

YOUR ATTENTION

FROM Saul Hayes

No. 253 CONFIDENTIAL

October 24th, 1947.

1. Fair Employment Practices Act

A group of the Carlton United Church in Toronto was addressed by a member of our Toronto staff on the subject of FEPA on October 19th; there was a short discussion during which the group asked for further material which they could study before the next meeting. Our Toronto office discussed the FEPA with Miss McKenzie, chairman of the Student Christian Movement of the University of Toronto; Miss McKenzie is chairman of the Student Christian movement Committee on Racial discrimination and allied subjects; material on FEPA has been sent to all members of the Committee.

2. Study on "The Jew in the Educational System of the Province of Quebec"

Our Archives and Library are cited as one of the major sources of the thesis: "The Jew in the Educational system of the Province of Quebec" presented by Harold Ross to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research of the McGill University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts; Mr. Ross is a member of the Committee on Education of Jewish children in Outremont. The analysis traces the history of the Jews in the educational structure of the Province of Quebec with particular emphasis on the 1924 commission and subsequent events, the formation of parochial schools and the Outremont school problem. Various statistical figures were contributed by our Research Department; the thesis is based among others on interviews with Mr. Michael Garber, K.C., School Commissioner. Mr. Ross placed a copy of his study with our library.

3. Remittances from Calgary and Regina

The Jewish Welfare Fund in Calgary remitted \$1,500 to our Winnipeg office on account of the 1947 allocation. \$3000 was received from Regina on account of the 1946 - 47 campaign; the 1947 - 48 appeal will be conducted on October 28th and the campaign meeting will be addressed by Messrs. Sol Kanee and B. Sheps.

4. Manual on Jewish Festivals to Be Included in a Cleveland Display

The Bureau of Jewish Education in Cleveland commended highly the Manual of Jewish Festivals issued by the Educational and Cultural Committee of our Central Region; the Manual will be included in a display of educational materials in Cleveland.

5. Meeting of Western Dominion Council

The Dominion Council of the Western Region met on October 16th; the agreement with the JIAS was ratified; thanks were expressed to Mr. Sol Kanee for his work for the orphans project; it was decided that the local Winnipeg aspect of the orphans' placement will be handled by the Winnipeg Congress Council and the Co-ordinating Committee will be in charge of matters of policies affecting Winnipeg and Western Canada.

6. Glace Bay and Sydney Campaigns

We are arranging for a speaker for the campaigns in Glace Bay and Sydney, which will be held on November 19th - 20th; the Director discussed the subject with the JDC in

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7. "Calgary Herald" Comments on Congress Press Work

Richard J. Needham, editor of the Calgary Herald, commented unfavourably on the steps being taken by the Government in Great Britain to discourage anti-semitism; he contrasts these efforts which he considers unavailing and dangerous with the program of the Canadian Jewish Congress of which he says: "In this connection, we might mention the extremely valuable work done by the Canadian Jewish Congress, through the material it distributes to newspaper editors and other persons in a position of influence. This organization deals with blanket charges against the Jews in Canada by quietly giving the facts: its publications are invariably thoughtful, good-natured and well presented. During the war, we recall, there was talk about Jews not enlisting in the armed services in the same proportion as Gentiles. The Canadian Jewish Congress did not call for corrective "action" of any kind: it simply circulated recruiting figures which showed that the Jews of Canada were pulling their full weight. Similarly, it has contributed, from time to time, most interesting statistical studies of Jewish participation in Canadian life. These studies effectively dispatch the legend, which we seem to have heard a good many times, that the Jews enjoy great commercial power in Canada. The fact of the matter is that (apart from one or two minor industries, such as clothing) they enjoy considerably less than their proportionate share of commercial influence."

8. DP Movement Speeded Up

We quote the report which appeared in today's "Gazette" and which was written by Mr. F.C. Mears, Gazette Resident Correspondent: "A remarkable speed-up of the movement of displaced persons to Canada is shown in the figures of arrivals for the first 16 days of October, the total being 1,630 which is 728 higher than that of any previous month. The aggregate of displaced persons who have come here since the movement was organized is now 4,679, and Mines and Resources Minister James Glen has stated that the remainder of the new objective of 20,000 will have arrived by next May. Of the 4,679 who have come up to date, 3,533 were under the plan for the admission of workers in groups, 3,007 going to lumber companies, 100 to textile mills and 426 to domestic duties. Then the close relatives scheme has accounted for the arrival of 1,102 displaced persons, while the remaining 44 have been Jewish orphan children who have been allocated to private homes. Another feature of the displaced persons movement lies in the 21,217 applications for release of relatives from D.P. camps. These applications, the Mines and Resources Department states, have been examined carefully and 11,313 people to date have been found acceptable, of whom 9,410 are now in German camps, 1,625 in Austria and 188 in Italy. Following approval of the applications by immigration officials in Canada, the names are sent to immigration selection teams now at work in Europe. Each team is made up of an immigration inspector, a doctor, and an officer of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. When displaced persons are being selected for industry, a representative of the interested industry and an official of the Department of Labor also become members of the selection team. Women officers assist in the selection of domestics. Immigration officials point out that both examination, which requires a vast amount of documentation and transportation to Canada have been retarded by the lack of travelling and other facilities on the Continent. Added to this are delays in locating the persons applied for and difficulty in securing space for transoceanic travel. Every effort is being made to make available a greater supply of transport and it is expected that there will be a further acceleration in the near future in the movement of displaced persons to the Dominion."