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RECONSTITUTION OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN HOLLAND PLANNED; JEWS ASKED TO REGISTER

BRUSSELS, Jan. 5. (JTA) — A call to all Jews in liberated Holland to re-constitute their communities was issued today by the provisional Committee for the Rehabilitation of Jews in Holland which has its headquarters here.

Thanking the Dutch people for the assistance given to Jews through the underground during the German occupation and welcoming the Allied armies, the appeal says:

"The remnants of the Jews in Holland must prepare themselves for the rebuilding of their world-famous communities which flourished on Dutch soil for three-and-a-half centuries, but were wiped out within two years by the hated bestial enemy. We call upon you to register with the Provisional Committee for the Rehabilitation of Jews in Holland. Help to build up once again our ancient communities and their institutions.

"We shall try to restore Jewish life," the call continues. "We shall establish a fund to alleviate distress. We shall get into contact with all organizations of Dutch Jews temporarily established abroad. Jews in Holland! Realize your duty to yourself, your families, to those large numbers of Jews who were forced to go elsewhere, to those shackled in prisons and slaving in concentration camps yearning for freedom! Only a large community will be able to act and to offer assistance!"

RUMANIA ORDERS CONSULATES ABROAD TO ISSUE VISAS TO JEWS DESIRING TO LIQUIDATE PROPERTY

BUCHAREST, Jan. 5. (JTA) — The Rumanian government today issued instructions to its consulates abroad to grant visas to denaturalized Rumanian Jews who may wish to come to Rumania to liquidate their properties.

The instructions provide that visas are to be issued even to those Jews who signed a declaration giving up their Rumanian citizenship. In addition to a Rumanian visa, an entrance visa from the Allied Control Commission is required for admittance to the country.

UNRRA "LEADS" MEMBERS OF ITS STAFF TO J.D.C. FOR RELIEF WORK IN FRANCE, ITALY, BALKANS

LONDON, Jan. 5. (JTA) — The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration has agreed to release, temporarily, a number of its staff members to work for the Joint Distribution Committee in France, Italy and in the liberated Balkan countries, it was reported today by Dr. Joseph Schwartz, European Director of the J.D.C., upon his arrival here to confer on the establishment of J.D.C. offices in Rumania and Bulgaria.

Dr. Schwartz met today with the directors of the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees which is cooperating with the J.D.C. in sending aid to Jews in Hungary, Northern Italy and other European countries. He also discussed various plans for coordinated relief activities with leaders of the Central British Fund for Jewish Relief and the Jewish Colonization Association.

1/7/45

WOMAN IN FRANCE BEQUEATHS FORTUNE TO J.D.C. TO AID AUSTRIAN JEWS

PARIS, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- A fortune of between two and three million francs has been bequeathed by an Austrian woman of the protestant faith to the Joint Distribution Committee to be used to aid Austrian Jews, it was learned today.

Officials of the probate court of the Alpes-Maritime department notified the Paris office of the American relief agency of the bequest, made by Mlle. Marie Louise Willner-Hofteufel, who died in a sanatorium at Vance on May 15, 1944. In explaining her reason for bequeathing her estate for Jewish relief, she declared "I have taken the decision to leave my fortune for the aid of those who I feel are the poorest among the poor because they are persecuted for their faith."

JDC officials here were surprised by notification of the bequest, since to their knowledge, Mlle. Hofteufel had never had any contact with the relief organization. They said that on the basis of the executor's report, the estate was valued at between two and three million francs, principally in cash, jewelry and personal effects in France, and jewelry and cash in both Swiss and New York banks.

POLISH EXILE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERING BILL MAKING ANTI-SEMITISM CRIMINAL OFFENSE

LONDON, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- The Polish government-in-exile is considering adoption of a bill making anti-Semitic propaganda a criminal offense, Premier Tomasz Arciszewski said today in a statement to the press. Such legislation has been introduced in the Polish National Council by the Jewish deputies Dr. Ignacy Schwarzbart and Emanuel Szerer.

Arciszewski stated that if Jews are to enjoy full equality in post-war Poland, they must be admitted freely to all positions in political and economic life and must be given every chance for employment in the government service, factories, mines, other industries and in agriculture. "There can be no barrier between Jews and Poles in Poland," he continued, "and the government over which I preside will make no discrimination whatsoever."

HOUSE GETS BILLS ASKING SUSPENSION OF IMMIGRATION; PROBE OF RACE HATRED URGED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Rep. A. Leonard Allen of Louisiana and Stephen Pace of Georgia today introduced bills to suspend immigration of aliens into the United States from the end of the present war until the number of unemployed persons in the United States is less than one million.

Meanwhile, a resolution authorizing the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization "to study the basic problems affecting post-war immigration and naturalization" was referred to the Committee on Rules yesterday. Rep. Samuel Dickstein of N.Y. introduced the measure yesterday.

Rep. Will. L. Dawson of Illinois today introduced a resolution to create a special committee to make a full and complete study of race relations in the United States.

Rep. Dickstein also introduced a measure urging creation of additional "free ports" for refugees in the United States and, simultaneously, presented a concurrent resolution providing for the restoration of property confiscated by the Axis, which went to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and a concurrent resolution "declaring it to be un-American to participate in activities to create racial or religious disunity." This measure went to the Judiciary Committee.

SEN. TAFT INTENDS TO RE-INTRODUCE PALESTINE RESOLUTION AT PRESENT SESSION OF CONGRESS

NEW YORK, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Senator Taft of Ohio, one of the sponsors of the Palestine Resolution, intends to re-introduce the measure in the present session of Congress, it was revealed last night by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, who recently resigned as co-chairman of the Zionist Emergency Council.

Dr. Silver, addressing a press conference, bitterly attacked Dr. Israel Goldstein, Dr. Nahum Goldmann and Dr. Stephen S. Wise charging them with sabotaging efforts to secure passage of the resolution by Congress. He denied the charge that he had contravened any decisions of the Zionist Emergency Council and quoted from the minutes of the organization to prove that the Council was not satisfied to have the Palestine Resolutions shelved and that it wanted "persuasive influence to be brought to bear upon the Administration in Washington to change its mind" with regard to its objections to the resolution.

"Dr. Wise strenuously objected to this line of procedure," Dr. Silver declared. "He did not want the President 'annoyed' by our insistence and our persuasion. He reluctantly yielded to the pressure of the Council and thereafter, far from using his energies vigorously to persuade the Secretary of State and the President, he seriously interfered with me in carrying out the clear mandate of the council."

Replying to Dr. Goldstein's criticism of him, Dr. Silver reminded the President of the Zionist Organization of America that on Dec. 5, he, himself, sent a telegram to every member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee urging them "to report out favorably the Palestine Resolution for adoption by the present Congress." Having sent this telegram, Dr. Goldstein appeared in Washington forty-eight hours later to urge the same senators not to pass the resolution, Dr. Silver charged.

Secretary of State Misquoted on Roosevelt's Sentiments

Dr. Silver produced a letter which he received from the State Department describing as "not quite in accordance with the record of the Secretary of State" a report submitted by Dr. Nahum Goldmann of a statement made to him and to Dr. Wise by Secretary Stettinius, in which Mr. Stettinius allegedly declared that President Roosevelt was "in a bad mood" because the Zionists were pressing for the passage of the Palestine Resolution, and that the President "felt that the Zionists had lost confidence in him." The document from the State Department read by Dr. Silver to the press conference showed that the Secretary of State did not use the words attributed to him by Dr. Goldmann.

The National Administrative Council, ruling body of the Zionist Organization of America between conventions, will meet on Sunday in an all-day session at the Hotel Commodore here to discuss various Zionist problems. The executive committee of the Brooklyn Zionist Region, largest in the United States, adopted a resolution last night deploring the resignation of Dr. Silver from the Zionist Emergency Council, affirming "unshakable confidence in the leadership of Dr. Silver and his policies," and calling upon the Administrative Council of the ZOA to take the necessary steps to call a special ZOA convention for the purpose of dealing with the internal crisis.

DR. WISE REJECTS SILVER'S CHARGES OF "MINIMAL ZIONISM" AND "BACKSTAIRS DIPLOMACY"

NEW YORK, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Dr. Stephen S. Wise, speaking tonight on the subject of "Zionist Division and Strife - Could They Have Been Avoided?" replied to the charges by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver that he is for "minimal Zionism," considers the Zionist movement of America "a piece of personal property," and is injuring the

zionist cause through a policy of appeasement, timidity and backstair diplomacy.

"I would not know how to define 'minimal Zionism', unless it have reference to non-Zionism, or to the non-Zionist viewpoint which not even Dr. Silver would accuse me of sharing," Dr. Wise said. "We are all maximal Zionists -- that is to say, we believe in the cancellation without delay of the lamentable White Paper. We believe in unlimited Jewish immigration, and Jewish resettlement under Jewish control, at the earliest possible moment in Palestine. We believe in the reconstituting of Palestine, the Jewish National Home, as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth."

Emphasizing that it was he who insisted that Dr. Silver become co-chairman of the Zionist Emergency Council, Dr. Wise pointed out that this in itself is the best answer to Dr. Silver's charge that he, Dr. Wise, seeks to maintain monopoly over the American Zionist movement.

"More serious than this absurd charge," Dr. Wise continued, "is the characterization of my service to the Zionist cause as 'shtadlanut', which has been an egregious failure for many years, and not only as far as Zionism is concerned."

"If that charge be true and valid, I am not fit to serve as chairman of the Council, to which chairmanship I have again been elected. A shtadlan in other days was a person who, before the days of democratic movements, democratically organized and democratically led, sought, by indirection and by personal and publicly unsupported exertions, to secure exceptional favor from those in power. If true, the charge were grave indeed. Whether it is true or not, I can safely leave it to my fellow-Jews and to leaders of the political life of my country to decide. Jewish history will take care of this and other calumnies now levelled against my head.

"Finally, there is the most far-reaching accusation of all, namely, that the speaker is responsible for the failure of the Senate to adopt the Palestine Resolution. Now the facts may, and in truth must, be told. After a regrettable experience in the Spring of the year, when the resolution was halted by the insistence of the War and State Departments, the officers and members of the Emergency Council reached the unanimous decision -- the co-Chairman, Dr. Silver, concurring -- that no attempt should be made to bring about the adoption of the resolution unless the State Department previously gave its approval. That approval was withheld; and the disapproval was thrice repeated. Again and again the Emergency Council resolved not to press for the adoption of the resolution in either House, in view of the circumstance that the State Department saw fit not to give its approval. In persistent and never-ceasing contravention of the unanimously-reached decisions of the Emergency Council, Dr. Silver moved forward and sought to bring about the passage of the resolution, which he had every reason to know was for a time, and for reasons that had been made clear, disapproved by the State Department and in friendly terms even by the President. In the end, the resolution was defeated."

YIDDISH SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE CONFERENCE OPENS IN NEW YORK; DISCUSSES JEWISH CULTURE

NEW YORK, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Problems of Jewish cultural life in the United States will be discussed at the three-day annual conference of the Yiddish Scientific Institute which opened here today attended by 200 delegates from various Jewish organizations.

At the opening session today, the conference adopted a declaration pledging "to enrich Jewish life in America with the life-giving spirit of Jewish creativity." The conference also pledged to help in the cultural restoration of Jewish life in devastated European countries. Principal speaker at the opening session was Prof. Harry J. Carman, Dean of Columbia College.