

MEMORANDUM FOR

Inter-Office Information

ABOUT

**YOUR ATTENTION**

Saul Hayes

No. 135 CONFIDENTIAL

FROM

April 21st, 1947.

1. New York Conferences

The executive director spent several hours with Dr. Paul Freedman, well known New York psychiatrist, who spent over in Europe in the summer, fall and winter of 1946 on behalf of JDC investigating the conditions of care, maintenance and upbringing of children in orphanages and foster homes. The director discussed with him plans of procedure in the event that the Canadian Government gives us the permit and go ahead on the 1000 children. He was familiar with the South African experience and his background of the immediate problem can be of great service to us.

The role to be played by Jewish organizations in United States to try and obtain immigration visas is under study and active work is being undertaken to create pressure for liberalising the immigration laws.

The executive director investigated ORT program in interview with ORT Executive Vice-Chairman in preparation for Executive and Budget Committee meetings of May 4th.

The executive director may be detained in New York longer than he anticipated. He is under doctor's instructions for a few days.

2. Inner-executive meeting of April 22nd postponed

The regular meeting of the Montreal members of the National Executive which was scheduled for April 22nd has been cancelled.

3. Outremont School question

A delegation of the Committee on Education of Jewish children in Outremont met on April 18th with the Provincial secretary, Omer Cote, in Quebec. The reception was courteous and sympathetic; the interview lasted for over an hour. Issues of grave import were traversed, including various clauses of the pending legislation which will regulate the admittance of Jewish children to the Protestant schools in Outremont. Problems of the length of time of the validity of the new arrangements and of taxation were discussed at great detail.

There are at present three different rates of taxation for school purposes in the Province of Quebec: the Catholic rate, which is the lowest one, the Protestant and the Neutral, which is the highest. Up to 1930's, the Jews were taxed as neutrals; however, this was changed with the decision that the neutral panel applies to corporations only and no individual can be subject to the neutral rate. The Jews were since taxed in the same way as Protestants. Montreal Protestant Central School Board appeared already before the Public Bills Committee of the Legislative Assembly with a bill asking that the Protestant school rate be increased from ten mills to fifteen mills in regard to Protestants and Jews and from twelve mills to seventeen mills for the neutral panel to which business pays its school taxes. The Central Board does not like the Outremont idea of a special tax of its own.

National Headquarters: **CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS**

1121 St. Catherine St. W., Montreal; Tel. Plateau 6891

The Delegation which saw the provincial secretary consisted of the following: M. Garber, K.C., as chairman, M. Lippman, S.J. Littner, B.A. Usheroff, Harold Ross and Mrs. A. Wigdor.

4. National Public Relations Meeting will be held on May 6th.

The National Joint Public Relations Committee will meet in Montreal on May 6th and not on May 5th as it was originally planned. The change was made necessary in view of the B'Nai Brith Conference which will be held in Montreal from May 3rd through May 5th.

The date for the National Executive and National Budget meetings remained unchanged and both meetings will be held on Sunday, May 4th at the Mount Royal Hotel.

5. Meetings of the Executive Committees in Toronto and Winnipeg.

The executive committee of the Central Region met on April 3rd. Items on the agenda included: a) request from Art Gallery to participate in a Folk Festival; further investigation will be made on the scope of the festival; b) request of the Fellowship of Reconciliation for participation on a committee to have compulsory cadet training in the High Schools abolished; the matter was tabled for further consideration; c) Reorganization of educational committee; d) Congress elections; a meeting of delegates from Toronto and provincial communities will be held two weeks prior to the Plenary session; e) Mo'ass Chittin campaign and f) Youth Conference.

The Western Executive Committee met on March 25th. Mr. S. Kanne reported on behalf of the committee which was to bring in recommendation as to the election procedure to the Plenary Session. The committee felt that the system used in Montreal was much preferable to the one decided upon by the Western executive. However, it would not be feasible to re-open the question due to the extensive preparation which would be necessary for the introduction of a completely new system of election. Instead, the committee regarded it advisable to amend the present system by inviting the Welfare Fund in Winnipeg to appoint four delegates to the Plenary Session. The recommendation was approved.

Plans for a Western Conference in Regina prior to the Plenary Session did not materialize due to certain local difficulties. The Western Community leaders are being consulted about calling such conference to Winnipeg.

6. Publicity for Winnipeg Welfare Campaign

We arranged for special literature in connection with the campaign of the Winnipeg Welfare Fund. With the co-operation of the printers, "the Jewish Daily Eagle", we were able to put out an impressive piece in twenty-four hours and mail it by air to Winnipeg. The current Winnipeg campaign works already on the basis of the increased objective for overseas relief of \$2,000,000.

7. Canada's leadership in international affairs.

The importance of our contacts with the Canadian government on the matters of the greatest possible protection to minority groups and guarantee of their rights is attested to by the leadership which Canada has obtained in international affairs.

A recent survey in Lake Success revealed that only three of the fifty-five members of the United Nations are taking part in every one of the eight specialized agencies which form constructive adjuncts of the World Organization. The all-out trio are the United States, Great Britain and Canada. A chart listing membership in the U.N.O. and the specialized agencies was now published by the U.N. department of Public information. Listed were: the International Labor Organization, the United Nation-Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco), the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the World Health Organization interim commission and the International Refugee Organization preparatory commission. All are either linked or plan affiliation with the U.N.

#### 8. Ontario campaign

Mr. Philip Stuchen will visit the following communities for campaign purposes: Belleville, Oshawa, St. Thomas, Owen Sound, Windsor and Kitchener. The Windsor meeting will be the annual dinner of the community Federation Gen-enoque on May 27th. He will also address a non-Jewish audience at the meeting of the Rotarian Clubs in Kingston.

#### 9. Canadian Press

From time to time we refer to arrangements with the C.P. or clearance with the C.P. We have taken for granted that all readers of the I.O.I. know that we refer to the Canadian Press. However, we believe it desirable to indicate that all our references in the I.O.I. to the "C.P." refer to the Canadian Press.

#### 10. Arrival of the First Group of D.P.'s

The publicity on the arrival of the first group of the D.P.'s was handled in a very gratifying way. At our specific request, the Jewish newcomers were not played up and so we avoided leaving the impression that a larger group of Jews has been brought to the country. The first transport consisted of 52 persons out of whom 16 were Jewish.