

Tuesday, November 20, 1945

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

BEVIN BREAKS SILENCE, HITS BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S NEW POLICY ON PALESTINE

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 19. (JTA) — Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, in a speech delivered tonight at the convention of the Zionist Organisation of America here, broke the silence he has maintained since his arrival in this country, and delivered a scathing attack on the new policy on Palestine enunciated in London by Foreign Secretary Bevin.

Although speaking with a great deal of restraint, he bitterly criticized Bevin for his statement last week in the House of Commons, and, more particularly, for his interview with the press which followed.

Emphasizing that he has devoted his life to the integration of Zionist fulfillment with the best interests of Great Britain, Dr. Weizmann said that he still believes in this identity of purpose. At the same time, he said he considers the statement by Bevin as nothing but "another document added to those which seek to repudiate the original solemn covenant of 1917 between Great Britain and the Jewish people."

Declaring that the British Foreign Secretary, in speaking subsequently to the press, "took care that the world should not be misled by the few courteous phrases in the official document which sought to mitigate the hard blow," Dr. Weizmann said:

"And in what spirit does the Foreign Secretary approach the Palestine problem and its relation to the Jewish people? He sounds a warning to the helpless, destitute and despairing remnant of European Jewry, stretching out its hands for the bare essentials of life: 'If the Jews want to get too much at the head of the queue' they face the danger of another anti-Semitic reaction. What does it mean, 'getting too much at the head of the queue?' A simple request for survival, which is all that the Jews of Europe mean by their hunger to get to Palestine? Is it 'getting too much at the head of the queue' if, after the slaughter of six million Jews, the remnant of a million and a half implore the shelter of the Jewish homeland?"

"What a sorry epitaph the new declaration of policy seeks to write over the graves of six million of our dead. The soil of Europe is saturated with their innocent blood. It is also impregnated with the foul seeds of hate. Into that earth, infected with every form of economic, political and physical malady, new seeds are being sown now. Does the Foreign Secretary of Great Britain believe that his peculiar admonition to Jews not 'to get too much at the head of the queue' will not be seized upon by those who still cling to the perverted ideals of Nazism?"

Takes Issue With Bevin on Rebuke to Jewish Agency

Taking issue with Mr. Bevin's rebuke to the Jewish Agency for its request for 100,000 certificates and for its refusal to accept a grant of 1,500 out of the balance of the White Paper quote, Dr. Weizmann said that throughout the war the Jewish Agency kept appealing to the compassion of the world for aid to the Jews of Europe to enable them to escape.

The Jewish Agency, Dr. Weizmann pointed out, "tried every stratagem for rescue. But the records disclose a lamentable lack of help on the part of those in power,

11/20/46

and what was done was too late and too little. It might, perhaps, have been possible to exercise patience if the death-rate did not continue so appallingly high. There were so few Jews left that each of them is doubly precious to us. When the war was on, we were told by the democracies that the millions of Jews had to perish because there was no way to reach them. Now we are told that the survivors must wait until another agency will establish the exact measure of help they will require."

Assails Bevin's Distinction Between "Jewish State" and Jewish Home"

The leader of the Jewish Agency expressed amazement at the assertion by Bevin in the House of Commons that Great Britain "never undertook to establish a Jewish State" but "did undertake to establish a....home." It is true, Dr. Weizmann said, that in the Balfour Declaration and in the Mandate there is no explicit mention of a Jewish State; but it is quite incorrect to say that the promise referred merely to the establishment of a "Jewish home".

Pointing out that even taking the term "home" at its lowest political and moral value, it is certainly something which one should be able to enter without a certificate, or the prior consent of a third party, Dr. Weizmann declared:

"I believe that I had some part in the negotiations that led up to the Balfour Declaration. I also shared in the subsequent efforts for the implementation of that covenant between Great Britain and the Jewish people. It is, therefore, not inappropriate for me to say that the attempt to establish a distinction between the terms Jewish State and Jewish National Home is purely arbitrary and without foundation in fact. That essential of nationhood was understood by every responsible statesman who shared in the Balfour Declaration and in the documents that succeeded it. The National Home was regarded as a transitory which would be permitted to grow organically through immigration and settlement into a Jewish State or Commonwealth."

Speaks of Inquiry Commission; Calls for Self-Discipline

Referring to the establishment of the Anglo-American inquiry commission, the world Zionist leader drew attention to the fact that the aim of Zionism is not merely to solve the Jewish refugee problem. "It never was," he stated, "nor is the refugee problem limited to Europe. Any survey of the number of Jews who will have to find a home in Palestine must also take into account the frightful position of the Jews in Oriental countries. The recent events in Tripolitania and Egypt show how precarious is the life of minorities whose future depends on the temporary good-will or ill-will of the peoples among whom they live."

Dr. Weizmann pointed out that Zionism strives to save not merely individuals, but to safeguard the very survival of the Jewish people. He stressed that the Jewish community in Palestine is "our pride and strength." At the same time, he called for restraint and self-discipline. "Violence," he said, "is the antithesis of Jewish morality. It is a weapon which we Jews have steadily abjured."

Expressing his conviction that the Jewish development of Palestine will continue despite all obstacles, and that the Jews in Palestine will create their own absorptive capacity from which the whole Middle East will benefit, Dr. Weizmann concluded with an appeal to the U.S. "for help and assistance" and by expressing thanks to President Truman for his request that Britain immediately admit 100,000 Jews to Palestine.

TESTIFIES BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE RESOLUTIONS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19, (JTA) -- Secretary of State James F. Byrnes testified today before a closed session of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee concerning the several Palestine resolutions now before the Senate. The contents of his testimony was not divulged, but it was announced that the committee will meet again next Monday to continue discussion of the Palestine measures.

CURFEW WILL BE LIFTED TODAY IN TEL AVIV; QUIET PREVAILS THROUGHOUT PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Nov. 19. (JTA) — The curfew proclaimed by the military authorities in Tel Aviv will be lifted beginning tomorrow. Palestine is peaceful, with no outbreaks reported from any part of the country, although a broadcast by the secret British radio, which is believed to be operated by the Haganah, indicated that the Jews were not given up the struggle for their aims.

The broadcast, referring to the Acting High Commissioner's decree providing the death penalty for arms bearing, said that "every Jew will prefer to suffer the death penalty rather than leave his people without defense." Citing the recent anti-British riots in Tripoli, the speaker said that Jews knew what awaited them if they were defenseless.

Meanwhile, Acting High Commissioner Shaw indicated today that the Tel Aviv municipality would be held responsible for the estimated \$800,000 damage incurred during the outbreaks there on Wednesday and Thursday. Following a visit yesterday to Tel Aviv, Shaw declared that "it will have to be considered how to cover" the damage. He pointed out that the destroyed government offices in the city had been established for the benefit of the local population and that most of the employees were Jews.

The British destroyer Wenston anchored in Haifa late yesterday, at the same time that six Jewish refugees arrived there aboard a Danish vessel. About 100 refugees are expected here from Bulgaria on Thursday.

INLET OF 266,238 JEWS ADMITTED TO PALESTINE SINCE 1933, HOUSE OF COMMONS TOLD

LONDON, Nov. 19. (JTA) — A total of 266,238 Jews were admitted to Palestine as "legal immigrants" from January 1933 to the end of September 1945, it was announced today in the House of Commons.

The announcement was made by Philip J. Noel-Baker, Minister of State, who emphasized that the majority of the immigrants were refugees from European countries. He said that the British Government has no statistics with regard to the number of Jews admitted during the same period to England, since aliens are not classified by their race or religion. Asked how many Jewish refugees were admitted during the same period to the United States, he replied that he had no information on the subject.

ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION HAILS BRITISH GOVT. ENDEAVORS TO FIND PALESTINE SOLUTION

LONDON, Nov. 19. (JTA) — The Anglo-Jewish Association today issued a statement expressing appreciation of the Government's endeavors, in cooperation with the United States, to find a solution of the Palestine problem, but regretting that the statement of policy by Foreign Minister Bevin fell "far short of promising speedy, drastic action" to aid the surviving Jews of Europe.

The Association offered its cooperation to the Government, and expressed the hope that despite the complexity of the Palestine problem, a solution can be found which will satisfy the hopes and expectations engendered by the Balfour Declaration.

Habbi Israel Mattuck, spiritual leader of the Liberal Synagogue here, yesterday hailed the Bevin proposals as giving substantial grounds for hope of increased Jewish immigration into Palestine in the future, and welcomed its affirmation that Jews are entitled to homes and rights in various lands. He said that the quota of 1,500 Jewish immigrants monthly was too small, however, and urged that discrimination between Jews and other immigrants stop.

11/20/45

ROMAN JEW PROTEST AGAINST ANTI-SEMITIC DISTURBANCES; ASK GOVERNMENT TO ACT

BUCHAREST, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- A protest against the anti-Semitic incidents which occurred during the royalist demonstrations that took place here on Nov. 8 was registered today by the Federation of Jewish Communities in Rumania in a letter sent to Premier Petros Groza and Minister of the Interior Teohari Georgescu. The letter demanded severe punishments for participants, citing the need to prevent similar disturbances in the future.

Resolutions rejecting any proposal that might hinder free Jewish immigration to Palestine and the establishment of a Jewish State were passed at a huge protest meeting here last night addressed by representatives of all Jewish groups in Rumania.

REACHES AGREEMENT WITH UNRRA ON ESTABLISHING WORKSHOPS FOR DISPLACED JEWS

FRANKFURT AM-MAIN, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- An agreement with UNRRA with regard to the establishment of OET workshops in the camps for displaced persons both in the American and the British zones was signed today by Dr. David Lvovitch, vice president of the OET Union, who spent several weeks in Germany visiting the camps. Letters were exchanged with the Joint Distribution Committee and the British Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad regarding cooperation in the American and British zones respectively.

The training will include vocational as well as agricultural activities. Sewing machines, tools, raw materials and farm implements will be sent to the camps from the USA and England for use by Jewish artisans among the displaced persons and in OET training courses and workshops. Experienced instructors will be sent from the USA, France and Switzerland, and a number of instructors will be selected from among the displaced persons.

ROBINSON INVITED TO ACT AS JEWISH EXPERT AT NUREMBERG WAR CRIMES CONFERENCES

NEW YORK, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- In response to an invitation from the office of Justice Robert Jackson, United States Chief of Counsel, Dr. Jacob Robinson, head of the Institute of Jewish Affairs and international legal expert of the World Jewish Congress, is flown to Nuremberg to participate in the conference preparatory to the trial of the principal war criminals, it was announced here today.

Dr. Robinson will attend the trials as an expert observer on behalf of the World Jewish Congress, and the Joint Committee on War Crimes established in London by the World Jewish Congress, the American Jewish Conference, and the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT ASSISTS JEWISH COMMUNITY TO OBTAIN WINTER FUEL FOR NEEDY

SOFIA, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- The problem of supplying needy Sofia Jews with fuel this coming winter was eased today as a result of a government order authorizing the Jewish community council to purchase coal from the Pernik mines at a very low price. The coal is also needed for the public kitchens maintained by the community.

Rabbi Abram Blum, representing the Chief Rabbinate of Palestine and the World Jewish Organization, arrived in Sofia today. After consultation with relief organizations here, Rabbi Blum will proceed to Britain on a relief mission and hopes to visit Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay.

11/20/46

MEETING OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS WILL BE HELD IN DETROIT; WILL VOTE ON ADVISORY BUDGETING

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- The board of directors of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, at a meeting here, voted unanimously to approve the decision of its executive board to have its member agencies vote on the national advisory budgeting proposal at the next General Assembly which may be held in Detroit, Dec. 11, 1946, it was announced today.

The board directed the Council to expand the work of its social planning department in order to advise and keep communities informed of important developments in Jewish health services, the care of the aged and chronically ill, case work and other matters. A review of community developments throughout the country revealed that over a score of cities are engaged in developing new plants and programs, both on a local and regional scale, for the care of the aged and the chronically ill, and that several are raising capital funds for these purposes. Advisory committees will be set up to assist the Council staff in the development of this social planning service.

The board reviewed capital fund campaigns being launched by national and overseas agencies, and the need for coordinating and integrating these drives on a national and local level. In view of the plans for raising unprecedented sums for both local and overseas needs, the board authorized the appointment of a special committee to develop maximum cooperation between the Council, in behalf of its member communities, and the national and overseas agencies in planning and conducting fund raising.

Planning for services for the tuberculous was given special attention. The board authorized a study to be made to bring up to date the survey of the national Jewish tuberculosis agencies and institutions which the Council made in 1938.

Hadassah Opposes National Budgeting; Says Zionist Program May Suffer

NEW YORK, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- The Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America, today made public the text of a resolution adopted at its recent convention, expressing opposition to "national budgeting". The text reads:

"Whereas the National Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds has by action of its executive committee decided to resubmit a proposal for the institution of National Budgeting at its forthcoming General Assembly, and Whereas we believe such a proposal would affect the democratic pattern and development of the American Jewish Community by vesting authority in a small central committee which could never provide an accurate cross-section of Jewish opinion as is now represented in local budgeting committees, and Whereas we view with concern any proposal that might endanger and hinder the full implementation of the Zionist program in Palestine.

"Be it therefore resolved that, although we appreciate the fact-finding services rendered by the Council of Welfare Funds and Federations to the Jewish communities and favor the continuance of these functions, National Hadassah in Convention assembled must record its opposition to the proposed national advisory budgeting and urge its constituent chapters to convey their opposition to their respective Welfare Funds and Federations."

DETERMINED LIVING CONDITIONS FOR GERMAN JEWS DEMANDED AT MUNICH MEETING

MUNICH, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Better living conditions for German Jews were demanded at a meeting of the Central Committee of Bavarian Jews by Dr. M. Gruenberg and Rabbi I. Lazarovsky, leaders of the committee. The speakers urged a new settlement of the Palestine problem to meet Jewish requirements. They condemned the present policy as giving too much influence to the Arabs.

11/20/45

NEW YORK BOARD ADOPTS \$1,375,000 BUDGET FOR 1946; INSTITUTES SPECIAL SURVEY

NEW YORK, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- The executive committee of the National Jewish Board, at a meeting yesterday, adopted a \$1,375,195 budget for 1946 which is \$145 less than its 1945 budget.

The committee also decided to institute an independent survey to guide its future program of service to community centers "and to the American Jewish community." The survey, which will take about a year to complete, will be made under the direction of Dr. Oscar Janowsky, professor of History and International Relations at City College of New York.

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE SENDS \$500,000 WORTH OF GOODS TO JEWS IN POLAND

NEW YORK, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Supplies valued at \$500,000 will be shipped by the Jewish Labor Committee, through UNRRA, to the Central Committee of Polish Jews in Poland, it was announced here today. Included are clothing, food, medicaments and books.

Adolph Held, chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee, also announced that over \$500,000 worth of supplies have already been turned over to the UNRRA shipping office in New York. The goods were obtained as a result of a campaign by the Committee among unions and other labor organizations.

EUROPEAN JEWS SEND RELIEF SUPPLIES TO JEWISH COMMITTEES IN EUROPE

MONTREAL, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Relief supplies for the Jewish communities in the European countries were sent from here last week by the United Jewish/Refugee Council, an affiliate of the Canadian Jewish Congress, according to an announcement today by Saul Hayes, national executive director.

Seventy-five cases of relief supplies were sent to the Jews in Poland. Another shipment of 120 cases was sent to Belgium and a third shipment is destined for the Jews of Yugoslavia. These shipments form part of the \$1,500,000 relief program undertaken by the Canadian Jewish Congress.

CHAPLAIN JOSHUA L. GOLDBERG PROMOTED TO RANK OF COMMANDER

NEW YORK, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Navy authorities today announced the promotion of Chaplain Joshua L. Goldberg to the rank of Commander.

Commander Goldberg holds the post of Assistant District Chaplain of the Third Naval District. He joined the Navy at the outbreak of the war and toured the front lines of the European theatre. Prior to being commissioned in the Navy, he served as rabbi in Astoria, Long Island. He is a graduate of the Jewish Institute of Religion and is well known as a lecturer and linguist.

CANADIAN ZIONISTS CONDEMN NEW DELAYS IN SOLUTION OF PALESTINE PROBLEM

MONTREAL, Nov. 19. (JTA) -- Strong condemnation of British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin's program for Palestine was voiced here by an emergency meeting of the United Zionist Council of Canada, representing all Zionist parties.

A resolution approved by the meeting stated that the appointment of another commission of inquiry will only serve to delay the solution of the vexing Jewish problem, and that slight concessions which allow a trickle of Jewish immigration are inadequate under present conditions.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION