

ABOUT

Inter Office Information

# YOUR ATTENTION

FROM

Saul Hayes

# 42 CONFIDENTIAL

Dec. 5th, 1946.

1. New Date of Plenary Session.

The Plenary Session will be held in Montreal on June 1st and 2nd, 1947 instead of March 16th and 17th as previously scheduled.

2. American Jewish Congress Statement on Relations with Communist Party.

The "Congress Weekly" of November 22nd carries a statement of the American Jewish Congress on its relations with the Communist Party. The editorial refers to the resolution of the Communist Party on "communist work among the American Jewish masses. It points out that the concepts of Jewish life and many of the policies established by this resolution are diametrically opposed to those of such Jewish organizations as the American Jewish Congress, dedicated both to the survival of the Jewish people and the development of a positive Jewish life. The entire spirit and letter of the resolution casts considerable doubt whether the instructions issued to party members with regard to cooperation with others on these problems are really motivated by a genuine concern for the fulfillment of democracy in this country. Rather, we suspect that common cause is to be sought on these aspects of the Jewish problem in order more effectively to wage the party battle on issues in which the overwhelming mass of American Jewry repudiate communist policy."

3. Semi-monthly Luncheon Meetings of Inner Executive.

A change of dates in the semi-monthly luncheon meetings of the Montreal members of the National Executive has been effected. They will take place every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. The first of these meetings will be held on December 10th, 1946.

4. Nominating Committee of the National Joint Public Relations Committee.

Messrs. J.H. Fine, Monroe Abbey and Gurston Allen have been appointed to act as Congress representatives on the Nominating Committee which is to bring in recommendations as to the election of a new Chairman of the National Joint Public Relations Committee. Messrs. Harold Lande, Montague Reisman and Isidor Marcus will represent the B'nai B'rith on this committee. The chairmanship of the National Joint Public Relations Committee has been vacated by the resignation of Mr. Irving Oelbaum who is retiring due to ill-health. The National Joint Public Relations Committee will meet on December 8th, 1946, in Montreal.

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5. Catholic Magazine Comments on Dr. G. Davidson's Address to U.J.R.

A favourable editorial has appeared in the New York Catholic Magazine "Commonweal" which is based on the address delivered by Dr. G. Davidson, head of the American Jewish Agricultural Society, to a recent U.J.R. meeting of the Eastern Region. The editorial recommends to widen immigration policy for Canada.

6. Termination of Overseas Relief Supplies of the World Jewish Congress.

The overseas relief activities of the World Jewish Congress in the United States are terminated. In issuing a release on the termination of these activities it has been agreed to stress the continued interest in the Foster Parents Plan of the Child Care Division of the World Jewish Congress as well as in the World Jewish Congress Location Service. The overseas relief supply activities will be continued in other countries where conditions are different from those prevailing in the United States.

7. Jewish Demands Adopted by Big-Four Ministers.

The Council of Foreign Ministers adopted clauses to insure restoration of rights and restitution of property to the Jews of Hungary and Rumania in the peace treaties with these countries. The acceptance of these clauses was proposed in a joint memorandum submitted by Jewish representatives at the Peace Conference in Paris to which Canadian Jewish Congress was one of the signatories. As a consequence of these efforts three amendments are now definitely written into the treaties with Hungary and Rumania. They are designed to extend and amplify the original clauses of human rights and fundamental freedoms, to assure restitution of property to victims of racial and prejudice persecution and to provide that property which once belonged to victims of persecution but which is today heirless and unclaimed should be placed in trust for the purpose of rehabilitating the survivors. The Council of Foreign Ministers voted its approval on December 2nd. Foreign Minister Molotov withdrew his objections after the British and the United States delegations had agreed to a compromise, by the terms of which, heirless Jewish property would be turned over to local organizations in Rumania and Hungary rather than to the proposed International Refugee Organization. This compromise was acceptable to the Jewish organizations, since it was in line with the original Jewish demands at Paris.

The implementation of these amendments by the Hungarian and Rumanian Governments will mean that the destitute Jewish communities in those countries will be helped along the road towards self-rehabilitation.

We are issuing a statement to the Canadian Press on the decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

8. Parcels to Russia.

Difficulties have arisen in sending parcels to Russia. Several months ago, the J.D.C. discontinued the project of forwarding parcels to individuals in Russia in view of the re-evacuation of refugees. Also, the World Tourist Bureau which used to send parcels to Russia, discontinued sending them.