



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

MS-763: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, 1930-2004.

Series E: Sermons, Speeches, and Writings, 1933-1959.

Box
11

Folder
15

Sermons. 1947.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the
American Jewish Archives website.

At-One-Ment with Whole Jewish World

Yom Kippur Day
24 Sept. 47

I. Principle of Atonement

Identification with God and
with best instincts of self.

Several rabbis have stressed this
principle of identification, by breaking down
word "Atonement" into component parts -
At-One-Ment.

We try to get at-one with God
and with ourselves.

II. At-One-Ment

with other Jews all over world
worshipping today.

Jews of Exodus in camps at Amstam
and Poppendorf.

Jews in Sweden and Sofia and
Silesia and Siberia. Jews in Shanghai
and Sevastopol and Switzerland and Salt Lake.

The more we feel at-one
with all of them, the deeper will
be our sense of identification and
brotherhood.

Should like to give spot survey
of several places on this ^{surface} ~~surface~~.

Sofia, Bulgaria - Rabbi Daniel Zion

Stockholm - Rabbi Marcus Ehrenpreis

Silesia, Poland - Col. David Kahane

Russia - ?

Copenhagen - Rabbi Friediger (died)

Shanghai - (in process of liquidation) ?
Rabbi Rubin in my office

What is moral of This recitation (3)
Story of Jewish life in various parts of world?

In early years of Hitler, many refugees tried to make way into Switzerland - cross borders illegally. This meant climbing over Alps by foot. Process depicted in movie called "Last Chance".

A story is told of one man who tried to make it alone. He struggled bravely through the snow, was seen by German patrol & had to hide under snowy boulder for hours till night fell - wandered all night - and grew weaker & weaker.

On verge of freezing - trying to fight desire to lie down in snow and sleep, which would have meant death - he stumbled against obstacle in path. Stopping down he found it to be human body half buried in snow.

The next moment he held
half-frozen man in his arms, rubbing and
chafing and trying to bring him back to
life. The effort to restore life to the
other brought warmth & energy back to
himself and both were saved.

If we feel at-one with
Europe's Jews and try to bring life
back to them, we shall warm ourselves
up in the process.

Soviet Jews or Soviet Jewry?

by Jacob Lestschinsky



JS THERE a Jewish community in Soviet Russia, with distinct organic forms of communal life, or are there only a large number of individual Jews? Do the Jews of Soviet Russia possess institutions, a press, a literature of their own in whatever language it may be? Is there a living bond between them and Jewish communities elsewhere in the world?

These are the crucial questions in any appraisal of Russian Jewry. They become all the more important because of the increasing influence of the USSR on Poland, Roumania, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, which contain a Jewish population of some three quarters of a million and whose communal life is likely to come more and more under Communist control.

Let us examine available facts regarding the Jews in Soviet Russia.

According to the census of January, 1939, 3,020,000 citizens recorded their nationality as Jewish. We may safely assume that approximately another quarter of a million Jews listed their nationality as Russian or Ukrainian. There is no religious or racial census in Russia.

Since then the USSR has acquired large portions of Poland and Roumania and all of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Were all the Jews who once lived there alive today, the USSR would now have a population of some five and a half million Jews. But how many Jews are there today in the USSR? Official Communist sources are completely silent on the subject. On the basis of information published in the Communist Yiddish newspaper, *Einigkeit*, in Moscow, regarding the number of Jews in some sixty municipalities of European Russia, it appears that this area today has a remaining Jewish population of at most 900,000. In those sixty municipalities, which include cities like Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Odessa, Dnepropetrovsk, Minsk, Vilna, Kovno, Riga, Vitebsk, Homel, Berdichev, Zhitomir, Lemberg and other large Jewish communities, there is an aggregate of some 800,000 Jews. (I have always taken the largest figure given, although frequently the same newspaper in later issues gave much lower figures.) There are very few Jews in the provincial districts of European Russia, so that 100,000 is a generous figure.

According to information from the same source it may be estimated that there are about five or six hundred thousand Jews in the Asiatic part of the USSR. In the whole of the Soviet Union, then, there are no more than one and a half million Jews.

Thus nearly four million Jews have perished, including over two million of former Polish, Roumanian, Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian domicile. What are the probable

reasons for this large number?

An estimated 200,000 Jewish soldiers in the Red Army fell during the war. About half a million Jews died in the Asiatic provinces where twice that number were deported after evacuation from previous Polish and Roumanian regions as well as from the Soviet Ukraine and Soviet White Russia. This leaves over three million Jews who were annihilated by the Nazis with the active collaboration of the Ukrainians, Byelo-Russians, Lithuanians, Letts, Estonians and Roumanians.

It now transpires that there was no evacuation by the Soviet authorities of Jews as Jews in order to save them from extermination. Only Jewish officials and skilled laborers with their families were evacuated before the advancing Germans, along with non-Jews of similar categories. But even these were not evacuated completely. Most of the Jews of the Soviet Ukraine and Soviet White Russia and especially of the former Polish districts, former Roumanian districts, Lithuania and Latvia, remained on the spot and were subsequently murdered there.

The local non-Jewish population took a very active part in the extermination of these Jews. Among the collaborators of Hitler were many whose inbred anti-Semitism had not disappeared even after thirty years under the Hammer and Sickle. This is especially true of the Ukrainians. It is amazing that while in bourgeois France the Christian population managed to rescue a full half of their Jewish neighbors, and while in Belgium and Holland additional thousands of Jews were rescued with Christian help, in the Soviet countries hardly one percent of the Jewish population was saved.

The following is taken from the June 27, 1946 issue of *Einigkeit*, published in Moscow: We are told that in Dnepropetrovsk (formerly Ekaterinoslav) there remained after the evacuation over 20,000 Jews who were slaughtered by the bestial Fascists. On the day when the heroic Red Army liberated Dnepropetrovsk, there were found in the city some ten or fifteen Jewish inhabitants who were rescued through various accidents and especially thanks to the assistance of nearby neighbors."

The city had a Christian population of several hundred thousand, even under German occupation. All they saved were ten to fifteen Jews. In countries where the Christians sympathized with the Jews many more were saved, especially Jewish children. In Dnepropetrovsk not even Jewish children survived.

This is not an isolated case. Fewer Jewish children were

saved by non-Jews in the USSR than even in Poland where the Germans found a favorable anti-Semitic atmosphere for their program of extermination. Nor was the guilt of local citizens merely passivity. Many Ukrainians and Byelorussians, like many Lithuanians and Letts, exceeded the Nazis in brutality, as is testified to by numerous letters in the Palestine Hebrew press from former Jewish officers and soldiers in the Red Army and from Polish Jews returning from Russia.

WITH the decline in the total number of Jews, there has come a like decline in the position of the Jewish population in Russia and in its opportunities for a distinctive Jewish communal life. When the Jews constituted about 40% of the Odessa population, over one-third of the Kiev population, more than two-thirds of the Berdichev population, the possibilities of a Jewish communal life and Jewish schools and institutions were far greater than they are today when the ratio is cut to half or less. But we are also confronted by a series of forces as a result of the war which have radically changed the complexion of Soviet Jewry, thereby accelerating the process of assimilation.

In no country in the world has the assimilation of the Jews proceeded so intensively as in Soviet Russia. It is a well known fact that in the old Jewish communities of Europe the small towns were the guardians and the bearers of Jewish traditions, Jewish folkways and the Jewish way of life. (In America and in other countries of immigration the situation is reversed, but this is an interesting phenomenon on which we cannot dwell here.) Long before the war there was a large movement of Jewish settlers from the smaller Jewish communities in the Ukraine and in White Russia to Moscow, Leningrad and other cities of the Russian interior. The two capitals alone contained about a quarter of all Soviet Jewry as early as 1939. Today they have about 30%, and the assimilationist factors in these larger communities, greater than in historic Jewish centers like Minsk, Homel, Berdichev or other small communities in Western Russia, are making themselves felt.

In the census of 1926 ninety percent of the Jews in White Russia and seventy-five percent of the Jews in Ukraine reported Yiddish as their mother tongue, while in Moscow and in Leningrad less than fifty percent of the Jews spoke Yiddish. This was at a time when many of the Jews in Moscow and Leningrad were recent arrivals from the provinces. Jews born in Moscow and Leningrad hardly speak Yiddish at all.

In the same year twenty-five percent of Jewish marriages in Moscow and Leningrad were mixed marriages; in the Ukraine four percent; in White Russia only two percent. Within those regions there was also a difference between large and small centers. Fewer Jews spoke Yiddish in Kiev than in a small town in the Kiev province; there were more mixed marriages in Odessa than in Uman, etc.

Today the small Jewish town with its traditions, historic memories and Jewish folkways has disappeared. Jews returning from Siberia now go almost exclusively to the larger and medium sized cities. Jews who only five or six years

ago observed the Sabbath and the holidays, went to Synagogues and spoke Yiddish, have greatly changed during the years of the war, for in the remote cities and towns of Siberia they lost their last feeble connections with Jewish traditions and forms.

There was also a great increase in mixed marriages in the Asiatic provinces, where Jewish exiles constituted an insignificant minority amid the surrounding population. The deterrent influence of parents and relatives against intermarriage was usually absent in such places.

A profound change has also taken place in Jewish economic structure in Soviet Russia. The ratio of Jews in the liberal professions and in officialdom was extremely high even before the war. Seventy percent of all gainfully employed Jews in Leningrad and eighty percent in Moscow were white collar workers and professionals, and only thirty percent and twenty percent respectively were manual laborers. In the Ukraine and in White Russia, especially in the smaller communities, on the other hand, many Jews were still employed in manual labor and many were clerks in government stores. Officials in large bureaus and professionals are under stronger compulsion to adapt themselves in language and mores to the surrounding population. They avoid speaking Yiddish and they are more likely to intermarry. With the destruction of the small Jewish town a profound change is bound to come in this respect, and the ratio of Jewish employees in white collar professions will increase, with consequent acceleration of the processes of assimilation.

So much for the objective circumstances, but we must not forget that there was a direct and quickening influence brought to bear by the Jewish Communists as well. The same objective conditions leading to assimilation exist in the United States too, yet there is no apparent or immediate danger of the disappearance of American Jewry as a distinct community. In the USSR Jewish Communists have contributed in large measure to an intensification of the trend.

For twenty years the Jewish religion in Russia was persecuted by the Communists. Men lost their jobs for circumcising their newly-born sons, for being absent from work on the Day of Atonement, or for attending Synagogue on a Saturday before work hours. There were thousands upon thousands of such cases. Things have changed now, but it is too late. Today there are no Jews in Russia capable of establishing Jewish institutions and Jewish communal organizations. Possibly the Jewish Communists today secretly repent their sins, but their penitence has come too late. There is nothing but distintegration, without any signs of revival.

IS THERE a Jewish life in Soviet Russia?

Unfortunately the answer to the question is clear. One does not have to go very far for evidence of the total absence of any Jewish life in Soviet Russia. One searches in vain through the Communist Jewish newspaper, *Einigkeit*, for a single item on Jewish communal life such as we find in Jewish publications in any language elsewhere in the world. B. Z. Goldberg, of the *Jewish Day*, who spent

over six months traveling through Soviet Russia, has told us the whole truth. He says in *The Day* of August 14, 1946: "There are no Jewish districts in the cities and towns, there are no specifically Jewish occupations, there are no Jewish hospitals, no Jewish Old Folks Homes, no Jewish clubs, no Jewish parties, no Jewish philanthropies, no *Jewish educational institutions*." Here is a concise picture of the national decline of Soviet Jewry.

We may welcome the fact that Jews are not in need of separate hospitals and have full access to the convenience of general hospitals, or that aged Jews can die without discrimination in the same room with non-Jews, but Jewish life is thereby destroyed. There are no Jewish political groups because there can be no parties under a dictatorship except the party in power. What is most important is that there is no Jewish education. It means that the whole future generation of Jews will have no idea of Judaism, Jewish history, Jewish life in Palestine and in other countries.

In the whole of the USSR there are today five or six Jewish schools, all of them in cities only recently annexed to the Union, such as Vilna, Kovno, and Czernowitz.

In the United States, too, Jewish children attend public schools, but some twenty-five percent attend Jewish schools as well. In this country Jewish leadership is concerned with increasing the number of Jewish children attending Jewish institutions and with improving Jewish education. But in all the issues of *Einigkeit* during the past two years there has not been a single item about Jewish education. In this country we have a Jewish press read by hundreds of thousands of Jews whose children often hear from their parents about the contents of that press and about Jewish events all over the world. In Soviet Russia there is only one sheet, appearing three times a week, and it contains almost exclusively matter of general interest. There is very little about Jews and even that is of a peculiar nature. Thus we are told that Jews are good Soviet patriots; they are faithful to the regime; they are taking a great part in the economic rehabilitation of the country.

The same B. Z. Goldberg describes how a Jewish calendar was literally snatched out of his hands by an eager Jew; how a Kiev Rabbi begged him with tears in his eyes to send him a prayer shawl; how others begged him to send them phylacteries. Goldberg adds that there isn't a single organized Jewish community in Russia to undertake even such simple responsibilities as providing the Jews with prayer shawls or calendars.

In America even semi-assimilated Jews have their Jewish periodicals in English and they seek a content for their Jewish life. They are integrated not only with American Jewry, but to an extent with world Jewry as well and they are preoccupied with general Jewish problems. The one and a half million Soviet Jews have not a single Jewish periodical in the Russian language. They are isolated from World Jewry. They are not concerned, or appear not to be concerned, with seeking any meaning or content for their Jewish existence. The few Jews in Russia who crave for a Jewish life, for Jewish books, for information about Pales-

tine, cannot satisfy those cravings. No Jewish periodical from any country in any language is available to them.

* * *

WE ARE still in the dark as to the reasons which prompted the Soviet Government to offer Biro-Bidjan to the Jews. In 1928, when the colonization of that area began, there were still hundreds of thousands of economically uprooted Jews, whom the authorities hoped to turn into farmers. It was soon realized, however, that the colonization of that waste, which was twenty days journey from Moscow, was bound to be a slow process. During the early years as many as two-thirds of the settlers returned to their original homes. In the meantime the great industrialization of Russia began to absorb all the economically displaced Jews, with the result that the Biro-Bidjan colonization lost its economic justification.

What are the results of eighteen years of colonization in Biro-Bidjan? Relying on information from official sources, one is led to the conclusion that there are at most 20,000 or 22,000 Jews in Biro-Bidjan today. The total population, according to the census of 1939, consisted of 108,000. There are probably 120,000 now. Thus the Jews constitute no more than 16 or 18% of the inhabitants of Biro-Bidjan. However, were these Jews imbued with any ideals of preserving Jewish forms of life or Jewish culture, one might hope that there was promise for the future. Such is not the case. According to the Communist press, Jews in Biro-Bidjan speak Russian, and do not stress their Jewishness in any way.

There is a tendency among certain groups in Soviet Russia to settle in Biro-Bidjan. Civil engineers, technicians, teachers, dentists, many officials and workers are making inquiries about the place. Their letters convey the feeling, however, that they are less concerned with going to Biro-Bidjan, than with leaving the sites where their relatives were killed and where they are likely to come into frequent contact with the murderers. If Russia were to open her doors for emigration, Jews by the hundreds of thousands would flee for the same reasons that Jews are fleeing Poland. But Russia is hermetically sealed and the only place to which a Jew can escape from the areas which are soaked with Jewish blood is Biro-Bidjan. It may be doubted if even that grim wave of colonization will continue for long. In the meantime there is little concrete achievement in Biro-Bidjan, the noisy Communist press notwithstanding.

These, then, are the tragic facts which furnish the replies to our opening questions. The great decrease in the number of Soviet Jewry, the rapidly accelerating trend of assimilation, the complete absence of any organized Jewish life or activity, and finally the failure of the Biro-Bidjan experiment, indicate all too clearly the direction in which the Jews of Soviet Russia are moving.

This article is reprinted by the Jewish Information Bureau in keeping with its policy of issuing literature on current questions on which there is wide-spread interest.

ASK THE J. I. B.

WE ANSWER QUESTIONS

THAT IS THE MAIN BUSINESS OF THIS OFFICE. IT SERVES AS A CLEARING HOUSE OF JEWISH INFORMATION, ANSWERING INQUIRIES AND SUPPLYING DATA ON ALL PHASES OF JEWISH LIFE AND THOUGHT—RELIGIOUS, COMMUNAL, CULTURAL, PHILANTHROPIC AND VARIOUS RELATED SOCIETIES AND ACTIVITIES.

WITH THE LARGE NUMBER OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTIONS, SOCIETIES, RELIEF AND WELFARE AGENCIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION CONDUCTING A MULTITUDE OF ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK AND OTHER CITIES —WITH WHICH A LARGE PART OF THE PUBLIC IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY FAMILIAR—A CLEARING HOUSE OF INFORMATION IS AN ESSENTIAL AND NEEDED ADJUNCT TO THESE COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES.

THE JEWISH INFORMATION BUREAU HAS FILLED THIS FUNCTION HELPFULLY AND EFFECTIVELY FOR OVER THIRTEEN YEARS BY ANSWERING MANY THOUSANDS OF INQUIRIES AND REQUESTS FOR GUIDANCE ON A LARGE VARIETY OF SUBJECTS. THE INQUIRIES HAVE COME FROM NEW YORK AND MANY OTHER CITIES OF THE COUNTRY, AND FROM JEWISH AND NON-JEWISH CIRCLES.

THE SERVICE IS GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC FREE OF ANY CHARGE. IT HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS RECOGNIZING THE USEFULNESS OF SUCH AN EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.

THE JEWISH INFORMATION BUREAU

TEL. AS 4-6079

103 PARK AVENUE

N.Y. 17, N.Y.

JTA *Daily News Bulletin*

VOL. XIV No. 219 (29th year)

Friday, September 19, 1947

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

NO U.N. ACTION ON PALESTINE EXPECTED BEFORE NEXT WEEK; VISHINSKY MUM ON ISSUE

FLUSHING MEADOW, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- The Palestine issue was at a stand-still today at the General Assembly, except for back-stage efforts to find a chairman to head the ad hoc Committee on the question. It was officially announced that the Committee would meet Monday to elect officers.

Andrei Vishinsky, chief of the Soviet delegation, made no mention of Palestine in a lengthy reply to Secretary of State Marshall's statement of yesterday. It had been expected that Vishinsky would, at least, touch on the Palestine issue.

The first Arab statement on Palestine came from Gen. Noury As-Said, head of the Iraq delegation and president of the Iraq Senate, who followed Vishinsky. He urged the Assembly not to rush into a decision on Palestine, but to keep an open mind until all the facts are laid before the ad hoc Committee. He added that he had not intended to raise the Palestine issue at this time, and only did so because Secretary Marshall had referred to it. The Iraqi spokesman recited the usual anti-Zionist charges, alleging, among other accusations, that 30,000 Jews who wanted to leave Palestine for their homelands were terrorized into remaining. He also charged that criminals and kidnapped children were aboard the Exodus.

No developments of importance are expected within the next few days, until the General Assembly approves the establishment of the Palestine Committee. Oswaldo Aranha, president of the Assembly, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that approval by the Assembly would not come before the end of the present debate on general problems. This will probably last until the end of the week. Secretary-General Trygve Lie expressed the same view.

Chairmanship of Palestine Committee Still Undecided

Negotiations for the chairmanship of the Palestine Committee have so far found no one willing to accept the post. Lester Pearson, Canadian Under-Secretary of State for Internal Affairs, and a member of his country's delegation, was prominently mentioned as chairman, and was favorably viewed in Zionist circles because of the attitude of the Canadian representative on UNSCOP. Canadian sources indicated to JTA, however, that Pearson would be needed in Ottawa too often to allow him to accept the chairmanship, which is considered a full-time job.

Swedish Foreign Minister Ostenunden and Belgian Prime Minister Spaak are possible candidates. Those previously approached have declined the chairmanship. In informed circles it is said that it had been intended to assign some committee chairmanship to Sweden. Since Sweden did not get a chairmanship of any of the six regular committees, and since Sweden was a member of the UNSCOP committee, the possibility of Swedish chairmanship for the ad hoc Committee is not unlikely.

United States representative Warren Austin told JTA that it is a "natural inference" that the chairman would be selected from one of the eleven countries composing the UNSCOP committee, but stressed that nothing has yet been decided.

WEIZMANN CONDUCTING IMPORTANT NEGOTIATIONS IN LONDON; MAY ADDRESS U.N. ON PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, who is now in London, is conducting important negotiations with top officials of the British Government in connection with the future of Palestine, it was learned here today. It was reported that Palestine High Commissioner Sir Alan G. Cunningham and Lt. General Gordon H.A. Macmillan, the civil and military commanders of Palestine, are participating in the meetings.

Dr. Weizmann is expected to leave soon for the United States where he may appear at the United Nations Assembly during the presentation of the Jewish views on the report of the U.N. Special Committee on Palestine. David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, may remain in Palestine to cover any developments here. The make-up of the Jewish delegation to the U.N. Assembly has not been decided upon, since the Agency has not yet received a formal invitation from the United Nations.

Meanwhile, the Palestine Government is going ahead with plans to adjust the country's economy to the present economic situation in Britain. It is learned that the government is preparing to increase customs duties on goods from the United States and other countries. At the same time, it will allow the importing of more raw materials to increase the output of Palestine's industries. If the problem of securing modern machinery--which is complicated by the scarcity of dollars and of import licenses--could be solved, Jewish industry could fill all local needs and help to some extent to alleviate Britain's shortages.

A message from Transjordan's King Abdullah attacking the United Nations has been published in a new Arab magazine which was this morning suppressed by the police for failure to submit its material for censorship. The U.N., the Arab ruler declared, has no reason for intervening in the Palestine affair because, among other reasons, it is "located at the furthest end of the earth--America, country of disputes and ambitions." He called on Britain to honor its pledges to the Palestine Arabs.

Vatican Reported Favorable to Majority UNSCOP Recommendations

LONDON, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- The majority recommendations of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine are considered by the Pope to be the most workable solution of the Palestine problem, it is reported today by Reuters from Vatican City.

The report says that although no official statement is forthcoming from Vatican circles on the UNSCOP report, the majority recommendations are looked upon there with great favor.

HAGANAH SMASHES EXTREMIST COUNTERFEITING RING WHICH FORGED U.S. NOTES, CHECKS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- The Haganah announced tonight that it had been instrumental in smashing an extremist counterfeiting ring which has been turning out forged U.S. banknotes, as well as checks on American banks.

The Haganah statement said that following complaints by many Jews who had been victimized by the forged checks, it assigned investigators to the extremists. These agents discovered that the counterfeiters' headquarters were in Herzlia, under the direction of a German non-Jew who entered Palestine illegally in 1939. As a result of the Haganah action, police raided the headquarters and discovered equipment for making 20 and 50-dollar bills.

ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION PRAISES MAJORITY RECOMMENDATIONS OF UNSCOP REPORT

LONDON, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- The Anglo-Jewish Association last night adopted a resolution expressing satisfaction with several sections of the report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine and declaring that the most likely possibility of solving the Palestine issue lay with the majority recommendations of the body.

The resolution, passed at a special meeting of the Association, also expressed the hope that the report would bear fruit at the present session of the U.N. General Assembly. It commended the unanimous recommendation of UNSCOP that the fate of the Jewish refugees be considered and dealt with by the U.N. as an international problem. A second resolution "regretted" the deportation of the Exodus refugees as an "unwelcome departure from the high humanitarian principles" which have governed the policies of the British Government.

Leonard Stein, president of the organization, who moved the resolution on UNSCOP, declared that while the committee's solution combining the principle of "partition and economic unity" was "admittedly not an ideal solution," in the present circumstances it pointed to the direction in which a solution could most hopefully be sought. Referring to the minority recommendations, Stein said that they offered "no real security" to Jews and to the principle of the Jewish national home and were particularly unsatisfactory on the "crucial issue" of immigration.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS DEMANDS U.S. LEAD DRIVE FOR U.N. APPROVAL OF JEWISH STATE

NEW YORK, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- The United States Government must give active leadership to those forces in the United Nations which support the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine, it was stated here last night in a resolution adopted by the executive committee of the American Jewish Congress.

The resolution, which was introduced by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, said in part: "We must build our efforts upon the fact that our government in all its actions up to this time has prepared the way for American support of the Zionist purposes and program. This is the hour. The eyes of the world are fixed not only upon the United Nations Assembly which records the decision of governments, but above all upon our own American Government. Our Government, building upon the pledges and the promises of yesterday, must in this critical hour give such active leadership to the forces bent upon the establishment of a Jewish State as shall be decisive and final. We do not ask that America shall claim the right to reach the decision for Jewish freedom and sovereignty in Palestine. We do demand that America shall be true to its promises in this hour."

United Zionist Council of Canada Supports UNSCOP Recommendations

TORONTO, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- The United Zionist Council of Canada today issued a statement warmly praising the majority report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine. The memorandum paid tribute to the role of the Canadian delegates, Justice I.C. Rand and Alternate Leon Mayrand, in formulating the UNSCOP report.

Urging that the Canadian Government support the UNSCOP recommendations at the General Assembly, the statement criticized the proposal awarding Western Galilee to the Arabs and pointed out that, in the interests of consolidation and the maintenance of order and friendly relations, the area should be given to the Jews.

9/19/47

LONDON JEW GETS 28 DAYS FOR ATTACK ON FASCIST MEETING; ANTI-SEMITES DRAW MILD TERMS

LONDON, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- A 49-year-old Jewish furrier was sentenced to 28 days imprisonment today on charges of having obstructed the police at a fascist meeting in a Jewish-populated neighborhood. The officers who made the arrest said that they had not heard the speaker utter any inciting anti-Jewish remarks, although other witnesses had testified to the contrary.

The sentence came on the heels of relatively mild terms imposed yesterday on several fascists. Three received suspended sentences, three were fined and one was given a two-day jail term. The presiding magistrate, Daniel Hopkins, condemned persons entering Jewish districts to provoke disturbances, and said that if court action failed to deter them, some other measures should be taken.

Speaking last night in the Shacklewell Lane Synagogue, in North London, Hopkins told the congregation that "as far as I am concerned, I hold that it is fundamental to keep order for the sake of the people." A meeting in Hackney, North London, called by the National Council for Civil Liberties, tonight adopted a resolution urging the government to introduce legislation making it illegal to spread fascist and anti-Semitic propaganda. The mayor of Hackney chaired the meeting.

The London press is continuing to press for government action to curb the anti-Semitic provocations. The liberal Evening Star tonight carries an editorial asking that action be taken to halt fascist meetings. It says that Magistrate Hopkins, by his remarks when trying offenders, is forcing the Home Office to a show-down. It adds that Home Secretary James Chuter Ede has "so far taken a curious attitude." Ede is opposed to legislation curbing anti-Semitic propaganda on the ground that it might infringe on civil liberties.

The Evening Standard writes today that legislation is required to stop the North London meetings, where night after night "racial hatred and persecution is urged in sentences unheard since the living Streicher bestrode a Berlin platform." It asks why the authorities do not act before the rioting stage is reached.

AUSTRALIAN ANTI-SEMITIC PUBLICATION SUED FOR LIBEL FOLLOWING ATTACK ON JEWISH GROUPS

SYDNEY, Australia, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- A suit for libel was today instituted against the publication Smith's Weekly on the basis of an anti-Semitic article published last May. The plaintiff, Dr. Fanny Reading, demanded \$40,000 in damages.

The article, entitled "Jews Raise Huge Funds to Fight the British," charged that various Jewish organizations were raising money in Australia to be used in war chests to fight the British Empire. As a specific example it cited a current campaign of the New South Wales Youth Aliyah Movement for \$120,000 for the immigration of Jewish refugee children to Palestine.

DANGERS OF ANTI-SEMITISM TO POLAND STRESSED AT MASS MEETING IN CRACOW

WARSAW, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- "Nothing has done so much harm to the Polish people as anti-Semitism," Michael Pankiewicz, vice-president of the League to Combat Racism and Anti-Semitism in Poland, declared last night addressing a mass meeting in Cracow, which is one of the few cities in Poland where anti-Semitism is still strong.

The meeting was attended by prominent Polish personalities including many professors of the local university and high local officials. The meeting decided to establish a Cracow branch of the League to Combat Racism and Anti-Semitism.

BRITISH TROOPS DEMOLISH STRUCTURES IN WHICH IRGUNIST ARMS CACHES DISCOVERED

JERUSALEM, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- British troops this morning demolished three tin huts in which Irgun arms caches were discovered two weeks ago. They accomplished the demolition to the strains of popular music pouring forth from a portable radio which they brought along.

Other troops conducting searches today came across another arms cache. Some 250 persons were screened as a result and seven were detained for further questioning.

The Haganah revealed that yesterday 12 of its members had freed another Haganah member who was kidnapped by the Irgun and imprisoned in a house in the San Hedria quarter of Jerusalem. The resistance unit, unarmed, pushed its way past a young man and a woman who were in the house and then removed a secret panel which led to a small 13 foot square cage in which the prisoner was kept. The youth and the girl were permitted to leave unharmed, but the police were later informed of the existence of the "prison."

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT AGREES TO PERMIT TRANSFER OF THEODOR HERZL'S REMAINS TO PALESTINE

VIENNA, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- The Austrian cabinet has agreed to a request from the Jewish Agency for permission to transfer the remains of Theodor Herzl, founder of Zionism, from Austria to Palestine, it was learned here today.

Herzl's remains and those of his parents, all of whom are buried in the Doebling Cemetery in Vienna, will be moved to an as yet undesignated spot in Palestine which will become a national shrine. Leaders of the Jewish community of Vienna have announced that they will hold a one-day festival on the day of the transfer.

BRITISH MAGAZINE QUESTIONS AUTHENTICITY OF POLICE VERSION OF "KORFF AFFAIR"

LONDON, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Serious doubts are cast on the authenticity of the official accounts of the alleged plot of Rabbi Baruch Korff, head of the American Political Action Committee on Palestine, to leaflet bomb London in the current issue of the popular British weekly News Review.

The magazine asserts that there are many holes to be plugged in the Scotland Yard-approved version of the "plot" before it can appear convincing. It asks why the Sternists should entrust the key role in "so desperate an enterprise" to a stranger--Reginald Gilbert, the American pilot who gave the story away to the police. Holding forth the possibility that Gilbert may have been an unwitting tool of an anti-Semitic organization, the News Review also questions Gilbert's going to the Paris Herald-Tribune and the British police with the story of the "plot" rather than to the French police or the American Embassy.

"All this would have been good theatrical stuff but for the grim fact that millions of British people believed every syllable of the original story of the Jewish plot to bomb London," the publication concludes.

CZECH SENTENCED TO JAIL FOR THROWING STONE AT HEADQUARTERS OF ZIONIST GROUP

PRAGUE, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- A criminal court here today sentenced Anton Brozek to eight months imprisonment for throwing a stone through the window of the headquarters of a Zionist youth group.

Wrapped around the stone was a sheet of paper on which was written: "Expel the Jews." In court Brozek expressed remorse and asked forgiveness of the Jews.

ALL POLISH JEWS ARE EMPLOYED, JDC AIDE REPORTS; ANTI-SEMITIC ATTACKS HAVE CEASED

PARIS, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- The position of the Jews in Poland has improved greatly since last year, both from the point of view of economics and security, Dr. Nathan Reich, research director of the Joint Distribution Committee, and chairman of the Department of Economics at Hunter College, said here yesterday.

Dr. Reich, who has just completed a two-month tour of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Germany, reported that attacks on Jews have ceased. They now ride trolleys and trains without molestation, and even have their names openly displayed on shops. The trend towards emigration has been reversed and there is no immediate drive to leave the country, although Dr. Reich estimated that 70 percent might leave if assured of security and a place of permanent settlement.

There is no unemployment among Polish Jewry. Most of them work in state industries or in the 200 producer cooperatives that have been established with the help of the JDC. Most of the cooperatives are now self-supporting and beginning to pay back the capital loaned them. Their big problem is obtaining adequate supplies of raw materials. The Jews who work in state industries or for private firms are in a somewhat less favorable economic position and still require some JDC aid. Dr. Reich stressed that only 10 percent of the Jews are engaged in business, in marked contrast to the situation which existed before the war.

Concerning Germany, Dr. Reich said that the situation in the camps would probably worsen this winter because of the poor German harvest and the inadequate funds allotted to the International Refugee Organization. When he left, he said, there were rumors that the daily rations of 2,000 calories, plus 1,000 for workers, were to be cut.

PALESTINE JEWS TAKE MILITARY RULE IN STRIDE, LABOR ZIONIST LEADER REPORTS

NEW YORK, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Palestine's Jews are "taking military rule in their stride" and although the tension in the country is great it does not interfere with normal routine, Dr. Hayim Fineman, chairman of the Labor Zionist Organization of America, declared at a press conference here today.

Dr. Fineman, a member of the 17-man committee chosen by the Zionist Actions Committee to advise the Jewish Agency in connection with the meeting of the U.N. General Assembly, recently returned from a three-month tour of Palestine and Europe. He declared that the Yishuv is primarily concerned with the "irresponsible extremists" who terrorize Jewish merchants and threaten Jewish self-government. He added that Jewish leaders in Palestine have come to the conclusion that the only way to stop extremism is by force.

VICTOR LARNER NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF JOINT DEFENSE APPEAL

NEW YORK, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Victor Lerner, former national campaign director of the Jewish Welfare Board, has been appointed executive director of the Joint Defense Appeal, it was announced here today by Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee, and Justice Meir Steinbrink, chairman of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League. Lerner will be in charge of the fund-raising activities of the J.D.A., which is currently seeking \$6,000,000.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

Copenhagen, Denmark

1947
Date 29 March -
2 April
(5 days)

Leo Grabowski - Cantor
Friedliger - Rabbi

1. ~~Attitude of~~ Statistics:

- a.) 5000 - to Sweden, individually
and through private connections.

30 - Sept - 12 Oct, 1943 Jews
left Cop., hid in provinces, made
way individually to Sweden.

What happened at this
particular time to cause exodus?

*
(page over)

- b.) 500 sent to Theresienstadt -
10% of these did not return.

From 19 April 40 - 29 Aug 43, Germans were quiet in Denmark, probably trying to show world they were not so bad. Then several things led to blow-up.

1. Increased sabotage thru July & Aug 43
2. Refusal & resignation of Danish govt.

This led to arresting of 300 intellectual leaders, including Friedberg on night of 29 Aug. and arresting of King. Then Jews began to worry. Then all quiet for few weeks.

Crew Roshastona - 30 Sept - Jews got word in Synagogue that Nazis were planning mass deportations. Communists, Trade Unions, Student organizations, ran round to Jewish homes that night warning them to leave.

On 1 Oct Sweden announced over radio that she would take in Jews. So they all left Copenhagen that night, hid out with hosts in the provinces, and got to Sweden individually in fisher boats during succeeding few weeks.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

2
Date.....

2. Story of Protestant minister who hid Torahs + articles from synagogue. (only one in Cpl.)
Name of minister + church?
3. Attitude of Daves very helpful at beginning when Jews left - took custody of furniture, belongings, etc.
4. Upon return from Sweden in summer of '45, found attitude of Daves had changed - reflecting influence of Germans. Jews could not recognize Daves upon return.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

3

Date.....

5. Jews now stick to selves.
Former free intercourse with Gentiles
now much more strained.
6. Attitude of Kiy - ~~of~~ excellent.
Great symbolic act of 1933, right
after Hitler - happened to be
100th anniversary. Germany invited
Kiy to Jubilee and offered him
option of refusing, in case he didn't
want to offend Berlin. He insisted
upon coming, just because of that.
Great event.
7. Danish Jews found Swedish Jews
very unfriendly.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

H.

Date.....

8. Story of Grabowski's brother.

Beneinde would not agree to
give affidavit of support in 1938,
so that he could be released
from Buchenwald. G. went to
Sweden + couldn't get it - finally
procured it from small Beneinde
in Trondheim, Norway + brother came
over -

Tragic twist of history that
4 years later, 1942, together with
all Norwegian Jews, he was deported
to Auschwitz + killed.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

5

To:

Date.....

9. Large amount of intermarriage
in younger generation.
10. Friediger⁽⁷²⁾ sent to Theresienstadt
on 29 Aug 43, together with son Arthur.
Luckily returned, but very sick. Wife
got away to Sweden.
-
11. Story of Friediger
- a. He + son to Ther.
 - b. Wife to Sweden
 - c. Daughter + husband through
Siberia, 1940 - Manila 1941. Next 4
years under Japanese occupation.
Repatriated via U.S. end of 1945.
- Helmuth + Fra Lotte Jacoby.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

6

Date.....

12. Friediger testifies that there was once breach between Danish (originally Sephardic - from Holland) Jews - and Ostjuden. Large wave of Russian, Polish immigration in 1905, following Russo-Jap war.

Now this breach being healed. Pulsating Jewish life (whatever there is of it) stems from Ostjuden.

13. Large degree of mixed marriage - largely because of lack of suitable mates within the small Jewish group.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

Sweden

Date.....

Persons contacted:

Rebbi Kronheim
Warburg Family
Ettlinger Family
Miss Rabinowitz - JDC
Storch
Löllbach - Palestine Office

Sweden - 6000 Jews
"foreign Jews" - ca. 8000

big question about whether
Swedish Gemeinde did all it
could to save Jews -
Storch (World Jewish Congress)
attacks severely.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

2
Date.....

Says Ehrenpreis actually
limited number of immigrants,
due to fear of anti-Semitism.

Warburg + Ettlinger say that
benevolence perhaps didn't exert
all efforts, but cannot be
accused of sabotage.

Local Jews very much
upset by this "lie" - react
vigorously against Storch and
Congress.

High % of intermarriage.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

Date.....

Norway

Ruth Leopold Goldmann
(Polish refugee)

Marcus Levin (JOL)

D. Brande

Professor Valentin

Norway has about 500-600
Jews, in Oslo & Trondheim.
These represent group who
went to Sweden, and were
saved. Others (740) deported
to Auschwitz - 13 returned.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

2
Date.....

Norway's Jews more "Jewish"
than Sweden's - more recent
immigrants - many are first
generation from Russia, Poland -
others only second, at very
most third - Norway opened
to Jews only in 1851.

Long conversation with
Hugo Valentin. Views future of
Scandinavian Jewry as inevitable
trend toward assimilation, inter-
marriage, disappearance.

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

Date.....

Max. no: Nor. Jews - 1916 - 2000 people.

Norway occupied 9 April 40

May 40 all Jewish radios ordered confiscated.

20 June 41 (2 days before Russia came into war) all Russians (including many Jews) in Norway arrested.

1 Feb 42 all Jews required to have "J" stamped on identity cards, but no outer yellow badge.

DEPORTATIONS

2 Jews escaping - Nazi shot

26 Oct 42 all male Jews arrested. (many escaped through

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

To:

Date.....

good offices of Norwegian police.

Released after 14 days

Requested on 26 Nov,
together with women & children.

Put on Troopship "Donau"
for Auschwitz via Stettin.

24 Feb 43 another shipload
of those who had managed
to escape first razzia.

740 Jews deported - 13 returned.
about 800 Jews saved in Sweden

From: Joint Distribution Committee
270 Madison Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.
LE 2-5200

Raphael Levy, Publicity Director

For Release
Friday, September 12

BULGARIAN JEWS CALL FOR "FACTORIES FIRST,
FOOD NEXT" ON ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION.
MANUEL SIEGEL, JDC DIRECTOR, REPORTS

"Factories first, food next" is the call of the Jews of Bulgaria as they mark the third anniversary of their liberation from Nazism in a valiant effort to effect genuine revival, it was reported this week by Manuel Siegel, JDC Director of Bulgaria, who returned to the U.S. from Europe last week after more than a year overseas for the JDC.

"Three years ago today (Tuesday, Sept. 9)," he declared, "Bulgaria was freed from Fascism, but it remains a poverty-stricken, famine-ridden land. Yet, in the face of this poverty and of the third consecutive year of drought, Bulgaria's Jewish population seeks help that will make its members self-supporting," the JDC country director stated. "They stand ready to subsist on meager diets if only they are helped to find opportunities for long-range, permanent security. This is one of the Joint Distribution Committee's chief goals in its assistance programs in Bulgaria, programs for which the JDC has appropriated so far this year more than \$270,000 in addition to relief shipments amounting to 500,000 pounds."

The JDC received its funds from contributions to the \$170,000,000 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal.

Mr. Siegel explained that the Jews of Bulgaria are unique among the Jews of Europe in that their numbers remained intact despite years of Nazism and persecution. "The fact that there are 50,000 Bulgarian Jews alive today -- the same number as before the Nazi occupation of Bulgaria -- is due to the spirit of unity among all Bulgarian peoples," he stated. "During the war, when Nazi officials in Bulgaria planned to deport all Bulgarian Jews to concentration camps, the non-Jewish population of Bulgaria rose as one in defense of their Jewish fellow-citizens," Mr. Siegel revealed. "Public opinion against the mass deportation planned by the Nazis was so strong that it was never carried out."

The JDC country director stated that the same feeling of cordiality exists today among the various religious groups of Bulgaria. "In the JDC's special program designed to provide summer camp life for Bulgarian Jewish children, many Bulgarian villages voted to turn over their public buildings for JDC camp headquarters," Mr. Siegel disclosed. "In return, hundreds of Jewish women have formed 'sewing brigades' and fashion garments for non-Jewish children in rural villages who have only rags for clothes."

(more)

Mr. Siegel praised the Bulgarian government for its sympathetic attitude towards the revival of Jewish life in the country. "Bulgaria has taken the lead on the continent in the restitution of property and funds seized by the Nazis during their occupation," he stated. "In addition, Bulgaria was the only country in Europe which allowed the Jewish community to try Nazis for crimes against the Jews. For a period of about six months after liberation," Mr. Siegel said, "the Bulgarian government permitted the Jewish community to establish courts and determine themselves the guilt or innocence of the Nazis. When these courts had rendered their decisions after a fair trial by jury, in which both sides presented their cases, the Bulgarian courts passed sentence."

The present heads of the Bulgarian Jewish community include Rabbi Daniel Zion, chief rabbi of Bulgaria; Col. Avram Tadjer, head of the Joint Central Jewish Committee; David Jerocham, Chairman of the Jewish Consistoire, all-representative body of Bulgarian Jews; Mancho Levy, president of the Jewish community of Sofia; Nathan Greenberg Secretary of the Sofia Jewish Community; and Izaac Frances, Secretary of the Jewish consistoire.

The JDC assistance programs in Bulgaria are divided into three categories -- child care, medical aid, and reconstruction assistance, Mr. Siegel said. Under the child care program, he reported, the JDC feeds 3,500 children daily throughout the country and has clothed and shod every Jewish child in Bulgaria, a number in excess of 5,000. "Jewish children in Bulgaria are small in stature," Mr. Siegel explained, "because of the effect of years of malnutrition. For this reason we are placing special emphasis in our programs on medical care and on food for the youngsters. A complete medical history of every Jewish child in Bulgaria has been made and is on record in order that effective medical care may be provided for the Jewish youth of Bulgaria."

In the general medical program operated by the JDC in cooperation with the Jewish Consistoire, the JDC maintains a polyclinic hospital in Sofia (the city in which 27,000 of Bulgaria's 50,000 Jews live) and this week is opening a brand-new infants' center and tuberculosis preventorium, the JDC country director revealed. A new Jewish Hospital on Sofia, which will be the most modern in the entire country, is also being built not with government assistance, he said. The JDC will completely equip and furnish this hospital, which is expected to open soon. Another JDC medical project now under construction is a tuberculosis sanatorium.

The JDC has also been the first agency to bring modern public health educational techniques to the rural areas of Bulgaria, he said. Visiting teams of JDC physicians and nurses has inaugurated mass X-rays and have introduced modern health work in these communities, he said.

In the JDC's efforts to speed the economic revival of the Bulgarian Jewish population, the JDC has provided funds for the operation of fifteen producers' cooperatives

(more)

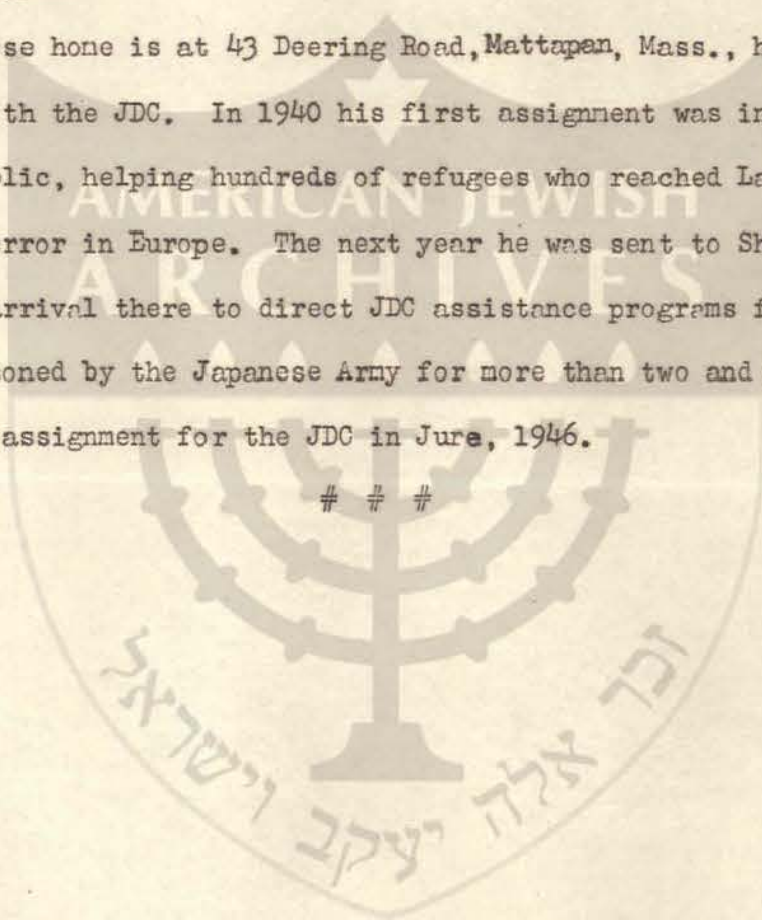
which are manufacturing shoes, caps, dresses, suits, stoves, dolls, electrical and radio equipment and other materials, Mr. Siegel said. These cooperatives are helping alleviate the widespread shortages of all kinds of supplies in Bulgaria, he added. Alongside each cooperative is a vocational training center operated by ORT (Organization for Rehabilitation through Training) in cooperation with the JDC which is feeding new technicians, and artisans and craftsmen into the producers' workshops.

Industrialization of additional thousands among Bulgaria's Jewish population is the next step in the JDC reconstruction program, Mr. Siegel stated. He said that he has recommended to the JDC an increase in shipments of tools and machinery in order to establish mass-production industries in which Jewish men and women could find work and achieve self-support.

Mr. Siegel, whose home is at 43 Deering Road, Mattapan, Mass., has completed seven years of service with the JDC. In 1940 his first assignment was in Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic, helping hundreds of refugees who reached Latin America in flight from Nazi terror in Europe. The next year he was sent to Shanghai by the JDC. Shortly after his arrival there to direct JDC assistance programs for European refugees, he was imprisoned by the Japanese Army for more than two and a half years. He took his Bulgarian assignment for the JDC in June, 1946.

#

9/5/47
ABIG



From: Joint Distribution Committee
270 Madison Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.
LE 2-5200

Raphael Levy, Publicity Director

For Release
Friday, September 12

THE JEWISH SCENE IN EUROPE

By Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz,

Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee's European Executive Council

Editor's Note: Few can speak with such authority on the conditions of Europe's Jewish survivors as Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, Chairman of the European Executive Council of the Joint Distribution Committee. This special article, written by Dr. Schwartz in Paris, is a comprehensive and up-to-the-minute account of the situation confronting them as they enter their third year of liberation.

The new Jewish year is upon us. It is the year that all of us, twelve months ago, had so desperately hoped would usher in a Jewish world where the misery, heartache and homelessness of the past decade would be no more. But 5708, at least now, is not such a year. Instead it remains a year in which the displaced persons camps and their 250,000 homeless are still stark reality; in which the poverty and famine of war ravaged lands still grip the Jewish survivors of Eastern Europe; in which hundreds of thousands of orphans, aged and sick still require tender and special care if they are ever to be happy again. This is the tragic inheritance that must be overcome so that the world can finally fulfill its promise to the 1,500,000 Jewish people of Europe who have remained too long without hope of a tomorrow.

We of the Joint Distribution Committee have tried easing the heartache, the misery and the disappointment of these people. We have tried to make them feel that the world has not forgotten them completely; that their fellow Jews in the United States are aware of their predicament and want to help them to the utmost of their ability. It has been a tremendous undertaking, the magnitude of which has never before been approached in the history of private welfare work.

This, in brief, is the picture as the third Jewish New Year since the liberation begins.

The one quarter of a million homeless people in the camps of Germany, Austria and Italy are desperate people today because they see no hope for a solution to their problem before a dreaded third winter sets in. Emigration is the only answer to that problem and as yet the world powers have failed to approve any workable plan guaranteeing that these people will be able to have a future in lands where they will be welcome, where they will be able to fulfill their yearning to have homes of their own. The failure to reach a solution in the Palestine crisis and the failure of the American Congress to take any decisive action on the Stratton Bill that would admit many thousands to the United States are two major reasons that have made the Jewish DP think that his lot is well nigh hopeless. And as a

(more)

result, his morale has dropped to a new low.

Meanwhile, the liquidation of UNRRA and the turning over of responsibility for the refugees to the new International Refugee Organization has resulted in a marked deterioration of conditions in the DP camps. On top of everything else the DP now faces a threat to his physical health because there has been a sharp drop in the quality, as well as the quantity, of supplies being provided for him.

This has been due until now to the lag in the IRO's assuming UNRRA's functions. But IRO's insufficient budget makes it seem likely that it will continue to operate refugees and relief activities on a reduced scale. Such important items as sugar, mil and fats are now and will remain in short supply, with starches substituting for them. Dried peas, for example, are replacing sugar. All this has thrown a tremendous obligation on the private relief agencies, particularly on the JDC. Our shipments of food have had to be speeded up. Tonnage in supplies of all kinds has had to be increased to cope with the situation.

Apart from food supplies, we have had to make much more liberal provisions for clothing, but we are still very seriously worried about this development and about the coming winter. As you all know, the last winter was most severe; fuel was almost non-existent and clothing inadequate. We have taken steps and hope to be able to prevent hardships which last winter were due to shortages.

The liquidation of UNRRA has not only meant a decrease in the food and clothing supplied to the DPs, but also a marked decline in the services rendered to them. In many camps, the administrative staff has been reduced or removed entirely with no provision made for necessary welfare and medical services. This also has thrown a heavy additional burden on the voluntary agencies such as JDC and we have had to rush in personnel to take up the slack.

In general, I think that it is quite obvious to all why 250,000 of our fellow Jews have entered the New Year discouraged and bitter people and why their morale is at its present dangerously low state.

Counteracting this condition will be one of our most important jobs during the coming year. Keeping hope alive and making the average DP feel that he does have a future - a future in which he will be able to lead a productive and worthwhile life in a land where he can be happy - is equally important in many respects to the job of maintaining physical health. Such a program is also accomplishing a second purpose - that of preparing the DP's for life outside the camps by training young and old in useful vocations.

A widespread network of schools has been developed for the approximately

(more)

20,000 Jewish children of school age in the camps of the three DP countries.

These children have much to make up because they were deprived of all educational facilities during the Nazi persecutions. We have made certain that 90% of these boys and girls will be going to school in the coming year 1947/48.

The teaching personnel has partly been recruited from among the DP's themselves with supervisory personnel from overseas and trained instructors, particularly from Palestine, who will make sure that the education of these boys and girls will be in accordance with their needs and requirements when they eventually will go to Palestine and other countries of permanent settlement. Furthermore, we have introduced, in collaboration with the ORT, a widespread program for the youth in the camps of the American Zone to train them in various trades.

For adults, small factories and workshops are being set up where they can produce numerous articles, the majority of which will be used in the camps themselves. In Germany, for example, we hope to be able to produce 10,000 overcoats for distribution to the DP's during the winter months. New enterprises are developing at such a rate that it will be possible between now and the end of 1947 to employ 1,000 additional people monthly.

This works program is having an important effect on the people. It is giving them the satisfaction of doing something useful, something normal in the midst of abnormal surroundings. They feel that perhaps after all they are members of a normal community. This is having the desired result of combatting their existing low morale.

Outside the camps of Germany, Austria and Italy, meanwhile, the Jewish people who are more fortunate in that they were able to observe Rosh Hashonah in their own homes, marked the New Year in hundreds of newly rebuilt synagogues. Three years ago these synagogues were shattered remnants, symbolic of the shattered remnant of our people in Europe. Today, these synagogues are standing again. There are not as many as before the war and most of them are still battered and show the scars of their destruction, but the very fact that they are standing is symbolic of the revival of the Jewish people in Europe.

This third Rosh Hashonah since the end of the war finds these Jewish survivors in Eastern Europe and Western Europe still in desperate need -- in many respects rivalling the urgent needs of their friends and relatives in the DP camps. They have lost all their worldly possessions, their homes, and businesses, and they often encounter anti-Semitism when they attempt to reclaim their property. But the fact remains that they have made a start toward rebuilding normal lives -- a start in the direction of resuming their places in the economic and social lives of their home communities. And they must be encouraged to make even greater advances during the

coming year.

It is a noteworthy fact, I feel, that in Western Europe, the number of Jewish people on the relief rolls is slowly decreasing and they are becoming self-sustaining citizens once again. In eastern Europe, however, the JDC is playing an ever-increasing part in the relief and rehabilitation of Jewish communities, which have managed to survive for the most part only through the aid sent them by the Jewish communities in the United States and other more fortunate countries.

In Hungary, Rumania, and Poland, for example, we are sustaining life through essential shipments of food and medical supplies. And at the same time, we are also helping these people reestablish themselves economically through our reconstruction program. In Rumania, where we are assisting one out of every four of the 430,000 Jewish people, credit cooperatives are helping 61,000 become independent; in Poland 10,000 people are supporting themselves in family units through JDC sponsored producers cooperatives; in Hungary, loans have been made to the heads of 1,500 Hungarian families. The idea is to remove the people from the relief rolls, set them up in business again so that not only they will become self-supporting but so that they will be in a position to give jobs to others and make them self-supporting as well.

In addition, through the hundreds of workshops that we have established throughout Europe, we are teaching trades to young men and women and old alike so that they will be ready for any job opportunities that may present themselves, either in their home communities or in the countries to which they may eventually emigrate.

All this, plus child-care, medical aid, and a thousand and one other welfare services which only the JDC has been able to provide, of course only scratch the surface of the job that is being done and remains to be done among the Jewish survivors of Europe. In Cyprus more than 16,000 Jewish refugees are now waiting for the chance to go to Palestine. During this waiting period, we must give them the same opportunities to prepare for the life that is ahead of them as we are giving those in Europe -- that means supplementary food, clothing, medical aid, educational and vocational training.

I want to stress here, in addition, the emigration assistance we must extend to all who desire to leave Europe for new homes elsewhere in the world. Our Emigration Department has been expanded to meet the growing demand for its services and we have established new emigration offices in the key centers of Europe to help the thousands of persons now on our emigration waiting lists. And these lists are growing steadily.

In short, there is a tremendous job facing us as we face this new Jewish year. It is a job that has grown in complexity and scope since the early days after the liberation when we were concerned only with the saving of lives through rushing food and medicine to the survivors of Nazi persecution. Now the JDC is concerned with almost every aspect of Jewish life in Europe, slowly building and preparing for the day when the homeless will no longer be living in the vacuums of DP camps; when those who remain in their home communities will be fully reestablished; when the Jewish people of Europe will be self-supporting and self-sustaining. Until that time comes, the Jewish people of the United States, who have already done so much to aid their fellow Jews in Europe and start them on the road to recovery, must continue to send all the aid they can. We of the JDC can do the job only to the extent that we are enabled by that support, which we are sure will continue to be generous and wholehearted.

#

9/5/47
abih

Children's Sermon

Yom Kippur Day
24 Sept. 47

"The Outcast Prince"

Nobody here as bad as prince
at beginning of story. Nobody here is
spoiled - or won't obey his mother - or
do his homework.) know everybody
here is very good.

But still maybe we can all
improve just a little. Let's all be
sure we can count Five.

1. Nobody here will ever be hungry
2. " " " " " " cold. } don't have to worry about these.
3. Kindness of heart } Thank our parents
4. Gratitude }
5. Humble in spirit

That's most important. No tantrums -
not be spoiled. All Jewish boys & girls
want to be the best possible.

Be neither Imps nor
Angels.

Don't want you to be sissies -
have to have fun - can't be angels.

But don't want you to be
little imps, either, just to be
smart - alec ks.

Announcements

Y. K. night

1. service tomorrow AM - 10
2. children's service 12.30 - 12.45
3. Sunday School next week-end
- 3 a. new children register Thurs. & Fri.
4. Consecration service - week from
Friday night - new
children, offering to Succah, etc.
5. Sukkos service next Monday
morning - Sept. 28 - at 10.30 AM.
6. S.O.S. - no fall drive - in spring -
but winter clothing acceptable now. Bring to
Temple.

ROLL OF REMEMBRANCE

DAY OF ATONEMENT - 5708 - SEPTEMBER 24, 1947

Harry Grinspan

Rachel Coret *Korret*

Annie Newlander

Samuel Stein

Sara Weil

Theodora M. Bensev

Fannie Kohn Kaplan

Martha Harris

David Levy

Jessie Morris

Bertha Wikler

Sadie L. Baer

Anna Snyder

Samuel Rosenbaum

Rosa Wacker Morris

Marion Nathan Baskin

Regina Fist

Bertha Guldman

Fannie G. Bauman

Ben Englander

Hattie L. Cohen

Bertha Newmark

Naoma Pelton

Elsie Guldman

Benjamin J. Pfefer

Rosa Blum Maymon

Simon J. Shaffran

Bertha Charsky Sobol

Adelle A. Levy

~~Dave~~ Kingsburg

Dave Kingsbury

A nna Malneck

Isadore Striker

Bertha S. Guldman

Moses A. Esensky

Joshua Shapiro

T illie Saft

Goldie Optican

Isadore D. Cohen

Max Konigsburg

departed
would pass week