

YOUR ATTENTION

FROM

Saul Hayes

No. 162 CONFIDENTIAL

May 29th, 1947.

1). National President Will Address Meeting in Winnipeg.

Mr. Samuel Bronfman accepted the invitation to address a joint meeting of the Women's Divisions of the Jewish Welfare Fund and of Congress in Winnipeg. The meeting will take place on June 10th.

2). Program of Plenary Session.

We attach to this issue of the I.O.I. the program of the 7th Plenary Session.

3). \$ 10,000 Will be Remitted to W.J.C.

Our Financial Department continued conversations in Ottawa with the officials of the Foreign Exchange Control Board to obtain permission for transfer of funds from the Congress Treasury abroad. Satisfactory arrangements have been reached. A sum of \$ 10,000 will be remitted within the next few days to the World Jewish Congress in New York on account of the 1947 Congress allocation.

4). Youth Magazine "Focus".

The Montreal Jewish Youth Council published the third issue of its magazine "Focus", dated May 1947. It contains articles on "Palestine and the United Nations"; "South American Jewry Today"; "Youth in Palestine"; "Unity in our Educational Endeavours"; "Palestinian Soccer Team"; "Hashomer Hatzair"; "Chance of Humanity" by Martin Buber, translated from German; "Dead-End Jobs" and "Operation Supplies of the JDC"; included are book reviews and a Yiddish - Hebrew page.

5). Movement of Skilled Workers.

The special committee of the needle trade industry is now engaged in signing up employers for contracts for the 1500 skilled workers who are permitted to come to Canada. As soon as this is done the matter will proceed with dispatch.

6). Ottawa Campaign.

Mr. Samuel Bronfman addressed the following telegram to Mr. M. Loeb who heads the 1947 Ottawa campaign for overseas relief: "Please accept every good wish for the success of your vitally important campaign. It perhaps goes without saying that the Ottawa community will acquit itself honourably and with a full measure of responsibility. The immeasurable needs for reconstruction rescue and rehabilitation require the greatest measure of support and on a scale hitherto not reached. In wishing you every success and in extending best wishes to your co-workers I earnestly hope that the campaign will be an unquestionable success".

7). Guarantee for 1000 Children Accepted by the Department.

Mr. A.L. Jolliffe, Director of the Immigration Branch in Ottawa, advised us that the

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letter from the National President in which we furnished the guarantee required in connection with the movement of 1000 orphan children, will be satisfactory to the Department.

8). Review of "Jewish Population of Canada".

The April - May issue of the publication "Food For Thought" carries a review of the "Jewish Population of Canada, a statistical summary from 1851-1941" by our Research Director, which was recently published as No. 2 of our series of Canadian Jewish Population studies. The review states: "Perhaps all economists should first be statisticians. We'd be saved a lot of work. Mr. Rosenberg is Research Director of the Canadian Jewish Congress and several years ago prepared for that job. A 450 paged volume called "Canada's Jews" has become recognized as a model statistical and economic analyses. This new pamphlet brings the former volume up to date and provides information and statistical analyses based upon the 1941 census. This pamphlet together with the larger volume "Canada's Jews" should be read by all who are interested in the problems of intercultural relations."

9). Present Situation of Jews in Europe.

The JDC sent in a copy of a telegram which Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz sent to Mr. Henry Morgenthau Jr., which gives a startling and graphic description of the situation of Jews in Europe. We are reproducing the telegram in full: "Approximately 1500 persons monthly arriving France chiefly from camps Germany and Austria also from Poland. All require housing, food clothing, plus legal and emigration services. With constantly mounting prices France and acute shortage funds becoming impossible handle this influx. French Government favorably disposed permit more enter legally particularly children provided maintenance guaranteed in advance. Impossible assume heavy financial responsibilities involved with present limited means. This involves loss of opportunity relieve situation in camps where morale deteriorating daily. Due famine Rumania several thousand Rumanian Jews crossed Hungarian border. Latter government will permit them stay maximum ten days otherwise they are returned to Rumania. Some 1800 have already left Hungary for Austria where American military refuses to assume responsibility for them in accordance their announcement no further infiltrates will be supported after April 21st. UNRRA also refuses assume additional financial responsibility. Unless we assume full responsibility for this group they will either starve or have to return to country of origin. 1000 Rumanian Jews who arrived Hungary and could not proceed Austria have been returned by Hungarian authorities and are now concentrated in satumare Rumanian Transylvania. These people have sold all their belongings and given up their residences and cannot return to Moldavia from where they came because of acute famine conditions in that area and because they no longer have homes to return to. Have just received telephone message Rumania urgent relief action must be undertaken for this group as otherwise police will force them return to Moldavia where conditions presently unbearable. This constitutes tremendous financial responsibility which our present means do not permit. Reduction Hungarian budget due to financial stringency has resulted cutting off from relief additional 15,000 persons many of whom have no visible means support. With mounting prices and generally high cost living Hungary assistance program must be maintained highest possible level if underprivileged groups not to be subjected additional suffering. Hungarian Jewish community at a loss how to meet this problem which can only be dealt with on basis sufficient financial resources. Constant flow of infiltrates into Italy amounting approximately 1350 monthly. With curtailment UNRRAS relief activities view liquidation June 30 UNRRA refuses assume any new commitments. This throws entire burden on us and if JDC unable meet requirements these groups border will be closed or people coming in will suffer hardship. These are samples difficulties we facing because insufficient funds being made available."