

your attention

ABOUT

Inter-Office Information

FROM Saul Hayes

No. 603 CONFIDENTIAL

March 28th, 1949.

1. \$2,152,500 Toronto United Jewish Appeal Quota

The objective of the forthcoming United Jewish Appeal in Toronto will be \$2,152,500, of which \$1,664,000 will be the fund for Israel Overseas Relief and Refugee Settlement.

2. Meeting of Western Executive Committee

A meeting of the Western Executive Committee was held on March 17th: a) Local agencies cooperating in the orphans placement in Winnipeg were allocated the following appropriations towards their 1949 budget; U.H.S.S.B. - \$6,130.75; Y.M.H.A. - \$1,000; Mount Carmel Clinic - \$600; b) \$500 was allocated towards the public relations work of the General Monash Branch of the Canadian Legion; c) responsibility was assumed for special Passover grants for needy refugee families in Winnipeg; d) arrangements as to the mode of elections of Winnipeg delegates to the Plenary Session were left to the Winnipeg Congress Council.

3. Council for New Immigrants in Montreal

In earlier issues of the IOI we referred to the formation of the Council for New Immigrants in Montreal, the primary object of which is the orderly assimilation into the community of new immigrants and the co-ordination of the work of groups active in this field. On March 25th we had a conference with Mr. Chauvin, legal counsel of the Council and Charles Young of the Council of Social Agencies in regard to the plans for the organizational set-up of the Council for New Immigrants. Another meeting on this matter is to be held shortly with the Chairman of the Council, Mr. Justice Gerald Fautoux.

4. Western Members of Arrangements Committee for Plenary Session

At the meeting of the National Executive Committee held in Toronto on March 20th the Western President was authorized to appoint two members to the Arrangement Committee of nine which will handle planning, arrangements, etc. for the Plenary Session. Mr. Sol Kane appointed Messrs. A. Simkin, president of the Winnipeg Council and B. Pearlman of Calgary, Alberta, National Honorary Vice-President, to represent the Western Division on the Arrangement Committee.

5. Report on Brotherhood Week

The Canadian Council of Christians and Jews compiled a report on Brotherhood Week which was observed February 20th - 27th. Many magazines and newspapers carried Brotherhood Week material. There were radio programs and a special one-minute news clip appeared in 860 theatres across Canada. The report lists the various events arranged in connection with Brotherhood Week in Toronto, Montreal and other cities.

6. Reiterating Congress Stand Towards Showings of "Oliver Twist"

Rabbi A.L. Feinberg of Toronto, Co-chairman of National Public Relations Committee, in a letter to the editor of the "Ottawa Eve Citizen" published March 11th, 1949, reiterated Congress stand toward the showings of the film. In an earlier issue of the "Ottawa Eve Citizen" there was a reference to the story in "Time" Magazine that "The Toronto Jewish Congress did not protest against the film". Rabbi Feinberg reiterated that as Chairman of the Joint Public Relations Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith in the Central Region, he presented a very vigorous protest to the representatives of the J. Arthur Rank firm the very day after "Oliver Twist" had its premiere in Toronto. The letter stressed that the Committee regarded and still regards the Fagin in "Oliver Twist" as an incitement to race prejudice and that the Fagin portrayal "contributes to the stock-in-trade, anti-Jewish stereotype; as presented by J. Arthur Rank, unquestionably without deliberate intent, or malice, Fagin is the rabid anti-Semite's dream of what people should be led to believe about Jews."

7. Assembly of Organizations of Canadian Jewish Congress and Welfare Fund in Toronto

Our General Secretary returned to Toronto to participate in the planning and work of the Assembly of organizations of Congress and Welfare Fund. The Societies Division of Congress will participate in the Assembly and asked each affiliated group to elect delegates to the Assembly. The immediate function of the Assembly will be the participation in the United Jewish Appeal, particularly in view of the fact that the Mo'Ess Chittin in Toronto forms this year part of the United Jewish Appeal. The suggested program includes also activities in the field of public relations (matters of inter-communal discipline and support of activities of the Joint Public Relations Committee) community publication, cultural, etc.

8. Western Mo'Ess Chittin

Further to the contribution of \$1,000 which was received from the Calgary Jewish community for the Mo'Ess Chittin, the following western communities responded so far to the appeal: Medicine Hat - \$229; Estovan - \$120; North Battleford - \$61; Brandon - \$75; Yorkton - \$45; Melfort - \$40; Vogreville - \$60; Flin Flon - \$25; Watrous - \$30.

9. Organization of Central Fund Raising in Halifax

As already reported, the Halifax Jewish Community advanced plans for a central fund-raising body and in this connection the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies in Montreal, lent at our request its Assistant Director in order to assist the community in its endeavours. He will be in Halifax on March 30th and we gave him the pertinent data on the developments in Halifax which lead to the present set-up.

10. Meeting of Central Region Public Relations Committee

A meeting of the Joint Public Relations Committee of the Central Region will be held in Toronto on Wednesday, March 30th.

11. Fair Employment Practices Act Enacted by Washington State Legislature

We noted the report that the legislature of the state of Washington enacted a Fair Employment Practices Act. A five-man board will be created to administer the act and to handle complaints of discrimination against individuals because of their race, color, creed or nationality. The law will apply to employers' hiring or firing employees, and to labor unions if they reject a membership application on the basis of discrimination.