

ABOUT

Inter-Office Information

**YOUR ATTENTION**

FROM

Saul Hayes

No. 143 CONFIDENTIAL

May 1st, 1947.

1. Needle Trade Industry's Representations on Immigration.

On Friday, May 2nd representatives of the needle trade industries, employers and labor leaders, will meet with Cabinet Ministers, Mitchell and Glen (Labor and Mines & Resources) to submit a written plea for the entry to Canada of a number of skilled workers from the DP Camps to take their guaranteed places in the industry. Among those who will be part of this joint delegation of the mens' and womens' clothing industry will be Horace Cohen, OBE, Norman Gensor, H. Reiff, David Solomon, Bernard Shane. Readers of the IOI will recall that the Congress initiated the plan to request these industries to make submissions and that it also co-ordinated the activities as well as prepared the master brief on which are based the briefs which are to be presented.

2. Greetings to Congress of Jewish Societies in Paris.

The following telegram was sent to the 19th Congress of the National Federation of Jewish Societies in France in reply to the invitation which has been extended to us: "Canadian Jews greet you in the warmest fraternal solidarity. We admire your courage under affliction and your fine efforts for reconstruction. You are upholding noble tradition of French Jewry. Canadian Jews see in you a valuable partner in Israel's struggle for survival and restoration."

3. Refugees in Cyprus.

Tribute to J.D.C. work in Cyprus has been paid by one of the inmates of the camps in a letter which appeared in "The Day". The letter states, "Special credit for the improvement of conditions here goes to the Joint Distribution Committee. Its aid is everywhere and we really don't know what we would do without it. To begin with, it's the Joint that supplements our daily rations. We receive from the army twenty-five hundred calories a day - just enough to subsist on. The Joint adds enough to keep us moderately satisfied and our children in the pink of health. You should see our Beth Hatinkoth - a fine, clean place for our infants. And also our school attended by 1,300 children, the greatest Jewish child aggregation in Europe today. All this is of tremendous help to us. The Joint here co-operates with the Agency to a point where it's hard to tell where the work of one begins and that of the other ends. I have not seen that in any other camp. And, I suppose, it's not in every camp that the Joint has a director of the type of Morris Laub, who is stationed here and under whose direction the work is going forward in a most gratifying manner. A good Zionist, a good Hebraist, the Joint's Morris Laub has demonstrated an understanding of the psychology of the detainees as well as of the logic of the situation that is as genuine as it is rare. He has the rare distinction of having no ant-

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agonists. All parties turn to him as to a trusted friend. Labor Zionists and Revisionists, Mizrahi and Hashomer Hatzair share their confidences with him. If there is another man this side of Suez who can boast of that much, I've not heard of him."

4. Leases Will Include Clause Outlawing Racial Intolerance.

The City Council of Calgary is considering a motion that all leases of city-owned property now being negotiated or contemplated be held in abeyance pending a decision by the City Council on whether to put a clause into all such leases outlawing racial discrimination on the part of lessees operating the property for public purposes. A motion to this effect was approved by the City Council. City By-laws dealing with racial discrimination in Toronto and New York are to be obtained by the Committee to assist its study of the matter. The decision with reference to leases was directed particularly towards a golf course lease recently approved by Council but not completed. It was pointed out after the vote that the proposed lease might be delayed by the decision. It was pointed out that some hotels had definitely opposed taking Negro people and if hotels were to discriminate against people it was time the city acted. It was suggested that the motion should be extended to apply to all restaurants, theatres, golf courses and public places. The Alberta Hotel Association denied that any racial discrimination had been practised in Calgary hotels. The motion to suspend action on leases was brought to a tie vote and passed on a casting vote by the acting mayor.

5. Alberta Bill of Rights.

The Attorney-General of the Province of Alberta stated that no amendments will be made to the Alberta Bill of Rights until the Privy Council has dealt with it. When the latest session of the legislature opened it had been indicated in the Speech from the Throne that members would be asked to approve some amendments to the Bill, but these were not placed before the House.

6. Oneg Shabbat Service in connection with Plenary Session.

Mr. Monroe Abbey and the National Director, conferred with Mr. Blumenstap, Mr. Woiser, representatives of the National Council of the Y's, Mr. Rabinovitch of the Jewish Welfare Board in New York, and Mr. T.X. Berger of the field staff of the Jewish Welfare Board who has been working in Canada for the past few years. The discussion centered on arrangements for an Oneg Shabbat Service in connection with the Plenary Session and on a formulation of a modus vivendi between the Youth Division and the National Council of the Y's. A detailed report will be presented to the meeting of May 4th.

7. Public Relations Information Bulletin.

The third issue of the Public Relations Information Bulletin is being mailed today to the members of the National and Regional Public Relations Committees. Part of the bulletin forms a summary of the memorandum of the American Jewish Committee opposing group libel; the text of the bill to protect certain civil rights recently adopted in Saskatchewan and the leaflet of the Canadian Association for Adult Education, "Do we Need A Bill of Rights in Canada". These annexes are also attached to this issue of the I.O.I.