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JTA

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106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.UNDERSTANDING ON "PALESTINE CLAUSE" EXPECTED BY TRUSTEESHIP COMMITTEE TOMORROW

SAN FRANCISCO, June 4. (JTA) — Failure of the Big Five conferees to reach a final agreement on the Soviet request for omission of the so-called "Palestine clause" from the trusteeship proposal for mandated areas resulted in the postponement of a meeting of the trusteeship committee scheduled to take place this morning.

The meeting was postponed until Wednesday, when it is hoped that an understanding will be reached by the big powers, both with regard to re-wording of the clause and on the question of independence of people in colonial territories and mandated countries.

BRITAIN CHARGED WITH FACILITATING PRESENCE OF ARAB DELEGATIONS AT SAN FRANCISCO

LONDON, June 4. (JTA) — The charge that the British Government, appeasing the Arabs, facilitated the presence of Arab delegations at San Francisco, but excluded Jewish representation there, is made today by Harold Laski, noted economist and a leader of the British Labor Party, in an article cabled to the Overseas News Agency in New York. Mr. Laski also predicts that the present British policy may lead to "a transfer of the scene of Jewish massacre from Central Europe to the Middle East."

"No one can say that the Arab states, at least Iraq and Syria, were helpful to Britain in the war," Laski writes. "It is common knowledge that a large influential party in Egypt was pro-Axis in sympathy until the Germans and Italians were defeated in Africa. The necessity for military action in Iraq and Syria by Britain to defend the lines of communication from the attack which must have been envisaged and was intended to aid the Axis powers, who had bribed Arab leaders in both countries, is still in our memories. Nor must we forget the large-scale, half-hidden Axis propaganda in Palestine, of which the Mufti was the chief agent and to which the main British reply seems to be maintenance of the infamous MacDonald White Paper of 1939 and refusal to withdraw it even after the need to appease the Arabs on strategic grounds has largely passed away."

"No one knows better than Churchill and Eden that almost all the help, both in men and materials, they received from Palestine during the European war was the outcome of Jewish effort. Yet it is hard not to interpret British policy, at this time, toward the Jews, despite all the fine rhetoric by Churchill about the White Paper when it was published, except upon the assumption that the Jews are once more to be sacrificed and offered upon the altar by buying the goodwill of the Arab people's despite all solemn pledges."

"It is the British Government which facilitated the presence of the Arab states, including Arab Palestine, which is not a state, but excluded Jewish representation at San Francisco. It is the British Government which agreed to discuss the colonies there, with all the repercussion this involves regarding the position of Palestine, despite the pledge to the unrepresented Jews that this would not affect

their hopes built on the Balfour Declaration. Britain must be aware that behind a facade of parliamentarianism in its pathetically crude form each Arab state today is an oligarchy of exploitation of the many fellaheen by the few effendi and often absentee landlords.

"It is intelligible that Churchill should be unwilling, in his famous phrase, 'to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire.' It looks as though he is not equally unwilling to assist in liquidation of French interests in the Middle East and a little later to see a transfer of the scene of Jewish massacre from Central Europe to the Middle East. Why Syria and Iraq should be regarded as fit for the freedom and self-government which Churchill continues to deny to India, I do not know. I can only say that the price he and his colleagues seem willing to pay for Arab good-will regarding oil and lines of communication is too high. For that good-will is not substantial today and will not continue longer than Ibn Saud and his allies see no alternative.

"As they bought appeasement during the war, so are they buying appeasement after it. The cost is likely to be paid immediately by the Jews. But in the long run it will be paid by the poverty-stricken peasants in the Middle East who will be denied the chance of that increasing standard of civilization which is so long overdue."

#### RESIDENT BENES INVALIDATES ALL FORCED SALES OF PROPERTY IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

PRAGUE, June 4. (JTA) -- A decree issued here by President Eduard Benes of Czechoslovakia invalidates all Nazi-forced deals and provides the foundation for the return of Jewish property to the rightful owners, although very few Jewish survivors remain to claim it.

The full text of the decree, carried in today's newspapers, says that "all contracts, transactions, judicial decisions regarding mobile or immobile private or public property are invalid, if undertaken after Sept. 27, 1938, under pressure of occupation, or political, or racial or national persecution."

The Czechoslovak Government is greatly perturbed over the anti-Jewish and fascist conditions still prevailing in Slovakia and is planning measures to remedy the situation. It realizes that seven years of a fascist regime in Slovakia, which intimately collaborated with the Nazi government, has left a grave heritage, and a stupendous educational task faces the government in order to revive the democratic spirit in liberated Slovakia.

The correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed today by high government officials that all factories which previously belonged to Jews and were confiscated by Germans will be administered by the state and will be returned as soon as ownership is established.

(In San Francisco, Jan Masaryk, Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, in a statement today, said that he favored that a large part of the property belonging to Jews murdered by the Nazis should be used to reconstruct shattered Jewish communities. Stating that he believed that it is the duty of non-Jews to make recompense to the Jews for the sufferings they have endured, Mr. Masaryk said that the reconstruction aid "is the least we can do in order to wipe out that deep and bloody stain on our civilization.")

#### TRANSNISTRIAN KING COMMUTES DEATH SENTENCES OF WAR CRIMINALS WHO MURDERED JEWS

BUCHAREST, June 4. (JTA) -- The death sentences imposed on May 23 on twenty-nine war criminals, including several responsible for the massacre of tens of thousands of Jews in Transnistria, were commuted to life imprisonment today by King Michael.

## GOVERNMENT AGENCIES PRAISED FOR COOPERATING WITH JEWISH RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS

NEW YORK, June 4. (JTA) -- Revealing that since Pearl Harbor more than \$2,000,000,000 had been contributed by the American people for local social services, welfare of the armed forces and overseas relief and rehabilitation, Isidore Sobeloff, president of the National Conference of Jewish Social Welfare, gave high praise last night to the cooperation of governmental and quasi-governmental agencies in the field of overseas relief and rehabilitation work of Jewish voluntary agencies.

Mr. Sobeloff spoke at the conference of Jewish social service and welfare work which is now taking place at the Y. M. H. A. here, attended by more than 400 representatives of Jewish welfare agencies in Greater New York. "The assistance which our Jewish agencies have received through the good offices of the War Relief Control Board in the field of fund-raising has been matched in other areas, too, and we are indebted to the War Refugee Board, the UNRRA and the American Red Cross for countless instances of vital aid in the task of feeding, rescuing and re-establishing victims of the great European upheaval," he said. "These agencies have been gracious enough to report that the Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine have been tremendously helpful to them in furthering their humanitarian programs."

Irwin Rosen, chairman of New York City Post-war Planning Commission, addressing the conference today, said that both governmental and private welfare agencies will be hard-pressed to meet the post-war needs of New York City residents. He predicted that there would be a greater concentration of community organizations in the interest of greater efficiency, and that this general trend would be for further development in the post-war period. Other principal speakers at today's session included Kurt Heiser, Dr. John Slawson, Dr. Ira Eisenstein and Philip Bernstein.

## PESSIMISM CONCERNING FUTURE OF PALESTINE IS GROUNDLESS, SAYS UPA HEAD VISITING COUNTRY

JERUSALEM, June 4. (JTA) -- There is no ground for the pessimism prevailing among Palestine Jews concerning the future of the country, Dr. James G. Heller, president of the United Palestine Appeal of the United States, declared today.

Dr. Heller, who arrived here last week, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that all reports reaching Zionist leaders -- but which cannot be revealed -- indicate that a solution of the Palestine problem favorable to the Jews is in the offing. The solution might be postponed owing to the complicated situation in the world, he added, but we must have a little patience, because not a single one of the factors concerned has changed its mind concerning Palestine."

The United States Government, Dr. Heller said, favors the Jewish cause and will do everything possible in accord with the British Government, but the present world situation, especially in the Levant, calls for caution on all sides. When Dr. Weizmann recently submitted a demand for creation of a Jewish state to Prime Minister Churchill, he was aware that the majority of U. S. Jewry back the Biltmore Declaration, which calls for immediate creation of a Jewish Commonwealth, the UPA head asserted.

Dr. Heller disclosed that he plans to remain in Palestine for about three months in order to make a thorough investigation of conditions here and a study of financial measures necessary to further develop the country. Referring to the situation within the Zionist organization, he said that a world Zionist congress was certainly desirable, but would not be possible for, at least, a year.

\$200,000 TO FINANCE REFATRIATION OF 250,000 POLISH JEWS IN USSR SOUGHT HERE

NEW YORK, June 4. (JTA) — The American Federation for Polish Jews, at the closing session of its 36th annual conference last night, announced the initiation of a campaign to raise \$3,000,000 for the resettling on Polish soil of a quarter of a million Polish Jews now in the Soviet Union.

The convention also adopted resolutions demanding free and unrestricted Jewish immigration into Palestine and the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth there; called on Great Britain to expedite the transfer to Palestine of the six hundred Polish Jews interned on Mauritius and urged that the United States permit the 984 refugees now in Oswego, New York, to remain here under the immigration quotas. Dr. Joseph B. Kampman was re-elected president of the Federation.

AMERICAN MIZRACHI CONFERENCE SUPPORTS MEMORANDUM OF JEWISH AGENCY TO BRITISH CABINET

NEW YORK, June 4. (JTA) — Support of the demands of the Jewish Agency embodied in a memorandum submitted to the British Government last month, asking, among other things, for the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth, was voiced last night at the closing session of the three-day conference of the Mizrahi Organization of America held at the Hotel New Yorker.

The conference also resolved to ask the American Zionist Emergency Council to reorganize its ranks by inviting the leaders who resigned from the Council to return. The resolution emphasized that the Mizrahi will be forced to withdraw from the Council if those who resigned are not recalled. Principal speakers included Rabbi J. L. Friedman of Palestine, who is a member of the executive of the Jewish Agency, and Sam Gelman, president of the organization.

PIONEER WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION CELEBRATES TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY, COLLECTS \$90,000 FOR PALESTINE

NEW YORK, June 4. (JTA) — The twentieth anniversary of the Pioneer Women's Organization was observed here yesterday at a celebration in the Hotel Commodore attended by 1,200 members of the New York Council of the organization, who were addressed by Gershon Agronsky, editor of the Palestine Post, who is now on a visit to this country, and Bebe Idelson, a woman labor leader of Palestine.

Mrs. Alexander Kahn, chairman of the Council, speaking at the gathering, reviewed the work of the organization and announced that during the first nine months of the current fiscal year a total of \$90,000 had been obtained to aid the activities of the Pioneer Women in Palestine. Money obtained here, she said, will go to the Matsath Hapaloth, the Working Women's Council in Palestine, and to the Child Rescue Fund for refugee children. The Pioneer Women in Palestine, she said, currently are building twenty-five homes for these children and are planning a central babies' home in Haifa.

R. ATKINSON, CAPLAN RECEIVE "BRANDEIS AWARD" FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO HUMANITY

NEW YORK, June 4. (JTA) — Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, chairman of the Christian Council on Palestine, and Maurice W. Caplan, of the Bethlehem Steel Company of Baltimore, each received a gold medal—the Louis D. Brandeis Award of the Jewish Forum, 27-year-old Anglo-Jewish literary monthly—at Town Hall, last night. The medals were presented for outstanding service to humanity.