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CONGRESSMAN URGED TO SEEK VIEWS OF WAR DEPARTMENT ON HOUSE RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- The suggestion that the War and State Departments be asked by the House Foreign Affairs Committee to give their views on the resolution demanding free immigration by Jews to Palestine and the ultimate establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth there, was made today by Republican Congressman Robert B. Chipperfield of Illinois, during hearings by the Committee on the resolution. He urged that the Foreign Affairs Committee "be considerably guided thereby."

Rep. Chipperfield made his suggestion following the testimony given this morning by K. S. Twitchell, consulting engineer of the Saudi-Arabia Mining Syndicate, who was the chief of the U. S. Agricultural Mission to Saudi Arabia. Mr. Twitchell warned of possible bloodshed if Palestine were "overcrowded." He said that the interests of 300,000,000 Moslems are involved in the resolution. "Do you believe that the American people would want their sons to die to maintain order among the Arabs?" he asked.

Questioned as to whether he thought that anti-Semitism might develop in the United States as a result of possible clashes between Arabs and American troops, Mr. Twitchell replied: "The troubles in Boston suggest this is a possibility." He urged that the Palestine question be deferred until after the war and suggested that refuge could be found for Jews in the Dominican Republic, in Portuguese West Africa, Cyrenaica, Ethiopia and Brazil.

President of Arab Group Testifies; Rebuked by Neumann

Faris S. Malouf, president of the Syrian-Lebanese Federation in this country, also expressed opposition to the Palestine resolution. He described the Balfour Declaration as "weak, ambiguous, and dishonest." He charged that the Declaration was a secret document secretly negotiated so far as the Arabs were concerned. "It ill behooves the United States to found any of its policies on such a document," he said.

Emanuel Neumann, re-appearing before the committee, said that Malouf's presentation was based on the premise that the Zionists want the Arabs to move elsewhere. "At no time in the long record of the Zionist movement," he declared, "has it ever been proposed to move the Arabs out of Palestine." He pointed out that Palestine's Arab population had increased, whereas that of Transjordan, where Palestinian Jews are barred, had not.

Neumann asserted that "among those who came forward and desired Jews to immigrate into Transjordan was Emir Abdullah himself." He said he had conferred with the Emir on this subject in 1939, but the plan fell through because of British disapproval. In rebuttal to suggestions that other refugees could be found for Jews, Neumann described the Jewish Territorialist Association headed by Israel Zangwill, which he indicated failed to find such refugees. "There is no suggestion on the part of the Zionists that the United States is expected to send an expeditionary force to Palestine,"

he declared. "There is a mandatory government which has assumed certain responsibilities. The peace-loving people living in Palestine are perfectly capable of maintaining internal security."

Rabbi Lazaron Opposes Jewish Commonwealth Clause

Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron of Baltimore, told the Foreign Affairs Committee that he opposed the part of the resolution dealing with the ultimate establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth, but indicated his support for the portion calling for free immigration and land purchase in Palestine. "Passage of this resolution," he said, "will give a direction to Jewish life for centuries, will inject emphases and biases that are potentially dangerous. It would affect the status of Jews who must live outside Palestine. Has Congress the right to take sides in an intra-Jewish matter?"

Rabbi Lazaron questioned whether, as Dr. Wise said yesterday, 90 to 95 percent of American Jews favor a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine. "The registered Zionists as listed in the American Jewish Yearbook for 1942-3 number 200,000," he said, adding that many members of Hadassah joined for its philanthropic work.

Rep. Will Rogers, disagreeing with Rabbi Lazaron, said the resolution is a political and military matter of grave importance to the world. "I don't agree that this is a purely intra-Jewish matter," he stated. "This is a matter for the entire country, for all people. It was made such by the Nazi persecutions. Congress should not be influenced by Zionist or non-Zionist positions among Jews."

Shulman Pleads for Full Resolution; Hearings Adjourned

Herman Shulman, testifying on behalf of the American Zionist Emergency Council, said: "The resolution must be adopted as a whole, because whatever rights the Jews have to free immigration and full colonization rests on the fact that the Jews 25 years ago were given a special right, a privilege, in that small part of the world."

Rep. John Vorys, Ohio Rep., asked Shulman whether the President and Secretary of State would not be in as good a position to press Britain for action on Palestine if no action were taken by Congress at all. Shulman replied by asking whether Congress did not feel some responsibility, since the White Paper constitutes, in his view, a violation of its own 1922 resolution. Rep. Will Rogers said it was necessary to pass the resolution as a unit, or not at all.

Rabbi William H. Fineschreiber, of Philadelphia, in testifying, said that he is opposed to the Jewish Commonwealth clause in the resolution, but favors the abrogation of the White Paper and free immigration into Palestine.

"Does the resolution mean, that all Palestine citizens have to be Jews, and Jews outside Palestine cease to be Jews, or does it mean a mixed pattern?" he asked. "Why not constitute all of Palestine into a Holy Land which neither the Jews nor the Arabs shall dominate politically," he suggested.

The Committee hearings were adjourned "subject to call by the Chairman," following testimony by Louis Lipsky who devoted most of his time to replying to the arguments of the opponents of the full resolution. Mr. Lipsky said "the strange and disturbing fact is that these Jewish advocates are not content with expressing their opinions in Jewish circles, but appear as crusaders determined to crush the hopes of the Jewish people."

Among those testifying in favor of the resolution today were Rep. Vito Marcantonio, American Labor Party Representative from New York, and Rep. Adolph J. Sabath, Chicago Democrat.

TERROR IN PALESTINE CONTINUES; TWO POLICE OFFICERS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED, IN HAIFA

JERUSALEM, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Palestine terrorists today wounded two police officers in Haifa. An attempt to assassinate them was made by unidentified persons who fired several shots at the two police officials, one of whom is a Palestine officer and the other a British constable serving with the Criminal Investigation Department. Both were taken to a hospital in serious condition.

Officials of the Palestine police are reluctant to give any information as to the results of their investigations in connection with bomb explosions in the Immigration Offices in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa last Saturday. The Palestine press is also refraining from speculating on the terrorist activities.

The Palestine Government announced that Col. Heron has been appointed Reconstruction Officer, to succeed Sir Douglas Harris as chairman of the government commission which is engaged in post-war economic planning for Palestine.

GESTAPO ARRESTS ALL JEWISH PATIENTS IN SANATORIUM IN FRANCE

LONDON, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- The Algiers radio announced today that German occupation authorities in France have arrested all Jewish patients in a sanatorium in Passy, Upper Savoy.

"Only one Jewish woman who was gravely ill after an operation, and had only a few more hours to live was left in the sanatorium," the broadcast said, adding that the money and belongings of this woman were taken by the German officer who supervised the arrests.

QUESTION OF SENDING RELIEF TO OCCUPIED COUNTRIES BEING REEXAMINED, SAYS STETTINIUS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Immediate relief for Nazi-occupied countries is a military question, Acting Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr. said today. He indicated, however, that the entire relief situation was being reexamined in the light of existing circumstances.

Asked at a press conference whether he intended to explore possibilities of sending aid to occupied Europe as contemplated in a resolution passed unanimously by the Senate yesterday, Stettinius stated that the State Department has deeply sympathized with efforts to send relief, but that it was necessary to realize that our primary object had to be the bringing of the war to a successful conclusion at the earliest possible moment. "We, therefore, have to consider any plan for relief in the light of whether it would help the enemy," he said.

DESECRATING RELIGIOUS PROPERTY MADE FELONY UNDER BILL PASSED BY NEW YORK SENATE

ALBANY, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- The Senate today unanimously passed a bill by Sen. Heller of Brooklyn making it a felony to desecrate religious property.

The Heller bill, which may be acted upon by the Assembly next Monday, specifies that any one who defiles, defaces, or otherwise injures religious vestments, any building or structure used as a place of religious worship, or any religious institution or cemetery would be guilty of a felony and subject to imprisonment up to three years.

LEADER OF ZIONIST YOUTH MOVEMENT IN BRITAIN KILLED IN ACTION IN ITALY

LONDON, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Lt. Asher Pearlman, a leader of the Zionist youth organization, Hahonim, in England, has been killed in action on the Italian front, it was announced here today.

MEDICAL MISSION, FINANCED BY JDC, LEAVES PALESTINE FOR YEMEN TO AID REFUGEES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Dr. Israel J. Kliger and three nurses will soon proceed from here to Aden to provide medical aid for Jewish refugees now in Yemen, it was announced here today. The mission is financed by the Joint Distribution Committee, which is also financing the immigration of 2,000 Yemenite Jews to Palestine. Two of the nurses are Yemenite Jewish girls.

Commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Youth Aliyah which has brought 10,000 Jewish children from Europe to Palestine since the Nazis came to power in Germany, Miss Henrietta Ssold today arranged a trip by a group of journalists to the colonies in Palestine where the youths are receiving training. It was pointed out during the tour that 1,850 of the Jewish youngsters who arrived here under the Youth Aliyah are now serving in the armed forces as volunteers.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MEDICAL AID AND CHILD CARE FOR JEWS IN EUROPE ESTABLISHED

NEW YORK, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- The board of directors of the American Ose Committee today announced that it has organized an advisory council of twenty-five Jewish physicians and welfare leaders to act in a consultative capacity on vital and urgent problems of projected medical aid and child care activities by the Ose among Jews in Europe.

At a meeting of the board, reports were submitted by Dr. A. J. Rongy, chairman of the American Ose, and Dr. L. Wulman, secretary, on the progress of the organization's activities in the United States, as well as on the establishment of new branches in Mexico, Uruguay and Argentina. The prospects for medical work in Palestine were discussed as well as the expansion of the Ose work in Europe, the rescue of abandoned and orphaned children, and cooperation in this country with the American Joint Distribution Committee on plans for medical relief for European Jews.

WORKS OF SHOLEM ALEICHEM PRESENTED IN UKRAINIAN STATE THEATRE IN KHARKOV

MOSCOW, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- A report from the liberated city of Kharkov published in the Moscow newspapers today states that the Ukrainian State Theatre there is now giving performances in the Ukrainian language of Sholem Aleichim's classical Yiddish drama "Tevye the Dairyman." This is the first time that the play is being presented in Ukrainian in Kharkov, although it had been given in central Asia during the last two years while the Ukrainian Theatre was located there.

ALL JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN ARGENTINA MOURN THE DEATH OF NATHAN GESANG

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 16. (JTA) -- Leaders in all walks of Argentine Jewish life attended the funeral of Nathan Gesang, president of the Zionist Federation. A Zionist guard of honor carried the casket, escorted by units of the Zionist youth organization Hanoar Hasioni.

Eulogies were delivered at the grave by the following Jewish leaders: Jacob Lutzky in behalf of the Zionist Federation, Dr. Mibashan in behalf of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, Moshe Edelman in behalf of the Chevrah Kadishah, Dr. Abraschkin in behalf of the Jewish National Fund, Dr. P. Lachman in behalf of the Friends of the Hebrew University, Max Glukman, in behalf of the B'nai B'rith, and Dr. Dubrovsky in behalf of the DAIA, the central Jewish representative body in Argentina.