

YOUR ATTENTION

FROM Saul Hayes

No. 286 CONFIDENTIAL

December 10th, 1947.

1. Immigration Department Acting on Our Representations on Movement of DP's

In a private and confidential report to the Director of Immigration in Ottawa we placed before him a number of matters relating to the movement of DP's; our representations dealt with displaced persons and refugees of German and Austrian origin who are declared ineligible for Canadian schemes; people otherwise qualifying under the close relatives scheme who are turned down because they have previously applied for United States immigration visas; persons who entered Germany after June 1st, 1946 who are not being considered as DP's and eligible for the Clothing Workers' project; consular authorities giving priority to other Canadian projects over the clothing workers' scheme; Jews not being eligible for domestics and loggers program; Canadian program being only for camp living DP's. Mr. A.L. Joliffe, Director of Immigration, acknowledged our submission in a confidential note in which he stated: "As you know our Mr. Cormier will be in Canada shortly and I shall take an early opportunity of discussing with him the various points that you raised. There is one matter about which we are immediately communicating with the Officer-in-Charge in Germany and that is the question of the statement that a number of close relatives are being turned down because they had applied for United States visas. If your information is correct the matter will be adjusted promptly."

2. Clothing Workers' Movement

On December 5th, Messrs. Max E. Enkin, MBE, and Norman N. Genser representing the clothing industry met with Mr. Joliffe, Director of Immigration, and Messrs. C.E.S. Smith, Congdon and Winters; a meeting was also held with Mr. McNamara, Deputy Minister of Labour; the National Director was invited to attend the meeting but the postponement of the original time set for the interview prevented him from attending. The Departments of Immigration and Labour, we are informed, will carefully determine the cause of the irregularities as alleged and once this difficulty has been solved there will in fact be no suspension of processing the persons chosen by the industrial delegation. The government officials, we are told, appeared quite satisfied to permit further recruiting on behalf of the industry when it was found to be necessary to enable the movement of the full complement of tailors based on the original applications. It was felt by Messrs. Enkin and Genser, as a result of these discussions, that every effort would be made to avoid a repetition of movement of a group of one faith. The government recognized the difficulty of the industry and is making plans to avoid a repetition. Mr. MacNamara has confirmed the appointment of Mr. Matthew Ram, Canadian Jewish Congress worker overseas, whom we seconded to the needle trade commission, to act as liaison officer with government teams in Germany as the representative of the industry in Europe. It is intended that the plan should go forward as originally arranged making distribution of the workers on a percentage basis in accordance with the applications filed; the first group expected to arrive on December 11th will be placed in Montreal.

National Headquarters: **CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS**

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

3. Teachers' Seminaries in Montreal Define Placement Policy

At the request of our Central Region we asked the two Teachers Institutes in Montreal for clarification of their placement policy and an indication of the possibilities of directing their graduates to smaller communities. The Jewish Teachers Seminary of Canada stated that their students are under obligation to serve the school system of the People's Schools in Canada whenever necessary; the Hebrew Teachers' Institute of Montreal explained that they intend to employ all their graduates in the Talmud Torahs of Montreal which will free a number of older teachers and make them available for other communities in Canada.

4. Hospitality Committee in Moncton Helpful in the Reception of Orphans

A very hearty welcome was given to the recent transport of orphans in Moncton on its way from Halifax to Montreal. Despite the late night hour refreshments were served and the orphans were made to feel at home. Mrs. Jacob Rubin is chairman of the Hospitality Committee.

5. Financial Contributions of Montreal Organizations for Orphans Project

The "Ezra" Ladies Society remitted a further amount of \$1000 for the orphans' project; the Society pledged \$5000 and the current payment brought the total paid up to date to \$2000. The "Hom ler Ladies Society" arranged a money shower which resulted in \$300. At an appeal made at a New Glasgow hotel during the High Holidays \$800 was raised for overseas relief; one of the guests was not satisfied with the proceeds and added \$1000 as his own contribution bringing the total raised from a small group to \$1800; at the request of the guests of the hotel \$1675 was earmarked for the orphans' project. Our General Secretary addressed the yearly banquet of the Warsaw Society and appealed that funds on hand be turned over for the orphans project; the Executive of the Society was empowered to act on this suggestion.

6. Eastern Region Public Relations Committee Meeting

The Joint Public Relations Committee of the Eastern Region met on December 9th; Mr. Jos. H. Fine, K.C., presided. The meeting discussed the public relations aspect of the immigration problem, the program of the sub-committee on French Public Relations, subversive movements, highlights of the decisions of the National meeting of Nov. 2nd, and developments in regard to Bill of Rights. Two representatives of the Youth Council will be added to the Committee as observers; Mr. A.A. Heaps, former M.P., now residing in Montreal has been asked to sit on the Committee. A report was given on Congress participation in the Joint Planning Commission of the Canadian Association for Adult Education.

7. 182,668 Lbs. of Kosher Meat Shipped to Europe

On Nov. 18th we shipped overseas on the S.S. "Beckenham" the following quantities of Kosher meat: to Austria - 64,080 lbs., Czechoslovakia - 10,008; Germany - 108,480; the costs of ocean freight etc. aggregated to \$2,485.

8. Meetings in London and Cornwall

Our General Secretary will visit the Jewish communities in London and Cornwall. Mr. Max W. Grafstein is the chairman of the Congress Committee in London.

9. Information Concerning Citizenship of Jews in Various European Countries

The Institute of Jewish Affairs in New York prepared a report on the restitution of citizenship to Jews in Germany, Austria, Czecho-slovakia, Hungary and Rumania. A copy of this report was received in our office.

10. Convening Educational Committee of Eastern Region

A meeting of the Educational Committee of Eastern Region is being convened for December 16th to elect a chairman and to map out a program of activities; Mr. Lavy M. Bockor of Montreal is likely to head the Committee. The National Director met with Mr. Bockor and discussed various aspects of Congress educational work including subsidizing teachers' seminars, "Igud" and the extent of its work, program material for Jewish festivals, recordings of liturgical melodies formation of a National Committee on Education and the relationship to the educational program of the Y's.

11. Joint Committee of Congress and Welfare Agencies for Orphans' Project in Montreal

The recently created joint Committee of Congress and the Welfare Agencies in Montreal is meeting tonight in order to discuss matters of policy; the Committee is endowed with jurisdiction by the various Boards as the Working Committee in the community to whom the staffs of the agencies are responsible for the implementation of the decisions; prior to the meeting the National Director met with Mr. B. Robinson, K.C., chairman of the Montreal Co-ordinating Committee and Mr. D. Hurwitz, Director of Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, who is acting as liaison officer between the Co-ordinating Committee and representatives of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies and its 3 Welfare Agencies in regard to the orphans project.

12. Budget and Program of Youth Council

The National Director met with a delegation of the Montreal Jewish Youth Council and discussed with them the budget and program of the Council.

13. United Jewish Appeal in United States Meets with Great Success

We received detailed reports from the JDC indicating the warm response of various communities in the United States to the United Jewish Appeal; the national conference of the UJA is being held in Atlantic City on December 12th. From October 1st - October 28th cash receipts of the U.J.A. totalled \$10,271,000 as compared with \$5,968,000 for the same period of October 1946; up to date the UJA received \$60,850,000 for the 1947 campaign; cash received from New York City on account of the 1947 campaign was \$20,000,000. The report lists many communities which doubled and tripled their contributions.