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AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE WILL PROBABLY RETAIN TEMPORARY STATUS FOR ANOTHER YEAR

CLEVELAND, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Conference, which opened its third session here today, to decide, among other things, on the question of whether it is to remain a temporary body or should become a permanent organization representing American Jews on questions concerning Jewish rights in Europe and in Palestine, will in all probability retain its present temporary status for at least another year.

A resolution to this effect has been presented to the general committee of the conference and is expected to be approved with some modifications by all groups affiliated with the conference. The resolution provides:

- "1. That the Interim Committee should continue and intensify the work of the American Jewish Conference, within the purposes defined in the Pittsburgh Proposal.
- "2. That the Interim Committee shall call a fourth session of the conference at such time and place as it deems advisable, but not later than fifteen months from now.
- "3. The Interim Committee is directed to explore the possibility of establishing a permanent, democratic, representative Jewish body, through agreement as to the nature and the scope of such an organization with the existing national agencies and representative community organizations, and, subject to such agreement, to propose ways and means for bringing such a body into existence."

Monsky Calls for Jewish Unity to Meet Vast Rehabilitation Tasks

Henry Monsky, the co-chairman of the Interim Committee, in his opening address, called for Jewish unity. He pointed out that the new world order offers hope for the Jews. He called for "selfless consecration by the American Jewish community to the single objective of serving the cause of Israel as the command of the hour. This we can if we remain united in purpose and effort," he stated.

Reviewing the activities of the American Jewish Conference, Mr. Monsky reported that the organization, and its representatives, "actively participated in a number of epoch-making events, and that participation, and the results obtained, give cause for profound gratification." He stressed the work of the Conference delegation at the United Nations organizing session at San Francisco, and the testimony given at the Washington hearings of the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine.

"The manifold activities in the areas of rehabilitation, rescue, establishment of a united Jewish front, representation at governmental and inter-governmental conferences and committees, war crimes, reparations, and other matters," Mr. Monsky said, "were responsible for and resulted in definite actions of a beneficial character to our people. In a number of instances, actions which, except for the activities of the Conference, might not have ensued."

Estimating the material losses of the Jewish people through Hitler's domination of Europe at not less than \$8,000,000,000, Louis Lipsky, another co-chairman of

the Interim Committee, told the conference that the decisions of the Allied Reparations Committee—during its meeting in Paris—with regard to Jewish claims are unsatisfactory.

"According to the latest decision," he said, "the Jewish victims are to be considered citizens of an 'anonymous state', to which is to be allotted the non-monetary gold found by the Allied forces in Germany, and, in addition, the sum of \$25,000,000 and those assets in neutral countries of Nazi victims who have since died and left no heirs. The fund thus to be made available, however, is to be administered by the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, which is to carry out the purposes of the fund through private and public field organizations. The fund is to be used, moreover, not for the compensation of the original victims, but to further the rehabilitation or resettlement of the beneficiaries.

"In view of the enormous losses suffered by the Jewish people, and the need for large sums to assure the rehabilitation of the survivors, it is clear," Mr. Lipsky added, "that the amount of reparations provided by the Paris agreement is inadequate; and especially unsatisfactory is the decision to have whatever funds are placed in this trust administered by the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees."

He revealed that during the course of discussions with members of the Reparations Committee, representatives of the American Jewish Conference suggested the establishment of a trust instrument or agency for the representation of Jewish claims, and the administration of funds recovered. They asked that a Jewish Reconstruction Trust be established along the lines of the Jewish Colonization Association, or the Jewish Colonial Trust, he reported.

Goldstein Urges Continuation of Conference "Until Successor Is Born"

Dr. Israel Goldstein, the third co-chairman of the Interim Committee, appealed for the continuation of the conference "until its successor will be born." He emphasized that the situation of the Jews in Europe remains precarious, and that the question of Palestine demands constant vigilance on the part of American Jews. Pointing out that the hopes of the displaced Jews in the camps in Germany, which he visited, hang upon the Jews of the United States, Dr. Goldstein said:

"If the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry, and the governments which appointed them do less than see to it that the camps are dissolved before the Fall of this year, and their inmates settled where they will no longer be displaced persons either in name or in fact, then this committee and the governments which sponsored it will earn nothing but contempt," Dr. Goldstein said. "If the President of the United State does not see to it by every pressure at his command that every displaced person who expresses a preference for Palestine gets to Palestine, then he will cancel the right to be known as a humanitarian president." He stressed that even when the camps for displaced Jews are liquidated, there will still be the problem of the Jews in Rumania, Hungary, Poland and other lands, who want to emigrate to Palestine.

Dr. Maurice H. Eisendrath, executive director of the United American Hebrew Congregations, speaking at the opening session, appealed for exploration of the possibilities of building a democratically constituted, all inclusive, American-Jewish body that would speak authoritatively for the Jews of the United States. "We will fail to fulfill our high destiny as members of the largest and strongest Jewry in the world, if, upon the dissolution of this conference, we permit anarchy and chaos to reign again in American history."

The Conference was welcomed this morning by Ezra Shapiro, president of the Cleveland Jewish Community Council. It will continue through Tuesday.

ANGLO-U.S. INQUIRY COMMITTEE REASSEMBLES IN VIENNA; CRUM URGES LIQUIDATION OF DP CAMPS

VIENNA, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Nine members of the twelve-man Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, who gathered in Vienna tonight to compare notes, after taking testimony from Jews in Germany and Poland, found that they all had the same thing to report: Everywhere they went they found virtually no hope for revival of Jewish life in Europe and ninety to one hundred percent of the Jews visited desire to go to Palestine.

Bartley Crum, who with Sir Frederick Leggett, toured the American zone in Germany, told a press conference today that "if we don't clear out the DP camps in the U.S. zone in Germany, we will have mass suicides of Jews, or they'll try to fight their way into Palestine."

Adding that the inmates of these camps were "the only people I have seen in Europe with inner security, because they feel they can rebuild their lives in Palestine," Crum said: "My recommendation would be to clean out these camps and let these people go where they want to go. Out of simple decency, these people should be given a chance. That is impossible in these camps."

Frank Buxton, speaking for himself and Wilfred Crick and Sir Reginald Munningham-Buller, all of whom arrived from Poland this afternoon, said that he had been sickened by what he saw in the remains of the Lodz ghetto. The Jews of Poland, he said, fear that their lives are in danger, if they remain. "As repatriated Jews pour into Poland from Russia, others pour out of Poland into the American zone of Germany," he added. "Poland is becoming a transmission belt. The Jews of Poland apparently have no idea of going to the United States."

Mass Demonstration for Palestine Greets Sub-Committee in Lodz

In Lodz, Buxton reported, the sub-committee was met by a demonstration of 2,500 people, who marched through the streets to their hotel, carrying banners and flags reading: "Open the Gates of Palestine." A delegation consisting of former partisans and veterans of the Polish Army called on members of the committee, and urged the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine. Outside, the crowd sang Hatikvah.

A committee elected by a Zionist congress held in Warsaw last week, also called on the Anglo-U.S. probers in the Polish capital, and presented to them an urn containing the ashes of Jews murdered in crematoriums and a piece of soap made from fat rendered from the bodies of executed Jews. The Zionist spokesman said that the urn represented the 3,000,000 Jews of Poland murdered by the Nazis, and voiced the hope that Jews would receive partial compensation for their sufferings through the establishment of a Jewish state. "These people do not want to remain in Poland," Buxton concluded. They regard it as their graveyard."

Judge Joseph Hutcheson, American co-chairman, speaking for his sub-committee, which went to the British zone in Germany, reported that it had gone to the Honne Camp, on the site of Bergen-Belsen, where there are 10,000 Jews among 20,000 residents. "We found a feeling not of hope, but of Palestine," he said. "In one camp, we were told that the inmates had been informed that they could ask to emigrate to the United States, but none did."

"I saw little children--not many--but they looked well. However, I was told by the camp director: 'You should have seen these children before.' I replied: 'I do

not think that they should be reminded and I do not want to be reminded." Hutcheson said that the camp was cold and the people were living in barracks.

Doubtful Whether Committee Will Be Able to Go to Hungary, Rumania

Crum said tonight that he doubted whether the committee would be able to go to Hungary or Rumania, but asserted that he was not distressed by any refusal to enter these territories, since the major problems are the Polish Jews and the displaced persons camps. He reported that the three other members of the committee, MacDonald, Phillips and Aydelotte, would arrive this week.

The proposed schedule of the committee for the next week or so is as follows: Hutcheson, Singleton, Buxton and Morrison will take testimony in Vienna for five days and then go to the Russian zone in Austria, if possible. Aydelotte, Manningham-Buller and Crick will visit the American zone. MacDonald and Crossman will go to the French zone. The entire committee will fly to Cairo on Feb. 28 for five days of hearings, after which it will hold hearings in Palestine for three weeks.

An "international incident" nearly developed on Friday, when the sub-committee led by Crum and Leggett, who were accompanied by Judge Simon Rifkind, advisor on Jewish affairs to the commanding general of the American forces in Germany, a Soviet liaison officer, and this correspondent, and several other newsmen, were stopped at the Czech-Austrian border by Czechoslovak guards who suspected the party of having filched secret war trial documents. After a half-day delay, the party was allowed to continue.

WEIZMANN FLYING TO PALESTINE TO TESTIFY AT ANGLO-U.S. HEARINGS; ARAB LEAGUE TO APPEAR

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency, is scheduled to arrive here by plane on Thursday, it was learned today. Dr. Weizmann intends to testify at the hearings of the Anglo-American inquiry committee on Palestine, which will be held here next month.

It was reported today from Cairo that Abdul Rahman Azzam Bey, secretary-general of the Arab League, will represent that body at the committee hearings which are slated to open there on March 1. He will present a report based on statements from the various Arab states. The hearings are expected to be held in Mena House, site of the conference of the late President Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Chiang Kai-Shek in Nov., 1943.

CAMPS BEING READIED IN PALESTINE FOR GERMAN WAR PRISONERS, DESPITE GOVERNMENT DENIALS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Despite Jewish protests, and Chief Secretary John Shaw's assurances that German prisoners of war would not be brought to Palestine to work on military installations, camps are being prepared for the Nazis, it was learned today.

Six Jews were arrested yesterday in Haifa and held for interrogation as police searches, following the attempted ambush last Friday of Col. R.O. Cafarata, police superintendent in the Haifa district, uncovered an anti-personnel bomb, a Bren heavy machine gun, and a quantity of ammunition. The police also conducted wide-scale searches here, but no arrests were made.

Moshe Lerner, 50, was seriously wounded today when two Arabs held him up at the Jaffa-Tel Aviv border. Two suspects have been detained by the police.

Meanwhile, communications were disrupted throughout Palestine by a heavy blanket of snow which covered the country as the worst storm in years continued into its fourth day. The storm has uprooted trees, made the roads almost impassable and has blown the roofs off many houses.

UNO SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL ACCEPTS AMERICAN PROPOSAL FOR SPECIAL REFUGEE COMMITTEE

LONDON, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The American proposal for the establishment of a special committee to deal with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in Europe was unanimously accepted here yesterday by the UNO Social and Economic Council.

During the discussion, the Cuban delegate suggested that individuals and organizations, from whom the committee will derive much of its information on the refugee problem, should first obtain permission from their governments before participating in the discussions. British representative Philip Noel-Baker, opposing the Cuban position, pointed out that the advice of such organizations, particularly Jewish groups would be indispensable to the committee. The Cuban suggestion was rejected by the Council.

BAVARIAN GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE RESTITUTION OF FINES PAID BY JEWS AFTER VOM RATH KILLING

MUNICH, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The Bavarian Government announced today that it has set aside 2,000,000 reichsmarks to make restitution to 3,000 or 4,000 Jews in Bavaria who were fined by the Nazi Government, following the assassination of Ernest vom Rath by Herschel Grynszpan, in Paris in 1938.

The money represents only a fraction of the fine levied on the Jews in Germany after the killing of vom Rath. Refunds will be made only to those who can produce evidence that they paid the fine.

SOVIET PROSECUTORS AT NUREMBERG DESCRIBE ANNIHILATION OF JEWS IN POLAND BY NAZIS

NUREMBERG, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- In an over-all presentation of the picture of Nazi extermination of Jews in Poland, Soviet prosecutors at the war crimes trial here charged yesterday that of 3,500,000 Jews living in Poland in 1939 only 100,000 were left alive there when the war ended and an additional 200,000 had fled to the U.S.S.R.

Evidence was submitted to prove that Jews driven into ghettos in Warsaw, Lodz, and Cracow were systematically starved to death and that they received a food ration which was only one-eighth of the pre-war ration in Poland while Germans were receiving five times as much as they had had previously. In the Warsaw ghetto, prosecutors pointed out, 400,000 Jews were herded together in 1,359 houses, averaging thirteen persons in a room.

YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT DEMANDS TRIAL OF HORTHY FOR MURDER OF THOUSANDS OF JEWS

LONDON, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- The Yugoslav Government has demanded the extradition from Germany of Admiral Horthy, ex-Regent of Hungary, and several other former Hungarian officials, for trial as war criminals responsible for the death of thousands of Jews and others, it was reported here today from Belgrade.

A report issued in the Yugoslav capital said that more than 26,500 people, most of them Jews, were deported to death camps in Poland and the Ukraine from the Hungarian-occupied section of Yugoslavia.

BRAZILIAN NATIONALISTS PLASTER RIO DE JANEIRO STREETS WITH ANTI-SEMITIC POSTERS

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Small groups of Brazilian nationalists today plastered the streets surrounding the Presidential Palace with anti-American and anti-Semitic posters reading: "Reject the Jews from Brazil."

NATION-WIDE OBSERVANCE OF BROTHERHOOD WEEK OPENS; LEADERS OF ALL FAITHS PARTICIPATING

NEW YORK, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- Churches, synagogues, schools and civic institutions throughout the nation today began observance of Brotherhood Week, with leaders of all faiths participating. The "week" is sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Three Supreme Court Justices of different faiths, Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone and Associate Justices Felix Frankfurter and Frank Murphy, emphasized the importance of understanding between racial groups and of stamping out intolerance. Labor and business leaders in statements issued in Washington also pledged their cooperation.

The Jewish Theological Seminary of America and the National Broadcasting Company this afternoon received from the National Conference of Christians and Jews a citation of distinguished merit for the presentation of the best network religious series, "The Eternal Light," as part of the Brotherhood Week program.

CANADIAN JEWISH LEADER BRINGING LETTERS TO U.S., CANADIAN JEWS FROM RELATIVES IN POLAND

MONTREAL, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- H.M. Caiserman, general secretary of the Canadian Jewish Congress, who is now aboard the Empire McCallum en route to Canada, is carrying 500 letters from Polish Jews to their relatives in the Dominion and 1,000 more for relatives in the United States, according to an announcement today by Saul Hayes, national executive director of the organization.

Mr. Caiserman has spent ten weeks in Poland studying the conditions of the surviving Jews in the country and seeking to speed the shipment of supplies and funds by the United Jewish Relief Agencies in Canada. He was accompanied by Samuel Lifshitz of Toronto, editor of the Canadian Jewish Weekly. Mr. Caiserman and Mr. Lifshitz, the first Canadian representatives to visit Poland since 1939, toured some 20 cities and towns in the country outside Warsaw.

NORWEGIAN KING VOICES INTEREST IN JEWISH PROBLEM IN CONVERSATION WITH CONGRESS LEADER

NEW YORK, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- King Haakon VII of Norway voiced his concern for the problems of the Jewish people resulting from the Nazi occupation of Europe, and expressed "warm understanding of the Jewish case" during an audience given to Rabbi Marcus Nurock of Riga, Latvia, a member of the executive committee of the World Jewish Congress.

This was revealed in a cablegram today from Rabbi Nurock who is a Mizrahi leader and a former member of the Latvian Parliament. Rabbi Nurock stated that conferences were held with heads of the Norwegian Government including Premier Einar Gerhardsen.

JDC "SOS" CAMPAIGN BROADENS APPEAL TO INCLUDE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CLOTHING

NEW YORK, Feb. 17. (JTA) -- A special appeal for all types of clothing for men, women and children is now being made throughout the country by the S.O.S. Collection of Supplies for Overseas Survivors, sponsored by the Joint Distribution Committee, to provide 20,000,000 additional pounds of contributed relief supplies for Jewish survivors overseas, it was announced today.

Mrs. Nathan Straus, national chairman of the S.O.S. Collection, announcing the clothing appeal at New York headquarters today said that wearing apparel had not been included earlier in order to permit full cooperation with the United Victory Clothing Drive which officially ended on Saturday.

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