its invitation to become a member. It was also announced that the governments of Egypt, India, South Africa, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Luxemburg have joined.

RESCUE OF JEWS FROM EUROPE MUST BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN MONTHS, PEHLE SAYS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- John W. Pehle, whose appointment as director of the War Refugee Board was officially announced today, told a press conference that the rescue job with which the War Refugee Board has been entrusted "must be done within months, or there may be no job to do at all." He emphasized that the Board has a short-term task of rescuing people whose lives are in immediate danger.

The main task of the War Refugee Board, he declared, will be to speed the flight of refugees from occupied countries through the underground. He named the American Joint Distribution Committee, the Hias and the World Jewish Congress among the organizations already at work on this job.

Private funds, including those of the American Friends Service Committee and the International Red Cross would be largely used, Pehle added. "There will be no difficulty in raising private funds" he predicted, noting that Hias has already made the first large contribution -- \$100,000.

Pehle would not estimate the number of refugees now escaping through the underground, though he said that Spain was receiving more than any other country. It would be one of the Board's tasks, he added, to remove refugees as soon as possible to places of temporary shelter like the camps already established in North Africa, and Mexico, in order to make room for newcomers. Asked whether there would be any attempt to move 3,000,000 Jews into Palestine, he replied that there are not 3,000,000 who could be rescued from Hitler's clutches.

The director of the War Refugee Board revealed that he would have a small professional staff, and would work largely through other branches of the government international organizations like the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and private groups. He has been granted a leave of absence from his post as assistant to Secretary Morgenthau.

The official announcement of Pehle's appointment said that "Pehle's work as director of Foreign Funds Control has afforded him wide experience in negotiating with members of foreign governments, as well as with the various departments and agencies of this government that will be called on to participate in the work of the War Refugee Board. His work in these fields has also brought him into close touch with the problems now before the board, and he is well known to the private agencies interested in relief work and the rescue of refugees."

American Jewish Conference Wants United Jewish Action in Rescue Work

NEW YORK, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Conference today announced that it has invited Jewish organizations engaged or interested in rescue work, who are not represented in the Conference, to join or cooperate with its Rescue Commission.

"The step was taken because of the need for pooling the energies and resources of American Jewry in the submission of programs of action to the newly created War Refugee Board and thus to eliminate duplication of effort and loss of time resulting from the presentation of conflicting and overlapping programs to the Government," the announcement said.

The action was authorized by the Interim Committee of the Conference at a meeting at the Hotel Biltmore last week. The Interim Committee gave the Commission on Rescue "full authority in its field of activities as defined in the rescue resolution adopted at the Conference."

LONDON, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, will appear before the Parliamentary Palestine Committee on Tuesday to deliver an address on Jewish demands in Palestine, it was reported here today.

The London Jewish Chronicle in an editorial today urges Zionist leaders in England to seek collaboration on the Palestine question with the Anglo-Jewish Association and with the American Jewish Committee. Quoting from the program of the American Jewish Committee adopted at its annual meeting last Sunday, the editorial says: "The American Jewish Committee has too often been written off by Zionists as enemies of our cause." At the same time, the article declares that Jewish rights in Palestine cannot be bargained away in a compromise with any group of Jewish leaders.

EGYPTIAN PREMIER PLEDGES NOT TO MEET WITH JEWS WITHOUT CONSULTING PALESTINE ARABS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Premier Nahas Pasha of Egypt, who has been conferring in Cairo with representatives of the various Arab countries in an attempt to establish a pan-Arab federation, has assured Palestine Arabs that he will not meet with Jewish representatives on a solution of the Palestine problem without first consulting them, it was learned here today.

This pledge came as a result of open dissatisfaction in Arab circles here with the interview the Egyptian premier gave the Cairo correspondent of the London Times last week, in which he said that he was ready to receive a delegation of Palestine Jews to discuss their place in an Arab union. Nahas Pasha's statement was published in the Arab press here just as Premier Nuri es-Said of Iraq was meeting with representatives of Palestine Arab groups in an attempt to form a unified delegation to represent them at the Cairo unity talks.

Meanwhile, another spoke was placed in the wheel of pan-Arab unity yesterday when the Lebanese president, Bechera el-Khoury told a press conference in Beirut that Lebanon would not agree to surrender her sovereignty to a "greater Syria," which would be composed of Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Trans-Jordan. Creation of such a Levant federation had been envisioned at the Cairo talks as the basis for the eventual pan-Arab confederation.

President el-Khoury is expected to confer in Beirut shortly with Nuri es-Said, who left here for Syria today following a breakdown of his negotiations with Arab leaders. It is understood that the chief stumbling block to formation of a unified Palestine delegation was the failure of the various parties to agree on an equitable distribution of representatives.

TWO EINSTEIN MANUSCRIPTS BRING \$11,500,000 IN WAR BONDS AT KANSAS CITY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. Feb. 4. (JTA) -- The two manuscripts donated by Prof. Albert Einstein to spur the sale of bonds for the Fourth War Loan were auctioned off here last night and brought \$11,500,000 at a rally where \$13,537,000 of bonds were sold. One manuscript is a copy by the scientist of his original theory of relativity, and the other is "the Bi-Vector Field," as yet unpublished.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT PROMISES TO CONSIDER CITRUS GROWERS PLEA FOR AID

JERUSALEM, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Chief Secretary J. V. W. Shaw of the Palestine Government promised a delegation of Jewish citrus growers today that the government will immediately consider their demands that it purchase 100,000 tons of citrus fruits at \$24 per ton in order to save the industry from catastrophe. The Chief Secretary asked the growers to submit suggestions to the government as to what it can do with the fruit it may purchase.

ARCHBISHOP SPELLMAN CALLS ON AMERICAN CATHOLICS TO COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM

NEW YORK, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Pointing out that bigotry "is a contagious, virulent disease" Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, in an article in the current issue of the American Magazine, calls upon all Americans to combat anti-Semitism and emphasizes that Catholics are bound by their religious teachings to cooperate in checking race hatred.

"In these days Catholics are frequently accused of anti-Semitism, and doubtless some Catholics are guilty of it," the Archbishop writes. "That anti-Semitism is wrong from a Catholic and humanitarian standpoint as well as from an American viewpoint has been demonstrated countless times, in countless ways, by countless persons, so that it may be jarringly repetitious to say it again."

Archbishop Spellman quotes statements made by Pope Pius XI, one in 1928, before Hitler came into power, and another made on July 30, 1938, to support this point. "All fair-minded Americans must oppose bigotry not only from a sense of justice but also from a sense of safety, for, if tolerated, it can be directed at any race or religion and then may rebound against all of them," he says. "If we incite, participate or connive in violence against our fellow-citizens, we are bad Americans. If we stir up, propagate or cherish race hatred, we are likewise bad Americans and traitors to American ideals."

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT ASKED TO INVESTIGATE ANTI-JEWISH PROPAGANDA IN QUEBEC PROVINCE

OTTAWA, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- A demand that a Royal Commission be set up to investigate anti-Semitic and other subversive activities in the province of Quebec was voiced in the Federal Parliament today by Fred Rose, one of the two Jewish members.

In his maiden speech, the Jewish deputy, who is a Labor Progressive member from Montreal, condemned anti-Semitism as a movement aimed against the unity of Canada. The anti-Jewish literature which is being disseminated in Quebec was a disgrace, he said.

FOURTH LIBERTY SHIP NAMED AFTER JEWISH LABOR LEADER LAUNCHED IN BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- The Liberty Ship Morris Sigman, named after the late Jewish labor leader and former president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, was launched here yesterday. This is the fourth Liberty Ship named after an American Jewish labor leader to be launched within the last two weeks.

PROF. COMPTON PRESENTED WITH JEWISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL AWARD

NEW YORK, Feb. 4. (JTA) -- Professor Arthur H. Compton, Protestant co-chairman of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, who was recently chosen to receive the annual award of the League of Fraternal and Benevolent Organizations of the Jewish Education Committee of New York, was presented with the award today at a luncheon at the Essex House. The award is given each year to the man who during the year, "had made the most significant contribution toward the promotion of human brotherhood." Last year the award was given to President Roosevelt.