

YOUR ATTENTION

FROM Saul Hayes

No. 217 CONFIDENTIAL

August 22nd, 1947.

1. Youth Program

The Montreal members of the National sub-committee on youth matters met with representatives of the National Council of the Y's to continue discussions on the co-ordination of youth work between the Youth Councils of Congress and the National Council of the Y's; the sub-committee on youth matters was appointed by the National Executive at its meeting of July 8th for the purpose of studying the resolutions of the Plenary Session and bringing in recommendations as to program and work to be done. The meeting agreed that Congress Youth Councils, operating directly with youth groups, and the National Council, ought to co-operate closely in the field of youth program. The National Council is responsible for the organization and the development of YMHA's and YWHA's and Jewish community centres, providing program and field and technical services; youth work of the National Council includes also servicing the community in such fields as health, physical education, leadership development, etc. The National Council of Y's proposed to provide the Congress Youth Councils with service in selection and guidance of personnel, program planning, program literature and in other technical areas. A modus operandi was worked out which includes detailed arrangements in regard to representation on the governing bodies of the National Council and the Congress Committee on youth and education; finance and budget (Congress would be called upon to share the responsibility for the budget of the National Council) office administration (Congress would have to provide office facilities for the National Council and also administrative services) and staff operation. The agreement would be effective as of January 1st, 1948.

The draft which was agreed upon at the meeting is now being submitted to the Central and Western Region members of the Committee. After clearance has been obtained the matter will be placed on the agenda of the National Executive for final approval and directions. The sub-committee comprises Messrs: Joseph H. Fine, S.D. Cohen, Monroe Abbey, M. Dickstein (Montreal), S. Posluns (Toronto), M.N. Sumner (Windsor), Sol Kneee, Max Cohen, B. Sheps (Winnipeg). Those who attended the meeting were: Joseph H. Fine, S.D. Cohen, Saul Hayes for Congress; H.E. Herschorn, President of National Council of Y's, H.J. Blumenstein, Secretary of National Council, Harvey Golden, S. Weiser, Executive members and J.X. Berger, Field Secretary.

2. Newfoundland Visited by Congress Representative

Our representative who is now visiting Newfoundland in the interest of the Combined UJRA-Congress Campaign had occasion to assist the Jewish community in Cornerbrook in a public relations case involving local newspaper and the Palestine situation; the case is not yet closed but was considerably smoothed. Certain special problems of the community were also discussed by our delegate with local community leaders and the co-operation of the Canadian Committee of Welfare Funds is being enlisted. Jewish communities of Grand Falls, Badger and Windsor met jointly at Badger; in spite of the situation of the communities through removals and death we were assured that last year's total will be exceeded.

National Headquarters: **CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS**

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3. Societies Division in Toronto

The Council of Societies Division of our Central Region met in Toronto on August 18th. A conference of the Societies Division will be held on October 12th; organizations up to 50 members are entitled to one delegate; 100 members - 2 delegates; 150 members - 3 delegates, 200 members - 4 delegates; the president of every society will be considered an ex-officio delegate. The conference will be addressed by our Research Director who is now completing a study on the Mutual Sick Benefit Societies in Toronto. The guest speaker will be Norman Gilmovsky, Executive Director of the Council of Organizations of United Jewish Appeal in New York. Mr. B. Sadowski, MBE, President of the Region, will extend greetings. Arrangements for the Yiskor campaign were also discussed; the campaign will be run through the Societies Division in co-operation with the Council for Religious Affairs and the Women's Division.

4. "Statistical Abstract" on JDC Activities

The JDC reported on its activities in 1946 and in the beginning of 1947 in a new publication of its Research Bureau which is called "Statistical Abstract". It attempts to depict the JDC activities in tabular form; 18 tables deal with JDC operations in individual countries giving the total Jewish population in 1939, total Jewish population as the beginning of 1947, the number of children and the JDC activities in child care, economic aid, cash relief, medical aid, vocational training, education, religious and cultural aid, Passover relief etc. Included are tables presenting the JDC assistance in kind. Copies of the report will be mailed to the members of the Dominion Council.

5. Air Transfer of D.P.'s

The Canadian press reported that the Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe, Reconstruction Minister, now in charge of immigration matters, stated on his return from a visit to Europe that large scale aerial transfers of D.P.'s to Canada are going to be undertaken by the Dominion government this fall. Mr. Howe told the press that flying immigrants project was expected to be launched soon after the end of September. When the scheme gets into full swing, the Minister declared, 2,500 - 3000 persons from D.P. camps would be landed into Canada monthly by both ship and plane. Mr. Howe stated that Canadian machinery in Europe for handling of prospective immigrants was being extended.

6. Congratulations of Prime Minister on Publication of "Canadian Jews in World War II"

The following letter was received from Mr. G.J. Matte, Private Secretary of the Prime Minister: "The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for sending him, with your letter of the 18th instant, a copy of the first volume of "Canadian Jews in World War II" which has just come off the press. Mr. King wished me to say that he was pleased with the way in which his message had been set out in the little volume. He wished me once more to extend his congratulations on the record of service being perpetuated in this way."

Lt. Col. J.E. Cheput, Officer Commanding of "Les Fusiliers Mont Royal" wrote: "We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated July 17th, 1947 and your magnificent volume "Canadian Jews in World War II". I have looked through the pages of the volume and found it very interesting. May I congratulate you on the initiative you have taken in publishing this volume."