

YOUR ATTENTION

FROM Saul Hayes

53 CONFIDENTIAL

Dec. 20th, 1946.

1. German Peace Treaty.

The Inner Executive discussed on December 19th action to be taken in respect to the forthcoming meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers on the German and Austrian Peace Treaties. We shall make our views known to the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa to have them transmitted to the British Foreign office; we shall keep the World Jewish Congress informed of our action. We shall also draft our views on restitution and restoration of property as well as on the **reparation problem.**

2. Public Relations National Office.

Instructions in writing will be given to the three members of Congress acting on the Nominations Committee of the National Joint Public Relations Committee that under no circumstances will Congress agree to an arrangement whereby the Joint Public Relations work will be done by a National Public Relations director in a separately created national office. The view of the Inner Executive was that the instructions be given in unequivocal and inflexible terms and whatever the B'nai B'rith's reaction be the agreement of Congress and B'nai B'rith must envisage the Public Relations work under the National Executive Director of Congress, whoever he be, and physically within the Congress framework.

3. Social Credit.

A memorandum with excerpts from Social Credit papers will be prepared and the recent radio address of Solon Law will be carefully examined. In light of the analysis to be made, decision will be taken on further steps in relationship to the Social Credit.

4. Relatives' Movement.

We shall guarantee to the government all cases of relatives who are unable to satisfy the government under the scope of the Order-in-Council that the newcomers will not become public charge. The Inner Executive approved also all commitments made by us to the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees in placing our overseas staff at their disposal in carrying out the movement of relatives and in hiring a new staff for the purposes if such steps are required.

5. Adult Education.

A lecture series on contemporary affairs in Montreal will be sponsored by us under the joint auspices of the B'nai B'rith and Y.M.H.A.

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6. United Palestine Appeal.

The Inner Executive discussed the suggestion put forward by Mr. H.S. Rosenberg, K.C., National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, to have a joint campaign in 1947 for Palestine and overseas relief. We shall reply to Mr. Rosenberg that informal discussions in advance of statement of principle by our executive and by the executive of the Zionist organization would be a premature step; that we shall put it on the agenda of the next meeting. We shall also advise Mr. Rosenberg of our doubts as to the feasibility of patterning any joint fund-raising on the basis of the United Jewish Appeal techniques used in the United States.

7. J.D.C. Conference in Canada.

The Inner Executive discussed yesterday the suggestion that the J.D.C. holds a conference in Canada early in March. The decision taken was to the effect that the J.D.C. be invited to hold such a conference for one afternoon of our Plenary Session which will be held on June 1st and 2nd, 1947. Sufficient time will be devoted at the Plenary Session to this project.

8. Citizenship Week.

We have been invited by the Citizenship branch of the Department of Secretary of State to be represented at the opening ceremonies of the Citizenship Week on June 3rd in Ottawa. Mr. B. Sadowski, President of our central region, will be asked to attend and in case of his inability to be present, Mr. F.I. Spielman, National Treasurer, agreed to represent Congress.

9. Public Relations In Saskatchewan.

Mr. D. L. Levene, President of our Regina branch and Mr. Victor Samuels of Regina, President of the Western Canadian Council of the B'nai B'rith interviewed the Minister of Education of the Province of Saskatchewan, Mr. Woodrow Lloyd, and discussed the transmitting of inter-social goodwill materials among the Youth of Regina through the Public and High schools. They received a very cordial and encouraging interest from the Minister. He is most anxious to cooperate with Congress in any way which we may suggest to him. Some time ago we contacted Mr. Lloyd and Mr. J.H. Janzen, Director of Curricular of the Province of Saskatchewan, and provided 8,000 copies of the pamphlet, "Races of Mankind" which were distributed to every teacher in the Province with the cooperation of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation and Mr. Lloyd's approval. We shall send a copy of the film catalogue together with samples of literature and posters to the Minister suggesting a full program. We are clearing all these steps with our Regina officers.

10. Travel Documents for Stateless Persons.

We are in contact with the American resident representative of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees in regard to travel documents for stateless persons as they have been established by the Intergovernmental agreement of October 15th, 1946. The Canadian Government for the past few years has been issuing through its Department of External Affairs a certificate of identity as a recognized travel document to stateless persons; this certificate did not imply permission for re-entry to the issuing country. We contemplate asking our government to recognize travel documents issued by other governments which have already signed the Intergovernmental agreement.

11. 23,000 Children are in D.P. Camps.

Dr. Jos. Schwartz, reported that the character of the population in the D.P. camps has substantially changed. There has been a tremendous increase in family groups. The original D.P.'s who were liberated in Germany were mostly the sole surviving members of their family. There were practically no children under 14 years of age and relatively few between the ages of 14 and 18. Now there are 23,000 children under 18 years of age in the American zone alone. Most of these are accompanied by their parents although several thousands are full orphans. The birth rate in the American zone is about 1,000 per month. This has created a tremendous amount for layettes and infant supplies, including special food for infants.

Dr. Schwartz reported also that there has been a new orientation developing in the camps towards building up a program of work and of productive activity. The J.D.C. tries to solve the problem of raw materials, at least in part by substituting clothes and leather for finished garments and shoes which will give the people the necessary material for their work projects. Machines and tools which the army will not be able to provide out of seized enemy depots have to be supplied by the J.D.C. Plans have been drawn for the utilization of some 36,000 workers at an early date in a variety of work projects. The number of D.P.'s is close to 250,000. There exists a tremendous need for all kinds of educational supplies, of Yiddish and Hebrew books of all kinds; the J.D.C. hopes to meet the text book problem by photographic offset for which the Army is furnishing paper.

12. Campaign Receipts.

\$800 was received from Brandon, Man. \$1,825 was received from Halifax on account of our 1946 campaign.

13. Overseas Transmissions and Supplies.

There is an amount of \$150,000 available for immediate overseas transmission. We discussed over the telephone with the Joint Distribution Committee the difficulties which still exist in making direct transmission via New York; we are studying the import of the recent change in foreign exchange control regulations on relief work. The transmission will be effected on behalf of the J.D.C. before the end of this year within the sterling area if not through New York. We are hopeful to be able to finalize the arrangements for buying one million pounds of canned Kosher meat at the beginning of the year.