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U.S. JEWS AFFECTED BY PALESTINE WHITE PAPER, ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE IS TOLD

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- The Anglo-American Inquiry Committee, now in session here, was told today that the British White Paper affects the rights of American Jews and constitutes a violation of the Anglo-American pact of Dec. 3, 1924, which guarantees to citizens of the United States all the rights and benefits included in the Mandate for Palestine.

At the same time, the committee heard testimony that American Jews have invested in Palestine about \$155,000,000 and are ready and eager to increase their investments if they are not hampered by the existing White Paper regulations, which restrict Jewish immigration and land acquisition in Palestine.

Testifying for the American Jewish Congress, Rabbi Irving Miller pointed out that the Palestine Government applies the White Paper restrictions to American Jews. "Under the White Paper of 1939, the equality of American citizens with respect to Palestine has been utterly destroyed," he said. "As long as administrative policies based on the White Paper prevail, only those Americans who are not Jews - whatever interpretation be given to this term - can settle in Palestine or acquire land in the greater part of that country. American citizens who happen to be considered by the Mandatory Power as of Jewish faith or descent may not do so."

Rabbi Miller appealed to the committee for "a chance for Jews to try Palestine for a few years," all other attempted solutions during the last 2,000 years having failed. He said it was a matter of "life and death" for Jews to enter Palestine freely and attain permanent security. Sir John Singleton, British chairman, said that he appreciated the point, but commented that the course of action to be recommended by the committee might lead to trouble, and that the committee could not shut their eyes to such possible future "troubles."

Question of Security of Jewish Commonwealth Raised by British Members

Lord Morrison, Labor peer, asked Miller whether he had given any thought to the task of who would be responsible for defending a Jewish Commonwealth if established in Palestine. Would it, he inquired, be the Jews or the British or the United States, or a combination of the three, or the United Nations Organization. If a commonwealth were proposed, he declared, it would be essential that no risk be taken of a breakdown through attack by men of ill will.

Miller said that "we ask for no greater privilege than the United Nations Organization will grant to any other small people in the world. Either there will be security for all, or for none." He pointed to the case of Albania and Luxembourg, and Judge Hutcheson interposed the names of Lebanon and Syria.

Richard Crossman, Labor member of Parliament, asked Rabbi Miller why he concentrated on the immigration issue in Palestine, and excluded from criticism the immigration laws of England and the United States. Miller said that Crossman, by his

question, only supported his argument that Jews can not rely for permanent solution of their difficulties on the promises which have been made to them. He pointed to the difficulties inherent in the position of Jews entering either Great Britain or the United States and to the careful couching of President Truman's recent directive restoring immigration quotas suspended during the war. He then contrasted this with the welcome accorded Jews entering Palestine.

Szold Testifies on Role of American Jews in Transforming Palestine

Robert Szold, vice-president of the Zionist Organization of America, testified today that American Jews invested a total of \$155,000,000 in Palestine, and said that of this sum, more than \$110,000,000 was sent to Palestine as gifts through major Jewish organizations in the United States and about \$45,000,000 were private Jewish investments.

Given proper political conditions, he said, Palestine faces a period of tremendous commercial and economic development with production for world markets. He substantiated this assertion with figures showing the important role of Jews in developing Palestine's economy. The Jews of America, he stated, played a dominant part in the transformation of Palestine.

Asked by British committee member Wilford Z. Crick about conditions favorable for Palestine development, Szold replied that the White Paper should be abolished and Jews given complete freedom to immigrate. He added that prices were now too high and should be controlled, that Palestine industry needed modern machinery and raw materials and that today the Palestine manufacturer and business man could not buy American products, such as necessary machinery, because he was hampered by British sterling bloc restrictions and difficulties in getting import permits.

International Loan for Palestine Development Is Wanted

In response to questions, Szold said the Palestine banking situation was inadequate because there was no central bank to help individual banks over temporary emergencies and each bank had, therefore, to maintain over-large cash reserves. He hoped some of the money necessary for Palestine development would come through an international loan, possibly from the Import-Export Bank of the United States after the Bretton Woods monetary and financial agreements were in operation.

Asked by Crick about the division of funds as between Jews and Arabs, Szold said that the Jewish-controlled Anglo-Palestine Bank had about one half of the 71 million pounds deposited in Palestine banks at the end of 1944. The amount of money in Arab hands was large and had grown since the war, he added.

Asked as to the possibility of merging the two closed and separate economies, Jewish and Arab, Szold replied that a large part of the difficulties in Palestine would decrease if the general living standard were raised. He said the Arab population as a whole had benefited in its scale of living, wages and health, and it had been the conscious effort of the Jews concerned with Palestine to raise general living standards. This they felt would be good not merely for Palestine, but for Britain, the United States and the peace of the entire world.

Asked by American committeeman James G. MacDonald concerning the effect on Palestine economy of Britain's sterling bloc area, Szold replied that Palestine businessmen and manufacturers were hampered by it in not being able to buy needed American

machinery and other goods. "Palestine is fit for investment and American Jews are ready, willing and eager greatly to increase their material stake in that country provided political conditions warrant," he declared.

Proskauer Criticizes White Paper; Urges International Trusteeship for Palestine

Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee, severely criticized the White Paper restrictions, emphasizing that "solemn international agreements have specifically guaranteed that Palestine is to be a country to which Jewish immigration should be facilitated." He pointed out that the Balfour Declaration expressed approval of a Jewish National Home in Palestine and urged the inquiry committee to recommend the continuing validity of the principles of the Balfour Declaration and the Palestine Mandate.

The committee was also urged by Judge Proskauer to recommend the establishment of a United Nations trusteeship over Palestine for the purpose of "safeguarding the Jewish settlement in and Jewish immigration into Palestine" as well as to help in preparing Palestine to become "a self-governing, independent and democratic commonwealth" where the religious, political and civil rights of all elements of the population would be equally protected.

"The committee should recommend the creation of machinery for continuous collaboration between the Jews and Arabs in Palestine, with a view to making possible the attainment of a democratic and independent commonwealth with equal rights for all," he suggested. Other recommendations made by the American Jewish Committee include:

1. The inquiry committee should recommend the acceptance "at once" of President Truman's request to the British Government that 100,000 displaced Jews be admitted to Palestine immediately.

2. The inquiry committee should ask governments of various countries of potential immigration to receive substantial numbers of displaced persons.

3. The inquiry committee should recommend to governments of countries of refuge to permit as many refugee and alien Jews as possible to stay and eventually to acquire citizenship.

4. The committee should closely investigate conditions in East European countries as they affect the Jews so that it may recommend the establishment of effective international machinery to check anti-Semitism in some of these countries.

5. The committee should recommend that a definite portion of all reparations paid by Germany be set apart for partial compensation to stateless and non-repatriable Jews, and that their claims be represented by a United Nations agency to be established for this purpose.

Proskauer read a series of statements by Zionist leaders over the years expressing Zionist desire for, he said, real fraternal cooperation between Arabs and Jews. He read a letter of Henrietta Szold asserting that the British administration had deliberately thwarted efforts at conciliation between Jews and Arabs.

Tells How Immediate Admission of 100,000 Jews Need not Involve Friction

During the questioning of Proskauer, Sir John Singleton, British chairman, said that if a single instance could be brought to light of an attempt by any British official to stifle racial cooperation, that official was not worthy of the name British and would not remain a British official.

In answer to a question by American member Bartley Crum whether the im-

diate entrance of 100,000 Jews to Palestine might not involve friction, Proskauer said it was the function of the committee so to present the case to the Arab League as to convince them that they would suffer no harm and that it would involve no pre-judgment of the ultimate form of government.

Proskauer emphasized the Swiss pattern of fraternal community with its variety of peoples as an analogy of what was desired in Palestine. He expressed the hope that there would be no return of conditions identifying a state with religion. American chairman Hutcheson praised Proskauer for what he said was his pleasing judicial approach to the subject.

Mizrachi Leader Says Palestine Is Spiritual Solution to Jewish Problem

Dr. Henry Raphael Gold of the Mizrachi Organization of America said that Palestine was not only a necessary political, but a spiritual solution to the Jewish problem. "No substitute for it could ever be accepted by the Jewish people," he told the committee. He listed the various offers which have been made and rejected by the Jews, including Uganda, Cyrenaica, Mesopotamia, Angola, the West Indies, and portions of South America. "Palestine is the only country for which the Jew is willing to make continuing and heroic sacrifices," he said.

Queried concerning the Zionist demand for numerical superiority in Palestine, Gold replied that the Middle East was like a great Arab hotel in which Palestine constituted but one room, the only room in which the Jews could have their freedom. He maintained that it would be a violation of the Balfour Declaration and of Zionist hopes to deny the Jews numerical superiority there. He insisted Jewish preponderance would provide for full democratic rights for all other people.

American Chairman Lauds Witnesses; Agudah Declines to Testify

The witnesses who have so far appeared before the committee of inquiry were praised at the close of the morning session by Judge Hutcheson, who said that the preparation of arguments, oral and written, had greatly helped the committee.

Replying to an invitation to testify before the committee, the Agudas Israel of America wired a declination, pointing out that the views of the organization could best be presented by the world body of the Agudah at its headquarters in London and Jerusalem.

A Palestine-wide conference in Tel Aviv of the "Movement for Labor Unity," an opposition group within the Palestine Labor Party, today passed a resolution opposing Jewish participation in the hearings of the inquiry committee, and acceptance by the Jews of 1,500 monthly immigration certificates. The conference warned all parties not to expect any positive results from the committee's hearings.

ARAB GROUP DEMANDS TERMINATION OF PALESTINE MANDATE; WANTS INDEPENDENT ARAB STATE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- All Arab governments have replied negatively to British Foreign Secretary Bevin's suggestion that 1,500 Jews from Europe be admitted to Palestine monthly, while the Anglo-American inquiry committee is conducting its investigation, the Arab press reports today.

The Arab Higher Committee in Palestine, which was officially recognized last week by the Palestine Government, today decided to demand the termination of the Palestine Mandate and the establishment of an independent Arab State.

PALESTINE ARABS REJECT ADMISSION OF 1,500 JEWS MONTHLY; ASK FOR EX-MUFTI'S RETURN

JERUSALEM, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- A meeting of 60 Arab leaders convened by the Palestine Arab Higher Committee today voted to reject the Government's request that they agree to the admission to Palestine of 1,500 Jews monthly, pending the findings of the Anglo-American inquiry committee.

One of the seven members of the committee which met with High Commissioner Sir Alan Cunningham on Saturday, when the proposal was made, told the meeting that the High Commissioner had said that since the Arab League had been consulted on the immigration issue, he felt that the Palestine Arabs should also be asked to present their views.

Today's meeting, which was attended by members of the Higher Committee who had seen General Cunningham, members of the Supreme Moslem Council, leaders of the Arab orthodox Christian community, chambers of commerce and union leaders, Bedouin sheiks, and officials of various Moslem societies, decided to ask the return to Palestine of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem who is now in French custody.

At the same time, the Higher Committee called on Arabs here to observe the boycott of "Zionist goods" proclaimed by the Arab League by abstaining from patronizing Jewish enterprises of any kind, even transportation facilities or places of entertainment. It also announced that a sub-committee of experts has been formed to organize the boycott in Palestine "on a practical basis."

Chief Justice William Fitzgerald, who was asked to make an investigation of the Jerusalem municipal set up, after the city council was dissolved following a controversy between Jews and Arabs over the mayoralty, has completed his report, it is learned here. However, it is understood that the Government does not plan to make public his recommendations until after the inquiry commission has completed its work.

The High Commissioner yesterday signed an agreement with the American-controlled Trans-Arabian Pipeline Co., giving it permission to lay pipelines across Palestine, connecting oil fields in Saudi Arabia with Palestine ports, particularly Haifa.

AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR RECEIVES JEWISH DELEGATION; PROMISES AID IN REHABILITATION

VIENNA, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Chancellor Leopold Figl, receiving a delegation of the Jewish community council today, promised to support, as far as possible, its demands for measures to rehabilitate Jews economically and politically, and said that he would deal with the council on all matters affecting Jews.

The delegation, the first Jewish group to be received at the Chancellery since the liberation of Austria, outlined to Figl the situation of the surviving Jews in the country. The Chancellor recalled the years he spent in Dachau and said that he "was full of admiration" for his Jewish comrades who had died there.

500 OF THE JEWS WHO LEFT RUSSIAN ZONE IN BERLIN APPEAR IN U.S. ZONE; ASK FOR FOOD

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- The American Broadcasting Company today reported from Berlin that 500 of the 1,800 Polish Jews who fled this week from the Russian sector of Berlin, when they were ordered to prepare for evacuation to a camp at Frenzlau, were found last night living in an old pavilion in the American section of the city.

"This morning they sent a delegation to the American commander asking for food, beds and blankets," the ABC correspondent said. "Jewish spokesmen say they have no intention whatever of going to any camp in the Russian zone. The majority say they're going to Palestine, while a minority declare they are going to the United States."

AMERICANS FAVOR JEWISH SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE, GALLUP POLL ESTABLISHES

NEW YORK, Jan. 9, (JTA) -- Three-fourths of the American voters who are conversant with the Palestine issue favor settlement of Jews there, although nearly half of the American public has not followed the Palestine discussions, according to a Gallup poll made public today. Of the Jews questioned, it said, ninety percent favor Jewish settlement in Palestine.

Fifty-five percent of all those questioned said that they had followed the discussions on Palestine. Further questioning of this group showed that 76 percent favored permitting Jews to settle; seven percent were against Jewish settlement; four percent approved if Jews favor it, while one percent favored leaving it up to the British and another one percent wanted the issue left to the Arabs. Eight percent did not know how they felt on the question and three percent gave miscellaneous answers.

NUREMBERG PROSECUTION CHARGES RIBBENTROP WAS ONE OF CHIEF NAZI ANTI-JEWISH CONSPIRATORS

NUREMBERG, Jan. 9, (JTA) -- Joachim von Ribbentrop, former Nazi Foreign Minister, was charged today with being one of the chief conspirators in the Nazi plan to wipe out European Jewry, as British prosecutor Sir David Maxwell Fyfe completed his case against Ribbentrop before the Allied war crimes tribunal.

Sir David submitted a report issued by Ribbentrop's office in Jan., 1939 in which he outlined the Nazi policy of driving all Jews out of Germany minus their property, and opposed Palestine as a Jewish homeland because a Jewish state would provide a base from which world Jewry could send out representatives to all parts of the world and would offer a refuge to Jews "hunted by the police of other countries." The report suggested that, instead, the western democracies set up a "Jewish reserve" in some part of their territory.

The same report contains a survey of anti-Semitic activities in North America, which devotes particular attention to the activities of Father Coughlin who, it asserts, had a radio audience of 20,000,000. It also includes sections on anti-Semitism in Greece, France and Norway.

The one-time ex-Nazi diplomat, the British prosecutor said, was slated to expound Nazi anti-Jewish policies at an international conference in June, 1944, in Cracow, at which Nazi puppet governments in the Balkans and central Europe and the governments of Italy, France, Norway and Holland were to be represented. The ex-Mufti of Jerusalem and the Iraqi pro-Nazi leader Rashid Ali el Gailani were also invited to attend. The main aim of the parley was to have been devising means of fanning the flame of anti-Semitism in the democratic countries. However, the Russian advances and the invasion of Europe by the Anglo-American armies forced cancellation of the meeting.

IRA HIRSCHMANN SAYS N.Y. DAILY NEWS AND WASHINGTON TIMES-HERALD FOSTER ANTI-SEMITISM

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9, (JTA) -- The New York Daily News and the Washington Times-Herald were accused of fostering anti-Semitism, in a speech delivered here yesterday before the Advertising Club by Ira A. Hirschmann, New York businessman and former representative of the War Refugee Board. Calling upon businessmen to "fight back," Hirschmann said: "You don't have to spend your money with the people who say they don't like you and who want to destroy you."

The Washington Times Herald publisher, Eleanor M. Patterson, replying today, characterized Hirschmann's attack as "a small part of a planned, deliberate Communist attempt to divide and destroy the United States."

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