

MEMORANDUM FOR

National Executive

ABOUT

Inter Office Information

YOUR ATTENTION

FROM

Saul Hayes

100 CONFIDENTIAL

Feb. 28th, 1947.

1. Immigration of Skilled Workers.

A meeting was held on February 27th with the representatives of the needle trade industry and the I.L.G.W.U. in regard to the representations to be made to the Government urging admission of skilled workers and tailors to Canada. The meeting discussed both the humanitarian aspect and the economic needs of the industry. The national director indicated that the Congress delegation which saw the Prime Minister and his Cabinet on February 7th, 1947 made a plea in principle for consideration of the needle trade industries in addition to that accorded agriculture mining and lumbering. All present at the meeting were in agreement that in principle the industry call on the government for an influx of skilled labour. As to numbers there was no agreement but a meeting was called for March 10th by which time the union leaders will have had discussions with the manufacturers and both will be prepared to come with definite figures. It was agreed that the union leaders present will contact their union's representatives in Toronto and Winnipeg and obtain figures of needs from them. The Congress will prepare a draft of a brief and further will contact the Toronto and Winnipeg manufacturers to obtain their concurrence in the plans of presentation and participation in the delegation which is proposed, the next meeting will be held March 10th, 1947.

The following participated in the meeting: Monroe Abbey representing the U.J.R.A.; M. Silcoff (millinery union); H. Rieff (Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America); B. Shane (I.L.G.W.U.); Walter Freedman and Arthur Freedman (Canadian Clothing Manufacturers Association); David Solomon (Manufacturers Council Ladies Coats and Suits) and the National Director.

2. \$100,000 Transmission for Mo'Ess Chittin.

We are arranging for a transmission of \$100,000 for the Passover relief program of the J.D.C. Though the Mo'ess Chittin Appeal has not yet been completed and the funds were not as yet raised we feel that the transmission should be made right away in order that the program can be proceeded with and the supplies reach the beneficiaries on time. The transmission is being made with the approval of the Division of Voluntary War Relief in Ottawa and the Foreign Exchange Control Board for the specific purpose of providing Passover relief to Jewish communities in Europe.

3. Eastern Region Public Relations Meeting.

At the meeting of the Eastern Region Joint Public Relations Committee which was held on February 27th decisions were taken in regard to the articles on Arcand which appeared in the "Gazette". We shall continue to make representations to the "Gazette" to express dissatisfaction and disappointment with the way the articles on Arcand were handled and a committee of three will be appointed by the

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chairman to interview the Gazette to obtain a redress of the series; the same committee will also discuss with the "Gazette" its over-emphasizing the Jewish phase in the headlines. A report to the Jewish community, Jewish and Anglo-Jewish Press will be issued after the committee saw the editor of the "Gazette".

The articles in the Gazette were quoted in a Canadian Press dispatch and appeared in several other newspapers such as the Toronto Globe and Mail and others. Through our Toronto office we have been able to obtain interesting background information on the journalists involved in the writing and publication of the series, several of whom were former Torontonians.

4. Social Credit.

Mr. Jos. H. Fine and the National Director are meeting today with Mr. Solon Low and Rene Caouette to continue discussions on the anti-semitic utterances in the publications and of the leaders of the Social Credit Party. Mr. Herman of Toronto is replacing Rabbi A.L. Fineberg at this Conference.

5. "J.D.C. Accused of Helping Jews".

A new pamphlet called, "J.D.C. Accused of Helping the Jews" is off the press. It is a reprint of the article which appeared in the New York Times on the report of Mr. George Meader to the Senate War Investigating Committee on the American zone of occupation in Germany and the problem of displaced persons. Mr. Meader declared that "the large influx of Jews into the U.S. zone is organized and financed by American sources and that the Army authorities were unable to state the source of the financial report for transporting the train loads of Jews into the zone but they suspect strongly that the American Joint Distribution Committee is doing it in spite of their protestations to the country. General McNarney said that he believed Mr. Schwartz, who is head of the Paris office of this committee, would admit that they were furnishing the transportation."

The pamphlet was issued in connection with our \$2,000,000 campaign for overseas relief.

6. Cultural and Religious Aid to War Victims.

We received a report from the J.D.C. on the reconstruction of religious institutions, fostering of cultural activities and re-establishment of educational facilities in Europe by the J.D.C. During 1946 several hundred elementary schools in about 20 countries serving tens of thousands of children received J.D.C. assistance. Help was given to 58 Yeshivoth and Seminaries and funds were provided for various cultural and religious research activities in Palestine. Our collection of over 100 Sefer Torahs in Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg formed a direct part of this program and acknowledgment was already received of several of them having arrived in European Jewish communities. Another contribution which we have been able to make towards this program was a substantial collection of books which helped the reconstruction of various libraries in Europe. The Jewish Rabbinical Council in Poland is supported by the J.D.C. and a large part of the J.D.C. budget in Poland is allocated for communal rehabilitation. In the D.P. camps in Germany, Austria and Italy extensive programs of educational and religious assistance were developed and religious activities were carried on under the supervision of the J.D.C. Religious Advisor. The construction of several synagogues was financed. The Vienna Kultusgemeinde has the major portion of its budget covered by the J.D.C. Large programs were carried out in Hungary and Rumania.