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DAY DEBATE ON PALESTINE OPENS IN BRITISH PARLIAMENT; MANDATE TO END MAY 15

LONDON, Dec. 11. (JTA)--The British Government intends to relinquish the Palestine Mandate on May 15 next year, subject to negotiations with the United Nations, Colonial Secretary Arthur Creech Jones announced in Commons today.

Opening a two-day discussion on Palestine, the Colonial Secretary said that the government had not altered its decision to withdraw all its troops from Palestine by August 1. He stressed the fact that the British Government must retain divided control in Palestine "until the evacuation of the troops is well under way." He also emphasized that Britain wants the Jews and the Arabs, as well as the United Nations, to realize the danger of the withdrawal of British forces.

Regretting the fact that the U.N. Implementation Commission will have inadequate support in carrying out its tasks, Creech Jones assured Commons that Britain will wind up its affairs in Palestine "in a fair and reasonable manner." Until the termination of the mandate, he said, the greatest efforts will be made to prevent any attempt to create unrest. Such attempts, he added, will be handled impartially and firmly."

The United Nations, he continued, will have to bear the responsibility for the protection of the Holy Places in Jerusalem after the termination of the Mandate. The British Government, he said, regards the partition decision of the General Assembly as a decision of a court of international opinion. "This isn't a grudging acceptance," he declared.

Colonial Secretary Warns Against Continuation Of "Illegal" Immigration

Warning against encouragement of "illegal" immigration into Palestine during the next few months, the Colonial Secretary said that Britain does not desire to create new difficulties for the United Nations or encourage disorder and violence in Palestine. However, if "illegal" immigration continues, a "grave situation may arise" making orderly withdrawal of the transfer of authority extremely difficult, he stated.

Richard Crossman, left-wing Laborite, speaking after Creech-Jones, urged the government to notify the U.N. that partition cannot be carried out without the presence of at least a small symbolic U.N. force to deter Arab aggression. He said that a U.N. police force was a perfectly practical proposal provided that it was supported by both the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Col. Oliver Stanley, Conservative, former Colonial Minister, endorsed the government's refusal to implement partition, but said that it should facilitate the work of the U.N. Commission. He urged that evacuation of British forces be completed as soon as possible and warned against resort to arms. He expressed the hope that the day would come when Palestine would be united in the interests of the entire Middle East.

SEVEN-HOUR BATTLE RAGES IN JERUSALEM; ELEVEN JEWS KILLED IN ATTACKS ON CONVOYS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11. (JTA)--A seven-hour battle between Jews and Arabs in the Old City here and the killing of eleven Jews and the wounding of nine others in two ambushes of motor convoys marked the twelfth day of continued violence since the United Nations voted to partition Palestine.

According to Arab sources, the battle in the Old City followed an infiltration of Jewish positions and the occupation of a synagogue. The Arabs asserted that they had succeeded in raising an Arab flag over the synagogue. The same sources also admitted that one Arab was killed in the assault.

The Haganah, however, insisted that the Arabs had been held off and had regained a "single yard." Three Haganah members were wounded in the exchange of small arms and machine gun fire. In the beating back of another attack on Jewish positions in Jerusalem, the Haganah killed three Arabs. This attack was launched from Siluan and other Arab villages adjoining Jerusalem.

Nine of the eleven Jews killed in convoy attacks fell near Bethlehem when a fleet of cars, trucks and buses en route to Kfar Etzion was brought under intense fire from three directions. The attack occurred near Solomon's Pools.

The tenth man Uri Ganani, was killed near the village of Yazur when a convoy from Tel Aviv to Rishon L'Zion was attacked by grenades and bullets. The eleventh Jew was killed in an attack on a taxi en route from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. After the second attack several Jews in an auto tossed two bombs into an Arab cafe in Yazur, injuring several Arabs and destroying the building. A Jewish Agency bullet proof car was attacked and damaged today, but its occupants including immigration chief Moshe Sapiro, were unharmed.

Four Arabs Killed in Blasting of Bus In Haifa

An official communique today stated that four Arabs were killed and 30 wounded when an anti-personnel bomb was thrown at an Arab bus on Kingsway, the main street of Haifa. The bus, used on the Beirut-Haifa run and owned by a Lebanese company, was completely destroyed. Another Arab was killed and several wounded when Haganah squads blasted several buildings in Arab villages near Haifa from which snipers had been operating during the past ten days. An Arab Legionnaire shot and killed a Jew, Max Seidman, on a Haifa street.

An ammunition and arms dump exploded in Haifa at 6 A.M. this morning, setting off several fires. The authorities do not suspect sabotage.

An uneasy armed truce held sway in the border region between Tel Aviv and Haifa today as British soldiers stood guard. One Jew was shot and seriously wounded by a British officer last night. A Haganah bulletin announced that the night was "quiet" on the Tel Aviv front. The bodies of six Arabs apparently killed in Monday night's assault on the Hatikvah quarter were discovered in an orange grove near the scene of the battle.

Reports from various parts of the Sharon district and the area south of Tel Aviv state that Arabs are again visiting Jewish settlements to sell agricultural products and patronizing Jewish-owned cafes in various towns. One report asserts that groups of Arabs have approached officials of several Jewish settlements and asked for Arab-Jewish patrols to keep out agitators attempting to spread pro-Arab propaganda.

A Haganah communique today stated that a detachment of Jewish militia which left the settlement of Gevuloth, near Gaza, where six Jews were murdered

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yesterday, were set on by several Arabs. The Jews replied, killing two Bedouins. It also revealed that Arabs punctured water lines leading to Jewish settlements in the Negev yesterday and that Jewish engineers have already made repairs.

Agency Denies Jews Equally Responsible For Disturbances

A Jewish Agency spokesman, commenting on High Commissioner Sir Alan Cunningham's warning yesterday to both the Jews and the Arabs to keep the peace, charged that Cunningham had misrepresented the situation in Palestine when he held both the Jews and Arabs equally responsible for violence. He also warned that any official moves against the Jewish defense movement would only worsen the situation.

As British police began moving out of several of the satellite towns of Tel Aviv in line with the government's announced intention of turning over police duties in Tel Aviv and its environs to the Jews, the government issued a press release announcing measures it was taking in cooperation with the Jewish Agency in Tel Aviv and the Arabs in Jaffa.

Although the release said that Jews replacing British police would receive licenses to carry weapons, Arab replacements in Jaffa would be given arms during duty hours. The first additions to the Jaffa force would number 110, the announcement said, adding that the institution of similar measures in other Arab towns was being considered.

The government also announced its estimates of casualties between December 1 and this morning. In all, 65 Jews, 38 Arabs, three soldiers and one policeman were killed, and 332 persons received wounds and injuries of varying degrees.

The Irgun disclosed that it has written letters to 400 English municipalities explaining that the British Government is continuing its policy of "exterminating the Jews" despite the U.N. decision on Palestine. It asked the municipalities to influence the government to change its policy or the Irgun would "take revenge" for injuries to Jews by attacking evacuating personnel.

The Palestine Government has reimposed a ban effective January 1, 1948 on the return of civilian relatives of British personnel serving in Palestine. The reason given was the approaching evacuation of all government personnel.

Reports continue that many Arabs are fleeing their homes in and around Jaffa. While the poorer Arabs merely move some distance into "safer" territory, the wealthy are leaving for Lebanon. Furniture truckers are said to be charging as much as \$400 a day to move valuable possessions to Lebanon.

JEWISH AGENCY REQUESTS HEARING AT SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS ON PALESTINE

LAKE SUCCESS, Dec. 11. (JTA)--The Jewish Agency today requested that it be heard at any discussion of the Palestine issue by the Security Council.

In a letter to Secretary-General Trygve Lie, the Agency based its request on its hearing before the Political and Security Committee during the special Assembly session last Spring and its participation in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Palestine at the recently completed session.

It also cited Rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, which says that the Council "may invite members of the Secretariat or other persons whom it considers competent for the purpose, to supply it with information or to give other assistance in examining matters within its competence."

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ARAB LEAGUE WILL NOT SUBMIT PALESTINE ISSUE TO SECURITY COUNCIL, REPORT SAYS

CAIRO, Dec. 11. (JTA)--The Arab League Council, which is now in session here, will probably vote not to submit the Palestine issue to the U.N. Security Council, it was reported today.

Meanwhile, the League members are meeting behind closed doors, reportedly draft plans for mobilizing their armed forces on the perimeter of Palestine. King Feisal of Saudi Arabia, who has just returned from the General Assembly meeting, and the premiers of Iraq, Transjordan and Lebanon participated in the Council's meeting today.

The Egyptian Government announced today that it would allow a demonstration to be held here on Sunday to protest the partition of Palestine. The protest is sponsored by the fanatical Moslem Brotherhood and other nationalist groups. The high point of a rally concluding the demonstration will be an appeal for recruits to fight in an Arab force to "defend" Palestine.

A report from Ankara says that the Turkish Government has barred its nationals from joining any Arab force organized to fight in Palestine. Its decision, which is a great disappointment to the Arab leaders who were counting on Turkish support, says that in view of the present tense international situation, with Turkish independence threatened, it cannot permit any citizens to leave the country. Moslem religious leaders in the country have also decided not to participate in the Jihad, or holy war, proclaimed by Moslem elders in Cairo.

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL FIVE-DAY CONFERENCE OPENS DISCUSSIONS OF 1948 OBLIGATIONS

ATLANTIC CITY, Dec. 11. (JTA)--Discussions on all aspects of the needs facing Jews in Europe and the Jewish State in Palestine in 1948 will begin tomorrow at the five-day national conference of the United Jewish Appeal which opened tonight at the Hotel Chelsea here. More than 1,200 Jewish community leaders from all parts of the country are attending the parley, which is considered the most important in the history of American Jewish philanthropy.

It was indicated here today that the two major partners in the United Jewish Appeal--The Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal--are ending the year with a deficit of more than \$20,000,000 each. Their requirements next year will be greater in the light of the fact that the creation of a Jewish State opens the possibility for the large-scale transfer of displaced Jews from European camps to Palestine. This will necessitate the raising of large funds for transportation and settlement of these Jews in the Jewish State, as well as for economic reconstruction of the many hundreds of thousands of Jews who will still remain in Europe.

Although the \$170,000,000 quota which the United Jewish Appeal had set for this year has not been fully raised, many of the Jewish leaders who arrived here to attend the conference are convinced that a larger goal will have to be set by this conclave for 1948. It is generally conceded that the next two years will require the maximum contributions American Jewry can give for stabilization of the Jewish position in Europe and the building of a Jewish State in Palestine.

A full discussion of current financing and adoption of the national goal for 1948 will take place on Sunday. On Saturday the conference will hear addresses by Henry Morgenthau Jr., Dr. Chaim Weizmann, Moshe Shertok, William Rosenwald, Dr. Joseph Schwartz, Gen. Joseph T. McNarney, Maj. Gen. John H. Hildring and others.

GRAT INCREASE IN COMMUNITY FUND RAISING REPORTED BY COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA) -- Central Jewish fund raising efforts -- as exemplified by the campaigns conducted by federations and welfare funds in cities throughout the country -- resulted in more than a 326 percent increase during the five-year period ending December 1946, it was reported today by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds on the basis of a recent special study.

The study disclosed that 160 member agencies raised nearly \$105,000,000 in 1946 as against \$50,000,000 in 1945, \$40,856,000 in 1944, \$33,240,000 in 1943, and \$24,420,000 in 1942. It described the upward trend in welfare fund and federation fund raising to a combination of factors: the increasing recognition on the part of contributors of the urgency of overseas needs; the improved economic conditions in recent years; the steadily expanding sphere of interest of local central fund-raising agencies as reflected by the inclusion in welfare fund budgets of a variety of causes that were previously supported by independent appeals; improved campaign organization; and increased taxes, especially during the war years, which were of advantage to tax-exempt philanthropic giving.

The upward trend of campaign goals was reflected by fewer campaigns for goals of less than \$100,000 and the tremendous increase in the number of campaigns seeking \$100,000 or more. In the \$100,000 to \$499,999 category, the number rose from 17 campaigns in 1942 to 78 in 1946. The \$500,000 and over campaigns grew from seven to 23 in that period.

"Reasons for this can be found in the records of 120 communities which have been reporting their complete returns to the Council since 1939," the report says. "They showed that for every \$100 raised in communities which conducted campaigns for less than \$25,000 in 1939, over \$800 was raised in 1946. Gains were also noted in intermediate communities with increases ranging from 418 to 542 percent. The large campaigns -- for \$500,000 or more -- showed an average gain of 269 percent."

Large Proportion of Jewish Population Contributes to Local Campaigns

In 1946, exclusive of New York City, broadest coverage of contributors was obtained in communities with campaigns of \$50,000 - \$99,999, an analysis of 111 campaigns disclosed. There an average of 35 persons in each 100 of the estimated Jewish population were contributors. Other campaigns up to \$500,000 ranged from 28 to 41 givers per 100 Jewish population. The largest campaigns - those for \$500,000 and over - secured about 23 to 24 contributors per 100 Jewish population.

Of the total number of contributors to these 111 campaigns, the Council survey revealed that 20 out of every 100 gave \$100 or more; 43 gave \$10 to \$100, and 37 contributors gave less than \$10. Sharpest deviations from this distribution occurred in campaigns for less than \$100,000. From 29 to 36 percent of contributions in these campaigns were in amounts of \$100 or more, and from 11 to 21 percent in amounts of less than \$10. In general, the larger communities showed a smaller percentage of contributors who gave \$100 or more, than did the intermediate and smaller communities (those ranging from under 5,000 to 40,000 in Jewish population.)

The decline in the number of small contributors and the marked rise in the number of "upper" bracket or "big gift" contributors -- \$100 or more -- is strikingly revealed by the statistics gathered after analyzing the results of 21 of these member agencies which have been reporting their campaign information since 1939. In that year these communities raised a total of \$1,288,427 from 34,869 contributors. The average gift per contributor amounted to \$36.95; there were 17 givers per 100 Jewish population.

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FRENCH COMMISSAR OF JEWISH AFFAIRS GETS TEN YEARS; SUCCESSOR SENTENCED TO DEATH

PARIS, Dec. 11. (JTA)--The liberal press today attacks as too mild the 10-year prison term imposed yesterday on Xavier Vallat, first French Commissar for Jewish Affairs during the Vichy regime.

The sentence also stripped Vallat of all civil rights. His successor as Commissar, Louis Darquier de Pellepoix, whose whereabouts are unknown, was sentenced to death in absentia. The trial was marked by several demonstrations by persons spreading anti-Semitic utterances by Vallat.

Vallat was named Commissar of Jewish Affairs in March, 1941. Under his leadership, the first series of Nazi-ordered anti-Jewish laws were promulgated and against Jews in then unoccupied France began. He toured France's North African possessions, where more than 100,000 Jews reside, and introduced anti-Jewish measures there. He was succeeded by Pellepoix, a pre-war anti-Semitic leader, in May 1942.

HUMAN RIGHTS BODY APPROVES SUGGESTION TO BAN PUBLICATIONS SPREADING PREJUDICE

GENEVA, Dec. 11 (JTA)--Members of the working group of the United Nations Human Rights Commission which has drafted a declaration of human rights today expressed approval of a suggestion by the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations that the declaration call for the outlawing of publications spreading race hatred and prejudice.

The Coordinating Board, which consists of the American Jewish Conference and the British and South African Boards of Jewish Deputies, urged the banning of publications and other media of public expression aiming and tending to inflict injury and incite prejudice and hatred against persons or groups because of their race, religion, language or national origin."

The working group also adopted a clause suggested by the World Jewish Congress, providing that education should be directed, among other things, towards eradicating the spirit of intolerance and hatred against other nations and racial and religious groups everywhere.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, U.S. delegate, said this morning that she agreed with the question of Jewish immigration is an international problem and she will recommend that all nations admit victims of Nazi persecution. Earlier, Mrs. Roosevelt conferred with Milton Winn, American Jewish Committee observer here.

200 REFUGEES IN SHANGHAI APPEAL TO AMERICAN JEWS FOR AID IN ENTERING U.S.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 11. (JTA)--Despite the fact that about half of the 15,000 Jewish refugees stranded in this Chinese port city during the war have emigrated or been repatriated, there seems to be little hope for the speedy emigration of the 2,000 Jewish men and women who are classified under the Polish quota.

The greatest part of this group desire to enter the United States, but since the Polish quota is very small and thousands of DP's in Germany and elsewhere in Europe have applied for entrance on the same quota, it is expected to take many years before the Shanghai refugees will be admitted. They are appealing to Jewish organizations and leaders in the U.S. to carry their case to the government and the public, in an effort to open the doors of the U.S.

Most of the "Polish quota DP's," as the group is known, were German citizens whose birthplaces are in territory ceded to Poland under the terms of the Versailles Treaty. Many of their older children, born in post-war Germany and therefore classified under the German quota have been admitted to the U.S. and are prepared to accept their parents in their new homes.

UNION OF ORTHODOX CONGREGATIONS ASKS BAR ON RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA)--Rigid exclusion of denominational religious teaching from the public schools was demanded today by the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, in a statement issued as an aftermath to the controversy stirred by a ruling of a New York City education official that Christmas Carols and other observances with a religious content not be used in the schools under his supervision.

"Religious liberty and freedom of conscience are now, as ever, the cornerstone of our national and state constitutions and of the American way of life," the statement said. Imposition of sectarian teachings upon children in the public schools is at once an attack upon the Constitution, upon the public school system and upon religion.

The Orthodox group points out that "it is impossible to introduce rites and practices identified with a particular group without at once causing an imposition on the others," despite any attempts to equalize the time allotted to the different faiths or the emphasis given each. It suggests that an inter-denominational body be set up to devise a program of "spiritual inspiration" for the public schools which would not offend believers of any faith or non-believers.

MAIMONIDES WORK ON JEWISH LAW DISCOVERED BY N.Y. SCHOLAR; WAS LOST FOR 700 YEARS

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA)--One of Maimonides' major works on ancient Jewish law, which had been lost for more than seven centuries, has been discovered through the researches of Professor Saul Lieberman of the Jewish Theological Seminary of New York, and was issued yesterday in a Hebrew folio edition.

The manuscript on which the publication is based consists of four long segments from the original Hebrew text of Maimonides' "The Laws of the Palestinian Talmud," and is written in the holograph of the great philosopher, scientist and rabbinic scholar.

The new manuscript is the only previously unpublished work by Maimonides, the great Jewish scholar, philosopher and physician who was born in 1135 and died in 1204. According to Jewish scholars who were informed of Professor Lieberman's discovery before its publication, the manuscript is invaluable for its elucidation of the fourth century Palestinian Talmud. As a scholarly achievement, the attribution of the manuscript to Maimonides is considered one of this generation's foremost events in the field of Jewish learning.

The manuscript was found more than 50 years ago in the Cairo Genizah by Professor Solomon Schechter, who later became president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. It soon came into the possession of the Cambridge University Library in England where it remains to this day. Until Professor Lieberman began his studies, however, its significance was not recognized and it was considered to be the work of a contemporary scribe rather than of Maimonides himself.

The first evidence which scholars had for believing that Maimonides had actually written such a work consisted in a reference to it by Maimonides himself in his "Commentary on the Mishnah." The reference was accompanied by a long quotation from the lost work, and it was this quotation which Professor Lieberman found verbatim in the Genizah manuscript.

KEREN HAYESOD, IN MANIFESTO TO JEWS, ASKS FOR INCREASED AID TO MEET GROWING NEEDS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 11. (JTA)--A manifesto to the Jews of the world urging greater contributions for the development of the Jewish State in Palestine was issued here today by the Keren Hayesod, which is the fund-raising institution of the Jewish Agency.

The manifesto points out that the tasks confronting the Keren Hayesod during the transitional period and the days to follow are "immeasurably great." Displaced persons will have to be brought to the Jewish State in large numbers and means must be found to absorb them, the call says. "We must build new villages, expand towns, provide for the consolidation of our country and its security."

"When the Jewish State is established, the Jewish people throughout the world will continue to contribute to the building of the Jewish land," the manifesto declares. "There was a law in the olden days when the Jewish State existed, that every single Jew, rich and poor, had to pay dues toward repair of the Temple and the safeguarding of the country. All Jews here and abroad will henceforth provide for the Jewish future in our own state. The Jewish people will maintain the Keren Hayesod and strengthen it so that it will be the tool for construction and consolidation in the days ahead," the manifesto concludes.

J.N.F. LEADER ARRIVES FROM PALESTINE; J.N.F. INITIATES "BOOK OF THE JEWISH STATE"

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA)--Elias M. Epstein, head of the overseas department of the Jewish National Fund headquarters in Jerusalem, arrived here from Palestine. Epstein will attend the national conference of the Jewish National Fund scheduled to be held in Chicago next month.

A "Book of the Jewish State" dedicated to the decision of the United Nations, which was opened at the headquarters of the J.N.F. in Jerusalem to perpetuate the historic event, according to a cable received today from Dr. Abraham Granovsky, head of the Jewish National Fund. Inscriptions commemorating the event may be entered on the basis of contributions of \$100 to the Fund for the acquisition of land in Palestine.

In his cable, addressed to Judge Morris Rothenberg, president of the J.N.F. in America, Dr. Granovsky invited American Jews to express their gratitude for America's decisive part in the historic decision by inscribing the names of President Harry S. Truman, Secretary of State George C. Marshall, of members of the U.S. Delegation to the United Nations, as well as the names of Zionist leaders who represented the Jewish Agency before the United Nations, and of the Jewish and non-Jewish leaders of public opinion who championed the cause of Jewish independence in Palestine.

L. LOUISE WATERMAN WISE DIES IN NEW YORK; WAS ARTIST AND SOCIAL WORKER

NEW YORK, Dec. 11. (JTA)--Mrs. Louise Waterman Wise, wife of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, died here last night after a six-day illness.

Mrs. Wise was an artist and a social worker. She helped found the Women's Division of the American Jewish Congress and was its only president since 1931. She also managed the Congress Refugee and Defense Houses and founded and headed the Child Adoption Committee of the Free Synagogue. She was born in New York.

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