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SENATE COMMITTEE TABLES PALESTINE RESOLUTION AT STATE DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today voted 12 to 8 to table the Wagner-Taft resolution on Palestine which asks for unrestricted immigration of Jews to Palestine and for the ultimate establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth there.

No action will be taken on the resolution during the present session of Congress, Senator Tom Connally, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, announced. He added that the State Department would issue a statement on the subject. He also revealed that his committee had acted pursuant to the State Department's feeling that action on the resolution now would be undesirable owing to the current international situation.

Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr. testified before the Foreign Relations Committee today, prior to the vote. Earlier in the day he received a delegation of Zionist leaders composed of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, and Dr. Israel Goldstein.

State Department Issues Statement Defining Its Attitude

A statement issued later in the day by the State Department emphasizes that the department considers passage of the Palestine Resolution at the present time "unwise." The statement reads:

"Resolution pertaining to Palestine have recently been before the appropriate committees of the Congress, and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations has inquired as to the attitude of the Department of State towards these resolutions.

"The Department has the utmost sympathy for the persecuted Jewish people of Europe and has been assisting them through active support of the work of the War Refugee Board and in every other possible way. The Department considers, however, that the passage of the resolutions at the present time would be unwise from the standpoint of the general international situation, and has so informed the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations."

BRITISH LABOR PARTY OMITTS "JEWISH COMMONWEALTH" FROM ITS RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE

LONDON, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- Representatives of various groups participating in the convention of the British Labor Party met here today and decided to eliminate the words "Jewish Commonwealth" from a resolution on Palestine which will be presented at the convention and substitute for them the words "Jewish Homeland."

The decision was a compromise between differing texts offered by several groups within the Labor Party interested in the future of Palestine. Some of the resolutions asked for the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth.

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CRITICISM OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT MOUNTING FOR INACTION IN RESTORING JEWISH PROPERTY

PARIS, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- Sharp criticism of the failure of the French Government to restore to the rightful owners, property seized by the Germans and the Vichy regime under racial and other discriminatory laws was voiced today in *Le Populaire*, organ of the French Socialist Party.

An article entitled "Ordinance of Disappointed Hopes" points out that the legislation for the restoration of confiscated property issued by the French authorities looks good in principle, but in practice it has given the Jews very little relief. The Government, the article charges, has taken no steps to tackle the major aspects of the problem. Each day that passes makes the recovery of property more difficult and more doubtful, the paper emphasizes.

The delay, *Le Populaire* continues, is also increasing the hardships of Jews who have been economically uprooted and cannot even begin to reorganize their lives. The restoration of property would take thousands off relief rolls and enable them to help less fortunate Jews, it argues. It also charges local authorities with moving very slowly in granting to Jews the authorization to resume business activities. Numerous cases are reported of delays of several weeks in registering with the tribunal of commerce and the police headquarters.

"The victims of ordinances and decrees of spoliation still have to seek means for resuming possession of what never ceased to belong to them," the paper writes. "They are tossed desperately in a morass of procedure. They encounter retainers of their property who, instead of discreetly vanishing, raise obstacles."

Government's Inactivity Causes Concern to Jewish Community

Emphasizing that the government delay has been the cause of considerable concern to the Jewish community, the paper estimates that over one-third of the adult Jews who survived persecution in France are now entirely dependent on relief and have no control over their property. It cites the following facts:

1. On October 16, the French Government issued an ordinance authorizing the Administration of Domains to restore property still in its possession to the Jewish owners. Most of the property which came into the hands of this government agency under Vichy measures had long since been disposed of, and the actual relief afforded by this decree is slight.
2. On November 15, another government ordinance ordered the restitution to Jews of properties and funds still in the possession of the provisional administrators appointed by Vichy's Commissariat for Jewish Affairs. Most of this property, too, was sold long ago. There, too, relief for Jews was almost negligible.
3. Another ordinance of the same date provided that Jews and others who were forced to leave their homes in connection with the war, or under duress, have the right to reclaim them. The ordinance, however, specified certain categories of tenants who could not be dispossessed. These exceptions cover at least 10,000 to 25,000 Jewish homes in Paris alone. It requires court action and cumbersome procedure to regain apartments and there are very few successful actions. The police and judicial authorities are in practice very reluctant to evict non-Jewish tenants to make room for Jews.

J.D.C. BUYS \$1,000,000 WORTH OF GOODS IN PALESTINE AND TEHERAN FOR JEWS IN POLAND

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- A second transport of lend-lease products, chiefly food and winter clothing, was acquired during the week-end by the Joint Distribution Committee representative in Teheran for shipment to Jews in the liberated part of Poland, it was reliably reported here today.

The transport, which cost \$700,000, will be sent to the Jewish relief committee in Lublin, headed by Dr. Emil Sommerstein. At the same time, it was also revealed here today that the JDC has ordered \$350,000 worth of Palestine products, including shoes and Palestine-made surgical instruments, for shipment to the Lublin Jewish relief committee.

AUSTRALIAN TRADE UNION COUNCIL ASKS GOVERNMENT TO ADMIT JEWS TO KIMBERLY

SYDNEY, Australia, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- The executive committee of the Australasian Council of Trade Unions today voted to ask the Australian government to withdraw its opposition to the project for establishing a Jewish settlement in the Kimberly section of north-western Australia by allowing mass-immigration of Jews there.

The labor body executive stated that it fully supports the project. It emphasized that Jews deserve a refuge in a democratic country and that Australia would only benefit from the foundation of a Jewish settlement such as the one proposed by Dr. I. N. Steinberg, head of the Jewish Freeland League, who is now in the United States.

The Anglican Bishop of Sydney, C. Pilcher, published a letter today in the Morning Herald stating that the government's rejection of the Kimberly settlement "eries aloud for reconsideration." Bishop Pilcher points out that Australia desperately needs population and development of its open areas, as well as the introduction of capital, with a consequent increase in internal trade.

In its lead editorial today the Herald says that only by such group settlement is it possible that remote and unpopulated areas, such as the Kimberlys, can ever be developed. "The scheme for a Jewish settlement has been given much study by all political parties and has received generous support from private citizens here and abroad, from public organizations, and from the West Australian government," the newspaper said. "The Federal Government can hardly be allowed to reject the scheme without an explanation or without comment."

Meanwhile, it was announced today that the Australian government has granted a permit to the Australian Jewish Society to bring to Australia 300 Austrian, German, Polish and French children between the ages of seven and 14. The children are in Switzerland awaiting selection and transportation.

LABOR LEADER WARNS AMERICAN ZIONISTS AGAINST BEING OVER OPTIMISTIC ON PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- A warning to American Jews not to be too optimistic regarding the outcome of the Zionist fight for a Jewish Palestine was voiced here today by Mordecai Bentov, leader of the Hashomer Hatzair party in Palestine and editor of the Hebrew daily newspaper Mishmar, who is on a visit to this country.

Addressing a conference of representatives of the Jewish press, Bentov said that Jews in Palestine are rather perturbed over the possibility that the British and American governments may reach an understanding with the Arabs through a partitioning of Palestine. "This would spell a serious defeat for our interests," he stated.

REVISIONIST LABOR GROUP OPPOSES TERROR, BUT HITS HISTADRUTH PLEA FOR JOB BAN

TEL AVIV, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- A nation-wide conference of the Revisionist labor organization, Histadruth Haovdim Leumith, adopted a resolution yesterday opposing all forms of terror as a means of achieving political and social aims.

Stressing that it has "done everything to clear the atmosphere in the homeland," the convention attacked the recent resolution adopted by the Histadruth, which called for the ousting of terrorist suspects from schools and jobs, as "a provocation and a camouflage to ignite civil war." The Histadruth resolution, it added, is aimed at "liquidating political and economic opponents."

Another resolution stressed that relations between Palestine Jews and England must be one of "mutual and friendly understanding between the Jewish people in its state in the historic homeland and Britain." The conference also urged formation of a unified Jewish leadership in Palestine.

JEWISH INDUSTRIALISTS IN PALESTINE DEMAND RECIPROCAL TRADE AGREEMENTS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- A foreign trade policy based on reciprocity was demanded today at the biennial meeting of the Jewish Industrialists Association.

The industrialists also asked facilities to enable them to acquire raw materials and equipment on terms which will make it possible for them to enter into international trade competition. The meeting urged the chambers of commerce, the merchants association and government authorities to consider the needs of local industry when importing goods.

JEWISH SCIENTISTS RECEIVE THREE OF SIX NOBEL PRIZES AWARDED IN NEW YORK CEREMONY

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- Three Jewish scientists were among the six recipients of the Nobel Prize who received the award yesterday at a dinner in New York, marking the first time the presentation of the prizes has taken place outside of Sweden.

The three Jewish winners are: Dr. Joseph Erlanger, who shared the 1944 prize for physiology and medicine with Dr. Herbert Gasser, head of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. Dr. Erlanger is professor-emeritus of physiology at Washington University, St. Louis. Dr. Isidore I. Rabi, professor of physics at Columbia University, who received the 1944 prize for physics, and Dr. Otto Stern, of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, who was awarded the 1943 prize for physics.

AARON HOROVITZ RE-ELECTED MAYOR OF CORNWALL; FIRST JEWISH MAYOR IN CANADA

CORNWALL, Ontario, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- Aaron Horovitz, prominent local clothing manufacturer, was re-elected Mayor of Cornwall by a substantial majority. Horovitz has gained the distinction of being the first Jewish mayor to be elected in Canada and has served the municipality as mayor for five consecutive years.

MENACHEM BRONSTEIN, HEBREW AUTHOR, DIES IN PALESTINE; WAS 85

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- Menachem Mendel Bronstein, 85, well known Hebrew author, who wrote under the pseudonym of "Mibashan," died here today. Born in Jassy, Rumania, Bronstein came to Palestine in 1914. A prolific writer, his last work, a Hebrew translation of Gulliver's Travels, has just been announced.