

YOUR ATTENTION

FROM Saul Hayes

No. 58 CONFIDENTIAL

Dec. 30th, 1946.

1. Labour Relations.

Several conferences were held with the American Jewish Labour Committee, American Jewish Congress, American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League, with regard to their labour relations program. A member of our staff spent several days in New York where he contacted the heads of the labour departments of the mentioned organizations and arranged for their permission to use their materials in Canada and to adapt them to our local conditions. All organizations assured of their willingness to cooperate in every possible way, to let us use our own imprimature on the materials which we would chose for distribution in Canada. The labour department of the Anti-Defamation League is now in process of reorganization after the resignation of Mr. Scherman who was in charge of this department. Mr. Scherman is the author of the pamphlet, "Anti-Semitism Labour's Enemy", which is being considered for Canadian consumption as well in an adjusted form. The A.D.L. is now having a new series of cartoons, "Appreciate America" sponsored by the Institute of Democracy. We may be able to use their ideas in Canada. They also have a series of "Sing a Song of Friendship" by Irving Caesar which is distributed amongst school children; the songs deal with problems of tolerance and racial understanding. Arrangements are being made for recording of many of these songs by Frank Sinatra. The National Labour Service of the American Jewish Committee which is headed by Mr. Sigman, will also supply us with all of their publications, posters, mats, etc. The National Labour Service is now working on a new pamphlet, "Discrimination - Costs You Money". It is an illustrated brochure and we have been promised that its final draft will be cleared with us so as to make it acceptable to Canada as well. The American Jewish Congress is chiefly concerned with legal and social action and there is no special labour department in operation. The American Jewish Labour Committee in New York is clearing its plans for Canada with their Canadian Committee.

2. Restitution of Property.

The Department of External Affairs invited Canadian citizens and aliens permanently resident in Canada who have applied for Canadian citizenship as well as companies or any other bodies incorporated under the laws of Canada to furnish particulars in regard to property situated in Germany and Austria. Persons who have already submitted particulars to the Department need not forward any further information. Owners of property in Finland, Hungary or Rumania are invited to furnish particulars of any claims for restoration or compensation for loss or damage arising out of the war in respect of such property. Claims should be submitted on forms obtainable from the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs not later than Feb. 28th, 1947. The Canadian Government will endeavour to promote the favourable consideration of claims. Submission of claims in regard to property loss in Finland, Hungary and Rumania do not apply to aliens resident in Canada. The Canadian authorities are prepared to forward claims for property in all zones of Germany and Austria to the appropriate authorities in the zone concerned. The announcement of the Department of External Affairs in regard to claims in respect of property in Germany and Austria

National Headquarters: CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS**1121 St. Catherine St. W., Montreal; Tel. PLateau 6891**

emphasized that in offering these facilities the Canadian authorities are concerned only to provide claimants, in the absence of normal postal facilities to Germany, with an opportunity for placing details of their claims on record with the appropriate authorities in Germany pending the establishment of machinery for dealing with them. No correspondence can be entered into with regard to these claims nor the Department of External Affairs undertake to provide reports on the properties.

3. Immigration.

Editorials on immigration appeared in the "Montreal Daily Star" of December 27th and in the "Gazette" of December 30th. Both editorials referred to indications from Ottawa that the next session of Parliament will bring action on a new immigration act for Canada. "It is none too soon" states the Montreal Daily Star. The editorial continues, "There are tens of thousands who would give almost anything to be allowed to settle in our midst. Political and racial refugees from many lands have been trying for years to get in. A few of them have managed to enter. For the rest we have expressed platitudes in sympathy and condemned their oppressors. But about the only actual concessions made in their behalf have been to allow in some relatives of those fortunate enough to have arrived before we barred the door and four thousand veterans of the Polish Army who refused to return to their homeland." The editorial in the Gazette is headed, "Wanted: An Immigration Plan". The editorial stresses that an attempt might be made to evolve a new charter of immigration that would encourage the right type of prospective Canadian to come here, with possibly, somewhat less stress than formerly on agricultural workers and domestic servants.

4. Clothing Collection in Montreal.

The current clothing collection in Montreal is limited to men's suits and overcoats and women's coats only. Several requests for pick-up have been received by our office and the offices of the JIAS and of the National Council of Jewish Women. The Committee in charge of the collection will meet and decide on the procedure of attending to these requests.

5. Mr. Ph. Stuchen to Visit Winnipeg.

In connection with the preparatory work for the Spring campaign of the Jewish Welfare Fund in Winnipeg, a visit of Mr. Ph. Stuchen to Winnipeg is being planned at the end of January. Mr. Stuchen will report on his work in the D.P. camps in Germany. It is hoped that the Welfare Fund in Winnipeg will include an allocation in line with the new national objective of \$2,000,000 for relief work in 1947.

The trans-Canada National Network of the C.B.C. carried a 15-minute talk of Mr. Stuchen on Friday, December 27th. In addition to reporting on the conditions of the D.P.'s, Mr. Stuchen referred to the migration problems. He stated that it was regrettable to have to give a discouraging answer to many people who asked him of the possibilities of immigration to Canada. His talk concluded with an appeal to admit a reasonable number of refugees into Canada: "This is an opportunity for Canada to reassert her traditional humanitarian interest and at the same time to welcome new citizens to help build a greater Canada".