

MEMORANDUM FOR

National Executive

ABOUT

Inter Office Information

# YOUR ATTENTION

FROM

Saul Hayes

# 113 CONFIDENTIAL

March 19th, 1947.

## 1. Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees.

A lengthy conversation was held with Miss Martha Biehle, American resident representative of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees. We obtained data on what officers of the I.G.C. are prepared to do to expedite the Canadian immigration project of moving relatives from the D.P. camps in Germany to Canada under the present Orders-in-Council. Miss Biehle stated that the I.G.C. officers in Germany are now engaged in handling the Canadian, Brazilian, and Venezuelan immigration projects and the tempo of the movement depends on the respective governments and their facilities to issue permits and visas. Canadian immigration officials are to proceed from Paris to the camps. The speedy movement of relatives to Canada will largely depend on the facilities which will be available in Germany. The non-repatriable refugees are within the jurisdiction of the I.G.C.; however, the Committee is in no position to assist all non-repatriable Jewish refugees, particularly in view of the fact that the Committee will be out of business as soon as the National Refugee Organization is established. The staff of the I.G.C. is kept in a reasonable proportion in the light of the early demise of the Committee. At an earlier date we have supplied the I.G.C. with a list of D.P.'s who have relatives in Canada which was compiled at our request by the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society.

## 2. Overseas Transmissions.

We are arranging for a transmission of \$30,000 to Australia to pay for supplies of powdered milk being sent to the Jewish war survivors in Europe. The transmission is made in conjunction with the J.D.C.

\$10,000 is being sent to Rabbi M. Berlin in Jerusalem for Passover relief to refugee Rabbis and students in Palestine. \$100,000 was sent for Passover relief to the JDC in New York and another \$100,000 is being sent on account of the JDC to Palestine.

\$2,000 is being transmitted to the Association of Polish Jews in Sweden to assist in maintenance and care to a larger number of refugee children who have been admitted to Sweden a few years ago. The transmission is made on the request of the "Ezra" Ladies Society in Montreal which contributed \$1,000 for this purpose.

We are sending \$3,200 to New York for purchase of sewing machines. The project is being carried out in conjunction with the Federation of Polish Jews who contributed the money for this purpose.

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### 3. Layettes Project Augmented.

We are applying to the Department of National War Services in Ottawa for permission to augment the number of layettes which we are allowed to send overseas. The project was undertaken by various women's groups across Canada and it is progressing effectively.

### 4. Findings of American Jewish Research Bodies will be Used in Canada.

Conferences were had in New York with Dr. Steward Cook and Dr. Samuel Flowerman, the respective heads of the Research Departments of the American Jewish Congress and American Jewish Committee. It was our specific endeavour to find out to which extent the preliminary findings of these research bodies could be used within our own program. As far as the American Jewish Congress (commission on community inter-relations) is concerned, it emerged that their most concrete project to date is concerned with the treatment of "personal incidents". Carefully tested answers are being elaborated which people can use when anti-semitic remarks are made in public. The C.C.I. is preparing a full scale training program, which should be available by the autumn. As we felt that Jewish clubs in Canada, particularly Jewish branches of the Legion, Lodges and youth groups, may be anxious to include such training in their program for the next season, we obtained Dr. Cook's consent that he will make available to us within a month a specially written memorandum which we can offer all such groups as a first source of information. We shall also receive a group study guide based on Professor Goodwin Watson's "Action for Unity", which we shall make available to non-Jewish study groups through the facilities of the Canadian Association for Adult Education. The Research Department of the American Jewish Committee, is to a large extent concerned with program evaluation; we made tentative arrangements with Dr. Flowerman of this Department, for the testing of audience reaction to the film, "Don't Be A Sucker", which we have now on the rural circuits of the National Film Board. In cooperation with the N.F.B., Dr. Flowerman may supply questionnaires and other testing techniques which could give valuable indication as to the effectiveness of films of this type. We also discussed the formulation of poll questions to test the degree to which public opinion in a given province has advanced in favour of fair employment legislation.

### 5. Distribution of Jewish Records.

The Women's League of the United Synagogues of America and a private company (Vox Records) respectively, have recently produced the following albums of Jewish records: Seder Melodies; Jewish Holiday Dances; Palestinian Dances; New Songs of Palestine. The albums contain three 10-inch discs each. We purchased six sets of each album. Each of the three Congress Regions will receive two sets, shipped direct from New York. Due to special arrangements the average price per album will be in the neighborhood of \$4.00 inclusive of custom duty. Additional sets can be ordered through the National office.

### 6. Passover Program.

A report has been received from the JDC on its Passover relief program. For 1947 \$750,000 was appropriated for the purchase of Passover food in the United States which will augment substantial local purchases in Europe. Supplies for 1947, almost double those shipped in 1946, include over 3,000,000 pounds of matzo's and over 1,000,000 pounds of matzoh meal destined to 14 countries. 800 tons of wheat were shipped to Rumania to be milled into Passover flour. About 150,000 pounds of kosher meat are expected to reach Europe in time for the holidays. Special allocations of 100,000 pounds of macaroons and 30,000 pounds of kosher fat were made for the D.P. camps in Germany. For the first time in a decade 85,000 pounds of matzo's were baked in Berlin.