

YOUR ATTENTION

Saul Hayes

No. 294 CONFIDENTIAL

FROM

December 22nd, 1947.

1. 233 Orphans Will Arrive Between Now and February 13th

Messrs. M. Garber, K.C., Monroe Abbey, Jos. H. Fine, K.C., B. Robinson, K.C., and the National Director met on December 19th solely to discuss the matter of reception and placement of forthcoming transports of War Orphans; the National Director reported on the suggestions of leading officers of the Co-ordinating committee of the Central Region that distribution arrangements of 40:40:20 between the Eastern Central and Western Regions be reconsidered. It was decided that while it will be impossible to change the arrangements for those orphans who are on the way to Canada the principle of 40:40:20 will be regarded as a guide rather than an arbitrary method and individual community resources will be taken carefully into account. Every effort will be made to avoid congestion at the Reception Centres, however all the transports scheduled between now and February 13th, which will comprise 233 orphans, have been confirmed. The request of the Central Region to have an additional Reception Centre so as to accommodate 40-50 orphans at one time has been approved.

2. 30 Orphans Arrived on December 20th

A transport of 30 orphans arrived on the "Aquitania" which docked in Halifax on December 20th. 21 youngsters will be taken care of in Toronto and 9 in Montreal. Confirmation has been received that 69 orphans coming directly from the DP camps are embarking on the 29th at Bremerhaven.

3. Additional Visa Numbers Transferred to Germany

The Immigration Department approved of our suggestion to transfer 100 visa numbers from Paris to the Teams operating in DP camps in Germany for the DP orphans who qualify under our scheme. The Immigration Department ruled also that no security screening for orphans under 18 is necessary.

4. Import of Matzohs From U.S.

Mr. David Sim, Deputy Minister, Customs and Excise, called the Executive Director to inform us of his meeting with the 2 Jewish members of Parliament, Rabbi Lifshitz and A. Lief of the Ottawa Community Council, Messrs. Peters and Klein of the Montreal Community Council and Messrs. Rudner and Hahamovitch, of the Manischewitz Co. Mr. Sim said he will postpone final decision on the matter of Matzoh imports until January 15th or thereabouts during which time the "Gulah" Matzoh factory in Toronto will be asked to prepare Matzohs which Mr. Sim will ask us to distribute for opinion as to taste, etc. He agreed to assist in every way possible so that the Jewish community will be well served. If the Matzoh is a good product, he will then ascertain the productive capacity of the Gulah's plant and allow the import duty free of the needed difference.

5. \$100,000 Mo'Ess Chittin Quota Undertaken by the Central People's Relief Committee in Montreal; Louis H. Rohrluck, K.C., Elected Chairman

Several hundred representatives of various organizations attended the conference of the Central People's Relief Committee in Montreal which was held on December 21st; Mr. S. Greenfeld presided. The conference unanimously accepted a \$100,000 quota for this

National Headquarters: **CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS**

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year's Mo'ess Chittin, pledged its full support to the forthcoming SOS collection, to the orphan's project and in the placement of tailors; the conference called on all Landsmanshaften to centralize activities through the People's Relief Committee. Mr. Louis H. Rohrlick, K.C., was elected chairman; the conference elected also several vice-chairman, treasurers and honorary officers. Our general secretary addressed the conference on the present relief situation in Europe; the Yiddish film on the JDC activities in Europe was shown at the end of the proceedings.

6. Protesting Against Missionary Organization Trying to Bring Children into Canada

We transmitted to Dr. Hugh Keenleyside, Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources the information which we received from Edmonton of the efforts of a Missionary Christian Organization in Alberta to bring children into Canada for settlement in the Province of Alberta; the organization follows an open policy of proselytising. In our communication we expressed the confidence that the Government will not permit any such activity and will refuse application for admission of Jewish children other than under recognized Jewish individual or organizational auspices; we stated further that the Jewish community would feel deeply hurt should such open conversionist program be allowed to interfere with our efforts and be a cause of bitterness here and abroad.

7. Organizational Set-up of the Orphans Project in Winnipeg

The overall responsibility for the orphans project in Winnipeg rests with the Co-ordinating Committee while the functional end of the job is in the hands of the staffs of the United Hebrew Social Service Bureau and Congress. There is no special Jewish vocational service in Winnipeg and all social work is done by the United Hebrew Social Service Bureau; the bureau is represented by lay-members on the Co-ordinating committee; the president of the Board of the Bureau, Mr. S.B. Nitikman is also vice-president of the Co-ordinating Committee.

8. World Jewish Congress Proposals to U.N. on Human Rights Commission

Mr. A. Easterman spoke before the U.N. Commission on Human Rights which recently concluded its sessions in Geneva; he urged that an obligation be imposed on the U.N. Governments to grant the right of asylum to refugees from racial and religion persecution; the draft of the pertinent article was amended to read that "everyone shall have the right to find and to be granted asylum from persecution." The World Jewish Congress suggested that the peace treaties and other international instruments should contain provisions for the implementation of human rights; the U.N. Secretariat was asked to study the subject and to report on it. The Commission adopted the suggestion of the World Jewish Congress that international bodies with consultative status should have the right of petition provided that the petitions originated in a country which ratified the convention.

9. IRO Acknowledged Shipment of Dental Supplies

The office of the IRO in Augsburg acknowledged a shipment of dental supplies and clothing which was received in the camps and distributed among the Jewish inmates; 2 cases of bedding were also received and will be used for new-born children; the communication stated that "both cases were packed extremely well and were 100% complete."

10. Immigrants from Great Britain in Ontario Will Receive Congress Assistance

Our Central Region arranged with the Immigration Branch of the Ontario Government, whereby any Jewish persons coming to Ontario under the Drew Plan, will be referred to Congress office for assistance, where required, with housing and for employment. Such services have already been rendered to several persons, under this arrangement.

11. Overseas Guide Compiled by the World Jewish Congress

The Relief and Rehabilitation Department of the World Jewish Congress completed an overseas guide listing the relief needs of Jews in 21 European areas; out of an estimated Jewish population of 1,714,693 46.4% are in need; the guide includes information about the number of Jews in various countries and the percentage of the needy with special attention given to the plight of Jewish children. Detailed information is given about the situation in Austria, France and French colonies, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Rumania; attached is a statement of the Committee for overseas relief supplies affiliated with the World Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Congress of its shipments from May, 1945. to May, 1947, a total of 1,375,236 lbs. of clothing, 890,164 lbs. of food and \$133,590 value of medical supplies were sent to a number of European countries which added to the 1943-1944 shipments, aggregates to a value of \$4,417,590 (\$1.60 per lbs. of used clothing and 75¢ per lbs. of food); shipments from Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Peru and San Salvador) are valued \$662,165.

12. Transportation Costs for Orphans Coming to Canada.

We received from Mr. Irwin Rosen, Director of the JDC Immigration Department in Paris, the following clarification of question of payments for transportation costs for orphans movement: the transportation of orphans who leave under this scheme on IRO mass resettlement boats, (Bremen) are borne completely by IRO; JDC has neither any financial responsibility nor are JDC facilities concerned with the transportation of these orphans. For youngsters who leave on other boats, (Aquitania), IRO will participate in the transportation costs to the extent which is provided by the general agreement between IRO and JDC; the orphans are considered as any adult emigrant and IRO participates in the costs for those who qualify as eligible: Transportation costs from England are borne by the Jewish Refugees Committee in London. Costs for orphans who are sponsored by HIAS are borne by HIAS; the question of IRO contribution to these cases will be settled between HIAS and IRO. The transportation costs for orphans sailing on the "Aquitania" or any other boats leaving from England are paid to the company by the Jewish Refugees Committee against reimbursement by JDC in London. The costs of transportation from the debarkation port in Canada to the final destination are covered by the Canadian Jewish Congress.

13. Change in Interpretation of Regulations in Regard to Sponsoring the Entry of DP's Other Than Relatives

Sometime ago we received information from the Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources that the Immigration Branch would accept applications for sponsoring the entry of DP's from people not even closely related to the prospective immigrants. This interpretation is no longer given by the Department. There is a stock of 1,000 permits in which the Department draws for individual "hardship cases deserving extreme humane consideration" such as those of last single survivors of families or intellectuals who could not be brought to Canada under any of the existing categories; the Order-in-Council itself does not speak of such type of cases but generally of people in Displaced Persons camps.

14. Report on Fund Raising in Central Region

We attach to this issue a report on fund-raising in Central Region which was submitted by the Director of our Central Region.

REPORT ON FUND-RAISING IN CENTRAL REGION

Congress-UJRA campaigns have been completed in the following communities:

	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	
Belleville-Trenton-Picton . \$	3,500	\$ 6,000	(incomplete)
Guelph	1,500	3,200	
Hamilton	44,000	36,800	
Kingston	2,140	5,500	(tentative)
Kirkland Lake	1,628	2,000	(incomplete)
Kitchener	4,000	5,200	
Owen Sound	-	1,000	
Port Colborne	263	500	
St. Thomas	2,205	2,076	
Sarnia	-	1,800	
Stratford	-	450	
Timmins	2,765	3,500	(incomplete)
Welland	1,700	1,175	
Toronto	403,500	506,960	
Galt	-	600	
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	\$467,201	\$576,761	

In addition the following should be recorded:

Kingston:

On the basis of an increased goal undertaken by the Kingston Jewish Community Council, it is reasonable to expect from \$1000 to \$2000.00, in addition to the \$5500.00 already allocated, and which represents an increase of \$1500 over 1946 allocation.

London:

(The Campaign will be completed by December 21st); reports \$27,500.00 already raised towards a goal of \$40,000.00. The amount raised represents an 18% increase over total giving for 1946.

North Bay:

(It should be borne in mind that this community is now conducting a joint appeal, covering several beneficiaries in addition to Congress-UJRA; the 1946 receipts were \$15,947)

St. Catharines:

incomplete returns from North Bay indicate an allocation of approximately \$1000.00, representing a 30% increase over 1946. (\$752)

Windsor:

reports \$19,000.00 raised towards a goal of \$22,000.00. This is a joint appeal, and is showing a 20% increase already over 1946 results. (\$7,025)

Brantford:

reports \$70,000.00 raised towards a goal of \$125,000.00. Increase to date is approximately 30%. (1946 allocation was \$35,825)

reports indicate a 1947 allocation of approximately \$2400.00. This is a 20% decrease over 1946. However, this community conducted in 1946 a large fund-raising effort for a synagogue-center, and had contemplated holding no CJC-UJRA campaign at all in 1947. In the light of these facts, the results appear satisfactory. (1946 figure was \$3,097)

Niagara Falls: reports an allocation of \$2850 to CJC-UJRA for 1947.
(1946 result: \$2,700)

Campaigns will be held in the following communities, before the end of 1947, or early in 1948:(listed are the 1946 figures)

Sudbury	\$2,457
Brockville	836
Chatham	1,350
Peterborough	2,170
Simcoe	200

Cornwall will have its campaign in February, 1948.

If the remaining campaigns produce the same over-all percentage-increase as in the campaigns already held, the total of CJC-UJRA funds to be raised in the Region will be from \$675,000 - \$700,000. This is approximately \$180,000 - \$200,000 behind the quota assigned to the Region for 1947.